



CHRONICLE

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HAPPY TRAILS TO YOU...

Pirates, Princesses, Play-Offs, and The Pit!



Howdy Pardners!

ARRR... what a week it was, mateys! A highlight, of course, was Pirate and Princess Dress-up Day. Spirit was high as Pardners came off their buses in creative costumes that told the story of a community brimming with merriment. Even Denver and Maverick got into the act! It was a great way to welcome our August campers who joined in the 2010 fun the day before. And speaking of August campers, they had their photos taken yesterday on their Picture Day.

Parents joined in the high-spirited fun on Wednesday night, when we opened the Dream Dome to them for GaGa. Banners and cheers from their adoring fans – uh, their kids – helped set the stage for the most grown-up glee imaginable. We suspect that parents were getting strategy tips from their campers, and those apparently paid off as the action was intense in The Pit.

The Pioneers were the last to enter The Pit with their own “tournament” today. Every group got their chance to play, after visiting the body-painting station, and Pioneers in the Pit got their own special entrance! The fun didn’t stop with GaGa; Coleman Country’s littlest campers got down at a super fun dance party in The Pit, and they also loved their Lovefest!

Jason Elias is a teacher, children’s author, and former Coleman Country counselor and Teen Travel supervisor! He paid us a special visit this week to read his debut novel, “And Sometimes Y,” to our 5-and 6-year-olds. He also talked about how to create characters and write stories. Campers learned some very important lessons from Jason’s story: we are different, and we should include everybody, even if they are not exactly like us.

The 49ers had an incredibly busy week as they hit the trail on excursions off The Ranch. Sixth, 7th, and 8th grade girls are having their Girls Night Out tonight on Broadway, where they will see “Mary Poppins,” the acclaimed musical. (The boys will have their special night on August 10 when they hit CitiField for a Mets game [with apologies to Brett Gardner of the Yankees!]). Our youngest 49ers, 5th graders, went deep sea fishing. Our chartered boat, The Miss Freeport, sails from the Nautical Mile to where the fish are plentiful. And that’s not all – the 5th graders also enjoyed a late night last night when they went to see the Long Island Ducks play baseball. Yesterday, the 6th graders got to choose between a day at the beach or at Fun Zone.

Tournaments were in full swing for Scouts, Explorers, and 49ers. See details on the back!



PIONEERS IN THE PIT... and Counselors in The Pit and CITs in The Pit and Parents in The Pit... Guess you could say that we were ga ga this week over GaGa! Jackie, Ava, Zachary, and Charlie were styling in the Dream Dome, hamming it up and loving every minute of their ritual visit through the smoke-filled doors of The Pit.

Hawaiian Luau Dress-Up Day
Thursday, August 5th

Aloha! Get ready to wear grass skirts, leis, and coconuts, as we bring the Luau to The Ranch! You can look forward to Maui Wowi Smoothies, Big Bob Coconuts, Hula Hooping, Belly Dancing, and so much more!

Enrollment 2011

Don't forget to take advantage of early enrollment savings! Send in your deposit (refundable until March 1) by the last day of camp, August 20, and save up to \$400 per child!

Tourney Talk

Because competition is an integral part of life, we make sure to provide lots of opportunities on The Ranch to coach our Partners to both lose and win gracefully and graciously. This week we've seen lots of action and had lots of chances to practice our social skills with:

- **RossCup Hockey Tournament** – Each 49 group competed, the winning groups moved on to the next round, then on to the playoffs and finals for the much anticipated RossCup. The winning group received the coveted 49er “Nothing Could Be Finer...” t-shirts.
- **Robbie Levine Lightning World Cup Soccer Tournament** – Explorers gave it their personal best this week as teams competed in the “lightning elimination” soccer tournament. Team spirit was high and lots of cheering was heard from the Explorers on the sidelines!
- **Mini-murals** – The Scouts got in on the tournament action with their Mini-murals this week. They showed off their dribbling drills and their goal scoring skills as they competed. Mini-murals are an introduction to Intramurals which begins in third grade and takes place throughout the summer.
- **Pioneers in The Pit** – Not to be outdone, Coleman Country's youngest campers had their turn at GaGa with face paint and entrances through “the door,” enjoying every minute of glory as they begin to grasp the fundamentals of Coleman Country's signature game.

