SUNY Cortland Sports Information

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SUNY CORTLAND FOOTBALL
vs. New Jersey City University
Thomas M. Gerrity Athletic Complex; Jersey City, N.J.
October 12, 2002

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 27, New Jersey City 6

JERSEY CITY, NJ -- Junior J.J. Tutwiler (Grand Island) passed for a touchdown and ran for another as Cortland defeated host New Jersey City University 27-6 for the Red Dragons' fourth straight win. Cortland is now 5-1 overall and 3-1 in New Jersey Athletic Conference play heading into its showdown at league-leading and undefeated Rowan next weekend.

Both Cortland and New Jersey City struggled to move the ball as steady rain during the week and on game-day left the field at the Gerrity Athletic Complex waterlogged and muddy. Cortland finished with 233 yards of total offense and New Jersey City gained 199 yards. New Jersey City fumbled six times, two resulting in turnovers. Cortland fumbled five times but did not lose possession on any of the miscues. The rain also took its toll on the stadium scoreboard, which shorted out due to flooding prior to game time. The official game time was kept on the field.

The Red Dragons got the game's first break after senior Eric Bramoff (Sag Harbor/Pierson) intercepted a pass at the Cortland 45-yard line midway through the first half. Although the ensuing drive stalled, a punt by Tutwiler traveled 54 yards and grazed off the foot of the Gothic Knights' returner. Bramoff fell on the ball in the end zone for a touchdown and a 7-0 lead.

In the second quarter, a 12-yard punt return by junior Jon Frechette (Oswego) gave the Red Dragons the ball on the NJCU 45-yard line. Eight plays later, Tutwiler threw an 8-yard scoring pass to junior tight end Tony Romano (Baldwinsville). Romano has 14 career touchdown catches, one shy of matching the school record held by Greg Sirico (1987-90).

Cortland basically put the game away on its opening possession of the third quarter. The Red Dragons drove 63 yards on 14 plays, chewing up 8:52 in the process. Cortland converted three third-down situations during the drive and eventually scored on a 1-yard Tutwiler bootleg around the left end to take a 21-0 lead.

Cortland drove 43 yards on its next possession. Sophomore quarterback Mike Mikolaichik (Hilton) finished the series by throwing a 2-yard touchdown pass to sophomore Adam Menter (Manlius/Fayetteville-Manlius). Mikolaichik originally fumbled the ball after the snap, but quickly recovered and found Menter wide open for the score. Senior George Oostmeyer (Islip/Calhoun), who made the first three PAT kicks, hit the upright on his final attempt to snap his streak of successful PATs at 67. Ironically, it was at New Jersey City in 2000 that Oostmeyer missed his only other PAT kick in his three seasons as a Red Dragon. He is 78-of-80 on career PAT attempts.

NJCU ended an eight-quarter scoring drought with 5:43 remaining in the game. Junior tailback Tyshan Jackson (Piscataway, NJ) scampered for seven yards on a sweep to the right for his first scoring play as a Gothic Knight and NJCU's first rushing touchdown of the season. The PAT failed.

Both teams ran most of the game due to the weather and field conditions, helping the contest finish in a quick two hours, 24 minutes. Sophomore tailback Steve Davis (Central Islip) ran for 63 yards on 16 carries and senior tailback Ryan Tranchida (North Salem) gained 52 yards on nine carries. Tutwiler completed 9-of-15 passes for 80 yards, including four throws to Romano for 42 yards. Defensively, senior Angelo Letizia (Monroe/Monroe-Woodbury) led the Red Dragons with 11 tackles, including 1.5 tackles for losses, and a fumble recovery.

