

THE DRAGON CHRONICLE

Vol. LXXXVI No. 20 • State University of New York College at Cortland • April 23, 2009

WHAT'S GOING ON?

Want to earn a free Spring Fling concert ticket?

Volunteers are needed for the Spring Fling Carnival and Concert on Saturday, April 25. Sign up for one shift from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. or two shifts from 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. for the Carnival.

In order to receive a free ticket to the concert, volunteers must work both shifts. Volunteers may also sign up for the concert.

If interested, please contact Brandy Lawrence at brandy.lawrence@cortland.edu and specify which shift you would like to work.

Rock For a Cause being held Tuesday in Corey

Matt Nathanson, known for his hit single, "Come on Get Higher," will be headlining the annual Rock for a Cause benefit concert. The concert will be held at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, in the Corey Function Room.

The 37 Project and Dave Smallen will also be making an appearance. Tickets are \$5 for students \$10 for non-students.

Defensive Driving Course being offered in May

A six-hour defensive driving course will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday, May 2, in the Corey Exhibition Lounge. Taking the course helps to save money on car insurance and helps to take points off a license.

The course costs \$40. Advanced registration is required. Sign up in the SGA office, 217 Corey Union.

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Contact Us

Newsroom: (607) 753-2803
Fax: (607) 753-2805

E-mail:
dragonchronicle@cortland.edu

Website:
<http://web.cortland.edu/dragonchronicle>

It's official: NY Jets choose Cortland

Campus to become summer training camp for NFL team

By Scott Rapp's News Writing & Reporting Class

The New York Jets announced Monday that Cortland is their top pick as their summer training camp location.

At the news conference, team owner Woody Johnson said that the Jets chose Cortland because it was the single best area to pull his team together and build team chemistry.

"Everything about SUNY Cortland and the community was what we were looking for," said Johnson.

Johnson and Gov. David



Gov. David Paterson and Jets owner Woody Johnson showcase a customized T-shirt.

Paterson made the announcement Monday morning in the Hall of Fame Room at Park Center.

The move is expected to draw

thousands of visitors and pump millions of dollars into the city's economy. The state is also awarding the school a \$410,000

photo provided by The Post Standard

grant that will be used to upgrade the football field and upgrade the campus apartments.

SEE JETS ON PAGE 19

Results are in for SGA elections



photo by Erica Sanderson

New Vice President Aaron Batchelder and new SGA President Jesse Campanaro.

Election yields more votes than last year to pick new officers

Gabriel Schaub
Staff Writer

Cortland students made their choice clear on April 7 as new SGA officers were elected.

In an increase in voter turnout from 2008, 16% of the student body cast their vote. Out of 955 votes, 565 of them were cast for the current President Jesse Campanaro, a sophomore from Monticello.

As the new president, Campanaro plans to get more participation from the student body in SGA and campus events.

"If there's more involvement [from the student body] it will create more awareness for SGA," said Campanaro.

Campanaro is a Health Science Major and has had experience in SGA since he came to Cortland. He was a senator his first semester freshman year, the executive assistant to the vice president his second semester of freshman year, and vice president this current year.

Along with the president, Campanaro's running mate also won his ballot. Aaron Batchelder, a junior from Rouses Point,

received 565 out of 955 votes.

Batchelder, who is also a Health Science Major, feels more comfortable in the role that he will be taking on as vice president as opposed to president, which deals more with internal affairs.

"I will be dealing with the student body on more of an interactive basis," said Batchelder.

The Secretary position, which SGA hires, has not yet been filled for next semester and Treasurer will be Gabrielle Magnanti.

The current president, Margaret Rainsford, already has a multitude of responsibilities. In her role as president she acts as a liaison to the student body, visits

SEE SGA ON PAGE 2

Gospel Choir journeys to Germany

Gospel Choir takes third international trip for Spring Tour

Vicky Paz
Editor-in-Chief

SUNY Cortland Gospel Choir singers, musicians, and officers embarked on a journey of faith to Germany from April 9 to April 15 for their Spring 2009 International Tour.

They presented five concerts in the cities of Frankfurt, Aachen and Dusseldorf, performing songs of worship and praise.

"It wasn't just a trip overseas, it was an enlightening and spiritual journey," said junior Erica Roman, a soprano.

Jet lag from the six-hour time difference in Germany didn't hinder the spirit of the choir at their first concert at International Christian Fellowship (ICF) Church in Aachen, just hours after they landed in Europe on Good Friday.

The 48 choir members served as goodwill ambassadors and continued to spread the word of Christianity at other churches and venues throughout the country, where gospel music holds much acclaim.

SEE GOSPEL ON PAGE 14

Trading in comforters for cardboard boxes

Students 'Sleep Out' on Corey steps for homeless awareness

Erica Sanderson
News Editor

Shivering from the chilly evening winds, about 25 students began to construct their cardboard homes for the night on the steps of Corey Union.

Making due with their minimal housing supplies, students tried in vain to build a shelter that would provide a roof over their head and protection from the strong winds.

Despite the harsh elements, not a single person complained due to the reality that the homeless undergo this process every night.

In an effort to direct attention on homelessness, the annual Sleep Out for Homeless Awareness, hosted by NYPIRG and Habitat for



photo by Erica Sanderson

Student Ethan Rosen peeks out from a cardboard home.

Humanity, was carried out overnight from 7 p.m. to 8 a.m. on April 16-17.

Karen Campbell, a 20-year-old Cortland resident, participated to pay homage to the homeless man who lives down the street from her

who she gives cans to.

"We're still going to be comfortable tonight [compared to the homeless]. I think it's good for the students who may not know what it is like."

According to a fact sheet that

was handed out at the event, approximately 3.5 million people are likely to experience homelessness in a given year.

Captain Scott Dorchak from the Salvation Army opened the event with a short speech.

Throughout the night, movies were shown and games such as four square, water pong and various board games were offered.

Students also brought canned goods to be donated to the local food pantry Loaves and Fishes.

"There is a certain equality that needs to be met by all people and it's not fair that people need to live like this," said junior Sarah Leilani, Project Leader of Hunger and Homeless for NYPIRG.

Transfer student and NYPIRG intern Ethan Rosen said, "Hopefully for one night we will see what people have to go through every night."

For more information on helping with homelessness visit www.nationalhomeless.org.

SGA elections

CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

monthly with the president of the university, oversees the E-board and generally serves on various committees.

Holding an SGA official position is not without some perks. The president and vice president each receive a stipend worth \$2,500. The treasurer also receives monetary compensation.

There is no maximum number of times an officer can run for his/her position.

Being just a sophomore, Campanaro plans on running next year as well. "I want to help out the students...and have Cortland experience things that we have never experienced before."

Walk-a-thon boasts big benefits

Sports Management Club sponsors walk for cancer foundation

Matthew Fanelli
Staff Writer

The Sports Management Club raised over \$1,000 for the V Foundation for Cancer Research during a Walk-A-Thon on Saturday, April 18.

Many Cortland students and a handful of community members came out on a beautiful Saturday afternoon in order to support the V Foundation and a cause that hits home for many people the world over: a cure for cancer.

The V Foundation was founded in 1993 by ESPN and Jim Valvano, the late NC State basketball coach whose life was claimed by cancer. Since the

organizations founding, the V Foundation has raised over \$80 million for cancer research. Cortland saw fit to add to this record through hard work and compassion.

The agreeable spring weather made it possible for participants to enjoy a slue of carnival games, snacks and recreational sports. SGA recognized clubs, NRHH, RHA and hall councils all made commitments to better the program and to raise money.

All events were open to the public and cost a small fee in order to play, ensuring that everybody was a winner throughout the day.

"It's really a wonderful thing to see the student body getting involved for such a charitable cause," said one participant and walker from the campus.

"We all need to be more aware of the dangers of this disease, and take advantage of any opportunities to help find a cure."

Although the cause was very

serious, the attitude of those in attendance was light. Participants could be seen playing Kan Jam, making sand art, eating hotdogs and snow cones, and generally having a good time.

The Sports Management Club has already suggested that this program will be duplicated in the following years, with the high hopes of greater attendance and participation.

Santino Thomas, the co-chair of the Walk-A-Thon committee, has great ideas for the future of this event. Thomas was very grateful that so much money could be raised in support of the V Foundation.

Thomas said, "Any amount that we can raise for cancer is well worth any work or time that we've sacrificed. I really want to express my sincere thanks to all the organizations that came together to make this event possible, and I hope that they will be willing to do so again in the future."

It's easy being green with composting 101

Composting is environmentally friendly and easy

Rebecca Job
Staff Writer

Rickie McClure, an Academic Tutor in ASAP, spoke in the Exhibition Lounge on Wednesday, April 15, to discuss her experiences and tips for composting.

The program was hosted by the Wellness Wednesday series to inform people of how easy it is to compost food wastes, the positive impact composting has on our landfills and the multiple uses it has.

Composting is the natural breakdown of organic material such as yard trimmings, kitchen scraps, wood shavings, cardboard and paper to a dark, loose, soil-like substance that will substantially enrich a flower or vegetable garden.

Composting is a form of recycling that occurs continually in nature. It can significantly reduce the amount of household waste thrown away and at the same time provide a nutrient-rich additive for soils.

McClure started composting about 25 years ago. Her motivation to start composting was at her very first house; she wanted to improve the quality of the soil to successfully garden.

Personal benefits that McClure gains with composting is "thinking that you can take something that could be stinky and yucky and last for years in a landfill and turn it into something that is sweet smelling and so good for your garden/yard," stated

McClure.

For a compost pile to work it needs green wastes and brown wastes. Green wastes include grass clippings and kitchen wastes. Brown wastes include leaves, twigs, branches and paper. The last ingredient is water.

McClure suggested that the green and brown wastes be layered as they are collected for the pile, and that the pile is turned a few times a summer.

Things not to add to compost are any part of a black walnut tree, dairy products, fats, grease, lard or oils, meat, fish bones, pet wastes and yard trimmings treated with pesticides.

A compost is typically about three to five square feet. Depending on how healthy compost is, it should be about four to six months old before you mix it in with the soil.

Apply a one to two inch layer of compost and work it into the top one to two inches of soil. Use as much mulch between rows as desired.

A fact that McClure provided states that "organic material, including food scraps and yard trimmings, constitutes about 20 percent to 40 percent of the total waste stream in the U.S."

The environmental benefits provided by composting include the decrease in the amount of garbage sent to landfills, it improves the quality of soil in your garden or your yard, and it is pollution free.

Additionally, compost helps soil retain water to improve the gardening.

"This is how you can help to reduce, reuse, and reduce all in one easy step," said McClure as she closed her presentation and opened it for questions.

Lose your shoes, gain awareness

Soccer tournament rounds up teams to raise money for AIDS

Patrick Meany
Contributing Writer

The Lose the Shoes Soccer Tournament will take place at Noon on Saturday, April 25, on the fields beyond the stadium.

Lose the Shoes is a small sided soccer tournament played with bare feet to help raise money for AIDS awareness in Africa.

About 50 teams will compete this year. It all began at Dartmouth College in the fall of 2006 where the first Lose the Shoes tournament was held.

Since then, over 90 Lose the Shoes Tournaments have taken place and over \$150,000 has been

raised.

In cooperation with Grassroots Soccer, Lose the Shoes has helped raise AIDS awareness, mainly in South Africa.

Ethan Zohn, winner of "Survivor: Africa" is co-founder of Grassroots Soccer and in conjunction with Lose the Shoes, aims to take a kick out of HIV and AIDS in Africa.

Liam O'Connell and Dan Anadio teamed up to bring the tournament to Cortland.

"Since soccer is something I love, organizing this tournament was something I was passionate about," said O'Connell, who happens to be the president of the Cortland Club Soccer team.

"We've got about 50-60 teams playing this year, but hopefully in the next few years we can reach out to Syracuse, Binghamton, and

Albany for more participants. It will only grow."

After getting the backing of the Sport Management Department, Lose the Shoes has taken off, with plans to expand next year.

"We hope to have a committee for next years tournament", said O'Connell.

"We think this could become as big as the Wingate Tournament. If we branch out enough to surrounding areas, it might."

The Men's Soccer team will help out with Lose the Shoes as well by refereeing some games over the weekend.

If interested, please contact Liam O'Connell at leoconnell@charter.net or Dan Anadio at Anadio30@Cortland.edu and help kick AIDS out of Africa.

Smile, you're on Neubig's webcam

Neubig adds a webcam for families to look in on students

Lauren Schutt
Staff Writer

Along with the renovations being done to Neubig Dining this semester, a webcam was added to the dining hall.

The video surveillance can be accessed on Cortland's Auxiliary Services Corporation's website, <http://www.cortlandasc.com/>.

After adding the active-x software, anyone is able to watch a live feed of the Neubig Dining Hall.

The webcam in Neubig Dining

Hall was put in as a way for parents to see their kids at school.

Bill McNamara, the Director of Dining Services at ASC, described the webcam as "goofy and corny." When asked what its purpose was, McNamara said it was just another way to keep in contact with your friends and family.

"You can text your friends, tell them you can be seen and then wave to them on the webcam," he said.

