SUNY Cortland Women’s Volleyball
at Skidmore College Early Bird Tournament
Saturday, August 30, 2003; at Saratoga, NY

SARATOGA, N.Y. – The SUNY Cortland women’s volleyball team opened the season with a third-place finish at the six-team Skidmore College Early Bird Tournament. The Red Dragons lost to eventual champion RIT and defeated Swarthmore College in pool play and finished the one-day tournament with a win over Division II College of St. Rose in the third-place match.

RIT defeated Cortland 30-27, 34-32, 20-30, 30-20 in the Red Dragons’ first match. Freshman outside hitter Katie Brody (Apalachin/Vestal), who was named to the All-Tournament Team, registered a team-high 11 kills in her collegiate debut. She also finished with 15 digs. Junior middle hitter Siobhan Loughlin (Hauppauge) added seven kills, a .462 attack percentage and three blocks and senior setter Jamie McMullen (Castile/Letchworth) recorded 21 assists, four aces, 15 digs and four blocks. Senior outside hitter Andrea Smith (San Diego, CA/Frontier Central (NY)) led the Red Dragons with 24 digs.

Cortland rebounded from the loss to defeat Swarthmore 30-16, 30-16, 30-19. Sophomore outside hitter Danielle Turner (Farmingville/Sachem) put down 10 kills and committed just one error in 17 attempts for a .529 attack percentage. Junior outside hitter Natalie Pizzi (Pittsburgh, PA/Baldwin) finished with six kills and five aces and sophomore middle hitter Lauren Nels (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) added five kills and seven digs.

In the third place match, Cortland knocked off St. Rose 30-25, 18-30, 30-25, 30-27. Brody led Cortland with 14 kills and her 16 digs were second on the team behind Smith’s 24. Senior middle hitter Katie Pietrzak (Rochester/Greece Arcadia) added 12 kills with no errors in 20 attempts for a .600 attack percentage. She also amassed 15 digs. McMullen finished with 36 assists and 15 digs and Loughlin recorded 11 kills.

2003 Skidmore College Early Bird Volleyball Tournament

Pool Play:
Skidmore 3, St. Rose 2 (28-30, 30-26, 20-30, 30-27, 16-14)
RIT 3, Swarthmore 0 (30-13, 30-19, 30-25)
St. Rose 3, New Paltz 0 (30-26, 30-20, 30-16)
RIT 3, Cortland 1 (30-27, 34-32, 20-30, 30-20)
Skidmore 3, New Paltz 0 (30-10, 30-24, 30-27)
Cortland 3, Swarthmore 0 (30-16, 30-16, 30-19)

Fifth Place:
Swarthmore 3, New Paltz 2 (30-16, 30-28, 27-30, 15-13)

Third Place:
Cortland 3, St. Rose 1 (30-25, 18-30, 30-25, 30-27)

Championship:
RIT 3, Skidmore 0 (30-26, 30-21, 30-23)