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C-Club Hall of Fame Banquet 2002

State University of New York College at Cortland

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Cortland C-Club

HALL OF FAME

34th Annual Banquet



October 26, 2002

Cortland

State University of New York College at Cortland



Established in 1969, the C-Club Hall of Fame recognizes Cortland alumni who competed as athletes at the College and who have since distinguished themselves in their professions and within their communities. Honorary members are recognized for their long and significant contributions to SUNY Cortland athletics. New C-Club members have been added annually for the past 33 years. This year's ceremony will bring the Hall of Fame roster to 163 alumni and 17 honorary members.

C-CLUB HALL OF FAME 2002 Banquet

Master of Ceremonies

Robert McBee
Director of Athletics

Remarks

Judson H. Taylor
President, SUNY Cortland

Invocation

Rev. Donald Wilcox
Protestant Campus Minister, Interfaith Center

Dinner

Hall of Fame Inductions

William Yelverton '63
President, Cortland C-Club

Hall of Fame Inductions

Edward Coates '42

Clyde O. Eidens '49

Joanne St. George '56

James Codispoti '63

Karen Cornell Funk '72

C.B. Bucknor '84

C-Club Hall of Fame 2002 Induction

State University of New York
College at Cortland

Edward Coates '42 Deceased

A three-sport standout at Cortland, Edward Coates '42 developed the master's and doctoral Sport Management Programs at The Ohio State University (OSU), one of the original three curricula in the U.S. designed to prepare individuals for leadership roles in the administration of sports and sporting events.

The SUNY Cortland Sport Management Program was started and patterned in the 1980s after Coates' OSU example by his former student, Suzanne Wingate.

A native of Ebenezer, N.Y., Coates lettered in soccer, basketball and baseball at Cortland. Senior class president and a member of Beta Phi Epsilon fraternity, he earned a physical education degree in 1942 and enlisted in the U.S. Coast Guard. He graduated from Coast Guard Academy Officer Training School and served two years aboard an LST invasion craft in the Pacific Ocean. He later re-entered the Coast Guard Reserve and retired as a captain.

Following WW II, Coates posted a 47-4 record as a semipro baseball pitcher. He scouted for the New York Giants, coached the Trenton Giants and played with the St. Catherine Stags in the Canadian-American League. He also took up tennis and became a nationally ranked player at the Super Senior level, eventually winning in doubles at the 1993 National Senior Olympics and singles at the World Senior Games Championships.

In 1947, Coates earned a master's degree from Columbia University Teacher's College and began his professional career as a teacher, coach and athletic director at Royalton-Hartland Central School in Middleport, N.Y.

He entered the doctoral program at Ohio State in the 1960s and earned a Ph.D. in 1966. He specialized in and co-authored a widely acclaimed revised text about the facility planning of physical education, recreation and athletics. He chaired the American Association of Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance's Council of Facilities and Equipment. In developing the OSU Sport Management Program, Coates incorporated input from University-wide academic departments and recruited a national student body.

A 1984 SUNY Cortland Distinguished Alumni Award winner, Coates retired from OSU in 1987 and spent two years restructuring and redesigning a Sport Management Program at the University of California, Fullerton.

Coates, who died unexpectedly on Sept. 16, 2002, and his wife, Norma Jean, have four children: Leslie, Gary, Karen and Sally.



C-Club Hall of Fame 2002 Induction

State University of New York
College at Cortland

Clyde O. Eidens '49 Scotia, New York

The Cortland intercollegiate golf team medalist who helped to establish the sport at the College after World War II, Clyde O. Eidens '49 enjoyed a long educational career as a teacher, coach and administrator. In 1982, *Educative Educator* magazine named him as "one of the Top 100 school administrators in North America."

A native of Chautauqua, N.Y., Eidens had his Cortland education interrupted by WW II. Serving with the Armed Forces in Europe, he received a Bronze Star for bravery as well as the Purple Heart with two oak leaf clusters. Back at Cortland in 1946, he led the newly created golf team and was a standout floor tumbler on the Cortland gymnastics squad. Before the War, he had played basketball and soccer.