McNamara also mentioned that you can watch students watch baseball and other sports games and see their reactions.

There was only one webcam installed in Neubig Dining Hall and it only shows a few of the tables, so not everyone has to be in the spotlight.

McNamara hasn't gotten any negative feedback about the webcam, only positive. Students

have said that they aren't going to sit at the tables the webcam is focused on, but it hasn't deterred or prevented anyone from sitting there.

Students that have gone to McNamara to give their opinion have all said that the webcam was a good idea.

One student said she thought the idea was clever for parents to see their kids and for them to "wave," but to sit there and watch people eat is a little weird.

A few years ago, there was a webcam installed at Raquette Lake for the students to see what was happening there.

The webcam in Neubig is the same idea and McNamara hopes that it has the same success.

This is the only webcam located on campus, and the only two webcams related to Cortland, so don't forget to wave.

Attention Readers:

The last issue of The Dragon Chronicle for the spring 2009 semester will be published next Thursday, April 30.

**Have a story idea?
Like to write?**

Be a freelance writer and send us stories! We are always looking for writers! Send submissions to dragonchronicle@cortland.edu.

Casey Henry oversees campus events as SAB's president

A closer look at the Student Activities Board's president

Rebecca Greenland
Staff Writer

Casey Henry is a hardworking junior whose major is Speech Pathology and minor is Psychology.

She has been involved with Colleges Against Cancer, Relay for Life, Speak Magazine and Speech club.

This year Henry is the President of the Student Activities Board.

The Student Activities Board (more commonly known as SAB) is responsible for Spring Fling, Siblings Weekend, bi-weekly coffee houses and bringing different entertainment to campus such as this year's comedian, Louis CK.

As a freshman, Henry entered SAB as a general member and worked on the Spring Fling carnival committee.



photo by Rebecca Greenland

Casey Henry is president of SAB; the club will be holding Spring Fling this weekend.

She was then voted to Spring Fling Chair as a sophomore, and eventually president as a junior.

As the president of SAB, Henry oversees the entire club and keeps the planning chairs (students who plan certain events) organized.

She has to go to every committee meeting so as to not show bias, and keep the club positive and efficient.

Henry said, "SAB holds a special place in my heart." As a freshman, Henry wasn't sure how much she liked Cortland until she

got involved with the club.

She now likes working with the younger club members and encouraging them to get involved.

She said the hardest part of being president is staying neutral in planning meetings.

"As president, you have to

take a step back and listen; you can't always do what you want," Henry said.

The main focus of the club right now is this weekend's Spring Fling.

There will be a S.P.E.C.T.R.U.M Gender Bender Ball this Friday from 10 p.m. to 2 a.m., where students can mix and match clothes, dance to a live DJ and enjoy refreshments.

Saturday from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. is the Spring Fling Carnival where there will be an inflatable wall climb, gladiator joust, wrecking ball, bungee run, airbrush tattoos, caricature artist, photo keychains, a sign shop and giveaways.

Saturday night the popular band O.A.R. will be playing in the Alumni Ice Arena at 8 p.m., tickets will be on sale up until the concert in Corey Union.

After Spring Fling weekend, SAB is hosting Rock for a Cause at 7:30 p.m. on April 28 in the Corey Function Room.

Matt Nathanson, who sings "Come On Get Higher," will be performing and Dave Smullen will also make an appearance.

The 37 Project, a local band who won in Cortland's Battle of the Bands, will be opening that night. The event will raise money for various charities.

Variety of events coming to campus to close out the year

Plenty to do at Cortland as the year comes to a close

Andrew Harrison
Staff Writer

A variety of events are taking place throughout Cortland these upcoming weeks. Cortland is having a fundraiser for the

Binghamton shooting victims and their families. Stop by the SGA office to drop off any donations that you wish to offer.

On Saturday, May 2, there will be a Defensive Driving Course in the Exhibition Lounge, the sign up sheet will be in the SGA office and it will cost \$40 to take this course.

Taking the course will lower your car insurance rates, has the ability to deduct unwanted points from your license. The course is six hours long and will go from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

There was also a concern

about the fact that Scholar's Day seems to constantly fall on the National Day of Silence.

The National Day of Silence is for participants to remain silent for a day to bring attention to namecalling, bullying and harassment in schools.

The concern about these days coinciding with one another is that it makes it difficult for people who wish to participate in this National Day of Silence to attend the events of Scholar's Day.

From noon to 3 p.m. on May 2, the Higgins RA staff are hosting

a diversity expo in the Function Room.

This expo will have various clubs showcasing booths that will show the diversity that is on campus and in the city of Cortland in general.

Spring Fling is this weekend and O.A.R. is coming for the main event, they will be playing at 8 p.m. on Saturday in the Alumni Ice Arena.

That same day from 12 p.m. to 4 p.m. on the Moffett lawn their will be various events being held for Spring Fling.

However, the big news on campus is that it is now official that the New York Jets will be running their summer camps on the Cortland Campus.

Their presence will lead to an increase in internship opportunities and the funding that is given to the school from the Jets will go towards any aspect of the school that needs funding for a change.

It is important to recognize that this funding will not be given directly to the sports section of student life.

A professor shares her experiences from abroad

Lori Ellis blogs about her sabbatical leave in Kyoto, Japan

Erica Sanderson
News Editor

For those familiar with the Art and Art History departments, a certain face has been absent all semester: Professor and Department Chair Lori Ellis.

Ellis, who has been a member of the Cortland faculty since the fall of 2000, has been on sabbatical this semester in Kyoto, Japan.

While in Kyoto, Ellis has been studying Japanese painting, ceramics, textiles, architecture and garden design, which have elements Ellis is incorporating into her art work.

During her time abroad, Ellis has been writing a blog in order to share her Japanese experiences with her friends, family and colleagues.

"I also wanted to contribute to the college's mission of internationalization. International



Lori Ellis, in front of the Golden Pavilion in Kyoto, Japan, where she is on sabbatical.

travel has been a source of great enrichment in my life, as well as a great inspiration for my creative work and my teaching," said Ellis.

"I hope by blogging to both

excite would be travelers with the new and unfamiliar, and to reassure that there are wonderful, warm-hearted people to meet the world over."

She has also traveled to Vietnam, China, Australia, Peru, Spain and Italy, among many others.

To read her blog visit:

www.loriellis.com/loriellis.com/Kyoto_blog/Kyoto_blog.html.

Ellis has contributed to the campus in another big way: she helped to develop Cortland's first Bachelor of Fine Arts program. After years of input from various professors, Ellis said she, "simply carried the last baton in a very long relay race."

As to why the program arose, Ellis said, "in the last decade or so, the Bachelor of Fine Arts degree has become the new standard, so it was only natural that we should build that degree into our programs."

The difference between a BA and BFA degree is that a BFA degree is more rigorous, requiring 73 credits compared to 48 for a BA degree.

Originally from Michigan, Ellis graduated summa cum laude with a Master of Fine Arts from LSU.

The size and diversity of people are what initially attracted her to Cortland, where her favorite part is teaching in the classroom and sparking a student's creativity.

In her spare time, Ellis enjoys cooking and gardening.

Ellis will return to teaching from her sabbatical leave in the upcoming fall semester.

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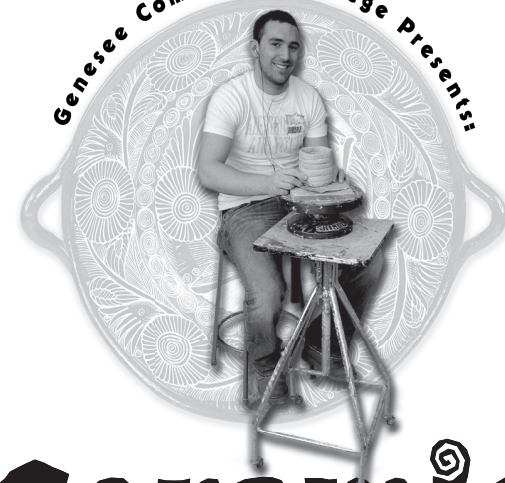
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Student employees are nominated

Students are praised for their hard work and academics

Lisa Allen

Student Employment and Career Counseling

Student Employment Week is designed to recognize and praise student employees for all their hard work and dedication to an employer while balancing their academics.

There was a reception held on April 13 to honor 58 students who were nominated by their supervisors for quality of work, contribution to employer, reliability, initiative and disposition.

During the banquet President Bitterbaum expressed gratitude to the nominees for all of their hard work.

Each nominee was granted a certificate and a small gift. The following students were nominated by their supervisors for excellent work during the 2008-2009 academic year:

Joe Agnew, Jackie Begnoche, Melissa Bithorn, Brittney Blasone, Lindsey Catanzarite, Anne Cegla, Jennifer Checco, Chelsea Cook, Christien Cruger, Kerri Dalton, Jerry D'Angelo, Cassandra Dayton, Lauren Dayton, Maria DiCarlo, Kayla Espejo, Brigig Fee, Nathan Fisher, Bryan Fitzgibbon, Zachary Fluster, Jesse Forte, Erin Garvey, Kaitlyn Gerke, Evelyn Gmoser, Caitlin Gruschow, Kaitlin

Guiles, Nicole Hay, Brittany Hays, Elizabeth Hensel, Kyle Hebden, Kelcie Heron, Helena Herzog, Michelle Housworth, Scott Johnston, Stephanie Krol, Carmela Laya, Karina Lino, Keith Lusby, Melissa Martisch, Christopher Marullo, Eve Mascoli, Cassandra Mason, Katelyn McCarthy, Darla McGrath, Anne McNamara, Winta Michael, Alicia Nipper, Bryan Patterson, Brad Pennypacker, Shannon Potaczola, Kimberly Repe, Emily Riordan, Jessica Roth, Tatevik Shtikyan, Kristen Sullivan, Santino Thomas, Brandy Thompson, Stephanie Worden and Yu-wen Zhao.

Congratulations to all of the honorees. Thank you to all the student employees for doing an excellent job.

Be a Commencement Usher

Calling all students to assist in the upcoming commencement

Darci Bacigalupi

Special Events Coordinator for the President's Office

Can you assist welcoming over 8,000 guests to the Cortland campus the weekend of May 15 and 16?

If you assist this year with commencement, you can receive tickets for your own ceremony.

One ticket – attend the training; work the Graduate Ceremony and one of the Undergraduate ceremonies.

Two tickets – attend the Training; work the Graduate

Ceremony and both of the Undergraduate ceremonies.

Usher Dates and Times:

Thursday, May 14 – Training – Arrive at 4 p.m. to 5:30 p.m.

Friday, May 15 – Graduate Ceremony – Arrive at 5 p.m. – 9 p.m.

Saturday, May 16 – Undergraduate Ceremony A – Arrive at 7:45 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 16 – Undergraduate Ceremony B – Arrive at 12:45 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Do you live in the residence halls?

If you live in the residence halls, Residential Life and Housing will allow you to stay in your room until Saturday at 6:00 p.m. only if you are an usher.

Need further information or to sign-up?

Please contact Darci Bacigalupi at x5453 or darci.bacigalupi@cortland.edu or visit the SGA Office. More details to follow.

Omega Phi Beta has now arrived

Multicultural sorority makes a name for itself in Cortland

Sandra Wohlleber

Assistant Director Campus Activities & Greek Affairs

It has taken almost two years but Omega Phi Beta Sorority Incorporated (OPBSI) finally has a colony here at Cortland.

Omega Phi Beta is a Latina-

oriented sorority with an emphasis on community service, sisterhood, and scholarship.

It is also the first recognized multicultural sorority on our campus in a long time.

Omega Phi Beta was founded at SUNY Albany in 1989 and has a commitment to serve and educate through its diversity.

The organization is open to all interested females and was established with the vision of becoming a home for women of all races and ethnicities.

In order to be eligible to join the organization interested women must have a minimum of a 2.7 cumulative grade point average. They should also attend a series of informationals and demonstrate their commitment to the core values of the sorority.

Please join us as we welcome the founding sisters of Cortland's Omega Phi Beta colony to our fraternal community.

Congratulations and best wishes to Rubina Abdul, Yessenia Crespo, and Joana Santos.

The Dragon Chronicle
needs editors!

If interested in becoming an editor next semester, e-mail dragonchronicle@cortland.edu for more information.



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Do you have something to say and want your voice to be heard by the campus community? Then speak up and e-mail us your ideas, thoughts or opinions to dragonchronicle@cortland.edu.

Our View

As the end of the semester grows near, there is one thing that every student on campus will come across at one point or another: the Course Teacher Evaluation, or CTE.

This survey gives the school a better idea of how the teacher conducts class and how the student feels about their achievement in the class.

While it's easy to mark "agree" for all the questions and leave, as most CTEs are administered at the end of class, students should take the time to answer the questions seriously.

This is our education and the survey is one of the only times when we are directly asked for our feedback. The professors use these evaluations to improve their methods of teaching and blowing it off only hurts the next group of students to take the class.

If you feel as though your class was a "waste of time" or not what you thought it should be, speak up. Cortland exists for the students.

Cortland has an excellent faculty but if you feel that things could be improved, don't be afraid to voice your opinion.

