

Saxons come up short in comeback attempt, fall to Fisher

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ALFRED The Alfred University men's basketball team came back twice from sizeable second-half deficits, but in the end fell to visiting St. John Fisher, 80-73, Saturday afternoon at the McLane Center. Alfred (5-18, 2-10 Empire 8) trailed by 16 points (48-32) just more than four minutes into the second half, but rallied to take a two-point lead. The Saxons used four three-point shots - two each by sophomore guard Doug Baker (Waterloo/South Seneca) and senior guard Brian Roegiers (Marion/Marion) in a 95-second span to close the gap, and took a 54-52 lead on a three-point play by Baker. Fisher (19-4, 10-2) came right back and led by seven points (67-60) with 6:34 left in the contest before AU went on an 8-0 scoring run to take a 68-67 lead with just under five minutes remaining. Fisher reclaimed the lead a short time later and closed the contest on a 13-5 run. Baker led all scorers with 18 points, making 7-of-15 shots from the floor and grabbing three rebounds. Roegiers added 16 points and four boards, while senior center Jeff Hopkins (Caledonia/York) and sophomore guard Gavin Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton) chipped in with 11 and 10 points respectively. Hopkins also hauled in a team-high six rebounds. Sophomore guard Jeff Sidney (Herkimer/Herkimer) led three Fisher players in double figures with 17 points and five assists. Junior forward Nick Ripple (Hornell/Hornell) had 15 points, a game-high 11 rebounds and four assists, while senior guard Aaron Berwanger (Silver Springs/Letchworth) added 10 points. Alfred is in action next on Friday, Feb. 28, at 8 p.m. at home against Utica.