Football team winning with big numbers, records falling weekly

Reknowned for its dominating defense, the football team was expected to be one of the front-runners in the Liberty League race, but no one expected this.

Through six games, the Statesmen have already made a giant dent in the offensive records book with an eye on more records falling over the final three weeks of the season.

The assault on history began in the season-opening 31-10 win over Dickinson. With four catches for 117 yards, senior wide receiver DAN SUOZZI passed career receiving yards leader SCOTT GEISE ’83.

The game against the Red Devils also served as the first start for sophomore quarterback SHAWN MIZRO. The native of nearby Newark, N.Y., made a splash, throwing for 232 yards and three touchdowns without an interception.

The following weekend, Hobart suffered its lone setback to date. At Franklin & Marshall, the resurgent Diplomats bested the Statesmen 35-14.

Defensively, senior end Chris Purtell posted a game-high 18 tackles, the most by a Statesman in at least seven years. The strong effort at F&M earned him a spot on the D3Football.com Team of the Week.

On the road on Oct. 16, at Kings Point, Hobart raced out to a 28-0 halftime lead and cruised to a 35-6 victory. The defense, led by Purtell’s 12 solo tackles, limited the Mariners to just 240 yards of offense.

Suozzi again etched his name in the records book, catching a pair of TD passes from Mizro, the ninth and 10th of the season, to break the Hobart single season TD pass record held, for the past 10 years by Dan Suozzi (142-82-4, 1,207 yds, 17 TDs) is on pace to break the Hobart season benchmarks for passing yards and touchdowns.

Hobart returned to Troy, N.Y., the scene of its conference-clinching win over RPI in 2003, to face the Engineers. The Statesmen made short work of RPI, overcoming a 13-0 first quarter deficit to win 54-13.

Hobart recorded 562 yards of total offense, scoring at least 10 points in all four quarters. Senior wide out RICK PIÑERO posted the big game offensively, making six catches for 152 yards and a touchdown and returning a kickoff 79 yards.

The Statesmen returned home the following week to host Liberty League newcomer WPI. The Engineers received a rude welcome, falling 55-38. It marked the first time in 111 seasons that Hobart has scored 50-plus points in back-to-back games.

Piñero again produced a monster effort, catching five passes for 90 yards and a single game record four touchdowns. The 492 yards of total offense got a big boost from senior running back JACK HOLLERAN, who rushed for 155 yards and two touchdowns.

While the defense was disappointed after giving up 38 points to WPI, that unit atoned for it the following weekend against Coast Guard. The Statesmen D did not allow a single point to the Bears offense in a 31-2 victory. Thirteen Hobart players recorded at least three tackles in a total team effort.

Offensively, Suozzi caught eight passes for 161 yards and four TDs, matching Piñero’s week old mark. During the game, Suozzi also became the College’s career leader in receptions and receiving touchdowns.

In addition to leading the Liberty League in several categories, the Statesmen rank among the best in the nation in scoring offense (30th), total offense (34th), rushing defense (26th), and turnover margin (14th).

Liberty League Football Standings (as of Oct. 17, 2004)

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<th>Team</th>
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SPECIAL ATTENTION

The SAA membership drive will begin in the next couple of days with a phonathon. A precall letter will be mailed to you and should arrive at about the same time as this Sportsletter. Since the membership drive started late this year, you can receive complimentary admission to home football games (based on your 2003-04 membership level) by giving your name at the Statesmen or Will Call gates.
**Storck qualifies for ICSA National Championship**

**ANAPOLIS, Md.—** Hobart senior **JOHN STORCK** finished third out of 16 sailors at the Mid-Atlantic Intercollegiate Sailing Association Singlehanded Championship, Oct. 9-10. The top three finishers advance to the Intercollegiate Sailing Association North American Singlehanded Championships on Oct. 22-24, in Wayzata, Minn.

“The entire team is very proud of John’s performance this weekend,” Head Coach **SCOTT IKLÉ ’84** said. “Last year, John missed qualifying for the Singlehanded National Championship by two points. He set this championship as a personal goal, and he has achieved it.”

Sailing in 16 races for the weekend, Storck captured eight top-three finishes, including a victory in the eighth race. He never finished lower than 11th and was among the top eight boats in 13 of the 16 races, finishing the weekend with 86 points.

Also racing for the Statesmen were first-year **JAY MILLS**, sophomore **TREVOR MOORE**, and senior **WILEY WAKEMAN**. Mills grabbed the fourth spot with 106 points, earning top-five finishes in 10 of the 16 races. Moore completed the weekend with 142 points in ninth place overall, while Wakeman finished 15th with 184 points.

Sailing in two national championship events last year, Storck skippered the HWS boat to a second place finish in the ICSA Sloop Championship last fall and also helped the team to the runner-up spot at the Team Racing Championship this past spring.

