

## **AU's Baker makes consolation finals in 100-yard backstroke at NCAA meet**

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HOUSTON, TX - Alfred University sophomore Matt Baker (Weedsport, NY/Weedsport) placed ninth Friday in the preliminary heats of the 100-yard backstroke at the NCAA Division III swimming and diving championships, hosted by the University of Houston. Baker, who qualified to compete in the NCCAs in the 100-yard back, just missed out in a spot in this evening's finals. The top eight swimmers make the finals and Baker's time of 51.62 seconds was five-hundredths of a second off the eighth-place swimmer's pace. Baker will swim in the consolation finals this evening. His ninth-place showing in the preliminaries means he'll earn All-American honorable mention. All-America certification is reserved for the top eight swimmers in an event, while those who place 9-16 earn honorable mention. Baker is the first swimmer to earn All-American honors since Kevin Martin in 2005. Baker will swim in the 200-yard backstroke on Saturday. The 200-yard back and the 50-yard freestyle were two optional events Baker was permitted to swim in addition to the 100-yard backstroke. He swam the 50-yard freestyle Thursday, placing 43rd.