

## **AU men's soccer team ranked fourth in Empire 8 preseason coaches' poll**

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ALFRED, NY The Alfred University men's soccer team is ranked fourth in the recently-released Empire 8 Conference preseason coaches' poll. AU is ranked behind top-ranked Ithaca, the two-time defending regular season conference champs, second-ranked RIT, and third-ranked St. John Fisher. Rounding out the preseason conference rankings are Nazareth (fifth), Utica (sixth) and Elmira (seventh). Alfred returns eight starters and 14 letterwinners from a team that posted a 5-10-0 record in 2005, including a 2-4-0 mark in Empire 8 play. AU ended the 2005 season in fifth place in the final conference standings. The Saxons will open their 2006 season on Saturday, Sept. 2, at noon against Hobart in the first round of the Golisano Children's Hospital Tournament, hosted by SUNY Brockport.