



# THE LONE STAR REPORTER

## "How the Games were won".

**SAN ANTONIO, TEXAS • VOLUME 1 • ISSUE # 3**

### Athletes Party the Night Away at Cowboys Dance Hall

By Star Reporters Nathan Gresores and Shayna Ratner

Last night, all of the Maccabi participants were bussed to Cowboys dance hall for a night of fun. The first thing I saw was the giant arena inside the dancehall. A big rectangle of sand with a gate on the side. I thought it would be somewhere off limits, where nothing interesting would happen that night. One of the adults there surprised me by asking me to save a seat for the bull riding. Before any bull riding, a man starting pouring what looked like gasoline onto the field. Somebody lit it, and a giant "JCC" lit up in flames. There were bulls flying everywhere and riders holding on for dear life.

When asked about the bull riding, Erin Begnel from Chicago said, "I couldn't watch because I was so scared for the riders. I thought they were going to get trampled!"

After the bull riding, everyone moved out to the dance floor. There were many trained dancers showing off their skills around the floor. The dancing was the highlight of the evening, and Lena Munzer from Chicago said, "I felt like I was at a bar-mitzvah." All in all, everyone seemed to have a great time at this rodeo-themed party.



All for one and one for all.

### Team Players

By Star Reporter Stephanie Kutler

Here at the JCC Maccabi Games®, all sorts of athleticism are demonstrated. One of the most important aspects of playing sports is working with a team. And while each team and player is different, it's safe to say that teammates provide one of the most supportive fan bases around. Furthermore, working with people that may not come from the same part of town, or even the same town like in Laura Mighdoll and Micaela Kaye's Palo Alto/Seattle/Milwaukee soccer team, teaches a player to accept others for their different strengths and weaknesses.

Laura Mighdoll, who has been playing soccer "forever," says her team has taught her a lot about cooperating with others and learning her own strengths and weaknesses. "It's really fun to meet so many people and it's a never ending moral and support system."

Even though Laura is only playing soccer for fun and does not plan to pursue soccer in the future, "playing on a team is a lot more fun than playing individually because there are more people to cheer you on and you make so many more friends."

Her teammate and fellow Palo Alto resident, Micaela Kaye, relates that playing with a mixed team is "hard because you just met and have never practiced together before. But it's really interesting too because you learn from the other people and they bring a different aspect to the game."

"The only negative aspect about being on a team," Laura and Micaela say in agreement, "is that sometimes its frustrating when team members are doing something wrong or the team cant get along. But for our team, what happens on the field stays on the field." **Team Players!**

**Forecast for Wednesday August 11th**  
Hi: 100° F • Lo: 76° F  
**With a 50% chance of mistaking a sweat splatter for rain...**

**What's the Score?**  
Watch for them at **www.maccabigamescores.com**

**SAN ANTONIO JCC MACCABI GAMES®**  
Get your photos from the 2009 Games at:  
**www.MaccabiPhoto.com**  
**Allan F. Smith Photography • 210-442-7308**

**WEEK AT A GLANCE**  
**WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 12**  
Athletic Competition  
Evening Social Event at Trinity University  
**THURSDAY, AUGUST 13**  
Medal Rounds of Athletic Competitions  
Closing Party at the JCC  
**FRIDAY, AUGUST 14**  
Athletes Depart San Antonio

## Star Athlete!

By Star Reporter Stephanie Kutler

Name: Ben Heller  
Delegation: Boca Raton  
Age: 16  
Sport: Basketball

Hear all about this star athlete, who has already helped his team win many of the games played in these JCC Maccabi Games®!

Q: How long have you been playing basketball?

A: Forever

Q: What is your favorite thing about playing?

A: It's super fun and an amazing sport

Q: Do you have any future aspirations in basketball?

A: No, I play for fun.

Q: What's the best part about playing on a team?

A: You get a lot of friends and it's fun

Q: What did you think about Cowboys Dance Hall?

A: The bull riding was awesome

Q: What was your favorite part?

A: The clown getting hit, and showin' up the dancers

Q: How has Maccabi been for you so far?

A: AWESOME!

Good luck with all of your games, Ben!

## Potential Pelés Pause: A Brief Soccer Interview

By Star Reporter Zoe Schechter

What is your favorite thing about soccer?  
*The feeling of teamwork and unity.*

Where are you from?  
*South Jersey.*

How long have you been playing soccer?  
*11 years.*

What is your favorite thing about S.A.?  
*Cowboy hats and boots and hospitality.*

How long have you been practicing?  
*The entire summer.*

Did you win your first game?  
*Yes!*

Is this your first time in Texas?  
*Yes.*

*The daily shout-out  
from Coach Chuck  
from South Jersey!  
Stay hydrated!!!!*

**Aaron and Seth from South Jersey**



... but how you play the game.



I LOVE this game!



"Do the Hustle".



Take that, Mr. Sun!

*The water doesn't know what  
age you are when you jump in,  
so why not?*

*- Dara Torres, commenting on  
entering her fifth Olympics at age 41*

**MEDICAL EMERGENCY? CALL 911.  
NON-MEDICAL EMERGENCY?  
CALL THE ATHLETE'S DELEGATION  
HEAD & MACCABI CENTRAL:  
(210) 302-6838**