

25 YEARS IN DANVILLE

Danville, Ill. celebrates its 25th consecutive year of hosting the NJCAA Division Il National Tournament

NABC CORNER

New Team of the Week Award coming to the Junior College Ranks

COACHES Q&A

Eastern Florida State head coach Jeremy Shulman answers questions about his career

2018 HALL OF FAME

Two current coaches and a former standout player featured in the 2018 NJCAA Men's Basketball Hall of Fame class





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COACHES Q&A WITH

JEREMY SHULMAN

HEAD COACH | EASTERN FLORIDA STATE COLLEGE

Coach Shulman joined Eastern Florida State in 2010 and has revitalized the program, taking them to the NJCAA Division I National Championship Game in 2016-17. In seven seasons with the Titans, Shulman has won 177 games and been to the national tournament the past three seasons. Shulman's first year also was successful. The Titans won 18 games and qualified for the FCCAA state tournament by winning the Southern Conference Tournament championship.



When/How did you start coaching?

Shulman: I started coaching at a very early age, at just 16 years old. I started coaching when my AAU coach whom I played for was unable to coach my 16-year-old team. As a competitor with too much pride, I couldn't see myself going to the rival AAU team, so I decided to start my own program and begin coaching. At 18, I founded the Midstate Ballerz. I ran that program for 10 years until I got into college coaching at East Mississippi Community College.

Q2

When did you know you wanted to be a coach?

Shulman: At a VERY young age. Even when I was in second grade I would organize leagues during recess. I have always wanted to be a coach.

Q3

What season stands out the most to you?

Shulman: Many of them do, but last year, 2016-17 stands out the most. With our National Championship Game appearance, finishing second in the nation, setting a school record for wins (31), winning our 5th straight conference title... all while coaching the most unbelievable set of kids.



Is your style of coaching different from other coaches you've worked with/learned under?

Shulman: I think it is both similar and different. I have learned so much over the years but have also taken my own personal flavor to my coaching style. I am very process oriented and very attention to detail. We pride ourselves in our program of improving the lives of our players, not just improving their games.

Q5

What is different now from when you first started coaching? What have you learned as a coach/how have you changed?

Shulman: I have learned a ton. For one, the time and effort it takes to truly build relationships with my players. This is a major goal of mine each year.



- WAS HEAD COACH/DIRECTOR OF MIDSTATE BALLERZ (TENN.) FOR
 12 YEARS. RECORDED 415 WINS AND 3 NATIONAL TOP 12 FINISHES
- JOINED EASTERN FLORIDA STATE IN 2010
- 177-54 IN SEVEN SEASONS (ESFC WAS JUST 46-171 IN NINE YEARS PRIOR TO SHULMAN'S ARRIVAL)
- 2017 NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP GAME APPEARANCE
- 2017 NJCAA ALL-STAR GAME DIVISION I COACH
- SERVED AS COURT COACH FOR USA BASKETBALL'S U19 WORLD CUP 2017 TEAM TRAINING CAMP

Talk us through you years at Eastern Florida State- what's been some of the most memorable moments and most memorable players?

Shulman: One of the most memorable to me was in 2012-13, against top 10 and formerly undefeated Palm Beach, who had won the previous two Southern Conference Championships. This was our third meeting, and it decided who won the Conference Championship. My sophomore trio of Nyles Evans, Addison Spruill, and Gary Gaskins led the way. Evans hit a three-pointer at the buzzer to send the game to OT, and Spruill scored eight straight in OT to win the game/championship. This was the moment our program really took off.

Q7

What are your goals for this program to be in the years coming?

Shulman: I want to win a National Championship this year, plain and simple. As difficult as that will be, that is the goal. Then I want to continue to compete for national championships yearly.

Q8

Tell us about your experience as a court coach during the 2017 USA Basketball Men's U19 World Cup Training Camp.

