

AU men's lacrosse team falls to fourth-ranked Ithaca

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ITHACA, NY - The Alfred University men's lacrosse team dropped an 8-3 decision at Ithaca College Wednesday afternoon in the Empire 8 Conference opener for both teams. Alfred (5-1, 0-1 Empire 8) got on the board first when sophomore midfielder Justin Kieffer (Middletown, MD/Middletown) scored unassisted 1:14 into the game. Ithaca (7-0, 1-0 Empire 8), ranked fourth in the nation among Division III teams, answered with four unanswered goals to take a 4-1 lead at the half. Freshman midfielder Brendan Murphy (Buffalo, NY/Bishop Timon-St. Jude) made it 4-2 with an unassisted tally with 12:05 left in the third, but the host Bombers scored the next two to take a 6-2 lead midway through the final period. AU junior attack Justin Gill (Gowanda, NY/Gowanda) scored his 10th goal of the season, off an assist from freshman attack Drew Belica (Orchard Park, NY/Orchard Park) to bring the Saxons within three goals, 6-3, with 5:08 left, but Ithaca netted the next two to put the game away. Tom Mongelli and Alec Siefert each had two goals and an assist to pace Ithaca, which held a 49-21 advantage in groundballs and won 12 of 15 faceoffs. Mike Silipo also had two goals for the Bombers. Sophomore Adam Schutz (Geneva, NY/Geneva) played well in goal for Alfred, making 20 saves, including 11 in the final quarter. Dave Gal stopped seven shots for Ithaca. Alfred is in action next on Saturday, March 28, at 1 p.m. at home against Empire 8 foe Stevens.