AU ski teams wrap up regular season at Toggenburg, prepare for regionals 2/16/09



FABIUS, NY - The Alfred University Alpine ski teams wrapped up their regular seasons over the weekend at Toggenburg Mountain in races hosted by Syracuse University. The AU women took seventh in Saturday's giant slalom before rebounding to take second in Sunday's slalom and finish fourth combined. The Alfred men had their best weekend of the season, taking fourth in the GS, third in the slalom and third combined. Alfred's women's team claimed a tiebreaker over the University at Buffalo and was named Mideast Region's Finger Lakes Division team champion. The AU men finished fifth in the Finger Lakes Division standings. Sophomore Elissa DeGolyer (Silver Springs, NY/Letchworth) led the AU women, winning the giant slalom, placing third in the slalom and finishing second in the individual standings for the weekend. Junior Lauren Pfeifer (Livonia, NY/Livonia) won the slalom; senior Rachel Beckwith (Landgrove, VT/Stratton Mountain) was eighth in the GS; and sophomore Megan Caggianelli (Clifton Park, NY/Shenendehowa) was 17th in the slalom. Three members of the women's team earned All-Finger Lakes Division honors. Pfeifer finished first in the overall individual standings; DeGolver finished third; and Beckwith was ninth.Senior Joel Buchanan (Almond, NY/Scio) placed 11th in the slalom and 16th in the giant slalom to lead the AU men. Senior Robbie Ryminski (Warwick, NY/Warwick Valley) was 15th in the slalom and 19th in the GS, and freshman Steve Barton (Dansville, NY/Dansville) was 19th in the slalom and 21st in the giant slalom. Buchanan was the Saxons' lone division all-star, placing 13th in the individual standings. The AU men and women will now compete in the United States Collegiate Ski Association (USCSA) Mideast Region championships, Friday (giant slalom) and Saturday (slalom), Feb. 20 and 21, at West Mountain in Glens Falls, NY.