## **Fisher edges AU, 59-53, in Empire 8 opener** 12/12/10



PITTSFORD, NYThe Alfred University men's basketball team was defeated by host St. John Fisher, 59-53, to open Empire 8 play Sunday afternoon. The Cardinals held a 33-22 advantage heading into intermission, shooting an impressive 50 percent from the floor, while holding the Saxons' to 28 percent shooting for the half. For the game, Fisher shot 46 percent, and AU finished shooting 34 percent. Senior guard Mike Stopera (Scotica, NY/Scotia-Glenville) scored 13 points, adding four rebounds and three assists, to pace the Saxons. Junior guard Josh Parker (Tonawanda, NY/Sweet Home) netted 12 points while picking up six boards and three assists, and senior point guard Gary Kwicien (Perry, NY/Perry) had 10 points and a pair of assists. Brett Harder scored a game-high 15 points, adding five boards, two blocks, and a steal, to lead the Cardinals' (2-5, 1-0 Empire 8) Jordan Koch chipped in 10 points, three assists, and a block.AU (5-4, 0-1 Empire 8) is in action next on Friday, Jan. 7, at 2 p.m. when the Saxons travel to take on Ithaca College.