

Wet & Wild 12's, 13's, & 14's, 15's.

The water park was great fun. Every girl I talked to had a great time. I didn't hear any complaints. We got to ride on most of the rides before the lines got too long. We even got on the newest ride, the Brain Wave which is quite a ride.

At noon we were fed lunch by the park. It was a great "picnic lunch". They offered hamburgers, hotdogs and chicken. They also had pasta salad, potato chips and soft drinks. We had perfect timing for lunch! It was just starting to get hot and long lines. So a break was in order. After most of the teams went back into the lazy river or the wave pool for a while before heading home.

Once we got back to the houses, most of the teams were pretty tired and they stayed in watching movies and going to bed early.

**Mizuno Northern Lights 18-1, 18-2, 17-1, 17-2, 17-3, 17-4, 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, 16-4,
15-1, 15-2, 15-3, 15-4, 14-1, 14-2, 13-1, 13-2, 12-1**

2007 AAU Trip - Day 1 Competition 15's, 14's, 13's, 12's

The 15-1's played at the Wide World of Sports today. They easily won their pool without really breaking a sweat. After they finished they came back home, went swimming, had dinner and then went off to explore Downtown Disney. I was only with the 151 team for 1 game, so there are only a few shots of them today. You can view them by [clicking here](#).

The 15-2's played at the Convention Center in the afternoon. They started off the day not so well, and were down 8-1 in a flash. But they fought their way back and won that game 26-24. They then won game two, as well as the next two matches in the pool. So they were 3-0 today and advanced to the top half. After they finished play they came back home, had some baked potatoes and hit the pool for an evening swim. [Click here](#) to see pictures from the 15-2's matches today.

The 15-3's started off by winning their first match very easily. They also won their second match and third matches pretty easily. After they were finished playing, the girls went back home, had dinner (again), swam and were sitting down to watch a movie when I left them. [Click here](#) to see today's pictures of the 15-3's.

The 15-4's started off by playing a team from Puerto Rico. It was a good match, with a very bad referee. Everytime they would get game point, the ref would call them on something. They would then fight back and get the ball again, and the ref would call them on something again. The really took the game away from both teams, in the end

we went 3 games with them and lost in a close game 3. They then had to play Front Range immediately, and lost that match in 2 games. They refueled on sandwiches and came back to win their 3rd match quite easily. They were 1-2 on the day, and will now be playing for the top of the bottom half as Marissa put it. After they were finished playing, the girls went back home, had dinner, swam and I watched Kirsten make some awesome smores in the microwave. She loved watching the marshmallows get bigger, and bigger and bigger. I left them all sitting around the TV watching a movie. [Click here](#) to see today's pictures of the 15-4's.

The 14-1's and 14-2's both played in the afternoon at the Wide World of Sports. Since I was at the Convention Center, I didn't get any pictures of them. The 14-1's finished 2nd in their pool, losing to MAVA. They were happy however still advancing to the top half of the Open Division. The 14-2's also finished 2nd in their pool, but still advanced to the top half of the Club division. Both will be at the Convention Center on Thursday, so I'll get some pictures of them.

The 13-1's started off their day by losing their first match of the day to a team from Puerto Rico. They then easily won their second match. It all came down to the third match to see who would advance. It was a good match, and it went 3 games. In the end the 13-1's won game 3 going away. So they advanced to the top half. To see pictures of the 13-1's from today [click here](#).

The 13-2's played well today, but ended up 1-2. They won their first match of the day, but then could not put it together to win the next two. They ended up finishing 3 in the pool, which means they will be playing for the top of the bottom half of the tournament. After they finished they headed back home to have some dinner and to have Shelia start teaching them how to play cards with M&M's. To see pictures of the 13-2's from today [click here](#).

The 12-1's had a pretty good day. After losing their first match to a good team from Puerto Rico, they then beat the ASO Impact Hawaii team. This put them in 2nd place in the pool and they played a cross over match against the third place team from another pool. This was an exciting match. The 12's started off leading big but the other team kept coming back. At 23-17 it looked like the 12's would win, but they lost game 1. They ended up winning game 2 closely and then quickly winning game 3. This win kept them in the top half of the tournament, and on Thursday things will be getting a little tougher for them. After finishing their play they stuck around and cheered on the 13-1 team. Thanks 12's! They then went home, had dinner, did some swimming, and went down to Boardwalk and downtown Disney to walk around. [Click here](#) to see pictures from the 12-1's day.

