CORTLAND – SUNY Cortland claimed its fourth straight Red Dragon Classic title and its 15th in the 22-year history of the tournament with 3-1 wins over New Paltz and Stevens Tech in championship pool play of the 11-team tournament on Saturday.

After posting a 3-0 record to win their initial pool Friday, the Red Dragons opened the championship pool with a 17-30, 30-23, 30-25, 30-27 win over New Paltz. Stevens Tech then knocked off New Paltz in three games, setting up a “winner-take-all” match between the Red Dragons and the Ducks. Stevens won the opening game, 30-23, but Cortland responded with 30-26, 30-27 and 30-26 decisions to win the match and the title.

Cortland junior middle hitter Alice Kahrs (Kings Park) was named the tournament Most Valuable Player, while senior outside hitter Daina Marsh (North Syracuse/Cicero-North Syracuse) was selected to the all-tournament team. Karhs finished with 27 kills, 17 blocks and a .243 attack percentage during the tournament, while Marsh had a team-high 40 kills, a .206 attack percentage and 11 aces.

Freshman Michelle Gaufman (Wantagh/MacArthur) led the Red Dragons in the New Paltz match with 13 kills and 14 digs. Marsh had 12 kills, junior Kelsey Muka (Lansing) added 11 kills and nine digs and Kahrs finished with eight kills and three blocks. Sophomore Brittney Horton (Owego/Owego Free Academy) distributed 46 assists and added three aces, three blocks and nine digs. Sophomore Tiffany Chatman (Watertown) put down a team-high six blocks.

Gaufman also came up big versus Stevens with 13 kills and 14 digs. Chatman recorded 12 kills and three blocks, Muka had 11 kills and 20 digs and Horton finished with 44 assists and 13 digs. Marsh registered 18 digs and matched Kahrs with four blocks, while freshman Lindsay Snow (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) added 16 digs.

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