

AU softball team shuts out Keuka in doubleheader sweep

4/15/10



HORNELL, NY - The Alfred University softball team shut out visiting Keuka twice in a doubleheader sweep Thursday afternoon at Hornell High School. AU (18-4) won the opener, 7-0, with sophomore pitcher Nicole Hedrick (Albany, NY/Catholic Central) tossing a two-hit shutout. Hedrick also earned the victory in the Saxons' 1-0 win in the nightcap, throwing 2 2/3 innings in relief to improve her record to 8-3 on the season. Hedrick helped herself in the first game, leading off with her team-leading seventh homerun. Sophomore third baseman Molly Shepherd (Camillus, NY/West Genesee) followed with a double and came around to score on a sacrifice fly by junior first baseman Ashley Passaro (Long Beach, NY/Long Beach) and AU led 2-0 after one. The Saxons added an insurance run in the fifth on Passaro's RBI single, and put the game out of reach with four in the sixth. Senior third baseman Jesika LeBarron (Campbell, NY/Corning West) led off the sixth with her first homerun of the year and two batters later, with runners on first and second and two outs, Shepherd hit a ground-rule double to drive in a run. Sophomore designated hitter Shanna Ewoldt (Tuscon, AZ/Waubansie Valley) followed with a two-run triple to give AU the 7-0 lead. Shepherd finished 3-for-4 with a pair of doubles and two runs and Ewoldt and Passaro each drove in a pair. Hedrick, who scored two runs, struck out six and walked one to earn her second shutout of the year. Morgan Englebert and Terin Brown each had a hit for Keuka (12-6). Allison Richter took the loss, allowing seven runs on 12 hits and striking out three in six innings. In the second game, freshman catcher Emily Fenton (Thorofare, NJ/West Deptford) broke a scoreless tie in the bottom of the sixth with a two-out RBI double, scoring Shepherd from second base. Hedrick relieved junior Chelsey Cary (Corfu, NY/Pembroke) with one out in the fifth and runners on first and second. She got out of the jam with a strikeout and a groundout and held the Storm hitless the rest of the way, striking out three and walking none. Fenton had two doubles and an RBI for the Saxons, who were held to four hits by Keuka hurler Cherie Smith (two strikeouts, four walks). Sophomore leftfielder Angela Netta (Rahway, NJ/Mother Seton Regional) and Shepherd each had a base hit for AU and Hedrick stole her team-leading 12th base. Cary allowed only two hits and struck out seven in 4 1/3 shutout innings, but walked three and hit a batter. Brittany Smyder and Sarah Fredricks each hit singles for Keuka. Alfred is in action next on Saturday, April 17, for a 1 p.m. Empire 8 Conference doubleheader against visiting Stevens, at Hornell High School.