Mizuno Northern Lights 18-1, 18-2, 17-1, 17-2, 17-3, 17-4, 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, 16-4, 15-1, 15-2, 15-3, 15-4, 14-1, 14-2, 13-1, 13-2, 12-1

2007 AAU Trip - Day 2 Competition 15's, 14's, 13's, 12's

The 15-1's played at the Convention Center today. They once again won their pool without too much trouble. They are now in the top 8. After they finished they came back home, went swimming, had dinner and then went off to the outlet mall for some shopping. You can view pictures of today by [clicking here](#).

UPDATED: The 15-2's played at the Convention Center in the afternoon. They started off the day doing great beating Brandon Crush, and Front Range. They then had to play the final match against Hawaii. It was a hard match and the 15-2's lost in two close games. This created a 3 way tie for 1st. The tournament staff incorrectly determined the playoff matches, and we were forced to play a tie breaker game against Hawaii which we lost. The girls were heartbroken. When Curt heard about this he reviewed the playoff calculations and determined that the tournament had done it incorrectly. The 15-2's actually were 1st in their pool and not required to play a tie breaking game. After contacting the tournament staff we were able to get their agreement that it was wrong and that NL was actually 1st. So on Thursday the 15-2 team will be in the top 14 teams still playing for the Gold [Click here](#) to see pictures from the 15-2's matches today.

The 15-3's started off in a tough 3 game match which they lost, after the ref refused to call a touch on a ball that bounced off a players head. They then won their second and third matches to finish 2nd in the pool and continue towards the Gold. Overall they played really well today in the two matches I had a chance to watch. [Click here](#) to see today's pictures of the 15-3's.

The 15-4's ended up 3-0 today in their quest to be at the top of the bottom half. Unfortunately they played at the same time as the 14-1's, so I was only able to get a few pictures of them today. [Click here](#) to see today's pictures of the 15-4's.

The 14-1's were at the convention center today, so I was able to get some pictures of them. Even though they finished 4th in their pool losing all 3 matches, they played very well. I watched them in their first match and they played hard but just ended up being beat by the other team. To see pictures of the 14-1's from today [click here](#).

The 14-2's played at Disney Wide World of Sports, so I once again did not get any pictures of them. However they did have great day. They finished 2-1 in their pool placing 2nd. This keeps them in contention for Gold. After their match, they went back to the house, had dinner, went swimming, and were watching a movie in their

home theatre when I left them. They will be playing at the Convention Center on Thursday and I will be sure to get some pictures of them.

The 13-1's had a tough day. They lost both matches in their pool play, and then had to play the Puerto Rico team that they lost to yesterday. They ended up losing that match which dropped them out of the Gold. They went back home, did some swimming, and went shopping. To see pictures of the 13-1's from today [click here](#).

The 13-2's played well today, and ended up 2-1. They took 2nd in the pool which keeps them in contention for the top of the bottom half. After they finished play 7 of them went to Coco Beach for a few hours and had a fun time on boggy boards riding the waves. To see pictures of the 13-2's from today [click here](#).

The 12-1's had a tough day. They lost all three matches today in a tough pool. They are now out of the Gold and will be playing for 13th place over the next two days. The 12's played at Disney Wide World of Sports, so I did not get any pictures of them today.

Mizuno Northern Lights 18-1, 18-2, 17-1, 17-2, 17-3, 17-4, 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, 16-4, 15-1, 15-2, 15-3, 15-4, 14-1, 14-2, 13-1, 13-2, 12-1

2007 AAU Trip - Day 3 Competition 15's, 14's, 13's, 12's

Let me start this off by saying that today was a busy day for me due to the older teams coming in. I spent most of my day with the housing people and getting all the teams settled in. As a result, I only was able to get pictures of one team this morning, and that was the 12-1's. The summaries today will be fairly short, but I'm sure most of you parents have talked with your daughter already.

The 15-1's played at the Convention Center today. They once again won their pool but this was the first time all year that they had to play 3 games against a 15 year old team. They went 3 with Cincinnati, winning the third game fairly convincingly. They are seeded #1 in the Championship bracket and will play KIVA on Saturday at 11am. This could very well be the "finals" as KIVA is very good and we have previously played them and lost in Milwaukee. It will be interesting to see how the 15-1's do this time. After they finished they came back home, went swimming, and just lounged around the house for the rest of the day.

