

Alfred University women's basketball team evens record with victory over Elmira

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ALFRED The Alfred University's women's basketball team defeated visiting Elmira College, 64-51, Saturday afternoon at the McLane Center for the team's first Empire 8 conference victory of the year. With the win, AU improves to 9-9 (1-6 Empire 8). Elmira falls to 4-12 (2-5 Empire 8). Alfred held a slim 28-26 lead at the half before pulling away midway through the second frame. The Lady Saxons won thanks to a 43-32 rebounding edge and 52 percent shooting after intermission. Senior center Brandi Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton) had a game-high 13 points and eight rebounds to lead Alfred. Freshman center Kylee Knoll (Elmira/Elmira Free Academy) came off the bench to score 12 points and pull down seven boards. Junior point guard Melissa Buck (Savannah/Clyde-Savannah) had a fine all-around game with 11 points, four rebounds, four assists and three steals, while freshman guard Patricia Affeldt (Horseheads/Horseheads) had five points, three rebounds and four assists. Senior forward Liz Smith (Fulton/G. Ray Bodley) had six points, six rebounds, five assists and four steals. Senior forward Sarah Nicholson (Seneca Falls/Romulus) paced Elmira with a game-high 14 points and six rebounds, while freshman guard Jennifer Parker (Elmira Heights/Thomas A. Edison) and sophomore guard Monica St. Croix (Watertown/Immaculate Heart Central) chipped in with nine and eight points, respectively. Alfred is in action next on Friday, Feb. 7, at 6 p.m. at home against RIT.