SUNY Cortland Baseball

NCAA Div. III Regional – SUNY Cortland vs. Centenary College (N.J.)
Friday, May 20, 2005; Falcon Park; Auburn, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 4, Centenary 0

AUBURN, N.Y. – Senior Matt Miller (Harrison) and junior Jason Chyr (Vernon/V-V-S) combined on an eight-hit shutout as Cortland defeated Centenary College, 4-0, at the NCAA Division III baseball regional at Auburn's Falcon Park. The Red Dragons (37-7-1), the top seed in the six-team regional, improve to 2-0 and will play in a winner's bracket game Saturday versus the winner of Friday's Ithaca-Skidmore game. Centenary, which was making its first NCAA appearance in just its fourth varsity season, is eliminated from the tournament and finishes the year 23-19.

Miller allowed seven hits and three walks in seven and one-third innings to improve his record to 9-0. He is now Cortland's career strikeout leader with 233. Chyr gave up one hit and one walk and struck out one over the final one and two-third innings.

Cole Kimball pitched a complete game for the Cyclones. He allowed seven hits and seven walks, struck out four and gave up four runs, three earned.

Cortland scored all of its runs in the first four innings. The Red Dragons scored two in the first with the benefit of only one infield single. Zach Tacelli (Latham/Shaker) was hit by a pitch to start the inning and stole second with one out. Will Groff (Queensbury) then hit a slow bouncing ball to the left of the pitcher. Groff reached first on the infield single, and the throw went wild as well, allowing Tacelli to score. Groff then stole second and third and scored on a wild pitch.

In the third, Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta) drew a one-out walk and advanced to second after tagging up on a flyout to center. He then moved to third on a balk and scored when Adam Sidebottom (Lockport/Starpoint) beat out a grounder to the hole at short. The Red Dragons’ final run came in the fourth when Shawn Ensel (Clifton Park/Shenedehowa) led off with a single and advanced to second on the play on an errant throw in from the outfield. Nick Wilson (Auburn) bunted Ensel to third and Jimmy Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) hit a sacrifice fly to center to score the run.

Centenary's best scoring threats came in the first and seventh innings. Matt Lindower led off the game with a single and, with two outs, Nigel Archibald reached on an infield single. A throwing error on the play allowed Lindower to move to third, but Miller struck out the next batter to avert the threat. In the seventh, Archibald and Mike Haggerty led off with back-to-back walks. Patrick Cassidy singled up the middle to load the bases. Matt Hoffman, however, lined into a double play to second and Miller struck out a batter to end the inning and set the school record.

Newman finished 2-for-3, Groff was 2-for-4 and Ensel was 1-for-2 with two walks. Sidebottom, Groff and Tacelli each stole two bases as Cortland was 6-of-7 on stolen base attempts.

Lindower and Haggerty were each 2-for-3 with a walk for the Cyclones and Todd Sigafous went 2-for-4.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>R</th>
<th>H</th>
<th>E</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centenary</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cortland</td>
<td>4</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Centenary: Cole Kimball (L, 5-5) and Matt Hoffman (Cyclones: 23-19)
Cortland: Matt Miller (W, 9-0), Jason Chyr (8) and Shawn Ensel (Red Dragons: 37-7-1)

no extra-base hits