

## **2004 an up-and-down season for Alfred University men's lacrosse team**

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ALFRED, NY -- 2004 was a tale of two seasons for the Alfred University men's lacrosse team, as the Saxons streaked to a 5-1 start before dropping six of their last seven games to finish with a 6-7 record. Alfred posted a 3-4 record in the Empire 8 to finish fifth in the conference standings, just one game out of a berth in the four-team Empire 8 championship tournament. Despite missing out on a chance at the postseason, the Saxons showed promise. With a group of talented youngsters, the team will look to overcome the loss of four key seniors and compete for a conference crown in 2005. The team received the offensive firepower it expected from senior attackmen David Vail (Mt. Lakes, NJ/Mt. Lakes), Dylan Macro (Camillus/West Genesee) and Trevor Archer (Penn Yan/Penn Yan) and senior midfielder Anthony Fiorelli (Endicott/Union-Endicott). Each were four-year letterwinners who were heavy contributors throughout their careers. Vail led the team in scoring with 72 points on 26 goals and 46 assists. He finished his career second on the AU career lists for points and assists and is fifth in career goals. Macro scored a team-leading 45 goals to finish his career 127 goals, a school record. Archer had 18 goals and 19 assists and Fiorelli 25 goals and five assists. Vail was named an Empire 8 First Team all-star while Macro and Fiorelli were given honorable mention. While Vail, Macro, Archer and Fiorelli will be missed, there are a host of able players returning next year. They will be led by freshman standout midfielder Andy German (Wayne, PA/Radnor). German was third on the team in scoring with 49 points (29 goals and 20 assists) and was third in groundballs with 51. He was named Co-Rookie of the Year in the Empire 8 and earned a spot on the all-conference Second Team. German wasn't the only youngster to play a major role for the Saxons in 2004. Sophomore midfielders Carlo DiRisio (Prattsburgh/Penn Yan), Pete Ferriello (Nanuet/Alberto Magnus) and Rob Harrell (Syracuse/West Genesee) were solid as well. DiRisio had nine goals and four assists and picked up 19 groundballs, while Ferriello finished with 56 groundballs (second on the team) and won 47-percent of his face-offs. Harrell made two starts and finished with five points on three goals and a pair of assists. A trio of underclassmen played well on attack and will look to help fill the void left by the graduation of Macro, Vail and Archer. Sophomores Adam Griffin (New Hartford/New Hartford) and Sergio Ibarra (Buellton, CA/Midland School) had six points (five goals, one assist) and three points (one goal, two assists), respectively, while freshman Jeff Andrews (Horseheads/Horseheads) tallied four goals. Alfred will have to replace the bulk of its goal scoring in 2005 (Vail, Macro, Archer and Fiorelli accounted for 114 of the teams 167 goals this year), meaning the defense will need to play particularly well next season. Fortunately, the team's top five defenders all return, led by junior Josh Parker (Hamburg/Hamburg), who started all 13 games and scooped up 30 groundballs while adding a goal. Sophomores Tristan Hujer (Hamburg/St. Francis) and Matt Hall (Salt Lake City/Judge Memorial) had 24 and 18 groundballs, respectively. A pair of freshman starters -- James Powell (Corning/Corning East) with a team-leading 57 groundballs and one goal; and Mike McCarthy (Kinnelon, NJ/Kinnelon) with 30 groundballs -- will be counted on to continue their solid play. Sophomore goalie Chris Wszalek (West Seneca/West Seneca East) was solid between the pipes at times and should only get better with a year's experience behind him. He started all 13 games in goal for AU and collected 136 saves. He and a deep defensive unit will be looked upon to improve a 14.62 goal per game scoring average by AU opponents in 2004.