Hosts knock off AU men's basketball team in first round of Centre College Tournament 12/29/03

DANVILLE, KY -- The Alfred University men's basketball team fell to Centre College, 85-68, Monday evening in the first round of the Centre College Tournament. Alfred (1-8, 0-0 Empire 8) trailed by only two points, 39-37, at halftime, thanks to 62-percent shooting. The Saxons cooled off in the second half, making only 42 percent of their shots, while the host Colonels made 52 percent of theirs. Centre held a slight 34-30 rebounding edge and benefited from 18 AU turnovers. Alfred was paced by sophomore point guard Chris Lemasters (Mansfield, PA/Mansfield) with 15 points and four assists. Freshman forward Dillon Stein (North Huntingdon, PA/Norwin) had 12 points and a teamhigh six rebounds, while sophomore forward Ryan Hallett (Caledonia/Caledonia-Mumford) added 11 points and four boards. Centre (6-2) was led by James Booker, Jason Atwell and Reggie Magnusson, each with 17 points. Alfred will play Berea (KY) College in the consolation game at 5 p.m. Tuesday, Dec. 30. Berea was a 70-68 loser to Thomas More in Monday's other first-round game.