SUNY Cortland Women's Basketball

SUNY Cortland vs. Ithaca College
Tuesday, December 7, 2004; Corey Gymnasium; Cortland, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Cortland 58, Ithaca 53

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Junior Dani Maye (Kirkwood/Windsor) scored 20 points, including a career-high tying five three-pointers, in Cortland’s 58-53 non-league victory over visiting Ithaca College. The game was a rematch of last year’s NCAA Division III tournament first-round game, which Cortland won in Ithaca.

Maye also finished with eight rebounds and four steals for the Red Dragons (5-2). Freshman Sara Cavanaugh (Hastings-on-Hudson/Hastings) scored 14 points off the bench on 6-of-9 shooting and junior Kaylin VanDusen (Schuyler/West Canada Valley) tallied 12 points and seven assists.

Ithaca (3-3) was led by Stephanie Cleary’s (Tappan/Tappan Zee) 18 points. Alex Ivansheck (Salem, CT/Norwich) scored eight points and registered four assists and six steals.

Ithaca led only once in the game at 4-3, but the Bombers fought back from double-figure deficit to tie the game in the final 10 minutes. Cortland took a 50-38 lead, its largest of the game, on a Deirdre Zimmerman (Almond/Alfred-Almond) basket with nine minutes, 33 seconds left. Ithaca went on a 12-0 run, starting with a Cleary three-pointer and finishing with a Brynn Fessette (Plattsburgh/Seton Catholic) three-pointer that tied the game at 50-50 with 3:07 left.

Cortland ended its drought on Cavanaugh’s jumper with 2:43 left. Ithaca was fouled on its next possession at the 2:20 mark and Molly Brennan (Green Island/Heatly) made her first free throw but missed the second. The Bombers grabbed the offensive rebound but missed a potential go-ahead shot.

On Ithaca’s next possession with 1:35 remaining, Cortland sophomore forward Andrea Wilkinson (New Paltz) blocked a shot attempt to preserve the one-point lead. On Cortland’s trip down the floor, Cavanaugh tried to make a move, momentarily lost the ball but recovered and passed to Maye, who nailed a three-pointer with 1:13 left to give Cortland a 55-51 lead. The points were Maye’s first of the second half after scoring 14 in the opening period.

Ithaca misfired on a three-pointer with 1:01 left and Maye hit 3-of-4 free throws in the final 49 seconds to help seal the win. The Bombers made a shot at the buzzer to complete the scoring.

Cortland made 6-of-12 three-pointers in the first half, including four by Maye, and led 31-21 with 3:08 left in the period. Ithaca scored the final seven points of the half on two Cleary baskets and a Sue Kelly (Delmar/Bethlehem Central) three-pointer, and trailed 31-28 at halftime. Cleary scored 13 of her 18 points before intermission.

Wilkinson finished with a game-high 10 rebounds and Zimmerman and VanDusen grabbed five caroms each as the Red Dragons outrebounded the Bombers, 42-28. Cortland committed 23 turnovers to 13 for Ithaca, but the Red Dragons held Ithaca to 36 percent shooting from the field. Cortland hit 43 percent of its field goals – 47 percent (9-of-19) from three-point range.

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