



2026 Athletes Unlimited Softball League Season: Game #23  
Rosemont, Illinois (Parkway Bank Sports Complex)

Saturday, June 20, 2026  
Noon ET/11 a.m. CT

SCORE BY INNING	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E	LOB
Blaze (5-2)	3	0	3	0	2	8	8	0	1
Bandits (3-5)	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1	3

**Winning Pitcher:** Karlyn Pickens (4-0) | **Losing Pitcher:** Taylor McQuillin (1-2) | **Save:** n/a | **Time of Game:** 1:24

HOME RUNS	NO.	PITCHER	INN.	ROB	OUT	COUNT	LOCATION
Reese Atwood	3	Taylor McQuillin	1	1	1	0-0	RCF

**The Quick Story:** Pitcher **Karlyn Pickens** allowed just one hit and catcher **Reese Atwood** tallied three hits with four runs batted in as the Carolina Blaze (5-2) blanked the Chicago Bandits (3-5) with an 8-0 Athletes Unlimited Softball League verdict at Parkway Bank Sports Complex on Saturday afternoon.

**Key Moment:** The Blaze surged to a 3-0 lead in the first inning when Atwood blasted a three-run home run to right center field with one out in the frame. Pickens, meanwhile, did not allow a hit until the fourth inning when catcher **Mary Iakopo** singled up the middle.

## BLAZE NOTES



- The Blaze conceded just one hit against the Bandits on Saturday afternoon, matching the AUSL regular season record ... The Bandits gave up just one hit against the Blaze on June 20, 2025, at Wilkins Stadium in Wichita, Kansas.
- The top five hitters in Carolina's lineup accounted for all eight of the team's hits on Saturday afternoon.
- Carolina, which scored in the first inning for just the third time in seven games this season, had plated just two runs in the opening frame before its three-run outburst on Saturday.
- Carolina scored eight or more runs for the third time this season, which leads the AUSL.
- Pitcher **Karlyn Pickens** threw the first complete game one-hit shutout in AUSL regular season history after allowing one hit against the Bandits on Saturday ... It is also the fourth complete game shutout in AUSL regular season history, including the second instance this season.
- Catcher **Reese Atwood** launched the third home run of her rookie campaign in the top of the first inning.
- Atwood has now hit safely in four consecutive games following her home run in the first inning ... In addition, she has registered multiple hits in three of the four games during the streak.
- Infielder **Aubrey Leach** has reached base in all seven games this season after drawing a pair of walks in Saturday's matinee.
- Designated player **Kayla Kowalik** has recorded a hit in 6-of-7 games this season, including the last four outings in a row, after driving in two runs with a single in the third inning.
- Outfielder **Dakota Kennedy** has a hit in five of her last six games after posting a single through the left side in the first inning.

**Blaze's Next Game:** Sunday, June 21, at Chicago (8 p.m. ET/7 p.m. CT)

## BANDITS NOTES



- The Bandits were shut out for the second time this season ... They suffered a 1-0 loss against Utah on June 10 at Dumke Family Softball Stadium.
- Outfielder **Morgan Zerkle** recorded her 500th career at-bat across all Athletes Unlimited competitions when she led off the bottom of the first inning.
- Zerkle failed to reach base safely for the first time in eight games this season after going 0-for-2 against the Blaze on Saturday.
- Catcher **Mary Iakopo** ran her on-base streak to seven straight games after being hit by a pitch in the second inning ... She also upped her hitting streak to seven games after ending the Blaze's no-hit bid with a single in the fourth inning.
- Pitcher **Taylor McQuillin** dropped to 1-2 in the circle after giving up six runs, including five earned runs, on five hits in 2.1 innings.
- Pitcher **Amber Fiser** made her second relief appearance of the season by securing a pair of strikeouts to close the third inning ... She threw 3.0 innings in relief against Utah on June 11, allowing just one hit with three strikeouts.

**Bandits' Next Game:** Sunday, June 21 vs. Carolina (8 p.m. ET/7 a.m. CT)



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Carolina Blaze 8 (5-2)

Chicago Bandits 0 (3-5)

Player	ab	r	h	rbi	bb	so	po	a	lob	avg
A Gold 3b	3	1	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	.250
A Leach 2b	1	3	1	0	2	0	0	1	0	.273
D Kennedy lf	3	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	.471
R Atwood c	3	3	3	4	0	0	5	0	0	.533
K Kowalik dp	3	0	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	.409
J Wright pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
D Netz 1b	2	0	0	0	0	1	6	0	0	.222
J Laird ph	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	.067
A Brito ss	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	1	1	.167
M Clark cf	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	.000
A Ocasio rf	2	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	0	.333
K Pickens p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3	0	-
Totals	22	8	8	6	2	4	15	6	1	

