

Sprinter, 94, leaves pack in dust

EUGENE (AP) — A crowd of about 4,000 at Hayward Field broke into loud applause as Wang Ching-Chang, 94, of Taipei, Taiwan, won the 100-meter dash to capture his third gold medal at the World Veterans' Championships.

Wang is president of a 50,000-member political party, "a legal one," he said. He ran the 100 meters Sunday in 23.15 seconds, easily outdistancing the only other competitor in his age group, Finland's Mikko Salonen.

The two runners played back to the applause with wide smiles. Salonen didn't even wait for the finish. He began waving back to the delighted crowd before he crossed in front of the grandstand, about 60 meters from the finish.

But Wang was the crowd's favorite. Wang already had won gold medals for the javelin Saturday and the shot put on Sunday. He also is entered in the 200-meter, 400-meter and 800-meter races and the discus.

His chances are good — the most competition he has in any of those events is one other person.

In the 1987 championships in Australia, Wang won five gold medals.

Like most of the competitors entered in the meet, Wang is a relative newcomer to track. He played ping pong and tennis for many years, but didn't start running track until he was 88, he said.

Games to pave way

EUGENE (AP) — A British track official at the World Veterans' Championships in Eugene said she believes women's achievements in the veterans' meet will pave the way for expanded involvement in the Olympic Games.

Bridget Cushen of Croydon, in Surrey, England, competes in cross country and the 10-kilometer run, but also is an English delegate to the World Association of Veteran Athletes Council.

She said she took special satisfaction from the bronze medal won by England's oldest con-



Photo by Tony Peck

Pole vaulting was only one of many sports athletes competed in this past weekend at the World Veterans' Games at Hayward Field.

testant, Will Shepherd, 82, of London, who was third in the 10-kilometer road race on Friday, the opening day of the games.

Cushen said Saturday she believes informal discussions held during the meet in Eugene, which runs through Aug. 6, will result in adding four more women's events to the

Olympics.

"Our hope is to convince the International Olympic Committee to add women's competition in the hammer, triple jump, pole vault and steeple chase," she said. "In September, I go to Barcelona, site of the '92 Summer Games, to report on the progress women have made in those events."

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