



Collegian Photo/Ddan Gleiter

Jeff Prescott

# Prescott wins NCAA 118-pound title

By LORI SHONTZ  
Collegian Sports Writer

IOWA CITY, Iowa — The first time assistant wrestling coach John Fritz saw Jeff Prescott wrestle, he loved Prescott's aggressiveness. "I thought if only everyone wrestled that way, it would be great," Fritz said. Prescott's aggressiveness has been his trademark, and Saturday night it won him a national title at 118 pounds and the Outstanding Wrestler Award of the NCAA Tournament. "It's just the highest high you can ever get," Prescott said. After major decisioning Chad Zaputil of Iowa, 14-0, in the championship match, Prescott jumped into Fritz's arms and cried.

He had made it look easy. But it wasn't. "No one thinks about losing 15 pounds. All the extra running, the sprints, pull-ups, lifting weights, jumping rope — no one looks at all that," Prescott said. Instead of sleeping the night before the final, Prescott thought about all his hard work. And he thought about his father, his No. 1 fan, who died last November. Prescott dedicated this season to his father and wanted to win a national championship for him. Before the final match, Prescott placed a picture of his father in trainer Dan Monthley's hands. "He won it for . . . well, he won it for himself, and that's important, but we're all thinking of his father right now," Fritz said, wiping his eyes. Prescott withdrew from school partway through

the fall semester to better deal with his father's death. When he returned for the spring semester, Prescott had to toughen his mind. Mental strength, more than anything, wins national titles. "He's a very caring kid," Fritz said. "But he lets it affect him positively." Prescott credited his teammates, roommates and coaches with helping him stay focused. "You know, you need someone and they're there," he said. "I didn't know I needed them at the time, but now I think about it and I did — and they were there." Immediately after receiving his national championship plaque, Prescott called his mother. She told him to call back after he won the Outstanding Wrestler Award, but Prescott didn't

expect to talk to his mother again before leaving Iowa. "There's just so many big guys in this tournament," he said, surrounded by fans wanting an autograph or a handshake. "It really hasn't sunk in yet — it'll probably hit me tomorrow at 6:30 a.m." Prescott won the OW because he dominated every one of his opponents. He pinned Navy's Jeff Stepanik in the first round, pinned North Carolina's Ty Moore in the second and major decisioned eighth-seeded Eric Akin of Iowa State in the quarterfinals. In the semifinals, Prescott faced Lew Rosselli of Edinboro, whom he major decisioned to win the Eastern Wrestling League title. This time Rosselli

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## Sports

### JMU upsets No. 1 PSU, 73-71

By MICHAEL MATVEY  
Collegian Sports Writer

It wasn't supposed to end this way. On Saturday, in the first round of the NCAA Tournament, the No. 1 women's basketball team lost to James Madison, 73-71, in front of 6,087 fans — ending what could have been a dream season.

The Lady Lions finished the season at 29-2 and had their 28-game home winning streak and 18-straight win streak broken. James Madison improves to 26-4 and will play this Thursday against fourth-seeded Clemson in the East Regionals at the Palestra in Philadelphia.

But the only word she can really describe the loss is shocking.

The defeat is even more unbelievable knowing that the Lady Lions scored the first 11 points of the game and led by 12 at halftime. But in the tournament anything can happen and the Dukes proved that on Saturday in front of a mystified crowd.

"I feel bad for the kids. I feel bad for our two assistant coaches and I feel very, very bad for the seniors," Coach Rene Portland said. "I am stunned and very, very disappointed."

"I have never been involved in a better comeback than the one we put on today. I am so proud of the effort of our kids and the courage it took," James Madison coach Sheila Moorman said.

Slowly in the second half, the Dukes began to cut the lead mainly on their 55.6 shooting percentage. This was also helped by the Lady Lions shooting only 32.4 percent. Another stat that led to the victory was that Penn State was outrebounded, 37-36, by a team that had no one taller than 6'0".

"If you point out the things that cost us the game — rebounding was a big key," Portland said.

