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The Stony Brook

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# Statesman

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MONDAY SEPTEMBER 18, 2000

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## Stepping Down

*Polity President Calvin Coleman  
Resigns as Personal Problems  
Become Serious*

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# USB Takes a Beating in Poll

## Boring Professors, Dungeon-like Dorms and an Unsightly Campus Put Stony Brook at Bottom

By JENNIFER KESTER  
Editor Emeritus

With the school year underway, review boards and other independent sources released their college and university rankings for 2001, leaving the University of Stony Brook lagging behind other State University of New York schools.

The Princeton Review's new book *The Best 331 Colleges*, which ranked colleges and universities by polling more than 59,000 students, named Stony Brook number three in the dorms like dungeons category, only behind Rutgers and SUNY Buffalo, respectively. Stony Brook also took number three in the category of campus is tiny, unsightly or both.

Other honors included placing number eight in professors suck all life from materials category, this time beating SUNY Buffalo, which came in ninth, and 18th in long lines and red tape in administration.

Stony Brook, however, did not make any gains as the most miserable campus, a category in which it took second place a year ago.

In the 2001 rankings from U.S. News and World Report, Stony Brook was ranked on the third tier of national universities, lagging behind second tier SUNY Binghamton. SUNY schools Geneseo, New Paltz, Oswego and Fredonia ranked on the second tier of northern universities, and Purchase scored number two among top northern public liberal arts colleges.

In spite of its poor rankings in some categories, Stony Brook did receive honors in the sciences, placing number 76 among the top engineering programs with Ph.D. programs, according to U.S. News and World Report.

As far as best education for the money, Stony Brook again took the back seat.

Kiplinger's Personal Finance magazine ranked Binghamton number five in its 100 best values in higher education. In the same category Geneseo took number 25, Albany nabbed number 67, New Paltz took number 85 and Oswego came in number 86. Stony Brook placed number 87 on the list, only leaving Buffalo, number 88, and Fredonia, number 93.

"We're extremely proud of the fact that so many of our campuses consistently do so very well in several of these independent rankings," said SUNY Chancellor Robert L. King in a prepared statement. "And that our campuses appear in so many different categories testifies

**"Stony Brook also took number three in the category of campus is tiny, unsightly or both."**

to the depth and breadth of the academic excellence of the State University."

Many of the SUNY campuses did do well on the rankings, most notably Binghamton, which rated number 33 among national public universities and number 13 among national universities in students graduating with the least

debt, according to U.S. News and World Report.

Stony Brook, which used to be referred to as the Berkley of the East, also had competition from upstate Geneseo, which was hailed as one of the most selective schools in the Empire State and the Harvard of the SUNY System.

But although Stony Brook scored lower than the other SUNY schools in independent reviews, not all students were convinced that the polls are accurate.

Lucas Niskanen thinks that the dorms at Stony Brook are much better than dungeons as the poll suggests. "I live in Hamilton and I think the dorms are nice since they've been renovated," he said, noting that he used to live in unrenovated Gray College. The senior said that he has seen dorms at CW Post, Albany and Rutgers and the ones at Stony Brook are much better. "Compared to the dorms at the other schools I've visited, our dorms are immaculate. Those dorms had no rugs and the bathrooms were disgusting."

Niskanen also disagreed with the poll's findings which rate USB as having too much red tape and long lines in administration. He said that he never had a bad experience there. "I always treat the employees nice and without any meanness and they have done the same for me." He also claimed to never having waited on long lines or dealt with red tape. "I have never really had much of a problem in Administration," he said. "This poll must be old."

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, September 18, 2000

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**A Thought  
From  
Rabbi Adam**



Once, a Chassidic Jew went to take counsel with his Rebbe, the holy Tzemach Tzedek of Lubavitch. He was plagued with doubts of faith and he was seeking guidance from the Rebbe. After explaining his situation, the Tzemach Tzedek remarked, "So what? Why do you care?" "But Rebbe", exclaimed the Chasid, "I am a Jew!" "Well," said the Rebbe, "in that case, everything is fine..." For doubts are okay, because growth in the spiritual realm is a process. Along the way are bumps, insecurities, and doubts. Sometimes things ring true. Other times things seem hard to swallow. This is particularly true for the Jewish experience. For Judaism is more than a belief in G-d. Rather, it is a way of life that expresses a specific connection with G-d by doing "Mitzvot" Doubts of faith arise when these ritualistic nuances seem to be more like ritualistic nuisances. But whatever the case, belief in G-d is constant, for G-d is more of a reality than a tenant of religion. And just as reality is not a matter of particular belief, so too G-d is not a matter of religion. The same is true with one's connection to G-d. Since G-d is a reality, the ability to connect to Him through the Mitzvot is real. Doubts are just doubts. They are part of the growth process. So what do you care?

