



aiming high (and shooting low)

Plano West Senior High junior **Ben Sater** founded **KidSwing**, a golf tournament that raises money for Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children.

HE AIMS HIGH AND HE SHOOTS LOW—a low golf score, that is. At just 17 years old, **Ben Sater** of Plano has been hitting the links for over 10 years.

When he was 3 years old, and again when he was 10, Ben received surgery and physical therapy at **Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children** (TSRHC) for a condition called trigger finger. After Ben's mother, Kim, told him that the hospital cares for children free of charge, Ben's passion for golf soared to new heights.

In 2003, Ben founded **KidSwing**, a nine-hole, best-ball scramble that is exclusively for golfers ages 7 to 18. It is the first event of its kind organized by a TSRHC patient. "I wanted to do something in return because I was grateful to the hospital," said Ben. "Scottish Rite is a great place. They help out a lot of kids."

During his first year's fundraising efforts, Ben went door-to-door. In July, a neighbor, **Fred Frawley**, nominated him for the Volunteer of the Month award, given by former mayor **Pat Evans** and city council. At the time, Ben was the youngest award recipient.

His efforts and others' paid off. "The first year our goal was \$10,000 and we actually doubled that," said Ben.

KidSwing saw 78 players that first year, but the tournament has

KidSwing is a nine-hole, best-ball scramble exclusively for golfers ages 7 to 18

grown to more than 400, and those 400 last year raised \$172,000. "We've raised almost \$700,000 in six years, so now my goal is to raise \$1 million before I go to college," said Ben.

That may be in two years since Ben is a junior. He's not sure yet where he wants to go to college, or if he wants to pursue golf, but chances are he will not be giving up his swing.

Ben shoots in the high 70s and is on the varsity Plano West Golf Team, which won the 2008 5A Boys Texas State Championship. Some of his teammates will be participating in KidSwing. "Playing in the tournament with my friends is fun," said Ben, "but my favorite part is seeing the check for the first time at the award ceremony."

Players are encouraged to raise \$100 through sponsorships from family and friends, and many KidSwing participants surpass that amount. There is no entry fee to sponsor.

Stephanie Brigger, vice president of development at TSRHC, said, “Kids have such giving spirits and are very receptive to the idea of raising money to help other children. It excites them to know that they can have such a direct impact.”

Brigger said she is certain the current economic condition will not deter KidSwing participants from their goal. “Patients like Ben and the other KidSwing participants are very committed to this tournament and its success.”

The seventh annual KidSwing will tee off Monday, June 15 at 8 a.m. at **Brookhaven Country Club** in Dallas. Two shotgun starts are at 9 a.m. and 2 p.m. Sponsorships are available. Call 214.559.7656, e-mail kidswing@tsrh.org, or visit kidswing.org.

Frisco Grooves

Get your groove on in Frisco every Friday in June as the **American Bank of Texas** presents **Frisco Grooves**, a family-friendly outdoor concert at **Warren Sports Complex**. All concerts are free and begin at 7:30 p.m. Coolers and picnic baskets are allowed, but concessions will be provided by the **St. Francis Knights of Columbus** and the **Boy Scouts**. Partnering with **American Bank of Texas** for Frisco Grooves are the **City of Frisco, Frisco Parks & Recreation Department**, and **Baylor Medical Center at Frisco**. Visit friscogrooves.org.

- ▶ **June 5: Eleven Hundred Springs**
elevenhundredsprings.com
- ▶ **June 12: The Joe Jonas Band**
joejonasband.com
- ▶ **June 19: Brave Combo**
brave.com/bo
- ▶ **June 26: Carolyn Wonderland**
carolynwonderland.com

BIZ: BYTES

Making Father's Day Memories

What are your thoughts on a memorable Father's Day?

Jim Wear, City of Plano, Creative Arts Manager: My fondest memory of Father's Day is from 1958. I decided to get my dad a great present and used my allowance to buy him an all-day sucker! Of course, I ate the sucker, so I guess my point is, the best thing to do is get your dad something you like!
planostages.com

John M. Todd, Elite Remodeling, President and Owner: My father and grandfather were both big “beef eaters and fishermen,” so on the Father's Days that allowed our schedules to match, we'd take on some bass fishing in the morning then grill steaks that evening. Probably the fishing and all the stories that went with “pseudo-catches” were the most special.
elitehomeremodeling.com

Blanca Rojas, 1st International Bank, Marketing Officer: I think a great way to spend Father's Day is to get up early in the morning and go fishing with Dad for that opportunity to catch up on all the new things going on in our lives. Another great way to spend the day is to have a barbeque with the family and present Dad with the perfect gift of a new set of barbeque tools or a good book on grilling recipes. fibtx.com

Kevin Ackerson, Moto Photo, co-owner: I have a lot of great memories with my dad—not just on Father's Day. Washing the cars together, cleaning the wire wheels, waxing and detailing the jags; Dad walking beside me as we mowed the lawn together for the first time; and my best memory is staying up late watching *The Wizard of Oz*.
motophotoplanotexas.com



Bare feet, dancing, rolling in the grass, and sitting on dad's shoulders are all encouraged at Frisco Grooves.