AU equestrian center hosting **IEA** zone championship show 3/25/10

ALFRED, NY The Alfred University Bromeley-Daggett Equestrian Center will host this weekend's Interscholastic Equestrian Association (IEA) Zone II championship show. Approximately 225 middle and high school-aged riders from New York and Pennsylvania will compete in the IEA Zone II show on Saturday and Sunday, March 27 and 28. Fifteen hunt seat and five Western teams, as well as a number of individuals, will be competing on horses provided by Alfred University. Riders placing first or second in each show classification will qualify to compete in the IEA National Championships, April 22-25, at the Georgia International Horse Park in Convers, GA.Included among the participants this weekend will be approximately 20 riders from the AU-sponsored IEA program. The program, formed last year, is made up of riders competing on four different teams: Middle School Hunt Seat and Western and High School Hunt Seat and Western. Students on the AU IEA teams come from several area school districts, including Dansville, Canisteo-Greenwood, Wellsville, Genesee Valley, Alfred-Almond, Avoca, Arkport, Cuba-Rushford, Scio, Hornell and Canaseraga. Riders on the AU IEA teams train at the Bromeley-Daggett Equestrian Center, with members of the AU Equestrian Program staff Nancy Kohler, program director; Christine Brokaw, head coach of the Alfred University Western equestrian team; and Marie Dougherty, Western equestrian instructor serving as IEA team instructors. AU students enrolled in the University's equestrian program, some of whom are members of the AU varsity equestrian team, also help coach the IEA riders. Throughout the year, the teams participate in shows in New York and Pennsylvania. A year-end IEA Zone II awards banquet will be held Saturday at Alfred University's Ade Hall, with more than 350 people expected to be in attendance.