Cortland’s Jennifer Willis ECAC Upstate N.Y. Women’s Lacrosse Player of the Year; Five Red Dragons Named to All-ECAC Team

SUNY Cortland junior attacker Jennifer Willis (Huntington/Walt Whitman) has been selected as the 2006 Eastern College Athletic Conference (ECAC) Division III Upstate New York Women’s Lacrosse Player of the Year. She is also joined on the All-ECAC squad by junior midfielder Ali Bourgal (Sachem), junior attacker Andrea Venditti (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker), senior defender Dyan Voorhees (Baldwinsville/C.W. Baker) and senior defender Erin Gallagher (Carthage).

Willis scored 46 goals and set a school single-season record with 36 assists for 82 points this past spring. She also won a team-best 70 draw controls and was second with 51 ground balls and 23 caused turnovers. Her 217 career points (142 goals, 75 assists) through three seasons ranks fifth in school history.

Bourgal, despite missing two games due to injury, registered 51 goals and 33 assists for a team-high 84 points. She led the Red Dragons with 61 ground balls and placed third with 39 draw controls. Bourgal is eighth at Cortland through three seasons with 200 career points (133 goals, 67 assists).

Venditti led the Red Dragons with 66 goals and was third on the squad with 77 total points. She scored a team-best six game-winning goals and has scored 100 career goals in two seasons with the Red Dragons.

Voorhees started all 20 games this season and finished with 49 ground balls and 17 caused turnovers. Gallagher scored six goals and recorded 40 ground balls and 20 caused turnovers in 20 games. Cortland’s defense allowed only 121 goals in 20 games, gave up double-figure goals in a game only twice and held nine opponents to five goals or less.

Cortland finished the season with a 19-1 record, the best in school history. The Red Dragons won their eighth straight State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) title and won two NCAA tournament games to earn their first berth into the Division III “final four.” Cortland suffered its lone loss in the national semifinals to Gettysburg.

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