

Saxons beat William Paterson, 24-7, to stop four-game losing skid

10/28/00

The Alfred University football team defeated William Paterson, 24-7, Saturday afternoon at Merrill Field to end a four-game losing streak. Sophomore tailback Jesse Raynor (Weedsport/Weedsport), starting in for an injured George Eason (Oswego/Oswego), ran for a career-best 166 yards. Raynor's 66-yard touchdown run on the second play of Alfred's opening drive put the Saxons up 7-0. After William Paterson (2-6) tied the game at 7-7 on a 56-yard fumble return by David Eugene, Alfred (3-5) scored the next 17 points to secure the win. AU junior quarterback Todd Zandrowicz (East Aurora/East Aurora) threw two long touchdown passes in the third-quarter a 34-yard strike to junior split end Nick Freeman (Bolivar/Cuba-Rushford) and a 49-yarder to junior flanker Jason Slagle (Celoron/Southwestern). AU dominated the game from the line of scrimmage, piling up 406 yards in offense (267 yards on the ground and another 139 passing). William Paterson was successful throwing the ball -- QB Rob Warchol passed for 170 yards, and wideout Keyth Hardy caught seven passes for 58 yards. But the Pioneers could muster only 27 yards on the ground and were hurt by five turnovers. Alfred's defense was led by senior strong safety Brian Keefer (Jamestown/Maple Grove) with eight tackles and a forced fumble; sophomore defensive end Nick Luther (Westfield/Westfield), with six tackles, including three for losses and 1.5 sacks; senior linebacker Chris Vant (Red Creek/Canton-Liverpool), with six tackles, including two for losses and 1.5 sacks, a forced fumble and a fumble recovery; and senior linebacker Tom Phelan (Middletown/Chicopee), with four tackles, a fumble recovery and an interception. Linebacker Terrence Fabor led the William Paterson defense with eight tackles, including two for losses. AU senior placekicker Ryan Rambacher (Bemus Point/Maple Grove) scored six points on a field goal and three extra points to tie the school record for scoring by a kicker. Rambacher and former Saxon kicker Don Hockenberry each have 145 career points. Alfred plays its last home game of the 2000 season next Saturday, Nov. 4, at 1:30 p.m. against Canisius at Merrill Field.