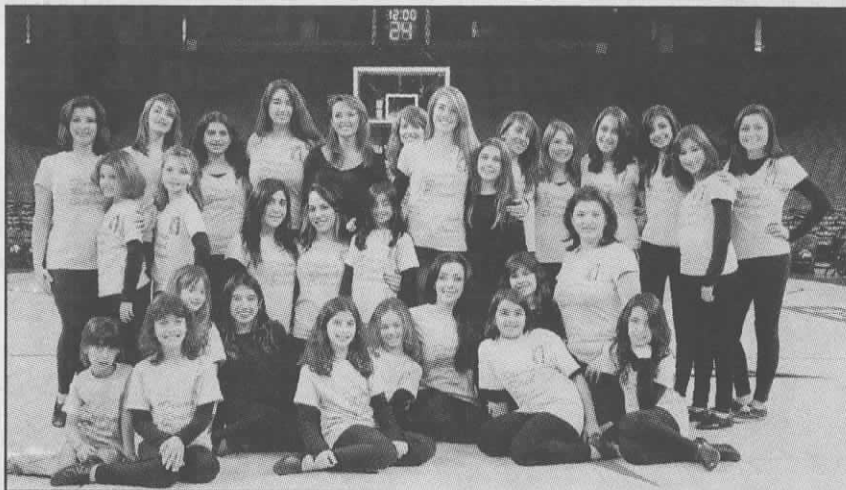


NDA Goes to the NBA!

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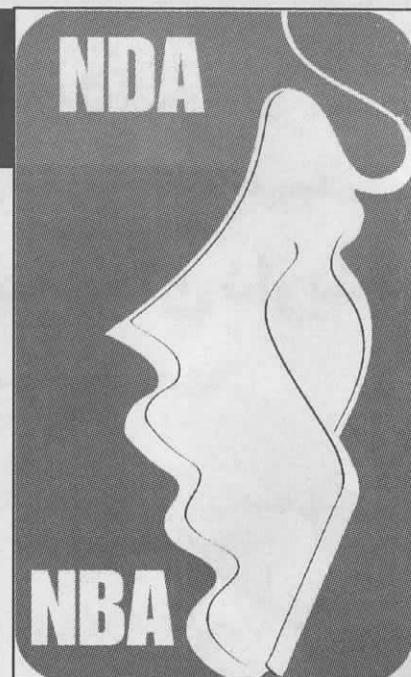
On Wednesday Night, November 4, 2009 yet another milestone for the Iranian-American community was achieved. The Golden State Warriors of Northern California hosted Iranian Heritage Night with Hamed Haddadi and the Memphis Grizzlies at Oracle Arena in Oakland. Haddadi is the 1st Iranian NBA player in history, and



person who magically transfers her positive energy to her students.

At the NBA game, all of the NDA dancers and families were wearing light blue t-shirts with the inspiring words on the front: "Dream, Reach, Believe" and in the back of the shirt the very cute slogan, "NDA goes to the NBA." When I asked Niosha what the idea behind the shirt was, she said,

possible, so that they can see the beauty and softness of our culture. I wanted to always give this opportunity to my students to be proud of being Iranians, and to be proud of their hard work and talent. To perform at an NBA game is just a start, so everyone now knows that if we dream and reach for it and believe that will happen on its own right, with the right timing, and a bit of luck, the sky



parents as well as Niosha's lovely family who support her all the time, all the way.

Niosha's choice of music, costumes and choreography was very clever. Green, White, and Red were chosen for obvious reasons. And she positioned the dancers on the big court in a very smart way so that from every angle you could see these 3 colors! She mixed 2 very meaningful songs together, beginning with Mehrdad's "Raghseh Biejazeh" song that blended very nicely into the "Ey Javidan Iran" accompanied by the loud and powerful clapping and



has been actively spreading the good vibes of basketball and Iranian heritage through his personal appearances and camps for kids, as well as Iranian Heritage nights across the nation.



The event was made even more spectacular by the fact that more than 600 Iranians attended the event. The opening entertainment was none other than local Niosha Dance Academy, who put on an entertaining dance performance for the audience of 17,000 in advance of the game.

As usual, there were beautiful dancers of all ages in beautiful costumes, spinning and flying around the hardwood to wonderfully beat-driven Persian music, just like the Persian Pares of yore! The audience loved it and of course the Iranians in the crowd cheered on the dancers loudly!

Niosha Dance Academy has been actively producing beautiful dances and costumes while training hundreds of students in 4 different studios in the Bay Area of Northern California. Niosha Jamali, a woman with an unbelievable amount of passion and energy for what she does, is the director and founder of NDA. She is naturally a very compassionate and positive person, the kind of

"My Dream has come true, I always wanted to perform at a large venue like the Oracle, I always wanted to

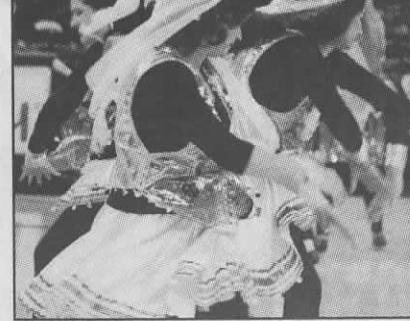


showcase the beautiful art of our traditional and modern dances, to show our true heritage and culture to as many people in an audience as

is the limit. We can do anything! A popular slogan of the NBA is "The NBA is where it happens!" We like to say, "NDA is where it happens!!!"

Niosha also said: "Dreams and the wishes of our good friends and supporters were very helpful too, because 3 weeks before we received the proposal from the NBA, a good friend and volunteer and supporter of Niosha Dance Academy had the same wish, and it basically came true!!!"

Niosha was very grateful for the help of all the many individuals and family members that worked so hard to make all 38 costumes in 3 weeks. She wanted to recognize and send a special thanks to Medallion Rug & Mr. Aryan and Mr. Nozad for their support. Thanks also to Ideh Tamjidi for her tireless effort and help on all aspects of the show. Ms. Parisa Defaei and Mr. Alireza Rahimi for their Photos that will keep the memory of that night alive for ever. And of course, to all the NDA students and



beautiful synchronized dancing of the dancers. All the turns and moves went gracefully together and showed the hours and hours of practice it took to achieve perfection. The interesting thing was that 12 of her dancers are younger girls from 7-12 yrs of age, and 24 of them are teenagers that have mostly been born here, yet all are either Iranian or Iranian-American.

The local Bay Area Iranian community is very proud of what Niosha Dance Academy does for the students and families and all her families and members for what they do for the local community. More power to them and god bless them all.