

## AU vs. Hartwick Game Notes

10/16/13



### Alfred University Saxons vs. Hartwick College Hawks

Saturday, Oct. 19, 1 p.m.

Yunevich Stadium, Alfred, NY

**Last meeting:** 2012, AU win, 30-13, at Hartwick

**Last week:** AU: L, 17-6, at Ithaca; Hartwick, L, 37-14, vs. #17 St. John Fisher

**Saxon Offense:** 26.6 points per game

**Saxon Defense:** 22.4 points per game

**Hawk Offense:** 32.8 points per game

**Hawk Defense:** 21.2 points per game

**Players to watch:** AU — Tyler Johnson, FR, QB; Austin Dwyer, SR, TB; Josh Phillips, SR, WR; David Lee Tack, SR, WR; Jonathan Ruffin, SR, WR; D.J. Welch, SR, OLB; Seiji Hinton, SR, DB; Zach Brinkley, SO, DT; Corry Wallace, SO, MLB.

**Hartwick** — John Garcia, SO, QB; Frankie Molina, SR, WR; Travis Samuels, SO, WR; Tanner Williams, SO, WR; Kurtis Ahart, SR, TB; Joe Seney, SR, DE; Bryan Schweitzer, SR, ILB, Dante Crump, SO, CB; R.J. Roth, SR, DE.

**Key matchups:** Alfred's pass defense against Hartwick's air attack. The Saxons have played well against the pass this year, allowing 204 yards per game, and will have to continue that trend against a Hawk offense that averages 246 yards passing. The Saxon pass rush, anchored by senior end **Justin Collen** and freshman nose guard **Zack Bacon** will look to put pressure on Hartwick QB **John Garcia** (15 TD passes). Alfred's defensive secondary will have to contend with a Hawk offense that likes to spread the field...AU rush defense against Hartwick's **Kurtis Ahart**. The Hawk tailback averages 110 yards rushing per game. The Saxons have given up 152 yards rushing per contest and can't forget about Ahart while contending with the Hawk passing game...Hartwick pass defense against Alfred's improved

passing game. Alfred averages just less than 360 yards of offense and 219 of that comes through the air. Like Hartwick, the Saxons often spread the field with three wideouts. AU freshman quarterback **Tyler Johnson** will look to attack a Hawk defense allows 180 yards passing per game but, led by end **Joe Seney**, has been effective at pressuring the QB...AU running game against a Hawk defense that holds opponents to 99 yards on the ground per game. The Saxons will look to get their running game untracked this weekend. Johnson is the team's leading rusher, and AU will need increased production from its trio of senior running backs **Austin Dwyer**, **Tyler DeRosa** and **Chuck Beckwith** to keep the Hawks from focusing on the Saxon passing game.

**Game Notes:** Today's game marks the 30th meeting between the Alfred University Saxons and Hartwick College Hawks, with AU leading the all-time series, 21-7-1. The last time AU played Hartwick, the Saxons won in Oneonta, 30-13. The last time these two teams met in Alfred, in 2011, Alfred claimed a 32-29 decision in overtime.

**About the Hawks:** Hartwick is 4-1 overall after last weekend's 37-14 loss at home to #17 St. John Fisher, which evened the Hawks' Empire 8 Conference record at 1-1.

Hartwick is averaging 370 yards of offense per game, with two-thirds of that (246 yards) coming through the air. Sophomore quarterback **John Garcia** has completed 74 of 144 passes for 1,210 yards, 15 touchdowns and five interceptions.

Senior wide receiver **Frankie Molina** has a team-best 23 catches for 407 yards and seven TDs, while sophomore wide receiver **Travis Samuels** has 17 catches (four touchdowns) for a team-high 439 yards. Sophomore wide receiver **Tanner Williams** has 16 catches for 209 yards and a pair of scores.

Senior tailback **Kurtis Ahart** has run for 441 yards in four games (110 yards per game) and five touchdowns.

The Hartwick defense allows 279 yards per contest, including 99 on the ground and 180 through the air. Senior inside linebacker **Bryan Schweitzer** leads the team with 39 tackles (nine for loss, 4 1/2 sacks) to go with an interception and a forced fumble. Senior end **Joe Seney** has 25 tackles, including seven for loss and a team-leading six sacks and three forced fumbles.

Sophomore cornerback **Dante Crump** has 27 tackles, two interceptions and a forced fumble and senior end **R.J. Roth** has 33 tackles (seven for loss, three sacks) and an interception.

Williams averages 12.4 yards per punt return, while Samuels averages 28.6 yards on kickoff returns. Senior placekicker **Alex Tesoriero** has made 11 of 13 PATs and two of four field goals, while sophomore **Jared Morrow** averages 40.5 yards on punts.

**About the Saxons:** Alfred is coming off a 17-6 loss at Ithaca, which dropped the Saxons to 3-2 overall and 1-1 in Empire 8 play.

AU has produced 359 yards of offense per contest, with 219 coming via the pass and 140 on the ground.

Freshman quarterback **Tyler Johnson** has completed 55 of 100 passes for 654 yards with four TDs and six interceptions.

Senior wide receivers **Josh Phillips**, **Jonathan Ruffin** and **David Lee Tack** have been Johnson's main targets. Phillips leads the team in catches (25), receiving yards (366) and TD catches (two). Ruffin has 12 catches for 251

yards (20.9 yards per catch) and a touchdown. He had six receptions for 146 yards in last weekend's loss to Ithaca. Tack has 12 catches for 143 yards and a score, while sophomore tight end **Isiah Young** has 12 catches for 114 yards.

Johnson is the team's leading rusher, with 249 yards (6.9 yards per carry) and two touchdowns. Senior tailback **Austin Dwyer** has 207 yards rushing with a team-best eight touchdowns, while senior tailback **Tyler DeRosa** has 174 yards and one touchdown.

The Saxon defense allows 356 yards per game (204 passing, 152 rushing). Sophomore middle linebacker **Corry Wallace** has 60 tackles (two for loss) and is tied for the team lead with two interceptions. Sophomore tackle **Zach Brinkley** has 26 tackles and senior outside linebacker **D.J. Welch** has 35 and an interception.

Junior free safety **Mike Perkins** and freshman nose guard **Zack Bacon** each have two interceptions and senior safety **Seiji Hinton** has 24 tackles (5 1/2 for loss, one sack) and an interception.

Sophomore cornerback **Calvin Bain** averages 23.9 yards on kickoff returns and Ruffin averages 6.2 yards on punt returns. Freshman **Ryan McDonnell** is 0-1 on PATs and field goals and averages 38.4 yards per punt.