

Summer games ready for action

B 6317

The athletes are coming, the torch is being run, the volunteers are in place and the venues are ready — let the Games begin!

The long hours and weeks of planning are done for the 1995 Special Olympics Summer Games, and the culmination of that organizational effort will be on Friday and Saturday, as close to 300 athletes and staff descend on Weyburn from all over Saskatchewan, and some from Manitoba, to compete and have fun.

The Special Olympics organization held its volunteer orientation night last week, and have a sufficient number in place to put on all the events, said one of the organizers, Marie Dionne. There are over 100 volunteers who will help the various events and venues run smoothly.

She added that they could always use extra volunteers, in the event some-

thing unscheduled happens to throw plans off-stride.

There will be between 280 and 300 people, at least 250 of whom will be athletes, along with their respective staff and officials, she said, competing in a wide variety of events.

The whole weekend will kick off Friday, as the athletes arrive and get registered starting at 2 p.m., followed by the culmination of the Law Enforcement Torch Run Relay, which will be run into Weyburn and to the grandstand on the exhibition grounds, where the opening ceremonies will take place starting at 7 p.m. One athlete from each zone will run with the Torch Run, and one zone athlete will give the Special Olympics oath.

By the time the torch arrives in Weyburn, it will have been carried by over