SUNY Cortland Softball

SUNY Cortland vs. SUNYIT
Thursday, April 17, 2003; Utica, N.Y.

GAME 1: Cortland 5, SUNYIT 1
GAME 2: Cortland 4, SUNYIT 0

CORTLAND, N.Y. -- Junior Lara Almansberger (Fairport) tossed her second consecutive no-hitter as Cortland defeated SUNYIT, 4-0, in game two of their doubleheader, earning a sweep of the two games. The Red Dragons won the first game, 5-1, behind a three-hitter by freshman Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/Marlboro). Cortland raised its record to 24-4 overall and 10-2 in the SUNYAC, while SUNYIT fell to 10-8 and 5-3 in league play.

In the nightcap, Almansberger, who threw a five-inning perfect game versus New Paltz on Wednesday, retired the first 11 Wildcat batters before Erin Hock reached on an error. Almansberger then set down the next 10 batters, ending the game on a fly ball to freshman right fielder Rudy Loiacono (Williamsville/Williamsville South).

Cortland scored the only run it would need in the bottom of the first inning. Senior Julie Gentner (Williamsville/Williamsville South) drew a two-out walk and scored on junior Lara Stone's (Windsor) triple to right center. The Red Dragons added three more runs in the third. Stone's double plated senior Jonna Ball (Peekskill/Hendrick Hudson), who had reached on an error. Junior Carin Piacente (Putnam Valley/Walter Panas) and sophomore Amber Ortolano (Tonawanda/Kenmore West) followed with two-out RBI singles to make it a 4-0 game.

Stone and Ortolano each went 2-for-3 in the game. Almansberger finished with two strikeouts and did not walk a batter in raising her season record to 7-0.

In the opener, Gentner became the second player in school history to reach 200 career hits when she singled in the top of the third inning. Gentner, who holds the school records for doubles and RBI, is four hits shy of tying the record for hits, currently held by June Maloney at 205.

Gentner's single was part of a three-run rally for the Red Dragons, as they grabbed a 3-0 lead. Ball singled up the middle with one out, but was forced out on freshman Jennifer Rockwell's (Scotia) fielder's choice. Gentner singled, and both she and Rockwell scored on Stone's double. After Stone moved to third on the throw to home, she scored on a wild pitch.

Adamshick, meanwhile, held the SUNYIT batters in check, not allowing a hit until a two-out double by Christy Cushman in the bottom of the fourth. Cortland tacked on runs in the fourth and fifth innings and led 5-0 entering the home half of the sixth. With two outs, Hock doubled to left field and advanced to third on an error. With Cushman at the plate, Hock was awarded home after an illegal pitched was called on Adamshick. Cushman followed with a walk, but a fly out to right field ended the inning.

Stone and Gentner each finished the game 2-4, while Piacente went 2-for-3. Adamshick walked three and struck out six in her seven innings of work, improving her record to 9-2.

(Linescores on following page)
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Cortland: Stephanie Adamshick (W, 9-2) and Jill Seymour
SUNYIT: Krista Hess (L) and Christy Cushman

2B - Carin Piacente (C), Lara Stone (C), Erika Hock (S)

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Cortland (22-4, 10-2 SUNYAC): Lara Almansberger (W 7-0) and Keri Banta
SUNYIT (10-8, 5-3 SUNYAC): Stephanie Rothdeiner (L) and Katie DeCoursey

3B - Lara Stone (C)
2B - Lara Stone (C)