EFSC SEASON-BY-SEASON

2010-11 18-14

First winning record in over 10 years, qualified for FCSAA State Tournament

2011-12 21-11

2012-13 26-8

Won Southern Conference Championship

2013-14 24-7

Won Southern Conference Championship

2014-15 29-5

2015-16 28-4

Finsished 15-0 in conference play

2016-17 31-6

Recorded a program-best 31 wins, fifth consecutive FCSAA Southern Conference Championship, NJCAA DI National Runner-up

Shulman: What an amazing experience. It was an exciting, inspiring, yet humbling experience. Getting to develop relationships with outstanding coaches like Coach Cal [Calipari], Coach Painter, Coach Muller, Coach Rice, Coach Cooley, etc. was just absolutely special. It is definitely an experience I will always treasure.



25 YEARS AT DANVILLE

HOST OF THE DII NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

For the 25th consecutive year, Danville Area Community College and the city of Danville will host the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division II Men's National Basketball Tournament at the DACC campus March 20-24, 2018.

It is rare that one city would host the same National Tournament for an extended number of years, but the city of Danville continues to provide a top-notch environment for annual event.

This year's games will once again take place at the Mary Miller Center in the heart of the DACC campus. Last season, Southwestern Community College defeated Louisburg College, 77-53, to win the 2016 NJCAA Division II Men's National Basketball Tournament.

Since Danville began hosting the tournament, Mott Community College has won the tournament four times (2003, 2007, 2008, 2012), which is more than any other team in the NJCAA.

Year after year, the tournament brings thousands of fans and hundreds of college coaches to Danville. In 2016, over 15,000 fans and 180 college coaches attended the national tournament.



The impact the tournament has on the Danville community can't be understated. With a 2016 population estimate of 31,597 residents, Danville is the fourth smallest city to host a Division I or II NJCAA championship.

"I think Danville is the perfect size for this championship event: big enough to provide the necessary amenities, while also small enough to make it the central focus of our city during tournament week," said Danville Mayor Scott Eisenhauer.

Eisenhauer, who has served as Danville's Mayor for the better part of two decades, is an integral part of the tournament, serving as one of its co-directors.

"The community fully supports the event with many volunteers, restaurants willing to stay open late, and citizens often coming up to players while they are out and about to talk with them, learn about them, and welcome them," added Eisenhauer.

CHAMPIONS IN DANVILLE

1994 Joliet JC (IL)

1995 North Iowa Area

1996 Penn Valley (KS)

1997 CC of Beaver County (PA)

1998 Kirkwood (IA)

1999 Brown Mackie (KS)

2000 CCBC-Dundalk (MD)

2001 Johnson County (KS)

2002 Redlands (OK)

2003 Mott (MI)

2004 Cuyahoga (OH)

2005 Brown Mackie (KS)

2006 Cecil (MD)

2007 Mott (MI)

2008 Mott (MI)

2009 Johnson County (KS)

2010 Lincoln (IL)

2011 Lincoln (IL)

2012 Mott (MI)

2013 Rend Lake (IL)

2014 Phoenix (AZ)

2015 Richard Bland (VA)

2016 Kirkwood (IA)

2017 Southwestern (IA)





Mott Community College has won more national titles in Danville than any other team. The Bears currently hold four of the 24 championship trophies that have been handed out in Danville.



MCC-Penn Valley have booked their tickets to Danville more than any other team-- 13 times to be exact. After making their first appearances in 1996, the Scouts have gone no longer than two years between trips.



Kirkwood Community College leads the pack in all-time wins in Danville. In 12 appearances, the Eagles have won two or more games in all but one tournament for a grand total of 30 wins.



A COMMUNITY EFFORT

For what the community puts in to the tournament, the benefits are reciprocated back.

"This tournament means so much to our community, said Eisenhauer. "Of course there is an economic benefit to hosting this event. When you have sixteen teams of players, coaches, and fans from all over the country staying in your hotels, eating in your restaurants, shopping in your stores, there is no question this event brings about an economic boost to our city."

It isn't the economy that is the most important factor to the residents and community leaders of Danville.

"I honestly believe that what this tournament means to the people of our community is a sense of pride."

Over 450 people volunteer for it every year in some form. This includes people working the gate, concession stands, and hospitality rooms to custodians and medical personnel. Local businesses donate food, supplies, and time to help the tournament run without a hitch.

"They want to be involved with a national championship," Eisenhauer remarked. "Danville citizens get excited knowing that in gymnasiums all across this country there are banners saying 'Destination Danville' with a year-long focus of spending one week in March in Danville, Illinois."