The 15-2's played at the Disney Wide World of Sports in the afternoon. They were in a 3 team pool with SMV and another Puerto Rico team. They won their pool, by winning both matches in 3 games. This guaranteed them a spot in the Gold Championship Bracket. They then played a cross over match which they lost. They

play on Saturday morning at Noon in the quarter finals against another team from Puerto Rico. Good Luck to them!

The 15-3's played well today, but ended up 0-3. This put them out of contention for the Gold Bracket. On Saturday they will be playing for 9th place.

The 15-4's ended up 1-2 today which dropped them out of the running for the top of the bottom half. They will be playing for 37th place on Saturday.

The 14-1's were at the Convention Center today, and had a pretty good day. In fact they even called me to tell me that they had beaten the Sports Performance 141 team. They won their pool and then lost the cross over match, but it didn't matter as either way they will be playing for the Silver Division 9th place. Way to go!

The 14-2's played at Convention Center and had a very rough day. They went 0-3 and are now out of contention for the Gold. They will be playing for 9th place on Saturday. I am sorry that I wasn't able to get over to the CC and get any pictures.

The 13-1's had a great day. They went 3-0 pretty much easily handling all of the teams they played. They will now be playing for 15th place on Saturday. After playing they headed off to Coco Beach for the afternoon.

The 13-2's didn't play so well today. They went 0-3 on the day. They will be playing on Saturday for 33rd place in the 13's division.

The 12-1's had another tough day. They lost both matches in their pool and then lost their cross pool match. I did have a chance to watch them, and they played ok but just are out gunned by the Puerto Rico teams. To see pictures of the 12-1's from today [click here](#)

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2007 AAU Trip - Day 4 Competition 15's, 14's, 13's, 12's

Finals Day

Mizuno Northern Lights [15-1's win](#) AAU National Championships

Mizuno Northern Lights [15-2's place 3rd](#) at the AAU National Championships

The 15-1 team started off the day with a 2 game win over KIVA in the Quarter Finals. This set them up for a match against Illini Elite, who they then beat in 2 games thus putting them in the Finals. The Finals was against MAVA at 7pm. Northern Lights packed the gym with over 250 players, parents, & coaches. It was an exciting 3 game match that had everyone on the edge of their seats. We won the first game, lost the 2nd, and had a huge lead in the 3rd, only to have MAVA come back and almost win it. But in the end a Dixon Kill and a Wittman kill sealed the match and the Championship at 16-14. To see pictures of the 15-1's from today [click here](#). Tori Dixon, and Mollie Geske were named as AAU All Americans, and [Ashley Wittman](#) was named as the AAU All American MVP.

Thanks to ALL the Northern Lights players, parents, and staff who came to this match and supported the team. They really appreciated it. Here are a [few misc](#) pictures taken during the finals.

The 15-2's were also in the Gold Championship Bracket. In their first quarter final match against a team from Puerto Rico it did not look good. We lost game 1, and barely squeaked out game 2. It all came down to game 3, which we won 15-13 and advanced to the Semi Finals. In the semi finals against KIVA 15-2, we played more of an American power game (vs the tip game against the Puerto Rico team). It was a hard 2 game match and in the end we lost. So the 15-2 team ended up 3rd in the tournament! To see pictures of the 15-2's from today [click here](#). Elizabeth Benusa and Abby Olson were named as [AAU All Americans](#).

The 15-3's played very well today winning all three of their matches and taking 9th place. Way to go girls!

The 15-4's also played very well today winning all three of their matches, and the division they were in to take 37th place. This team also wins the coloring contest!

The 14-1's won their first match against Triangle, and then lost in the finals of their Division to Gainesville. They finished 10th overall in the 14 Open division.

The 14-2's won their first playoff match, and then lost the 2nd playoff match. Their finish in the tournament was 11th in the 14 Club Division.

The 13-1's lost their first playoff match of the day and finished 17th in the 13's division.

The 13-2's won their first two matches today and then lost in the finals of the playoff bracket to end up 34th in the 13's division.

