SUNY Cortland Men's Lacrosse
SUNYAC Semifinals – SUNY Cortland vs. SUNY Potsdam
Wednesday, May 4, 2005; SUNY Cortland Stadium Complex; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 14, Potsdam 9

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Cortland overcame an early 4-0 deficit and defeated Potsdam, 14-9, in the semifinal round of the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) playoffs. The Red Dragons (15-1), ranked second nationally in Division III, will host Geneseo (a 14-8 winner at home versus Oneonta) in the league title game Saturday at 1 p.m., with the champion receiving an NCAA playoff automatic berth. The Bears finish the season with a 6-10 record.

Senior Adam Hughes (North Syracuse/Cicero-North Syracuse) led Cortland with five goals and one assist. Sophomore Ryan Siminsky (Locust Valley) recorded three goals and an assist, junior Mike Abbott (Syracuse/Nottingham) added two goals and two assists and junior Kyle Lambert (Brentwood) scored twice. Junior Ben Gaebel (Deferiet/Carthage) stopped seven shots. Potsdam senior goalie Ryan Hanretty (Williamsville/Williamsville South) turned in an impressive performance with 26 saves. He helped the Bears stay within striking distance with eight saves in the second quarter and nine in the third. Junior Travis Holmes (DeWitt/Herkimer CC) led Potsdam with three goals and junior Harrison Rogers (Grand Island) tallied two goals and two assists.

Goals by Rogers and Quinn Sweeney (South Jefferson/Jefferson CC) in the first four minutes, followed by goals from Matt Vaverchak (Binghamton/Seton Catholic) and Holmes, gave Potsdam a 4-0 lead with 5:30 left in the first quarter. The Bears held the Red Dragons off the scoreboard until Adam Hyde (West Seneca/West Seneca East) found the net with 3:35 remaining in the quarter. Siminsky then scored twice, the latter coming on an extra-man situation off an Abbott feed with 2:06 left, to cut the deficit to 4-3 after one quarter.

The Potsdam lead grew to two on an Adam Wood (Massena) goal 1:18 into the second quarter, but the Red Dragons scored the final four goals of the period. Siminsky fed Hughes at the 10:27 mark and Abbott scored unassisted just 14 seconds later. Hughes scored with 6:54 remaining and Lambert tallied at the 1:09 mark to give Cortland a 7-5 halftime lead. Potsdam struck first in the third quarter when Nik Bryan (Fairport) connected off a Wood pass with 12:35 left. Abbott, however, quickly won the ensuing faceoff and fed Lambert for a goal just five seconds later. A goal by Hughes and an Abbott extra-man score gave the Red Dragons a 10-6 lead, and Potsdam got no closer than three goals the rest of the way.

Cortland outshot Potsdam, 59-30, and won 21-of-27 faceoffs. Abbott won 15 of his 19 faceoff attempts and grabbed a season-best 17 ground balls. Sophomore Bill Gleason (Camillus/West Genesee) was successful on 6-of-8 faceoffs and Hughes finished with a season-high 10 ground balls.

GAME SUMMARY:

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Scoring (Goals-Assists):

Potsdam: Travis Holmes 3-0, Harrison Rogers 2-2, Quinn Sweeney 1-1, Nik Bryan 1-1, Adam Wood 1-1, Matt Vaverchak 1-0, Chris Kowalczyk 0-1
Cortland: Adam Hughes 5-1, Ryan Siminsky 3-1, Mike Abbott 2-2, Kyle Lambert 2-0, Adam Hyde 1-0, Brian Atkins 1-0, Chris Hannon 0-2

Goalkeepers:

Potsdam: Ryan Hanretty, 26 saves, 14 GA in 60:00
Cortland: Ben Gaebel, 7 saves, 9 GA in 60:00

Shots: Cortland 59, Potsdam 30
Ground Balls: Cortland 62, Potsdam 28
Clears: Cortland 14-of-16, Potsdam 22-of-31
Faceoffs Won: Cortland 21, Potsdam 6
Penalties: Cortland 4-3:00, Potsdam 4-3:00
Extra-Man Offense: Cortland 3-4, Potsdam 2-4