That focus obviously coincides with the desire to cut down the nets and hoist the national championship trophy. Yet, more iconic than any banner hanging from the rafters or addition to the trophy case could be, one of the most notable prizes are the yellow championship t-shirts that have been for years awarded to the winning team.

MEMORIES THAT LAST

"When I look back on the last 24 years, it's not just the games I remember, but it is also the people: the coaches, the players, the referees, the fans, and the countless volunteers," Eisenhauer reminisced. "Don't get me wrong, we have had unbelievable games which we will all will never forget. The buzzer-beaters, the year United Tribes lit up the scoreboard with threes, Bevil State's 135 substitutions in one game, the championship games that went down to the wire."

It's the non-game moments that stick and resonate with Eisenhauer.

"When 1,000 students get out of [local] schools for a 'reward-day' packing the gym and cheering on the players. Teams which take time out of their very busy week to go to a school, have lunch with the kids, and partake in a game of kickball. A coach breaking down in a post-game press conference because his school was moving to Division I and he would not get a chance to come back to the Division II Tournament."

Paul Cassady, better known as "Buzz" to both locals and regulars to the tournament, is perhaps the most recognizable and enthusiastic fan. Eisenhauer remembers the time two coaches arranged for Buzz to receive a technical foul, much to his delight.

Eisenhauer also remembers two days following the United States' entrance into the Gulf War, a tournament referee standing midcourt before the game singing "God Bless The USA" to a tear-filled gymnasium.

Without a doubt, Danville goes all-in once a year.

In the heart of the Midwest, the NJCAA Division II Men's Basketball Tournament is within a three-hour drive of St. Louis, Chicago, and just an hour from Indianapolis: all cities that frequently produce qualifying teams to the tournament.

Regardless of where they come from; when they arrive, they can always expect one thing according to Mayor Eisenhauer:

"A welcoming community ready to host people from all over the country. A tournament which puts every effort into making it a "players and coaches" event with every player leaving with a medal and every team a plaque, excited fans cheering on the teams- including over a 1,000 students, great entertainment including outstanding pep bands, and some of the best basketball you will see anywhere in the month of March!"



MARY MILLER MEMORIES

Few coaches have had the success that NJCAA Hall of Fame and Mott Community College head coach Steve Schmidt has had with his program in Flint, Mich. A NJCAA Division II National Tournament regular, Schmidt has guided the Bears to nine appearances over the 24 tournaments held in the Mary Miller Center-- a feat more impressive when the strength of Mott's region is taken into consideration. Teams from Michigan have won seven Division II national titles and an additional five were national runner-ups.

We asked Schmidt about some of his favorite memories from Danville.

"Coaching in the tournament in Danville has been some of the best experiences in my 27 year coaching career here at Mott," said Schmidt. "We've had multiple great games and experiences that my teams and we will never forget. At the beginning of each year my expectation is to get my new team back to Danville. It's difficult to do but on top of my list of goals each year."

It's not just the success that Schmidt has had in Danville that makes the tournament so great. It's all the people associated that make the event what it is.

"I think what makes Danville and DACC unique is that the people who run the tournament, along with the many volunteers, are genuine people," Schmidt said of the community wide effort Danville puts in to the tournament. "The tournament is run with class and professionalism. The tournament is organized and the city does a great job of making you feel welcome and special. It is my favorite place in the world in March."

This is a feeling that Schmidt hopes is reciprocated by his players. It's an experience that he wants everyone he coaches to have the opportunity to enjoy.



