



2026 Athletes Unlimited Softball League Season: Game #1  
Durham, North Carolina (Smith Family Stadium)

Tuesday, June 9, 2026  
5 p.m. ET/4 p.m. CT

SCORE BY INNING	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	R	H	E	LOB
Cascade (0-1)	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	1	4	0	5
Blaze (1-0)	0	0	0	3	1	0	X	4	6	2	7

**Winning Pitcher:** Aleshia Ocasio (1-0) | **Losing Pitcher:** Kelly Maxwell (0-1) | **Save:** Keilani Ricketts (1) | **Time of Game:** 1:52

HOME RUNS	NO.	PITCHER	INN.	ROB	OUT	COUNT	LOCATION
Devyn Netz	1	Mariah Mazón	5	0	0		CF

**The Quick Story:** The Carolina Blaze (1-0) scored four unanswered runs to earn a 4-1 victory over the Portland Cascade (0-1) to open the 2026 Athletes Unlimited Softball League regular season at Smith Family Stadium on Tuesday evening.

**Key Moment:** After allowing a run in the third inning, Carolina plated four runs across the fourth and fifth innings. Pitcher **Aleshia Ocasio** put the Blaze on the board with an RBI single up the middle. Infielder **Aubrey Leach** raked in two runs on a single to complete a three-run outburst in the fourth inning. Utility player **Devyn Netz** nailed the exclamation mark with the first home run of the season to increase the lead to 4-1. The Blaze maintained the advantage behind the strong effort in relief by pitcher **Keilani Ricketts**, who earned the save.

## CASCADE NOTES



- Infielder **Sis Bates** recorded the first hit in franchise history with a single down the left field line in the top of the third inning ... Bates accounted for two of Portland's four hits.
- Outfielder **Kendra Falby** followed Bates' single with the first double of the 2026 AUUSL regular season, driving in Bates for the first run of the season... The play also marked the first RBI, double and run scored in the Cascade's franchise history... The double also was the first of Falby's professional career.
- Pitcher **Kelly Maxwell** (0-1) took the loss in her AUUSL debut... Maxwell struck out three while allowing three earned runs on four hits.

**Cascade's Next Game:** Wednesday, June 10 at Carolina Blaze (Durham, N.C.) | 8:00 p.m. ET/7:00 p.m. CT

## BLAZE NOTES



- The Carolina Blaze's victory marked the team's first win at Smith Family Stadium in Durham.
- The Blaze improved to 1-1 all-time in Opening Day contests.
- Utility player **Kayla Kowalik** recorded the first hit of the 2026 AUUSL regular season with a single down the right-field line... The hit also marked the first in franchise history for the Blaze in Carolina.
- Pitcher **Aleshia Ocasio** recorded the Blaze's first RBI of the season with a single in the fourth inning.
- Infielder **Aubrey Leach** delivered the first two-run single of the season.
- Utility player **Devyn Netz** launched the first home run of the season with a blast to center field... The homer marks her second as a member of the Blaze.
- Pitcher **Aleshia Ocasio** added to her Opening Day performance with a solid effort in the circle, earning her first win of the season and second as a member of the Blaze... She struck out two over 4.0 innings of work and allowed just one earned run... Ocasio was also hit by a pitch twice, setting the team's single-game record.
- Pitcher **Keilani Ricketts** was dominant in relief, tossing 3.0 scoreless innings... She allowed one hit and struck out three to earn a save.
- Head coach **Kara Dill** picked up her first victory at the helm of the Blaze ... She served as an associate head coach for the team in the inaugural 2025 season.

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