Move over, Jack Sparrow

Real pirates not as warm and fuzzy as those from childhood

Matt Ianno
Staff Writer

Ever since humans began using the oceans as a means for transportation and trade, there has been an unfriendly society of rugged criminals.

Marked by their signature black flag of skull and swords, and backed up by their gritty, Neanderthal-esque image, these criminals have prospered in the business of piracy.

Pirates operate as private vessels with the goal of either robbing or capturing another ship, and for some reason pirates have maneuvered into the lives of American culture through folklore and captivating stories.

It is said that first reported act of maritime piracy, as it is correctly titled, occurred in the Mediterranean in the 13th century BC. But the act of piracy began prospering during the Middle Ages, when Scandinavian Vikings began conquering European waters.

It is from this time period that famous pirates like Blackbeard, William Kidd and Calico Jack patrolled the oceans and helped contribute to the popular realm of piracy that currently exists in American culture.

It is also in this time period that the famous film series "Pirates of the Caribbean" takes place. Johnny Depp plays estranged pirate Captain Jack Sparrow in the series and serves as another positive pirate figure in pop culture.

In most cases, pirates are portrayed as funny, unintelligent ruffians that present no realistic danger to anyone.

Pirate musicals and live shows exist all around the country, and kids sing along in pirate unison,

mentioning things like, "Walk the plank" and "Argh Matey."

On the TV show "SpongeBob SquarePants," a pirate ushers in every episode with a song in which kids sing along to. Like most stereotypical pirates, he dons a cap, a rugged look, and is accompanied by a parrot on his shoulder.

So when I heard about the increasing trend of piracy growing out of Somalia, I thought, "Awesome, pirates are back, isn't that cool." I then began to wonder, what does a modern day pirate look like?

Do these pirates still cruise around in an old wooden pirate ship with cannons locked and loaded in the hull, a large telescope propped on the deck and a plank ready to descend into place in case the pirates are forced to make someone walk the plank?

Through minimal research, I was able to get the answer: no. These Somali pirates are nothing like the prototypical pirates portrayed in popular culture and they lack all of the folklore that made the stereotypical pirate so appealing.

There are no awe-inducing ships, peg legs, trained parrots, or treasure maps, but instead, plainly dressed individuals with banal vessels and semi-automatic weapons.

These pirates also present a very realistic danger that has already affected American lives and demanded the action of U.S. Navy Seals.

Why is this modern piracy so different? Let's look deeper into the situation.

Somalia is a country rooted in the fishing trade. It is also a country that lacks any governmental law or power, so once a ship leaves the shore and enters Somali waters, there is no governing force to keep things in order.

This means that any vessel can enter the waters illegally and catch the fish that the Somali people

depend upon to function as a society. Fed up with being robbed of millions of dollars, Somali fishermen are forced to protect themselves and their waters by turning to piracy.

This doesn't sound too cool anymore. In fact, I doubt even the brilliant minds over at Disney could create a children series out of pirate life in modern-day Somalia.

Despite lacking the obvious panache of the pirates of legend, these pirates are defending themselves out of necessity rather than looming in the waters looking for a ship to seize. There is no booty to be hunted or merry song to be sang, only a way of life to be protected.

When the Navy Seals saved the American captain, they were forced to shoot and kill three of the pirates.

I don't recall Navy Seals existing in the story of Blackbeard nor do I ever remember the pirates being shot and killed in "Peter Pan." If this were an ideal pirate world, the Navy Seals would have engaged the pirates in a sword duel, conquered them and then sent them down to Davey Jones' Locker (insert romantic male/female embrace here).

Now that's more like the good old days of piracy. In fact, I felt my inner child rallying inside me as I typed out that last sentence. This inner child created a perfect storyline, in which two pirates participated in a sword duel consisting of artistic sword thrusts and maneuvers.

Of course, the good pirate came out victorious, somewhere in the background Polly ate a cracker, and the sun set out across the water.

Back to reality; time to read the news: "A Somali pirate attack on a Norwegian tanker is foiled by NATO warships and helicopters after a dramatic pursuit."

My inner child is subdued. Damn you NATO.

Is striking the answer?

Other methods may be more effective in showing disdain

Eric Dillon
Staff Writer

Recently, members of the Cortland campus went on strike to protest the increase in tuition. For those of you who are unaware, only 10% of the \$300 increase will actually be going to the school, while the other 90% will be used to try to fill the state's budget gap. While this is a heinous and completely unfair action, is striking really the answer?

Over the course of history,

companies have come up with a number creative ways to end strikes. One of the most popular is hiring new workers to replace those who refuse to do their duties.

In the case of Cortland, striking students will certainly not be removed; however, they are only hurting themselves.

By not going to class they will only be hurting their own education, while at the same time other students will still be attending class and submitting to the tuition increase, downplaying the effectiveness of the strike.

At the same time, most strikes that do end up creating change have thousands upon thousands of supporters. From what I viewed

of the strike, there were hardly any students at all, and certainly not enough to stir up much of a response.

If we, as a collective body of students, really want to change things, we have to do it from inside the system. Instead of public displays of dissent, we should write letters to our local congressman or even visit his office.

I know NYPIRG has done numerous related activities on campus and I believe this is the correct way to go. It's unlikely the government as a whole will listen

SEE STRIKES ON PAGE 8

THE DRAGON CHRONICLE

135 Years of Tradition

Editor-in-Chief:

Vicky Paz
paz416@yahoo.com

News Editor:

Erica Sanderson
sander12@cortland.edu

Opinions Editor:

Kelsey Delmotte
delmot07@cortland.edu

Entertainment Editor:

Katie Rosenbrock
rosenbrock00@cortland.edu

Sports Editor:

Chris Ryan
christopher.ryan@cortland.edu

Photo Editor:

Ben Bolding
bbolding@cortland.edu

Copy Editor:

Samantha Long
samantha.long@cortland.edu

Business Manager:

Please Contact
dragonchronicle@cortland.edu

Webmaster:

Janina Mizhquiri
janina.mizhquiri@cortland.edu

Staff Writers:

Chelsea Backus, Caitlin Brett, Tara Castiglia, Wonmi Chang, Daniel Curtis, Paul Dagliolo, Cameron Daniels, Kelsey Delmotte, Eric Dillon, Danielle Eckert, Matthew Fanelli, Eric Feuer, Samantha Ficken, Rebecca Greenland, Daniel Harding Jr., Andrew Harrison, Matthew Ianno, Rebecca Job, Samantha Long, Mark Nader, Kathleen O'Sullivan, Vicky Paz, Daniella Perruna, Dana Ricci, Katie Rosenbrock, Chris Ryan, Erica Sanderson, Gabriel Schaub, Lauren Schutt, Victoria Simoncini, Matthew Taormino, Qinshu Zuo

Faculty Advisor:

Scott Rapp

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The Dragon Chronicle **Office:** (607) 753-2803
111 Corey Union **Fax:** (607) 753-2805
Cortland, NY 13045 **E-mail:** dragonchronicle@cortland.edu

Website: <http://web.cortland.edu/dragonchronicle>

AOL Instant Messsaging Screen Name: dragnchronicle

Activities funded by SGA and MAF

What do you have to say?

What has been your favorite class at Cortland?



photo by Kelsey Delmotte

"Model UN because it's a lot of fun and you learn a lot, and we get to go to the UN building."

Brandon Welker
Junior
International Studies



photo by Kelsey Delmotte

"Latin American Politics with Professor Hall. It's really challenging but he makes it interesting and involves the class."

Stephanie DellaRocca
Junior
Political Science



photo by Kelsey Delmotte

"Teaching Elementary Reading. Diane Richards is one of the best professors I have ever had. She is passionate about what she teaches."

Aaron Bartoo
Junior
Childhood Education



photo by Kelsey Delmotte

"Psych Lab because it's interesting to apply concepts you learn in Psychology to a lab class. And it's once a week."

Brinna O'Hara
Freshman
English Education

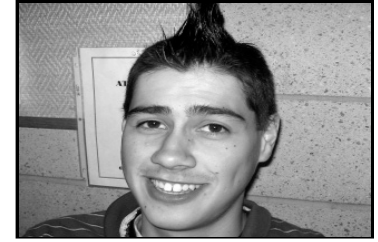


photo by Kelsey Delmotte

"Government and Politics because Judith Best is amazing, and I now own a pocket Constitution."

John Passmore
Junior
Political Science/New
Communication
Media

Apology due for president's actions

Controversy over President Obama's bow to Saudi King

Matthew Fanelli
Staff Writer

Obama owes every American citizen an apology for something that he did on April 1. Can you guess what?

Here's a hint: it has nothing to do with the Special Olympics and it has everything to do with his bowing down to a Saudi Arabian King.

For all of you very involved Cortland students, you can view this travesty on YouTube. Simply type in "Obama Saudi Arabia" and prepare to be both appalled and depressed.

When George W. Bush met with the Saudi King in 2005, he kissed him on the cheek. I thought

that was a bit too friendly, but what President Obama did was flat out embarrassing.

Of course, the same liberals who didn't want anyone to know about this are currently trying to explain it away.

Some of them claim that because President Obama is so tall, he simply bent down a bit to make level eye contact with the Saudi King.

Watch the clip, however, and you will clearly see that Obama bows to about chest level on the shorter man, and even remembers to keep his head down as to not make eye contact at all. Very respectful, I should say. Well, respectful to the Saudis at least.

Others won't deny that President Obama bowed, but argue that its acceptable behavior and President Obama is simply trying to better relations with the Middle Eastern leaders.

Really? Is it acceptable for the President to bow here?

The answer is no. Here's your lesson in patriotism, folks. Barack Obama is the leader of the free world.

This means that he doesn't bow to anybody. He certainly doesn't bow to any monarch.

Read this next sentence slowly so it sinks in: Americans in general do not bow to anybody. Ever.

We don't ask that anyone bow to us. Bowing is an action that demonstrates subservience and servitude. Kind of like Darth Vader bowing to the Emperor.

Last I checked, we're not ruled by the Saudis.

I'm just an undergraduate student and I assure you that I wouldn't bow to any king if I were standing in his living room. I wouldn't bow to the president for that matter.

Barack Obama didn't bow before Queen Elizabeth, an ally, when he met her some time ago. Why in the world would he pick

the King of Saudi Arabia?

When I think about the men and women who have fought, bled, and died for literally everything that we hold dear to us, over all the years and all the wars, so that this guy can go and bow before a king makes me physically ill.

This country was born because we were tired of bowing. Now we have some warped mentality that this is all ok and America doesn't have to be the best.

That's not exactly the spirit that won us World War II was it? Sometimes there isn't any silver medal for second place.

I guess President Obama is the ultimate April Fool. The next time I see Barack Obama bow to anybody that person better be either God, or somebody that Barack Obama intends to karate chop in the neck.

In any case, I don't think I should hold my breath for the apology.

The shot heard round the NFL

Plaxico Burrell shoots himself in the thigh; loses contract

Eric Dillon
Staff Writer

Plaxico Burrell of the New York Giants thought it would be a good idea to conceal a gun in the elastic band of his pants last November. Little did Burrell know that he would end up shooting himself in the thigh, while at the same time metaphorically shooting himself in the foot.

Because of this incident, on April 3, he was released from the New York Giants. While I am a huge Giants fan, Burrell got what he deserved.

He was not an innocent, upstanding guy before this incident, and his long history of offenses finally caught up with him. Following the Giants victory in Super Bowl XLII, Plaxico refused to attend the Giants mini-camp in May because he believed he deserved more money. He was set to receive over \$3 million for that season.

In addition, Burrell was fined \$45,000 last October for unsportsmanlike conduct and for throwing the ball into the stands. On top of this, Burrell has been sued an incredible nine times since joining the NFL in 2000.

I also have little remorse for Burrell because I believe he ruined the Giants chance at another Super Bowl victory with this incident. Everyone was counting on him to

Staying healthy on campus easier than expected

Campus food isn't limited to grease; it offers health food too

Kathleen O'Sullivan
Staff Writer

Many students believe it's difficult to lead a healthy lifestyle while attending college. I beg to differ. I will say that it takes motivation, which is something many students today are lacking. The resources are there; one just needs to take advantage of them.

Opportunities to participate in healthy behavior are all around us

here on campus. There are various healthy choices offered at the dining facilities. Fitness facilities are also available for use, as well as an on-campus nutritionist and registered dietitian.

Let's start with the ASC dining facilities. Most of them offer various sandwich options as well as salads, sushi, fresh vegetables and fruit.

Hilltop and Neubig offer a large salad bar complete with yogurt, granola, nuts and vegetables. Cereals and breakfast foods are available at those facilities as well as the Dragon's Den in Old Main.

For vegetarians, the options are more abundant than one would

think. Being a vegetarian myself, I can say with confidence that the options are there. Various soups, salads, sandwiches and fruit, make up a large portion of my diet.

One of my favorite locations on campus is the Hilltop pizza station. Surprisingly, the pizzas are low in calories and depending on the toppings, can be full of protein and fiber, two very important components to a healthy diet.

Fitness Facilities are also available on campus. Tomik Fitness Facility is located in the Cornish/Van Hoesen building and opens at 6:00 am Mon.-Fri., 9:00 a.m. on Saturday and Sunday. It is open until 11:00 p.m. Mon.-Thurs. and Sundays, and closes at 10:00

p.m. on Saturday and Sunday.

