



# SHARK BYTES

Volume 1, Issue 2

May/June

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## Nationals Here We Come!

Many MAVA players and their families soon will be packing up the sunscreen and pulling on their Stetsons as teams get ready to compete in the AAU National Tournament in Orlando, Florida the ASICS National Tournament in Chicago and the Junior Olympics Championship in Houston Texas.

Five teams will be making the trip to Florida for the tournament which runs from June 15 to 19.

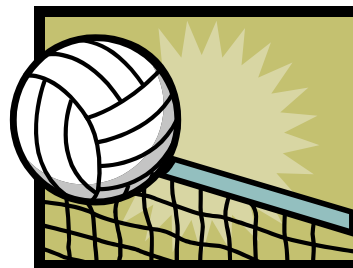
They include girls 12-3, 16-2, 17-2, 18-2 and 18-1.

A total of 11 teams will be playing in the June 18-20 Chicago competition.

Those teams are girls 12-1,

12-2, 13-1, 13-2, 14-2, 15-1, 15-2, 16-1, 17-1 and the boys 16 and 17 teams.

Eight girls teams will be in Houston from June 22



through June 27. Those teams are girls 12-1, 12-2, 13-1, 14-1, 14-2, 15-1, 17-1, 18-1. The boys 17 team will play in Austin Texas.

MAVA director Glenn Pike said that he is extremely pleased with the club's

success this year and is looking forward to bringing home some tournament wins.

“Considering this is only our second season as MAVA, qualifying so many teams for Houston is a huge accomplishment for the players and coaching staff,” said Pike.

“Winning two qualifiers, along with receiving our first open bid and qualifying nine teams for Junior Nationals proves that we are moving forward in developing our young players to compete on the national level,” he added. “I am very proud of the effort I have seen this year.”

## DID YOU KNOW

- \* 12-1 Coach Joel Braun plays guitar in a rock and roll band called Critical Mass.
- \* 18-1 Coach Paul Bowling is an accomplished musician and can play up to a reported 10 instruments.
- \* 12-4 Coach Kurt Dotson was once a fireman and emergency medical technician.

(continued on page 5)

## MAVA Players Make College Commitments

Several MAVA players will be continuing their volleyball careers along with their educations. To date, 11 girls have committed to colleges for next year. Every senior on the 18-1 and 18-2 team who pursued scholarships to play college volleyball has re-

ceived one. The players and their colleges include: Courtney Cron, Davidson; Meghan McMahan, Rhodes; Meghan Durbin, Coast Guard Academy; Abbey Verling and Abbey Breit, Jacksonville State; Krista Barnett, Northern Kentucky University; Sarah

Burger, Centre College, Julie and Mary Carver, Embry Riddle University; Rosie Cogswell, Hanover College and Kristen Michael, Asbury College.

Congratulations to these girls and good luck next year with school and volleyball!

## 14-1s Bring Home MAVA's First Open Bid

As we near the end of our season, our team has become a close group of girls and parents. Taylor, Holly, Sarah, Lauren, Leslie, Emily, Alli, Courtney, Meredith, and Emily have worked very hard to achieve their goal to play in the Nationals. Coaches Bill Cecil and Donnie Boemker have done a great job in preparing us to make that goal a reality. At the Tampa Bay Qualifier we were confident that we would bring home a bid. We went 8 matches undefeated, losing only one game to Houston Jrs. Afterward, several parents from the Houston team congratulated us. They said they thought it would be an easy win, but that we played like giants. (We were a



**14-1s win first MAVA Open bid in Florida**

small team compared to our opponents). In the Gold pool play, we came back from a 14-5 deficit to beat Club

Fusion from Chicago. We never gave up! That win put us in the Gold final against Amarillo Jrs. We both played hard but Amarillo won. We shared hugs and photos with the team following the match. There were no tears from us! We proudly wore our gold medals around our necks, knowing that we played our best and had just won the first open bid for MAVA! That medal is our ticket to Houston, where we plan on bringing another one home. We weren't all volleyball in Orlando. We went and watched the ducks at the Peabody Hotel, walked to Orlando Pointe for dinner, met Carson from "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy", and danced and partied at Margaritaville.

