SUNY Cortland Baseball

SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY Plattsburgh (Doubleheader)
Sunday, April 17, 2005; Chip Cummings Field; Plattsburgh, N.Y.

GAME 1: Cortland 5, Plattsburgh 0
GAME 2: Cortland 6, Plattsburgh 0

PLATTSBURGH, N.Y. – Sophomore Jim Dougher (Liverpool) and senior Matt Miller (Harrison) each turned in strong pitching performances as Cortland, ranked eighth nationally in Division III, shut out Plattsburgh twice in SUNYAC action. Dougher (4-0) tossed a three-hit shutout with five strikeouts and no walks in Cortland's 5-0 win in the opener. Miller (5-0) allowed two hits and two walks over six and one-third innings and fanned six in the Red Dragons’ 6-0 win in the nightcap.

Cortland is now 25-4 overall, 10-0 in league play, and is 17-1 since returning from its southern trip in mid-March. Plattsburgh is 15-9 and 5-5.

Junior Andy Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) was a combined 3-for-8 with five RBI in the twinbill. He was 2-for-4 with two RBI in the opener and drove in three runs in the second game. Sophomore Travis Robinson (Ilion) went 3-for-5 with an RBI in the first game.

Senior Steve Newman (Henrietta/Rush-Henrietta) was held hitless in four at-bats in the opener, snapping his hitting streak at 24 consecutive games. The streak is tied for the second longest in school history and ended two games shy of the school record. Newman rebounded in the second game with a 2-for-5 effort.

In the first game, the Red Dragons took a 1-0 lead in the top of the third. Junior Jimmy Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic), who finished 2-for-4, led off with a single and stole second. Newman then hit a grounder to the shortstop, who decided to throw to third in an attempt to retire Basnight but hit him in the back with the throw. Robinson followed with an RBI single to center. In the fourth, sophomore Shawn Ensel (Clifton Park/Shenedehowa) hit a one-out double. Junior Zach Tacelli (Latham/Shaker) then singled to right, and an error on the play allowed Ensel to score.

The lead grew to 3-0 in the fifth on Will Groff's (Queensbury) two-out RBI single. The lead was still 3-0, however, heading into the ninth. Senior Nick Wilson (Auburn) led off with a single and Basnight was hit by a pitch. Newman bunted the runners over – sacrificing another shot at extending the hitting streak – and, two batters later, Mead hit a two-run double.

Plattsburgh's best opportunity versus Dougher came in the fourth. Matt Kahan reached on an error and Jon Lerner hit into a fielder's choice to force Kahan at second. Dougher then hit Jon Dumas with a pitch, and a groundout moved the runners to second and third with two outs. Dougher escaped the jam with a strikeout. No other Plattsburgh runner got past first base.

In the second game, Miller, graduate student Toby Youngs (Windsor) and freshman Ryan Hooper (Red Hook) combined on a four-hit shutout. Miller retired the first nine batters before allowing an infield single to Zach Welch to lead off the fourth. After a pop-out, Welch was thrown out stealing by freshman catcher Erik Johnson (Mount Kisco/Fox Lane). Plattsburgh then used a Dumas walk and a Todd Hughes single to put runners and runners on first and second, but a lineout ended the threat.

Youngs pitched one and one-third innings of relief, allowing two hits and striking out three. Hooper retired four of the five batters he faced, giving up only one walk. Plattsburgh loaded the bases in the eighth on two singles off Youngs and a two-out walk by Hooper, but Hooper struck out Kahan to preserve the shutout.

Cortland scored a run in the first inning and has now outscored opponents 55-6 in the first inning this season. Basnight led off with a double, advanced to third on Groff's sacrifice bunt and scored on Mead's RBI groundout to second. In the second inning, Robinson reached on an error, moved to third on Johnson's single and scored on Adam Sidebottom's (Lockport/Starpoint) groundout to short.

Robinson hit a sacrifice fly in the fifth to extend the lead to 3-0, and the Red Dragons broke the game open with three runs in the sixth on a Basnight sacrifice fly and Mead's two-run single to center.

(linescores on next page)
Cortland Baseball - Doubleheader vs. Plattsburgh
April 17, 2005; Plattsburgh, N.Y.

Game 1: Cortland 5, Plattsburgh 0

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Cortland: Jim Dougher (W, 4-0) and Shawn Ensel
Plattsburgh: Mike Bergman (L), Dave Waldron (9) and Jon Dumas

2B - Andy Mead (C), Shawn Ensel (C)

Game 2: Cortland 6, Plattsburgh 0

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Cortland: Matt Miller (W, 5-0), Toby Youngs (7), Ryan Hooper (8) and Erik Johnson (Red Dragons: 25-4, 10-0
SUNYAC; ranked 8th in Div. III)
Plattsburgh: Adam Schroek (L), Joe Light (6) and Jon Dumas (Cardinals: 15-9, 5-5 SUNYAC)

2B - Jimmy Basnight (C)