The Woods facility is located in Park Center and has varying hours. The facilities are free to students; all that is needed is a Cortland ID card and a towel. Both offer "state-of-the-art" equipment and have the resources needed to exercise and tone all parts of the body.

Personal training is also offered at the facilities at an additional cost. The staff is both friendly and knowledgeable.

Going to the gym is not the only way to exercise on campus. Informal recreation is offered at a number of places throughout

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SEE BURRELL ON PAGE 10

Strikes

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

to a few angry students, but if we rally together and voice our concerns to our local lawmaker, we may stand a fighting chance, even if it's a small one.

But a handful of students striking will not realistically achieve anything. At the same time however, I do support the students who did go on strike.

While I do not agree with their methods, they deserve credit for trying to do something instead of just sitting idly by and accepting it as most students are. The strikers might not accomplish anything, but neither will those who simply complain from the sidelines.

To clarify, I do not in any way support this tuition increase. I believe that it is simply a way for the government to take advantage of us even more than they already do.

The rationale behind this was that the students are probably going to accept it, because they will not ruin their education and chance at future success for a measly \$300. To be honest though, they are correct. Selfish, but correct nonetheless.

So should we simply lie down and take this slap in the face? Not at all. But honestly, I highly doubt Governor Patterson cared, or even knew that Cortland students were striking.

In order for our protests to mean something, we must think about how we can effectively and efficiently voice our concerns, while still staying civil and accomplishing our educational goals.

Nutrition

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 7

campus. Informal recreation is unstructured, voluntary use of the recreation facilities on campus.

Park Center's basketball gym offers wheelchair sports, bouldering and rock climbing. Park Center also offers racquetball, squash and table tennis. They also offer a pool with open swim hours. Moffet gym and the field house also have open hours that vary.

The campus also features outdoor basketball and tennis courts, along with a track to run or walk on. Campus bicycles are available for use on campus grounds only.

Cortland has a nutritionist and registered dietitian on staff. Louise Whittleton is available for appointments and can offer students advice on good nutrition and healthy habits. Her office is located in the Van Hoesen building, room C-119A.

It is a popular myth that when you go to college, you gain the "freshman 15" pounds. This does not have to happen. If you're motivated to stay healthy, there are so many ways to do so.

You are what you eat. If your diet is unhealthy, your body will be too. Staying healthy and being fit is not as difficult as it may seem; maybe the answer is as simple as getting some exercise and making conscious food decisions.

Look at me! I'm famous

New crop of talentless reality stars taking over television

Eric Feuer
Staff Writer

WARNING: The following article might offend some fans of current reality "stars." If you turned on the television recently, chances are you noticed a scary trend developing: people becoming famous for doing things that 20 years ago would find them banished from Hollywood, or society in general.

I'm talking about people like Paris Hilton, Bret Michaels, Kim Kardashian and her former lover Ray J., and a slew of other talentless zombies.

It used to be you became famous for a captivating performance in a movie, or an award-winning album.

But these days all it takes is a video camera, and the ability to make a complete fool of yourself. Let's take a look at some current "celebrities." Remember "One Night in Paris?" If you know what I'm talking about, that's good. If not, just bring up your internet browser and type that in.

Okay, so by now you've typed it in and you've either followed a link to the "wonderful" video that is Paris Hilton's sex tape, or you've closed the internet browser to spare yourself from the horror.

Anyway, the point I'm making is that Paris and her boyfriend record their wham, bam, thank you ma'am, and somehow it ends up on video in the not too distant future.

While Hilton tried through legal action to have its production stopped, it went through anyway. The best part is that it premiered on the web a week prior to the premier of her Emmy-worthy reality show, "The Simple Life." Do I smell a marketing ploy?

Since then Hilton has recorded what some people call an album, and has even gotten another show on MTV titled "Paris Hilton's My New BFF." As sad and tacky of a concept that show was, it has been given the go for a second and even third season. I tried to be a contestant on the show, but they told me my IQ was too high. Oh well.

Before I get to my next "celebrity," I'd like to pose a question. What is the connection between Kim Kardashian and Paris Hilton? Think it over for a minute. Are you ready for the answer? It's a sex tape.

Just like good ol' Paris, Kim was featured in a sex tape. Her co-star was none other than R&B star Ray J. Unfortunately, the two didn't last as a couple but don't feel bad for them. Both have turned the sex tape into 15 more minutes of fame.

Ray J. got his own dating show on VH1, where 14 lucky women get to compete for his love and affection. Kim on the other hand has since posed for Playboy,

been on "Dancing with the Stars" and now has her own reality show on E! titled "Keeping Up With the Kardashians." Even though she fought the release of the sex tape like Paris, both have seemed to become more famous in the long run. Is this a coincidence? You be the judge.

These days it doesn't take much to get famous. It's become less about talent, and more about how much money you can generate.

Flavor Flav and Bret Michaels both are past their prime when it comes to their respective fields of music, but VH1 brought them back from the dead and gave them their own reality "dating" shows. In turn, these shows have spawned their own reality spin offs. New York from "Flavor of Love" got her own show, and many other rejects have made the rounds on other VH1 reality shows.

While it's sad that this is what television has come to, it gives these people the chance to feel like they are important, and it gives us, the viewers, the chance to laugh at someone for actually thinking they are talented or worthy of the attention they are getting.

How could we forget William Hung who tried out for "American Idol" way back when? He had no talent whatsoever and ended up getting a \$25,000 recording contract.

With the new crop of "famous" people out there these days, I'd rather be just another face in the crowd than have to be thrown in the same category as those people.

Relax, Cortland

Helpful tips for making it through the last weeks of class

Matt Ianno
Staff Writer

Unfortunately the return of nice weather in Cortland also summons the return of finals.

Summer is looming ahead, and in turn, the stress level may be higher than normal.

Many of us will find ourselves stressed as due dates and test dates approach. How is it that we'll manage? How can we get through the last final weeks without breaking down? There are some ways that we can help manage our stress, and possibly even relax during this hectic time.

One key concept is time management. It is helpful to write out a plan for the entire day by putting in time slots for studying, having lunch with your friends, going to the gym and even sleeping.

During this final stretch, the majority of the planner might be full of study times for classes, but make sure to provide ample relaxation time.

It is suggested that one relaxes for 30 minute increments throughout the day to help reduce stress. So as you plan your study times and group meetings, remember that you should set aside some time for yourself to help prevent stressful breakdowns in the future.

There are plenty of ways to use these thirty minutes every day that will help reduce your stress level even more.

Exercising is an effective way to both reduce stress and make you feel healthier.

It is found that exercising can also alter your mood. This method has been so effective that many healthcare professionals have been recommending exercise to their patients, especially those with depression and anxiety. So take some time out of your day to stop at the gym, play a sport or take a bike ride around town.

For those that may not be into sports or exercise, music therapy is a technique that is also useful in reducing stress. You could even mix music with exercise by dancing or taking your iPod along with you to the gym.

Maintaining a level head and prioritizing are two internal approaches to staying focused and preventing an overload that could hinder your grades.

This is a bad time of the year to procrastinate, and although it may seem unavoidable, eliminating procrastination may be your most valuable ally leading up to finals.

This all may seem like advice you have heard before, but a quick reminder may snatch your heads out the clouds and bring them back to earth.

Comebacks are making a comeback

Fading away not an option for some celebrities

Danielle Eckert
Staff Writer

Everyone wants their 15 minutes of fame, but it is safe to say most celebrities experience a lot more than their fair share of time in the spotlight.

Every checkout counter at any grocery store, gas station or convenience store is flooded with tabloids and headlines reminding us of the fabulous, and sometimes not so fabulous, lives of the elite.

But why is it that even after the overload of publicity, some celebrities seem to never be satisfied, and want more?

In the past few years, we have seen celebrity comebacks at their finest. Artists who were popular back in the day suddenly have reappeared, such as New Kids on the Block.

For other artists, a comeback takes more than just a new single on the radio or starring in another movie.

Celebrities are constantly

thinking of outrageous behaviors to get their faces plastered on every publication printed that week.

What factors are involved in the ideal celebrity comeback? Wearing a designer outfit on the streets of Los Angeles won't cut it for most celebrities, new or old, because that's what is expected of them.

To catch the most attention there has to be something scandalous involved, such as Janet Jackson's accidental slip at the super bowl. Wearing risqué, figure-bearing outfits that almost guarantee a little too much will show, is the way celebrities grab attention.

For the 80s celebrities that seem to be fading away into decades past, such as Madonna, the way they get back into touch with the present day is public attention through their children.

When news reports show Madonna trying to adopt children from underdeveloped countries, we pay attention.

This is the perfect celebrity comeback because it focuses on a charity of some sort. The public eye is drawn to the generosity of the celebrity, regardless of whether or not they still have talent.

Other celebrity comebacks include grown up teenage stars trying to make a name for themselves in Hollywood. A relationship with another celebrity can always increase publicity.

Posh Spice, or Victoria Beckham, has long ended her tour with the Spice Girls, but her name keeps popping up all over the media thanks to her English football player husband, David Beckham.

Other young celebrities such as Lindsay Lohan love to be rebellious and go through brief periods of drinking, drugs, eating disorders and rehab. Lohan is a culprit of one of the ever-popular celebrity comebacks: dating someone of the same sex.

Celebrities find creative ways to stay in the media. For them, a little time in the spotlight is never enough, and they always crave more attention.

It is for these reasons that we are shown outrageous acts and are taught to believe that this is the correct way to behave.

They teach the public that the only way to get attention is to do something insane, which is maybe one reason these celebrities should stay as a thing of the past.

Greek system honors members

Members of Greek life are recognized for their contributions

Sandra Wohlleber

*Assistant Director
Campus Activities &
Greek Affairs*

Each year the fraternal community recognizes its members for both their individual and chapter achievements. This year's fraternity and sorority leadership awards were presented at the 24th Annual Spring Leadership Recognition Banquet that was held on April 16.

Presenting the awards was InterGreek Council President Brooke DiMarco, a sister of Delta Phi Epsilon Sorority.

The Chapter Leadership Awards were new this year and are intended to recognize one individual from each chapter for their leadership within their organization, the Cortland fraternal community, and/or the larger community in which they live.

Unfortunately, not all recognized chapters submitted nominations for this award. The following individuals were presented with Chapter Leadership Awards: Lauren Hedger from Alpha Sigma Alpha, Bonnie Silverman from Nu Sigma Chi, and

Caitlin Mooney from Alpha Phi Omega.

The Outstanding Sorority Member of the Year Award recognizes the initiated sorority member who has made the most significant contributions to her chapter, the Cortland fraternal community, and/or the larger community in which she lived during the 2008–2009 academic year.

This year's honoree personifies the core values of her sorority and one cannot doubt her passion, her belief, or her commitment to both her chapter and her sisters.

This young lady has provided the spark, the drive, and the persistence that was necessary for her sorority as it strove to become a viable organization on our campus. Alpha Sigma Alpha President Lauren Hedger was selected as this year's Outstanding Sorority Member.

The Outstanding Community Service and/or Fundraising Award recognizes the chapter which has accomplished the most for others during the 2008–2009 academic year.

This year's award winner has involved itself in activities such as Relay For Life, Take Back The Night, and volunteer work at the SPCA, the YMCA and a local nursing home.

Members plan to participate in upcoming events such as Festivus, Community Clean-Up

and a fundraising Bowl-A-Thon to benefit the American Cancer Society.

The chapter is also responsible for sponsoring the College's annual Homecoming King/Ugly Man fundraising competition. This year's Outstanding Community Service and/or Fundraising Award was presented to Nu Sigma Chi Sorority.

The Outstanding Greek Chapter of the Year Award recognizes the chapter which best exemplifies the social, academic, philanthropic, and community service attributes of our Greek community.

This year's honoree exemplifies a well-balanced chapter, a chapter that has grown both internally and externally throughout the course of the current year.

One year ago this group did not exist. Today, it has a membership of 76 initiated and active members. Collaborative partnerships have already been developed with other college organizations such as the Residence Hall Association and the Student Activities Board.

It is with great pleasure and much anticipation that Cortland welcomes this organization back to our campus after a hiatus of over 50 years. This year's Outstanding Greek Chapter of the Year Award was presented to Alpha Sigma Alpha Sorority.

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**QUOTE OF
THE WEEK**

“
**The nine most
terrifying words
in the English
language are, ‘I’m
from the
government and
I’m here to help.’**”

-Ronald Reagan

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Change the age and it won't be underage drinking

United States should recognize the reality of drinking at 18

Eric Feuer
Staff Writer

When I turned 18, the world was my oyster. I could vote for a qualified president or join the Army and fight for my country. That's a lot of responsibility for such a relatively young age and yet there are still some things that we aren't "old" enough for.

Until recently, if I wanted a pack of cigarettes I could just walk into a gas station or smoke shop back home on Long Island and buy one.

I say until recently because of the law that was passed raising the legal age for purchasing cigarettes to 19 in Nassau and Suffolk counties. If I want lung cancer, I have to be the ripe age of 19 to get the party started legally.

