OSWEGO, N.Y. – Tom Farrell’s RBI single through the left side capped a two-run rally in the bottom of the seventh as Oswego defeated nationally fourth-ranked Cortland, 3-2, to earn a split of a SUNYAC doubleheader. Cortland had extended its winning streak to 11 games with a 15-3 win in the opener as sophomore John Giametta Jr. (Marlboro) went 2-for-4 with a grand slam and six RBI.

In the seven-inning nightcap, Oswego (5-8, 1-1 SUNYAC) took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the fifth on Nick Perioli’s two-out RBI single. Cortland (16-4, 3-1) came back to take a 2-1 lead in the top of the sixth. Junior Dan Maycock (Utica/T.R. Proctor) singled with one out and senior Ricky Piovesan (East Norwich/St. Dominic) was hit by a pitch. Senior Jim Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) followed with an RBI single to center and junior Shawn Ensel’s (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) sacrifice fly to left gave the Red Dragons the lead.

Oswego’s winning rally started when Cortland closer Nick McPartland (Beacon) hit Chris Raudnael to start the seventh. Perioli hit into a fielder’s choice, and a wild pitch advanced Perioli to second. Pinch-hitter Justin White singled to right to drive in the tying run, and pinch-runner Matt Ferraro moved to second on a walk by pinch-hitter Dave Farley. Farrell then hit a ball that found its way through the infield for the game-winning hit.

Adam Harendza earned the win for Oswego, scattering eight hits and two walks over seven innings. He struck out four batters. Perioli finished 2-for-3 and Farrell was 2-for-4 to account for four of the Lakers’ six hits. Sophomore Ryan Hooper (Red Hook) started for the Red Dragons and allowed only four hits and one walk while fanning seven in five and one-third innings. Maycock was 2-for-3 and junior Will Groff (Queensbury) went 1-for-3 with two walks to extend his hitting streak to 16 games.

Cortland’s pitchers struck out a combined 19 Oswego batters in the nine-inning opener. Junior Mike Zgorzelski (Troy/Shaker) fanned 11 batters and allowed only two hits, two walks and one run in six innings for the victory. Junior Justin Mattes (Queensbury) struck out three batters in the seventh, sophomore Chris Billyk (Ithaca) fanned two in the eighth and sophomore T.J. O’Leary (Queens/Archbishop Molloy) struck out three in the ninth despite allowing four hits and two runs.

Cortland scored seven runs in the top of the third, starting with consecutive RBI singles by Piovesan, Maycock and Ensel and capped two batters later by Giametta’s grand slam. Senior Andrew Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) hit a solo homer and Ensel singled in a run in the fourth. Ensel’s run-scoring single and Giametta’s two-run double accounted for the Red Dragons’ three runs in the sixth that extended the lead to 12-1.

Ensel finished 3-for-4 with three RBi. Piovesan and junior Mike Rosenberry (Clarence) each recorded two hits in addition to Giametta, and sophomore Billy Rizzo (Liverpool) was 1-for-2 with two RBi off the bench.

Farrell was 2-for-5 with an RBI double for Oswego. Laker outfielder Anthony Coromato hit a solo homer with two outs in the fourth inning – the first hit allowed by Zgorzelski in the contest.

(linescores on next page)
CORTLAND BASEBALL
Doubleheader at Oswego; April 2, 2006

GAME 1: Cortland 15, Oswego 3

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Cortland: Mike Zgorzelski (W, 1-1), Justin Mattes (7), Chris Bilyk (8), T.J. O’Leary (9) and Shawn Ensel, Erik Johnson (7)
Oswego: Justin White (L, 3-2), Ryan Stiles (6) and Chris Raudnael, Dan Pecora (8)

HR – Andrew Mead (C), John Giametta Jr. (C)
2B – Will Groff (C), Sean Caughey (C), Ricky Piovesan (C), Matt Vitalone (C), John Giametta Jr. (C), Tom Farrell (OS), Tom Grace (OS)

GAME 2: Oswego 3, Cortland 2

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Cortland: Ryan Hooper, George Jweid (6), Nick McPartland (7) (L, 0-1) and Mike Zaccardo, Shawn Ensel (5) (Red Dragons: 16-4, 3-1 SUNYAC; ranked 4th in Div. III)
Oswego: Adam Harendza (W, 1-2) and Chris Raudnael (Lakers: 5-8, 1-1 SUNYAC)

2B – Tom Farrell (OS)