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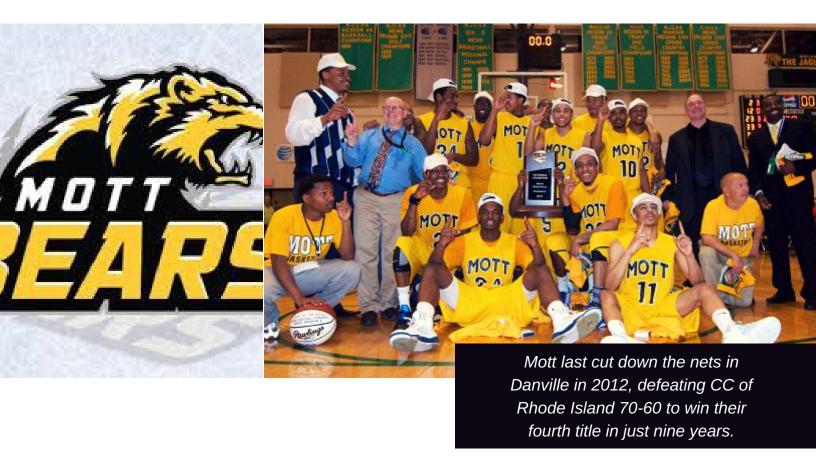
Mott head coach
 Steve Schmidt

When we don't get back to the tournament I feel a void and want to work to get my current team back to experience what my former teams have experienced," said Schmidt.

Memories are in no short supply for a coach and program as regular to Danville as Mott. So much so that Schmidt has a hard time to choose just one to highlight, but he never forgets any of the fleeting moments.

"There are so many special memories that it is difficult to pick just one," recalled Schmidt. "I remember each and every game that we've competed in. The seven national championship games have been really special but I remember how we won overtime games and thrillers in the final four to be able to advance to the championship game. I remember not being able to sleep for what seemed like the entire week when we advanced to the tournament for the first time in 2001 and made it to the championship game. I also remember the many people who I've met through the years that are associated with the tournament who I consider friends (although we don't see each other much). My goal is to see these friends every March."

Mott is off to a 13-4 start in the 2017-18 campaign, with several ranked wins to their resume. It would be no surprise to see the Bears claim one of the Region XII bids to the tournament this season.







MEET JOE KUHN

THE NEW JCBCA SECRETARY

Joe Kuhn has been coaching basketball in the junior college ranks for 21 seasons. Starting at Joliet in 1996, Kuhn has accumulated a long list of accolades in his career:

- 7 N4C (North Central Community College Conference) conference championships
- Six-time District 2 Coach of the Year
- · Six-time Region IV Coach of the Year
- 2006 Indiana Basketball New's Coach of the Year
- 11 straight seasons of 20+ wins
- 2010 NJCAA DIII National Champion
- 2010 NJCAA National Coach of the Year
- Member of both the NJCAA and Illinois Basketball Coaches Hall of Fame



Kuhn has coached 15 NJCAA All-Americans and 35 All-Region players in his time at Joliet as well.

This will be Kuhn's first administrative role within the world of college hoops as he assumes position of secretary for the JCBCA.

On the next page, see Coach Kuhn's responses to several questions about his start in coaching and what he can bring to the table for all junior colleges.







HOW DID YOU GET TO THIS POINT IN YOUR CAREER- AND WITH WHAT HELP?

I was very fortunate to break into the college level early in my career when Pat Sullivan at the College of St. Francis hired me as our recruiting coordinator. After two seasons I joined the staff at Joliet Junior College where I met my current Associate Head Coach Keith Kinzler (he was a player) and assistant coach John Jones who became a mentor to me. Coach Jones then served on my staff for four seasons when I became the head coach at JJC. Keith Kinzler and I have been together at JJC for 21 seasons, which is very rare at our level.

Q2

WHAT HAVE BEEN BIG CHALLENGES YOU'VE HAD TO OVERCOME?

The biggest challenge has been being a part time employee at Joliet and successfully recruiting with a zero budget. We can't quite accomplish everything we could due to not being able to build stronger relationships with all of our players.

Q3

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO YOU TO BE ELECTED AS THE NEW SECRETARY OF THE JCBCA?

It is truly an honor to be elected to the JCBCA as it means that I have developed relationships at a national level and my peers trust that I will represent them and help grow the game at the junior college level.

Q4

WHAT ARE SOME PERSONAL GOALS WITHIN THE NEXT UPCOMING YEARS OF YOUR CAREER?

I have three main goals at this point in my career which are to help as many of our players achieve academic and athletic success, continue to mentor the young coaches breaking into the game, and to teach the game of basketball. Obviously on the court I still have a passion to be successful and am closing in on 500 career wins and 500 wins at the junior college level.