## TEAM 13-1: 12 HEARTS BEATING AS ONE!!!

Where should we start?? The first part of the season the players were trying to get to know each other and the coaches were trying to form the best team they could out of 10 individuals. By the time March and April rolled around the team was ready to see how competitive they could be. March included several tournaments where our team was still trying to "find" themselves. The girls definitely became aware of what they needed to work on in practice to become a top competitive team.

The Hoosier MidEast Qualifier arrived and our team was undefeated

**13-1 Players and coaches came together to form a first rate team.**

going into the last day of play. With the parent's now infamous "GO MAVA GO MAVA GO...WHOOSH!! WHOOSH!!" cheer behind them, the girls started strong by defeating 2<sup>nd</sup> City Nike 25-13 and 25-20. Up next was a tough NASA team from Hunts-

ville. Our girls stepped up and won 25-21 and 25-21. The team made it to the finals but came up one match short finishing as runner-ups. But what an accomplishment!

Making it to the finals of the Mideast Qualifier gave the team the motivation and desire to win the Minneapolis Northern Lights Qualifier. Saturday proved to be a tough day. They faced the Lions who won the first game 15-25. After this game, the team woke up and came back to win the match by 25-11 and 15-11. Next up was the strong Nebraska One team. Again this match went three games, 25-16, 24-26 and 15-12. We ended the day by defeating Wisconsin Power 25-8 and 25-21. After Saturday's hard matches the girls knew that Sunday would be even more exciting and challenging. First up Sunday was the 2<sup>nd</sup> City Nike team who we beat 25-13 and 25-21. Up next was the semi-final game against Tigers Juniors. It was a very competitive match that we won 25-20 and 26-24. Once again, we made it to the finals of a National Qualifier. But

this time the team was determined to leave as the champion and not as the runner-up.



**MAVA 13-1 gets in sync and will compete in Houston.**

The whole match was back and forth. We won the first game by a tight score of 25-23. The second game began with our team falling behind badly; however, we fought back but lost the second game by a respectable 21-25. The whole weekend came down to one 15-point game, which was going to determine if we would earn the bid to the National JO's.

## 12-1s Win Bid at Mid-East Qualifier

The MAVA 12-1 team has put together an impressive list of wins during the past few months. In fact, the team currently has a 63 win to 10 loss record.

Most notably, 12-1s, coached by Ken Garvey and Joel Braun, won the Mid East Qualifier in Indianapolis in early April and garnered a bid to compete in the Junior Olympic Girls Volleyball Championship in Houston in June.

The team traveled to Columbus where they won the 14s division of the Casey Cooley Memorial Tournament.



**MAVA 12-1s win bid to Nationals in Indianapolis. The team has an impressive record of 63 wins to date.**

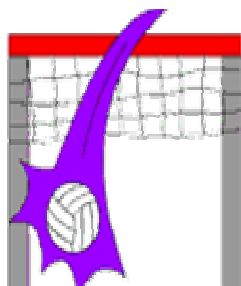
While they placed second in the Central Zone and Bluegrass Pre-Qualifier, they came out on top in the NKJV Aces Challenge, winning the gold in the 13s division and placing first in the Holiday Inn Classic.

Team members are Caitlin Dotson, Kelsey Dunaway, Heather Fields, Melanie Hicks, Emily Juhl, Shelby King, Taylor Maxson, Sara Ulinski and Caitlin Welch.

## New Equipment Keeps MAVA on Competitive Edge

Special thanks to all the families who have contributed to the MAVA equipment fund. The monies have enabled the club to purchase several pieces of top quality volleyball gear including

- Digital camcorder
- “Catch It” target net used for passing and setting accuracy
- “Pass It” used to teach correct arm positioning when passing



For other items on the MAVA Wish List see page 5.

- “Spike It” used in training spiking form.

“We are so grateful for the generosity of our families,” said MAVA 13-1 Coach Tom Recktenwald.

“They have allowed us to get some state-of-the-art tools that will help us in coaching all our teams and will help all the players improve.”

