Cortland’s Jimmy Dougher, Will Groff Selected as Division III Baseball All-Americans; Seven Red Dragons on All-New York Region Team

SUNY Cortland junior pitcher Jimmy Dougher (Liverpool) and junior second baseman Will Groff (Queensbury) have been selected to the 2006 American Baseball Coaches Association (ABCA)/Rawlings NCAA Division III All-America squad.

Both Dougher and Groff were named to the All-America second team and were first team All-New York Region selections. Senior third baseman Ricky Piovesan (East Norwich/St. Dominic) and senior outfielder Andrew Mead (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) were second team all-region choices, while junior designated hitter Dan Maycock (Utica/T.R. Proctor), freshman pitcher George Jweid (New Hartford) and sophomore pitcher Ryan Hooper (Red Hook) were on the all-region third team.

Dougher finished the season 9-1 with a 2.12 earned run average and one save in 13 appearances, 11 as a starter. He struck out 64 batters, walked only 17 and allowed 60 hits in 72 and one-third innings. Among his victories was a 9-0 shutout versus Eastern Connecticut State in NCAA Division III regional play.

Groff hit a team-high .464 with four homers, 10 doubles, two triples, 24 RBI and team bests of 29 stolen bases and 54 runs scored in 46 games. He reached base safely by hit, walk or hit by pitch in each of his final 44 games during the season.

Piovesan batted .335 with four homemers in 47 games. He led the Red Dragons with 13 doubles and 41 RBI and was second on the team with 36 runs scored. Mead hit .349 with nine doubles, five triples, five homers, 36 RBI and 12 steals. He led the team in triples and shared the team lead in homers. Mead finished as Cortland’s career leader with 235 hits, including 58 this season.

Maycock ranked second on the team this spring with a .365 batting average. He finished with four homers, 12 doubles, 30 RBI and six steals. Jweid posted an 8-0 record this season with a team-best 1.34 ERA. In 47 innings, he allowed only 28 hits and 19 walks while fanning 55 batters. A starter in five of his 15 appearances, Jweid’s eight victories are a school single-season record for wins by a freshman. Hooper finished 6-1 with a 2.28 ERA and one save in 13 games, nine as a starter. He gave up 49 hits, struck out 48 batters and walked only 13 in 51 and one-third innings.

Cortland finished the season with a 39-9 record, the third-highest win total in school history. The Red Dragons won their 25th State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) title and placed second in NCAA Division III regional play, one win shy of making their eighth World Series appearance.

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