Eidens, a Delta Kappa fraternity officer, was the *Hilltop Press* sports editor. He graduated cum laude with a physical education degree. He earned a master's degree from St. Lawrence University, where he coached the basketball and golf teams during the 1955-56 season, and a doctorate from Columbia University Teachers College.

Between 1949-55, Eidens taught and coached throughout New York State at Pine Valley, Clymer and Saratoga Springs Central Schools. He was a teacher and Administrative Council member in the Bedford Central Schools before becoming principal at Grand Island Junior and Senior High in 1963. Within the Scotia-Glenville School District, Eidens was assistant superintendent for three years and superintendent from 1970 until his retirement in 1983.

In the mid-1980s, he was acting superintendent in the Shenendehowa and Niskayuna School Districts. A former president of the New York State Council of School Superintendents, Eidens received the organization's Distinguished Service Award. He also received the Frank C. Moore Award from the Capital District Chapter of the American Society for Public Administration.

Over the years, he has been active with the United Way Committee for Schenectady County, Schenectady Community College, the Schenectady County Boy Scouts, the Scotia Rotary Club and the Ronald McDonald House in Albany. His local impact was recognized when Schenectady County proclaimed Sept. 29, 1995 as "Clyde O. Eidens Day."

An excellent golfer, he was inducted into the Edison Golf Club Hall of Fame in 1995. Eidens and his wife, Helen, reside in Scotia, N.Y., are the parents of four children: Michael, Richard, Susan (deceased) and Jerry.



C-Club Hall of Fame 2002 Induction

State University of New York
College at Cortland

Joanne St. George '56 Mt. Kisco, New York

The Outstanding Female Athlete in her Cortland class, Joanne St. George '56 was a revered role model and a women's athletics pioneer while creating and coaching a scholastic field hockey dynasty at Fox Lane High School.

A lifelong resident of Mount Kisco, N.Y., St. George earned a bachelor's degree in physical education from Cortland and a master's degree in physical education from Bridgeport (Conn.) University.

In the pre-intercollegiate athletics days at Cortland, St. George played field hockey, basketball and swam in the Sport Day events.

A member of the Marlin Swimming Club, she competed in intramurals and served as president and publicity manager of the Women's Athletic Association. She was a Red Cross swimming instructor and a Raquette Lake waterfront assistant. St. George was active with the Newman Club, Nu Sigma Chi sorority and the Women's Residence Organization.



St. George taught physical education and coached intramurals and honor squads at South Glens Falls (N.Y.) Central Schools, Somers (N.Y.) Central Schools and Bethpage (N.Y.) Elementary School. In 1965-66, she taught in Rhine Meine, Germany, at the U.S. Department of Defense Schools.

In 1966, she joined the physical education staff in the Bedford (N.Y.) Public Schools, where she remained until her retirement in 1993. St. George coached basketball, bowling, cheerleading, co-ed volleyball, lacrosse, softball, tennis and volleyball.

But it was as field hockey coach that St. George excelled. Between 1971-85, her Fox Lane High teams captured 10 league titles, seven sectional crowns and a state regional championship. She was voted the 1975 Westchester Coach of the Year, the 1978 Westchester/Putnam Coach of the Year, and the 1978 Conference "A" Coach of the Year. For her accomplishments, St. George appeared in *Sports Illustrated's* "Faces in the Crowd" in 1980.

Fox Lane High School presented her with its 1993 Dedicated Teacher/Coach Award and inducted her into its Hall of Fame in 1995.

From 1972-93, St. George served her alma mater, SUNY Cortland, as a "master teacher." She is a member of the Delta Kappa Gamma, Alpha Pi Chapter, Educational Society.

St. George is a former National Archery Association instructor at the World Archery Center.

C-Club Hall of Fame 2002 Induction

State University of New York
College at Cortland

James Codispoti '63 Rye, New York

James Codispoti '63, an outstanding basketball player and track and field star while at Cortland, led his powerhouse Mamaroneck High golf teams to a 234-103-8 record during his three decades as head coach.

