Utica tops Lady Saxons, 68-55 2/12/10



ALFRED, NY - The visiting Utica College Pioneers defeated the Alfred University women's basketball team, 68-55, Friday evening at the McLane Center. The teams played a tight first half, with Utica (16-5, 9-3 Empire 8) holding a 35-34 advantage at the half. AU shot 52 percent in the first half and made six three-point shots, while Utica made 11 of 13 free throws. The visitors opened the second half with an 11-4 run to take a 46-38 lead five minutes in, and led 50-38 with 14 minutes left in the frame. The Pioneers upped their lead to 17 points, 57-40, before Alfred (9-13, 3-10 Empire 8) went on an 8-0 run to make it 57-48 with 10 minutes left. Utica responded with five unanswered points to take a 62-48 lead with 6:30 left and Alfred never got closer than 11. Utica sank four of five three-point attempts after intermission and finished the contest shooting 43 percent from the floor. Alfred also shot 43 percent, but made only one of 14 three-pointers in the second half. Junior point guard Lyndsay Murphy (Almond, NY/Hornell) scored a gamehigh 19 points and had four rebounds to lead AU. Sophomore guard Christina Jordan (Cornwall-on-the-Hudson, NY/Cornwall) had 14 points and four boards and junior guard Courtney Lincoln (Waterloo, NY/Waterloo) added 12 points. Jessica Berry had a team-high 17 points and Devon Croll had 16 points to lead Utica. Meghan Fiore added 15 points and five rebounds. Alfred is in action next on Tuesday, Feb. 16, at 6 p.m. at RIT.