

## **Defense big as Alfred University football shuts out Grove City 16-0**

10/30/04

GROVE CITY The Alfred University football team traveled to Grove City Saturday afternoon, where they earned their fifth straight victory, shutting out the Wolverines, 16-0. At 7-1, this marks the best start for the Saxons since the 1981 team went into the NCAA tournament 10-0. The defense was the story again for AU (7-1, 3-1 Empire 8) forcing six Wolverine turnovers and allowing only 110 total yards of offense. Junior linebacker Brenton Brady (Rochester/Marshall) was all over the field for Alfred making seven tackles (two for a loss, one sack) while intercepting a pass and recovering two fumbles. Sophomore Nicholas Gatto (Bemus Point/Maple Grove) recorded a team-high eight tackles, two for a loss, and one and a half sacks. Alfred's offense relied on the foot of freshman kicker Chris Reynolds (Pittsford/Pittsford Sutherland) who ended the day hitting three of four field goal attempts. Reynolds put AU on the board midway through the first quarter when he hit his first field goal from 37 yards out. He went to work again with 46 seconds left in the first half, knocking one in from 28 yards to give Alfred a 6-0 lead. In the ensuing Grove City drive, Brady recovered a fumble forced by sophomore Andy Rantz (Montandon, PA/Milton Area) setting up a 34-yard field goal by Reynolds as time expired in the half. The Saxons added to their 9-0 lead with just over six minutes remaining in the third quarter when senior quarterback Ron Duliba (Forestville/Forestville) hit sophomore wide receiver Matt Gibbons (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) on a 12-yard touchdown pass. This would be enough as the AU defense would hold-off Grove City (3-6) to secure the 16-0 victory. Duliba finished the game completing 13 of 33 passes for 118 yards and one touchdown. Junior Chaz Bruce (Rochester/Marshall) led all AU rushers with 91 yards on 25 carries while senior receiver Chris Sargent (Ogdensburg/Ogdensburg) caught two passes for 57 yards. Sophomore Aaron Myers (Delevan/Pioneer) and senior Kiel Liddell (Bemus Point/Maple Grove) each had an interception for AU while senior Bill Battaglia (Cheektowaga/JFK) recorded two sacks. Mike Choby had nine tackles for Grove City, and Ross Trimmer and Dave Issler each chipped in with seven. Quarterback Greg Moore ended the day 9-14 passing with 59 yards and two interceptions and Wes Basham carried the ball seven times for 28 yards to lead all Grove City rushers. Alfred is in action next on Saturday, November 6, at 1:00 p.m., home against Ithaca.