SUNY Cortland Field Hockey

SUNY Cortland vs. Juniata College (Pa.); NCAA Div. III Tournament Second Round
Saturday, November 13, 2004; Middlebury College; Middlebury, Vt.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 2, Juniata 1 (OT)

MIDDLETOWN, VT. – Senior Judy Slopnick (Mohawk) scored the game-winning goal four minutes, one second into overtime as nationally sixth-ranked Cortland defeated 10th-ranked Juniata College, 2-1, in the second round of the NCAA Division III tournament.

Cortland (16-2), which received a bye into the second round, will face fourth-ranked host Middlebury (16-1) in the national quarterfinals Sunday at 1 p.m. Juniata, making its first NCAA appearance, finishes the season 14-5.

Juniata outshot Cortland by a 21-12 margin, including a 10-4 edge in the first half. The Eagles took a 1-0 lead just 3:47 into the contest when Grace McCluskey's low shot from the edge of the circle bounced into the back of the cage off Cortland goalkeeper Jessica Anderson (East Islip).

The Red Dragons had a good chance to tie the game later in the half, but sophomore Kelli Johnson’s (Elma/Iroquois) high shot was stopped by diving Juniata goalie Melonie Sappe.

Cortland tied the game 3:39 into the second half when senior Courtney Ryder (Hopewell Junction/John Jay) tipped in a shot, assisted by Johnson, for her fifth goal of the season. Anderson denied a pair of Juniata scoring attempts in the next five minutes, twice stopping shots by Kim Wagner. Anderson also made a pair of stops from the ground later in the period and made six of her 11 saves in the second half.

In overtime, Johnson drove to the goal and Sappe came out of the cage to cut her off. Johnson flipped the ball over Sappe to Slopnick, who deflected the ball in for the sudden-victory game winner and her third goal of the season.

Johnson’s two assists in the game give her a school single-season record 20 assists this fall. The previous school mark was 19, set by Carol Merchant in 1993. Johnson’s 95 career points (36 goals, 23 assists) eighth-best in school history in only two seasons.

Sappe made five saves for Juniata, who earned nine penalty corners to just three for Cortland. The Red Dragons are making their 20th NCAA tournament appearance. The Red Dragons have won their NCAA opener in each of their last 12 playoff appearances (1991-97, 1999-present).

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Scoring Summary (Goals-Assists):
- Cortland: Courtney Ryder 1-0, Judy Slopnick 1-0, Kelli Johnson 0-2
- Juniata: Grace McCluskey 1-0

Halftime: Juniata 1, Cortland 0
End of regulation: Juniata 1, Cortland 1
Shots: Juniata 21, Cortland 12
Penalty Corners: Juniata 9, Cortland 3
Saves: Jessica Anderson (Cortland) 11 (1 GA in 74:01); Melonie Sappe (Juniata) 5 (2 GA in 74:01)
Record after game: Cortland (Red Dragons) 16-2, Juniata (Eagles) 14-5

(goal-by-goal summary on next page)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Half</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>Assist(s)</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>JUN</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>31:13</td>
<td>Grace McCluskey</td>
<td>---</td>
<td>Low shot from edge of arc bounces off GK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORT</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>31:21</td>
<td>Courtney Ryder</td>
<td>Kelli Johnson</td>
<td>Tipped in shot off feed from Johnson</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CORT</td>
<td>OT</td>
<td>10:59</td>
<td>Judy Slopnick</td>
<td>Kelli Johnson</td>
<td>Johnson lifts pass over GK to Slopnick, who deflects ball into cage</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>