Player	ab	r	h	rbi	bb	so	po	a	lob	avg
M Zerkle cf	2	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	.308
E Coffel ss	1	0	0	0	1	0	2	1	0	.300
T Bell dp	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	.308
S Williams 3b	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	.476
M Iakopo c	1	0	1	0	0	0	5	0	0	.444
K Sand pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
J Erickson 1b	2	0	0	0	0	1	6	1	1	.174
J Clements lf	2	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	0	.118
E Butler rf	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	.333
A Agbayani 2b	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0	.261
T McQuillin p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
A Fiser p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	-
M Lopez p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	-
Totals	16	0	1	0	1	5	15	6	3	

Score by Innings	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
Carolina Blaze	3	0	3	0	2	8	8	0
Chicago Bandits	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

E - M Iakopo(1). LOB - Blaze 1; Bandits 3. 2B - A Gold(2). 3B - R Atwood(1). HR - R Atwood(3). HBP - M Iakopo.  
 SB - A Leach(2); J Wright(1).

Carolina Blaze	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	ab	bf	np	era	Chicago Bandits	ip	h	r	er	bb	so	ab	bf	np	era
K Pickens	5.0	1	0	0	1	5	16	18	71	1.47	T McQuillin	2.1	5	6	5	2	1	12	14	61	5.07
											A Fiser	0.2	0	0	0	2	2	2	10	2.58	
											M Lopez	2.0	3	2	2	0	1	8	8	35	10.04

Win - K Pickens (4-0). Loss - T McQuillin (1-2). Save - None.

HBP - by K Pickens (M Iakopo). Inherited runners/scored: A Fiser 2/1. Pitches/strikes: K Pickens 71/51; T McQuillin 61/32; A Fiser 10/7; M Lopez 35/20.

Umpires - HP: Scott Tomlinson 1B: Willie Lopez 3B: Tatem Stoelting

Start: 11:02 am Time: 1:24 Attendance:

Weather: Sunny and 75



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Score by Innings	1	2	3	4	5	R	H	E
Carolina Blaze	3	0	3	0	2	8	8	0
Chicago Bandits	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

Carolina Blaze starters: 4/3b A Gold; 7/5/2b A Leach; 22/lf D Kennedy; 15/c R Atwood; 99/dp K Kowalik; 34/1b D Netz; 33/ss A Brito; 86/cf M Clark; 8/lf A Ocasio; 23/p K Pickens;

Chicago Bandits 5th - D Netz to 1b for J Laird. J Clements grounded out to p (0-1 K). E Butler flied out to rf (1-0 B). A Agbayani grounded out to ss (1-0 B). 0 runs, 0 hits, 0 errors, 0 LOB.

Chicago Bandits starters: 18/cf M Zerkle; 21/ss E Coffel; 20/dp T Bell; 7/3b S Williams; 33/c M Iakopo; 12/1b J Erickson; 5/lf J Clements; 0/lf E Butler; 50/2b A Agbayani; 22/p T McQuillin;

Carolina Blaze 1st - A Gold struck out swinging (1-2 FKBS). A Leach walked (3-2 KBBFBB). A Leach stole second. D Kennedy singled through the left side (3-1 BFBB); A Leach advanced to third. R Atwood homered to right center, 3 RBI (0-0); D Kennedy scored; A Leach scored. K Kowalik grounded out to 2b (3-1 BFBB). D Netz lined out to ss (2-2 KBBF). 3 runs, 2 hits, 0 errors, 0 LOB.

Chicago Bandits 1st - M Zerkle grounded out to 2b (1-2 SBF). E Coffel walked (3-2 KBKBBFFB). T Bell struck out swinging (1-2 SSBFS). S Williams grounded out to p (0-2 KF). 0 runs, 0 hits, 0 errors, 1 LOB.

Carolina Blaze 2nd - A Brito grounded out to p (3-2 KBBBSF). M Clark lined out to cf (3-2 KFBBBFFF). A Ocasio popped up to c (3-2 FBFBB). 0 runs, 0 hits, 0 errors, 0 LOB.

Chicago Bandits 2nd - M Iakopo hit by pitch (1-2 KFB). K Sand pinch ran for M Iakopo. J Erickson struck out swinging (1-2 BKKFFFS). J Clements struck out swinging (2-2 KBBSS). E Butler struck out swinging (1-2 FBSS). 0 runs, 0 hits, 0 errors, 1 LOB.

Carolina Blaze 3rd - M Iakopo to c for K Sand. A Gold doubled to right field (3-2 BFFBB). A Leach walked (3-1 KBBBB). D Kennedy popped up to lf (0-0). R Atwood singled to center field (0-0); A Leach advanced to second; A Gold advanced to third. K Kowalik singled to right field, RBI; R Atwood advanced to third; A Leach scored; A Gold scored. J Wright pinch ran for K Kowalik. A Fiser to p for T McQuillin. D Netz struck out swinging (0-2 KFS). J Wright stole second; R Atwood scored on a throwing error by c, unearned. A Brito struck out swinging (3-2 BFKBFBS). 3 runs, 3 hits, 1 error, 1 LOB.