The 12-1's had another tough day, they lost their first playoff match to Front Range, and ended up finishing 21st overall. They did however say it was a fun tournament and they had a great time here.

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2007 AAU Trip - Day 1 Competition 16's, 17's, 18's

The 18-1's played at Disney Wide World of Sports today and went 3-0. Adam thought nobody scored more than 12 points on them. After finishing they came home, went swimming, and headed out to dinner then shopping at the mall and Ron Jon's Beach Shop.

The 18-2's were at the Convention Center today, and had a pretty good day. They went 3-0 in their pool moving into the top half of the Club tournament. To see pictures of the 18-2's from today [click here](#)

The 17-1's were at the Convention Center today, and also had a pretty good day. They went 3-0 in their pool moving into the top half of the Open tournament. To see pictures of the 17-1's from today [click here](#). They also finished their day off by coming home, swimming, and going out for dinner then shopping at the mall and Ron Jon's Beach Shop. Monday is Annika's birthday and we are going out to dinner in celebration of it and their team having the highest bid theme basket.

The 17-2's started off the day great. They won the first two matches in their pool. Unfortunately they lost the 3rd match, but they still ended up in 2nd place and advanced on towards the gold. They came home went swimming and had a huge dinner of hamburgers, hotdogs, mac & cheese & fries. To see pictures of the 17-2's from today [click here](#).

The 17-3's had a scare today when Leah made a quick move and had her hip pop out. After being checked out it was determined she had not dislocated it and she would be able to play again on Monday. The team won their first two matches, and then had to play the Hawaiians. As usually playing Hawaii is never easy and they are masters of ball control. We lost that match, but finished 2-1 in the pool for 2nd place. This advances them towards the Gold. To see pictures of the 17-3's from today [click here](#). Tonight they had a great spagahtti dinner, with salad and lots of garlic bread. I then played some of the banquet DVD for them since a few of them had to leave early. Walt enjoyed seeing himself circa 1980.

The 17-4's had a tough pool today. They played very well but lost the first two matches. In their 3rd match they lost game 1, but came back to win the next two easily. They finished 3rd in their pool which drops them out of contention for the Gold. They will now try to win the top of the bottom half. To see pictures of the 17-4's from today [click here](#).

The 16-1's played at Disney Wide World of Sports. They went 2-1 on the day losing to OVA who they had lost to in Denver, then beat in Chicago, and now lost today. They are 2nd in their pool and still advanced towards the Gold. I was not at that site today, so there are no pictures of them to post.

The 16-2's had a great day. They went 3-0 in their pool, barely breaking a sweat. This advances them towards the Gold. They finished their matches so quickly I barely had time to get many pictures of them. To see pictures of the 16-2's from today [click here](#). After they finished play, they went home to the pool and then had their parents over for a big dinner. This team gets the award for the best new pool game.

The 16-3 team played at the convention center today. They went 2-1 and finished 2nd in their pool. This advances them towards the Gold. After coming back to the house and having a swim and dinner they went to downtown Disney to walk around and shop a bit. To see pictures of the 16-3's from today [click here](#).

The 16-4 team also played at the convention center today. They were seeded at the bottom of the tournament and 4th in their pool. They didn't like this, so they went to work and won 2 of their 3 matches today to finish 2nd in the pool. This advances them towards the Gold. They came back home, went swimming and then went to Downtown Disney to walk around and shop a bit. To see pictures of the 16-4's from today [click here](#).

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2007 AAU Trip - Day 2 Competition 16's, 17's, 18's

The 18-1's played at the Convention Center today in the afternoon and went 3-0. They really weren't challenged at any time and got in some good practice jump serving. To see pictures of the 18-1's from today [click here](#)

The 18-2's were at Disney Wide World of Sports this afternoon. I was there in the afternoon, so I didn't get any pictures of them. They were in a 3 team pool and went 1-1 and then won their cross over match to continue advancing toward the Gold.

