Northwest youth compete in Arco Owens Games

Barrow, Kotzebue and Nome youth with dreams of competing in the National Arco Jesse Owens Games must first qualify for the North Alaska Regional Competition by placing in local games.

In Barrow, the competition is set for Friday at the Piruaagvik Center, beginning at 10 a.m. The Kotzebue and Nome games took place Saturday.

The games include running, jumping and the softball throw. Winners will be transported to Fairbanks for the North Alaska Competition July 14 at West Valley High School.

The national championships will be held at the University of California, Los Angeles, Aug. 10. Winners in the older age groups from the Anchorage and Fairbanks regional competitions will be flown to Los Angeles courtesy of Arco Alaska Inc.

The games are sponsored by Arco in memory of the late Jesse Owens, an American Olympic athlete who devoted his life to helping young people reach their full potential.