

## AU football chosen second in Empire 8 preseason coaches poll

8/24/10



ALFRED, NY The Alfred University football team, coming off an 8-2 season and an appearance in the NCAA Division III championship tournament, has been picked to finish second in the Empire 8 Conference. The 2010 Empire 8 preseason coaches poll chooses St. John Fisher, with whom the Saxons shared the 2009 Empire 8 regular season crown, to win the conference title this year. The Cardinals received four of six first-place votes, with Alfred receiving the other two. Fisher was 7-3 a year ago and finished tied with Alfred atop the Empire standings with a 4-1 conference record. Alfred earned the conference's automatic bid to the NCAAs by virtue of its victory over the Cardinals. Ithaca was picked by coaches to finish third; Springfield was tabbed to finish fourth; and Hartwick and Utica were tied for the fifth spot. Alfred opens its season on Saturday, Sept. 4, at home against Widener. The Saxons open their conference slate Sept. 25 at Springfield and play at Hartwick Oct. 9. AU plays both Fisher (Oct. 23) and Ithaca (Nov. 6) at home, before ending the regular season at Utica on Nov. 13. In addition to Widener, Alfred plays non-conference contests at St. Lawrence (Sept. 18) and RPI (Oct. 16) and at home against Frostburg State (Oct. 2) and Rochester (Oct. 30).