A Bolivar, N.Y., native, Codispoti was Student Council president, All-Alleghany County in football and basketball, the Section Five pole champion and record holder, and a national Honor Society member while at Bolivar Central School.

At Cortland, Codispoti scored 41 points against Alfred University as a freshman basketball player. He later co-captained the varsity squad to the SUNYAC Championship and received that sport's Red Letter. He captured four letters as a pole vaulter and javelin thrower for the Red Dragon track and field team, which won the New York State title his junior year. A Beta Phi Epsilon member and a two-year residence hall counselor, Codispoti received the 1961 Whitney T. Corey Scholarship.



After graduation, he attended the University of Maryland on a graduate assistantship and earned his master's degree there in 1965. A year earlier, Codispoti joined Mamaroneck Public Schools as a physical education teacher and coach. He remained there for the next 37 years — 34 of those in the senior high school.

As the golf coach from 1971-2001, he guided six all-state golfers and five who turned professional. His teams won six league championships. He was voted Westchester County Golf Coaches' Coach of the Year in 1990 and served as the New York State Section One Golf Coordinator in 1999-2001.

Codispoti also directed the Mamaroneck boys' basketball team from 1968-93. He received the first Frank Demajo Memorial Sportsmanship Award in 1987 from the Westchester County Basketball Coaches Association. His 1975-76 squad went 17-3 and the *New York Daily News* voted Codispoti its 1976 Westchester Basketball Coach of the Year.

In 1975, he developed the Physical Education Master Plan. During the 1980s, he served on the Mamaroneck High Physical Education Program committee that established the innovative and respected Athletic-Option and Outside Agency Program. A certified New York State Special Olympics Coach, Codispoti was a track and field volunteer/assistant throughout the 1970s.

An active Cortland Alumni Association member, Codispoti was the 1993 Rye Golf Club senior champion. He and his wife, Lois Kornrumpf Codispoti '64, have three children: Tim, Tom and Lisa '86.

C-Club Hall of Fame 2002 Induction

State University of New York
College at Cortland

Karen Cornell Funk '72 Marathon, New York

After graduating from SUNY Cortland, Karen Cornell Funk '72 returned to her small hometown of Marathon, N.Y., where she built from scratch one of New York State's greatest scholastic field hockey dynasties.

Over her 28 seasons as head coach, Funk has led Marathon Central field hockey squads to four New York Class D state championships, five sectional titles, nine league crowns and an overall 285-125-42 record.

Her former players include a member of the USA National Field Hockey Team, members of the Under-18 and Under-16 National Teams, and participants in the prestigious U.S Field Hockey Futures Program. Funk's Marathon field hockey charges have gone on to play at 17 different universities and colleges, including national championship teams at the University of Maryland, SUNY Cortland, William Smith and Herkimer County Community College.

As a SUNY Cortland undergraduate, Funk played intramural softball, officiated volleyball and softball, and was active with the Women's Athletic Association.

After graduation, she went back home to Marathon as a substitute teacher and coach. As Title IX unfolded, she instituted varsity field hockey in 1972 and started a youth field hockey program in 1988. She became a full-time physical educator at Marathon in 1982.

Her contributions extend well beyond one sport. Funk has coached girls basketball, volleyball and softball at different levels. She initiated a sixth grade D.A.R.E. Program, implemented a Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program, and was student advisor to the Athletes Living Chemical Free Program.

A 26-year member of the Osco Robinson American Legion Auxiliary, Funk has chaired its Education, Scholarship and New York Girls State Committees since the 1980s. She annually volunteers for the Lions' Club-sponsored Red Cross Bloodmobile and serves on the Pastor/Parish Committee at United Methodist Church.

Funk has received the Gen. Douglas MacArthur Award from the Grand Lodge of the State of New York, the Interscholastic Athletic Conference's Robert Springer Coach of the Year Award, and Sportsmanship Awards from both the Southern Tier Officials and New York State Tournament.

She and her husband, Richard, have a daughter, Cari.



