Cortland All-Conference and All-Region Football Honorees Announced

Six SUNY Cortland football players have been named to the Don Hansen Football Gazette Division III All-East Region team for the 2002 season and five Red Dragons have been chosen to the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Northwest all-star squad. In addition, 12 Cortland players were selected to the New Jersey Athletic Conference (NJAC) all-league team. The Red Dragons finished the season with a 9-2 record -- their highest win total since 1990 -- and won the ECAC Northwest title.

Junior tight end Tony Romano (BALDWINSVILLE/C.W. Baker) and senior defensive tackle John Longo (MASSAPEQUA) were first-team selections on the All-East squad. Senior center Chris Curnan (KINGSTON), senior placekicker George Oostmeyer (ISLIP/Calhoun) and senior defensive end Justin Gualtieri (ROME/Rome Free Academy) were second-team choices. They are all eligible for Football Gazette All-America honors. Junior linebacker Micah Kurtz (CLARENCE) was an honorable mention recipient. On the ECAC Northwest all-star squad, Curnan, Oostmeyer, Longo and Kurtz were first-team selections and Romano was honorable mention.

Romano caught 29 passes for 400 yards and five touchdowns in 11 games. He became Cortland's career leader in touchdown receptions for any position with 16. Longo recorded 49 tackles, including 34 solo stops. He ranked among the national leaders in tackles for lost yardage with 28.0 in 10 games (2.8 per game) and he led the Red Dragons with eight quarterback sacks. He also forced two fumbles and registered three quarterback hurries. Curnan, a two-year starter at Cortland after transferring from SUNY Morrisville, helped the Red Dragons average 173.9 yards per game rushing and 392.3 yards of total offense.

Oostmeyer led the Red Dragons in scoring with 70 points. He made 11-of-20 field goal attempts, including two from 40 yards or beyond, and is Cortland's career field goal leader with 31. He made 37-of-40 point-after kicks, including his first 20 to extend his consecutive PAT streak to 67 before missing. He is 95-of-99 on career PAT kicks.

Gualtieri registered 50 tackles and was second on the team in both tackles for losses (13.0) and sacks (7.0). He led Cortland with seven quarterback hurries and also recorded two pass breakups and two forced fumbles. Kurtz was third on the team this fall with 65 tackles and tied a school single-season record with five fumble recoveries. He also forced a fumble and broke up three passes in addition to recording an interception and three quarterback hurries.

On the All-NJAC team, Romano, Curnan, Longo and Kurtz were first-team selections. Junior quarterback J.J. Tutwiler (GRAND ISLAND), sophomore tailback Steve Davis (CENTRAL ISLIP), junior offensive tackle Kevin Bradley (MAMARONECK) and senior defensive tackle Adam DiPietro (TROY) joined Oostmeyer on the second team. Gualtieri and junior safety Justin Hartman (WOODBOURNE/Tri-Valley) were honorable mention choices, as was Tutwiler for his role as Cortland's punter.

Tutwiler completed 163-of-274 passes (59.5 percent) for 2,105 yards and 15 touchdowns while only being intercepted six times in 11 games. He also rushed for 273 yards and five touchdowns. In mid-September, he became the first player in school history to pass for 300 yards and rush for 100 yards in the same game when he threw for 338 yards and ran for 118 yards in an overtime loss to The College of New Jersey. As a punter, Tutwiler averaged 35.4 yards per kick and had 12 of his 50 attempts pin opponents inside their own 20-yard line. Davis was Cortland's leading rusher for the second straight season. He ran for 644 yards in nine games (71.6 yards/game) and scored five touchdowns. He also caught 10 passes for 86 yards.

Bradley was part of an offensive line that allowed just 12 sacks in 335 passing plays (3.6 percent) while helping the Red Dragons average 392.3 yards of total offense per game. DiPietro finished with 39 tackles (23 solo), four for lost yardage, in 10 games. He recorded 1.5 sacks, three quarterback hurries and two forced fumbles. Hartman was fifth on the team with 53 tackles in nine games. He shared the team lead with three interceptions and registered six pass breakups.

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