

Fast lane to glory: the race for eight

Michael Phelps begins his attempt to win eight gold medals on Sunday in the 400 metres individual medley. By the next Saturday, should he remain unbeaten, he will match Mark Spitz's record of seven golds in one Games and earn him a £1 million bonus from Speedo. A win the next day will take him beyond Spitz and give him a record 16 Olympic medals overall including his haul of six golds and two bronze from Athens in 2004

Sunday

August 10

400m

individual medley

Phelps's best:

world record-holder

4min 05.25sec

1

Monday

August 11

4x100m

freestyle

Phelps's best:

world record-holder as part of US quartet

3:12.46

2

Tuesday

August 12

200m

freestyle

Phelps's best:

world record-holder

1:43.86

3

Wednesday

August 13

200m

butterfly

Phelps's best:

world record-holder

1:52.09

4

Wednesday

August 13

4x200m

freestyle relay

Phelps's best:

world record-holder as part of US quartet

7:03.24

5

Friday

August 15

200m

individual medley

Phelps's best:

world record-holder

1:54.98

6

Saturday

August 16

100m

butterfly

Phelps's best:

2007 world champion

50.77sec

7

Sunday

August 17

4x100m

medley relay

Phelps's best:

first Games with this quartet

8

