Men's soccer win home opener

By Matt Cain
Contributor

Men's soccer is underway, and the Owls jump out to a soaring start to the season. The first home game was played perfectly, as the Owls took a 3–0 win against Bloomfield College.

As the Owls played perfect defense, the three goals came from newly acquired forward Jose Clemente, a senior. This is the first hat trick from an Owl since 2022.

Clemente is a transfer from Saint Rose University who came over at the start of the offseason.

"When you have a natural goal scorer and you put him in the box with the ball, this is what happens," Head Coach Kevin Anderson said.

Clemente, known for his hard work and grit on the field, is joining a team who made a run in the NE10 Tournament last year. With this new addition, the Owls have one thing on their mind.

"I am very grateful to be a part of this team," Clemente said. "Three goals are results of hard work."



PHOTO | CARLY RUSSELL

Forward Jose Clemente, a senior, scores a goal.

In the first half, the Owls got out to a slow start, losing the ball and missing on their first two shot attempts. However, at the 20–minute mark, the owls adjusted on the fly, implementing ball security and ball movement.

"We need to see more of that this year. Playing our game is what we need to do, not theirs," Clemente said.

The Owls played their game and eventually scored late in the first half and two more in the second. With Clemente scoring all three goals, his teammates worked to assist those goals to put the Owls on top.

Defender Edward Mensah, a freshman, got his first assist of the season, and mid–fielder Kasper Murzinski, a freshman, also picked up an assist in his first minutes on the field.

This Owl team is hungry. Anderson knows what it takes to win and instilled the value of hard work day in and day out into the team.

Anderson played for the Owls in 1991 and 1992 and led the Owls to the 1992 NCAA National Championship.

"The goals didn't come from luck. It was being more clean on the ball and playing forward," Anderson said.

The Owls are now 1–0 on the season and have momentum going into their next game. This win gives them confidence to play their own game and make the opponent play into the Owls play style.

The Owls held the shut out through the second half.

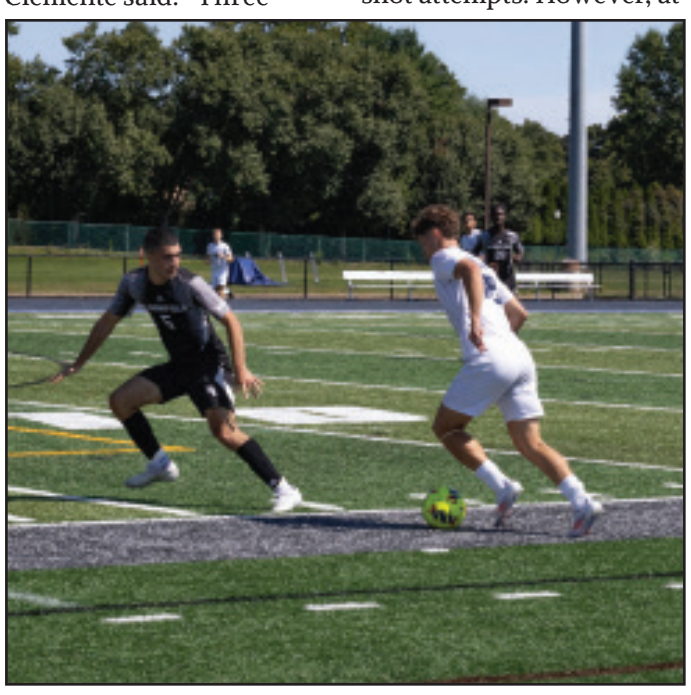
Goalkeeper Juan Devin, a senior, picked up a save and stopped the Bears from getting on the board.

There is no stopping these Owls as they look to carry over the momentum into their next game over the weekend.

Coming into the season, the Owls were ranked No. 5 in the NE10. Their first three games are outside of the conference.

The Owls will be back in conference play at week four of the season; the outside competition can make them a stronger threat to the NE10 Competition and even move them up in the rankings.

It is clear that this season will be built on executing and staying focused.



Forward Jose Clemente, a senior, scores a goal.



Defender Edward Mensah, a graduate, dribbles past a defender.



Mid–fielder Samuel Nagy, a junior, kicks the ball.



Mid–Fielder Umberto Catale, a senior, takes the header vs. Bloomfield College.

Owls Spring Sports Recap

Men & Women's Outdoor Track and Field:
According to the Owl website, the team hosted the NE10 Conference Championship on May 3–4. However, no information has been released.

