SUNY Cortland Softball

Doubleheader vs. King’s College
Sunday, March 26, 2006; Betzler Fields; Wilkes-Barre, Pa.

GAME 1: King’s 4, Cortland 3
GAME 2: King’s 11, Cortland 7

WILKES-BARRE, PA. – King’s College improved to 15-3 on the season with a doubleheader sweep, 4-3 and 11-7, over nationally 14th-ranked Cortland. The losses drop the Red Dragons to 10-4 on the season and mark the first time Cortland has lost twice in the same day since falling twice at Geneseo in April of 2002.

Mari Valonis powered King’s in the nightcap, finishing 4-for-4 with two homers, a triple and eight RBI. She hit a three-run triple in the first, a grand slam in the fourth and a solo homer in the sixth. She has eight homers in just 18 games this season. Justine Maggio was 2-for-2 with two RBI and Abbey Knoblauch went 2-for-3 with three runs scored for the Lady Monarchs. Kelsey Shreaves pitched five and two-third innings of relief for the victory. She allowed five hits and four runs, three earned.

Sophomore Megan Dore (Staatsburg/F.D. Roosevelt) was 2-for-2 with an RBI, junior Stefanie Cola (Binghamton/Chenango Valley) was 2-for-3 with an RBI and junior Jamie Neuner (Brewster) and junior Kate Yaun (Liberty) each drove in two runs for the Red Dragons. Cortland scored three times in the second and twice in the third to tie the game at 5-5. The first five batters for King’s, however, reached base on four walks and an error in the fourth off Cortland starter Erin Brain (Westtown/Minisink Valley). With one run already in, Valonis hit her grand slam against reliever Stephanie Adamshick (Milton/ Marlboro) to extend the lead to 10-5.

Cortland led 3-1 in the opener, but the Lady Monarchs scored once in each of the last three innings for the victory. The winning rally started with a Knoblauch leadoff walk. She was bunted over to second by Maggio and went to third on a wild pitch. Nikki Kotula then hit a grounder to second. Cola threw home and apparently had Knoblauch, who tried to slide around the tag, out at home, but Knoblauch was ruled safe to end the game.

Junior Dominique Talbot (Rockville Centre/Southside) went 2-for-3 with a double and an RBI for the Red Dragons. In the second, sophomore Shara Evanter (Commmack) led off with a single, moved to second on a Blythe Beecher (Corning/ Corning East) sacrifice bunt, moved to third on a passed ball and scored later in the inning on a Talbot fielder’s choice.

Evanter singled in Yaun, who walked to lead off the third, to give Cortland a 2-0 lead. Singles by Cola, Talbot and Yaun loaded the bases in the fourth, setting up Neuner’s two-out walk to force in a run and extend the lead to 3-0. King’s got a run back in the fifth on a Kotula bases-loaded walk and another in the sixth when Kate Shiffer doubled, went to third on a wild pitch and scored on Cassy Shiffer’s RBI single to center.

Kotula earned the win for King’s despite allowing nine hits and five walks in seven innings. Adamshick pitched five innings, giving up five hits and four walks. She struck out four and allowed three runs. D’Amboise suffered the loss in relief. She did not allow a hit, walked one and struck out two in an inning and a third. Evanter was 2-for-4 with an RBI and Yaun was 2-for-2 for the Red Dragons. Knoblauch was 2-for-2 with two walks for King’s.

(linescores on next page)
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GAME 1: King’s 4, Cortland 3

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 R H E
Cortland 0 1 1 1 0 0 0 3 9 0
King’s 1 0 0 0 1 1 1 4 5 0

Cortland: Stephanie Adamshick, Ang D’Amboise (6) (L, 3-2) and Blythe Beecher
King’s: Nikki Kotula (W, 5-1) and Cassy Shiffer

2B – Dominique Talbot (C), Abbey Knoblauch (K), Kate Shiffer (K)

GAME 2: King’s 11, Cortland 7

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 R H E
Cortland 0 3 2 2 0 0 0 7 8 1
King’s 4 1 0 5 0 1 x 11 11 2

Cortland: Erin Brain (L, 3-1), Stephanie Adamshick (5) and Amanda Barnett (Red Dragons: 10-4, ranked 14th in Div. III)
King’s: Amanda Rizner, Kelsey Shreaves (2) (W, 5-0) and Cassy Shiffer (Lady Monarchs: 15-3)

HR – Mari Valonis (K) 2
3B – Mari Valonis
2B – Shara Evanter (C), Amanda Barnett (C)