FINAL SCORE: Cortland 6, Buffalo State 5 (8 innings)

GENESEO, N.Y. – Sophomore Erin Bock (East Hampton) hit a pinch-hit solo homer in the bottom of the eighth inning to give Cortland a 6-5 victory over Buffalo State in the opening round of the double-elimination SUNYAC tournament. The nationally fifth-ranked Red Dragons (35-5-1) will play the winner of Thursday afternoon’s Brockport-Plattsburgh game on Thursday at noon. The tournament runs through Saturday, with the winner receiving an automatic berth into the NCAA Division III playoffs.

Bock’s homer over the center field fence made a winner of freshman Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/Marlboro). Adamshick, 12-3, entered the game in the fifth inning and allowed two hits and one run in three and two-thirds innings. She struck out five and walked one. She fanned two straight batters with runners on second and third and Cortland trailing 4-3 in the top of the fifth and retired the side in order in both the seventh and eighth innings.

Buffalo State (25-14) took a 2-0 lead in the first inning on RBI doubles by Stephanie Menth and Heidi Rammacher. Cortland tied the game in the bottom of the second inning on back-to-back two-out RBI singles by junior Jill Seymour (Conklin/Susquehanna Valley) and senior Megan Cross (Middletown/Minisink Valley).

The Red Dragons gained the lead in the third on a run-scoring single by junior Lara Stone (Windsor). The Bengals regained the lead in the fifth on a single by Janelle Mahl and subsequent two-base error and an RBI single by Nicole Willats. In the bottom of the fifth, junior Carin Piacente (Putnam Valley/Walter Panas) led off with a walk and Stone hit a two-run homer to center to give Cortland a 5-4 lead. The Red Dragons left a runner stranded on third later in the inning. Buffalo State tied the game in the top of the sixth on a walk, a wild pitch and an RBI single by Alyssa Brosius.

Cortland starter Lara Almansberger (Fairport) allowed seven hits and four runs in four innings and one-third innings. Elizabeth Beiter started for Buffalo State and gave up 10 hits and five runs in four innings. Melissa Balsavage pitched the final three innings before allowing Bock’s game-ending homer.

Stone finished 3-for-4 with three RBI. Cross was 2-for-3 with an RBI and Jonna Ball (Peekskill/Hendrick Hudson) and Julie Gentner (Williamsville/Williamsville South) were each 2-for-4. Mahl and Menth each went 2-for-4 for the Bengals.

Cortland 6, Buffalo St. 5 (8 innings) – SUNYAC Tournament

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Buffalo St.: Elizabeth Beiter, Melissa Balsavage (5, L, 11-8) and Lindsey Matheis
Cortland: Lara Almansberger, Stephanie Adamshick (5, W, 12-3) and Jill Seymour

HR - Lara Stone (C), Erin Bock (C)
3B - none
2B - Janelle Mahl (BS), Stephanie Menth (BS) 2, Heidi Rammacher (BS), Jonna Ball (C), Lara Stone (C)