

Lady Saxons come back to beat RIT, 52-48

2/02/02

ROCHESTER The Alfred University women's basketball team traveled to Rochester Saturday and defeated host Rochester Institute of Technology 52-48. Poor shooting and turnovers plagued the Lady Saxons (8-9, 3-6 Empire 8) in the first half, as they turned the ball over 11 times and shot only 27 percent for the half. RIT had the halftime lead, 27-21. Alfred came back in the second half, however, taking the lead with five minutes to play and not relinquishing it. The team shot 77 percent from the free throw line for the game. Despite a poor record, RIT (1-17, 0-8 Empire 8) is a "much improved team," said Lady Saxon head coach Michele Finn, and Alfred "did what we needed to do to win the game." Leading the team was senior forward Lisa Valitutto (Amherst, NH/Souhegan) with 16 points and 10 rebounds. Senior guard Amy Ratchuk (South Buffalo/Mt. Mercy) added 12 points and seven rebounds, while junior center Brandi Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilberstville-Mt. Upton) had 11 points, including seven free throws. RIT was led by Lauren Long, who had 16 points and 12 rebounds. The Lady Saxons are in action next on Wednesday, Feb. 6, at 7 p.m. at Keuka College. --30--