The James Madison attack was keyed by Vicki Harris, who scored 18 points (12 in the second half). But the win was very much a team effort. Brandy Cruthird scored 11 points and defensively limited Susan Robinson to 10 points. Paula Schuler had 13 points while Jeanine Michealsen added 11.

The James Madison comeback seemed harmless when Harris canned a 12-footer at the beginning of the second half. After Cruthird hit a 6-foot jumper, however, the lead was cut to four points, 41-37, at the 16:47 mark. One of the big reasons that Penn State dipped offensively in the second half was because Robinson picked up her third foul at 19:31 and didn't return until the 12:14 mark.

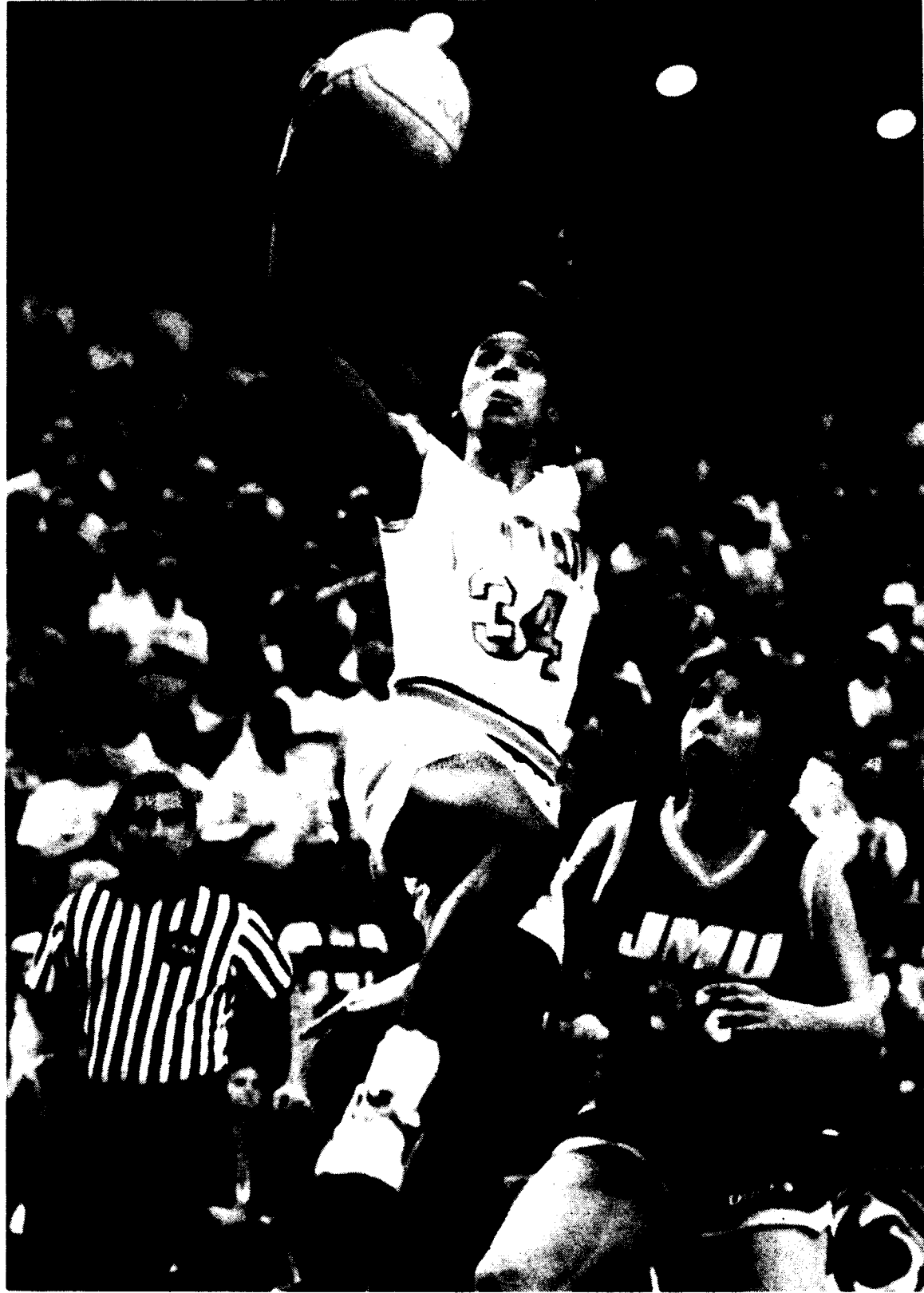
Penn State called a timeout and there was no real sense of urgency as the Lady Lions realized that they had to crank their play up a notch.

