Cameron wins first PWBA title at Greater Sebring Open

NCABA member Kendra Cameron of Gambrills, Md., rolled 10 strikes en route to a 269-184 victory over top seed Kim Canady of Oakland, Calif., to capture her first Professional Women's Bowling Association national title Feb. 26 at the Greater Sebring (Fla.) Open at the Kegel Bowling Center. Cameron, who turned pro this season after spending the last three seasons as a member of TEAM USA, won in only her fourth tournament as a professional.

"I have no regrets about coming out here," said Cameron. "It's great. Everything came together this week; it was amazing."

After opening with a strike followed by two spares against Canady in the championship match, Cameron went off the sheet with nine consecutive strikes to clinch the title.

Following the tournament, the 24-year-old apologized to her father via telephone for not winning at the AMF Rocket City Challenge in Huntsville, Ala., two weeks earlier. She made her first-ever pro television appearance there and won two matches before succumbing to eventual champion Anne Marie Duggan. Cameron knew her father would have liked the trophy etched with a rendering of the space shuttle.

"I'm sorry that I didn't win the trophy with the space shuttle," Cameron told her dad, "but I think you'll like this one. It's pretty cool, too."

Cameron earned her spot in the championship match by defeating third seed Jackie Mitskavich of DuBois, Pa., 233-192, in the night's third match. In that contest, the eventual champion fell behind by 12 pins after an unsuccessful attempt in converting a 1-2-4-10 washout in the second frame. Mitskavich opened in the fifth, while Cameron strung together four strikes to gain a lead she never relinquished.