SUNY Cortland Men's Basketball

SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY Brockport
Tuesday, November 29, 2005; Tuttle North Gymnasium; Brockport, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 73, Brockport 72

BROCKPORT, N.Y. – Junior guard Dave Maggiacomo (Pleasant Valley/Arlington) nailed a three-pointer with 13 seconds left and Cortland trailing by two and junior Dave Jutton’s (Red Hook) steal sealed the win as the Red Dragons defeated host Brockport, 73-72, in the SUNYAC opener for both clubs. Cortland improves to 3-1 overall, while the Golden Eagles are now 1-2.

Brockport took a 72-70 lead on junior Dan Rubertone’s (Smithtown/Smithtown West) layup with 27 seconds left. Maggiacomo, who had made only 1-of-7 three-pointers in the game to that point, connected on the go-ahead trey off a pass from senior Frank Ranieri (Cicero/Cicero-North Syracuse). Brockport’s final possession ended when senior Ben Bellucci (Cicero/Cicero-North Syracuse), who led the Golden Eagles with 20 points and 10 rebounds, drove the lane and had the ball stolen by Jutton.

Junior Rod Headley (Peekskill) led four Cortland double-figure scorers with 18 points on 7-of-10 shooting. He scored 14 points in the opening half as the teams played to a 41-41 deadlock. Ranieri added 15 points and four assists despite playing only nine minutes in the first half due to foul trouble.

Senior Scott Taggart (Sidney Center/Franklin) scored 12 points on 6-of-8 shooting and grabbed eight rebounds. Maggiacomo finished with 10 points, senior Simon Skrelj (Hastings-on-Hudson/Hastings) tallied nine points, nine rebounds, four assists and three steals, and Jutton recorded nine points on 3-of-6 three-point shooting and dished out three assists. Sophomore Derrick Fish (Locust Valley) also registered three assists.

Senior Jerry Cheves (Brockport) scored 15 points for the hosts. Senior Kenny Amparo (Yonkers/Charles E. Gorton) added 12 points, six rebounds and five assists and freshman Josh Zenkel (Webster/Webster-Thomas) finished with six assists.

Cortland shot 52 percent from the floor, hitting on at least 50 percent of its shots in each half. Brockport shot 47 percent, but only 23 percent (5-of-22) from three-point range. Cortland made 38 percent of its attempts (6-of-16) from behind the arc.

Brockport led 8-0 to start the game, but Headley and Ranieri combined to score Cortland’s first 16 points and the Red Dragons led 16-14 with 13:39 left. Brockport took a 39-33 lead on a Bellucci layup with 1:15 left, but the Red Dragons finished the half on an 8-2 run, capped by Maggiacomo’s three-pointer with 37 seconds left.

Neither team led by more than five in the second half. The Golden Eagles led 65-60 on Bellucci’s jumper with 6:39 remaining, but Cortland used an 8-0 run, including Skrelja’s tip-in at the 5:06 mark and layup with 4:19 left, to take a 68-65 lead. Cheves knotted the game with his third three-pointer of the game with 3:32 on the clock, but Maggiacomo answered with a layup to give the Red Dragons a 70-68 lead with 3:08 left.

Rubertone tied the game with a layup at the 2:51 mark, and neither team scored again until Rubertone’s shot with 27 seconds left.

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