C-Club Hall of Fame 2002 Induction

State University of New York
College at Cortland

C.B. Bucknor '84 Brooklyn, New York

C.B. Bucknor '84, a former standout Red Dragon baseball player, has the distinction of being the only SUNY Cortland alumnus ever to become a Major League Baseball umpire. He is currently one of about 70 umpires working the American and National Leagues.

Born in Jamaica, West Indies, Bucknor grew up in Brooklyn, N.Y., and attended Canarsie High. As a youngster, he became interested in baseball as a member of the Bonnie Youth Club, Inc., an association that annually provides organized baseball for more than 200 children in Brooklyn. Nearly 25 years later, Bucknor stays active with that club, having served on its board of directors.

As a fleet-footed SUNY Cortland centerfielder, Bucknor set the school record for stolen bases. He was voted All-State University of New York Athletic Conference in 1983 and 1984.

He earned a bachelor's degree in recreation in 1984 and immediately began working as a recreation therapist in the Child Life Department at the New York and Presbyterian Hospital in New York.

Beloved because of his passion, caring and success at his work, Bucknor has been allowed to keep his hospital position throughout his professional baseball career. He continues to work in the off-season with infant-through-adolescent patients, helping them to cope with the trauma of hospitalization and surgery by use of therapeutic play, arts, crafts and games.

While umpiring a Bonnie Youth game in the 1980s, Bucknor thought he might like an umpiring career. He went to umpire school and began working New York-Penn League games in 1990. The following two seasons, he worked in the Class A Carolina League. In 1993 and 1994, Bucknor called games in the Class AA Eastern League.

Bucknor was called up to umpire Class AAA baseball with the International League between 1995-99. He worked his first major league game, the Colorado Rockies versus the Philadelphia Phillies, on April 4, 1996.

On Aug. 1, 1999, Bucknor accepted National League Commissioner Len Coleman's offer to become a full-time major league umpire.

Bucknor and his wife, Judy Ashton, a nurse, have three children, Phoenix, Austin-Hugh and Dakota.



Cortland C-Club Hall of Fame Members

Class of 1901

Bessie L. Park (Inducted 1993)

Class of 1916

Francis J. Moench (Inducted 1993)

Class of 1927

William A. Class (Inducted 1977)

Class of 1928

Ben Becker (Inducted 1993)

John Kress (Inducted 1981)

Class of 1929

George W. Butts (Inducted 2001)

Class of 1930

Leo Meldrim (Inducted 1969)

Class of 1931

Allen "Chiz" Frye (Inducted 1982)

Joseph Palone (Inducted 1979)

Class of 1932

Robert Rifenberick (Inducted 1978)

Class of 1933

Wilbur S. Bergstrom (Inducted 1973)

George A. Brown (Inducted 1973)

Oliver E. Cook (Inducted 1978)

Dudley Hare (Inducted 1980)

Ernest J. Lalley (Inducted 1987)

Class of 1935

Joseph P. Adessa (Inducted 1976)

Gerald McDonald (Inducted 1984)

Richard W. Ross (Inducted 1980)

Andrew C. Tei (Inducted 1975)

Class of 1936

Joseph W. Cummings (Inducted 1994)

Charles H. Edkins (Inducted 1983)

David G. Miller (Inducted 1978)

Class of 1937

Edward L. Carter (Inducted 1972)

Robert M. Dean (Inducted 1986)

Class of 1939

Donald Neff (Inducted 1990)

Joseph St. Lawrence (Inducted 1970)

Anthony P. Tesori (Inducted 1970)

Class of 1940

George Anderson (Inducted 1970)

Merlin W. Hathaway (Inducted 1969)

Leon Williams (Inducted 1970)

Class of 1941

David Allardice (Inducted 1990)

Peter Betrus (Inducted 1983)

Robert O. Lockwood (Inducted 1977)

Carlton Petrie (Inducted 1980)

Henry "Hank" Vetter (Inducted 1980)

Class of 1942

Laurens E. Dietz (Inducted 1977)

