

## AU men's swimming and diving team falls to second after day two at states

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SYRACUSE, NY - The Alfred University men's swimming and diving team dropped into second place after the second day of competition at the Upper New York State Collegiate Swimming Association (UNYSCSA) Championship meet, being held through Saturday at Nottingham High School in Syracuse. The Saxons, who led after the first day of competition Thursday, now have 797.50 points and trail meet leader Hartwick (840 points). The championship meet will conclude Saturday as AU attempts to win its second state championship in four years and defend its Empire 8 Conference crown. Senior Brian Gotham (Syracuse, NY/Nottingham) won the Saxons' first individual state title when he took first in the 100-yard breaststroke with an NCAA "B" cut time of 58.16 seconds. It was Gotham's third straight state title in the 100 breaststroke. On Saturday, he'll defend the 200-yard breaststroke state championship he won a year ago. Freshman Brian Agro (Grey, ME/Cheverus) was fifth in the same race (59.88 seconds), while senior Alex Crowell (Wayland, MA/Wayland) was sixth (1:00.10). Other top performers for the Saxons on Friday included sophomore Page Beecher (Scarborough, ME/Scarborough), second in the 400-yard individual medley. His time of 4:10.41 established a new school record and earned Beecher an NCAA "B" provisional cut. Junior Brandon Striker (Caledonia, NY/York) was second in the 200-yard freestyle (1:43.45, NCAA "B" cut), while freshman Mark Baker (Weedsport, NY/Weedsport) was seventh (1:47.32). Freshman Matt Baker (Weedsport, NY/Weedsport) was second in the 100-yard backstroke. His time of 52.28 seconds earned him an NCAA "B" provisional cut. The Saxons won a state title in the 800-yard freestyle relay as Gotham, Mark Baker, Beecher and Striker met NCAA "B" cut qualifying standards with a time of 6:58.13. Earlier in the day, the team of Matt Baker, Gotham, Striker and Crowell placed second in the 200-yard medley relay. Their NCAA "B" cut time of 1:34.51 set a new school record. The state meet concludes Saturday with the 1,650-yard freestyle, 200-yard backstroke, 100-yard freestyle, 200-yard breaststroke, 200-yard butterfly, 3-meter diving and 400-yard freestyle relay.