The 17-1's were at the at Disney Wide World of Sports in the morning. They went 2-0 in their pool play and then won their cross over match. This put them in the top 10 of the 17 Open Division. Today was Annika's birthday and Curt took them out to Carrabbas for Dinner. They all enjoyed it, and were going to head down to Downtown Disney but the heavy thunderstorm made them head back home for the rest of the evening. To see pictures of the 17-1's from today [click here](#)

The 17-2's ended up 2-1 today putting them 2nd in the pool and advancing on towards the gold. Like the 17-1's, they are in the top 10 of the 17 Open Division. The only problem is that they have to play the 17-1's on Tuesday in their next pool! After the 17-2's finished playing today they packed up their bags quickly and headed straight out to Coco Beach for an afternoon of fun in the Ocean. When they got home it was Mac & Cheese and Pizza for dinner. To see pictures of the 17-2's from today [click here](#).

It's 2am and I have no idea how the 17-3's finished today. They lost the first match I watched, but I don't know if they won or lost the next two matches. Nothing has been posted on the AAU website, and the team/coaches are sleeping. Leah was back playing again today. To see pictures of the 17-3's from today [click here](#).

The 17-4's had a great day....well maybe it wasn't such a great 1st match, but they did manage to pull it out. They then won the next two matches and finished 3-0 in the pool. So they are on their way to winning the top of the bottom half. After playing they came home to a quick swim, a dinner of pork loin and then off to bed to be ready for a 5:30 am wake up call. They play in morning on Tuesday. To see pictures of the 17-4's from today [click here](#).

The 16-1's played at Disney Wide World of Sports. They lost their first match of the day to Sports Performance Elite. They then had to play a team from Puerto Rico who pretty easily handled them in Game 1....but in Games 2 & 3 the 161's fought back and won 15-13 in game 3. They then won their final match against Empire. So they ended up 2nd in their pool and are now in the top 8 of the tournament and guaranteed a spot in the Gold Championship Bracket. I was at their matches today, but they played on a court with bad lighting and no space around the court for me to get close and get pictures. I did get some pictures, but they aren't great. To see them, [click here](#).

The 16-2's had an awesome day and one that Sunny said really built some character. They won all 3 matches today in their pool, but their third match of the day went 3 games and in the 3rd game, normally a 15 point game, the final score was 29-27! This is a pretty incredible score for a 15 point deciding 3rd game. After they finished play, they went home to the pool, had dinner and when I left them they were having a pool

tournament against the coaches. There are no pictures of the 16-2 team today because they played in Convention Center while I was at the Disney complex.

The 16-3 team had an incredible day also. They went 3-0! Crystal said they played awesome. So like the 16-2's they are in the top 18 of the 16 club division and will be playing on Tuesday to get into the final Gold Bracket. There are no pictures of the 16-3 team today because they played in Convention Center while I was at the Disney complex. They 16-3 team did head off to the beach immediately after they finished playing today. They said they had a great time.

The 16-4 team had a tougher day today. They went 1-2 and placed 3rd in their pool. This knocked them out of contention for the Gold. They will now be playing for 18th. There are no pictures of the 16-4 team today because they played in Convention Center while I was at the Disney complex. They 16-4 team did head off to the beach immediately after they finished playing today. They also said they had a great time. When they got back they had dinner and were tucked in bed by 11:00pm (well maybe just a bit later than that.)

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2007 AAU Trip - Day 3 Competition 16's, 17's, 18's

The 18-1's played at the Convention Center today in the afternoon in a 5 team pool. They easily won all 4 of their matches. They are now in the top 8 of the Open Division and will be starting their Gold Championship Bracket on Wednesday. To see pictures of the 18-1's from today [click here](#)

The 18-2's were at the Convention Center today in the morning wave. By the time I got there they had already finished their pool play and were advancing to the Gold Championship Bracket to start on Wednesday. They are in the top 9. Since I was with the 16-2's & 3's in the morning I didn't get any pictures of the 18-2's. I should be able to get some of them on Wednesday in the playoff bracket.

The 17-1's were at the Convention Center this afternoon. They started off their day by having to play the 17-2 team. The 17-1's won that match and then beat Tampa. They also defeated ACE and but lost to Illini Elite and ended up #2 in the pool. They will start their drive to the Gold Championship match on Wednesday at the Wide World of Sports. To see pictures of the 17-1's from today [click here](#)

The 17-2's were in the same pool as the 17-2's at the Convention Center today. They had a tough day losing all 4 of their matches. This dropped them out of contention for

the Gold and they will be playing for 9th place on Wednesday. To see pictures of the 17-2's from today [click here](#).