## 18-1s Win Bid at Pioneer Region

The MAVA 18-1s had a good finish to the season before the National events start. They won the Pioneer Region Bid tournament, which earned them a club bid to the Junior Nationals in Houston. They then came in 2nd in the Pioneer Region Championships. They will finish out the season by playing in the AAUs in Orlando and then make the trip to Houston the following week.

The 18-1s consist of seven seniors and one sophomore. All the seniors have plans to attend college with six accepting volleyball scholarships. (see story on page 1). Senior Meghan McCallister will be attending Southern Methodist University.

Sophomore Whitney Haynes also is on the team and will be a junior at Mercy Academy next year.

### Chamberlain Selected for National Team

Trinity junior and MAVA player Todd Chamberlain was selected to the USA 2004 Junior National Volleyball Team out of a field of about 400 top players. The 18 qualifying athletes will meet at the Olympic Training Center in Lake Placid, N.Y., in July.

Congratulations to Todd and his family!!

## 12-3s Blending Together

The MAVA 12-3 team consists of nine girls from six different schools. The team started March off by winning the 12U Silver Division at the Bluegrass Pre-Qualifier. At the beginning of April the team participated in the Mid East Qualifier with only six of the team's players. One player from MAVA 12-4 accompanied the team to bring the total to seven players. (Thanks again, Elizabeth!) The team made a good showing despite

**Pass  
Set  
Spike**

being short three hitters, eventually being eliminated by MAVA 12-2 in a match that went to three games. In mid-April, they came in second in the 12U Gold Division at the NKJV Aces Challenge followed by a second place finish in the 12U Gold Division at the Holiday Inn Volleyball Classic.

Under the leadership of coaches Stephanie Diebold and Steve Berry the girls have all improved their skills and have had fun doing so.

Team members are Jessica Berry, Meredith Boling, Abbie Carrico, Jackie Crush, Angela Edlin, Melanie Kiefer, Rachel Moad, Taylor Musselman and Melissa Sexton. The girls stay very busy with their lives outside of volleyball participating in activities such as dancing, swimming, softball, field hockey and basketball.

## 17-1s Come Together as a Team

The MAVA 17-1 team is gearing up for Nationals in Houston and coaches Glenn Pike and Todd Garvey are pleased with their performance to date.

"Our players have worked very hard," said Pike, "and we're looking forward to playing some great volleyball in Houston."

The team won the Pioneer Region Bid Tournament on May 2. They also will play in the ASICS National Tournament in Chicago in June.

**"Our players have worked very hard and we're looking forward to playing some great volleyball in Houston."**

"The team has done well considering only a few of the girls have experience playing together before the season," said Pike.

Players come from several area high schools. Team members are Caitlin Morency, Erin Pierce, Tonya Reed, Katie Tinsley, Ashley Harris, Lindsey Neighbors, Katie Wetterer and Kristie Wetterer.

## 12-4s Come on Strong

On their first out of town trip the 12-4 team brought home a win. The team, lead by coaches Kurt Dotson and Greg Richards won first place in the Silver Division of the Northern Kentucky Aces Challenge.

They had a great time playing volleyball on the court during the day and water volleyball in the hotel pool in the evening. The teammates all

agree that they have grown as players and friends throughout the season. They have had a great time and have formed friendships that will last for years to come.

Team members include Taylor Brashear, Claire Thieneman, Casie Logan, Marrie Koch, Elizabeth Chenuault, Allyson Dilbeck, Morgan Ridge, Meghan Bowers and Katie Tinnell.



12-4s Win Silver in Cincy

## 12-2s Share Memories

The 12-2 team has many wonderful memories of the season. However, a few things stand out. Here's what they will remember....Sarah Adam will remember playing elevator tag with her teammates. Lauren Geiger will remember Cheeseburger in Paradise and playing elevator tag.

Hannah Jezreel's favorite memory is spending time with teammates at hotels and restaurants and just hanging out. Mollie Nitzken liked eating at Cheeseburger in Paradise, and playing elevator tag.

Diane Pike's favorite moment was when we heard we were going to Houston and she knew she was going to go on her first plane ride. Katy Potempa will remember playing elevator tag, and eating at Cheeseburger in Paradise. Jordan Rickert's favorite volleyball memory was getting a bid to Houston! All of our hard work paid off!! Allie Schmidt's favorite memories are moon walk and running into a wall really hard!

