SUNY Cortland Women’s Basketball

SUNY Cortland vs. Ithaca College
Tuesday, December 9, 2003; Ben Light Gymnasium; Ithaca, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Ithaca 62, Cortland 43

ITHACA, N.Y. – Ithaca broke open a tight game with a 17-3 run to start the second half and the Bombers defeated Cortland, 62-43, to hand the Red Dragons their first loss of the season. Ithaca, which is among the also receiving votes section in the latest D3Hoops.com national poll, is now 3-1. Cortland falls to 6-1.

Junior guard Stephanie Cleary (Tappan/Tappan Zee) led Ithaca with 21 points, five assist and six steals. Senior guard Jennie Swatling (Strong, ME/Mount Abram) added 13 points and senior forward Kelly Gawronski (West Seneca/West Seneca West) grabbed a team-high nine rebounds.

Sophomore guard Kaylin VanDusen (Schuyler/West Canada Valley) paced Cortland with 14 points. Sophomore guard Dani Maye (Kirkwood/Windsor) added 13 points and six rebounds and senior forward Michelle Ciquera (Massapequa) scored six points and finished with team-highs of 11 rebounds, seven steals and three assists.

The game was even for most of the first half, with neither team leading by more than four points. Cortland held a 20-17 advantage on two free throws by freshman Andrea Wilkinson (New Paltz) with 8:45 left. From that point, however, the Red Dragons were held to just two field goals over the next 16 minutes. Ithaca led 26-23 at halftime and led 28-23 before a VanDusen three-pointer at the 18:29 mark brought the Red Dragons within 28-26. Ithaca scored the next 15, including five points each by Cleary and Swatling, and led 43-26 with 13:34 remaining.

Cortland trailed 53-34 with 7:22 remaining but scored seven straight points, capped by a Maye layup with 4:07 left, to draw within 12 points. The Red Dragons turned the ball over on their next three possession, however, and Ithaca finished the game with a 9-2 run.

Cortland opened the game by hitting six of its first 12 shots from the field but made only two of its next 16 attempts shot 29 percent for the half. The Red Dragons were held to 21 percent shooting (5-of-24) in the second half and finished at 25 percent for the game. Ithaca shot 44 percent from the field. Cortland turned the ball over 28 times, 17 in the second half, while Ithaca was guilty of 24 turnovers.