SUNY Cortland Baseball
SUNY Cortland vs. Rochester Institute of Technology
Friday, April 29, 2005; RIT Field; Rochester, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 10, RIT 1

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – Senior Mike Burnett (Westfield) scattered five hits and struck out seven over five and one-third innings for his seventh win of the season as nationally sixth-ranked Cortland defeated RIT, 10-1. The game was originally scheduled for Saturday, but was moved ahead one day to avoid forecasted poor weather.

Cortland improves to 30-5-1 with the win. The Red Dragons have won at least 30 games in 11 of the last 12 seasons – 10 straight years from 1994-2003 and this season (Cortland won 29 games last spring).

Sophomore Travis Robinson (Ilion) was 2-for-2 with three RBI, junior Zach Tacelli (Latham/Shaker) went 2-for-2 with a double and an RBI and junior Jimmy Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) finished 2-for-4.

John Byrne was 2-for-4 with an RBI to lead RIT (12-10). Starter Mike Fox allowed seven hits and five walks in seven innings, but did strike out nine batters.

Cortland took a 2-0 lead in the top of the first. Basnight reached second on an error and moved to third on a groundout. Junior Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) walked, and a passed ball allowed Basnight to score and Mead to go to second. Robinson's RBI single plated Mead. Robinson led off the fourth with a single, stole second, moved to third on a balk and scored on Adam Sidebottom's (Lockport/Starpoint) sacrifice fly to right to give the Red Dragons a 3-0 lead.

RIT scored in the fourth on a two-out walk to Scott Schneider, a wild pitch and an RBI single by Byrne. Cortland, however, responded with four runs in the top of the fifth. Singles by Basnight and senior Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta) and a Mead walk loaded the bases with one out. Robinson drew a walk to force in a run, senior Pat D’Auria (Upper Nyack/Nyack) singled in two runs and the final run scored when D’Auria was caught stealing, but prolonged the rundown long enough for Robinson to score from third before the tag was applied.

Robinson added a sacrifice fly to drive in a run in the seventh. Tacelli and sophomore Will Groff (Queensbury) each singled in runs in the ninth.

Cortland 10, RIT 1

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Cortland: Mike Burnett (W, 7-2), Nick McPartland (6), Ken Hartling (8), Lex Redding (9) and Erik Johnson, Jason Perry (8) (Red Dragons: 30-5-1, ranked 6th in Div. III)
RIT: Mike Fox (L, 4-3), Paul Schoeneck (8) and Rob Ogborne, Jason Socola (9) (Tigers: 12-10)

2B - Zach Tacelli (C)