

Alfred University football team up one spot Division III rankings

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ALFRED, NY The Alfred University football team moved up one spot, to 11th, in the D3football.com national poll released today. The Saxons (7-0, 4-0 Empire 8) improved from 12th in the polls after Saturday's 53-21 defeat of visiting Husson College. Alfred's seven wins to start the season are the most for an AU football team since the 1981 Saxons finished the regular season 10-0 en route to the schools first and only trip to the NCAA Division III championship tournament. At 4-0, Alfred stands alone atop the Empire 8 Conference standings. AU will end the regular season with three straight road games: at Hobart next Saturday (Oct. 27), at Ithaca (Nov. 3), and at St. John Fisher (Nov. 10). Kickoff for all three games is 1 p.m. Ithaca and Fisher are the Saxons' final Empire 8 Conference foes. Fisher is in second place in the conference with a 4-1 Empire 8 mark. If Fisher beats visiting Utica on Saturday, the AU-Fisher contest Nov. 10 will be for the Empire 8 title and an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championships. Last Saturday's win over Husson was the 60th at AU for head coach Dave Murray. Two school records were tied by sophomore wide receiver Jared Manzer (Johnson City, NY/Johnson City). His 90-yard punt return for a TD tied the record for longest punt return. His three touchdown receptions also tied the school single-game record, shared with former Saxons Charles Young (vs. Hamilton, 1971) and Joe Haven (vs. Brockport, 1989).