

Lady Saxons edge Pitt-Bradford for first victory of season

1/15/01

ALFRED The Alfred University women's basketball team picked up its first win of the 2000-01 season Monday night, nipping Pitt-Bradford, 65-63, at the McLane Center. With the Lady Saxons down by two points with 33 seconds left, junior guard Amy Ratchuk (South Buffalo/Mt. Mercy) nailed a three-pointer to put AU up by a point. On its ensuing possession, Pitt-Bradford lost the ball out of bounds with 13 seconds left. AU sophomore center Brandi Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton) was fouled and sunk one of two free throws to put Alfred by two. A last second three-pointer by Pitt-Bradford (4-8) was off and the Lady Saxons (1-8, 0-3 Empire Eight) snapped their eight-game losing streak. Ratchuk led Alfred with a game-high 25 points, making five of nine three-point attempts. Backus scored 11 points, all from the foul line, and junior forward Lisa Valitutto (Amherst, NH/Souhegan) chipped in with 13 points and a game-high 11 rebounds. Guard Amy Goss (Alexandria, PA) led three Pitt-Bradford players in double figures with 18 points, while center Emily Myers (Rushford, NY) and forward Jessica Porter (Clearfield, PA) each tallied 10 points. Alfred is in action next on Wednesday, Jan. 17, when the Saxons travel to Geneseo for a 7 p.m. game.