2004 SUNYAC Softball Tournament

Day 3 - Saturday, May 1, 2004
Dragon Field; SUNY Cortland; Cortland, N.Y.

Saturday's Scores:
Oneonta 1, Buffalo St. 0 (16 inn.) -- Buffalo St. eliminated
Cortland 7, Oneonta 0
CHAMPIONSHIP GAME -- Oneonta 5, Cortland 2

Friday's Scores:
Buffalo St. 4, Cortland 2
Oneonta 2, Fredonia 1 (12 inn.)
Buffalo St. 5, Geneseo 4 (8 inn.) -- Geneseo eliminated
Cortland 9, Fredonia 2 -- Fredonia eliminated

Thursday's Scores:
Cortland 3, Plattsburgh 0
Oneonta 3, Buffalo St. 0 (8 inn.)
Fredonia 1, Geneseo 0
Geneseo 3, Plattsburgh 1 -- Plattsburgh eliminated

Oneonta 1, Buffalo St. 0 (16 innings)

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Oneonta: 000 000 000 000 000 1 1 9 1

Sophomore Erica Gifford (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) doubled in the winning run in the bottom of the 16th inning as Oneonta stayed unbeaten in the tournament while eliminating Buffalo State. Michelle Norwich (Mohawk) started the winning rally with a leadoff single. Sarah Place (Binghamton) singled with one out to move Norwich to second. A fielder's choice forced Norwich out at third, but Gifford followed with the winning double to score Place. Amy Herba (Johnstown/Broadalbin-Perth) pitched all 16 innings for Oneonta. She took a no-hitter into the eighth inning before allowing a one-out double to Emily Goldyn (Lancaster). Herba allowed five hits and four walks and struck out eight. Kristen Scheffold (Lancaster) pitched a complete game for Buffalo State, giving up nine hits and four walks and striking out 11 in 15 and two-third innings. Place and Norwich each finished with two hits for Oneonta. The game lasted two hours, 56 minutes. Oneonta's first three games in the tournament have lasted eight, 12 and 16 innings, respectively.

(continued)
Cortland 7, Oneonta 0

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Cortland: Stephanie Adamshick, Ang D’Amboise (4) (W, 7-2) and Jill Seymour, Keri Banta (Red Dragons: 34-6)
Oneonta: Liz Scimeca (L, 7-7), Kacie Cunningham (4) and Michelle Norwich (Red Dragons: 25-15)

2B - Lara Stone (C), Erin Bock (C), Jill Seymour (C)
3B - Dominique Talbot (C)
HR - Lara Stone (C)

Lara Stone (Windsor) went 2-for-4 with a homer, double and two RBI as Cortland defeated Oneonta to force a final game between the teams for the championship. Kim Huson (Binghamton/Johnson City) was 2-for-4, Dominique Talbot (Rockville Centre/Southside) had an RBI triple and Jill Seymour (Conklin/Susquehanna Valley) had an RBI double for the top-seeded Red Dragons. Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/Marlboro) allowed only one hit in three innings and was pulled after Cortland extended its lead to 7-0 in the fourth on Stone’s two-run homer. Ang D’Amboise (Ballston Lake/Shenendehowa) pitched the final four innings and gave up five hits but no runs. She earned the victory since Adamshick did not pitch the four innings necessary for the win. Liz Scimeca (Sayville) took the loss for Oneonta. She gave up seven runs, four earned, in three and two-third innings. Kacie Cunningham (New Hartford) did not allow a hit in the final three and two-third innings.

CHAMPIONSHIP GAME -- Oneonta 5, Cortland 2

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Oneonta: Amy Herba (W, 15-6) and Michelle Norwich (Red Dragons: 26-15)
Cortland: Stephanie Adamshick (L, 20-2), Ang D’Amboise (3) and Jill Seymour, Keri Banta

2B - Amanda LaPolla (O), Dominique Talbot (C)
3B - Rena Finsmith (O)

Oneonta, the fifth seed in the six-team SUNYAC tournament, won its first league title since 2001 and its third overall with its 5-2 victory over top seed and host Cortland. The Red Dragons earn the league’s automatic bid to the NCAA Division III playoffs.

Sophomore Amy Herba (Johnstown/Broadalbin-Perth), despite pitching 16 innings earlier in the day, tossed a complete-game four-hitter for the championship game victory. Oneonta scored all of its runs in the top of the third to take a 5-0 lead. Amanda LaPolla (New Hartford) led off with a double and scored on a Rena Finsmith (Elmsford/Pleasantville) triple. After a walk, Michelle Norwich’s (Mohawk) groundout scored Finsmith. Sarah Place (Binghamton) and Erica Gifford (Clifton Park/Shenendehowa) added RBI singles in the inning, with another run scoring on a throwing error during Gifford’s single.

Cortland got a run back in the third. Kim Huson (Binghamton/Johnson City) reached on a two-out bunt single and scored when Pip Colombo (Williamsville/Williamsville North) reached on an error by Herba. In the fourth, Jen Rockwell (Scotia) walked with one out and Erin Bock (East Hampton) singled to move Rockwell to second. Dominique Talbot (Rockville Centre/Southside) followed with a double to right center to score Rockwell, but Bock was thrown out at the plate. Cortland only managed two more baserunners off Herba the rest of the way.

Gifford and LaPolla were each 2-for-3 for Oneonta. Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/Marlboro) suffered the loss for Cortland and is now 20-2 on the season. Ang D’Amboise (Ballston Lake/Shenendehowa) allowed three hits and no runs over the final four and two-third innings to help keep Cortland within striking distance.