

SPORTS

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CIF-SS DIV. 7 SOFTBALL 1ST ROUND AAE turns away Noli Indian

By JACK TUCKER ~ FOR THE DAILY PRESS

APPLE VALLEY • Academy of Academic Excellence's Cassie Williams tossed a one-hitter in a 22-0 victory over Noli Indian in the first round of CIF Southern Section Division 7 softball playoffs Thursday.

The game was called after six innings.

"I liked the way our bats came alive," AAE coach Brian Frederick said. "I think we did very well when we got balls to hit.

"I'm proud of the team. They did what we planned to do today."

The second-seeded Knights will now travel to face Pacifica Christian, which won its first round matchup 5-3 against Maricopa.

Williams was on top of her game as the left-hander allowed just one hit, a one-out bloop single to right field by Alyssa Salgado in the top of the third inning. Williams didn't allow a walk and finished with 12 strikeouts including striking out the side in the first, second and sixth innings.

While improving to 12-2 in the circle, Williams also sparkled offensively. She came up a single short of hitting for the cycle. Williams had a one-out RBI double in the first inning then added an RBI triple in the bottom of the second and a two-run double in the fourth. Her final hit of the day was a three run, inside-the-park home run. Williams finished 4-for-4 with four runs scored, a walk and six RBIs.

AAE (16-4) got all the runs it needed in the first inning. The Knights sent 10 batters to the plate and scored five runs.

Haley Perea led off the game with a walk. She then stole second and with one out and scored when Williams doubled down the left field line. Brianna Frederick hit a triple to score Williams, then Frederick came home on a wild pitch. Victoria Edwards and Victoria Bonato each drew a walk and scored a run. Edwards scored on a wild pitch and Bonato stole home.

The Braves' four pitchers combined to strike out six but they also issued 18 walks and 15 wild pitches.

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L. Miranda, J. Castello (2), Wispert (2), L. Miranda (4) and K. Castello; Williams and Edwards. WP — Williams (12-2). LP — L. Miranda. 2B — Williams 2 (A). 3B — Williams (A), Frederick (A). HR — Williams (A).

