

## **Alfred University softball team notches second win in Florida**

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ORLANDO, FL The Alfred University softball team won its second game of the season, 5-2 over Heidelberg Thursday afternoon in Orlando, FL. The Lady Saxons dropped their other game Thursday, a tough 9-8 extra-inning loss to Loras, and lost their Friday morning game, 8-0 to Concordia in five innings. Alfred, which wraps up its 10-game spring trip in Orlando this afternoon against Walsh, now has a record of 2-6. One of the team's scheduled games last Sunday, against Kean, was cancelled due to rain and will not be made up. The Lady Saxons began Thursday on a high note, jumping out to a 4-0 fourth-inning lead. Heidelberg scored twice in the fourth to cut AU's lead in half, but the Lady Saxons added an insurance run in the sixth. Sophomore pitcher Jenny Rae Skinner (Friendship/Friendship) hurled seven strong innings for Alfred, allowing four hits while striking out four. Senior third baseman Jen Benson (Warren, PA/Warren) had two hits and scored twice and junior shortstop Tara Harwood (Hornell/Hornell) had a hit and scored a pair of runs. Alfred came up on the short end of an exciting 10-inning game with Loras Thursday afternoon. With Loras leading 9-7 in the bottom of the 10th inning, Alfred scored a run to make it 9-8 and had the bases loaded with only one out before a pair of fly outs ended the Lady Saxons' comeback bid. Loras led by a run in the third and seventh innings, but AU came back to tie the contest each time. In the eighth, AU appeared doomed as Loras scored three times in the top of the inning to go ahead 6-3. But the Lady Saxons plated three runs of their own to extend the contest. In the ninth, Loras scored a go ahead run to lead 7-6, and again Alfred answered. Loras scored twice in the top of the 10th to go up 9-7 and AU fell just short in yet another comeback bid, scoring a single run in the bottom of the frame. Sophomore pitcher Brandi Backus (Mt. Upton/Gilbertsville-Mt. Upton) pitched eight innings and allowed six runs before Skinner relieved her in the ninth. Sophomore leftfielder Alicia DeAndrea (Clarks Summit, PA/Abington Heights) led AU at the plate with four hits and three runs scored, while junior outfielder Michelle Whiteside (Caledonia/Caledonia-Mumford) and Backus had three and two hits respectively. Alfred lost its morning contest on Friday, 8-0 to Concordia in game which was halted after five innings. Skinner pitched all five innings to take the loss. The Alfred bats were silent as the Lady Saxons could muster only two hits: one apiece by Benson and Harwood. Alfred completes its spring trip with a Friday afternoon game against Walsh.