Q5

HOW WILL YOU HELP PROGRESS THE JCBCA IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION IT NEEDS TO GO?

I feel that my experience in this game at our level helps in making sound decisions that will benefit and advance our level. Junior College Basketball has come a long way over my career but I feel we are still scratching the surface of what we can be. The biggest obstacle I feel we will have to overcome is growing what we have with tighter budgets and financial restraints. When coaching at the Division III level with realistically zero budget you have two choices: be the best you can be and figure out how to do it or settle with what you have.



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JUNIOR COLLEGE ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION FAME

The NJCAA in conjunction with the Junior College Basketball Coaches Association released the 2018 Men's Basketball Hall of Fame Class on Friday, January 11th.

The three members of the 2018 class mark the 152nd, 153rd, and 154th members to the Hall of Fame.

The Hall of Fame includes former players who found success at the junior college, four-year, and for many: the professional level. Last year, Eddie Robinson and Craig Tucker were included into this honorary group.

Great coaches who have left a tradition of not just wins, but the lessons they teach and the legacies they leave have a place in the NJCAA Men's Basketball Hall of Fame as well. In the 2017 class, Michael Ingram and Joe Kuhn received this honor.

A few contributors are included, too. Most recently, Gus Stevens of Vincennes University was honored for his contributions to the Trailblazers' program.

This year, two coaches who have created lasting impressions on the landscape of junior college basketball join a former player that won at every level to compose this year's class.

2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

TODD FRANKLIN

HEAD COACH VINCENNES UNIVERSITY

Entering his 21st season as a head coach at the collegiate level, Todd Franklin has been inducted into the 2018 NJCAA Hall of Fame as a member of the Trailblazers. The 2017-18 season marks the eighth at the helm of Vincennes, a span that includes five consecutive trips to the national tournament, only the second program in the history of the NJCAA to reach that feat.

Prior to the start of this season, Franklin has amassed 533 wins with a .800 winning percentage including a record of 204-36 at Vincennes. The Trailblazers reached the Elite 8 of the 2017 NJCAA tournament after winning the regular and postseason District 16 titles. During his time at Vincennes, over 100 student-athletes have received full scholarship offers to the four-year level. Franklin's coaching presence is in full swing in the 2017-18 season as Vincennes has jumped out to a 17-0 start and a current No. 2 national ranking in the DI poll.

Franklin's basketball coaching tenure includes stops at Southeastern Illinois, Missouri-Rolla, and Austin Peay. A former basketball player at Union College and Brescia College, Franklin holds a master's degree in physical education from Austin Peay and a bachelor's degree in history with a minor in athletic coaching from Western Kentucky.

Franklin and his wife Stephanie have two daughters-Madison and Mary.







2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

JAY HERKELMAN

HEAD COACH COFFEYVILLE CC



With over two decades of unprecedented success, Jay Herkelman has been inducted into the NJCAA Hall of Fame. With a career winning percentage of .765, Herkelman has totaled 586 wins in his career to make him the all-time winningest coach in the Jayhawk Conference. Over the past 15 seasons, the Red Ravens have captured 12 Jayhawk East titles and have been ranked in every national poll in the 2017-18 season.

Herkelman's career has been displayed in the national spotlight on a consistent basis. His teams have reached the NJCAA national tournament eight times along with seven Region VI titles. For his efforts, Herkelman has been named the Region VI Coach of the Year five times, the Jayhawk East Coach of the Year 13 times, and the Kansas Basketball Coaches Association of the Year five times. 52 players have moved on to four-year programs under Herkelman's tutelage.

A native of Clinton, IA, Herkelman's collegiate playing career began at the NJCAA level where he was a two-year starter at Southeastern (IA) before moving on to the University of Dubuque. Herkelman's coaching career includes impressive stops at Dubuque, Fort Hays State, Eastern New Mexico University, and Northeastern Oklahoma A&M.