The 17-3's are the energizer bunny that just keeps going. Last night they were in a 3 way tie to advance to Gold, and they won their tie breaking game to advance. Today, they had the same scenario and once again they came through winning the tie breaking game and advancing to the Gold Championships. They will be playing at the Disney Wide World of Sports on Wednesday. To see pictures of the 17-3's from today [click here](#). After they finished their pool play they headed out to Coco Beach for some time in the Ocean.

The 17-4's went 1-2 on the day. They will be playing on Wednesday for 41st place out of 64 teams. To see pictures of the 17-4's from today [click here](#).

The 16-1's went 0-3 in their power pool today. They are still in the Gold Championship Bracket and they will be playing on Wednesday morning against Front Range in the Quarter finals.

The 16-2's had another great day. They went 3-0 winning all their matches in 2 games. They are now in the top 8, and will be playing in the Gold Championship Bracket on Wednesday at the Wide World of Sports. To see pictures of the 16-2's from today [click here](#).

The 16-3 team had another incredible day. They went 2-1, but more importantly they finished 1st in their pool and advanced to the Gold Championship Bracket on Wednesday. They are now in the top 8. To see pictures of the 16-3's from today [click here](#).

The 16-4 team went 3-0 today. At least Taylor didn't get hit in the face today. Once again there are no pictures of the 16-4 team today because they played at the Disney complex while I was at the Convention Center. (Sorry Leah, no click here for you today.)

Mizuno Northern Lights 18-1, 18-2, 17-1, 17-2, 17-3, 17-4, 16-1, 16-2, 16-3, 16-4, 15-1, 15-2, 15-3, 15-4, 14-1, 14-2, 13-1, 13-2, 12-1

2007 AAU Trip - Day 4 Competition 16's, 17's, 18's

Mizuno Northern Lights [16-2's place 2nd](#) at AAU National Championships

Mizuno Northern Lights [18-1's place 2nd](#) at the AAU National Championships

The 18-1's made it to the finals of the 18 Open Division. They played Sports Performance 18 in the finals. It was an awesome match. The girls on both teams do some incredible things. Unfortunately Northern Lights lost the match in 3 games, to end up in 2nd place. Brook Dieter, Allie Oelke, and Naomi Johnson were selected as [AAU All Americans](#). To see pictures of the 18-1's from today [click here](#)

The 18-2's played a tough 3 game match in the first round of the Gold Championship Bracket. They lost that match and ended up finishing 9th in the 18 Club Division. To see pictures of the 18-2's from today [click here](#)

The 17-1's were in the Gold Championship Bracket today, and played Sports Performance 17's, a team they have beaten twice before. This time however Sports Performance won the match in 2 games leaving the 17-1's with a 5th place finish. To see pictures of the 17-1's from today [click here](#)

The 17-2's lost their first playoff match of the day and ended up finishing 11th in the 17 Open Division.

The 17-3's were in the Gold Championship bracket, and almost made it to the semi finals. They barely lost in 2 games to Premiers #1 team from Ohio. To see pictures of the 17-3's from today [click here](#). Kayla Kirby was selected as an [AAU All American](#) in the 17 Club Division.

The 17-4's won their first match of the day and then lost their 2nd match. They officially finished 43rd in the 17 club division.

The 16-1's lost their first round Gold Championship match to Front Range. They finished 5th overall in the 16 Open Division. Chelsea Fogerty was selected as an [AAU All American](#) in the 16 Open Division.

The 16-2's had an incredible day. They went 3 games in the Quarter finals with USA South, winning it 15-13. They then play immediately another 3 game match winning it 15-11. This put them in the finals against a team from Puerto Rico. It was an awesome finals. The 16-2's played an great game but in the end they lost 15-11 in game 3. Shannon Byers, Karlee Lursen, and Grace Saunders were selected as [AAU All Americans](#). To see pictures of the 16-2's from today [click here](#).

The 16-3 team was also in the Gold Championship bracket. They lost in two games in the Quarter finals. We are still very proud of the 16-3's for finishing 5th. Catherine Hanson was selected as an [AAU All American](#) in the 16 Club Division. To see pictures of the 16-3's from today [click here](#).

The 16-4 team won their first match and then lost their second match. They finished 23rd out of 75! A great finish for this team. When I left them this evening they were having pizza and milk shakes. (Kate was also trying to get everything packed back in her bags.)