

Ten Individuals compete at SE Area Spring Games

Eight win individual events

From staff reports

Ten individuals in service at InspirationField competed at the 2014 Southeast Area Regional Special Olympics Spring Games. The games took place May 10 at Pueblo South High School and the event included athletes competing in a variety of track and field events, aquatics and power lifting.

A total of 150 Special Olympics athletes participated in the Spring Games including the athletes from InspirationField. Excitement filled the air while the competition took place. Athletes had high hopes for gold medals, which was clear by the concentration they put into their events. All athletes from InspirationField placed in the tournament.

InspirationField had eight athletes take first place in the games. Those who placed first were Hanna Grauberger in the 50-meter dash, Matthew Harris in the 100-meter dash, Marc Meier in the 100-meter dash, Andy Metzger in the shot put and 50-meter walk, Yolanda Rael in the 50-meter walk, David Salazar in the shot put and Elaine Schlee in the 50-meter walk.

Other individuals placing in their events were

Scott Cabiness, who was second in the 100-meter dash and third in the shot put, Patrick Dryer, who was second in the 50-meter walk, Hanna Grauberger, who was third in the softball throw, Matthew Harris, who was second in the shot put, Cora Martinez, who was third in the 50-meter dash and fourth in the softball throw, Marc Meier, who was second in the shot put, Yolanda Rael, who was fifth in the softball throw, David Salazar, who was second in the 100-meter dash and Elaine Schlee, who was fifth in the softball throw.

After many medals and ribbons were awarded to the well-deserving athletes, the competition came to a close. New personal bests and great memories were created, leaving athletes ready for next year.

"Special Olympics gives the individuals the opportunity to compete in events that they are successful in and gives them pride," said InspirationField coach Julia Hoepfner. "This is part of what we do here at InspirationField, teaching the individuals that they can succeed and become as independent as possible."

Individuals in service at InspirationField also participate in bocce and compete in several tournaments associated with Special Olympics.



Two InspirationField athletes were first and second in the 100-meter dash at the Special Olympics Southeast Area Spring Games May 10 in Pueblo. From left, David Salazar and Matthew Harris. Unidentified person on right is not affiliated with InspirationField. COURTESY PHOTO