Penn State appeared to be doing that when it increased the lead to 45-38 after guard Dana Eikenberg sank a 8-foot runner. But James Madison scored the next five points and the Penn State lead was cut to 45-43.

Then Lady Lion guard Tanya Garner stepped to the forefront. Whenever Penn State needed a basket in the second half, Garner answered. This time she scored a layup and Penn State was back up by four points. Garner finished with 24 points on 10-of-17 shooting.

But Penn State could not stop the Dukes' tide and at 12:14 mark the unthinkable happened. Cruthird hit two free throws and James Madison

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Collegian Photo/Jeff Farrar

Senior co-captain Tanya Garner (34), playing in her final game at Penn State, drives to the basket in Saturday's game. Garner's 24 points were not enough as No. 1 Penn State was shocked by James Madison 73-71.

### Mental lapses mar team effort

By KENT PETERSEN  
Collegian Sports Writer

The celebration had begun. Players jumping on top of each other. Fans going crazy. The band striking up the school song.

But it wasn't New Orleans. It wasn't even the regionals. It was Saturday afternoon in Rec Hall and it was the second round of the NCAA Tournament. And worst of all for the women's basketball team, it was James Madison that was doing all the hooping and hollering.

For the No. 1 and East Region top-seeded Lady Lions, the 73-71 loss was a bitter end to what had been the most successful of any of its past seasons. The disappointment almost hung over

everyone and everything in the building.

"I'm stunned and very, very disappointed," a dejected Rene Portland said in the interview room afterward. "You have to practice hard to play hard and maybe we didn't practice hard enough. If we would have won this, by one point or two points, we would have considered ourselves lucky. Right now, we consider ourselves unlucky."

"We didn't play a very good mental game at all," forward Susan Robinson added.

After guard Tanya Garner's last-second 3-pointer was swatted away by JMU senior forward Jeanine Michealsen, followed by the sound of the final buzzer, the Penn State players

dropped to their knees in shock and total disbelief.

It was over. And all that was left for Penn State was to wonder what went wrong.

■ A 32 percent field goal percentage in the second half.

■ Getting outrebounded 37-36 to a team that had no players over 6'0".

■ At times in the second half, looking disoriented with ill-advised passes and poor shot selection while trying to comeback, from, at one point, an eight-point deficit with 7:05 to play. PSU led by 12 at halftime.

That 20-point turnaround in the initial 13 minutes of that half was the difference. Penn State did cut the lead to one, 62-61 on forward Lynn Dougher-

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### Confidence, quickness spark JMU comeback

By KENT PETERSEN  
Collegian Sports Writer

"The first five minutes are very important to us." Since Wednesday night's NCAA first-round win over Kentucky, that's what James Madison women's basketball coach Shelia Moorman has told her players. Stay in the game early to have a shot at upsetting No. 1 Penn State.

"If we can weather the first five minutes, that's very important to us . . ."

So much for coaching strategy.

In Saturday's first five minutes, the Lady Lions leaped out to an 11-0 lead and Moorman had to call a timeout before the Rec Hall crowd blew the roof off the building.

But maybe Moorman meant the second half's first five minutes. With JMU down 12, 41-29, the visitors did some comebacking of their own, going on a 14-

4 run and reducing the deficit to only two, 45-43. That stretch provided the confidence for their 73-71 upset win.

