ITHACA, N.Y. – Cortland sophomore Paul LeBlanc (Morrisville/Morrisville-Eaton) and junior Phil Archer (Shirley/William Floyd) finished first in their respective weight classes to lead Cortland to a third-place showing at the 17-team, season-opening Ithaca Invitational.

The College of New Jersey won the team title with 145.5 points, followed by Johnson & Wales (136.5), Cortland (135), Lycoming (113) and Roger Williams (100) in the top five.

LeBlanc won the 149-pound weight class with a 5-0 record, including three pins. The runner-up at 141 pounds last year, LeBlanc was the top seed in his flight this year. He pinned his first two opponents, then posted a 4-1 quarterfinal win over eighth-seeded Robert Doherty of Johnson & Wales. He earned a 16-6 major decision in the semifinals against fourth-seeded Matthew Shank of Gettysburg, then pinned second seed Eugene Kobilansky of NYU in 2:28 in the finals.

Archer, the runner-up at 197 pounds a year ago, won four straight matches to claim the title this season. After a 15-4 major decision in his opener, the top-seeded Archer blanked Alex Chianurashvilli of NYU in the quarterfinals, 6-0, and won 6-5 over fifth seed Matt Miller of Lycoming in the semifinals. He won the weight class with a 7-0 decision in the finals versus second seed Elliot Smith of Springfield.

Five other Red Dragons placed in the top six of their weight classes. Junior Zack Bogardus (Fulton/G. Ray Bodley) was third at 165 pounds and senior Matt Eldredge (Canandaigua/Walt Whitman) finished third at heavyweight. Freshman Mike Ciaburri (Victor/Palmyra-Macedon) placed fifth at 165 pounds, sophomore Treavor LeBlanc (Morrisville/Morrisville-Eaton) was fifth at 184 pounds and freshman Dave Colagiovanni (Mahopac) finished sixth at 125 pounds.

FINAL TEAM SCORES:

1) College of New Jersey (CNJ) 145.5
2) Johnson & Wales (JW) 136.5
3) Cortland (CORT) 135
4) Lycoming (LYC) 113
5) Roger Williams (RW) 100
6) Springfield (SPR) 98
7) Ithaca (ITH) 92
8) New York Univ. (NYU) 87.5
9) Hunter (HUN) 78
10) Norwich (NOR) 67
tie 11) Centenary (CEN) 65
tie 11) Oswego (OSW) 65
13) Rochester Inst. of Tech. (RIT) 62.5
14) Gettysburg (GETT) 34.5
15) Coast Guard (CG) 21.5
16) Western New England (WNEC) 13.5
17) New Hampshire (club) (NH) 7

(Cortland match results on next page)
Cortland Match Results
at Ithaca Invitational; Nov. 4-5, 2006

125 pounds

(#9 seed) DAVE COLAGIOVANNI (6th place, 4-3)
pinned Joe Palmitessa (LYC), 4:19
def. #8 Mike Daly (OSW), 7-3
lost to #1 Brandon McDonough (JW), 4-3
def. #7 Justin Seifried (ITH), 7-4
def. #4 Matt Myers (HUN), 6-2
lost to #6 Mike McInally (RIT), 9-3
5th place: lost to #2 Anthony Nicolicchia (RW), 5-4

ANTHONY SMALL (0-2)
lost to #2 Anthony Nicolicchia (RW), Pin 4:36
lost to William Martinez (CEN), 2-0

133 pounds

NICK TONINI (2-2)
pinned Ryan Briggs (SPR), 2:26
lost to #3 Julian Nicholas (RIT), Pin 3:28
major dec. Richard Perkins (HUN), 12-3
lost to A.J. Jackson (RW), 8-4

141 pounds

MANNY ALAYON (2-2)
lost to Hamilton Cook (JW), 7-2
def. Mark Garrapoli (CEN), 6-3
major dec. Andrew Hawley (RW), 16-2
lost to #9 Colin Lewis (HUN), 9-2

149 pounds

(#1 seed) PAUL LeBLANC (1st place, 5-0)
pinned Josh Schnieder (RIT), 1:41
pinned Robbie Crothers (RW), 2:08
def. #8 Robert Doherty (JW), 4-1

Semis: major dec. #4 Matthew Shank (GETT), 16-6
Finals: pinned #2 Eugene Kobilansky (NYU), 2:28

