BROCKPORT, N.Y. – SUNY Cortland sophomore Stef Sair (Huntington) and freshman Matt Sganga (Shirley/Longwood) earned trips to the NCAA Division III Wrestling Championships with their performances at the Empire Collegiate Wrestling Conference national qualifiers at SUNY Brockport. Sair finished first at 174 pounds to earn an automatic berth to nationals. Sganga placed second at 133 pounds and received one of nine “wild card” berths to nationals, as voted upon by the coaches after the meet. The 160-wrestler NCAA meet will be held March 4-5 in Northfield, Minn.

Cortland finished third in the final team standings. Brockport won the Empire team title with 97 points, followed by Ithaca (87), Cortland (49.5), Oswego (44), Oneonta (42) and RIT (23.5).

Sair won both of his matches to keep his season record perfect at 17-0. After receiving a bye in the first round, he defeated Gus Mancini of RIT in the semifinals, 8-5, and edged Ithaca's Matthias Keib, 3-2, in the championship match. Sganga opened with a 13-0 win over Lance Dolson of Ithaca before losing in the semifinals to Brockport's Tony D'Ambra, 7-2. He bounced back to defeat Julian Nicholas of RIT, 3-2, and Dolson, 6-5, then won the “true second-place match” with a 6-4 win over Oswego's Josh Levea. Sganga will bring a 19-12 record into nationals.

Freshman Treavor LeBlanc (Morrisville/Morrisville-Eaton) finished third at 184 pounds with a 3-2 mark. He opened with an 8-4 win over Oneonta's Ryan Lynch before losing, 7-3, to Robert Stubbs of Ithaca. He defeated Chris Easton of RIT 5-1, and Jonathon Jagatnarian of Oswego, 5-3, in the consolation bracket, but was pinned in the true-second match by Dan Glover of Brockport.

Four Red Dragons finished fourth in their weight classes. Freshman Ryan Gadsby (Auburn) was 2-2 at 125 pounds, junior Jason Chase (Rush/Rush-Henrietta) was 1-2 at 141 pounds, junior John Franchi (Elmira Heights/Thomas A. Edison) was 2-2 at 157 pounds and senior Brent Rider (Tioga Center/Tioga), a previous two-time All-American, was 2-2 at 165 pounds, including a 3-2, two-overtime loss in the consolation finals. Both of Franchi's losses were by one point, including a 5-4 decision to eventual 157-pound champion K.C. Beach of Ithaca.
2005 EMPIRE COLLEGIATE WRESTLING CONFERENCE CHAMPIONSHIPS – Cortland Results

125 pounds
Ryan Gadsby (4th place, 2-2)  
won by major dec. vs. Alan Boice (Brockport), 14-4  
lost to Walter Sosnowski (Oswego), 5-3  
pinned Murtuza Quiazar (RIT), 2:52  
lost to Alan Boice (Brockport), 9-7

133 pounds
Matt Sganga (2nd place, 4-1)  
won by major dec. vs. Lance Dolson (Ithaca), 13-0  
lost to Tony D’Ambra (Brockport), 7-2  
def. Julian Nicholas (RIT), 3-2  
def. Lance Dolson (Ithaca), 6-5  
True 2nd: def. Josh Levea (Oswego), 6-4

141 pounds
Jason Chase (4th place, 1-2)  
lost to Dan Roberts (Brockport), 12-1  
pinned Bryan Coyle (Oneonta), 2:30  
lost to Mike Pietrowski (RIT), Pin 6:44

149 pounds
Jack Holmgren (1-2)  
won by major dec. vs. Chris Nasser (RIT), 13-2  
lost to Jad Duca (Ithaca), 7-1  
lost to Pat Hanscomb (Brockport), 11-2

157 pounds
John Franchi (4th place, 2-2)  
def. Nate Bachmann (RIT), 9-5  
lost to K.C. Beach (Ithaca), 5-4  
won by tech fall. vs. Mark Mancari (Oswego), 7:00 (16-1)  
lost to Shaheim Bradshaw (Brockport), 9-8

165 pounds
Brent Rider (4th place, 2-2)  
def. Ryan Higgins (Oneonta), 7-4  
lost to Frank Petrucci (Oswego), 4-2  
won by major dec. vs. Tom Schwarting (RIT), 19-8  
lost to Don Williams (Brockport), 3-2, 2 OT

174 pounds
Stef Sair (1st place, 2-0)  
def. Gus Mancini (RIT), 8-5  
def. Matthias Keib (Ithaca), 3-2

184 pounds
Treavor LeBlanc (3rd place, 3-2)  
def. Ryan Lynch (Oneonta), 8-4  
lost to Robert Stubbs (Ithaca), 7-3  
def. Chris Easton (RIT), 5-1  
def. Jonathon Jagatnarian (Oswego), 5-3  
True 2nd: lost to Dan Glover (Brockport), Pin 2:40

197 pounds
Mark Maglione (0-2)  
lost to Nick Calandrino (Ithaca), Pin 2:13  
lost to Zach Greenberg (RIT), 8-4

Heavyweight
Mike Sganga (0-2)  
lost to Jeremy Calkins (Oswego), 2-0  
lost to Trevor Hiffa (RIT), Pin 3:35