

AU softball team's Folts, Seidewand honored by Empire 8 Conference

4/29/08

ALFRED, NY Karen Folts (Penn Yan, NY/Penn Yan) and Holly Seidewand (Webster, NY/Webster Thomas), sophomores on the Alfred University softball team, have earned weekly honors from the Empire 8 Conference. Folts, a shortstop, was named conference Player of the Week, and Seidewand, a pitcher-utility player, was named the conference's Co-Pitcher of the Week. They were honored for their play in eight games last week, all Lady Saxon wins. Folts batted .545 (12-for-22) with nine runs batted in and seven runs scored as Alfred won all eight of its games and clinched the second seed in the conference tournament. She hit four doubles and two triples during the week. Folts went 5-for-6 with two runs scored and three RBI in the Saxons' doubleheader sweep of Elmira that clinched a spot in the tournament. Seidewand allowed just one run in 27 innings, posting a 5-0 record in a week in which Alfred clinched the second seed for the conference championship tournament. She yielded only 15 hits and struck out 16 in the five appearances. She threw a complete game five-hitter to defeat Utica in the first game of a doubleheader and tossed three shutout innings of one-hit ball in relief as the Saxons came back to win the second game 5-4. Seidewand shares the weekly pitching honor with Nazareth's Lisa Nazarenko. Alfred (21-9, 8-4 Empire 8) is the second seed in the four-team Empire 8 Conference championship tournament, being held Friday and Saturday, May 2 and 3, at Ithaca College. AU opens play in the double-elimination tournament on Friday at 10 a.m. against third-seeded St. John Fisher. The winner of the tournament earns an automatic berth to the NCAA Division III championships.