Gordon "Tiger" Found (Inducted 1982)

Edward J. Walsh (Inducted 1988)

Class of 1943

Whitney T. Corey (Inducted 1969)

Richard P. McLean (Inducted 1983)

Maurice L. Page, Sr. (Inducted 1980)

Robert Springer (Inducted 1979)

Class of 1946

John Moiseichik (Inducted 1969)

Simon J. Molnar (Inducted 1984)

Class of 1947

Gail F. Farwell (Inducted 1991)

Gerald J. Hase (Inducted 1985)

Fritz P. Mueller (Inducted 1992)

Arnold Rist (Inducted 1987)

Walter Schumacher (Inducted 1977)

Class of 1948

Charles T. Button (Inducted 1971)

Emilio DaBramo (Inducted 1971)

Jean Chapin Dolat (Inducted 1978)

A. Hugh Jack (Inducted 1972)

Jack Kobuskie (Inducted 1974)

Ernest Luongo (Inducted 1983)

Patricia M. Peterson (Inducted 1984)

Francis "Red" Redmond (Inducted 1982)

Walter R. Suess (Inducted 1977)

Arthur F. Thompson (Inducted 1977)

Nicholas F. Troisi (Inducted 1982)

John C. Tuthill (Inducted 1971)

Class of 1949

Sherman M. "Dutch" Craumer (Inducted 1999)

Anthony DiBenedetto (Inducted 1991)

Marion J. Fricano (Inducted 1972)

George C. Fuge (Inducted 1976)

Anthony B. Grandinette (Inducted 1985)

Earl R. Keefer (Inducted 1977)

George J. King (Inducted 1973)

Marcus J. Martone (Inducted 1975)

Walter S. Moore (Inducted 1999)

Walter J. Przybylo (Inducted 1972)

Otis Sennett (Inducted 1986)

A. Henry von Mechow (Inducted 1991)

Robert H. Young (Inducted 1984)

Class of 1950

William Carey (Inducted 2001)
John Halloran (Inducted 1985)
John F. Reardon (Inducted 1978)

Class of 1951

Edward Bosse (Inducted 1989)
Milton "Dutch" Hess (Inducted 1989)
William J. Tomik (Inducted 1996)

Class of 1952

William R. Milhaven (Inducted 1999)
Robert F. Riedel (Inducted 1982)
John L. Sciera (Inducted 1987)

Class of 1953

Ronald E. Becraft (Inducted 1994)
Norman E. Foster (Inducted 2001)
Mary Morgan Hosking (Inducted 1987)
Joseph A. Mancarella (Inducted 2000)
Robert Wallace (Inducted 1979)
Sally Yeager Wallace (Inducted 1979)
Theodore R. Woods (Inducted 2001)

Class of 1954

Joseph V. DiPace (Inducted 1992)
John Glinski (Inducted 1969)
Joseph Levorchick (Inducted 1995)
Allan Van Nostrand (Inducted 1989)

Class of 1955

John H. Arcaro (Inducted 1982)
Robert Hoppey (Inducted 1987)
Louis Pettinelli, Jr. (Inducted 1998)
Donald Quinn (Inducted 1984)

Class of 1956

R. Bruce Allison (Inducted 1988)
George Breen (Inducted 1969)
T. Richard Terry (Inducted 1988)
Kingdon VanNostrand (Inducted 1995)

Class of 1957

Anna Boserup Rush (Inducted 1981)

Class of 1958

Herman Druckman (Inducted 1980)

Class of 1959

Maribeth Burr Craey (Inducted 2000)
Mary Tompkins Chappell (Inducted 1994)
Joseph Cuozzo (Inducted 1993)
Nancy L. Langham (Inducted 1986)
Stanley C. Nevins (Inducted 1992)

Class of 1960

Jeanne Galvin (Inducted 2001)
Leo J. Johnson (Inducted 1981)
Joseph W. O'Toole (Inducted 1994)
James D. Weinman (Inducted 1998)