Herkelman and his wife Leslie have three daughters- Abbie, Emma, and Halle





2018 HALL OF FAME INDUCTEES

PETE MICKEAL

PLAYER INDIAN HILLS CC

In an era of dominance for Indian Hills, Mickeal proved to be at the forefront of the Warriors' success. An all-region selection as a freshman, Mickeal upped his performance during his second season that culminated in the National Player of the Year award along with the National Tournament Most Valuable Player honor, the team's second consecutive national championship. During his tenure in Ottumwa, IA, Mickeal and the Warriors lost just one game and capped his career with a perfect 38-0 record.

A native of Rock Island, IL, Mickeal transferred to the University of Cincinnati where he earned first-team all-conference honors and honorable mention All-America accolades as a senior for the Bearcats. After a stellar collegiate career, Mickeal was selected by the Dallas Mavericks in the 2000 NBA draft.

The NJCAA standout also spent time with the New York Knicks, Houston Rockets, and Orlando Magic. Mickeal's career spanned the globe with professional stops in Asia, Europe, and Latin America. Following his playing days, Mickeal served as a scout for the NBA's Minnesota Timberwolves.

Mickeal currently resides in Miami, FL.







NABC CORNER

JUNIOR COLLEGE'S ONE-YEAR ANNIVERSARY WITH NABC

In November of 2017, we celebrated the one-year anniversary of the NJCAA Men's Basketball Coaches Association's representation with the National Association of Basketball Coaches. Executive Director Thom McDonald has been a voice for all of junior college basketball.

"I think our whole NJCAA [men's basketball] Coaches Association is extremely fortunate to be at the table and involved in the future of college basketball," said McDonald. "There are a lot more opportunities that are now in front of us for the coaches and studentathletes. It's a great to start to better things to come.

McDonald has been involved with all of the conventions and meetings with the NABC. This fall, the NABC Board of Directors met in Indianapolis, Ind., where one of the primary activities was holding a mock NCAA Division I Men's Basketball Tournament selection-- all the while going in-depth with how it is done.

"Going to the seeding meeting, to see how they [the NCAA Selection Committee] seed the Division national tournament puts a lot of perspective on the techniques and rationale used in what is a very indepth process, said McDonald. "The analytics used are something we are looking to adopt and implement in all of the NJCAA national tournaments."

McDonald concluded, "It helped being able to attend the Board of Director meetings and listen to all the different perspectives and issues that each level have and how they affect us similarly. It really helped to have their ear on these matters."



THOM MCDONALD

THE WHO'S WHO of the NABC

The NABC Board of Directors features some of the most prominent and influential people of the game.

Bill Self, current head coach at the University of Kansas currently serves as board president.

Tom Izzo, Mike Brey, and John Calipari are just a handful of the people that McDonald gets to share and learn ideas from on a regular basis.

NABC Team of the Week

More recognition is now available to junior college men's basketball teams via the NABC's Team of the Week feature.

Starting in December, the NABC added junior college basketball to its list of Team of the Week recipients.

This award isn't necessarily geared towards the "best" team, but rather one that had a particularly successful week for one reason or another.

Ancilla College (IN), the first recipient of the award on December 19th, was recognized for both the program's first 9-0 start and its highest ranking ever. The next edition of the award went to Southeastern (IA) on similar merit.

Kirkwood (IA) was honored for defeating the No. 2 and No. 7 teams in back-to-back games by a combined 38-point margin.

This week, Vincennes University was recognized as the NABC team of the Week for two dominating wins along with a 19-0 overall start, good for a No. 3 ranking the Division I poll.

"The NABC is a great organization and it is a great honor for our program to be recognized as the national team of the week," comments Head Coach Aaron Butcher in a release from Ancilla Athletics. "We have a solid group of unselfish guys in this program and I have really good assistant coaches that put a lot of time into making this program as successful at it can be."

To be eligible for Team of the Week honors, at least one member from your coaching staff must be a member of the NABC.

To apply for membership, visit:

http://www.nabc.com/membership/index

Once your application has been processed and approved, you will enjoy the full benefits of the NABC including but not limited to: ticket options for various events such as the NCAA Division I Final Four and Hall of Fame induction, as well as monthly newletters, the ability to post job openings on the NABC website and so much more.

"The NABC including two-year programs in a weekly honor of such high magnitude is a significant step in expanding the exposure we get. I look forward to more recognition to come."

