SUNY Cortland Women’s Basketball

NCAA Div. III Tournament - First Round
SUNY Cortland vs. Univ. of Rochester
Friday, March 4, 2006; The Palestra; Rochester, N.Y.

FINAL SCORE: Rochester 83, Cortland 65

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – Jessie Graham scored 15 points, all on first-half three-pointers, and Alex Porter and Danielle Muller each finished with 11 points as Rochester defeated Cortland, 83-65, in the opening round of the NCAA Division III tournament. The Yellowjackets (19-7) will host Medaille College in a second-round contest Saturday at 7 p.m.

Cortland finishes the season with a 23-5 mark. The Red Dragons were making their seventh NCAA tournament appearance and their second in three years. Cortland was also eliminated at Rochester in the 2004 tournament, falling in the second round.

Sophomore Sara Cavanaugh (Hastings-on-Hudson/Hastings) led Cortland with 15 points, six rebounds and four blocked shots. Senior Kaylin VanDusen (Schenectady/West Canada Valley) added 12 points and five rebounds and junior Andrea Wilkinson (New Paltz) finished with eight points.

Cortland was within a point at 18-17 with 12:28 left in the first half after a Maggie Byrne (Pearl River/Albertus Magnus) jumper, but the hosts scored the next nine points, starting with a Graham trey, and took a 27-17 lead. Rochester led 43-31 at halftime and opened the second half with an 8-0 run to extend the lead to 20 points. The margin grew to as much as 27 points before a Cortland push in the final six minutes created the final margin.

Graham finished 5-of-8 from three-point range to account for all of Rochester’s three-pointers. The Yellowjackets shot 46 percent from the floor.

Cortland was held to 35 percent shooting from the field, but did make 23-of-30 free throws (77 percent). The Red Dragons committed 22 turnovers, 13 in the first half.

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