Maybe the legal age for drinking should be 18, and not the current 21. Now don't go storming the gas station or local liquor store in hopes of stocking up on 30 racks or handles of booze before they all sell out; this is just a suggestion.

Since the National Minimum Drinking Age Act was passed in 1984, raising the legal age of purchasing and consumption to 21, there has been a constant barrage of arguments from both sides arguing keeping the current age and going back to 18.

Mothers Against Drunk Driving, one of the biggest supporters for the raise, reported a 33% drop in fatal car crashes in drivers 16-20 between 1988 and 1998.

However, MADD doesn't show all the facts, such as the statistic that while 13% of drivers age 16 to 20 are involved in alcohol-related accidents, the same percentage are involved in non-alcoholic fatal crashes.

One statistic that MADD neglects to mention is that the percentage of alcohol-related crashes for those 21 to 24 are even higher.

While there is truth behind these statistics, and the inexperience of young drivers mixed with the intoxicating effects of alcohol is a recipe for disaster at times, it doesn't mean that lowering the drinking age will unleash hell on earth.

Law enforcement has cracked down on DUIs and recent changes in car safety have helped lower fatality rates in auto collisions.

But the reason for a lower drinking age goes beyond auto safety. I am looking at college drinking in particular. College students drink, but we all know that.

The problem with those who drink in college lies in how much they consume in a short amount of time, or as your health teacher put it, binge drinking.

Binge drinking is often defined as drinking alcoholic beverages with the intention of becoming intoxicated. This is through the

heavy consumption of alcohol in a short period of time.

The reason behind this rushed drinking is simple: when you can't go out and drink at your own leisure, why not get as much as you can in one night? And that is where the argument for a lower drinking age gets some help.

If people could drink when they want, they might feel less compelled to get drunk it all in a three-hour window. Not only that, but with the ability to purchase alcohol, suddenly students could see their bank statement getting lower and lower, and perhaps drinking would lose its luster for a while.

Throughout most of the world, the drinking age is below 21. In Canada, one can drink by 18 in Quebec and 19, the same in Mexico and even China. Ireland is also 18, and in Italy you can start drinking at 14, but in the U.K. you have to wait until you are 16.

One of the biggest supporters of lowering the drinking age is the National Youth Rights Association, who has lobbied to return the drinking age to 18.

Even colleges have spoken up about lowering the drinking age. In 2008, over 100 college presidents responded to a public call for the reconsideration of the drinking age.

One president in particular, John McCardell Jr. of Vermont's Middlebury College said of the drinking age, "the 21-year-old drinking age is bad social policy and terrible law."

Plaxico Burress

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 6

get his act together and make it another great year, but this incident removed him from play, taking out the star player.

The Giants now can focus their resources on a new receiver, one who will abide by the rules of the team and the law, and someone who won't get himself suspended all the time.

I'll be cheering even harder for the Giants in next year's Super Bowl. If they bring home a victory it'll make Burress regret his arrogant demeanor and callous rule breaking.

This incident also revives the argument that professional athletes feel they are above the law.

My opinion is that athletes such as Burress deserve to be put in their place, and I applaud the New York Giants for showing Burress that his skills on the field don't make him immune from the laws of our society.

What if the gun ended up killing someone else? And did he really need it in the first place? While we may not have the answers to these questions, Burress will certainly have the time to think them over, considering he's now a free agent.

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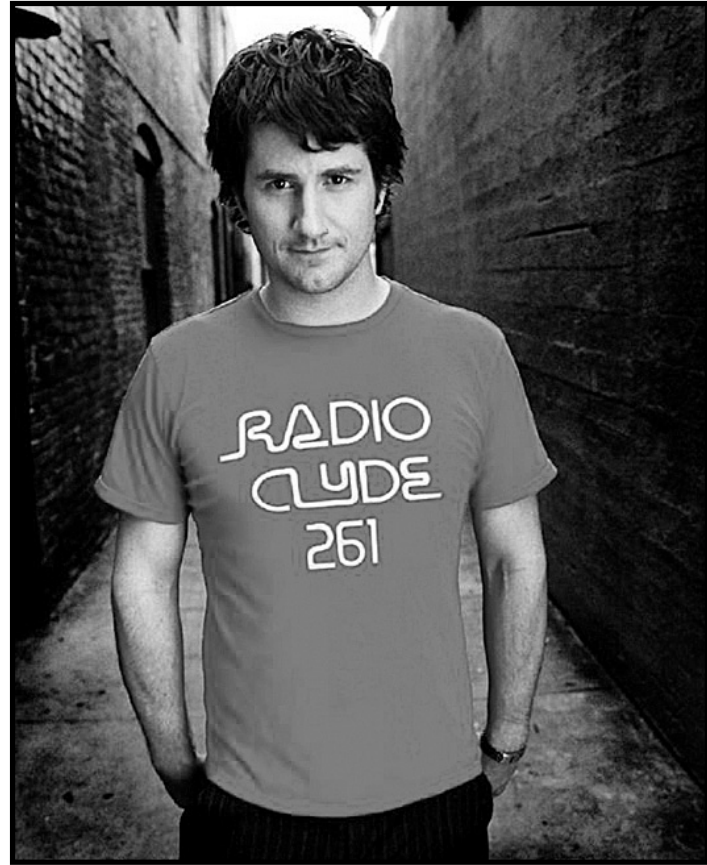
Matt Nathanson to headline 5th annual “Rock for a Cause”

Jean Palmer
Public Relations Staff Writer

Popular recording artist Matt Nathanson will perform during the Cortland Student Activities Board’s fifth annual “Rock for a Cause” on Tuesday, April 28.

The performance, which begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Corey Union Function Room, benefits the V-Day UNICEF joint campaign called “Stop Raping Our Greatest Resource: Power to Women and Girls of the Democratic Republic of the Congo.”

V-Day is a global movement to stop violence against women and girls. The 37 Project, a Cortland student band, and David Smallen



provided by readmedia.com

Nathanson will perform in the Corey Function Room.

will open for Nathanson.

Concert tickets are \$5 for students and \$10 for the general public. Tickets may be purchased

at the Corey Union Information Desk on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

They are also available in

Corey Union, Room 406, Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

V-Day generates broader attention for the fight to stop violence against women and girls, including rape, battery, incest, female genital mutilation and sexual slavery.

The current campaign is exposing the devastating impact of rape on Congolese women’s health, their families and their communities.

V-Day is calling for measures to end exemption for perpetrators and empower women and girls to lead in preventing sexual violence and rebuilding a country devastated by conflict.

V-Day’s efforts will aid in the opening of the City of Joy in correlation with PANZI Hospital, a center where survivors will be provided with support to heal and train and develop their leadership and life skills.

A San Francisco-based singer and songwriter, Nathanson has released six albums including his latest, “Some Mad Hope” (2007).

Nathanson is originally from Massachusetts and his music is often described as a mix of rock and folk.

Many students may be familiar with Nathanson’s two most popular songs which are titled, “Come On Get Higher” and “Car Crash.”

His songs have been featured on many popular TV shows such as *Private Practice* and *One Tree Hill* and he has performed on *Late Night with Conan O’Brien* as well.

Nathanson has also recently been featured as a “VHI Artist on the Rise.”

He has headlined and opened for artists such as Tori Amos, John Mayer, Pink, Guster and O.A.R. (Of a Revolution), who will headline the Cortland Spring Fling concert on Saturday, April 25.

For more information, contact Student Activities Board Music Coordinator Lauren Zuber by phone at (607) 753-2826 or by email at lauren.zuber@cortland.edu.

Fun-filled Spring Fling weekend ahead

Spring Fling weekend is sure to be a hit all across campus

Katie Rosenbrock
Entertainment Editor

“People are saying that this will be the biggest Spring Fling weekend Cortland has seen in years,” said Brandy Lawrence, the Spring Fling Coordinator of the Student Activities Board (SAB).

The first thing that pops into most students’ minds when they hear “spring fling,” is probably “concert.” But no one should forget that Spring Fling is a weekend long event.

This weekend, the Spring Fling festivities kick off on Friday April 24 with “The Gender Bender Ball” event in The Corey Union Exhibition Lounge. The event is hosted by Spectrum and will take place from 10p.m. to 2a.m.

It will cost \$3 for students and \$5 for the public. All of the proceeds will go to the new Cortland LGBT Resource Center in downtown Cortland and there will be a DJ and refreshments.

“Students are encouraged (but not required) to dress as boys,

girls, cross dress, wear drag and just have fun,” said Lawrence.

On Saturday, the Spring Fling Carnival will begin at noon and continue on through 4 p.m. on the Moffett Lawn. The carnival will include free food, inflatables, giveaways and prizes.

There is no cost to attend the carnival and according to the Student Activities Board, The Pan Hellenic Council will be selling freezie pops and blow pops along with Alpha Sigma Alpha who will be selling printed t-shirts.

“People are very caught up in the band this year and that is great and I am very excited as well, but they do not always realize that Spring Fling is a weekend event,” said Lawrence.

As most students already know, O.A.R. will be performing in the Alumni Arena on Saturday. The campus seems to have been buzzing about the concert for some time now.

Of course, to get a band as popular as O.A.R. to perform at Cortland, there is a lot of work that is involved.

“We have to reserve a date and the buildings (like the arena) the school year before the event. Lauren, our Music Chair, usually begins researching who she believes the students want to see and then we send out surveys near the end of the first semester,” said Lawrence.

A lot of the times it gets difficult to pick a band that everyone can agree on because a bid must be placed on a performer and a budget limits how much can be spent.

The weekend of Cortland’s Spring Fling event often happens to fall on the same weekend as other school’s Spring Fling weekends, which adds competition when it comes to bidding on musical artists.

However, it may be pretty safe to say that O.A.R. is a band that most students can enjoy and the concert is something that a majority of the campus is looking forward to.

“Our spring and our fall tours are all about small towns, small schools, universities and getting close to where some of our audience maybe grew up or is attending school, if the case may be, so we’re excited to come to you instead of you guys always having to come to us,” said Jerry DePizzo of O.A.R.

The band is enthusiastic about coming to Cortland to play for students and even though it might be just a little more exciting to play a larger venue, the band members seem to enjoy playing for more intimate audiences.

“Interacting with the students, you know, the college campus and playing for college age kids, you know, that’s where we’ve had our

keep, that’s where we had our start.

That’s our heritage, that’s our beginning, so we’re happy to get back to that, to get back to our roots and to you know, play the shows for people in these smaller rooms and these more intimate environments,” said DePizzo.

The concert that will take place on this coming Saturday, is sure to deliver because O.A.R. is a band known for connecting with their fans.

“What we do is all about the experience, it’s all about bringing everybody together,” said Depizzo.

O.A.R.’s current tour is named the “This Town” tour in support of their single with the same name.

“There’s one experience, one entity, for two hours or so when we play, and just giving out some positive energy; positive music, positive energy, positive vibrations.

We hope that people leave feeling better than when they came, that’s really our goal at the end of the day, to give you a great experience, to entertain you and to have you feel better when you left,” said DePizzo of the band’s performances and current tour.

The band wants all Cortland students to get excited for the show on Saturday and no student should have any reason not to be excited as the band plans to put on an unforgettable performance.

“We’re excited to come to you

guys, we’re excited to be there, we’re looking forward to this tour, we’re trying out a lot of different stuff, a lot of new stuff, experimenting in hopes to get everything right for our summer tour coming up,” said DePizzo.

“It’s an exciting time and an exciting tour for us, because we’re trying things that are new and different for us and we’re kind of going out on the ledge. So you guys get to kind of walk out there with us and see if we fall or not.”

The doors for the concert will open at 7p.m. and the band Parachute will be featured as the special guest and opening act. This will definitely be a show that no one will want to miss.

Along with O.A.R.’s performance, everyone should be equally excited for Spring Fling weekend as a whole. Be sure to check out Friday night’s event as well as the carnival on Saturday.

Spring Fling weekend is an exciting way to end the semester and something that all students can enjoy.

“Spring Fling is SAB’s biggest event. It is a busy time of the year and we want to make it as great for the students as possible,” said Lawrence.

Let's talk about sex, baby

Wellness Wednesday program talks about sexual health

Katie O'Sullivan
Staff Writer

The Cortland function room was full of laughter on Wednesday, April 8.

The campus welcomed River Huston and was lucky enough to hear her speak about topics such as sexuality, self esteem and alcohol abuse as part of the Wellness Wednesdays series.

The program was titled, "Sex 101: Surviving the Weekend," and was sponsored by CAAR, Judicial affairs, UPD and SGA. There were questions, prizes, and free giveaways.

Huston is an award winning writer, performer, and speaker.

She has appeared on television programs such as CNN, Showtime, Good Morning American and CBS.

The program provided a provocative yet knowledgeable take on safe college behavior and life in general.



provided by Katie O'Sullivan

River Huston and Jennifer Traxel pose after the event.

It covered topics such as safe sex, good sex, orgasms drinking, sexual assault and personal experiences.

Huston encouraged the audience to have a healthy perception of their bodies.

She said the most important piece of advice that she could give is to find a way to love your own body.

