SUNY Cortland Women's Volleyball
Day 1 of RIT Invitational
Friday, September 17, 2004; Clark Gymnasium; Rochester, N.Y.

ROCHESTER, N.Y. - Cortland improved its record to 12-0 with a pair of victories during pool play Friday at the 12-team RIT Women's Volleyball Invitational. The Red Dragons defeated Clarkson, 30-16, 20-30, 30-20, 30-20, then knocked off rival Ithaca, 26-30, 30-22, 30-28, 30-27.

Cortland won Pool C to advance to the championship bracket semifinals and will face the host Tigers, the Pool A champions, on Saturday at 10 a.m. Nazareth and nationally top-ranked NYU also won their pools and will play in a semifinal match Saturday at noon. The two semifinal losers will play at 2 p.m., while the two winners will play for the tournament title at 4 p.m.

Sophomore outside hitter Katie Brody (Apalachin/Vestal) led Cortland over Clarkson (7-3) with 17 kills and 18 digs. Senior outside hitter Barbie Lang (Cuba/Cuba-Rushford) ended with 12 kills and a .428 attack percentage and senior middle hitter Siobhan Loughlin (Hauppauge) finished with eight kills and no errors, a .444 attack percentage and four blocks.

In addition, senior setter Jamie McMullen (Castile/Letchworth) had 45 assists and five aces, junior libero Sara Schlichting (Clifton Park/Elmira Free Academy) totaled 18 digs and junior middle hitter Lauren Nels (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) had four blocks.

Against Ithaca (9-2), Cortland trailed by at least four points twice in both the third and fourth games, but rallied each time. Brody notched 17 kills, 24 digs and six blocks and senior outside hitter Natalie Pizzi (Pittsburgh, PA/Baldwin) had 15 kills. Loughlin recorded 12 kills and four blocks, Nels finished with six blocks and McMullen had 53 assists. Lang registered 15 digs and her two aces shared the team lead with Schlichting.

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