

## **Alfred University football team loses at Ithaca in season opener**

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ITHACA The Alfred University football team lost at Ithaca, 38-7, Saturday afternoon in the 2001 season opener for both teams. Ithaca built a 31-0 lead before Alfred scored its lone touchdown with 3:54 left in the contest on a two-yard run by junior tailback Jesse Raynor (Weedsport/Weedsport). The AU offense was pressured all day by a stifling Ithaca defense. For the game, the Saxons managed only 129 yards of offense (75 rushing, 54 passing) and were forced to punt on nine of their first 10 possessions. Ithaca, meanwhile, racked up 474 yards in offense, with senior quarterback Brian Young (Hornell/Hornell) throwing for 200 yards and three scores, two to tight end Conor Mulkeen. Senior tailback Tommy Giorgio led the Ithaca ground attack with 92 yards and a score. Raynor finished the game with 62 yards on the ground and saw his streak of games with at least 100 yards rushing end at five. AU senior quarterback Todd Zandrowicz (East Aurora/East Aurora) completed nine of 25 passes for 54 yards, with senior split end Brian Keenan (Canandaigua/Canandaigua) hauling in four catches for 29 yards. Senior defensive tackle Todd Strong (Deposit/Deposit) led the AU defense with 11 tackles, including two for losses, while sophomore linebackers Erich Ely (Jordan/Jordan-Albridge) and Nick Hawryschuk (Seneca Falls/Mynderse) tallied 10 and nine tackles, respectively. Sophomore cornerback Vinnie Adamo (Fayetteville/Fayetteville-Manlius) had seven tackles and an interception. Senior linebacker Mark McDonough led the Ithaca defense with eight tackles (four for losses) and a sack. Alfred will try to bounce back next week when the Saxons host St. Lawrence at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, Sept. 15, at Merrill Field.