SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY Brockport
September 6, 2003; Special Olympics Stadium; Brockport, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Brockport 28, Cortland 14

BROCKPORT, N.Y. – Junior running back Jon Brown (Rochester/Greece-Arcadia) rushed for 100 yards on 22 carries in his first game for Brockport as the ninth-ranked Golden Eagles defeated SUNY Cortland, 28-14, Saturday at Bob Boozer Field at Special Olympics Stadium. It was the season-opening game for both teams. Brown helped the Golden Eagles to the season opening win in front of an "EagleFest '03" crowd that featured free admission. Brockport gained 195 yards on the ground and posted 400 total yards in offense, while Cortland was held to 85 yards rushing. The Red Dragons passed for 215 yards on the day. Brockport defeated Cortland for the seventh time in the last eight meetings, avenging last year's 21-12 road loss in the season opener.

Junior quarterback Bob Darnley (Niagara Falls/Wheatfield) completed 13 of 20 passes for 206 yards and three touchdowns for the Golden Eagles. Senior wide receiver Matt Boorom (Coopers Plains/Haverling) caught touchdown passes of 11 and 25 yards for the Golden Eagles. Senior quarterback J.J. Tutwiler (Grand Island) was 14 for 28 for 215 yards and two touchdowns for the Red Dragons. He also averaged 40.4 yards on five punts for the day. Senior wide receiver Neal Heaton Jr. (Bellport) had 121 yards on seven catches and a touchdown, freshman linebacker Chuck Eich (Cheektowaga) had a game-high 12 tackles and sophomore linebacker Casey Lorenz (Wappingers Falls/Roy C. Ketcham) had 10 tackles for Cortland. Senior linebacker Mike Dumaw (Carthage) made 11 tackles, three for losses, for the Golden Eagles.

Junior running back Jay Shelley (Colden/Springville) opened the scoring for Brockport at 3:57 of the first quarter. He capped a four-play, 56-yard drive with a 12-yard scoring run. Darnley passed for 44 yards on the drive, which included a 30-yard strike to Boorom to bring it to the Cortland 12, setting up the touchdown run. Boorom scored on an 11-yard touchdown strike from Darnley at 12:32 of the second quarter for the 14-0 lead. Brown rushed for 29 yards on the drive, which lasted six plays and went 75 yards in three minutes. Darnley's TD pass came on a third-and-four play. Senior wide receiver Darin Brady (Irondequoit/W. Irondequoit) caught a 15-yard touchdown pass from Darnley with nine seconds remaining in the first half, capping an eight-play, 82-yard drive that took just 1:29. Darnley had a 42-yard pass to Brady for the key play during that drive.

Senior tight end Tony Romano (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) put the Red Dragons on the board at 7:33 of the third quarter to make it 21-7. He scored on a 19-yard pass from Tutwiler that wrapped up a 10-play, 60-yard drive that took 4:46. The Red Dragons converged on three third-down situations to keep the drive alive, including a key 12-yard strike to Heaton. Boorom's 25-yard scoring catch from Darnley with 4:37 left in the third made it 28-7. The seven-play, 25-yard drive ended on a third-and-14 play. Heaton capped the scoring with a 25-yard touchdown catch from Tutwiler just 3:58 into the fourth quarter. The 11-play, 82-yard drive featured a big 17-yard run on a third-and-13 situation from the Cortland-46 by senior tailback Mike Stepnick (Marilla/Iroquois).

SUNY Brockport travels to Kean next Saturday at 1:30 p.m., while Cortland plays its NJAC conference opener at The College of New Jersey at 2 p.m.