Six Cortland Men's Lacrosse Players Earn All-America Honors; Mike Abbott Named ECAC Upstate New York Player of the Year

Six members of the SUNY Cortland men's lacrosse team have been named to the 2005 STX-Geico Division III Men's Lacrosse All-America team. Senior attackman Adam Hughes (North Syracuse/Cicero-North Syracuse) and junior midfielder Mike Abbott (Syracuse/Nottingham) were named to the national first team. Junior defenseman Dan Schmitt (North Syracuse/Cicero-North Syracuse) was a third team selection, while sophomore long-stick midfielder Cheney Raymond (Camillus/West Genesee), senior defenseman Dan Mendelson (Farmingdale) and junior attackman Kyle Lambert (Brentwood) were honorable mention choices.

In addition, Abbott was named the Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Upstate New York Division III Player of the Year. Hughes and Schmitt were also chosen as ECAC Upstate New York all-stars.

Hughes led the Red Dragons this spring with 53 goals and was second on the team with 22 assists. He also ranked second on the team with 97 ground balls. Hughes finished second at Cortland with 151 goals and 238 total points (151-87). Mike Perkins (1982-85) holds the school marks with 154 goals and 271 total points.

Abbott, in his first season at Cortland after transferring from the University of Virginia, registered 43 goals and 20 assists for 63 points. He ranked second on the team in goals and total points. Abbott won 158-of-255 faceoffs (62 percent) and led the Red Dragons with 147 ground balls. Earlier this spring, he was chosen as the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) Player of the Year.

Schmitt, Raymond and Mendelson helped lead a defensive unit that allowed less than eight goals per game and permitted double-figure goals only three times in 19 games. Schmitt recorded 56 ground balls in 19 contests. Raymond scored once, assisted on two goals and grabbed 76 ground balls in 16 games. Mendelson totaled 50 ground balls in 19 games.

Lambert finished the season with 36 goals and 14 assists for 50 points. In three seasons, he has amassed 120 goals and 30 assists for 150 points, leaving him 34 goals shy of Perkins' career goal-scoring record entering his senior season in 2006.

In addition to their All-America awards, both Hughes and Mendelson represented Cortland in the annual Division III North-South Senior All-Star Game, which Cortland hosted June 11. Hughes recorded three goals and two assists in that exhibition contest and was named the game's MVP and Mendelson scooped up three ground balls as the North won in overtime.

Cortland completed the season with a 17-2 record, matching a school record for single-season victories. The Red Dragons made their fifth straight NCAA Division III tournament appearance and advanced to the national quarterfinal round for the fourth consecutive season.

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