

The Mason Redemption

Written by Dave Howard

See Dave on Mojo TV: [Hulu - Beach Volleyball: Youngs and Branagh: A Shot at Glory](#)



Roughly ten days ago, Elaine Youngs and Nicole Branagh collapsed in embarrassing style to the Chinese team. As Nicole summed it up, "This was not the match in which to have a bad day." They were served up and left for dead. I found it sad that the (possibly) retiring EY's last chance summer dance could have been her worst day on the sand. Going into the Olympics they had been limping, obviously exhausted from the schedule. Jen Boss and April Ross had been giving them a shellbackering in the previous two tourneys.

I should have known better than to think that of Elaine Youngs and Nicole Branagh. Today they were in Mason,. Ohio in front one of the largest crowds ever for an AVP event.

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For the first time in her career, the player was able to hit the ball over the net. She had been struggling with her jump for weeks, but finally, she had found the key. It was a small victory, but it was a victory nonetheless. She had finally found the redemption she needed.