KEVIN SACKETT (4-2)
def. Barry McBain (CEN), 4-3
lost to #2 Eugene Kobilansky (NYU), 13-6
pinned Sean Weaver (LYC), 1:17
pinned Adam Johnson (ITH), 2:00
pinned #8 Robert Doherty (JW), 2:50
lost to #5 Dan Rokas (RW), 6-2

WILL BRODFUEHRER (2-2)
def. George Pikounis (LYC), 14-10
lost to #8 Robert Doherty (JW), 6-2
def. Dan Leeper (LYC), 9-6
lost to Robbie Crothers (RW), 4-0

ROBERT DALY (2-2)
major dec. Andy Gosiewski (RW), 9-0
lost to #6 Chris Wells (JW), 7-5
def. Ryan Crosby (NOR), 6-2
lost to Scott O’Connel (NOR), 8-2

JACK HOLMGREN (1-2)
def. Mike Goossens (SPR), default 4:12
lost to #7 Drew Bader (LYC), 8-4
lost to Adam Johnson (ITH), 7-2

ALEX HOJNOWSKI (0-1)
lost to James Eggie (JW), 5-0
(medically forfeited next match)

157 pounds

DAN EBERLEIN (0-2)
lost to #4 Andrew Goldstein (GETT), 11-4
lost to Kenny Ford (RW), 9-2

CHIRS COWARD (0-2)
lost to #6 Nate Bachman (RIT), 12-2
lost to #5 Brian Radik (CEN), Pin 3:20

165 pounds

(#4 seed) ZACK BOGARDUS (3rd place, 6-1)
major dec. Dallas Fill (RW), 10-2
def. Tyler LaBlanc (SPR), 4-3
lost to #5 Eric Miller (LYC), 9-8
def. Ed Michno (CEN), medical forfeit
def. Patrick Knight (NYU), 10-5
def. #3 Jared Duffy (CEN), 14-11
3rd place: pinned #5 Eric Miller (LYC), 0:35

(#10 seed) MIKE CIBAURRI (5th place, 5-2)
def. Clint Gardner (LYC), default 5:59
lost to #2 Mike Guenther (CNJ), 5-0
def. Justin Dwork (ITH), 3-1
def. Luke Gabordi (SPR), 6-3
lost to #5 Eric Miller (LYC), 4-3
5th place: def. #3 Jared Duffy (CEN), 7-4

174 pounds

No Cortland entries

184 pounds

(#2 seed) TREAVOR LeBLANC (5th place, 3-2)
major dec. Alexander Whitney (NOR), 12-3
def. #7 Brian Kopesky (LYC), 3-2
Semis: lost to #6 Nick Coleman (NYU), 4-2
lost to #4 Greg Dussol (SPR), 3-2
5th place: def. #5 Bryant Lenhardt (JW), medical forf.

MATT ROOT (1-2)
lost to Samual Thorner (NYU), Pin 4:54
def. James Sykes (HUN), 2-1
lost to Alexander Whitney (NOR), 5-1 (ot, sv)

197 pounds

(#1 seed) PHIL ARCHER (1st place, 4-0)
major dec. John Ragno (SPR), 15-4
def. Alex Chianurashvilli (NYU), 6-0
Semis: def. #5 Matt Miller (LYC), 6-5
Finals: def. #2 Elliot Smith (SPR), 7-0

BARRY GIBSON (2-2)
lost to Hank Reedy (LYC), 9-2
def. Maum Shuminov (NYU), 8-5
def. Alex Chianurashvilli (NYU), forfeit
lost to #4 Brian Scher (HUN), Pin 1:21
Heavyweight

(#6 seed) MATT ELDREDGE (3rd place, 5-1)
pinned Steve Kildow (JW), 1:17
pinned Jake Mender (ITH), 2:34
def. James Layman (NYU), 4-1
Semis: lost to #2 Jake Taylor (OSW), Pin 1:49
pinned #5 Cody Lightfoot (NOR), 4:39
def. #7 Steve Carbone (CNJ), 6-4 (ot, sv)

JOE MURPHY (4-2)
pinned George Rupp (LYC), 0:48
lost to #4 Phillip McGeough (SPR), 5-3 (ot, tb)
pinned Eric Hayes (JW), 3:14
major dec. Jake Bryant (RIT), 9-1
def. James Layman (NYU), 6-2
lost to #7 Steve Carbone (CNJ), 3-2