Cortland’s Mike Burnett Named NCBWA New York Region Pitcher of the Year; Andy Mead Selected as ECAC Upstate New York Player of the Year

SUNY Cortland senior Mike Burnett (Westfield) has been selected as the 2005 National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association (NCBWA) New York Region Division III Pitcher of the Year. Also, Cortland junior outfielder Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) has been chosen as the 2005 Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Upstate New York Player of the Year, and is joined on the ECAC all-star squad by Burnett and senior second baseman Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta).

Burnett finished the season with a 9-2 record and 2.03 earned run average. In 71 innings he allowed only 53 hits and 25 walks and struck out 60 batters. Opponents managed just a .212 batting average over Burnett's 13 appearances. During his three seasons at Cortland, Burnett totaled 21 victories and 172 strikeouts, both ranked sixth on Cortland’s career charts.

Mead led Cortland this spring with a .413 batting average, eight homers, 55 runs batted in and 59 runs scored. He also hit 13 doubles and two triples, stole nine bases and posted a team-high .502 on-base percentage. Mead was a second-team All-American and the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) Player of the Year, and was selected to the NCAA Division III World Series all-tournament team.

Newman batted .371 with three homers, 12 doubles, four triples and 41 RBI. He stole six bases and finished with a .970 fielding percentage at second base (seven errors in 237 total chances, including a school single-season record 146 assists). A third team All-American, Newman fashioned a 24-game hitting streak, tied for the second-longest in school history, early in the season and hit safely in 45 of his last 50 games, including nine of Cortland’s 10 NCAA tournament games.

Cortland finished the season 43-9-1, setting a school single-season victory record, and placed second at the NCAA Division III World Series.