

Lady Spartans face Lady Demons in playoff game

by Nick Jurney
Mail Staff Writer

The Salida Spartans will square off with the Buena Vista Demons in girls' basketball district playoff action at 1 p.m. today at Pueblo Central High School.

The two teams will meet for the third time this season in a grudge match of sorts. Salida won the early-season contest at home in a tightly contested 36-33 game, while the Lady

Demons got revenge on their home court 45-40, snapping a five-game win streak for the Lady Spartans.

The winner of today's contest will advance to the fifth-place game in the Tri-Peaks district tournament, while the loser will drop into the seventh-place game and face a must-win scenario to make it into the regional tournament.

The Spartans are in the midst of their biggest slump of the season, losing three of

their past five games, including a 39-20 loss at the hands of St. Mary's in the first round of district play.

The Demons are coming off a first-round loss as well, a 69-30 shellacking from top-ranked and undefeated Lamar.

Both teams have similar scoring abilities, with the Spartans holding a slight edge in points per game at 43.2 compared to an even 43 for the Demons.



Courtesy photo

Salidan Garrett Bachand, on bike No. 7 at back, races in the Lone Star 2-Day Enduro Feb. 22 and 23 in Lubbock, Texas. Bachand, in his first Class A action, placed second and fourth in the A-Open division over the weekend.

Bachand starts season in Expert Class

by Nick Jurney
Mail Staff Writer

Salida dirt bike racer Garrett Bachand got his season under way Feb. 22 and 23 in Lubbock, Texas, in his first action as a Class A, or Expert Class, racer.

Bachand placed second in the A-Open division Feb. 22 at the Lone Star 2-Day Enduro and fourth in the A-Open division Feb. 23.

The event, which featured more than 200 racers, marked the first two rounds of the Rocky Mountain Enduro Circuit and is also part of the Texas State Championship Enduro Circuit, according to Garrett's dad, Darren Bachand.

Last season, Garrett Bachand won his second B-overall series championship in the Rocky Mountain Enduro Circuit and

finished third overall in the Webe Racing Hare-scrambles Series B division throughout the course of more than 20 races in four states.

This year is his first season as a member of the A-division, and Bachand said he hopes to go professional soon after.

Bachand will next compete March 9 in Quitaque, Texas.

'Moonlight Monday' benefits basketball team

by Nick Jurney
Mail Staff Writer

The Salida Spartans boys' basketball team will benefit from Moonlight Pizza's "Moonlight Monday" on Monday.

Ten percent of the restaurant's proceeds from that day will go toward the Spartan cagers' fundraising efforts, led by Yvonne Barnes.

"We are raising money so that the boys can go to team camps this summer," Barnes

said. "We are trying to send them to two team camps, and we need about \$2,500."

Barnes said Moonlight Monday is the second of several fundraisers between now and summer, with the first being a chili fundraiser at the high school before one of the games. The team raised about \$700 at the chili fundraiser, more than one-fourth of their overall goal.

"We tried to set up a crowd-sourcing fundraiser, but that

may be a pipe dream," Barnes said. "We plan on having some sort of fundraiser in the next few weeks."

The next event "set in stone" for the boys' squad is hosting a basketball camp of their own during the first week of June for kids in kindergarten through eighth grade.

"The boys will have to work their camp to get paid, so that they can go to camp," Barnes said.

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