



North Shore Amateur Swimming Club Inc

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## BURMESTER THROUGH TO WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP SEMI-FINALS



27th March 2007

Commonwealth Games gold medalist Moss Burmester is safely through to the semi-finals in the 200m butterfly on the third day of the FINA World Swimming Championships in Melbourne today.

Burmester clocked a solid 1:57.53 to qualify in 10<sup>th</sup> place for tonight's semi-finals at the Rod Laver Arena, with world and Olympic champion Michael Phelps top qualifier. The North Shore swimmer was the only New Zealand to qualify on the third day of heats with clubmate Helen Norfolk breaking her second national record but was a fingertip from a spot in the semi-finals in the 200m freestyle.

Most Kiwi eyes were on Burmester who finished second in his heat, less than a second outside his New Zealand record. He went through in 56.16, eased a little in his third 50m but came home strongly in an excellent morning swim.

He will need to go under his New Zealand record of 1:56.64, set in winning the gold in Melbourne a year ago, if he is to advance to the final. Dunedin's Andrew McMillan dipped under the two minute barrier for the first time clocking 1:59.98, the 24<sup>th</sup> fastest time to leap 32 places in the world rankings.

"It was a very good morning swim. Moss looked strong and comfortable," head coach Jan Cameron said. "Moss was 13<sup>th</sup> last year so he is already ahead of that. Now he has to step up and do the job tonight. And it was a big breakthrough for Andrew and we will be calling Duncan Laing to share it with him. It's a big milestone to break the two minutes."

Norfolk broke her own New Zealand record clocking 2:00.21 in a superb performance in the 200m freestyle. Going in to the event ranked 64<sup>th</sup> in the event, the unlucky Norfolk was only 26/100ths of a second from qualifying for the semi-finals, finishing 19<sup>th</sup> fastest overall. She was in the hunt when she turned at the 150m in 1:28.78 but faded just a little in the final 15m in what was another outstanding swim from the 25 year old. Her clubmate Melissa Ingram was outside her best finishing 39<sup>th</sup> fastest in the same event.

"It was a really courageous swim for Helen. She desperately wants to break the two minute mark and will have another opportunity in the relay. She swam so well and it was just in the final 15 metres that she faded."

Earlier North Shore's inform teenager Glenn Snyders recorded another personal best effort finishing 27<sup>th</sup> fastest in the 50m breaststroke. He clocked 28.64 which saw his world ranking climb more than 30 places.

His clubmate Robert Voss also set a personal best clocking 8:13.78 in the 800m freestyle which was two and a half seconds inside his qualifying performance but not enough to advance.

New Zealand results, day 3 heats, FINA World Swimming Championships:  
(time and overall placing in heats)

200m butterfly: Moss Burmester 1:57.53, 10<sup>th</sup>; Andrew McMillan 1:59.98, 24.  
50m breaststroke: Glenn Snyders 28.64, 27.  
200m freestyle: Helen Norfolk 2:00.21, 19 (NZ Record); Melissa Ingram 2:03.80, 39.  
800m freestyle: Robert Voss 8:13.78.