She stressed the fact that in our culture, nobody actually teaches about sex, everybody just

warns about it.

Huston also said that the brain is the biggest sex organ that a person has, noting that the two main components to great sex are communication and intimacy.

Although the program was humorously engaging, it was also full of life lessons and personal experiences that could truly educate the audience.

Huston discussed her own past involving alcohol abuse and sexual assault. She then described surviving two terminal illnesses.

Some of her last words to the audience were "It's a miracle that I'm alive. Life is short and precious, so be safe."

Jennifer Traxel, president of Cortland Against Another Rape, and one of the people who helped organize "Sex 101: Surviving the Weekend," discussed how she thinks the program benefitted the campus.

She says that it is provocative and comedic, which is probably what lured the audience in. However, once they got here, they really learned a lot.

It's a wonderful thing how people can be drawn in with entertainment but then gain useful knowledge as well.

Choral Music Concert

The Choral Union concert will present music for the stage

Tom Hischak
Professor of Performing Arts

The Department of Performing Arts will present the Choral Union in their spring concert on Tuesday, May 5, at 8 p.m. in the Dowd Fine Arts Theatre.

This semester's program is a concert of music for the stage and will include selections from operas and one musical play.

Among the opera composers represented in the program are Verdi, Rossini, Tchaikovsky and Wagner.

Dr. Stephen Wilson, the director of the ensemble, has arranged a new choral arrangement of music from Sondheim's theatre piece "A Little Night Music."

Admission is free and the public is invited to this special theatrical treat. For further information, contact Dr. Wilson at Stephen.Wilson@cortland.edu.



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Student pulls cover with “Come Back to Bed”

Cortland students artwork is chosen as cover art for book

Jean Palmer

Public Relations Staff Writer

Beth Halem never expected that a painting she created more than two years ago during her sophomore year at Cortland, would be the cover art for a Spanish academic book.

Halem, of Roslyn, N.Y., is a senior art and art history major, who was approached by Professor of Spanish, Wesley Weaver to find a few samples of her work that he could send to the author, Maria Isabel López Martínez, a colleague and friend of Weaver's.

"Beth was a student of mine for a couple of semesters and I thought it would be a great opportunity," said Weaver. "I am familiar with her work because I attended some of her exhibitions and she also made an oral presentation with one of her paintings in my class."

Martínez, a professor of literary theory and comparative literature at the University of Extremadura in Cáceres, Spain, wrote *La Mujer Ante el Espejo: Un Motive Literario y Artístico* or *The Woman Before the Mirror: A Literary and Artistic Motif*.

The book, which was published in mid-December, explains the recurring motif of the woman before the mirror, what she sees and how it's used as a literary device to develop character. Martínez discusses the origins and a development of the theme over time.

"Come Back to Bed," the mixed media painting that Martínez chose, was completed in Associate Professor of Art and Art History Lori Ellis' class during the 2006-07 school year.

The piece, acrylic and wire on canvas, portrays a figure of a woman's back with wire wrapped around her body.

"The woman is sitting on her bed in the dark, next to the implied guy she is with," explained Halem.

"She cannot appreciate the present because her mind is trapped in the past. The theme of being trapped in a situation is an illusion that your mind creates and controls. The man is saying 'come back to bed' because she is in a different place emotionally than he

is. "The painting is very fitting of the book because it shows the illusion of being trapped, women's motifs and symbolism."

"Beth's empathetic figures are a natural fit for this compelling book," said Ellis.

"The international exposure will undoubtedly benefit her promising career as an artist and teacher."

Weaver, who wrote the book's introduction in English, connected Martínez with Edwin Mellen Press of Lewiston, N.Y., because she wanted to have the book published in the U.S.

"The company primarily produces books for research libraries and likes to have the authors supply their own cover art work," explained Weaver.

"I thought this would give Beth exposure, something she will be able to interplay between the artwork and the book."

"It's really nice to have my work out there," noted Halem, who hopes to attend Queens College in the fall to pursue a graduate degree in early childhood education.

"I feel really lucky to be given the opportunity because I never thought I would have a chance like this one. It's pretty cool to see it on the cover."

Spring concert by local composers

College Community Orchestra to perform concert in Dowd

Tom Hischak

Professor of Performing Arts

The Department of Performing Arts Department of Cortland will present a concert by the College-Community Orchestra, under the direction of Ubaldo Valli, on Tuesday, April 28, at 8 p.m. in the Dowd Fine Arts Theatre.

The theme of the spring concert is music written by composers with local connections.

The program will begin with the premiere of "Concerto Overture in A Major" written for the occasion by Cortland native Emmanuel Sikora.

This will be followed by "Chesapeake Suite," a composition in four movements by Malcolm Lewis who has written a new version for this concert.

Lewis was born in Cuba, New York, in 1925 and taught at Ithaca

College for many years.

He lives in Dryden and his wife Carol has played with Cortland College-Community Orchestra for many years.

Also on the program is "Poem for Solo Flute and Orchestra" by Elmira native Charles Tomlinson Griffes (1884-1920) and features Syracuse Symphony flutist Cynthia Decker.

Ending the concert is "Dance Rhythms" by Wallingford Riegger (1885-1961) who taught at the Pat Conway Band School (a precursor of Ithaca College) in the 1920's.

Riegger was a member of the group of American modernist composers known as the "American Five".

The concert is open to the public and has free admission. The program is made possible with Funds from the New York State Council on the Arts Decentralization Grant Program, a State Agency and the Cultural Resources Council, a Regional Arts Council.

This program is supported by the Cortland College Foundation and by Auxiliary Services Corporation.

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Gospel Choir sings praises overseas

CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

The choir held a concert at Aachen's Ludwig Forum Saturday evening. For Easter Sunday, they performed again at ICF and at New Life Fellowship in Dusseldorf. Their last show was held at the Church of Peace and Reconciliation in Frankfurt.

"The choir did a first-rate job in representing SUNY Cortland through very impressive performances," and received many standing ovations, said Communications Professor Sam Kelley, co-founder of the choir.

Cortland alumna and international gospel recording artist Christine Sinclair

accompanied the choir on this year's tour, singing with them, "Order My Steps," and "For Every Mountain." She also performed classic selections including "Amazing Grace" and "Oh Happy Day."

"The opportunity to proclaim the gospel to the world through song is truly a privilege," Sinclair said. "God keeps opening doors."

The Gospel Choir, directed by Robert Brown, became international in April 2007 when they first traveled overseas to tour London. Last spring, they toured Toronto, Canada and Niagara Falls. The choir plans on touring Ghana in 2012, said Seth Asumah, chair of the Africana Studies Department.



provided by Rev. Richard Narh

The Cortland and ICF gospel choirs perform "Oh Happy Day" in a mass choir performance with Minister Nico Duodu (far left) and Christine Sinclair (far right).



photo by Vicky Paz

Guests line up in front of the Ludwig Forum before a show.

The choir also had the chance to explore Brussels, Belgium and the Netherlands, where they stayed at Hotel Rolduc, a former

monastery, for the majority of this year's tour.

"[It was an] excellent opportunity for our students to

take in the sights, sounds and cultural traditions," said Kelley.

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Players of the week run past competition



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Cortland track and field athletes **Josh Henry and Alanna Hollborn** earned **Player of the Week** awards.

Henry and Hollborn earn accolades for their performances

Cameron Daniels
Staff Writer

Every week one female and one male from Cortland's student athletes are chosen as athletes of the week. The athletes are selected based on their excellence in athletic performance for that week.

Last week's athletes of the week are Alanna Hollborn of the Women's Track and Field Team and Josh Henry of the Men's Track and Field Team.

Both Hollborn and Henry were selected for their outstanding performances in the recent Bucknell Bison Outdoor Classic on April 10-11, held in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania.

Hollborn, a senior at Cortland from Islip Terrace, was selected as athlete of the week after she placed third out of thirty-eight runners in the 10,000 meters at the Bucknell Bison Outdoor Classic.

Her outstanding time of 36:18:62 in this long distance event is a provisional qualifier for the NCAA Division III Championship.

Hollborn was one of four from Cortland's Women's Track and Field Team to reach NCAA standards in this non-teaming scoring event.

This season Hollborn helped Cortland State to a fourth place finish out of eight at the State

University of New York Athletic Conference held at Hobart Williams Smith College.

She participated in a long distance medley team that qualified for the ECAC's with a time of 13:01:62. In that same meet she also finished in fourth for the mile run with a time 5:11:47, which is also an ECAC qualifier.

Henry, also a senior from Truxton, was also selected after he finished eighth out of forty runners competing in the Bucknell Bison Outdoor Classic.

He finished the 10,000 meter with a time of 30:29:19. With this time Henry provisionally qualified for the NCAA Division III Championship in this long distance race.

Henry has also been named the State University of New York Athletic Conference (SUNYAC) Chancellor's Scholar-Athlete Award winner for the 2008-2009 men's indoor track and field season.

This is a very prestigious award given to one student athlete in the conference from each sport that has the highest cumulative grade point average, over a minimum of three semesters, among all first-team and second-team all-conference selections.

Henry was selected for this award after receiving a 3.36 cumulative grade point average.

He also won the 5,000 meter run at the SUNYAC Men's Indoor Track and Field Championship in February, qualifying him for this award.

Lacrosse

CONTINUED FROM BACK COVER

in the game, leading the Red Dragon's offense throughout the day.

Brandon Misiaszek and Tom Burke, both juniors, also had two goals apiece while freshman Mike Tota scored two as well. "We have been very happy with the improvement and play of a number of our less experienced players," Beville said as he reiterated the outstanding play of his younger athletes.

The Red Dragon's out-shot the Lakers by a margin of 62-18 on the afternoon.

Oswego's lone scorer in the game was senior Mike Recor who netted both of the team's two goals of the day.

Cortland's two goalies, senior Matt Hipenbecker and freshman Kyle Gaebel tallied a combined nine saves.

Hipenbecker accounted for five saves throughout the first three quarters and Gaebel had four in the fourth to close out the game.

Health has been somewhat of an issue for the Red Dragon's this season as they had lost players to injuries early in this 2009 campaign; raising some questions about how well the team could compete come playoff time.

Coach Beville, however, doesn't seem to have any doubts about the team's potential.

"We have had some injuries throughout the season and we are getting healthier by the day," said Beville. "I think that and the experience the young guys have gotten through the season will really make a difference as we head into the playoff season."

With just two games remaining on the regular season schedule Beville sees the team rallying together now more than ever, priming themselves to create havoc in the post-season.

"I think we are really coming together as a team and although we still have some kinks to work-out, we are right on track for a strong run," said Beville.

The Red Dragons' next game is scheduled for this afternoon at 4pm at home against the St. Lawrence Saints who own a 9-2 record this season and are ranked 16th nationally.

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Baseball continues their winning ways over Oneonta

**Timely hitting helps
Cortland sweep
another doubleheader**

Mark Nader
Staff Writer

Cortland played two thrilling games as they improved their record to with a pair of wins by the scores of 8-7 and 7-5.

The Red Dragons defeated SUNYAC rival Oneonta, which added a little more flair in the atmosphere.

Cortland led 5-1 after the first inning and 7-2 after four of the first contest, but Oneonta scored three runs in the fifth and eventually got to within 8-7 with two in the ninth before leaving two runners on.

In the second game, they were up 7-1 after five innings before Oneonta plated four runs in the sixth.

Sophomore Mike Assmann, on the other hand, threw three and a third innings of hitless relief, allowing just one walk, to earn the save.

Junior Matt Tone improved to 6-0 with the win in the first game. He allowed five hits and five runs, two earned, in five innings. He struck out 11 batters and walked five.

Junior Brandon DeRosa allowed only two hits and struck out five in two and a third scoreless innings of relief.

George Jweid gave up two unearned runs in the ninth and senior J.J. Potrikus recorded the



provided by cortlandreddragons.com

Infielder Zach Reynolds went two-for-four in the Red Dragons' doubleheader sweep of Oneonta on Saturday.

final out for his fourth save of the season.

Cortland won despite being out hit 8-5 in the game. There were 10 errors in the game, six by Cortland and four by Oneonta. The sloppy play led to only six earned runs scored out of the 15.

Zach Reynolds went 2-for-4 and Kevin Jackson was 1-for-2 with a walk, hit-by-pitch and two RBI. Andersen Gardner and Mike Avery each had a pair of walks and runs scored.

Chris Brady went 3-for-5 with

two RBI and Dan Randall was 2-for-5 for Oneonta. Jeffrey Carter suffered the loss after giving up seven runs, three earned, in three and two-third innings. He allowed only three hits but walked seven batters, and is now 5-1.

Oneonta took a 1-0 lead in the first when Carmine Caputo reached on catcher's interference to lead off the game and eventually scored on a bases-loaded walk to Brian Holmes.

Cortland answered with five runs in the bottom of the first on a

combination of two hits, three walks and three errors.

Jackson singled in two runs in the inning, with the others scoring on a fielder's interference call, a throwing error from the outfield and a wild pitch.

Oneonta got a run back in the fourth when Cody Hitt went from second to third on a wild pitch and scored on the play when the throw from the catcher went into left field.

