AU Western equestrian team competes at National Semi-Finals
3/28/11

SPRINGFIELD, MO The Alfred University Western equestrian team competed in the Intercollegiate Horse Show Association (IHSA) Zone II, Region I National Semi-Finals Saturday and Sunday, March 26 and 27, in Springfield, MO. AU placed fourth in the team standings, just missing out on a trip to the IHSA National Championships. However, two AU riders junior Olivia Campbell (North Java, NY) and senior Peter Metz (Syracuse, NY) qualified to compete in the individual competition at nationals May 5-8 in Lexington, KY.Campbell took third in novice horsemanship and Metz finished third in beginner horsemanship. The top four individual riders at Semi-Finals qualify to compete at nationals.Other AU riders competing in the individual events, but not placing, were: freshman Ashley Sinclair (Cheshire, CT/Cheshire) in open reining and open horsemanship; senior Kayla Summerville (Fairport, NY/Fairport) in open reining; senior Brittney Biegel (Ridge, NY/Longwood) in novice horsemanship; senior Allison Lawrence (New Paltz, NY/Oakwood Friends) in open horsemanship; senior Catherine vonHagan (Bath, NY/Haverling) in advanced horsemanship; senior Natalie Grow (Hyde Park, NY/Our Lady of Lourdes) in advanced horsemanship; and junior Kaitlyn Bentley (Jamestown, NY) in intermediate horsemanship.The top three squads at Semi-Finals qualify for nationals in the team competition. AU finished in fourth place, a single point behind the University of Nebraska, which took third. Black Hawk College was champion and Murray State finished second.The following AU riders competed in the team competition: freshman Derek Partridge (Groveland, NY/Geneseo), first in intermediate horsemanship; freshman Caralee Cecala (Springville, NY/Springville), third in beginner horsemanship; sophomore Kriten Eklin (Bovey, MN), third in advanced horsemanship; Summerville, fourth in reining; sophomore Hallie Draegert (Dayton, NY/Gowanda), seventh in novice horsemanship; and Sinclair, eighth in open horsemanship.