MEN’S FINISH: 3rd of 13
WOMEN’S FINISH: 4th of 12

OSWEGO, N.Y. – Cortland’s men place third out of 13 teams and the women finished fourth out of 12 schools at the 16th Annual Oswego State Cross Country Invitational. The meet was held in cloudy, rainy and cool conditions over courses that ran through Oswego’s campus and along the shoreline of Lake Ontario.

Cortland’s men team, despite holding back some of its top runners, finished with 117 points. Geneseo easily won the meet with 20 points, followed by St. Lawrence (50), Cortland, Oswego (139) and Ithaca (146).

Junior James Barracca (Center Moriches/Sachem North) was the Red Dragons’ top finisher on the 8,000-meter course with a 15th-place time of 26:17.3. Junior Chris Tucker (Cato/Cato-Meridian) placed 18th in 26:26.0, sophomore Clark Holdsworth (Vestal) was 29th in 27:00.4 and sophomore Niko Viglione (Purdys/Somers) finished 31st in 27:01.5.

Rounding out Cortland’s top seven in the 141-runner field were senior Tom DeRusso (East Berne/Berne-Knox-Westerlo) in 44th place (27:11.3), sophomore Sean Cully (Ronkonkoma/Sachem North) in 49th place (27:21.1) and freshman Jeffrey Marrone (Hauppauge/St. Anthony’s) in 57th place (27:32.3).

In the women’s race, defending national champion Geneseo took the top five spots for a perfect score of 15 points. Ithaca placed second (82), followed by St. Lawrence (86), Cortland (108) and Alfred (143) in the top five.

Cortland freshman Lisa Holt (Phoenix/John C. Birdlebough) finished 15th out of 135 runners on the 5,000-meter layout with a time of 19:30.9. Senior Rachel Sweet (Rochester/Greece Athena) and sophomore Alanna Holborn (Islip Terrace/East Islip) finished 18th (19:38.9) and 19th (19:41.8), respectively.

The next four Cortland runners finished within four seconds of each other. Sophomore Brittany Brunetto (Fishkill/Beacon) was 40th (20:27.1), sophomore Erin McGrath (Oakdale/Connetquot) placed 42nd (20:27.6), junior Ashley Wirges (Hopewell Junction/Arlington) finished 43rd (20:28.0) and freshman Katie Dylag (Williamsville/Williamsville East) crossed the finish line 46th (20:31.0).

Cortland’s women are ranked 32nd nationally and the Red Dragon men are ranked 33rd nationally in the United States Track and Field and Cross Country Coaches Association (USTFCCCA) pre-season Division III polls.

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