**AU women** s lacrosse falls to Hartwick in Empire 8 Conference opener 4/01/11



ALFRED, NY The Alfred University women's lacrosse team fell to visiting Hartwick College, 13-8, Friday afternoon at Merrill Field in both teams first Empire 8 conference contest. Hartwick scored the games first six goals, before senior attack Elyse Caldwell (Endwell, NY/Maine-Endwell) scored the Saxons (0-4, 0-1 Empire 8) first goal on a feed from fellow senior attack Michelle Adams (Horseheads, NY /Horseheads). Sophomore midfielder Devin Fitzgerald (Rochester, NY/Greece Olympia) scored AU's second goal, converting on a free position shot with 3:20 left in the first half to trim the deficit to 6-2. The teams traded goals in the final three minutes of the first half, giving the Hawks a 7-3 lead at intermission. Caldwell found Adams just 29 seconds in the second half, as AU pulled within three (7-4). The Hawks (5-1, 1-0 Empire 8) scored two goals in under a minute to pump their lead to 9-4 with 26:37 left in the game. Alfred struck back 30 seconds later when Adams connected with freshman midfielder Ashley White (Islip, NY/Islip) making it a 9-5 game. AU would get no closer as Hartwick scored four straight goals to take a commanding 13-5 lead with 8:16 left in the game. Sophomore attack Ali Garcia (Salt Lake City, UT/Judge Memorial) scored two goals in a 19 second span, and sophomore midfielder Tracie McGinnity (Rochester, NY/Gates-Chili) found the net on a free position shot with 3:03 left to close out the scoring. Senior Kate Baughman (Rush, NY/Rush-Henrietta) went the distance in goal for Alfred, making nine saves. McCade scored a game-high five goals and Brittany LaVaute finished with four points (two goals, two assists) to lead the Hawks. Hartwick's Jen Kaye went the distance in net and had 11 saves. Alfred plays next on Saturday April 2, at 1 p.m. against Stevens.