

## **AU softball team earns bid to ECAC Upstate Championship tournament**

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SCHENECTADY, NY The Alfred University softball team has been chosen to compete in this week's Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Upstate Championship tournament, being held Wednesday, Saturday and Sunday, May 7, 10 and 11, at Union College. Alfred (22-11) will be the third seed in the five-team tournament, which will be hosted by top seed Union (29-6). Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (26-11) is seeded second and SUNY Oneonta (21-19) and Medaille (21-14) are seeded fourth and fifth, respectively. Medaille will play at Oneonta on Wednesday, at a time to be announced. The winner will advance to play in the double elimination portion of the tournament on Saturday at 10 a.m. against Union in Game 1. RPI will play Alfred at noon Saturday in Game 2. In the afternoon, the loser of Game 1 and the loser of Game 2 will play an elimination game (Game 3) at 2 p.m., while the winner of Games 1 and 2 will square off in the winner's bracket (Game 4) at 4 p.m. On Sunday, the winner of Game 3 and the loser of Game 4 will meet in an elimination game at 10 a.m., with the winner advancing to meet the winner of Game 4 at noon for the championship. If necessary, a Game 7 will be played immediately following Game 6 to complete the double elimination format. Alfred is in the midst of the softball program's best season ever. The Saxons' 22 wins are one short of the school single-season record of 23 established last year. AU went 8-4 in the Empire 8 Conference (tied for second place), by far the team's best showing in conference play. AU will be making its second straight appearance in the ECAC Upstate Championships. Last year, Alfred went 2-2 in the tournament, twice beating RPI and losing twice to top-seeded Union, the second time coming in the tournament title game. AU competed in last weekend's Empire 8 Conference championship tournament, going 1-2, with a win over Nazareth and a pair of losses to eventual conference champion St. John Fisher.