

Lady Saxons unable to overcome early deficit at Nazareth

2/01/02

ROCHESTER The Alfred University women's basketball team suffered its fourth consecutive loss away from home on Friday night, dropping a 57-51 decision to host Nazareth. The Lady Saxons (7-9, 2-6 Empire 8) were dominated by Nazareth early, trailing 34-17 at the half. However, AU rallied in the second half and narrowed the score significantly before late-game fatigue caused the Lady Saxon effort to fall short. Senior guard Amy Ratchuk (So. Buffalo/Mount Mercy) led the Lady Saxons in scoring with 20 points. Senior forward Lisa Valitutto (Amherst, NH/Souhegan) netted 17 points and grabbed eight rebounds, while junior center Brandi Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton) controlled the boards with a game-high 11 rebounds. Freshman guard Michelle Kelly (Levittown/General Douglas MacArthur) dropped in 10 points on 3-of-7 shooting from three-point range. Nazareth (9-8, 4-3 Empire 8) was led by Erin Michaels and Kadi Burgess, who scored 16 and 10 points, respectively. The Lady Saxons will remain in Rochester for a 2 p.m. game against R.I.T. on Saturday, February 2.