SUNY Cortland Baseball
SUNY Cortland vs. York College
Saturday, March 20, 2004; York, Pa.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 15, York 4

YORK, PA. – Junior shortstop Nick Wilson (Auburn) went 5-for-6 with a homer and two RBI to lead a 23-hit attack as Cortland, ranked eighth nationally in Division III, defeated York College, 15-4. Cortland was originally scheduled to play Saturday and Sunday at Montclair State, but those games were postponed due to the weather. The Red Dragons were able instead to schedule a game at York on short notice.

Cortland hit four homers in the contest and scored in eight of nine innings. Senior Josh Horner (Groton) was 3-for-4 with a Homer, two RBI and three runs scored. Senior Josh Young (Rochester/Brighton) went 2-for-4 with a Homer and sophomore Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) was 3-for-5. Senior Neal Heaton Jr. (Bellport) added a round-tripper, sophomore Jimmy Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) was 3-for-5 with two doubles and two RBI and senior Pat D’Auria (Upper Nyack/Nyack) went 2-for-5 with two doubles and two RBI. Junior Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta) also turned in a multi-hit performance with a 2-for-3 effort in relief of Heaton at second base.

Junior Mike Burnett (Westfield) started and allowed just one hit and no runs in three innings. Since Cortland made a predetermination to pitch at least three pitchers, Burnett is credited with the victory despite not having pitched five innings. He left with a 7-0 lead that the Red Dragons did not relinquish. Junior Matt Miller (Harrison) allowed three hits and struck out five in three scoreless innings of relief. Junior Ken Hartling (Poughkeepsie/Arlington), the third of five Cortland pitchers, did not allow a run or a hit in one and two-third innings. He struck out two and walked one. York scored once in the eighth and three times in the ninth.

Scott Schlafer suffered the loss for York (9-4), giving up 10 hits and seven runs in two innings. Andy Puglisi went 4-for-5 with a double and two RBI for the Spartans.

Young hit the first pitch of the game over the centerfield fence to give the Red Dragons a 1-0 lead. Basnight’s RBI single and junior Nate Gagnon’s (Wilton/South Glens Falls) sacrifice fly increased the lead to 3-0 in the first. In the second inning, Horner’s RBI single and D’Auria’s two-run double upped the margin to 6-0. Solo homers by Heaton in the third, Wilson in the fifth and Horner in the sixth gave Cortland a 9-0 lead.

Cortland added a run in the seventh and sent 10 batters to the plate in a four-run eighth. Basnight doubled in a run in the inning, while sophomore Adam Sidebottom (Lockport/Stapleton), Wilson and Mead each added RBI singles. The Red Dragons’ final run came in the ninth when Basnight led off with a double and eventually scored on a groundout by senior Matt Ellis (Owego/Owego Free Academy).

Cortland 15, York 4

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Cortland: Mike Burnett (W, 2-0), Matt Miller (4), Ken Hartling (7), Ryan Ensel (8), Nick McPartland (9) and Kyle Bestine, Matt Ellis (5), Kevin Schellinger (9)
York: Scott Schlafer (L), Steve Pietrucza (3), Eric Yocum (6), Chris Collis (8) and Rajiv Subramanian

HR - Josh Young (C), Josh Horner (C), Neal Heaton Jr. (C), Nick Wilson (C)
2B - Pat D’Auria (C) 2, Jimmy Basnight (C) 2, Michael Welch (Y), Andy Puglisi (Y), Eric Velez (Y)