SUNY Cortland Sports Information

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SUNY Cortland Baseball

Doubleheader vs. SUNY Plattsburgh; Wallace Field; Cortland, N.Y.
Thursday, April 10, 2003

FINAL SCORES:
Game 1: Cortland 11, Plattsburgh 2
Game 2: Cortland 5, Plattsburgh 4

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Sophomore Nate Gagnon (Wilton/South Glens Falls) and senior Brian Huber (Blue Point/St. John the Baptist) singled in runs in the bottom of the ninth as Cortland rallied to defeat Plattsburgh 5-4 in the second game of a SUNYAC doubleheader. The victory completed the sweep for the league-leading and nationally 24th-ranked Red Dragons (13-7, 8-0) as they won the opening game 11-2. Plattsburgh falls to 5-7 overall and 0-2 in league play with the losses.

Plattsburgh led 4-3 before the Red Dragons made their comeback in the final frame of the second game. With one out, junior Neal Heaton Jr. (Bellport) tripled to the base of the fence in right field. Gagnon, the first batter faced by Plattsburgh reliever Dave Waldron (Saranac), blooped an opposite-field single down the left field line to tie the game. Senior Ben Albright (Poughkeepsie/Arlington) followed with a single through the right side that moved pinch-runner Tom Avery (Cortland) to third. Huber then hit a blast off the right field fence, barely missing a three-run homer, to end the game.

Plattsburgh took a 3-1 lead in the fifth on a two-out RBI single by Matt Kahan (Levittown/MacArthur) down the left field line. The Cardinals had also scored once in the first on a Waldron RBI single and an unearned run in the third when Cliff Conners (Plattsburgh) scored from third just before another Plattsburgh runner was tagged out in a rundown after a pickoff at first for the final out. Cortland scored once in the third on an RBI double by junior Pat D’Auria (Nyack) and closed to within 3-2 in the bottom of the fifth when pinch-hitter Gagnon grounded out to second to score senior Jeff Flegler (Gloucester, NJ). Flegler led off the inning with a single and went to third when pinch-hitter Heaton singled to extend his hitting streak to 12 games.

The Red Dragons tied the game in the bottom of the sixth when Huber walked, advanced to second on a Matt Ellis (Owego/Owego Free Academy) sacrifice bunt and scored on a single up the middle by junior Josh Horner (Groton). Plattsburgh took a 4-3 lead in the top of the seventh. Junior Nate Bilow (Chateaugay) led off with a walk, went to second on a passed ball and scored on a double to left-center by Conners.

Freshman Nick McPartland (Wappingers Falls/Beacon) earned the win in relief. He entered the game in the top of the ninth and pitched one hitless inning. Junior Ryan Ensel (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) tossed the first eight innings for the Red Dragons, allowing seven hits and four runs, two earned. He struck out seven and walked two. Sophomore Mike Bergman (Plattsburgh) started for Plattsburgh and allowed six hits and six walks in five and two-third innings. He gave up three runs. and struck out four.

In the first game – a seven-inning contest – junior Toby Youngs (Windsor) allowed only two hits and no runs in five innings. He struck out eight and did not issue a walk. Freshman Jason Chyr (Vernon/V-V-S) gave up two hits and two runs over the final two innings.

(continued)
Cortland scored once in the first inning on a dropped fly ball and once in the second on a Heaton RBI triple. The Red Dragons broke the game open with four runs in the fourth and three in the fifth. Freshman Travis Robinson (Ilion) singled in two runs in the fourth and another in the fifth and finished with 2-for-3 with three RBI. Heaton singled in a run in the fourth and freshman Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) hit a two-run triple in the fifth. Heaton and Mead each finished 2-for-3 with a triple and two RBI.

Cortland added two runs in the sixth on a leadoff homer to center by Flegler and a sacrifice fly by Gagnon to bring in D’Auria, who doubled after Flegler’s homer and went to third on a groundout. Plattsburgh scored its runs on a two-run homer by sophomore Dennis Lavin (Syracuse/Westhill) in the top of the sixth inning.

Sophomore Sean Elliott (Colonie) started for the Cardinals and allowed nine hits and nine runs, seven earned, in five innings. He struck out two and walked two.

**Game 1: Cortland 11, Plattsburgh 2**

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Plattsburgh: Sean Elliott (L, 2-1), Brian Noel (6) and Gustavo Espinal
Cortland: Toby Youngs (W, 1-1), Jason Chyr (6) and Travis Robinson

HR - Jeff Flegler (C), Dennis Lavin (P)
3B - Andy Mead (C), Neal Heaton Jr. (C)
2B - Joe Brand (P), Brian Huber (C), Pat D’Auria (C)

**Game 2: Cortland 5, Plattsburgh 4**

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Plattsburgh (5-7, 0-2 SUNYAC): Mike Bergman, Joe Light (6), Dave Waldron (9, L 0-2) and Gustavo Espinal
Cortland (13-7, 8-0 SUNYAC): Ryan Ensel, Nick McPartland (9, W 1-0) and Matt Ellis, Kyle Bestine (9)

HR - none
3B - Neal Heaton Jr. (C)
2B - Cliff Conners (P), Pat D’Auria (C), Matt Ellis (C)