"I've never been involved in a better comeback than the one we were involved in," Moorman said. "The courage it took from our players, especially after the last few days, all we have talked about was the first five minutes."

"It's hard not to be shell-shocked by the environment (6,087 in attendance). We were a little tentative at first, but we felt that if we could get out of the first half under double digits we'd be in great shape. We almost did that."

After Penn State grabbed the early lead, James Madison used its speed and quickness on both ends of the floor — especially in the second half. Offensively, the players would use their speed to get a step advantage on the Lady Lions inside and often got short layups or close jump shots.

The quickness advantage also enabled JMU to sneak in and grab rebounds, despite having a tremendous disadvantage height-wise — no impact players on the team were over 6'0". It outrebounded Penn State, 37-36.

And on defense, the Dukes — again mostly in the second half — would step in front of a PSU player and either steal, deflect or disrupt an incoming pass. "They outthrusted us and we didn't get the job done," forward Susan Robinson said.

It's not the first time the Dukes have went into a higher-rated opponents' lair and come away victorious. In 1986, the Dukes went to Charlottesville, Va. and beat nationally-regarded Lady Cavaliers, 71-62. That team, like this one, according to Moorman, had no center and played great team defense. She added those were the keys Saturday.

"We just have a team," Moorman said. "We build our defense from the outside in."

### Cagers exit NCAAs in 2nd round, 71-68

By CHRIS MARTIN  
Collegian Sports Writer

SYRACUSE, NY - There was only one glass slipper to go around at the Carrier Dome yesterday.

And after the East Region's Cinderella teams — 13th-seed Penn State and 12th-seed Eastern Michigan — tossed it around like a hot potato for 40 minutes, it fell at EMU's feet in overtime. More specifically, it landed in the hands of senior point guard Lorenzo Neely.

The senior tallied six of his 18 points in the extra session as EMU advanced to the Sweet 16 for the first time in its history with a thrilling 71-68 victory over the Lions.

"Lorenzo took over the game down the stretch," EMU coach Ben Braun said. "There's not a better player in those situations that I've seen. He wants the ball in his hands and he's willing to take the challenge on his shoulders."

Eastern Michigan (26-6), the lowest-seeded team remaining in the field, will face top seed North Carolina at the Meadowlands Friday. Penn State (21-11), in its first NCAA tourney since 1965, closes its comeback season winners of four of its last five games.

Neely started the overtime with a slick backdoor feed to center Marcus

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Kennedy who scored on an open layup. He followed with a drive of his own, finishing a give-and-go play with Kennedy.

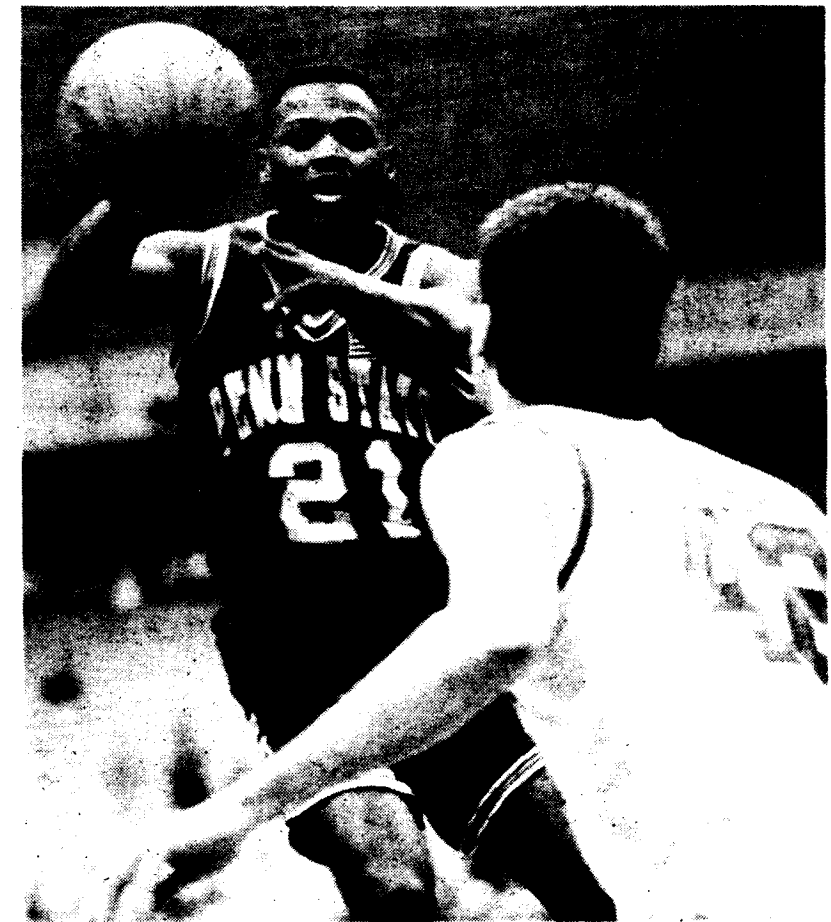
The lethal combination came to an abrupt end as Kennedy picked up his fifth personal on a loose ball with 3:50 to go. The senior powered for a game-high 21 points.

