SUNY Cortland Women's Volleyball
Day 1 of Red Dragon Classic
September 6, 2002
Cortland, N.Y.

CORTLAND, NY - The SUNY Cortland women's volleyball team won its first three matches on the first day of the season-opening Red Dragon Classic at Corey Gymnasium. The Red Dragons opened the tournament with a 30-27, 31-29, 23-30, 30-25 win over SUNY Fredonia, followed by a 29-31, 30-22, 30-15, 24-30, 15-13 nailbiter versus Lebanon Valley College of Pennsylvania. Cortland completed its first day of competition late Friday night with a 30-26, 30-12, 30-24 win over St. Lawrence University.

The winner of Pool A, Cortland advances to the Gold Medal Bracket of the 10-team tournament on Saturday. The Red Dragons will face Pool C champion Buffalo State at noon and Pool B champion Nazareth College at 6 p.m. Buffalo State and Nazareth will play at 2 p.m. The winner of the bracket will be determined by the results of the three-way head-to-head competition.

Cortland was led versus Fredonia by junior Megan Thurkins (Painted Post/Corning-Painted Post), who recorded 17 kills, 14 digs and four blocks. Junior Andrea Smith (San Diego, CA/Frontier Central (NY)) had 13 kills, nine digs and three blocks and junior Katie Pietrzak (Rochester/Greece Arcadia) registered 10 kills, a .563 attack percentage (one error in 16 attempts), 15 digs and five blocks. Junior Jamie McMullen (Castile/Letchworth) finished with 26 assists, six aces and six digs and graduate student Kimberly Wood (South Salem/John Jay) had 29 assists and 12 digs.

Against Lebanon Valley, Thurkins put down 17 kills and recorded 10 digs. Pietrzak added 12 kills and four blocks, Wood had 33 assists and 19 digs and McMullen amassed 11 kills, 22 assists, four aces and six digs.

In the nightcap versus St. Lawrence, Smith and sophomore Natalie Pizzi (Pittsburgh, PA/Baldwin) led a balanced attack with seven kills apiece. Sophomore Barbie Lang (Cuba/Cuba-Rushford) had six kills, freshman Danielle Turner (Farmingville/Sachem) recorded a team-high 10 digs, Wood recorded 15 assists and freshman Kielty Ciccone (Schenectady) posted a team-high four blocks.

(Full tournament scores and upcoming schedule on following page)
2002 CORTLAND RED DRAGON WOMEN’S VOLLEYBALL CLASSIC  
Friday-Saturday, September 6-7  
Whitney T. Corey Gymnasium; SUNY Cortland; Cortland, NY

FRIDAY’S RESULTS:

**Pool A**
- Cortland def. Fredonia  30-27, 31-29, 23-30, 30-25
- Lebanon Valley def. St. Lawrence  27-30, 33-31, 30-25, 30-24
- Fredonia def. St. Lawrence  30-24, 16-30, 30-23, 30-24
- Cortland def. St. Lawrence  30-26, 30-12, 30-24

**Pool B**
- Nazareth def. Geneseo  30-18, 30-19, 30-15
- Nazareth def. Alfred  30-14, 30-16, 30-19
- Geneseo def. Alfred  30-16, 30-18, 30-28

**Pool C**
- Buffalo St. def. Keuka  30-23, 30-24, 30-20
- Buffalo St. def. St. Michael's  33-35, 30-21, 30-15, 30-23

SATURDAY’S SCHEDULE:

**Pool A**
- 9:30 a.m.  Fredonia vs. Lebanon Valley  (last match in Pool A)

**Gold Medal Bracket (Round Robin Bracket)**
- 12 p.m. -- (A1) Cortland vs. (C1) Buffalo St.
- 2 p.m. -- (B1) Nazareth vs. (C1) Buffalo St.
- 6 p.m. -- (A1) Cortland vs. (B1) Nazareth

**Silver Medal Bracket (Round Robin Bracket)**
- 12 p.m. -- (A2) Fredonia or Lebanon Valley vs. (C2) Keuka
- 2 p.m. -- (B2) Geneseo vs. (C2) Keuka
- 4 p.m. -- (A2) Fredonia or Lebanon Valley vs. (B2) Geneseo

**Bronze Medal Bracket**
- 12 p.m. -- (A3) Fredonia or Lebanon Valley vs. (C3) St. Michael's
- 2 p.m. -- (A4) St. Lawrence vs. (B3) Alfred
- 4 p.m. -- Bronze Consolation Match (losers of first two matches)
- 4 p.m. -- Bronze Championship Match (winners of first two matches)

NOTE: Nazareth is ranked 15th in the pre-season AVCA Division III poll. Cortland is among teams "also receiving votes" in the pre-season poll.