FINAL SCORE: Cortland 13, Montclair St. 7

LITTLE FALLS, N.J. – Senior Brian Huber (Blue Point/St. John the Baptist) went 4-for-6 and sophomore Nate Gagnon (Wilton/South Glens Falls) and freshman Travis Robinson (Ilion) each homered as nationally 25th-ranked Cortland defeated Montclair State 13-7 to split its weekend series with the Red Hawks.

Gagnon hit a two-run homer in the first to give the Red Dragons (5-7) a 2-0 lead. Robinson hit a two-run round-tripper and Huber singled in a run in the second to increase the lead to 5-0. Montclair (4-7) chipped away over the next three innings, scoring once in the second on a Tommy Warth RBI single, twice in the third on an Ethan Boyd sacrifice fly and a Joe Giacomiazzio RBI single, and twice in the fourth on RBI singles by Danny Rodriguez and Boyd to tie the game at 5-5.

Cortland took the lead for good in the fifth when Gagnon led off with a single, went to third on a one-out double by junior Pat D’Auria (Nyack) down the left field line and scored on a groundout by freshman Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker). The Red Dragons pulled away with four runs in the seventh on RBI singles by Mead and junior Matt Ellis (Owego/Owego Free Academy) and two Montclair errors that allowed runs to score.

The Red Dragons added three runs in the ninth on freshman Adam Sidebottom’s (Lockport/Starpoint) pinch-hit RBI single, a Huber RBI single and a run-scoring groundout by senior P.J. Hermance (East Rochester). Montclair’s final runs came on a Giacomiazzio two-run homer in the bottom of the ninth.

Mead finished 3-for-5 and Gagnon and Robinson were each 2-for-4 as part of a 19-hit attack. Ellis, D’Auria and senior Cory Haggerty (Ilion) also chipped in two hits apiece. Junior Ryan Ensel (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) earned the win in relief of sophomore starter Mike Burnett (Westfield). Ensel entered the game in the fourth inning and gave up seven hits and two runs in four innings. He struck out two and walked one. Burnett allowed four hits and three runs in three innings. Jay Cook picked up the loss for Montclair. He allowed seven hits and four runs, three earned, in five and two-thirds innings. Keith Schneider started for the Red Hawks but was knocked out in second after failing to retire any of the six batters he faced in that inning.

Cortland 13, Montclair St. 7

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Cortland (5-7) : Mike Burnett, Ryan Ensel (4, W 1-0), Kyle Johnson (8) and Matt Ellis
Montclair St. (4-7): Keith Schneider, Jay Cook (2, L 0-1), Chris Rastelli (7), Justin Lorentzen (8) and Sean Jones, Nate Kopp (7)

HR - Nate Gagnon (C), Travis Robinson (C), Joe Giacomiazzio (M)
3B - none
2B - Brian Huber (C), Pat D’Auria (C), Brian Sheekey (M), Ethan Boyd (M), Joe Giacomiazzio (M)