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**Coaches vote Cortland to the top spot**

FREDONIA – The Cortland softball team sits atop the SUNYAC preseason coaches’ poll, receiving nine first-place votes and 109 (of 110) total points. The Red Dragons beat Buffalo State in the 2008 SUNYAC Finals, to win their second straight conference championship, and fourth title in seven years.

Cortland, which went 39-13 and 19-3 in the SUNYAC, was on an eight win streak at the end of last season, through much of the SUNYAC tournament and the NCAA Regionals in Plattsburgh, until losing twice in a row in the World Series. They lost once against Louisiana College and then against Ithaca, who had been a problem for the Red Dragons during the regular season as well.

Last year’s coaches poll top team, Plattsburgh, received 85 points, falling to fourth. In 2008, the Cardinals were 30-13 overall and 19-3 in SUNYAC play. Conference tournament runner up Buffalo State (90) is ranked third, just behind Brockport (98), who received two first place votes.

Conference play began on Friday, March 27.

**2009 SUNYAC Preseason Poll**

1.	Cortland (9)	109
2.	Brockport (2)	98
3.	Buffalo State	90
4.	Plattsburgh	85
5.	New Paltz	69
	Oneonta	69
7.	Geneseo	56
8.	Fredonia	43
9.	Oswego	42
10.	Potsdam	28
11.	Morrisville *	22

*(First-place votes in parentheses)*

*\* ineligible for SUNYAC postseason*