

Boys Basketball article

The boys 16u basketball team had a great experience in Detroit. In the preliminary games it finished with a 3-1 record which qualified as the third seed for the playoffs. In the first game against a huge team from Toronto, Metrowest overcame an early deficit aided by a full court press to win by 3 points. The comeback was led by Justin Burger and Noah Susskind with Berger hitting two long 3 pointers in the last minute. The strong rebounding of Gabe Stolar and Max Bruch helped neutralize the opponent's big size advantage. In the second game, Metrowest fell to Pittsburgh who went undefeated in the preliminaries and secured the number 1 seed for the playoffs. In the third game, Metrowest rebounded to soundly beat Detroit. Contributions were made by all players. In particular the squad was led by reserves Matt Lerner, Jacob Banks, Evan Locke, and Zach Weiss. The last preliminary game against Samuel Field was one of the most exciting games that coaches Jeff and Roy Greenman had ever experienced in their combined 20+ years of Maccabi coaching. The opponent was undefeated, and considered by most to be the best team in the field. A frenetic first half left Metrowest down 36-22. Aided by a stifling full court press, and a hot hand from Harris Cohen who scored 18 points in the third quarter, the gap was closed to 48-44. The comeback continued into the fourth quarter, and the game went into overtime. Deadeye foul shooting by Cohen secured the win.

Unfortunately, the great comeback by metrowest took a lot out of the team. The next morning we played 92nd Street Y a team we had scrimmaged and beaten a month earlier in New York City. They came out hot, and we came out flat. Although we tried to mount a comeback like the day before, it was not to be. 92nd Street's victory over us proved to be no fluke, as they went on to win the gold medal.

Aside from the basketball, the players had a great experience, bonding with their teammates, and meeting other jewish athletes from all over the world.