ROCHESTER, N.Y. – Four Cortland wrestlers won individual weight class titles to lead the Red Dragons to a third-place showing at the 15-team RIT Invitational. Wilkes won the tournament with 138.5 points, followed by Johnson and Wales (117), Cortland (113), John Carroll (109.5) and Case Western (80.5) in the top five.

Brothers Paul LeBlanc (Morrisville/Morrisville-Eaton) and Treavor LeBlanc (Morrisville/Morrisville-Eaton) finished first at 141 pounds and 174 pounds, respectively. Freshman Corey Barber (Hudson Falls) captured top honors at 157 pounds and junior Zack Bogardus (Fulton/G. Ray Bodley) placed first at 165 pounds. Two other Red Dragons earned top-six finishes - junior Phil Archer (Shirley/William Floyd) was the runner-up at 197 pounds and senior Eddie Ortiz (New Rochelle) finished sixth at 133 pounds.

Paul LeBlanc, seeded first at 141 pounds, finished with a 5-0 record. His first three victories consisted of two pins and an 11-3 major decision. He edged fourth-seeded Adam Penberthy of Wilkes, 5-3, in the semifinals, and went to overtime versus third-seeded David Manoogian of Case Western in the finals before prevailing 5-4 after a tiebreaker. Treavor LeBlanc won all four of his matches at 174 pounds in convincing fashion. Seeded third, he opened with 10-3 and 7-2 victories in his first two matches. He then pinned his opponent in 1:16 in the semifinals and won by a 21-6 technical fall in the finals versus top-seeded Jerome Owens of Johnson and Wales.

Barber was seeded fourth to start the 157-pound bracket. After 17-7 and 7-2 wins in his first two bouts, Barber handled top-seeded Nate Bachmann of RIT in the semifinals, 10-4, and posted a 4-2 win in the finals versus Frank Heffeman of Wilkes. Bogardus was the second seed in the 165-pound weight class. He worked his way into the semifinals with 14-0 and 4-1 wins, then beat the third seed, Justin Barowski of Wilkes, 10-5 to advance to the finals. In the title match, Bogardus won 4-2 over top-seeded Corey Murphy of Thiel.

Archer won his first match at 197 pounds by an 11-0 major decision and pinned his next opponent in 5:55. The third seed then earned a 3-0 decision in the semifinals versus second seed Thomas Sanders of Case Western before losing 8-3 in the finals to top seed Brandon Kelly of Wilkes. Ortiz started as the top seed at 133 pounds, but was defeated in his first match by unseeded Matt McDiarmid of John Carroll, 4-1. Ortiz bounced back to win his next three matches in the consolation bracket, including one by pin and one by major decision, but then forfeited his next two matches to finish sixth despite an official 3-1 record.

2006 RIT INVITATIONAL

FINAL TEAM SCORES:
1. Wilkes Univ. (WILK) ................... 138.5
2. Johnson & Wales College (JW) ...... 117
3. SUNY Cortland (CORT) ............... 113
4. John Carroll Univ. (JC) ............... 109.5
5. Case Western Reserve Univ. (CW) ... 80.5
6. Thiel University (TH) ................. 73.5
7. Rochester Inst. of Tech (RIT) ......... 71
8. Baldwin-Wallace College (BW) ...... 56
9. SUNY Oswego (OSW) .................. 55
10. Rhode Island College (RIC) .......... 49
11. Wesleyan Univ. (WES) ............... 32
12. Massachusetts Inst. of Tech. (MIT) ... 26
13. Morrisville St. College (MORR) ..... 23.5
14. Coast Guard Academy (CG) ......... 22.5
15. Waynesburg College (WAY) .......... 0.5

(Cortland results on following page)
RIT INVITATIONAL
Dec. 2, 2006; Rochester, N.Y.

CORTLAND RESULTS:

125 pounds
(#5 seed) DAVE COLAGIOVANNI (1-2)
pinned Brian Conrad (CG), 4:24
lost to #4 Shaun Farnham (WILK), 11-4
lost to Elie Naoum (JC), Pin 3:44

133 pounds
(#1 seed) EDDIE ORTIZ (6th place, 3-1)
lost to Matt McDiarmid (JC), 4-1
pinned Murtuza Quaizar (RIT), 1:45
def. #3 Josh Wildes (WES), 10-6
won by major dec. vs. Dave Alexandria (MORR), 11-2
(forfeited next two matches)

141 pounds
(#1 seed) PAUL LeBLANC (1st place, 5-0)
pinned Jake Kornblatt (CW), 1:15
won by major dec. vs. Don Torrenti (WES), 11-3
pinned Damian Rose (TH), 4:28
Semis: def. #4 Adam Penberthy (WILK), 5-3
Finals: def. #3 David Manoogian (CW), 5-4 (ot, tb)

149 pounds
(#7 seed) JACK HOLMGREN (2-2)
def. Nick Ryan (RIT), 4-2
lost to #2 Drew Gardella (CW), tech. fall 6:00 (16-0)
def. Mike Bahrenburg (OSW), 4-1
lost to #3 Brian Radik (CG), 15-11

KEVIN SACKETT (2-2)
lost to #5 Chris Wells (JW), 16-5
won by medical forfeit vs. Ryan Desisto (RIC)
won by major dec. vs. Corey Kubber (MIT), 16-2
lost to Dan Zergarnik (WES), 6-4

157 pounds
(#4 seed) COREY BARBER (1st place, 4-0)
won by major dec. vs. Andrew Franko (WILK), 17-7
def. #5 Mike Martini (RIC), 7-2
Semis: def. #1 Nate Bachmann (RIT), 10-4
Finals: def. Frank Heffeman (WILK), 4-2

ERIC SCIUTTO (0-2)
lost to #6 Jason Wake (RIT), 11-2
lost to Cristhian Arbelaez (JW), Pin 4:56

165 pounds
(#2 seed) ZACK BOGARDUS (1st place, 4-0)
won by major dec. vs. Cody Quick (BW), 14-0
def. #7 Greg Hurd (WES), 4-1
Semis: def. #3 Justin Barowski (WILK), 10-5
Finals: def. #1 Corey Murphy (TH), 4-2

174 pounds
(#3 seed) TREAVOR LeBLANC (1st place, 4-0)
def. D.J. Giancola (WILK), 10-3
def. #6 Bryan Gomes (MORR), 7-2
Semis: def. Jeremy Feador (BW), Pin 1:16
Finals: won by tech. fall vs. #1 Jerome Owens (JW), 6:00 (21-6)

(#5 seed) MARIO SCHIANO (2-1)
def. Mitch Costa (TH), 4-3
lost to #4 Chris Branchan (JC), 4-3
def. Antonio Campes (BW), 4-2
(forfeited next match)

184 pounds
MATT ROOT (0-2)
lost to #3 Josh Ballan (WILK), 13-8
lost to Brian Haines (BW), 14-7

197 pounds
(#3 seed) PHIL ARCHER (2nd place, 3-1)
won by major dec. vs. Travis Sokolow (BW), 11-0
pinned #6 Mike Lima (WES), 5:55
Semis: def. #2 Thomas Sanders (CW), 3-0
Finals: lost to #1 Brandon Kelly (WILK), 8-3

Heavyweight
(#5 seed) MATT ELDREDGE (2-1)
lost to Sean Jameson (MIT), 3-2
def. Mike Nijoka (JC), 3-1
def. #7 Marquise Johnson (JW), 5-2
(forfeited next match)

JOE MURPHY (0-2)
lost to #7 Marquise Johnson (JW), 6-3
lost to Tim Lambert (JC), 2-0