La PLUME, PA. – Junior Dan Maycock (Utica/T.R. Proctor) and junior Will Groff (Queensbury) each recorded two hits and freshman George Jweid (New Hartford) allowed only one hit in three-plus scoreless relief innings for his third win of the season as Cortland defeated Keystone College, 4-3, in the first-ever meeting between the schools.

Cortland, ranked fourth in the latest Division III national poll, won its eighth straight game and is currently 13-3. Keystone, the 2005 ECAC South Division III champion, drops to 5-7.

All of the scoring took place in the first two innings. Groff, who finished 2-for-5 to extend his hitting streak to 12 games, led off the contest with a single. He stole second, moved to third on a passed ball and scored on junior Travis Robinson (Ilion) single to right. Two batters later, Robinson stole second and senior Ricky Piovesan (East Norwich/St. Dominic) walked.

Maycock then singled in Robinson, with Piovesan also scoring on an error, to give the Red Dragons a 3-0 lead.

Keystone answered with three runs in the bottom of the first. Tim Schemel reached on an error and Nelson Gomez doubled with one out to put runners on second and third. David Adamchick then homered off Cortland starter Nick Baker (Millerton/Webutuck) to tie the game.

Groff singled with two outs in the top of the second and stole second for his 15th steal of the season. Senior Jim Basnight (East Norwich/St. Dominic) then hit a ball that was misplayed by the centerfielder, allowing Groff to score.

Cortland’s four pitchers struck out 12 batters and walked only three. Baker fanned three and walked two in two and two-third innings. Sophomore Ryan Hooper (Red Hook) entered the game with the bases loaded and two outs in the third and struck out a batter to end the inning. He finished with two strikeouts and one hit allowed in one and two-third innings. Jweid entered in the fifth and struck out three batters without allowing a walk in three and one-third innings. Judged to be Cortland’s most effective reliever, he was given the victory and improved to 3-0 on the season.

Junior Justin Mattes (Queensbury) pitched the final one and one-third innings for his first save of the season. He struck out four batters, but his first strikeout victim in the ninth reached on a passed ball. A two-out walk moved the potential tying run to second, but Mattes fanned the final batter to end the game.

Adamchick led the Giants with a 2-for-3 performance, while Neal Smith was 2-for-4. Keystone starter Brett Repard allowed seven hits and four runs, two earned, in eight innings. He struck out three and walked four.

Maycock finished 2-for-4 for the Red Dragons. Piovesan drew two walks but was otherwise 0-for-2, ending his 14-game hitting streak. Cortland opens SUNYAC play on Saturday with a home doubleheader versus Brockport. The opening nine-inning game starts at noon, with the seven-inning nightcap to follow.

Cortland 4, Keystone 3

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Cortland: Nick Baker, Ryan Hooper (3), George Jweid (4) (W, 3-0), Justin Mattes (8) (Save, 1) and Mike Zaccardo, Shawn Ensel (9) (Red Dragons: 13-3, ranked 4th in Div. III)
Keystone: Brett Repard (L), Jo Pierson (9) and Jonathan Papada (Giants: 5-7)

HR – David Adamchick (K)
2B – Nelson Gomez (K)