

## OVR Teams Excel at AAUs

Led by coach Carlos Chia, the Cincinnati Bullets 17's team was victorious at the 29<sup>th</sup> AAU Junior National Girls' Volleyball Championships. Three Bullets were named AAU All-Americans: **Michaele Blackburn**, Libero; **Stephanie Blackburn**, also the tournament MVP; and **Emily Withers**, Setter. The tournament was held at the Disney's Wide World of Sports™ complex and at the Orange County Convention Center near Orlando, Florida, on June 13-18, 2002.

Premier Black Mavericks finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the 18's division. Playing for Premier Black Mavericks, **Ashlei Noflinger** was also selected as an AAU All-American.

*The Amateur Athletic Union (AAU) is a large, non-profit, multi-sport organization dedicated exclusively to the promotion of amateur sports and physical fitness programs. For complete results and for more information on AAU Championships, visit [www.aasports.org](http://www.aasports.org) and follow the "Sports" link to Volleyball.*

### Volleyballs and Carts at Special Region Prices

The Ohio Valley Region is offering **Molten Pro-Touch, Super-Touch, and VB Lite** as well as **Baden 15-0 Lexum**



(the official ball of the OHSAA) volleyballs at a **special Region price of \$35 per ball**. These top-quality leather volleyballs are ideal for both tournaments and practice. Free drop shipment for lots of 36. Customer pick-up available in Kent, Columbus, and Dayton/Cincinnati.



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Prices do not include shipping. To order or for more information, contact the region office at 888-873-9478 or by e-mail at [wyzynski@ovr.org](mailto:wyzynski@ovr.org).

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player can makes things more enjoyable and productive for all involved. Remember: no matter how right we feel we are in our approach, every once in awhile a slight tinkering with our mannerisms and reactions can greatly help a young athlete improve their performance. After all, we are the adults here!

On the other hand, if your athlete's experience was not an enjoyable one, it's essential to learn why they feel this way. Many times this can alert you to possible "danger areas" in working with this young person that you will want to avoid at all costs.

### Summary

The main reasons the vast majority of your athletes play club are to have fun and improve at the game they love. Learning from their club season experience helps everyone involved. Good experiences need to be identified, and goals need to be set to continue that positive growth. Any experience that is learned from immediately becomes a positive one! So coaches, put aside that fatigue we all feel at this time and get to work: your efforts will produce many benefits that will carry on through your program for years to come!

— Dave Cross

Head Coach – Keystone HS

National Director – "Yes, I Can!" Volleyball

[www.yesicansports.com](http://www.yesicansports.com)

Coauthor, *Volleyball Cybernetics*

### In the September issue of *OVR The Block*...

We'll have results and stories from the 2002 USA Open and Junior Olympic Volleyball Championships (send us your accounts and photos by the end of July!). We'll also have important updates for the 2003 season resulting from the Board of Directors' August retreat and other summer meetings. And, as always, *OVR The Block* will feature insightful commentary from our officers and board members, complemented by member contributions. Contact us at [editor@ovr.org](mailto:editor@ovr.org) if you'd like to submit an article.

### Advertising to the Ohio Valley Region

Do you want to reach more than 12,550 USA Volleyball, collegiate, high school, and recreational players, coaches, team reps, officials, parents, fans, and enthusiasts?

Advertising space is available in *OVR The Block* and also on [www.ovr.org](http://www.ovr.org), tailored to suit your individual needs. For information, contact Nick Nystrom at [nystrom@ovr.org](mailto:nystrom@ovr.org) or (412) 372-1817.