FINAL SCORE: Cortland 3, Brockport 2 (8 innings)

GENESEO, N.Y. -- Senior Jonna Ball (Peekskill/Hendrick Hudson) belted a two-out solo home run in the top of the eighth inning to lead nationally fifth-ranked Cortland to a 3-2 win over Brockport in a second-round game at the SUNYAC tournament. The Red Dragons, 2-0 in the tournament, improved to 36-5-1 overall with the win, while Brockport fell to 24-9.

Brockport took a 1-0 lead in the bottom of the third inning off starting pitcher freshman Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/Marlboro) without the benefit of a base hit. Amie Francisco led off with a walk and stole second base. After a strikeout, Francisco took third on a passed ball and scored an unearned run on a sacrifice fly by Kathy Riggs.

Through the first four innings, the Red Dragons had not gotten a ball out of the infield off Brockport pitcher Kristen Clark, but Cortland broke through with two runs in the top of the fifth. Junior Carin Piacente (Putnam Valley/Walter Panas) led off the inning with a solo homer. Sophomore Keri Banta (Washingtonville) drew a one-out walk and was replaced on the bases by sophomore Michelle Ringle (Brentwood). Freshman Rudy Loiacono (Williamsville/Williamsville South) followed with a triple that plated Ringle and gave the Red Dragons a 2-1 lead.

The Golden Eagles tied the game in the home half of the sixth against junior Lara Almansberger (Fairport), who had relieved Adamshick with two outs in the fourth. After Kim Comtois flied out to right field and Clark grounded out, Kristin Whittaker drilled a game-tying homer that eventually forced extra innings.

In the top half of the eighth, after two strikeouts to start the inning, Ball delivered the game winner with her third round tripper of the season. Almansberger then set down the Brockport batters in order in the bottom of the inning to earn her 15th win against no losses on the season.

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Cortland (36-5-1): Stephanie Adamshick, Lara Almansberger (4) (W, 15-0) and Jill Seymour
Brockport (24-9): Kristen Clark (L, 17-7) and Kristin Whittaker

HR - Jonna Ball (C), Carin Piacente (C), Kristin Whittaker (B)
3B - Rudy Loiacono (C)
2B - Keri Banta (C)