

Four members of AU softball team earn Empire 8 all-conference honors

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ALFRED, NY Four members of the Alfred University softball team have been named Empire 8 Conference all-stars, the conference announced today. All four AU conference all-stars selections are freshmen. Pitcher Ilana Price (Wilton, CT/Brien McMahon), utility player Holly Seidewand (Webster, NY/Webster Thomas), and outfielder Jessica Figallo (Ridgewood, NJ/Ridgewood) were named Second Team all-stars. Second baseman Jordan Siefer (Sylvania, OH/Sylvania Southview) was given honorable mention. Price went 16-5 with a 1.88 earned run average, 97 strikeouts and only 31 walks during the regular season. Her 16 wins and six shutouts are both new school single-season records. Among her shutouts were a pair of no-hitters, including an April 9 perfect game against Hilbert. She also batted .309 with 10 runs batted in. In Empire 8 play, Price was 4-4 with a 2.77 ERA and 32 strikeouts. Seidewand, a pitcher-outfielder who also saw limited time in the infield for the Lady Saxons, has a .361 batting average with a team-leading 39 hits (including two homeruns) to go with 21 RBIs and a .500 slugging percentage. She was 3-7 on the mound with 68 strikeouts and had a .957 fielding percentage. Figallo batted .258 overall with 16 runs scored and six driven in and was six-of-seven on stolen base attempts. She hit .364 in 12 Empire 8 games, with a .500 slugging percentage and a perfect 1.000 fielding percentage. For all games, Figallo had a .976 fielding percentage with four outfield assists. Siefer batted .300 during the regular season with a .427 slugging percentage and a .364 on-base percentage. She scored 28 runs (a new school single-season record) and was third on the team with 33 hits (two homeruns). Siefer had a team-high 10 stolen bases in 12 attempts and her 60 assists tied for the team lead. In Empire 8 play, she batted .278 with three runs scored and six runs driven in. Each season, the Empire 8 honors students-athletes from each conference school, who play on teams sponsored by the conference, with Sportsperson of the Year awards. Honorees, chosen by their coaches, exhibited outstanding sportsmanship in keeping with the conference's mission of "competing with honor and integrity." Alfred's honoree from the softball team is freshman second baseman/outfielder Caitlin Bangs (Ithaca, NY/Ithaca). Alfred finished the 2007 regular season with a 21-14 record. The 21 wins is a new single-season record. The Lady Saxons were chosen to play in the four-team ECAC Upstate championship tournament, which will be held Saturday and Sunday, May 12 and 13, at RPI. AU is the fourth-seeded team in the double-elimination tournament and will play top-seeded RPI on Saturday at 10 a.m. The other participating teams are second-seeded Union and third-seeded St. John Fisher.