Also, meeting her new best buddies and getting a bid to Houston.



### 12-2s relax after winning a bid to Nationals.

Lauren Woody's favorite memory was winning the bid to Houston!! And our favorite memory of Lauren is when she jumped in the pool in Indianapolis in her school uniform! Coach Melissa Mudd's enjoyed the opportunity of working with nine very talented and

## More Did You Know

- \* 12-3 Coach Stephanie Diebold is Rick Pitino's secretary.
- \* 12-2 Coach Melissa Mudd's College team was just inducted into the Georgetown Hall of Fame.
- \* 14-1 Coach Bill Cecil runs in the Derby Marathon and coach Donnie Boemker loves the movie "Superstar."
- \* 17-1 Coach Glenn Pike's nicknames are Donald, Glendalyn and Gdawg. Todd Garvey's are Todds, Toddrick and Toddie.
- \* 13-1 Coach Tom Rectenwald spent time in the bush of South Africa and is now known as Coach "Bushman" Waldi.

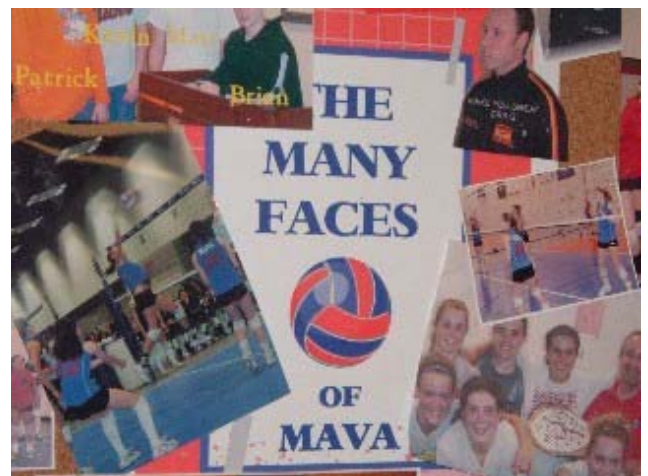
## New Equipment Wish List

- More "Catch Its"
- AirCAT an automatic passing, serving, spiking machine
- Fitness Equipment
- Ball Catching Nets
- "Set It" *Want to Contribute Call Tom or Glenn!*

## MAVA Bulletin Board Documents Season in Photos

*MAVA's eye-catching bulletin board located just inside the front doors helps document the many successes of this season. It's filled with photos of players, fans, coaches, staff and even a celebrity or two. The ever-changing display showcases the victories, parties and events that have made this a great and special year.*

*Be sure and check it out and special thanks to Kathy Haywood for maintaining and updating photos!!*



## 10-1s End Great Season with Lots of Memories

MAVA's 10-1 had a great season with many wonderful memories on and off the court. Here's our favorites:

London Ackerman -- My favorite memory was winning the March Madness tournament at SISC. I'll always remember races in the pool at Cincinnati; practice with Mrs. V and Mr. Katz and all my teammates - I Love all of you!

Annie Adams -- I was happy the first time we won a tournament and I really had fun hanging out with my teammates between matches talking and playing cards and stuff.

Amanda Crask -- I met a lot of new people and made new friends and I have gotten a lot better at volleyball! Sarah Katz -- My favorite memory on the MAVA 10-1 team was when we all had fun winning our first plaque together! The Memorial Day "Tornado" Tournament was pretty exciting too.

Monica McGreal -- I had a great time with MAVA this year. One of my favorite parts was when we went to Cincinnati. I had the best time playing

volleyball and just hanging out with all of my friends.

Emma Roberson -- My favorite thing about my team this year was finally getting to play! My sister has been playing for 4-5 years and I always had to watch. Now I finally have a team of my own and she has to be the cheerleader!

Paige Stewart -- My favorite memory of volleyball this year was making new friends. The coaches were great and



10-1s Finished with a great season and many wonderful memories

**Coach Glen Katz will be remembered for his never ending patience.**

all the players got along real well which made it a lot of fun. All the tournaments were fun because we got to play teams from different places.

