

MAICON SANTANA



AGE: 19

COUNTRY: Brazil

HOMETOWN: Sao Paulo

POSITION: Middle Attacker



STORY: Maicon is a footballer for Special Olympics Brazil. Growing up in Brazil Maicon had a natural love of football and talent for the game. Ever since he was a young boy he was always close to a football.

Maicon lives just north of Sao Paulo with his family. Maicon is the second of five children. His father Juarez operates machines at a local tire factory and his mother, Maria, stays home to take care of the family. Maicon's mother Maria Aparecida da Silva Santana says that she cannot remember a time he has not had a football by his side. She describes him as dedicated to the game he loves but also to everything that he does in life.

Maicon dreams that his passion and natural talent for football can one day help support his parents and four siblings. He hopes his football skills can make them proud. He loves football and says that when he is on the field he feels powerful. His dream is to one day become a professional football player.

In 2007 he won a gold medal with Special Olympics Brazil at the Special Olympics World Summer Games in Shanghai, China. He hopes his football success can continue at the Unity Cup.