Howdy Pardners!

GaGa ruled The Ranch this week! All campers first grade and older got a shot to compete in the preliminary rounds on Monday, Tuesday, or Wednesday. The winners from the preliminaries progressed to the semi-final round on Thursday, ending with the GaGa Championship matches today. Posters and banners filled the stands of The Pit today as Pardners showed up to support their friends. Whether a spectator or participant, campers brought their high spirits and enthusiasm to the Dream Dome! We are proud of all the campers who participated in the GaGa Tournament; congratulations to all!

Beginning this past Monday, Kinfolk began arriving at Coleman Country for a glimpse of what their campers experience daily. Campers had the opportunity to show off their soccer skills, dance moves, gymnastics talents, archery abilities, musical energy, and pool prowess. Parents were able to observe not only their campers’ athletic abilities but also see the many friendships they have forged this summer. We can’t wait to welcome back Kinfolk Tuesday night for the Parent GaGa Tournament.

Also on Monday, the Pioneer division held their annual Pioneer Songfest. This allowed all the Pioneers to sing their own songs as Mrs. G. provided the musical accompaniment. Songs like “That’s What Friends are For” and “The More We Get Together” filled The Ranch with the spirit of the summer’s theme, “Lean on Me.”

This past Wednesday, campers competed in “Dance Dance Revolution,” filling the Grand Playhouse with rhythm. Scouts, Explorers, and 49ers all had a chance to become “dance dance” champ of their group. Although the dance moves were new and unusual for some of the campers, they quickly learned the game and were able to keep up with the best of players. By the end of the activity, all were dancing with the beat like pros.

Today we said goodbye to our camp friends who had their last day with us this summer. We hope the July campers had as good a time with us as we had with them. From Wet ‘n Wild to the GaGa Tournament, we will miss them at camp and cannot wait for our reunion next summer. As sad as it is to see the July campers leave, we look forward to welcoming new August camper friends on Monday.

Until then... Happy Trails!
Ready for RossCup!

Monday marks the start of the RossCup, the next 49er tournament. Preliminaries for the RossCup Hockey Tournament will be held on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday. Winners from each group vs group single elimination round will advance to the finals on Friday. Winners from the RossCup, like other 49er tournaments, will earn the coveted “Nothing Could be Finer...” tees. 49ers, start practicing your hockey teamwork. Kinfolk be sure to check Coleman Town for updates and photos of the tournament!

Opening Our Hearts

This week at Coleman Country we are embracing the spirit of “Lean on Me” as several visitors from Camp Sizanani in Soweto, South Africa, were welcomed into the extended Coleman Country Family. The three campers will be joining us for the next several weeks as members of the 49er division, while the staff will be joining our staff ranks. Ross has been talking with the staff and fifth grade girls about the importance of happiness, regardless of one’s possessions. Kay-Bee, one of the counselors from Sizanani, shared “Laughter doesn’t rain, it pours.”

We are sure the Sizanani spirit will be infused throughout The Ranch over the next three weeks while our guests are here, and they will certainly return home with the Spirit of Coleman Country. We are all bonded forever as we learn life lessons through each other. The laughter and love keep pouring in, thanks to all our new friends. We are all very excited about the upcoming weeks with counselors Tshepo, Martha, Lello, and Kay-Bee, and campers Thembelihle (nicknamed Tanjiwe), Masentle, and Simphiwe. If you want to learn more about Ross, Pam, and Tony’s experience volunteering in South Africa as well as see a great video about their time there, please go to ColemanCountry.com/sizanani.

The Circus is Coming to Town!

During the week of August 3rd, Coleman Country will welcome all interested Pardners, second grade and above, to participate in the Circus of the Kids! Professional circus performers will visit The Ranch to teach campers everything from juggling to acrobatic flips. Circus of the Kids is an extremely rewarding experience for all those who choose to participate; however, it does require participants to attend all practices. Pardners will have to stay late after camp or come back later in the evening for practice. If you want to join the circus, please come on Sunday, August 2nd!

(Details to follow, but save the date!)