Laurine Vinkesteyn -- A couple of my favorite memories were when my mom became an assistant coach and when we won our bracket of the tour-

namment in Cincinnati and the MAVA 12-3 team was screaming so loudly and cheering us on. At our last practice we got to see how much we all improved.

"Coach V" Annemarie Vinkesteyn -- My first year as a MAVA coach has been a great experience. We had a team with very talented girls who got along well and improved so much. All the parents were extremely supportive. My best memory is when we played in the Cincinnati tournament and spent a night in a hotel. After a long day of volleyball, the girls had the best time playing in the pool together and having fun and that is so important at this age.

Coach Glen Katz will be remembered for his never ending patience with the girls and for his motivational e-mails after every tournament. He finds the positive in every situation and helped all the girls develop their skills. Not to mention, he is the tallest (and most handsome) coach at MAVA.

## MAVA 14-3 Wins Silver in 15s at Derby City Spring Fling

The MAVA 14-3 team won first place in the Silver Division in the Derby City Spring Fling for 15's on May 23.

The team placed 2nd in the Silver Division for 15 Club during the Memorial Day Tournament.

Coach Jan Segó was all business during the season!

Our season is over now and most of the girls will be entering high school in the fall.

We had a great year. We called ourselves "The Spoilers". Many teams thought they had it all wrapped up and we came back to beat them!



## Mid America Volleyball Association

The MidAmerica Volleyball Association Sharks (formerly the Louisville Attack Volleyball Club) are proud to call MidAmerica home. MAVA is a community-based club committed to developing and promoting the sport of volleyball from entry level player to the elite athlete. As a progressive club, our goal is to provide unparalleled instruction that insures the building of character, development of skills and sportsmanship, while providing a fun and nurturing environment for our volleyball players to reach their maximum playing potential. Our players will be challenged to excel, not only individually but also for the betterment of their teams and the community in which they live.

Phone: 502-736-0800

Fax: 502-736-0801

website: [www.midamericasportscenter.com](http://www.midamericasportscenter.com)

## Secret Buddies: Making Friends for Life

How do you let young MAVA players know that they are special? You be their secret buddy!! The secret buddy program was born to foster the feeling of family at MAVA. It was six weeks of fun and anticipation and a huge success! The Secret Buddy Post Office was always full of players looking for letters, candy, and small gifts from their buddies. The program ended with Meet Your Buddy Night. The girls played a find your buddy game, running around the volleyball courts hunting for the right one. Glenn spoke to all the girls and introduced the 13-1 and 14-1 teams, who had qualified for nationals. After that, everyone enjoyed ice cream, pictures, and volleyball. It was a hit with the girls with 152 of 160 showing up to meet their buddies. Special thanks to Matt Costello and Kathy Haywood for getting this program going. We hope to do this again next year.



Secret Buddies find friendships

## Summer Camps: Filled with Fun and Fundamentals

With school out and the volleyball season nearly over, most players' thoughts turn to swimming pools and vacation trips. But, MAVA wants their players to stay in top condition for the next season too! To help with that, a number of summer camps have been scheduled for the beginner through advanced player.

For a complete listing of all the available camps, contact Bill Hauray, 736-0800, Ext. 109 or by e-mail [wlh12840@AOL.com](mailto:wlh12840@AOL.com).

Camps cost \$75, but are only \$60 if paid two weeks in advance.

## TEAM 13-1 continued

The team was down 9-2 in the third game. However, with determination and teamwork they came back and won the game 15-11 thus winning the Qualifier and earning a bid to the USA Junior Olympic Championship!!!

Since the first day of practice, the coaches and players chose as a theme "we are 12 hearts beating as one."

The coaches have repeatedly talked and emphasized this point to the girls. The weekend of the Minneapolis tourney we saw firsthand the power of that belief. The players had the individual confidence to get the job done and knew the girl next to her would be doing the same. The girls will now be able to experience the Junior Olympics and to prove that they are

one of the best 13-1 teams in the nation. The 13-1 team's mission isn't complete. They look forward to winning the ASICS Junior National Championship in Chicago and then bringing home the winner's trophy from the USA Junior Olympic Championship Tournament in Houston.

KEEP BELIEVING . . . TEAM 13-1 WILL!