Class of 1961

Angelo "Bosco" Condie (Inducted 1997)
James L. Cranfield (Inducted 1990)
Thomas Decker (Inducted 1995)
Christopher Sweeney (Inducted 1996)
Robert Weinbauer (Inducted 1995)

Class of 1962

Barbara DiPalma (Inducted 1983)
John Eden (Inducted 1985)
Joseph M. Mayer (Inducted 1999)
Judith Forrest Risher (Inducted 1988)
Patricia Cole Rogers (Inducted 1985)

Class of 1963

Paul Fardy (Inducted 1974)
Patricia J. Mihalko (Inducted 1985)
William Yelverton (Inducted 1993)

Class of 1964

David Bleau (Inducted 1974)
Shirley E. Bowen (Inducted 1996)

Class of 1965

Judith E. Rink (Inducted 1988)

Class of 1966

Michael Messere (Inducted 1985)

Class of 1967

Betty Burfeindt (Inducted 1974)
John W. Cooper (Inducted 1990)
Robert H. Fitts (Inducted 1996)
M. Rick Page, Jr. (Inducted 2001)
Richard Speckmann (Inducted 2000)
Sandy Weeden (Inducted 1987)

Class of 1968

Deborah Chin (Inducted 1997)
Timothy G. Hale (Inducted 1997)
Barbara Southwick (Inducted 1989)

Class of 1969

Patricia A. Sullivan (Inducted 2001)

Class of 1970

David Urick (Inducted 1986)

Class of 1971

Patricia Price Genovese (Inducted 1990)
Ann E. Graziadei (Inducted 1998)
Andrea Seger (Inducted 1997)
Deborah A. Wuest (Inducted 1991)

Class of 1972

Gail F. Maloney (Inducted 1998)
Kristine E. Terrillion (Inducted 1992)
Gail Webster (Inducted 1994)
Paul Wehrum (Inducted 1997)

Class of 1973

George J. Pfeiffer (Inducted 1994)
William G. Tierney (Inducted 1999)

Class of 1974

Theresa Tiso (Inducted 2000)

Class of 1975

Marvin Wilson (Inducted 1995)

Class of 1977

Patricia Bowman (Inducted 1996)
Sandra G. Morley (Inducted 1998)

Class of 1978

Sara Daggett (Inducted 1993)
Kathy Solano (Inducted 1993)

Honorary Members

Dorothy Arnsdorff (inducted 1998)
Dolores A. Bogard (Inducted 1999)
Jack Daniels (Inducted 1997)
Carl A. "Chugger" Davis (Inducted 1973)
Vincent J. Gonino (Inducted 1998)
T. Fred "Prof" Holloway (Inducted 1973)
Peter D. Koryzno (Inducted 1996)
Donovan Moffett (Inducted 2001)
John W. Morgan (Inducted 1984)
M. Louise Moseley (Inducted 1985)
Rol Randall (Inducted 1989)
A. Lee Roberts (Inducted 1998)
Patricia Rudy (Inducted 1996)
Walter Smigel (Inducted 1996)
Frederick W. Taube (Inducted 2001)
Robert J. Weber (Inducted 1986)
Reuben "Barney" Williams (Inducted 1994)

A Special Thank You

The Cortland C-Club, the coaches and the student-athletes sincerely thank the following Hall of Famers, alumni, faculty members and friends of SUNY Cortland athletics for their generosity and thoughtfulness.

Because of their voluntary donations, 136 Cortland student athletes – and possible future Hall of Famers themselves – are able to enjoy tonight's banquet and experience an evening dedicated to Cortland's proud athletic tradition.

