AU softball team sweeps Pitt-Bradford 3/20/12



HORNELL, NY - The Alfred University softball team swept a doubleheader from visiting Pitt-Bradford Tuesday afternoon at Hornell High School. Freshman Jessica O'Sullivan (Groton, MA/Groton Dunstable Regional) tossed a three-hit shutout and freshman first baseman Alison Wickwire (Towanda, PA/Towanda) belted a fourth-inning grand slam as the Saxons took the opener, 4-0. In the nightcap, Wickwire got the complete-game win in extra innings after junior second baseman Maressa Mistretta (Shirley, NY/Longwood) scored on a fielder's choice in the bottom of the eighth in a 2-1 Saxon victory. With the doubleheader sweep, Alfred improves to 7-7 on the season. In the first game, O'Sullivan was locked in a duel with Pitt-Bradford hurler Sydney Mosby when AU loaded the bases with one out in the bottom of the fourth. Wickwire's drive over the centerfield fence provided all the support O'Sullivan would need, as the freshman struck out six and walked three to improve to 4-2 on the season. Mosby allowed four earned runs on four hits (three in the fourth inning), striking out one and walking one. Sophomore Stephanie Arguello (Placentia, CA/Vista del Lago), sophomore third baseman Jessica Warner (Runnemede, NJ/Triton) and senior leftfielder Angela Netta (Rahway, NJ/Mother Seton Regional) each had a hit for AU. Sophomore Danielle Mastropierro (Randolph, NJ/Randolph), sophomore rightfielder Rachel Guszick (Sparrowbush, NY/Port Jervis) (walk) and Netta scored ahead of Wickwire's slam. Centerfielder Lauren Kinniburgh (double), rightfielder Jamie Winzeler and leftfielder Olivia Taylor had a hit for Pitt-Bradford. In the second game, Wickwire tossed six-plus innings of shutout ball before the Panthers (1-13) scored with one out in the top of the seventh to knot the score at 1-1. AU went down 1-2-3 in the bottom of the frame and Wickwire set Pitt-Bradford down in order in the top of the eighth. In the bottom half of the eighth, Mistretta led off with a single, advanced to second on a passed ball and then to third on a wild pitch. Freshman centerfielder Alyson Hampton (Oxnard, CA/Oxnard) then hit a groundball that the Panther third baseman couldn't handle and Mistretta slid home with the game-winning run. Alfred took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the fifth, when Guszick was hit by a pitch leading off, was sacrificed to second, advanced to third on a groundout and scored on a wild pitch. Warner and sophomore first baseman Jacqueline Tomisman (Niskayuna, NY/Niskayuna) each went 1-for-3 for the Saxons. Wickwire allowed an earned run on five hits, striking out four and walking a pair. Winzeler was 2-for-4 with a double and third baseman Heidi Lucke also doubled. Mosby (one hit in two innings, three strikeouts) took the loss in relief of starter Krista Jacobs, who allowed an earned run on two hits over five innings, striking out three and walking three. Alfred is in action next for a 3 p.m. doubleheader at Penn College on Friday, March 23.