

## AU men's basketball team drops 68-65 decision at Utica

1/10/09



UTICA, NY -- Host Utica defeated the Alfred University men's basketball team, 69-65, in Empire 8 Conference action Saturday afternoon. A day after shooting 56 percent in a victory at Hartwick, the Saxons made only 38 percent of their shots against Utica, including 32 percent in the opening half, when the host team took a 33-25 lead. The Pioneers dominated the boards, outrebounding the smaller Saxons, 42-19, while making 53 percent of their shots. AU (6-7, 2-3 Empire 8) made eight three-pointers and shot 17-of-22 from the foul line to keep the game close. Sophomore point guard Gary Kwiecien (Perry, NY/Perry) posted solid numbers for a second straight game, making seven of nine shots to finish with a game-high 20 points. Kwiecien made nine of 14 shots against Hartwick en route to a 24-point night. For the season, he is shooting 57 percent from the floor and averaging 13.1 points per contest. Two other Saxons netted double figures in points. Junior guard Bobby Barry (Duanesburg, NY/Duanesburg) scored 18 and senior forward Carl Embury (Perry, NY/Perry) added 13. Junior forward Jared Patt (Nelson, PA/Elkland) had a solid all-round game for the Saxons, scoring six points to go with six assists, five rebounds and four steals. James McClendon had 10 points and a game-high 12 rebounds to pace Utica (4-6, 1-3 Empire 8). Patrick Goodman scored a team-best 15 points and Justin Maxwell chipped in with 11. James Patterson scored nine to go with five boards and a game-high eight assists. Alfred is in action next on Friday, Jan. 16, at 8 p.m. at home against Stevens.