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Beth McLaughlin, left, and Nick Fishmarket's all-girl volleyball team scored in the U.S. Volleyball Association tournament.



new volleyball goal: the U.S. Olympics

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Hawaii's women volleyball players are going places.

After a successful bout at the United States Volleyball Association's (USVBA) national tournament in Binghamton, N.Y., last month, two of the 10 players on one Island team have their sights set on the '72 Olympics in Munich, Germany.

They are Sharon Peterson and Mary Perry, both physical education teachers at Punahou. The girls, and alternates Virginia Vandling and Beth McLaughlin, have been selected among the nation's 18 top players to compete in the Pan American Tournament later this summer in California.

THE TOURNAMENT, explained Sharon, the Island team captain, is to decide whether a U.S. team will qualify for the Olympics. And if it does, more fast-volleying tournaments will be in the offing before a fi-

nal Olympic team is selected.

Simply getting into the national volleyball limelight has been an ordeal — and expensive, the women said yesterday before a tournament at the Outrigger Canoe Club.

The 10-member team is sponsored by Nick's Fishmarket. Proprietor Nick Nicholas personally escorted the women to New York and to the AAU tournament in Cleveland, Ohio, last month. They captured fourth and first places, respectively, in the two events.

THE WOMEN playing on Nick's team estimate their costs to get to the nationals to be about \$5,000, and they're not through paying for it yet.

"We've had so many benefit brunches and candy sales," said Virginia, "that our friends run the other way when they see us coming."

Aside from benefits, they've fallen heir to generous donations. Surf Line Hawaii provided their uniforms — Cheeters in flashy, bright-colored Hawaiian prints. And local restaurateur Chuck Rolles gave the women carte blanche on steak dinners at the Scotch and Sirolo in Binghamton — his home town.

THE TEAM represents a wide range of ages and occupations.

Virginia is also a PE teacher at Hawaii School for Girls. Beth is a housewife.

The youngest members of the team are Heidi Hemmings and Julie Morgan, freshmen at Punahou. Other players are Pam Kress, a senior at Punahou, Linda Clarke and Pat Shaner, University of Hawaii coeds, and Cathy Hollinger, a wait-

ress at Reuben's restaurant.

Sharon, who came to Hawaii from California, has been to the Olympics twice — once in 1964 for California, and again in 1968, representing Hawaii. Mary also has been to the Olympics twice.

"CALIFORNIA and Hawaii seem to provide the top players," Sharon said, talking about the wonderful world of volleyball. "And some of the best players are drawn from high school leagues."

There is no age limit to taking a crack at the Olympics. All you need is a membership (\$6) in the USVBA, an organized team and a lot of money to get to the national tournament — the stepping stone to big-time volleyball.