

AU English equestrian team places fifth at pair of Naz-hosted shows

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PITTSFORD, NY - The Alfred University English equestrian team placed fifth in a pair of weekend shows Saturday and Sunday, Nov. 19 and 20, at Lehman Farms, hosted by Nazareth College. Twelve teams competed in the shows, with Cornell tying with Nazareth for first place on Saturday and Cornell winning Sunday's show. Two AU riders qualified for the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Zone 2, Region 1 championships March 17 in Ithaca. On Saturday, sophomore Amelia Maslen (Chardon, OH/Andrews Osborne) took fourth in novice equitation on the flat and senior Danielle Ross (Staten Island, NY/St. Peter's) placed third in intermediate equitation over fences, with both qualifying for regionals. Maslen also placed second in novice equitation over fences Saturday. Riders earning first-place ribbons for AU on Saturday were: junior Amelia Keyes (Webster, NY), in intermediate equitation over fences; senior Jessica Repanes (Huntington Station, NY/Half Hollow Hills), in novice equitation on the flat; senior Katie LeSuer (Edinboro, PA/Cambridge Springs), in intermediate equitation on the flat; and senior Kalcy O'Keefe (Rochester, NY/Penfield), in open equitation on the flat. O'Keefe also took second in open equitation over fences on Saturday. Other top AU performers Saturday included: freshman Dijon Brooks (Hartford, CT/Metropolitan Learning Center Magnet School), second in beginner walk-trot-canter; junior Tesla Parker (Waitsfield, VT/Harwood Union), second in novice equitation over fences; and freshman Atsede Scarseth (Berkshire, NY/Ithaca) and junior Sara Schron (Whitehall, OH), both second in advanced walk-trot-canter. Freshman Casey Duncan (Stuarts Draft, VA/Stuarts Draft) and Parker were the only Saxon riders to win an event Sunday. Duncan took novice equitation on the flat and Parker won intermediate equitation on the flat. Other top AU riders Sunday included: sophomore Annie Bailey (Waynesburg, PA/Waynesburg), second in advanced walk-trot-canter; Brooks, second in beginner walk-trot-canter; freshman Olivia Costich (Penfield, NY/Harley School), second in open equitation over fences; and sophomore Nicole Mekker (Liverpool, NY/Cicero-North Syracuse), second in walk-trot. The AU English team is in action next on Feb. 19 and 20 at a Cornell-hosted show in Ithaca, NY.