SUNY Cortland Baseball

Doubleheader vs. SUNY Oneonta; Oneonta, N.Y.
Sunday, April 13, 2003

FINAL SCORES:
Game 1: Cortland 5, Oneonta 4 (8 innings)
Game 2: Cortland 11, Oneonta 2

ONEONTA, N.Y. – Senior Ben Albright (Poughkeepsie/Arlington) singled home the go-ahead run in the top of the eighth inning as nationally 24th-ranked Cortland defeated 10th-ranked Oneonta, 5-4, in extra innings in the first game of a SUNYAC doubleheader. The Red Dragons completed the sweep with an 11-2 win in the nine-inning nightcap as sophomore Mike Burnett (Westfield) struck out eight and allowed one run and five hits in seven innings.

Cortland has won 12 straight games and is now 16-7 overall and 10-0 in conference play. Oneonta falls to 13-4 overall and 1-3 in the SUNYAC standings.

Cortland’s winning rally in the first game started when Jeff Flegler’s (Gloucester, NJ) leadoff fly ball was dropped by Oneonta centerfielder Chris Brew. Flegler went to second on the play and advanced to third on a sacrifice bunt by freshman Adam Sidebottom (Lockport/Starpoint). Albright followed with an RBI single to left. A single and a bunt put runners on second and third before a groundout ended the inning. Oneonta had runners on first and second in the bottom of the eighth, but senior Chad Parker (Marathon) got a groundout to earn his first save.

Oneonta took a 2-0 lead in the second inning on RBI singles by Brew and Ryan McGinniss. Cortland got one run back in the third on senior Brian Huber’s (Blue Point/St. John the Baptist) RBI single and tied the game in the fourth when Albright was hit by a pitch with two outs, went to second when junior Pat D’Auria (Nyack) reached on an error and scored on junior Neal Heaton Jr.’s (Bellport) RBI single to left.

Oneonta regained the lead in the fifth. Jamie Wright led off with a walk and scored on Rob Elmendorf’s double to center. Cortland answered with two runs in the top of the sixth. Sophomore Nate Gagnon (Wilton/South Glens Falls) walked with one out and Albright followed with a two-run home run to left.

Oneonta re-tied the game in the sixth and was in great position to take the lead before being thwarted by the Red Dragons. Rocco Grassi walked to lead off the inning against Cortland reliever Nick McPartland (Wappingers Falls/Beacon) and went to second on a single by Brew. Senior Craig Robinson (Stony Point/North Rockland) entered the game and allowed an RBI single to Brent Tortarella. A hit batters loaded the bases with no outs, but Robinson got Wright to ground into a third-to-catcher-to-first double play, then struck out Elmendorf to end the inning. Oneonta also threatened in the bottom of the seventh with two outs, putting runners on first and third before a flyout brought the extra frame.

Albright finished 2-for-3 with three RBI and Heaton was 2-for-3 with an RBI. Sophomore Matt Miller (Harrison) started for Cortland but allowed seven hits, three walks and three runs in four and one-third innings. He struck out four. Oneonta starter Rick Vesely pitched the entire game, giving up eight hits and five runs, three earned.

(continued)
In the second game, Cortland scored twice in the third inning on Huber’s RBI single and Heaton’s bases-loaded walk. The Red Dragons exploded for five runs in the fourth, keyed by junior Josh Horner’s (Groton) two-run double, RBI doubles by Heaton and freshman Travis Robinson (Ilion) and an Albright run-scoring single. The Red Dragons put the game away with four runs in the eighth. Heaton singled in a run and Albright followed with a two-run single. Junior Mike Shick (Fabius/Fabius Pompey) added a sacrifice fly. Oneonta’s runs came on a Geoff Loiacono RBI single in the fourth and an Elmendorf sacrifice fly in the eighth.

Five Cortland players had multiple-hit games in the nightcap. Heaton was 2-for-4 with a double and three RBI and has now hit safely in 14 straight games (his hitting streak was not ended on Friday vs. Ithaca since he walked in his only plate appearance). Heaton is batting .492 this season. Albright was 2-for-5 with three RBI and drove in six runs in the doubleheader. Horner, Travis Robinson and senior Cory Haggerty (Ilion) each finished 2-for-3.

**Game 1: Cortland 5, Oneonta 4 (8 innings)**

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Cortland: Matt Miller, Nick McPartland (5), Craig Robinson (6, W 1-2), Chad Parker (8, Save 1) and Matt Ellis, Kyle Bestine (6)
Oneonta: Rick Vesely (L 3-1) and Brent Tortarella

HR - Ben Albright (C)
3B - none
2B - Rob Elmendorf (ON) 2

**Game 2: Cortland 11, Oneonta 2**

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Cortland (16-7, 10-0 SUNYAC): Mike Burnett (W 2-0), Ryan Brown (8), Henry Elwyn (9) and Kyle Bestine, Ray Chopay (4)
Oneonta (13-4, 1-3 SUNYAC): John Schofield (L 1-2), Josh Gransbury (4), Jarred Brown (7), Matt Grace (8), Paul Hester (8), Greg Funck (8) and Brent Tortarella, Mike Kuratnick (6)

HR - none
3B - none
2B - Neal Heaton Jr. (C), Cory Haggerty (C), Travis Robinson (C), Josh Horner (C)