**MAISA Singlehanded Championship Results**
1. Andrew Campbell (Georgetown), 38
2. Peeter Must (King’s Point), 78
3. John Storck (Hobart), 86
4. Jay Mills (Hobart), 106
5. Chris Branning (King’s Point), 117
6. Charles Pulmer (Navy), 134
7. Alex Steele (St. Mary’s), 134
8. Garth Fasano (Navy), 142
9. Trevor Moore (Hobart), 142
10. Carl Horrocks (Washington), 144

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**Slocum, Gonzalez pace strong fall golf season**

Junior **DREW SLOCUM** and sophomore **MIKE GONZALEZ** have paced the Statesmen golf team this season, leading them to a victory at the Hobart Invitational and a runner-up finish at the Pitt-Bradford Invitational.

Hobart started the season with a ninth place finish at the St. Lawrence Invitational. Slocum led the way, shooting a two-day 155. Two weeks later, the Statesmen got strong efforts from Slocum, Gonzalez, and junior **MATT JOHANSEN** to capture second place at Pitt-Bradford. Slocum and Gonzales carded matching 77s, while Johansen recorded a season-best round of 79 to help the Statesmen improve six spots from their 2003 finish.

Slocum turned in his best round of golf two weeks later at the Liberty League Championships. The native of Milwaukee fired a season-best three-over 75 to earn second-team All-Liberty League honors.

It was Gonzalez and senior **MATT COTÉ** who captured top honors the following week at the Hobart Invitational with rounds of 78. Gonzalez’s score, combined with Slocum’s 79 and junior **BENNETT BARITELLI’s** 80, helped Hobart “Orange” finish two strokes ahead of Roberts Wesleyan for the title. Coté led the Hobart “Purple” squad to fifth place.

The Statesmen closed out the 2004 fall season with a third place finish at the NYU Invitational. Edging Williams by two strokes, Slocum led the way with rounds of 75 and 78 for fifth place overall.

Slocum posted or tied for the low score for Hobart in nine of the 11 rounds the Statesmen played this year, finishing with a team-best average of 78.64. Gonzalez was second on the team with an overall average of 81.27.

**Improvement the hallmark of cross country team**

It’s been a season of steady improvement for the Hobart cross country team. Nearly every Statesman continues to take valuable seconds off of his time as the end of the season approaches.

Leading the way for Hobart much of the year has been senior **SCOTT THOMS**. He opened his swan song season with a 43rd place finish out of 113 runners at the Buffalo State Invitational and since has only gotten better. Thoms turned in a career performance at the Hobart Invitational, eclipsing his previous best time by 17 seconds with a finishing time of 27:54 for second place.

Thoms continued to keep his time under 28 minutes in the following weeks and lowered his personal best again to 27:20 at the Liberty League Championships to earn a top-10 finish. Looking to peak at the right time, the native of West Chatham, Mass., cut off 23 more seconds at the Roberts Wesleyan Invitational for ninth place out of 108 runners.

Also making great strides as the season progresses has been sophomore **MIKE GUGLIELMO**. Improving his 8k time each week, Guglielmo broke the 30-minute mark at the Roberts Wesleyan Invitational with a time of 29:41, 14 seconds faster than his previous best. He posted his best finish of the year at the Hobart Invitational, crossing the line in 20th place.

Sophomore **TED WILLIAMS** continues to trim seconds off his times, dropping nearly two minutes from his season-opening time of 34:25 at the Pat Peterson Invitational at Oswego.

The Statesmen have four remaining meets left in the 2004 season. They will close out the year at the NCAA Regional Championships at St. Lawrence on Nov. 13.
Soccer team riding emotional roller coaster

Riding a roller coaster can be both an enjoyable and miserable experience at times. The Hobart soccer team can attest to this, as it has experienced its fair share of ups and downs throughout the 2004 season.

Returning most of last year’s team, the Statesmen looked ready to build upon their 2003 success when they posted a 14-7-1 record. However, after a couple of unlucky breaks along the way Head Coach SHAWN GRIFFIN finds his squad sporting a 5-9-0 overall record.

Hobart started things off hosting Geneseo State in a rematch of last season’s ECAC Northeast semifinal. The Blue Knights tallied a goal in the 30th minute and held off the Statesmen attack to grab a 1-0 victory in Geneva.

The Statesmen fell to fifth-ranked Rochester 4-1 on the AstroTurf of Fauver Stadium. Opening Liberty League play four days later against Union, Hobart turned in a strong second half, but could not overcome the Dutchmen’s four first-half scores in a 4-3 loss. Hobart turned around the following afternoon and put forth a strong 90 minutes of soccer to upset Skidmore, 4-1.

