Cortland’s Mike Hubbs SUNYAC Pitcher of the Year for Second Straight Season; Eleven Red Dragons on All-League Squad; Joe Brown Named SUNYAC Coach of the Year

SUNY Cortland senior Mike Hubbs (Averill Park/Tamarac) has been chosen as the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) baseball Pitcher of the Year for the second straight season in a vote of the league’s coaches. In addition, Red Dragon fifth-year head coach Joe Brown has been tabbed as the league’s Coach of the Year.

Hubbs is one of 11 Cortland players to earn All-SUNYAC honors. Joining him on the all-league first team are senior third baseman Josh Young (Rochester/Brighton), senior outfielder Josh Horner (Groton), junior pitcher Matt Miller (Harrison) and freshman designated hitter Will Groff (Queensbury). Cortland players on the all-league second team are junior second baseman Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta), sophomore outfielder Jimmy Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic), sophomore outfielder Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker), senior catcher Matt Ellis (Owego Free Academy), junior pitcher Mike Burnett (Westfield) and senior infielder Neal Heaton Jr. (Bellport).

Hubbs was 4-0 with a 0.69 ERA in four regular-season league appearances. He allowed 20 hits and only five walks in 26 innings pitched and struck out 19. He gave up only two earned runs.

Young batted .333 in league play with three doubles, seven RBI and 17 runs scored. He was 7-for-7 on stolen base attempts and drew a team-high nine walks. Horner hit .322 in league action with two homers and a team-best 18 RBI.

Miller made four league starts, finishing 3-0 with two one-hit shutouts. He gave up only eight hits and five walks while fanning 23 batters in 23 innings. Opponents batted just .108 against him in his league outings. Groff enjoyed the team’s best batting average in league play at .458. He scored 10 runs and stole four bases in as many tries.

Newman batted .379 in league play with seven RBI and five steals. He did not make an error in 42 chances in the field. Basnight hit .356 with a homer, eight RBI, 10 runs scored and four steals. He handled 18 fielding chances without an error.

Mead finished league play with a .289 batting average, two homers, 10 RBI, 10 runs scored and six steals in six attempts. Ellis was a .381 hitter in league action with eight RBI.

Burnett made three league pitching appearances, throwing two complete games. He was 3-0 with a 1.11 ERA and allowed 16 hits in 24 and one-third innings. He struck out 21 batters and walked six. Heaton hit .324 in league regular-season games with a homer, three triples and eight RBI.

Brown guided the Red Dragons to a SUNYAC regular-season championship with a 13-1 record. Cortland is 26-13 overall and Brown presently has a five-year career record of 152-55.