

Alfred University softball players earn weekly Empire 8 honors

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ALFRED Two members of the Alfred University softball team have earned weekly honors from the Empire 8 Conference. Senior catcher Sarah Mizer (Foster, RI/Ponaganset) has been named Player of the Week, while senior Brandi Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton) was named Co-Pitcher of the Week. The conference honors are for games played the week ending April 5. Mizer went 4-for-8 with three RBIs and two runs scored in doubleheader split at Fredonia. Her homerun in the opener, a 5-2 Alfred victory, was her sixth career homer, tying her with former Saxon standout Tara Harwood for the school's all-time mark. Backus was the winning pitcher in AU's 5-2 victory over Fredonia. She threw a complete game, scattering six hits while striking out three and allowing one earned run. At the plate, she had a hit and drove in a run. Backus shared Pitcher of the Week honors with Elmira senior Ashley Szalach. The Empire 8 Conference is made up of Alfred University, Elmira College, Hartwick College, Ithaca College, Nazareth College, Rochester Institute of Technology, St. John Fisher College and Utica College.