**Young Scandinavian hopes target Stockholm**

Fresh from setting a new national record in Oslo, Norway’s 21 year old Karsten Warholm goes again in the 400m hurdles in the IAAF Diamond League qualifying meeting in Stockholm tomorrow.

His win in 48.25 in Oslo moves him into third place in the Road to the Final in his first Diamond League event of 2017 just a few days after his impressive 44.87 in a flat 400m.

Commenting on whether 400m hurdles was now his favoured event, he said, “Yes definitely! In Oslo I spoke with the great Edwin Moses but he seemed to complicate things saying there are 31 ways to mess up in the race. But I prefer to be positive and not complicate things. For me, I just want to enjoy and win the race.

“It was crazy in Oslo. I just went out there, jumped and kept going. After the last hurdle the crowd went wild. I hope they do the same here!”

In tomorrow’s race he faces challenges from the experienced American Bershawn Jackson; current leader in the Road to the Final, Estonia’s Rasmus Magi; South Africa’s LJ Van Zyl; and Turkey’s Yasmani Coppello, who was second in Oslo.

Warholm believes the 400m hurdles is very open at the moment. He said, “It is a good thing for international athletics that it is so open There are many experienced guys out there but also newcomers so it is exciting.”

In the women’s 800m, local favourite, 25 year old, Lovisa Lindh will look to improve on her fourth place in Oslo.

Commenting on her prospects here in Stockholm, she said, “I have been very prepared for my races and, so far this season, I am very happy with how it is going. I have been training hard and my preparation is very good. I did a 1500m [in Norway] to build strength but now I am concentrating on 800m.

“The Swedish girls are very strong now in middle distance running. We are inspiring each other. Tomorrow I want a good race and another PB. In Oslo I was pleased with my race as I went off fast, got lane one and stayed there. For tomorrow my coach and I will look at the start list in the morning and plan my race.”

On this season, she added, “My goal is, of course, the World Championships and to reach the final.”

With Caster Semenya having already booked her place in the Final, Stockholm is an opportunity for the chasing pack to pick up big points as they look to secure a top eight spot. Of those running on Sunday, Francine Niyonsaba could technically follow Semenya's lead and wrap up Final qualification with a win. For Selina Büchel and Lynsey Sharp, this is a huge opportunity to pick up big points and climb up the standings into a qualifying position.