AU men s basketball loses a close one to Polytechnic in first round 11/22/03

NEW YORK, NY The Alfred University men's basketball team fell to Polytechnic University, 58-60 in the first round of the NYU Tip-Off Tournament Saturday afternoon. The Saxons (0-1, 0-0 Empire 8) had a very strong first half and entered the locker room with a 26-24 lead. In the second half it was a seesaw battle that came down to Polytechnic's Aboubaker Bamba, who hit a jumper with eight seconds remaining in regulation to secure the win. Leading the fight for AU was sophomore guard Chris Lemasters (Mansfield, PA/mansfield) with 20 points and four assists. Freshman forward Dillon Stein (N. Huntington, PA/Norwin) posted eight points and three blocks, while also grabbing a team high nine rebounds. Junior guard Eric Fleishman (Bath/Bath), sophomore guard Chad Winant (Hornell/Hornell), and junior guard Tate Williams (N. Clarendon, VT/Mill River Union) each had a strong outing off the bench combining for 23 points, nine rebounds, and two steals. In the consolation round, the Saxons will face New England College who lost 105-42 to NYU in the first round off the tournament. The game is set for a 1 p.m. tip-off tomorrow, Nov. 23.