In the bottom of the fourth, Gardner and Avery drew two-out walks and Jason Simone followed with an RBI single to left. Avery eventually scored on a wild pitch.

In the top of the fifth, Oneonta drew within 7-5 on a Brady two-run single and a Scott Dubben sacrifice fly.

Simone walked in the bottom of the seventh, went to third on a Steve Nickel single and scored on a wild pitch to give Cortland an 8-5 lead.

Oneonta stranded runners on first and third in the eighth, then loaded the bases in the ninth with two outs.

A Caputo ground ball was misplayed to allow two runs to score, but Potrikus got the next batter to hit into a game-ending fielder's choice.

Sophomore Travis Ratliff earned the win in the second contest despite giving up six hits and four walks in five and two-third innings.

He struck out six batters, and only one of the five runs he gave up was earned. Gardner went 3-for-4 with two RBI and Nick Palmiero was 2-for-3 with an RBI in the win.

Oneonta starter Dave Filak suffered his first loss in five

decisions this spring after giving up seven hits and three walks in four and two-third innings.

He struck out seven, all in the first three innings, and walked three. Joshua Herzenberg and Corey Andresen combined for three and a third hitless and scoreless innings to keep the visiting Red Dragons within striking distance.

Gardner singled in the first, went to second on a wild pitch, took third on an errant pickoff throw and scored on another wild pitch.

In the third, Matt June and Gardner led off with singles and were bunted up a base by Avery. A two-out wild pitch scored June.

In the Oneonta half of the fourth, they scratched a run and Cortland answered with three runs in the bottom of the fourth on a Palmiero RBI single and a Gardner two-run triple down the right field line.

The Red Dragons added to their lead in the fifth on an Andrew Pezzuto RBI triple and an error on a ball hit by Reynolds.

Oneonta got back within 7-5 with a four-run sixth inning. An error and a Randall single put runners on first and third and Holmes singled in a run two batters later.

A Dubben single loaded the bases and, with two outs, Tim Flaherty cleared the sacks with a three-run double to left center. Assmann, then retired ten of the last eleven batters he faced.

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The sports week in review

A look at everything from A to Z in the world of sports

Steven Cuce
Contributing Writer

COLUMN

The Yankees and Mets opened up their new multi-billion dollar ballparks last week with dejecting losses. The Yankees falling to the Indians 10-2 as the newly "revamped" bullpen imploded on CC Sabathia.

The Mets dropping their home opener 6-5 to the Padres; courtesy of a Pedro Feliciano balk that ended up being the go ahead run in the top of the sixth inning.

Everyone was so worried about how C.C. Sabathia would pitch after his poor first start in pinstripes.

Joe Girardi has bigger issues to worry about. Chien-Ming Wang has turned into a bad episode of "The Twilight Zone" after Saturday's abysmal performance.

The up and coming star of the Yankee pitching staff for the past few seasons is 0-3 with 34.50 E.R.A. after three starts. Wang hasn't got out of the third inning against the Orioles, Rays, and Indians.

It might be in Joe Girardi's best interest to send Wang down and bring up Phil Hughes.

He has pitched in three games since his season ending foot injury last June and he may need some time to get some confidence back. Wang has become an embarrassment this season and he doesn't want to become the next Dontrelle Willis.

On another note congratulations to Gary Sheffield of the New York Mets.

The newly acquired right fielder blasted his 500th homerun in a 6-5 victory over the Brewers on Friday night. Sheffield broke in with Milwaukee in 1988 and his bomb tied the game at four in the seventh. This homerun possibly landed the journeyman in the Hall of Fame.

In his post game press conference Sheffield humbly told reporters "Just to join that 500 club, you know. Now I can say I'm in the club and, you know, it's like getting your degree. Nobody can never take that away from you."

That's very true Gary, no one can take that away from you but we're all wondering how it could of happened in a Met uniform? Is it just a coincidence that you've played on nine teams in your career and wore out your welcome on each one?

If this landmark homerun landed you forever in Cooperstown, what hat will you be wearing there?

It'd be real nice if you cared about your team for once more than yourself. You can start by actually trying out in right field.

It's nice to see the Mets bullpen actually back up Johan Santana for once. Santana has been utterly dominant in his second season as a Met and it was good for him to finally win a one run game he pitched in.

Santana lost a decision, 2-1 on Easter Sunday due to a Daniel Murphy error, but was seemingly unaffected in a 1-0 victory last Saturday over Milwaukee.

The Mets' shining star is 2-1 with a ridiculous 0.46 E.R.A. this season.

It looks like it is LeBron James' time to shine in the NBA playoffs. The news of Kevin Garnett's knee injury being worse then everyone presumed has made the Cavs the perennial favorites in the East.

Even though the young superstar is only 25 years old and playing in his sixth season, it seems like the time is right. James winning a championship is the talk of the town in the NBA world and if he ever wants to soar above Jordan status he must win multiple titles.

If James can come up with a championship in Cleveland there may be no 2010 sweepstakes for Knicks fans, but don't worry there always Dwayne Wade.

Wade isn't a bad alternative considering he's actually won a championship and been unconscious this year.

Let's send out our get-well wishes to Celtics G.M. Danny Ainge after suffering a minor-heart attack and hope for a speedy recovery.

I don't know how much more Bill Simmons and the Boston faithful can take at this point with news of Ainge, Garnett and Jed Lowrie.

On a high note let's take some time out to appreciate what John Madden has done for the NFL.

After Madden stopped coaching and joined Pat Summerall in the broadcasting booth he has been nothing short of iconic.

Madden has been a staple of broadcasting for over 30 years with his work done for CBS, FOX, ABC and NBC. Professional football won't sound the same without him regardless of how many times Frank Caliendo mocked him.

It looks like Giants fans will be hearing Al Michaels and Chris Collingsworth on NBC now for the home opener of the new Cowboys stadium on September 20th.

This should make for interesting combination. Anything is better than Joe Buck and Troy Aikman to most Big Blue fans.

Steve Cuce can be heard from 4-6 p.m Wednesdays on Into the Fire on WSUC/90.5 FM

Cabrera steals the spotlight in dramatic Masters win

Amazing comeback by Venezuelan earns his first green jacket

Gabriel Schaub
Staff Writer

On a day that was emotionally dominated by Tiger Woods and Phil Mickelson from the moment of live coverage, it ultimately belonged to Angel Cabrera at Augusta National.

The Venezuelan outlasted Chad Campbell and the 48-year old Kenny Perry, who was aiming to become the oldest major PGA champion ever, in a three-way playoff.

Cabrera became the first Venezuelan-born player to win the Masters.

Cabrera, the 2007 U.S. Open winner, pulled off an improbable par at number 18 after hitting his tee shot behind a tree, and hitting a tree with his second shot.

Kenny Perry also made par after his chip rolled up just short of the hole, while Chad Campbell was eliminated in sudden death when he missed a four footer to save par from the bunker.

Cabrera and Perry proceeded to move on to the tenth hole, where Perry hit an awful approach far left of the green.

His chip skidded past the cup and he never got a chance to finish up. Cabrera two-putted for par to win the green jacket.

When Sunday began the momentum seemed to shift as Woods and Mickelson put on an epic display that was described by CBS commentators as, "Muhammad Ali versus Joe Frazier."

Mickelson "hit the shot of his life" on the fifth hole to tie the lowest front nine in Masters History (30).

Woods, who played a solid front nine but seemed to be overshadowed by Mickelson, started his run when he sunk a long eagle putt at the eighth hole.

Perhaps hearing the roars of rounds of 67 and 68 by Mickelson and Woods, respectively, Cabrera, who entered the day (-11), fell to (-9) after 11 holes.

The tournament seemed to come down to a two-horse race between Campbell and Perry after Mickelson stumbled down the stretch to finish at -9, and Cabrera struggling to keep up with Perry.

Perry looked as if he had the tournament locked up after he knocked his tee shot on the 16th hole to within a foot of the hole.

Errant tee shots on the 17th and 18th holes caused Perry to bogey each, which opened the door for Campbell and Cabrera, who birdied three of his final six holes.

The Players Championship, who many call the fifth major, will take place on April 30, and the U.S. Open will take place on June 11.

Red Dragons track and field excel at Cortland Classic

Cortland claim numerous first place finishes

Daniel Harding, Jr.
Staff Writer

This past weekend Cortland track and field played host to the annual Cortland Classic.

The Classic began Friday afternoon with a distance carnival which featured arguably some of the toughest competition of the weekend.

As the reigning cross country champions it would seem these events were in their favor, however the team is still building up to their peak performance coming off of several injuries.

Seth DuBois was also plagued by injury this season and has only been training for a few weeks before the classic. Amidst this adversity he won a very competitive five-kilometer race.

On Friday while most of campus was enjoying a leisurely Scholar's Day the Cortland track



photo by Daniel Harding, Jr.

Cortland's Phill Wiltshire won the 400 meter hurdles at the Cortland Classic.

and field was fighting tooth and nail to be victorious on their home track against some stiff competition. While the warm and sunny weather was a rare treat for

Cortland's athletes and students alike the strong winds that day definitely played a factor in the times scored in many of the sprinting events. Joe Keleher was

the men's 110 meter hurdler champion by out kicking a tough Cornell opponent who was the higher seed. Sophomore Phill Wiltshire showed true

determination this past weekend as he has recently returned to training after substantial injury.

Wiltshire was the champion in the 400 meter hurdles defeating the second place finisher by more than half a second.

In the field, Ryan Pericozzi was the pole vault champion and Jake Zanetti placed second behind him.

Junior Mallory Baker showed that she was a force to be reckoned with as she was the women's champion in both the 200 and 400 meter dash.

She wasn't the only female champion Cortland had. Kristen Serikstad was the champion in the high jump, winning in a convincing manner.

Sarah Kimball and Keri Laviska placed first and second respectively in the pole vault.

Overall the men's and women's team performed well however were back to work the next day training to peak for the end of the season. The men's and women's team are gearing up for both the SUNYAC and national championships.

Basketball playoffs tip off with everyone going for gold

The elite of NBA look to take their teams to the ultimate goal

Paul Dagiolo
Staff Writer

After the chaos of the final week of the season, all of the standings are set in the NBA and the playoffs

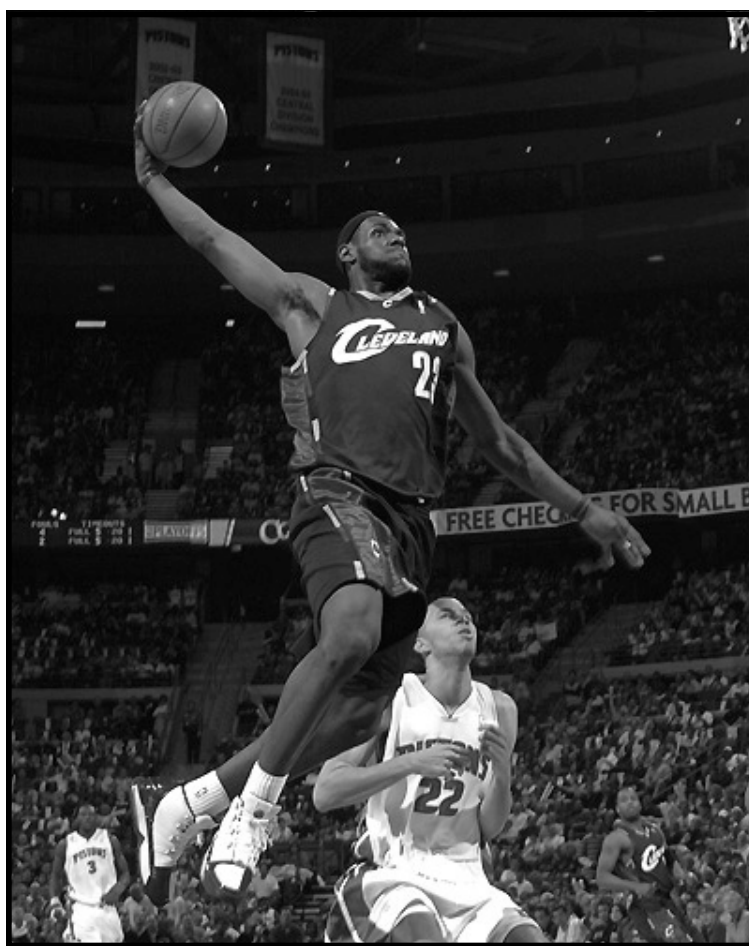
Out west, it seems to be the Lakers against everyone else, but there are a few teams who would have opposing feelings about that.

Los Angeles took care of business in game one versus the undersized Jazz and don't plan on looking back.

The Denver versus New Orleans series seems to be the most intriguing of the Western Conference match-ups.

Both teams have point guards in Chris Paul and Chauncey Billups who have the potential to impose their will on the game.

The Nuggets have more talent with Carmelo Anthony, Kenyon Martin, and J.R. Smith, but Chris Paul has a tendency to play out of his mind when the stakes are high for the Hornets.



Cleveland superstar LeBron James looks to guide the Cavaliers to their first ever NBA Championship.

One team no one has mentioned much about is the Dallas Mavericks.

They match up well with San Antonio, and if they can minimize the productivity of Tony Parker

then they have a real chance to advance to the second round.