They also particpated in the NCAA D–II Outdoor National Championships hosted by Emporia State University in Emporia, Kansas on May 23–25. However, no information has been released.

Softball - Overall Record: 19-24
NE10 Tournament – Apr. 30 – @ Franklin Pierce University – W 13–3

NE10 Tournament– May 2 – vs. Southern New Hampshire University – W 3–2

NE10 Tournament– May 3 – @ Adelphi University – L 3–1

Lacrosse - Overall Record: 8-9
Apr. 30 – vs. Bentley College – L 17–9

Baseball - Overall Record: 25-22
Apr. 30 – vs. University of Bridgeport – W 5–2
May 3 – vs. Pace University – W 6–1
May 4 – vs. Pace – G1 L 6–2 / G2 L 5–4

All information has been provided by SCSUOwls.

Owls Fall Sports Recap

Men & Women's Cross Country:
According to the Owlswebsite, the teams traveled to the Nassaney Invitational in Smithfield, Rhode Island on Saturday, Sep. 7.

The men's team placed seventh as the women's placed sixth out of eight.

Men's Soccer - Record: 1-0-1
Sep. 8 – @ The University of Bridgeport – T 0–0

Women's Soccer - Record: 1-0-1
Sep. 6 – @ Queens College – W 2–0
Sep. 8 – @ University of Bridgeport – T 0–0

Women's Field Hockey - Record: 0-2
Sep. 7 – @ Mansfield University – L 2–0
Sep. 8 – @ Kutztown University – L 7–0

Women's Volleyball - Record: 0-4
Sep. 6 – vs. University of Bridgeport – L 3–0 / vs. Goldey–Beacom College – L 3–1
Sep. 7 – vs. Queens College – L 3–0 / vs. Post University – L 3–0

All information has been provided by SCSUOwls.com

Future Schedule

Football:
Sep. 13 – vs. American International College – 7 p.m.

Men's Soccer:
Sep 14 – @ West Chester (PA) University – 4 p.m.

Women's Soccer:
Sep. 14 – @ University of New Haven – 1 p.m.

Women's Field Hockey:
Sep. 11 – @ Saint Thomas Aquinas College – 3 p.m.
Sep. 14– @ American International College – 4 p.m.

Women's Volleyball:
Sep. 13 – @ Jefferson University – 2 p.m. / @ Holy Family University – 7 p.m.
Sep. 14 – @ Wilmington (DE) University – 11:30 a.m.

Column: NFL Schedule



By Dillon Flanigan
Sports Editor

For the fourth season in a row, each team in the National Football League, NFL, has played 17 regular season games. This change brought about the reduction of preseason games from four to three, although the season is longer.

The fourth and final preseason game, a yearly rivalry game that changes location year after year, was replaced with a bye–week as the season was extended by a week in January. With the new format in place, the home and home continue with some teams but is not as guaranteed as it once was.

In March of 2020, a new Collective Bargaining Agreement between the NFL Players Association and the owners instituted the length of the season. This was just one of several new changes that included an expanded playoff format, from 12 teams to 14.

According to Jacob Camenker of 'The Sporting News,' and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell, the reason was financially motivated.

The 17–game schedule, an increase of the standard 16 game season, would go into effect for the 2022 season. However, due to the pandemic, teams lost revenue as the public health emergency kept fans from filling seats.

An additional regular season home game will generate millions of dollars in gate receipts. This does not even include the television contracts that bring in an additional several million per game.

In theory, a trade of one additional regular season game for one less preseason game may not be a bad idea. Historically, many starters and backups have not played in the final preseason game, allowing teams to rest players before the games count.

But are more games better? Football is a violent sport; injuries can happen without taking a hit. By extending the season even by one week, we are putting the players at a greater risk of injury.

Over the last decade, there have been great strides in the research of chronic traumatic encephalopathy. There is no real way of knowing who has this until after one's death. Nevertheless, in 2022 the NFL allowed teams to wear Guardian Caps.

A Guardian Cap is a soft–shell pad that covers the outside of a football helmet and reduces the impact of a helmet–to–helmet collision. The restrictions on these caps are being loosened to allow the players to wear these in games.

In a story published last week by the New York Times, Indianapolis Colts tight end Kylen Granson stated wearing the Guardian Cap was a "no–brainer."

The attempt to protect players' long–term mental health is skewed by the increase of games.

For more on this story, visit thesouthernnews.org