

AU softball team drops five of first six on Florida trip

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FORT MYERS, FL -- The Alfred University women's softball team lost five of its first six games on its spring trip to Florida. On Sunday, the Lady Saxons (1-5, 0-0 Empire 8) dropped a 10-2 decision to Olivet before falling to Rockford, 7-4. Against Olivet, senior centerfielder Heidi Brooks (Wayland, NY/Wayland-Cohocton) went 1-3 with a double. Freshman catcher Nicole Messura (Albion, NY/Albion) and senior first baseman Emilie Vicchio (Shaker Heights, OH/Shaker Heights) each scored a run for Alfred. Senior Brittany Curran (Alfred, NY/Alfred-Almond) went the distance on the mound for AU, allowing five earned runs and striking out six. In the game against Rockford, AU held a 4-1 lead going into the seventh inning but Rockford scored six runs, all unearned, to take the victory. Vicchio went 1-3 with two RBIs, a run scored and a stolen base. Brooks, Messura and senior outfielder Adrienne Egglinger (Amityville, NY/Amityville) each had a hit. Curran allowed seven runs, all unearned, in seven innings, striking out seven. On Monday, AU earned its first win of the year, shutting out Emmanuel, 1-0. Curran got the shutout by scattering six hits over seven innings and striking out five. She and Vicchio each had a base hit. Alfred scored its lone run in the fourth inning when senior Samantha Salmon (Hornell, NY/Avoca) hit a single to drive in junior outfielder Amy Plank (Hornell, NY/Hornell), who had tripled. In the second game Monday, Alfred fell to Emerson, 7-1. Brooks went 2-3 and Curran and Plank each went 1-3. Brooks pitched four innings, allowing three earned runs and striking out six. Curran went two innings on the mound for Alfred, striking out three and allowing one earned run on four hits. The Lady Saxons lost both games Tuesday, falling 7-1 to Curry and 9-3 to Tri-State. Against Curry, Brooks hit a homerun and Plank and Egglinger went 1-3 and 2-3, respectively. Curran threw six innings and allowed seven runs (three earned) on eight hits while striking out seven. Curran went 1-3 with two runs driven in as Alfred lost to Tri-State. Brooks had a hit and a run scored and Vicchio an RBI. Freshman infielder Katelyn Dermody (Bergen, NY/Byron-Bergen) went 1-1 with two runs scored. Brooks started on the mound for Alfred, allowing three earned runs on five hits while striking out three in four innings. Curran pitched two innings and allowed five earned runs on three hits, striking out a pair. Alfred plays next on Thursday when the Lady Saxons take on Penn State-Behrend at 11 a.m. and Pine Manor at 1 p.m. AU wraps up its trip with a pair of games Friday: at 5 p.m. against Siena Heights and at 7 p.m. against Salve Regina.