



# THE LONE STAR REPORTER

## "How the Games were won".

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### Opening Ceremonies Blast Competition Off to a Great Start

By Star Reporter Isaac Alter

A parade of white and blue travels around the colorful pillar, some older teens are holding up some of the younger kids on their shoulders, the line travels in a wide circle while drums are pounding and Latino dancers are twirling around. Eventually the parade of teens, with spotlights on them, arrives to their section of seating. Performers from Urban 15 dance and play drums as an old fashioned Latino dance takes place before everyone. Afterwards the mayor of San Antonio, Julian Castro, welcomed the different states and nations to the JCC Maccabi Games®, speaking of how San Antonio was made up of different cultures and religions. A video played about the Maccabi Games in Israel showing different points of interest. Everyone had fun, learned more about Judaism, and felt that everyone was connected because of it. Afterwards the crowd was asked to sit in silence for the victims of the 1972 Munich massacre at the summer Olympics; another video rolled explaining that this is part of the reason of the JCC Maccabi Games® were created. Next, a choir of San Antonio Jewish teens sang the Canadian anthem, Haktikvah, and American anthem. Then the athletes', coaches', and spectators' oaths were taken, and finally the torch was lit, thus starting the 2009 San Antonio JCC Maccabi Games®.

### Make Sure to Check Out Hangtime!

By Star Reporter Isaac Alter

For all the JCC Maccabi Games® athletes there is a place for you to relax, hang out in between your games, or just have some fun. It's called Hangtime and it's located on the second floor of the Bell Center, near the swimming and table tennis areas. It has two Wiis set up ready for you to play. It also has an arts and crafts table, numerous activities having to do with Israel, lots of cool prizes to win, tons of bean bags, and three laptops for you to surf the web on or type something up. And we've got new arts and crafts activities – making key chains and decorating pillow cases! So when you're waiting for your next game, come down to Hangtime!



Hangin' at Hangtime

**Forecast for Tuesday, August 11th**  
Hi: 101° F • Lo: 76° F  
**In other words, it's HOT!!!**

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

### Rising Athlete

By Star Reporter Stephanie Kutler

Not only does Maccabi offer amazing cultural and religious experiences, but also it is most recognizably home to some of the most talented up and coming athletes in the world.

Lyle Sarembok, from Dallas Texas, is a fifteen-year-old swimmer in the 2009 JCC Maccabi Games®. This is his first time participating and he is already having a great time. He has been swimming since the age of six and in the future, hopes to swim for a college team.

*"The best part about swimming is the team. I like my teammates a lot, and it's a lot of fun."*

Lyle enjoyed opening ceremonies last night, calling them "cool." He hopes to do well this week in competition, and also get to know the city of San Antonio better. Good luck, Lyle!



Team Israel howls it up with San Antonio Spurs mascot The Coyote.

### WEEK AT A GLANCE

#### TUESDAY, AUGUST 11

Athletic Competition  
Community Service Projects - Day of Caring/Sharing  
Host Family Night

#### 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

Share this newsletter with your friends! Tell them to visit [www.jccsanantonio.org/maccabi09!](http://www.jccsanantonio.org/maccabi09!)

## South of the Border

By Star Reporter Stephanie Kutler

Here in San Antonio, there is a very prominent culture, influenced heavily by Mexico. However, no matter how much Mexican food we scarf down, or however much Mariachi music we listen to, there is still no replicating an authentic Mexican experience. Our friends from the Mexican delegation are very much enjoying their time here, celebrating the similarities and differences to their home.

Swimmer Jaime Raijman, fourteen, is in his second year of swimming for the Mexican delegation at a JCC Maccabi Games®. When asked about opening ceremonies last night, Jaime admits that “they were nice, but a little boring” seeing as how he is constantly in the midst of flamenco dancers and traditional music in his hometown.

He says his favorite part about swimming is “being with his friends and teammates, and improving your time after each race.” However, in Mexico, laps are measured in meters, rather than yards, and therefore, says Jaime, “it’s easier to swim here because it is a shorter distance.”

In the future, Jaime would like to swim in an international competition in Mexico, and also hopes to someday participate in the Israeli Maccabiah.

Good luck in the rest of your races!

## Tuesday’s DOCAS

Day of Caring and Sharing is a mitzvah day for Maccabi athletes and coaches. We will be working on tikkun olam, making the world a better place, by doing projects to benefit the SAMM shelter, a homeless shelter in San Antonio. In addition to the activities during DOCAS, we will be decorating pillowcases in Hangtime to donate. The mitzvot we are performing will have a great impact on the community!

## Let’s Go Surfing!

The National Jewish Sports Hall of Fame – located in New York, has hundreds of honorees, including familiar names like Sandy Koufax, Mark Spitz and Kerri Strug. This year’s inductees included Dara Torres, who swam in her fifth Olympics in 2008 in Beijing. Biographies of all of those honored can be read at [www.jewishsports.org](http://www.jewishsports.org).

For even more Jewish sports heroes, there is the International Jewish Sports Hall of Fame, which lists every Jewish Olympic medalist, dating back to 1896. If you can’t make it to the museum in Israel, you can read more information at [www.jewishsports.net](http://www.jewishsports.net).

The American Jewish Historical Society sponsors [www.jewsinsports.org](http://www.jewsinsports.org), which has articles from the *Jewish Sports Review* and has a feature to search for athletes by things like league or hometown.

While [www.jewishsports.com](http://www.jewishsports.com) is not currently being updated, the news archive does cover a selection of Jewish sports content with interesting features and stories to read.



Going for gold.



Traffic Report: Minor pile-up in Hangtime. Use caution!

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

*“To win. Nothing else matters, and nothing else will do.”*

*- Sandy Koufax*

## Keep Yer Hat On! (Or How to Beat the Heat)

Drink plenty of water before, during and after outdoor events.  
Apply sunscreen generously.  
Wear a hat when possible.  
Take frequent breaks.