After a 4-1 setback at St. John Fisher, the Statesmen had their best performance of the season in a 1-0 win over Brockport State and Utica. In the 5-4 shootout against the Golden Eagles, the Statesmen received two goals each from MICKE SUBOTOWICZ and Klotz to edge Brockport. Four days later, Hobart played a complete 90 minutes at Rensselaer, but relinquished a goal with 3:30 left of the second overtime to fall 1-0. The Vassar match the next day proved to be much the same as the Brewers netted the tying goal with less than five minutes left in regulation and the game-winner 4:50 into the first extra session for a 2-1 triumph.

The Statesmen traveled to Nazareth the following weekend for a teacher vs. student matchup. Coach Griffin took on first-year Golden Flyers’ Head Coach Dan Gilbertson. Griffin mentored Gilbertson for 10 years—as a player and assistant coach at Plymouth (N.H.) State, and as an assistant for Hobart.

Down 1-0 after the opening 45 minutes, Klotz found the back of the net at 45:54 to tie the game. Senior DAN ABROMS put the Statesmen ahead in the 84th minute with an assist from classmate ROSS OFFINGER. Nazareth evened the match with a 1:48 left in regulation, forcing overtime. Just 2:40 into the first extra session, Klotz gave the Statesmen a win with his 10th goal of the year.

With his two scores against the Golden Flyers, Klotz moved up to second on both the career goals (38) and points (85) lists at Hobart. He is six goals shy of matching his 10th goal of the year.

The roller coaster ride continued as the Statesmen fell to fifth-ranked Rochester 4-1 on the AstroTurf of Fauver Stadium. Opening Liberty League play four days later against Union, Hobart turned in a strong second half, but could not overcome the Dutchmen’s four first-half scores in a 4-3 loss. Hobart turned around the following afternoon and put forth a strong 90 minutes of soccer to upset Skidmore, 4-1.

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With his two scores against the Golden Flyers, Klotz moved up to second on both the career goals (38) and points (85) lists at Hobart. He is six goals shy of matching JEFF SAUNDERS ’92 as the Statesmen’s all-time top goal scorer.

Hobart looks to finish strong in their final three games of the year. The Statesmen will battle for a spot in the Liberty League Tournament when they host Clarkson and St. Lawrence in the final weekend of League action.

Klotz leads all scorers with 22 points on 10 goals and two assists, while Subotowicz is close behind with 20 (8-4). First-year goalie BEN TAMBERELLA is 5-7-0 overall, with a 1.53 goals against average and .716 save percentage.

With at least three games remaining in his collegiate career, Ricky Klotz (#16) is chasing Jeff Saunders ’92 on the career goals list.

Moore, Silver named ITA Scholar-Athletes

Two Hobart tennis players recently named to the Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Scholar-Athlete team. Junior DERRICK MOORE and sophomore MATT SILVER represented the Statesmen on the prestigious team. Moore also earned the honor in 2003.

To earn ITA Scholar-Athlete status, a player must be a varsity letterwinner, have a minimum 3.5 grade point average for the current academic year, and have been enrolled at his present institution for at least two semesters.

Selected to the Liberty League’s All-Singles team, Silver was the lone rookie in Hobart’s starting six last season. He finished with a 17-5 record at the No. 4 spot.

Moore saw action in six matches in 2003-04 and was an important part of the team in its quest for the Liberty League title in the spring.

During Hobart’s short fall slate, the Statesmen finished third in the Flower City Tournament, and got a pair of spectacular individual efforts in the Wilson/ITA Northeast Championships.

Junior PETER PINÉ advanced to the championship singles match, narrowly missing a trip to the national finals, 7-6 (9-7), 4-6, 6-0.

In the championship doubles draw, Piné and junior ADAM RAFFA advanced to the semifinals before bowing to the eventual champions, 9-7.
It’s great to MEET a Statesman!

GENEVA, N.Y.—A new chapter in the rich history of Hobart College athletics was written on Oct. 2, when the College introduced its newest family member, the Hobart mascot. As part of the Colleges’ Parents Weekend football game against WPI, the newest Statesman was unveiled during a special halftime ceremony.

The Hobart Student Government and the Statesmen Athletic Association teamed up on this project. The mascot is the creation of Street Characters of Calgary, Canada. The 7-foot tall mascot uniform will be worn by selected Hobart College students.

During the second half of the Hobart-WPI game, fans had the chance to name the mascot with prizes being awarded for the winning entrant. The winning mascot name will be announced at the Hobart-Union football game at Boswell Field on Nov. 6.

Contest entries will be accepted through Oct. 29. Submissions can be sent to saa@hws.edu, and should include your name, and your suggested name for the mascot.

Adam Chaput ’07, of Framingham, Mass., brought the Hobart Statesman to life in front of 2,750 fans at Boswell Field on Oct. 2. Hobart’s new mascot made his debut at the Boz atop a Geneva fire truck before dismounting to wild cheers from the crowd.