As of Oct. 16, the sponsors are: Linda May Armstrong '76, Dorothy Arnsdorff, Marian Natoli Atkinson '54, Bob Becker, Shirley Bowen '64, George Breen '56, C.B. '84 and Judy Bucknor, Phyllis Calogero '52, Marcia Carlson, Joyce Cavanagh '53, Deborah Chin '68, Jim Codispoti '63, Lois Kornrumpf Codispoti '64, Whitney "Pete" Corey '43, Lillian Birdsall Corey '43, Dixie Davis Curtice '62, Elizabeth Davis-Russell, Robert Dean '37, Laurens "Joe" '42 and Elaine Dietz, Barbara DiPalma '62, Clyde '49 and Helen Eidens, Jerry Eidens, Paul Fardy '63, Judith Rice, Gail Farwell '47, Norman Foster '53, Nancy Maney Foster '53, Gordon Found '42, Jeanne Galvin '60, Patricia Mihalko '63, Ann Graziadei '71, Milton "Dutch" Hess '51, Robert Hoppey '55, Mary Morgan Hosking '53, Peter Koryzno, Nancy Langham '59, Gail Maloney '72, Joseph Mayer '62, John '46 and Jean Adams Moiseichik, Sandy Morley '77, Kevin O'Reilly '85, Joseph '60 and RoseMary O'Toole, Maurice Page, Sr. '43, Virginia Jones Page '44, Louis '55 and Nancy Pettinelli, Jr., Charles and Joan Poskanzer, Arnold Rist '47, Patricia Cole Rogers '62, Michael Rundle '86, Otis Sennett '49, Ronnie Sternin Silver '67, Barbara Greene Southwick '59, Joanne St. George '56, Joseph and Susan St. George, Patricia Sullivan '69, Anthony Tesori '39, William Tomik '51, Mary Rypokis Tomik '49, Nancy Gammons Troup '72 and H. David Troup, Jr., Henry '49 and Sallie von Mechow, Robert '53 and Sally Yaeger Wallace '53, William '63 and Helene Yelverton, Susan Zawacki '74.

SUNY Cortland Today

Located atop one of the rolling hills in central New York's "City of Seven Valleys," the State University of New York College at Cortland was founded in 1868 as the Cortland Normal School, whose earliest students included inventor and industrialist Elmer A. Sperry of Sperry-Rand Corp. fame.

Over the years, the campus expanded and in 1941, by an act of Legislature and the Board of Regents, the institution officially became a four-year college providing courses leading to the bachelor's degree. In 1948, Cortland was a founding member of the State University.

In Fall 2002, 5,739 undergraduate, 1,407 graduate and 283 Certificate for Advanced Study students — a total of 7,429 students — are pursuing degrees within the College's two academic divisions, Arts and Sciences and Professional Studies. Twenty-three departments with a faculty of more than 300 offer the SUNY Cortland student body some 100 programs from which to choose.

The College's main campus covers 191 acres and includes 30 major buildings. Fourteen of these structures are residence halls providing on-campus housing for 2,600 students. Cortland also operates its Outdoor Education Center at Raquette Lake in the Adirondacks, the Hoxie Gorge Nature Preserve outside Cortland, and the Brauer Memorial Geological Field Station near Albany.

At Cortland, athletics are viewed as having an important role in the educational mission of the College. During the fall, winter and spring seasons, Cortland participates in 25 intercollegiate sports — 14 women's and 11 men's — in an attempt to provide a broad program which meets the needs, interests and abilities of its students.

The College offers its student-athletes excellent athletic facilities, including the nation's finest small college outdoor stadium complex.

Opened in 2002, the stadium has two artificial surface fields, seating for 6,500 at the main field and for 1,500 at the auxiliary field, a towering two-story press box, a locker room and athletic training building off one endzone and the Carl "Chugger" Davis Building with administrative and ticket offices at the entrance. An eight-lane track and jumping pits surround the auxiliary field. State-of-the-art lighting serves the entire facility.

The Bessie L. Park '01 Center for Physical Education and Recreation, opened in 1973, features a main gymnasium with seating for 3,600; an Olympic-sized swimming pool with gallery seating for 1,500; Alumni Arena which can accommodate 2,500 spectators for ice hockey; racquetball and squash courts, a wrestling room, the John L. Sciera '52 Athletic Training Room and the Francis Woods '56 Fitness Center. Lusk Field House, with its tartan-textured surface, is home for the indoor track teams. Cortland soccer teams play on Holloway Field. The College also has 22 outdoor tennis courts.

