SUNY Cortland Baseball

SUNY Cortland vs. Manhattanville College
Friday, April 14, 2006; Wallace Field; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 3, Manhattanville 0 (6 inn., rain)

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Sophomore Chris Bilyk (Ithaca) tossed a five-hit shutout over six innings as Cortland defeated Manhattanville, 3-0, in a game called due to rain in the middle of the sixth inning. The teams waited for more than an hour before the game was called. The second game of the scheduled doubleheader was canceled. Cortland, ranked fourth in Division III, improves its record to 22-5 with the win. The Valiants drop to 15-12.

Bilyk struck out two and walked none as he upped his record to 4-1. Seniors Jim Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) and Ricky Piovesan (East Norwich/St. Dominic) each finished with two hits and sophomore Matt Vitalone (Rome/Rome Free Academy) was 1-for-2 with an RBI double. Sophomore Will Groff (Queensbury) was 0-for-2 with a walk to end his hitting streak at 22 games, tied for fourth-best in school history and four short of matching the school record held by current assistant coach Craig Kerner.

Junior Mark Barrar (Newton Square, PA/Cardinal O’Hara) pitched five innings for Manhattanville, allowing seven hits, one walk and three runs. He struck out one batter and is now 4-2. Barrar was also the Valiants’ top hitter, finishing 2-for-3.

Cortland took a 1-0 lead in the third. Senior Zach Tacelli (Latham/Shaker) reached on a fielder’s choice and moved to third on Piovesan’s single to left. He scored on a Barrar wild pitch.

In the fourth, Basnight led off with a bunt single, marking the 10th straight plate appearance that he has reached safely via hit or walk. Basnight then stole both second and third and scored on Vitalone’s double down the right field line. Senior Adam Sidebottom (Buffalo/Starpoint) bunted Vitalone over to third and junior Shawn Ensel (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) drove in the run with a sacrifice fly to left.

Manhattanville’s best threat came in the top of the third. Tom Verrengia (Staten Island/St. Joseph’s by the Sea) singled to left with two outs. Frank Furbacher Jr. (Rochelle Park, NJ/Paramus Catholic) then reached on an infield single, with a throwing error on the play putting runners on second and third. Barrar followed with a deep drive to left that Tacelli raced back for and extended to catch to end the inning.

Cortland 3, Manhattanville 0

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(Game called due to rain in middle of sixth inning)

Manhattanville: Mark Barrar (L, 4-2) and Jay Gonzalez (Valiants: 15-12) Cortland: Chris Bilyk (W, 4-1) and Shawn Ensel (Red Dragons: 22-5, ranked 4th in Div. III)

2B - Matt Vitalone (C)