



# **FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE**

## **SPORTS INFORMATION DEPARTMENT**

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## **FALCONS IMPROVE TO 3-1**



**Nichols College - 57**  
**Fitchburg State College - 68**

**DUDLEY, Mass.-** Senior **Diana Doyle (Springfield, Mass.)** scored a game-high 21 points to lead the Fitchburg State women's basketball team to a 68-57 victory over host Nichols on Tuesday evening in non-conference action. After a close first half, the Falcons went on to out-score the Bison 43-29 in the second half to come away with the victory. Fitchburg State improves to 3-1 on the year while Nichols drops to 2-2.

The first half was a back and forth battle as the lead changed hands seven times. Nichols took its largest lead of the half, 13-8, with 13:11 on the clock while Fitchburg State grabbed a three point edge, 16-13, with 10:46 left in the half. A jumper by freshman **Jessica Nelson (North Providence, R.I.)** at the buzzer gave the Bison a three point advantage, 28-25, at the half.

Doyle led all scorers with nine points in the half off 4 of 9 shooting for Fitchburg. Junior **MaryLynn Skarzenski (Woodbridge, N.J.)** led the Bison with five points and six rebounds.

The Falcons went on a 21-2 drive to take a 16 point lead, 46-30, by the 14:18 mark of the second half. A three by sophomore **Kari Averill (Barre, Vt.)** capped off the run as Fitchburg State knocked down three from behind the arc.

Fitchburg was able to maintain a double-digit lead throughout the half as they held Nichols to 36 percent shooting. The Bison were plagued by 28 total turnovers and were out-shot 18-8 at the foul line.

Sophomore **Michelle Ridge (Milton, Mass.)** added 11 points off 4 of 9 shooting for the Falcons. Senior **Merry Donovan (Milton, Mass.)** had a solid all-around game with eight points, 12 rebounds, five assists, five steals and one block.

Sophomore **Curtia Humbert (Bridgeport, Conn.)** led Nichols with 14 points and five steals despite committing 13 turnovers. Sophomore **Lyndsey Bennett (North Brookfield, Mass.)** scored eight points off the bench. Skarzenski finished with eight points, eight rebounds and six assists. Sophomore **Margaret Lilly (Ashfield, Mass.)** hauled in nine rebounds to go along with six points and four steals.

Nichols will return to action on Thursday at Elms while Fitchburg State will host WPI on Saturday.