Lion forward James Barnes took advantage of Kennedy's absence and hit a layup and foul shot to give Penn State a 63-62 lead. More importantly, EMU forward Kory Hallas found a spot next to Kennedy — picking up his last foul on the play.

With the pair on the bench, Neely took over. He sank a pair of free throws with 1:30 to give EMU another three-point advantage, 66-63.

"We knew it was up to me and the Thomas twins (Carl and Charles) to step up our level of play and that's what we did," Neely said. "We're seniors and we've been there before. As a team, I think we did real well."

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Collegian Photo/Chris Gaydos

Freddie Barnes(21) dishes a pass during the Lions' first-round win over UCLA. The Lions lost to Eastern Michigan, 71-68, in overtime yesterday to fall from the NCAAs.

### EMU's clutch shooting seals overtime triumph

By TERRY HESS  
Collegian Sports Writer

SYRACUSE, N.Y. — With just over a minute gone by in overtime of its East Regional second-round game with Eastern Michigan yesterday at the Carrier Dome, Penn State had to feel good about its chances of reaching the Sweet 16.

After falling behind 62-58 in overtime, backup center C.J. Johnson was fouled by EMU center Marcus Kennedy. Not only did the Lions pull within two with Johnson's two free throws, but Kennedy — who had overpowered the Lions' big men all afternoon and had a game-high 21 points — left the game with five fouls.

After a EMU miss, Penn State forward James Barnes made a layup and was fouled by opposing forward Kory Hallas with 3:04 left. Hallas, who kept EMU close in the first half with 12 points, was also gone with his fifth personal. Barnes nailed the free throw to put the Lions up 63-62.

"I was encouraged," Coach Bruce Parkhill said. "I thought we had a great shot to win at that point in time. But sometimes late in the game it comes down to defense and free-throw shooting."

"We felt if we could use some clock

and shorten the game up in the second half we'd be OK," Eastern Michigan coach Ben Braun said. "But then Marcus and Kory fouled out in overtime and it looked like we were in trouble."

It would have been easy for Eastern Michigan to fold it up. But in the clutch EMU did exactly what Parkhill said could determine the game, played tough defense and hit its free throws.

In came seldom used forwards Roger Lewis and Mike Boykin to replace Kennedy and Hallas.

"When I went out, I told Mike all he had to do is play defense and rebound," Hallas said. "I knew he and Roger would do a good job because they've played well for us all year."

On the next possession, Eastern Michigan's slick point guard Lorenzo Neely drove the lane and attempted a layup. The ball was swatted right back at him by Lions' guard Monroe Brown but EMU forward Charles Thomas caught the ball on the fly and laid it in to grab the lead back.

Forward DeRon Hayes missed a jumper for the Lions and James Barnes fouled Neely who buried two free throws with 1:30 left to put EMU up 66-63. Brown kept the Lions close with a running 10-foot jumper but Hayes fouled

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