SUNY Cortland Women’s Basketball

vs. Skidmore College; Saratoga Springs, N.Y.
Skidmore Invitational; Saturday, November 22, 2003

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 67, Skidmore 53

SARATOGA SPRINGS, N.Y. – The SUNY Cortland women's basketball team advanced to the championship game of the Skidmore College Invitational with a 67-53 victory over the host Thoroughbreds. The Red Dragons will face Western Connecticut State, a 51-42 winner over William Paterson, on Sunday at 4 p.m.

Sophomore guard Dani Maye (Kirkwood/Windsor) led four Cortland double-figure scorers with 20 points and also grabbed a team-high eight rebounds. Senior forward Michelle Ciquera (Massapequa) recorded 16 points and five steals, junior guard Kristen Egan (Oyster Bay) scored a career-high 12 points and dished out four assists and sophomore guard Kaylin VanDusen (Schuyler/West Canada Valley) added 10 points. Freshman forward Andrea Wilkinson (New Paltz) contributed nine points and a team-best six assists.

Lauren Jones led Skidmore with 22 points, on 10-of-14 shooting, and eight rebounds. Danielle Bonitatibus added 11 points. The Thoroughbreds shot 49 percent from the floor, but turned the ball over 26 times to just 15 for Cortland.

The Red Dragons trailed 8-0 before Maye and Ciquera each scored six points in a 12-2 run that gave Cortland a 12-10 lead. Skidmore led 20-19 with 6:34 left in the half, but Wilkinson's three-pointer gave the Red Dragons the lead for good seven seconds later. That trey started a 13-0 Cortland run, capped by Egan's layup with 3:15 left, to give the Red Dragons a 32-20 lead. Maye's third three-pointer of the half gave Cortland a 37-23 lead with 1:34 remaining, and that scored held up to halftime. Maye was 3-of-4 from three-point range in the half and 4-of-9 for the game.

Skidmore rallied from 44-28 down with 17:20 left in the game to close within 46-41 on Lisa Mason's layup with 11:47 remaining. VanDusen hit a three-pointer shortly thereafter to start a 7-0 run for the Red Dragons. The hosts got back to within 57-50 with 5:08 left on a three-point play by Jones, but were outscored 10-3 the remainder of the game. Maye's steal and layup with 4:36 left  upped the lead to 59-50 and her layup off a rebound with 3:26 remaining pushed the Cortland advantage into double figures.