BUFFALO, N.Y. – Cortland's men's and women's swimming and diving teams opened the 2005-06 season with dual-meet victories at Buffalo State. The Red Dragon men defeated the Bengals, 131-92, while the women posted a 129-88 victory.

Sophomore Jeremy Cuebas (Brentwood) won three individual events to pace the Red Dragon men. He won the 200-yard freestyle (1:54.40), the 100-yard freestyle (51.65) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:28.45). Junior Andy Chevalier (Chazy/Chazy Central Rural) captured both the 1,000-yard freestyle (10:19.87) and the 200-yard butterfly (2:03.23).

Sophomore Jeff Kunkel (Cheektowaga/Cleveland Hill) was the top finisher in the 50-yard freestyle. His time of 23.19 edged Buffalo State's top finisher by one hundredth of a second. Senior Jim Pioli (Grand Island) won the 200-yard backstroke (2:05.96) and sophomore Kevin Stuttle (Dryden) captured top honors in one-meter diving (237.55 pts.). In addition, Pioli, freshman H. Austin Rhoads (Orchard Park), sophomore Evan Jones (East Amherst/Williamsville North) and Kunkel won the 400-yard medley relay (3:59.44), while Jones, Kunkel, junior Jason Wiese (Buffalo/Kenmore West) and Pioli turned in the top time as an exhibition entry in the 400-yard freestyle relay (3:31.21).

In the women's meet, four Red Dragons each captured a pair of individual event victories. Junior Krista Lennox (Williamsville/Williamsville East) won both the 1,000-yard freestyle (11:42.28) and the 500-yard freestyle (5:42.68), while junior Marissa Bechtold (Lockport) won the 200-yard freestyle (2:07.75) and 200-yard backstroke (2:24.54). Junior Nikki LaBarge (Morrisonville/Peru) captured both the 400-yard individual medley (4:57.39) and the 100-yard freestyle (57.06). Junior Allie Houseman (Wellsville) won the 50-yard freestyle (25.78) and was the fastest competitor as an exhibition entry in the 200-yard breaststroke (2:41.26).

Sophomore Sarah O'Loughlin (Pleasantville) touched the wall first in the 200-yard butterfly (2:20.45). The combination of freshman Kat Evans (Dix Hills/Half Hollow Hills East), Houseman, LaBarge and sophomore Erica Clark (Sloatsburg/Suffern) won the 400-yard medley relay to open the meet (4:24.09). Cortland also closed the meet with an win by junior Nikki Welch (Dansville), Bechtold, Evans and junior Kelly Bonsted (New Hartford) as an exhibition entry in the 400-yard freestyle relay (4:00.74).

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