FINAL SCORE: Cortland 72, Fredonia 59

CORTLAND, N.Y. – Senior Kaylin VanDusen (Schuyler/West Canada Valley) and sophomore Sara Cavanaugh (Hastings-on-Hudson/Hastings) each scored 16 points to lead five Cortland double-figure scorers as the Red Dragons defeated Fredonia, 72-59, in a SUNYAC contest.

Cortland (4-1, 2-0 SUNYAC) also received 12 points from freshman Maggie Byrne (Pearl River/Albertus Magnus) and 11 points each from freshmen Megan Assmus (Syosset) and Ali Canale (Oswego). Canale led the Red Dragons with nine rebounds and four assists. VanDusen also dished out four assists, Cavanaugh grabbed six rebounds and blocked three shots and Assmus recorded three assists.

Sophomore Cheryl Kindzia (Williamsville/Williamsville North) led Fredonia (3-2, 1-1) with 20 points and 12 rebounds. Sophomore Danielle Bleecker (Pittsford/Pittsford-Mendon) scored 13 points, junior Lisa Gentile (Utica/Whitesboro) finished with 12 points and seven rebounds and junior Karolyn Baker (Olean) handed out eight assists.

The teams played basically an even first half that featured six ties. Cortland used a 6-0 run, featuring four points by Assmus, to take a 29-22 lead with 4:02 left. The Blue Devils responded with six straight points, four by Kindzia, to pull back within 29-28. A Cavanaugh three-pointer at the buzzer gave Cortland a 32-28 lead at the break.

Leading 44-41 with 14:44 remaining, Cortland went on an 8-0 run to take a 52-41 lead with 11:32 left. Fredonia made a push and turned a 12-point deficit to seven with 5:39 left, and missed two other shots to reduce the margin further. Byrne sank two free throws with 3:58 left, part of her six points during a 10-0 run that gave Cortland its largest lead at 69-52 with 1:43 left.

Cortland shot 49 percent from the floor, including 46 percent (5-of-11) from three-point range. Fredonia connected on 39 percent of its shots from the field, but only 34 percent in the second half.

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