

AU falls in OT Conference thriller against Elmira, 76-79

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ELMIRA, NY-The Alfred University Women's basketball team lost, 76-79, in overtime to Empire 8 Conference foe Elmira College, Tuesday evening. The Saxons would thrive in the first half outshooting Elmira from the field (44 percent to 42 percent) and shooting 25 percent from beyond the arc. AU (7-11, 0-7 Empire 8) would go up on Elmira (7-11, 3-4 Empire 8) as much as six during the first half and head into the intermission leading 38-34. In the second half, AU came out playing with high intensity and increased their lead by as much as 12 points, with nine minutes remaining in the contest. Elmira would start to chip away at the Saxon lead and eventually tie the contest up with five minutes left in the game. Regulation time would end in with a 71-71 draw. The Saxons would shoot 40 percent from the field and 60 percent from the three-point line in the second half, while Elmira shot 44 percent and 63 percent. In the overtime period the Saxons would lead by as much as three before the Soaring Eagles would tie the game up inside two minutes. A failure to convert on a key shot inside of 30 seconds left in the game would cost the Saxons the contest. For the game, AU shot 39 percent from the field, 31 percent from beyond the arc, and 80 percent from the free throw line. Sophomore forward Grace Williamson (Olean, NY/Olean) posted a double-double with 27 points and 14 rebounds to pace the Saxons. Other key efforts from freshman guard Harley Cleary (Rochester, NY/Our Lady of Mercy), whom posted 13 points and seven rebounds, and freshman forward Lindsay Drummond (Ogdensburg, NY/Ogdensburg) whom put up 12 points and six rebounds, came up big in the for the Saxons. Elmira's Jessica Zoltowski led the game in scoring with 34 points, and added seven rebounds. Liz Forrest and Maria Thannhauser would both break double-digits in scoring for the Soaring Eagles. AU returns to action Friday, Jan. 27, at 6 p.m., when they take on visiting Nazareth.