-Thom McDonald

NJCAA Men's Basketball Coaches Association Executive Director





Roman

NORTHWEST FLORIDA STATE 21-0



Northwest Florida State has opened the season with a strong resume. Four of the Raiders' first 12 opponents made the Hutch Tournament last season. All 14 of the Raiders' 14 opening wins were convincing. Northwest Florida State has continued to impress, winning all but three games this season by more than three points as the Raiders are heading into conference play.

2. Implian Hills

21-0



The Warriors enter 2017 with one of the most loaded rosters this junior college blue-blood has had in years. While Indian Hills has maintained a perfect record so far, the Warriors have had close calls-- including a buzzer-beater over DII-side Johnson County and a two-point road win over State Fair. However, the Warriors have gained a lot of steam, knocking off a handful of ranked opponents en route to a 21-0 start.

3. VINCENNES UNIVERSITY

19-0



The Trailblazers have taken care of business to start their 2017 off right. Their most notable win came over current No. 7 Eastern Florida State at home to conclude a home tournament. Trailing with just over five minutes to go, Vincennes edged out a 83-78 victory over Eastern Florida State. With just one ranked team left on the schedule in the regular season, Vincennes will likely need the top two teams to lose to attain the No. 1 spot.

4.

SALT LAKE

21-1



Salt Lake's schedule only included six Division I teams in its first 15 games. The Bruins then dropped their first game in the stacked Fiesta Bowl Junior College Shootout. They responded resiliently-- defeated talented Central Florida before topping CCCAA No. 4 San Bernardino Valley convincingly, 87-64. Salt Lake still has several games against talented Southern Idaho and Snow.

5.

FLORIDA SOUTHWESTERN ST. 20-1



Playing in a state with a lot of junior college basketball talent, Florida Southwestern has made out so far nearly unscathed. The one blemish was an 86-82 loss to current No. 7 and national runner-up Eastern Florida State. The Bucs' have been impressive otherwise, winning every other game this season by eight points or more.

PANKINGS as of: 1/23/18

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Rank	Team	Record	Change from 1/16/18
6.	GILLETTE	20-0	-
7.	EASTERN FLORIDA STATE	20-2	-
8.	ODESSA	16-2	-
9.	MOTLOW STATE	13-2	-
10.	SHELTON STATE	17-1	-
11.	BARTON	17-2	-
12.	HUTCHINSON	16-3	1
12.	SOUTHERN IDAHO	19-3	2
14.	MCLENNAN	19-1	4 2
15.	MISSOURI STATE-WEST PLAINS	20-3	1 3
16.	MOBERLY AREA	18-3	1 3
17.	SHERIDAN	17-2	1 5
18.	TRINITY VALLEY	17-3	4 3
19.	CONNORS STATE	17-2	2
20.	PARIS	18-1	4
20.	TYLER	17-2	1 3
22.	IOWA WESTERN	18-3	♣ 5
23.	NORTHEAST MISSISSIPPI	12-3	1 3
24.	NORTHERN OK-TONKAWA	16-3	1 3
25.	ALLEGANY MARYLAND	16-2	1 0
25.	SOUTHWESTERN ILLINOIS	14-2	14

Receiving votes (in order): Holmes (12-2), Southwest Tennessee (11-3), Chipola (15-4), Coffeyville (15-4), Western Nebraska (17-4), Copiah-Lincoln (12-1), Hill (17-3), Temple (17-2), John A. Logan (14-4)



CUYAHOGA

17-0



Cuyahoga has been a head-turner this season. Climbing into the top spot from preseason No. 12, the Challengers picked up an impressive early season win over South Suburban. That win will likely prove to be the best on the resume in terms of quality if Cuyahoga makes it to the national tournament this year.

16-1



Ancilla got out to the best start in program history in this 2017-18 campaign. Their current No. 2 ranking in the latest Division II polls is also a program-best. They'll be keeping their eyes on Cuyahoga for the No. 1 spot, but ultimately Ancilla has higher aspirations. The Chargers have and will be well tested-- playing in a region that boasts several regulars on the national scene. Ancilla is hungry for their chance.

