SUNY Cortland Men’s Basketball

SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY Fredonia
Friday, December 5, 2003; Corey Gymnasium; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 93, Fredonia 74

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Sophomore forward Jon Rother (Sodus Point/Sodus Central) led four Cortland double-figure scorers with 22 points as the Red Dragons knocked off Fredonia, 93-74, in a SUNYAC contest. The Red Dragons’ point total is its highest since a 93-83 win over Brockport on Feb. 19, 1999, and is tied for the third-highest in Tom Spanbauer’s nine seasons as head coach. Cortland scored 107 points versus Oneonta in February, 1998, and 99 points versus Ithaca in February, 1999, along with 93 points on two occasions.

Rother made 8-of-12 shots from the floor for the Red Dragons (3-2, 1-1 SUNYAC). Junior Justin O’Garrow (Port Washington/Paul D. Schreriber) finished with 17 points, seven assists and six steals while making 8-of-11 shots. Sophomore Brian Kirchhoff (Webster) hit 5-of-7 shots, all three-pointers, and finished with 15 points, three assists and three steals. Sophomore Frank Ranieri (Cicero/Cicero-North Syracuse) added 13 points and four assists.

Sophomore Tim Anderson (Jamestown) led Fredonia with 21 points. Senior Luke Kennedy (Northport) and senior Jason Campbell (Monticello) each scored 13 points. Kennedy and Anderson dished out four assists apiece.

Kirchhoff hit two three-pointers in the first minute of the game, both assisted by O’Garrow, to give Cortland a 6-0 lead and the Red Dragons never trailed. A 12-2 run pushed the lead from 10-6 to 22-8, with Ranieri scoring five points of those 12. Cortland led 41-21 on two Rother free throws with four minutes, 36 seconds left in the half. Fredonia cut the Red Dragon lead to 43-30 on Anderson's three-pointer with 2:16 left and missed three shots to close the gap even more.

Cortland freshman guard Dave Jutton (Red Hook) produced a four-point play with 42 seconds left in the half as he was fouled while nailing a three-pointer from the left baseline. Jutton finished with nine points. O’Garrow followed with a steal and layup, and another Fredonia turnover set up a final Cortland possession. Ranieri's short jumper in the lane at the buzzer sent the Red Dragons into the locker room up 51-30. Cortland shot 63 percent (20-of-32) from the field in the first half and 55 percent for the game.

Cortland's lead stayed in the 20-point range most of the second half. The Red Dragons led by as much as 30 at 88-58 with 5:10 left. The Blue Devils got within 19 points on two occasions – at the 8:27 mark and on two free throws by Campbell with 30 seconds left to create the final score. Cortland connected on 46 percent of its three-pointers (11-of-24).