Chicago Bandits 3rd - K Kowalik to dp for J Wright. A Agbayani popped up to ss (1-1 BF). M Zerkle flied out to cf (1-1 FB). E Coffel grounded out to 3b (2-2 SSBB). 0 runs, 0 hits, 0 errors, 0 LOB.

Carolina Blaze 4th - M Lopez to p for A Fiser. M Clark struck out looking (3-2 BKFBBK). A Ocasio grounded out to 2b (1-1 BF). A Gold grounded out to ss (1-2 KKB). 0 runs, 0 hits, 0 errors, 0 LOB.

Chicago Bandits 4th - T Bell flied out to rf (1-1 FB). S Williams struck out looking (1-2 KBKK). M Iakopo singled to center field (0-2 FS). J Erickson grounded out to p (0-1 F). 0 runs, 1 hit, 0 errors, 1 LOB.

Carolina Blaze 5th - A Leach singled up the middle (1-2 KBK). D Kennedy grounded out to p (2-0 BB); A Leach advanced to second. R Atwood tripled to right field, RBI (3-1 BBKB); A Leach scored. K Kowalik singled through the left side, RBI (3-2 FBBKFB); R Atwood scored. J Laird pinch hit for D Netz. J Laird grounded out to 1b unassisted (1-1 BF); K Kowalik out at second 1b to ss. 2 runs, 3 hits, 0 errors, 0 LOB.



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Carolina Blaze 8 (5-2)

Player	[ plate appearances ]									vs		rbi	with	adv	with	lead	bases	runnr	rns	rns	2out	gnd	fly
	tpa	ab	h	bb	hbp	sh	sf	ci	left	right	ops	runrs	ops	2outs	off%	full	on3rd	adv	lob	rbi	out	out	
A Gold 3b	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	1-2	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	
A Leach 2b	3	1	1	2	0	0	0	0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	
D Kennedy lf	3	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	1-3	0-0	1-2	1-3	2-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	1	0	0	1	1	
R Atwood c	3	3	3	0	0	0	0	0	3-3	0-0	3-3	3-3	3-3	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	0	0	0	0	0	
K Kowalik dp	3	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	2-3	0-0	2-2	2-2	2-2	0-0	0-0	1-1	2-2	0	0	0	1	0	
J Wright pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	
D Netz 1b	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-1	0	0	0	0	1	
J Laird ph	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	
A Brito ss	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	1	0	
M Clark cf	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	
A Ocasio rf	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	1	
K Pickens p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	
Totals	24	22	8	2	0	0	0	0	8-20	0-2	6-9	6-11	7-11	0-4	2-5	1-1	3-4	1	1	0	6	4	

Chicago Bandits 0 (3-5)

Player	[ plate appearances ]									vs		rbi	with	adv	with	lead	bases	runnr	rns	rns	2out	gnd	fly
	tpa	ab	h	bb	hbp	sh	sf	ci	left	right	ops	runrs	ops	2outs	off%	full	on3rd	adv	lob	rbi	out	out	
M Zerkle cf	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	1
E Coffel ss	2	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	1	0
T Bell dp	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	1
S Williams 3b	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	1	0	0
M Iakopo c	2	1	1	0	1	0	0	0	0-0	1-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	1-1	1-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
K Sand pr	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
J Erickson 1b	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-2	0-2	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	1	0	0
J Clements lf	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	0	0
E Butler rf	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	1	0	0	0	1
A Agbayani 2b	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-1	0-1	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	1	1	0
T McQuillin p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A Fiser p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
M Lopez p	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0-0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	18	16	1	1	1	0	0	0	0-0	1-16	0-0	0-6	0-6	1-6	1-5	0-0	0-0	0	3	0	6	4	4

Carolina Blaze	[ batters faced ]													vs		with	with	lead	gnd	fly			
	ip	bf	ab	h	bb	hbp	sh	sf	ci	2b	3b	hr	wp	bk	kl	left	right	runrs	2outs	off%	out	out	np
K Pickens W,4-0	5.0	18	16	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0-8	1-8	0-6	1-6	1-5	6	4	71

Chicago Bandits	[ batters faced ]													vs		with	with	lead	gnd	fly			
	ip	bf	ab	h	bb	hbp	sh	sf	ci	2b	3b	hr	wp	bk	kl	left	right	runrs	2outs	off%	out	out	np
T McQuillin L,1-2	2.1	14	12	5	2	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	1-3	4-9	4-5	0-2	1-3	2	4	61
A Fiser	0.2	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0-0	0-2	0-2	0-1	0-0	0	0	10
M Lopez	2.0	8	8	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1	2-4	1-4	2-4	0-1	1-2	4	0	35