Rounding out the Western Conference games is the Houston Rockets against the rising Portland Trailblazers.

Portland, led by Brandon Roy, has been solid all season long, but with a healthy Tracy McGrady the Rockets could be poised to move along to the second round.

With Ron Artest and Yao Ming, their defense is definitely up to the challenge of the athletic Blazers.

The Eastern Conference will most likely prove to have the most compelling first round match ups in the league.

The Cavaliers led by probably the league's MVP, LeBron James, have been completely dominant all season long at home and look to trounce the Pistons in the opening round.

To me, the most competitive series of the round could be the Miami Heat as they face Atlanta.

The Hawks has consistently improved every year for the last three years, and with players like Mike Bibby who has big game experience they could be ready to take down Dwyane Wade and the Heat.

This is not an easy task; however, Wade has done

everything under the sun for Miami. If he imposes his will for seven games, they could be celebrating in South Beach.

As for Orlando, many questioned the Magic's chances as a contender once all-star Jameer Nelson went down with an injury.

Those critics were answered once they received great play from point guard Rafer Alston. No one can contend with Dwight Howard, but the long and athletic Sixers plan on trying.

The one thing that the Sixers have going for them in this series is their grit.

They have dealt with their superstar Elton Brand's injury throughout the season, and don't plan to be phased. If Orlando keep the games high scoring then they should have no problem handling Philly.

You can never count out the defending champion Boston Celtics. Even though the Celtics are down 1-0 to the Chicago Bulls and their leader Kevin Garnett is sidelined for the playoffs, the Celtics do not plan on folding.

This is an experienced squad that has too much pride to just fold. Expect large numbers from both Paul Pierce and Ray Allen in these contests.

Club baseball storm back to sweep Cornell

Offensive outburst by Cortland lead them to three victories

Gabriel Schaub
Staff Writer

Cortland's club baseball showed their poise and grit this past weekend as the team won all three games from Cornell.

The Red Dragons improved their record to 9-3, and pending what UMass(5-1) did this weekend, they will either have regained first place in their league or stay in second.

On Saturday the bats started off slow as they only managed to score three runs through six innings. Heading into the top of the seventh down one run, sophomore Tim Holder lead off the inning with a home run to tie the game. "I didn't think I got enough of it. I thought it was going to be a double but obviously I'll take the home run," said Holder.

The team didn't stop there, scoring four more runs on five hits to take an 8-4 lead. "Once [Holder] hit that home run I was pretty confident that we would score more runs," said Coach Bruce Bradley.

Cortland starting pitcher Toby McCart took the momentum of the top half of the inning and retired the next three batters in the bottom of the seventh to win the game 8-4. "It really makes you a lot more comfortable knowing that you have a four run lead," said McCart.

McCart pitched all seven innings, giving up one earned run, five hits, one walk, and seven strikeouts. "I felt like my location was good and I was getting ahead which always helps."

Bruce Bradley took the mound for the second game of the double header. The junior left-hander struggled to find the zone early, walking the bases-loaded with no outs.

He pitched his way out of it, only surrendering one run in the inning, and two through five innings pitched.

The Red Dragons offense picked up right where they left off scoring three in the first inning as junior Greg Thide hit a three-run homer.

They continued to pour it on in the second inning as junior centerfielder Steve Campbell hit a two-run homerun, his second of the day.

"I was just looking to get on base, but if the right pitch comes along, then I'm going to take a hack at it," said Campbell. He went 7-13 during the weekend.

Cortland went on to win the game 11-3, completing the double-header sweep.

On Sunday, Cortland controlled the game throughout, building a 6-2 lead early, and winning 9-6.

The Red Dragons will play host to UMass May 2 at Beaudry Field for the conference title.

"It's our most important series of the year. [UMass] is a good team and we need to come out and win the first game to get our momentum going," said Bradley.

Baseball seizes another victory

CONTINUED FROM BACK COVER

eventually scored on a passed ball. Steve Nickel hit a two-run double later in the inning to give Cortland a 3-0 lead after one inning of play.

The second inning started with a Zach Reynolds triple followed by a Matt June RBI single to left.

Gardner would then walk and was followed by a Mike Avery bunt single that loaded the bases.

Jason Simone would clear the bases with his three-run triple to right center. Simone scored on a Kevin Jackson RBI groundout.

The sixth and last run of the inning was produced by a Matt Papillo RBI single.

New Paltz would make their best attempt at a comeback, scoring twice in the fourth on a Devin Scalabrini RBI fielder's choice and

a Clinton Boettcher RBI single.

Cortland would have an answer of their own in the bottom of the fourth with a solo homer from Nickel in the fourth along with Ryan Benson RBI single in the fifth to go ahead 11-2.

The Hawks added late runs in the seventh with a Dylan Franco RBI double and a solo homer by Pat Sylvester in the ninth.

Senior Nicolas Blanco improved his record to 4-3 on the season- allowing only two hits and two runs, one earned, struck out four and walked three over five innings.

Brett Harrison took the loss for New Paltz after being knocked out in the second inning. Both Nickel and Simone contributed two hits and three RBI in the victory.

"This weekend was huge for us", said first baseman Kevin Jackson.

Jackson, who went 3-9 with three runs scored and three RBI over the week, is hitting .387 and has 23 RBI, both of which are second on the team.

"Oneonta came in to our house and played pretty good ball. All year we have struggled finishing off weekends. Usually we come out hot and win game one big only to be let down in the second game so this weekend was a huge test on our ability to finish off teams," he said.

"The team is starting to come around and people are starting to step up in big situations and this couldn't be happening at a better time with the SUNYAC tournament less than two weeks away. We know it's not about how you start, but how you finish."

Cortland is now 22-10 and is 8-2 in SUNYAC conference play.

Jets to call Cortland home this summer

CONTINUED FROM FRONT COVER

Members of the Jets will be residing in both Glass Towers and West Campus apartments during training camp.

"It will be an immense investment that will have a high yield....I knew this would be a boom if we could get the Jets," Paterson said.

A majority of students interviewed Monday night also thought their move would benefit the college and community.

"I think it's great. Not only will it bring greater revenue for the city of Cortland, it will also benefit our school and bring popularity and notice to the amazing facilities and different technologies that

Cortland has to offer," said Melissa Ivens, a junior from Long Island.

It's a one-year agreement for the Jets to spend three weeks here beginning July 30. Last year, they trained in Florham Park at a brand new \$75 million complex in New Jersey.

The Jets will be the third team to train in upstate NY. The Giants train at SUNY Albany and the Buffalo Bills train at St. John Fisher in Rochester.

"Upstate New York will be the pre-season capital of pro football," Paterson said.

Like Ivens, Stephanie Worden, a junior from the Syracuse area, thinks the Jets coming to Cortland will aid the economy and hopes for a smoother ride coming back to

campus in the fall.

"I'm really excited about it. I think it will really stimulate the Cortland economy by bringing tourists and people to campus for internships. Also since there will be a lot more traffic in Cortland, maybe the mayor will realize it's time to fix the roads," Worden said.

Editors Note: The following students contributed to this story: Jewel Brangman, Kelsey Butz, Katelyn Byrd, Tara Castiglia, George Chalsen, Danielle Coughlin, Alyssa Fanelli, Carly Montroy, Caitlin Mooney, Patrick Morgan, Vicky Paz, Colleen Rourke, Gabe Schaub, Becky Scott, Andrew Solano, and Matt Wink.

The Dragon Chronicle



Sports



Cortland Athletics Scores

MEN'S LACROSSE	
Cortland	14
Potsdam	2
Next: Thursday vs. St. Lawrence	
BASEBALL	
Cortland	5
New Paltz	4
Cortland	11
New Paltz	4
Next: Wednesday @ Keystone	
SOFTBALL	
Cortland	4
St. John Fisher	5
Cortland	8
St. John Fisher	5
Next: Friday vs. Plattsburgh (DH)	
WOMEN'S LACROSSE	
Cortland	24
Oneonta	11
Next: Saturday @ Buffalo St.	

Athletes of the Week



provided by cortlandreddragons.com

Michael Mahay Baseball

Went 2-0 with a 2.45 ERA in last two pitching appearances



provided by cortlandreddragons.com

Danielle Torre Lacrosse

Recorded 11 goals and five assists in the last three games

Baseball caps impressive weekend with sweep

Cortland continues winning streak against New Paltz

Paul Dagiolo
Staff Writer

After taking over first place in the SUNYAC with two tough wins against SUNY Oneonta on Saturday, Cortland was hoping to keep their standing with wins over New Paltz.

In the first game New Paltz would continue Cortland's steak of close games, but the Red Dragons would persevere late winning 5-4.

New Paltz came out swinging early, roughing up starting pitcher Michael Mahay taking a 3-0 lead after two innings. Mike Sherlock led off the game with a single and went to third on a one-out Paul Merola double.

Tyler Terlecky drove in the first run with a groundout and Matt O'Neill singled through the right side to bring in the second run. The Hawks added to their lead in the second on a Sherlock RBI single up the middle making it 3-0.

The game would stay 3-0 until the bottom of the fifth when the Red Dragons answered with two runs. Zach Reynolds (Yorktown) walked and stole second.

Following two strikeouts by New Paltz pitcher Jonathan Shanks, Mike Avery singled to left to drive in Reynolds and then took second base when catcher Matt O'Neil mishandled the throw home.



photo by Cameron Daniels

Cortland's Kevin Jackson takes a swing in a victory over New Paltz last Sunday.

Jason Simone followed with an RBI single to center. Mahay, would pitch strong following his rough start, giving up only one hit the following five innings and allowing only one hit.

Andersen Gardner led off with the seventh with a triple to center field and tied the game at 3 on tying run Avery's single up the middle through an infield that was playing in, in order to stop Gardner from scoring.

Avery went to second on a groundout and scored with two outs when pinch hitter Nick Faust singled into center giving the Red Dragons a 4-3 lead.

That's all they would need as New Paltz would have only one base runner following the second

inning, a Merola single in the fifth. Mahay would pitch shutout innings from the third to the eighth inning.

In the ninth inning, J.J. Pontius was brought in for the save opportunity but hit his first and only batter O'Neil. Pontius was followed by Brendan Rowlands who would get the save. Rowlands entered the game and struck his first batter, Tyler Terlecky.

Clinton Boettcher then hit a double to right center field on a ground rule double. This saved Cortland a run as pinch runner Phillip Parker looked as if he was going to score but was forced to stop at third.

Rowlands then intentionally walked Michael Marash to load the

bases. Rowlands the struck out pinch hitter, Zach Homerda and forced leadoff hitter Sherlock to groundout to first baseman Kevin Jackson giving the Red Dragons the 4-3 victory.

Shanks pitched all eight innings for the Eagles, allowing three earned runs on eight hits while striking out seven.

For Cortland, Avery went 2-for-3 with two RBI and two runs scored while Gardner and Simone were each 2-for-4. Mahay improved to 4-1 on the season.

In the second game, the Red Dragons weren't hesitant to score, scoring nine runs in the first two innings, in a 11-4 victory.

Andersen Gardner doubled to lead off the bottom of the first and

SEE BASEBALL ON PAGE 19

Cortland lacrosse continues SUNYAC success

Led by Morgan's career day, Red Dragons dominate

Daniel Curtis
Staff Writer

The nationally eighth-ranked Cortland men's lacrosse team collected its ninth and tenth victories of the season last week; beating SUNYAC rivals Oswego and the Red Dragons of Oneonta to advance the team's record to 10-2.

Over the two-game stretch Cortland scored thirty goals, and allowed their opponents just ten.

Senior Captain Joey Morgan led the (Cortland) Red Dragons with 6 goals and two assists between the two contests.

Morgan, a midfielder out of Putnam Valley High School, also scored a career high five goals during the team's 18-8 victory at Oneonta last Saturday. Cortland underclassmen, Greg Wright (freshman attack) and Chris



provided by cortlandreddragons.com

Joey Morgan scored a career-high five goals in victory.

DeLuca (sophomore midfielder) combined for five goals and three assists on the afternoon.

Consisting of a plethora of young talent, Cortland's 2009 roster has carried on the winning tradition that the team is known

for; and head coach Steve Beville acknowledged his player's success with appreciation. "We are very young this season," said Beville. "The past couple of years we have been top heavy with older and experienced players. What

hasn't changed is the level of commitment and enthusiasm that is expected [of them]."

At the end of the first quarter of the Oneonta game, Cortland led just 2-1 but the game broke open with a barrage of (Cortland) Red Dragon goals as the offense took control.

Blair Hanson, Oneonta's freshman attack, scored a team high two-goals for the host Red Dragons and led his team in scoring in the loss.

With the loss, the Red Dragons of Oneonta fell to 5-8 on the year and 1-4 in the conference.

Cortland's defeat of the Oswego Lakers last Wednesday at the Stadium Complex was the team's first since beating Plattsburgh on April 11 for the program's 500th victory.

Eight different Red Dragon players scored goals in the 12-2 rout as Cortland handed the Lakers their first conference loss of the season.

Junior Brian Krol scored two goals and dished out three assists

SEE LACROSSE ON PAGE 16