

Saxons use long ball to knock off Elmira, remain perfect in conference play

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ALFRED The Alfred University men's basketball team picked a perfect time to overcome their three-point shooting troubles. Playing a physical Elmira College squad Friday evening at the McLane Center, the Saxons made 15 three-pointers en route to a 94-82 victory. With the win, the Saxons (7-4, 2-0 Empire 8) remained unbeaten in conference play. Alfred came into the contest shooting 39 percent from the field and a woeful 29 percent on three pointers. Against Elmira, the Saxons shot 52 percent from the field, including 47 percent from long range. The 15 three-pointers ties the team single-game mark, set against Elmira during the 1998-99 season. Senior guard Devon Downing (Canton, OH/Glenoak) paced AU with a game-high 35 points and seven rebounds. Downing connected on 12 of 19 shots, including 6-of-9 from behind the arc. The contest was close until the last five minutes, when the Saxons built their lead to as many as 15 points, forcing Elmira to foul. Alfred had been down by 10 points midway through the first half but charged back to take a 40-38 halftime lead. AU senior forward E.J. Docteur (Seneca Falls/Mynderse) had 19 points and a game-high 12 rebounds before fouling out in the closing minutes. Senior forward Brock Stortini (Poughkeepsie/Arlington) added 14 points and seven boards. Elmira (1-8, 0-1 Empire 8) was paced by sophomore forward Rob Wordlaw (Detroit, MI/Ferndale) with 25 points and seven rebounds, while junior forward Taalib Horton (Elmira/Rush-Henrietta) added 15 points and six boards. Alfred takes on Ithaca Saturday at 4 p.m. at home, while Elmira travels to Rochester to take on St. John Fisher in a 4 p.m. contest.