

Alfred University football beats Utica 31-20

10/16/04

UTICA The Alfred University football team committed five turnovers on Saturday but was able to defeat host Utica College 31-20. Sophomore running back Chaz Bruce (Rochester/Marshall) had his fifth 100-yard game of the season carrying the ball 26 times for 109 yards and two touchdowns. Senior quarterback Ron Duliba (Forestville/Forestville) had a solid game for the Saxons completing 11 of 26 passes for 110 yards with two touchdowns and one interception. Senior wide receiver Chris Sargent (Ogdensburg/Ogdensburg) led all AU receivers with 4 receptions for 57 yards. Alfred (5-1, 3-1 Empire 8) put the first points on the board midway through the first quarter when Duliba connected with junior wide receiver TyQuan Horton (Syracuse/Corcoran) for a five-yard touchdown pass. After a scoreless second quarter, Utica (2-4, 0-2 Empire 8) opened the second half with a one-yard touchdown run by Tyrell Robinson but failed on the extra point attempt. AU answered with a four-yard touchdown pass from Duliba to junior tight-end Chris Reger (Warsaw/Warsaw) to give the Saxons a 14-6 lead. With just over two minutes remaining in the third quarter, Alfred added to their lead on a 16-yard run by Bruce. Bruce struck again early in the fourth quarter with a ten-yard touchdown run, his second of the day, giving AU a 28-6 advantage. After stopping the next Utica drive, freshman kicker Chris Reynolds (Pittsford/Pittsford Sutherland) hit a 32-yard field goal to seal the deal for the Saxons. Utica went on to score two more touchdowns in the final two minutes of the game on a three-yard run by Jefferey Muha and a six-yard pass from Greg Pinelli to John Slopnick, but it would not be enough for the win. The defense played well for the Saxons, forcing two turnovers and recording two sacks. Junior linebacker Brenton Brady (Rochester/Marshall) led the way for the defense recording nine tackles, one sack and a fumble recovery. Senior defensive end Bill Battaglia (Cheektowaga, JFK) had five tackles and a sack for the Saxons. Sophomore free-safety Mike Coupe (New Hartford/New Hartford) came up big for AU returning an interception 27 yards and making two tackles. The Utica defense forced five Alfred turnovers but could not capitalize on offense. Marcus Maroney and Anthony Venturino each had ten tackles for the Pioneers and Maroney had the team's only interception. John Lignowski had eight tackles and one fumble recovery for Utica. Paul Hart led all Pioneer rushers with 56 yards on 8 carries while Nick Martin completed 10 of 30 passes for 100 yards and one interception. Alfred is in action next on Saturday, October 23, at 1:00 p.m. home against Case Western.