SUNY Cortland Swimming and Diving
2005 RPI Women’s Swimming and Diving Invitational
Saturday, January 22, 2005; Robison Pool; Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute; Troy, N.Y.

TROY, N.Y. – Cortland finished first out of six schools at the 2005 RPI Women’s Swimming and Diving Invitational. The Red Dragons scored 575.5 points, followed by New Paltz (506.5), RPI (397.5), William Smith (397), Oneonta (228.5) and Skidmore (164).

Cortland opened with both a first and third-place showing in the 400-yard medley relay. Freshman Erica Clark (Sloatsburg/Suffern), senior Aubrey Talaska (San Antonio, TX/Sandra Day O’Connor), senior Nicki Damiano (Middletown) and sophomore Nikki LaBarge (Morrisonville/Peru) won the race in 4:13.47. Sophomore Nikki Welch (Dansville), sophomore Allie Houseman (Wellsville), freshman Sarah O’Loughlin (Pleasantville) and sophomore Kelly Bonsted (New Hartford) were third in 4:26.30.

LaBarge won the 200-yard butterfly (2:20.71) and was second in the 200-yard individual medley (2:18.55). Talaska took top honors in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:34.61).

The combination of sophomore Marissa Bechtold (Lockport), Damiano, junior Abby Murphy (Montour Falls/Odessa-Montour) and sophomore Krista Lennox (Buffalo/Williamsville East) placed second in the 400-yard freestyle relay (3:55.34). O’Loughlin was second in the 200-yard butterfly (2:21.25), freshman Seana Murphy (Lockport) finished second in the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:36.48) and Houseman was second in the 50-yard freestyle (25.50).

Abby Murphy posted a second-place finish in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:35.44) and a fourth-place showing in the 200-yard individual medley (2:21.74). Freshman Johanna Fredrickson (Cortland) was second in the 500-yard freestyle (5:36.36) and fourth in the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:52.40). In addition, Lennox was third in the 200-yard freestyle (2:04.60), Damiano finished third in the 100-yard freestyle (57.61) and Bechtold was third in the 500-yard freestyle (5:37.62). Senior Trish Heelan (Copiague) was third in the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:51.14) and sophomore Ally Lee (Middletown/Minisink Valley) touched the wall fourth in the 200-yard butterfly (2:36.07).