

## **Four teams compete in first day of Empire 8 volleyball tournament**

10/19/07

ALFRED, NY- Alfred University hosted four matches Friday in the second round of the Empire 8 Crossover Tournament, being held this weekend, Oct. 19-21. St. John Fisher beat Alfred, 3-0 (30-6, 30-14, 30-17); Nazareth knocked off Hartwick, 3-1 (27-30, 30-24, 30-27, 30-22); Hartwick defeated Alfred, 3-0 (30-14, 30-15, 30-18); and Nazareth shut out Fisher, 3-0 (30-28, 30-28, 30-23). In the Nazareth-Hartwick match, Nazareth was led by Laura Persico with 18 kills and 10 digs; Elizabeth Tregan with 24 kills and eight digs; and Kate Zwickl with 60 assists and eight digs. Hartwick's Christina Evans had 19 kills and 12 digs, while Megan Lemery had 22 assists and four digs. In the St. John Fisher-AU match, Hannah Cordes had seven kills, 34 assists, five service aces, and three digs to pace the winners. Jenna Waldron added 30 digs and Kayleigh Cassetta had five blocks. Alfred's Stephanie Troiano had two kills and seven blocks, while Emily Steen had four kills and eight digs, and Danielle Van Cott pitched in with seven assists and a pair of digs. In the Hartwick-Alfred match, Hartwick's Abby Cummings had 12 kills and four service aces, Evans had 15 kills; Lemery had 17 assists; and Kathryn Simmons had 16 kills and three blocks. AU was paced by Steen, with six kills and six digs; Van Cott with three kills, six assists and five digs; and Troiano with six kills and 10 digs. In the Nazareth-Fisher match, Nazareth's Zwickl had six kills, 46 assists and four digs; Persico had 16 kills and 13 digs; and Hillary Adam had eight kills. Fisher was led by Alyssa Ziobrowski's 12 kills and 19 digs; Cordes' six kills and 25 assists; and Jessica Pegler's seven kills, 16 digs and five blocks. The nine Empire 8 teams each played four matches in September at St. John Fisher in the first round of the round-robin crossover tournament and are each playing four more this weekend at AU. On Saturday, RIT takes on Nazareth and Fisher plays Ithaca at 9:30 a.m.; Fisher plays Stevens Tech and Hartwick plays Ithaca at noon; Stevens plays Alfred and Utica plays Nazareth at 2:30 p.m.; Hartwick plays Elmira and RIT plays Alfred at 5 p.m.; and Utica plays Elmira at 7:30 p.m. The tournament wraps up Sunday with RIT taking on Ithaca at 10 a.m.; Elmira playing Stevens and Utica playing Ithaca at 12:30 p.m.; and Utica playing Stevens and RIT playing Elmira at 3 p.m. The four teams with the best tournament records qualify for the Nov. 3 Empire 8 Championship tournament, the winner of which earns an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III Championships. Stevens has the top conference record (4-0) after Friday's matches, followed by Nazareth (5-1), St. John Fisher (4-2), RIT (3-1), Ithaca (2-2), Hartwick (2-4), Utica and Elmira (1-3); and Alfred (0-6).