SUNY Cortland Men’s Basketball

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 80, RIT 78

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – Junior guard Justin O’Garrow (Port Washington/Paul D. Schreiber) hit a driving layup with four seconds remaining to give Cortland an 80-78 win at RIT. The Red Dragons have won four straight games and are now 6-2, including a 4-0 mark versus Empire 8 teams, as the first semester closes. RIT is now 4-3.

All five Cortland starters scored in double figures to account for 72 of the Red Dragons' 80 points. Sophomore forward Frank Ranieri (Cicero/Cicero-North Syracuse) finished with 19 points on 9-of-15 shooting and a team-high seven rebounds. O’Garrow scored 17 points in addition to registering six assists, six rebounds and three steals. Freshman guard Dave Jutton (Red Hook) contributed 13 points, sophomore forward Jon Rother (Sodus Point/Sodus Central) finished with 12 points, four blocks and three assists and sophomore guard Brian Kirchhoff (Webster) scored 11 points and dished out five assists. Jutton and Kirchhoff each made three shots from behind the three-point arc.

Cortland led 35-21 with 2:44 left in the first half and held a 40-31 lead at intermission. Leading 66-60 with 6:59 left, the Red Dragons extended the lead to 14 points (74-60) on two baskets each by Rother and O’Garrow.

The host Tigers, however, whittled away at Cortland's lead and eventually tied the game at 78-78 when Kyle Goff grabbed an offensive rebound, was fouled and hit two free throws. After O’Garrow hit the eventual game winner, RIT had one final chance but a desperation three-pointer by Sean Murphy was off the mark.

Goff led RIT with 20 points, nine rebounds and four steals. He made 8-of-10 shots from the floor. Murphy finished with 19 points and four assists.