ROCHESTER, N.Y. - Cortland finished second at the 12-team RIT Invitational, defeating the host Tigers in Saturday’s semifinals, 3-2, before losing to nationally top-ranked and undefeated NYU, 3-2, in the championship match. The Red Dragons are 13-1 this fall after posting a 3-1 record at the tournament.

Cortland lost the first two games in the semifinals, 30-28 and 32-30, and faced a 31-30 deficit in the third game before winning the next three points to earn a 33-31 win. The Red Dragons then cruised to a 30-16 win in the fourth game and a 15-9 decision in the fifth game.

In the finals, the Red Dragons again faced a 2-0 deficit, dropping 30-28 and 30-23 verdicts to last year’s national runnerup. Cortland bounced back to win the next two games, 30-23 and 30-26, but its upset bid fell short after losing 15-8 in the fifth game. Cortland lost 3-0 to the Violets in last year’s NCAA regional finals. NYU (14-0) started this season with wins in its first 41 games (3-0 victories in 13 straight matches and the first two games versus Cortland) before dropping game three to the Red Dragons.

Senior setter Jamie McMullen (Castile/Letchworth) was named to the all-tournament team. She recorded 39 assists, 13 digs and seven kills versus RIT and had 34 assists, 13 digs, three aces and four kills against NYU. She finished with 171 assists in 17 games during the four-match tournament.

Sophomore outside hitter Katie Brody (Apalachin/Vestal) had 15 kills and 15 digs in the RIT match and 13 kills and 14 digs in the finals. Senior outside hitter Natalie Pizzi (Pittsburgh, PA/Baldwin) registered eight kills and 11 digs versus RIT and had eight kills and eight digs versus NYU.

Other Red Dragon highlights on Saturday included junior libero’s Sara Schlichting (Clifton Park/Elmira Free Academy) 19 digs and five aces, senior middle hitter Siobhan Loughlin’s (Hauppauge) seven kills and seven blocks and junior middle hitter Lauren Nels’ (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) seven kills and six blocks against RIT. Against NYU, senior outside hitter Barbie Lang (Cuba/Cuba-Rushford) had nine kills and 15 digs.

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