



# WOMEN'S BASKETBALL



## KIKI JEFFERSON SPOTLIGHT

When students came to JMU, they were bound to experience many firsts; Kiki Jefferson was no exception.

Jefferson experienced a first during her first year that many student athletes yearn for: being named Colonial Athletic Association rookie of the week. Only, for Jefferson, this wasn't just a one time experience. She was first named CAA rookie of the week during the week of November 11, 2019. She was given this honor again, and again, and again up until her sixth rookie of the week honor for the week of January 27, 2020.

"Being named rookie of the week multiple times is honestly a blessing, but it also puts a target on my back because now I will get everyone's best shot," said Jefferson, a first-year sport and recreation management major.

While being titled rookie of the week was a new experience for Jefferson, she was a seasoned basketball player. The sport had been a constant throughout her life.

"I started playing basketball at three years old. The starting age for the basketball program was four but my mom was creative on my paperwork and signed me up."

Since then, Jefferson has been hard at work improving her craft. While at JMU, she had learned that performance is measured by practice.

"If I could go back and tell my younger self something I think it would be to be prepared for any and everything life might throw at you. I would also tell myself that the early mornings and late nights in the gym will pay off someday," said Jefferson.

Through practice and the support of staff, teammates, fans, and family, Jefferson was able to have a successful transition to JMU and an even more successful first year of collegiate basketball.

**WORDS:** Kali Wright

**PHOTOS:** JMU Athletics Communications

**DESIGN:** Kelsey Williams



**PHOTOS:** Jefferson takes the ball up the court. She was named rookie of the week six times during her first season with the Dukes.