SUNY Cortland Softball

Doubleheader vs. SUNY Geneseo; Dragon Field; Cortland, N.Y.
Thursday, April 24, 2003

GAME 1: Cortland 1, Geneseo 0 (8 innings)
GAME 2: Geneseo 1, Cortland 0

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Cortland, ranked fourth nationally in Division III, scored a run in the bottom of the eighth to defeat 18th-ranked Geneseo 1-0 in the first game of a SUNYAC doubleheader. Geneseo returned the favor in the nightcap, scoring in the bottom of the seventh to post a 1-0 victory and split the twinbill. Cortland is now 28-5-1 and 12-3-1 in SUNYAC play. Geneseo, which suffered its first league loss, is now 17-5 and 11-1 in conference action.

In the first game, Geneseo starting pitcher Sarah Taub (DeWitt/CBA) retired the first 16 batters she faced before allowing a slap single through the right side by Rudy Loiacono (Williamsville/Williamsville South). Meanwhile, Cortland starter Lara Almansberger (Fairport) held Geneseo to three hits over eight innings. She struck out 10 batters and walked four and is 10-0 this spring.

Cortland’s winning rally started when Carin Piacente (Putnam Valley/Walter Panas) led off with an infield single in the eighth. Pinch-hitter Amber Ortolano (Tonawanda/Kenmore West) then reached on a bunt single when the ball found its way between Taub and the first baseman and rolled to an open area between first and second. Erin Bock (East Hampton) then bunted to Taub, but Piacente beat her throw to third base to load the bases with no outs. Loiacono followed with a chopper to Taub, but Piacente slid home before the throw to end the game.

Taub allowed three hits and finished the game with nine strikeouts and no walks. She is 9-3 this season. Katie Hovey (Sandy Creek) went 2-for-2 with a walk for the Knights and Kathy Whipple (Webster) was 1-for-3 with a double.

In the second game, Cortland outhit Geneseo 11-1, including at least one hit in every inning, but stranded 12 runners. The Red Dragons left the bases loaded in the second when Geneseo rightfielder Kerrin Hughes (Mineola) made a great diving catch in the right-field gap on a shot hit by Jonna Ball (Peekskill/Hendrick Hudson). Hovey, Geneseo’s starter, also escaped a bases-loaded jam in the third with a strikeout and groundout and recorded a popup and strikeout to get out of a first-and-third, one-out situation in the fifth.

Geneseo’s lone hit off Cortland starter Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/Marlboro) was a single through the left side by Lacey Ballard (Syracuse/Westhill) in the second inning. Adamshick walked seven batters, however, including three straight walks with two outs in the sixth. She escaped that situation with a groundout, but walked Tracy Koch (Cheektowaga/Depew) to start Geneseo’s winning rally in the bottom of the seventh. Pinch-runner Jamie Jablonsky (Fairport) advanced to second on Racquel Oliver’s (Scarborough, ME/Narraguagus) sacrifice bunt. Jackie Guba (Latham/Shaker) then hit a grounder to Adamshick. First baseman Piacente started toward the ball, then retreated back to cover first. Adamshick’s throw reached Piacente just in front of first base the same time Guba did. Guba and Piacente collided, and the ball rolled away into foul territory to allow Jablonsky to easily race home for the winning run.

Megan Cross (Middletown/Minisink Valley) was 2-for-3 with a double for Cortland. Julie Gentner (Williamsville/Williamsville South), Jennifer Rockwell (Scotia) and Piacente were each 2-for-4. Gentner’s single through the left side in the third inning was her school-record 206th career hit.

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CORTLAND SOFTBALL vs. Geneseo (April 24, 2003)

GAME 1: Cortland 1, Geneseo 0 (8 innings)

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Geneseo: Sarah Taub (L, 9-3) and Tracy Koch
Cortland: Lara Almansberger (W, 10-0) and Jill Seymour

HR - none
3B - none
2B - Kathy Whipple (G)

GAME 2: Geneseo 1, Cortland 0

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Cortland (28-5-1, 12-3-1 SUNYAC): Stephanie Adamshick (L, 10-3) and Jill Seymour, Keri Banta (6)
Geneseo (17-5, 11-1 SUNYAC): Katie Hovey (W, 8-2) and Lacey Ballard

HR - none
3B - none
2B - Jennifer Rockwell (C), Megan Cross (C)