Habits of the Heart

Not everyone has the opportunity for the same great camp experiences we have here at Coleman Country. Next week, we'll be putting our efforts into swimming laps to raise money to send underprivileged children to camp. On Monday, Partners will harness their swimming skills and swim laps for the Morry's Project Swim-a-thon. For every lap swum by campers and counselors during their regular swim period, the Coleman Family will contribute ten cents to Morry's Camp. Last year, Partners swam an incredible 49,851 laps! The Coleman Family donated \$5,000 as a result of the campers' great work for Morry's kids. To learn more about Morry's project, named for Morry Stein, a dear friend of the Colemans and a friend to camp, check out their site at: <http://www.morriscamp.org/>

Explorers Care

Explorers are Standing Up for the hungry next week when they team up with the Long Island Cares Harry Chapin Food Bank. Our 3rd and 4th graders are spear-heading the collecting of non-perishable foods to be donated to help people in our community. We will be collecting food starting Monday, August 2, and will continue to accept donations through Friday, August 6. We are looking for canned goods like: canned meat, tuna, salmon, soup, fruit, pasta -- or dry goods such as: pasta, macaroni and cheese, rice, beans, pancake mix, cake mix, and hot and cold cereals. Campers from all divisions can bring in food donations on the bus.

Meet Coleman Country's Horses

Presley, our tallest horse, is a 30-year-old Bay Gelding. He is very gentle and sweet natured, and he often sticks his head out of his stall to get some extra attention.

Lola is a 23-year-old Palomino Mare; she is very energetic and loves to be the center of attention. Cindy and Robyn and their staff sometimes refer to her as the Princess Lola or the Lovely Lola.

Bie is a 25-year-old White Gelding. He is the most willing and gentle horse we have, and, like his stable-mates, he can be trusted with any rider.

Twister is a 26-year-old Quarter Horse Mare; she is shy and sweet natured and loves the attention that the children give her.

Speckles is a 25-year-old grey, Shetland Pony. He is our most playful and mischievous horse. If he is turned out alone, he will find the other horses to come out to play. Speckles is the reason that we have locks on all of our exterior gates, because he likes to escape.

Scouts Build Character

The Scouts are building character through sports throughout the summer. Each week, our Scout supervisors, Felicia and Lew, teach a new character building lesson, coaching first and second graders to use athletic situations to learn about teamwork, self-confidence, respect, responsibility, fairness, and caring. This week's spotlight was on respect. Partners learned the importance of respecting players on both teams as well as the referees. They learned how to treat others the way they would like to be treated, practiced not using put-downs, no name-calling or trash talking, and how they should never challenge a referee's call.

Baltimore Bonanza

Sixth, 7th, and 8th graders are going to have a blast next week with Baltimore Bonanza, an optional overnight adventure on August 3rd-4th, led by Coleman Country's own 49er supervisors, Big Bob and Dimitri! At Six Flags America, Partners can choose from 100 exhilarating rides, as well as Hurricane Harbor Water Park! They will also pay a visit to the Baltimore Inner Harbor Science Center, exploring exciting exhibitions like Dinosaur Mysteries where they can be the paleontologist; and Newton's Alley, where they can play a string-less harp and touch a cloud! They will also go to Camden Yards to see an Orioles game. Lastly, they will visit the National Aquarium, home to exotic animals like the electric eel, roughtail stingray, giant pacific octopus, and bonnethead shark!

ON THE HORIZON

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| August 2 | Morry's Camp Swim-a-thon
Food Drive Starts
Dimitri Invitational Soccer Tournament |
| August 3 | Baltimore Bonanza Optional Overnight
6th-8th grade |
| August 5 | Hawaiian Luau Dress-Up Day
Beach or Movies 7th/8th grade choice |