SUNY Cortland Sports Information

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SUNY Cortland Baseball

SUNY Cortland vs. Rensselaer
Sunday, April 10, 2005; Wallace Field; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 11, Rensselaer 5

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Cortland erupted for six runs in the bottom of the seventh to break open a tight game as the 14th-ranked Red Dragons defeated 25th-ranked Rensselaer, 11-5, in a battle of nationally-ranked Division III teams. Cortland improves to 16-4 with the win, while the Red Hawks are now 11-7.

Senior Mike Burnett (Westfield) earned the win for the Red Dragons. He allowed five hits and four runs, two earned, in six innings. He struck out six and walked three. Junior Adam Sidebottom (Lockport/Starpoint) was 3-for-4 with a double, senior Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta) was 2-for-4 with an RBI and junior Jimmy Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) went 2-for-5 with two RBI.

Junior Ryan Ool (Middletown) suffered the loss for the Red Hawks. He gave up five hits and four walks in three and one-third innings. He gave up five runs, four earned. Sophomore Jason Pollard (Hudson) was 2-for-2 off the bench and Joe Ihnatolya (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) was 2-for-5 with a double and RBI.

Leading 5-4, Cortland scored its first two runs in the seventh on back-to-back RBI singles by Sidebottom and senior Nick Wilson (Auburn). A wild throw on the relay after Wilson's hit moved the runners to second and third. Sophomore Shawn Ensel (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) followed with a two-run double down the left field line to extend the lead to 9-4. Sophomore Will Groff (Queensbury) then hit a fly ball that was dropped by Rensselaer's center fielder. Ensel scored, and Groff raced to third. The relay throw to third was wild, allowing Groff to score on the play.

Cortland took a 1-0 lead in the first as Groff single-handedly created a run. He led off with a walk and moved to second on a wild pitch. He then stole third and scored when the catcher's throw sailed into left field. The Red Dragons picked up a run in the third when Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) walked with one out, stole second and scored on Newman's RBI single up the middle.

Rensselaer tied the game with two runs in the fourth. B.G. Porter (Rockaway, NJ/Delbarton Prep) led off with a walk, Ihnatolya singled to right and Dan Quinn (Albany/Colonie) bunted the runners to second and third. Nick Parenteau (Raymond, ME/Windham) followed with a two-run single down the right field line.

Cortland responded with three runs in the bottom of the inning. Sidebottom singled and advanced on a wild pitch. Ricky Piovesan (East Norwich/St. Dominic) walked, and a double steal moved the runners to second and third. Groff reached on an infield error to load the bases as neither runner advanced. Basnight then singled through the left side to drive in two runs, and a Mead fielder's choice grounder plated the final run.

The guests got two runs back in the sixth with a two-out rally. Parenteau walked and Ryan Meron (Plattsburgh) singled. Rich Mundy (Norwood/Norwood-Norfolk) reached on an error to load the bases and pinch-hitter Pollard singled to right to drive in a run. Adam Lasek (Waterford) then hit a ball to the shortstop Piovesan, who was indecisive at first and then tried to run to touch second. Pollard beat Piovesan to the bag, however, and the fielder's choice drove in Meron to cut Cortland's lead to 5-4. Burnett escaped further damage, however, when he induced a ground out to end the inning.

Rensselaer's final run came in the ninth on back-to-back doubles by Ryan Devito (Mountaintop, PA/Crestwood) and Ihnatolya to lead off the inning.

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Cortland 11, Rensselaer 5

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Rensselaer: Ryan Ool (L, 1-1), Ian Titcomb (4), Rich Mundy (7), Brian Napier (8) and Stevan Slusher, Jason Pollard (6) (Red Hawks: 11-7)
Cortland: Mike Burnett (W, 4-2), Nick McPartland (7), Nick Serio (9) and Shawn Ensel, Ray Chopay (8) (Red Dragons: 16-4)

2B - Ryan Devito (R), Joe Ihnatoya (R), Travis Robinson (C), Adam Sidebottom (C), Shawn Ensel (C)