

AU softball team sweeps Pitt-Bradford

4/30/13



BRADFORD, PA The Alfred University softball team rallied from two runs down in the sixth inning before claiming a 6-3 extra-inning win to complete a doubleheader sweep of host Pitt-Bradford Tuesday afternoon. The Saxons won the first game, 13-5, in six innings.

In the second game, Alfred (21-15) trailed 2-0 after five innings before plating the tying runs in the top of the sixth. After AU went ahead with a run in the top of the seventh, Pitt-Bradford tied the game with a run in the bottom of the frame. The Saxons scored three in the top of the eighth on a three-run homerun by junior outfielder Samijo Scheer (Corning, NY/Corning East), then shut down the Panthers to secure the win.

Scheer had two hits and four RBIs to lead the Saxon bats. Freshman shortstop Nicole Maher (Newark, DE/Caravel Academy) was 2-for-4 with a double, two runs scored and one driven in, and freshman third baseman Dana Torchia (Pompton Plains, NJ/Pequannock Twp.) was 2-for-4 with a run and an RBI. Maher's RBI double and Scheer's run-scoring single tied the game at 2-2 in the sixth and Torchia's RBI single put the Saxons briefly ahead (3-2) in the seventh.

Sophomore Alison Wickwire (Towanda, PA/Towanda) got the pitching start for AU, going four innings and allowing two runs (one earned) on three hits. Sophomore Samantha Jo Muller (Port Jervis, NY/Port Jervis) went the final four innings, allowing an unearned run and striking out four to improve to 4-2. Muller got out of a bases-loaded, one-out jam in the bottom of the seventh by starting a pitcher-catcher-first base double play that ended the inning.

In the opener, Alfred led 10-0 before the hosts scored five in the bottom of the fifth. The Saxons plated three in the top of the sixth, then held Pitt-Bradford scoreless in the bottom of the inning to take the run-rule victory.

Senior first baseman Hana Gross (Union, NJ/Union) was 2-for-3 with a double, a run scored and two RBIs. Maher (double) and Scheer each went 2-for-3 with two runs and an RBI; senior second baseman Maressa Mistretta (Shirley, NY/Longwood) scored three runs and junior outfielder Rachel Guszick (Sparrowbush, NY/Port Jervis) had two RBIs.

Sophomore pitcher Jessica O'Sullivan (Habersham, SC/Groton-Dunstable (MA) Regional) got the win to improve to 11-4. She allowed five earned runs on four hits in 4 2/3 innings before Muller finished up with 1 1/3 innings of hitless relief.

Alfred wraps up its regular season with a 3 p.m. doubleheader at Keuka College on Wednesday, May 1. The Saxons then take the field at the Empire 8 Conference Championship tournament at Utica College May 3-5. Alfred, the fourth seed in the four-team double-elimination tournament, takes on top-seeded Utica at noon Friday. The winner of the tournament earns the conference's automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championships.