

AU men's tennis team shuts out Pitt-Bradford in season opener

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OLEAN, NY - The Alfred University men's tennis team defeated Pitt-Bradford, 9-0, Monday in the Saxons' 2008 season opener, played on the indoor courts of the St. Bonaventure University Tennis Center. Alfred's singles players won in dominating fashion, dropping a combined eight points in six matches. Freshman Connor Houghton (Orleans, MA/Nauset Regional) won first singles, 6-2, 6-2; freshman Gary Kwiecien (Perry, NY/Perry) won second singles, 6-0, 6-1; freshman Nick Schneider (Liverpool, NY/Liverpool) took third singles, 6-0, 6-0; junior Nick Middaugh (Belmont, NY/Genesee Valley) won fourth singles, 6-1, 6-1; freshman Andrew Carucci (Olean, NY/Olean) won fifth singles, 6-0, 6-0; and senior Rob Festa (Fairport, NY/Fairport) claimed sixth singles, 6-0, 6-1. First-year AU head coach Scott Cooper is leading a completely new lineup from last year's squad. In addition to his four freshmen first stringers, neither Middaugh nor Festa played last season. Monday's doubles matches were equally one-sided in AU's favor. Kwiecien and Schneider teamed to take first doubles, 8-2; Houghton and Middaugh won second doubles, 8-0; and Carruci and freshman Ryan Parlia (Valley Stream, NY/Valley Stream South) took third doubles, 8-1. Alfred (1-0, 0-0) is in action next on Thursday, March 20, at 4 p.m. at Empire 8 Conference foe Elmira.