SUNY Cortland Men's Basketball

SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY New Paltz
Saturday, February 4, 2006; Corey Gymnasium; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 80, New Paltz 68

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Senior Frank Ranieri (Cicero/Cicero-North Syracuse) matched his career high with 25 points and junior Dave Jutton (Red Hook) scored 17 points, including three crucial three-pointers to break open a tight game, as Cortland defeated New Paltz, 80-68, in a SUNYAC matchup. The Red Dragons earned their fifth straight win and are now 19-2 overall and first in the league with an 11-1 record. New Paltz drops to 5-15 and 2-10.

Senior Scott Taggart (Sidney Center/Franklin) added 10 points and a game-high 14 rebounds for the Red Dragons. Sophomore Mark Schaller (Rochester/Greece Athena) and junior Rod Headley (Peekskill) scored eight points apiece and senior Simon Skrelja (Hastings-on-Hudson/Hastings) finished with seven points, seven rebounds, six assists and two blocks.

Junior John Hauser (East Williston/Chaminade) led four New Paltz double-figure scorers with 18 points. He also led the Hawks with 10 rebounds. Junior Matt Irwin (Brooklyn/St. Edmund Prep) scored 13 points and handed out six assists, sophomore Jimmy Sugrue (Hastings-on-Hudson/Hastings) tallied 12 points and freshman Steven Lewis (Brooklyn/Millbrook) added 10 points on 5-of-5 shooting. New Paltz shot 50 percent from the floor, including 56 percent (10-of-18) from three-point range. Sugrue made all four of his trey attempts and Hauser was 3-of-4 from behind the arc.

Skrelja’s three-point play with 10:08 left in the game gave Cortland a 58-50 lead, but New Paltz clawed back to within 61-60 with eight minutes left on two Irwin free throws. Cortland led 64-62 with 6:22 remaining before Jutton heated up from long distance. He hit three-pointers at the 6:10, 5:42 and 4:25 marks to give the Red Dragons a 73-62 lead. Cortland led by at least nine the remainder of the game.

Cortland jumped out to a 15-5 lead to start the game, but the Hawks came back and tied the game at 19-19 with 10:14 left. Ranieri scored 16 points in the opening half and Cortland led 42-37 at the break. New Paltz came out early in the second half and took its first lead at 46-44 with 16:48 on the clock. Cortland eventually took the lead for good, though, on a Ranieri layup with 13:24 left.

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