(box score on next page)
Box Score (Final)
SUNY Cortland vs N.J. City University (Oct 12, 2002 at Jersey City, NJ)

Score by Quarters  1  2  3  4  Score
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SUNY Cortland.......  7  7 13  0  - 27  Record: (5-1,3-1)
N.J. City University  0  0  0  6  -  6  Record: (0-5,0-2)

Scoring Summary:
1st 05:34 CORT - Eric Bramoff 0 yd fumble recovery (George Oostmeyer kick)
CORT 7 - NJCU 0
2nd 08:39 CORT - Tony Romano 8 yd pass from J.J. Tutwiler (George Oostmeyer kick)
8-45 3:19, CORT 14 - NJCU 0
3rd 06:08 CORT - J.J. Tutwiler 1 yd run (George Oostmeyer kick)
14-63 8:52, CORT 21 - NJCU 0
   01:25 CORT - Adam Menter 2 yd pass from Mike Mikolaichik (Oostmeyer kick failed)
6-43 1:49, CORT 27 - NJCU 0
4th 05:43 NJCU - Tyshan Jackson 7 yd run (Miguel Casais kick failed)
11-74 6:34, CORT 27 - NJCU 6

CORT  NJCU
FIRST DOWNES.............  14  12
RUSHES-YARDS (NET)......... 40-149 39-139
PASSING YDS (NET)..........  84  60
Passes Att-Comp-Int....... 19-11-0 14-8-1
TOTAL OFFENSE PLAYS-YARDS... 59-233 53-199
Fumble Returns-Yards......  0-0  0-0
Punt Returns-Yards.........  2-16 2-10
Kickoff Returns-Yards......  1-24 4-68
Interception Returns-Yards.1-0 0-0
Punts (Number-Avg).........  5-34.4 4-33.5
Fumbles-Lost...............  5-0  6-2
Penalties-Yards.............  8-85 7-56
Possession Time............. 34:17 25:43
Third-Down Conversions...... 7 of 14 3 of 11
Fourth-Down Conversions.... 0 of 1 0 of 2
Red-Zone Scores-Chances..... 3-4 1-1
Sacks By: Number-Yards......  5-27 0-0

RUSHING: SUNY Cortland-Steve Davis 16-63; Ryan Tranchida 9-52; Mike Stepnick 5-15; J.J. Tutwiler 6-11; Mike Mikolaichik 2-5; Chris Stalker 2-3. N.J. City University-Naazir Jackson 12-73; Kasey Nunez 19-46; Tyshan Jackson 6-18; Alvin Elliott 1-3; Johnnie Taylor 1-minus 1.

PASSING: SUNY Cortland-J.J. Tutwiler 9-15-0-80; Mike Mikolaichik 2-4-0-4. N.J. City University-Kasey Nunez 8-14-1-60.

RECEIVING: SUNY Cortland-Tony Romano 4-42; Steve Davis 2-23; Neal Heaton Jr. 2-10; Rocco Colucci 1-5; Ryan Tranchida 1-2; Adam Menter 1-2. N.J. City University-Omar Joseph 2-13; Johnnie Taylor 2-7; Chris Kates 1-15; Richard Clark 1-12; Naazir Jackson 1-7; Linus Edghill 1-6.

INTERCEPTIONS: SUNY Cortland-Eric Bramoff 1-0. N.J. City University-None.

FUMBLES: SUNY Cortland-J.J. Tutwiler 3-0; Mike Mikolaichik 2-0. N.J. City University-Kasey Nunez 4-1; Alvin Elliott 2-1.

Stadium: Garrity Ath. Complex  Attendance: 220
Kickoff time: 1 pm          End of Game: 3:24 pm  Total elapsed time: 2:24
Officials: Referee: Robert Searles; Umpire: Stephen Disanuro; Linesman: John Schmid;
Line judge: John Bradbury; Field judge: Joseph Marx; Side judge: Eric Cantell; Scorer: Ira Thor;
Temperature: 60          Wind:          Weather: Rain

NJAC contest. Game clock was not working; official time kept on field.
George Oostmeyer PAT streak ends at 67. His last (and only) miss was also at N.J. City in 2000.