

For Immediate Release  
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## **Bengals break drought with championship**

*Buffalo State claims first softball title since 2000*

CORTLAND – It took two games, one going eleven innings and the other going eight, to decide the 2009 SUNYAC Softball Champion. The Buffalo State Bengals took the title home, defeating defending champs, the Cortland Red Dragons, 3-2 in the title game on Sunday.

**Kyrstin Lekki** (North Tonawanda/Niagara-Wheatfield), **Jolene Banach** (Cheektowaga/Maryvale), and **Nicole Maher** (Waterloo/Waterloo) each scored a run for the Bengals in the final game. Maher, Lekki, and Banach also scored runs in the 8-6 loss to the Red Dragons that forced game 11. Winning pitcher **Jenna Frieling** (East Amherst/Williamsville North) pitched all eight innings in the final game.

Scoring for the Red dragons in the title game were **Emily Ringen** (Pompton Plains, NJ / Pequannock) and **Rose Morrison** (Miller Place/Miller Place). Ringen also scored an additional two runs in the game 10 win for the Red Dragons. **Katie Finch** (Amsterdam/Broadalbin-Perth) pitched seven and a third innings in the title game.

Buffalo State went 5-0 in the tournament, while Cortland went 4-1. The Red Dragons only loss was in the title game.

**Nicole Sabuda** (Orchard Park/Orchard Park) pitched a shutout game against Brockport in game six, while Finch pitched a shutout against the Golden Eagles in game nine.

### **All-Tournament Team**

Ona Halladay, Brockport  
Stephanie Geer, Brockport  
Lindsay Szymanski, Brockport  
Kyrstin Lekki, Buffalo State  
Nicole Sabuda, Buffalo State (MVP)  
Crystal Carlson, Cortland  
Donnalyn Cross, Cortland  
Katie Finch, Cortland  
Jessica Bartalsky, Oneonta  
Jessica Iuliano, Oneonta  
Bethany Truax, Oneonta