

AU softball team seeded second in Empire 8 Conference Championships

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ITHACA, NY The Alfred University softball team is the second seed in the four-team Empire 8 Conference championship tournament, which is being held this weekend, May 2 and 3. The championship tournament is being played at top-seeded Ithaca College. The winner of the double-elimination tournament will earn an automatic bid to the NCAA Division III championships. In the event of inclement weather, the Empire 8 has set aside Sunday, May 4, to make up any postponed tournament contests. Alfred (21-9, 8-4 Empire 8) opens tournament play Friday at 10 a.m. against third-seeded St. John Fisher. Alfred split its two games with Fisher this year, winning the first game of their April 19 doubleheader, 7-5, and dropping the second game, 5-3. The other first-round game, between top-seeded Ithaca and fourth-seeded Nazareth College, is at noon on Friday. The losers of the AU-Fisher and Ithaca-Nazareth games will play at 2 p.m. Friday, in Game 3, with the loser of that game eliminated from the tournament. The winners of the AU-Fisher and Ithaca-Nazareth games will play at 2 p.m. Friday, in Game 4. The loser of Game 4 will take on the winner of Game 3 at 11 a.m. Saturday, in Game 5. The loser of Game 5 will be eliminated, while the winner will advance to play the winner of Game 4 at 1 p.m. Saturday, in Game 6. Game 7, if necessary, will be at 3 p.m. Saturday. The only way Game 7 will be necessary will be if the loser of Game 6 has only one loss.