3. PARKLAND

13-2



Parkland has been a steady force this season. Only two blemishes ahead of conference play, which starts January 27th against none other than No. 5 Lincoln. Illinois Central, John Wood, and Danville Area are all tough, regularly ranked opponents the Cobras will have to get through this season. Parkland will need to show what they're made of in the next 10 games.

TRITON

18-3



Triton had a rough second weekend of the season. Playing in the Vincennes' Sudexo Classic, the Trojans dropped two games to Division I sides, including the home team and currently undefeated Trailblazers of Vincennes University. A threat to put up 100 in any game, Triton has responded well: winning 15 of 16, while hitting the century mark six times.



15-1 **+ + 3**



Another Region 24 team? That's not a huge surprise. The Lynx picked up an impressive early season home win against ranked Kirkwood. The Lynx would then drop its only contest of the year on the road versus Kirkwood a couple weeks later. With a weaker non-conference slate than some of the other contenders, Lincoln will need to show out in conference play if they want the best possible seed should they qualify to the national tournament.

DI PANKINGS as of: 1/23/18

	7

Rank	Team	Record	Change from 1/16
6.	SOUTH SUBURBAN	18-3	4 1
7.	PIMA	17-2	1
8.	MONROE CC	12-3	1
9.	LOUISBURG	13-3	2
10.	FREDERICK	16-2	1 3
11.	KIRKWOOD	13-4	2
12.	HENRY FORD	15-3	1 3
13.	SOUTHWESTERN	15-4	♣ 6
14.	PHOENIX	14-5	2
15.	IOWA CENTRAL	15-4	1 5
16.	DES MOINES AREA	14-4	♣ 6
17.	LACKAWANNA	14-3	1 5
18.	DANVILLE AREA	15-3	1 1
19.	MOTT	14-5	♣ 7
20.	BEAVER COUNTY	15-3	4 2

Receiving votes (in order): Arkansas State Mid-South (13-4), Dakota (17-3), St. Clair County (-), Highland [KS] (15-5), Richard Bland (11-5), Delta (10-3), Genesee (12-5)



BROOKDALE (5)

17-Ո



The Jersey Blues jumped two spots to claim the No. 1 Division III ranking this week. Brookdale does not have any current ranked Division III squads on its schedule, but a season-opening victory over quality Division I-side Harford has shown the Jersey Blues are for real. They've also scored over 80 points in all but one game and are one of six undefeated teams in all of NJCAA.

2. HERKIMER (2)

15-1



Herkimer is coming off its first loss of the season, a one-point loss to Division II Niagara County over the weekend. The Generals play a healthy compliment of teams in upper divisions, something that bodes well for postseason play. Off to a 4-0 start in conference play, Herkimer has only Division III conference opponents left in the regular season.

3. ROCK VALLEY (1)

19-3



Rock Valley has had a long reputation and a lack of fear about playing Division I and II sides regularly. In fact, the Golden Eagles only played one Division III side in their first 16 games. This toughness is a big reason why Rock Valley has played in three of the last four national title games, winning two of them. They will again be a major threat this season.

Rank	Team	Record	Change from 1/16
4.	MOHAWK VALLEY	14-1	1 2
5.	QUINCY	16-1	1 2
5.	SULLIVAN COUNTY	15-2	-
7.	SUFFOLK COUNTY	16-1	1 8
8.	EASTFIELD	18-4	4
9.	ROCHESTER	15-2	1
10.	SANDHILLS	15-4	4 2

IMPORTANT DATES



DIVISION I NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

NJCAA Division I National Tournament **Hutchinson Sports Arena**

Hutchinson, Kansas

March 19-24, 2018

- Qualification: 16 District Champions
 - 4 Zone-Qualifiers
 - 4 At-Large Selections



NJCAA Division II National Tournament Mary Miller Center

Danville, Illinois

March 20-24, 2018

Qualification: • 16 District Champions

DIVISION II NATIONAL TOURNAMENT



DIVISION III NATIONAL TOURNAMENT

NJCAA Division III National Tournament Paul Gerry Fieldhouse

Loch Sheldrake, New York

March 15-17, 2018

Qualification: • 8 District Champions

NJCAA Men's Basketball Coaches Association All-Star Game The Orleans Arena // Las Vegas, NV

May 19th, 2018