Sponsored by the Chabad Student Club,  
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# Polity President Resigns

## Coleman Steps Down as Mother's Illness Gets More Serious

By ERIN ROSENKING  
Statesman Editor

With only a short and quiet summer spent in his position, Polity president Calvin Coleman announced late last week that he is resigning from the presidency as of Monday due to personal problems, which are preventing him from concentrating on school.

Last Spring with then president Andrez Carberry graduating, Coleman won the election by a landslide, beating out last minute contender Andrew Murray 742 votes to 247. But the election was mired in controversy from the start. At one point, Coleman ran unopposed once Carberry was taken off the ballot after learning as a graduate student still enrolled in some undergraduate classes, he was ineligible to run. Murray joined the race with only a few days before the ballots were due in, campaigning hard but not enough to win. When the results were announced, Murray and Coleman traded grievances with one another that each tampered with the others campaign posters. The accusations grew even more serious as racially tinged slurs were traded between the two, at one point prompting a call to University Police to break up a confrontation.

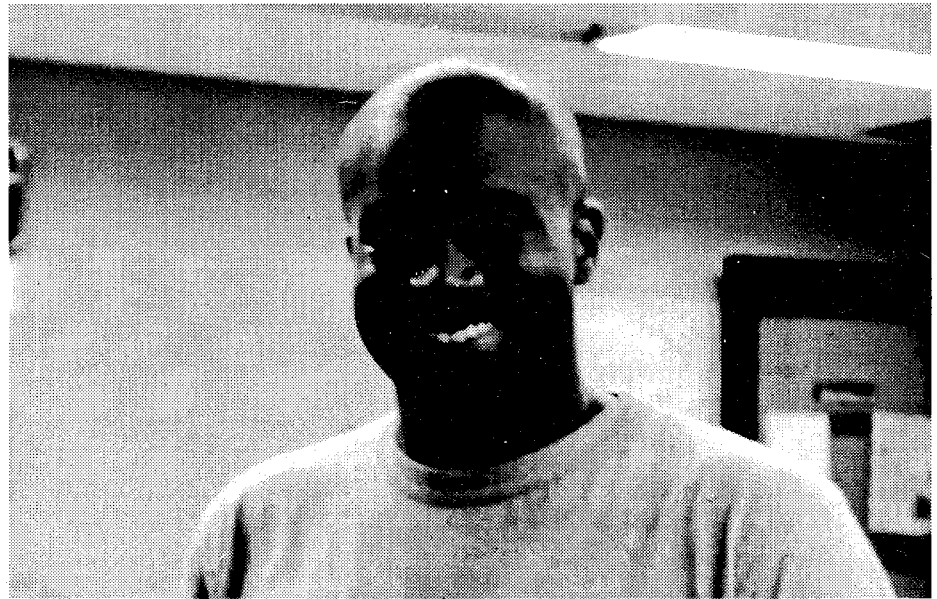
After the controversy died down, Coleman took his seat at the end of graduation and Murray went on to make up for the election he lost, being voted in as president of the Commuter Students Association.

But after only a few short days into the fall semester, Coleman announced his resignation, claiming a sick mother back home was causing his grades to fall because he could not concentrate on his work. "It was a decision I had to make, between graduating on time and having a hindrance on giving my all to my grades," he said. Coleman chose to take a break after an unpaid bill caused him to lose his housing and come dangerously close to getting de-registered. "I decided that it would be best to take a semester off," Coleman said. "I can't afford to mess up again." So before the registrar did it for him, Coleman de-registered himself. After his student activity fee money is reimbursed on Monday, the resignation will be official.

Coleman explained that his GPA

fell and he missed numerous Senate meetings last semester as he commuted between Stony Brook and Brooklyn to care for his mother, who suffers from a heart condition. But the pressure was too much to take for another semester as his mother's illness took a turn for the worse recently. "My mom needs me a lot," he said. "I tried the commuting but I can't handle it with school, my mind's not on it." With his mother's condition putting strain on him, he wants to just relax this fall. "I want to take the time to get my head on straight."

Murray was one of the first to know of Coleman's resignation after he got a call from Coleman, telling him that he could run if he wanted



Statesman Archives

Murray was frustrated to learn that Coleman was resigning after all the trouble they had last semester.

*With his mother's condition putting strain on him, he wants to just relax this fall. "I want to take the time to get my head on straight."*

to, an announcement that brought him much frustration after the efforts he made to beat him in the elections. "I was disappointed because of everything that happened last semester for him to not be president," Murray said. "It's really frustrating."

As for Polity, according to the Constitution, Vice President Kaedrea Jackson is serving as both vice and president until a new president is voted in, an election that is to take place within 30 days of Coleman's resignation. "It's bad because we have to rush the elections," said Jackson, "but it is the what the Constitution says." She said that she is under stress and a little worried since Coleman's announcement. "Everything is kind of falling on me now," Jackson said, "but I have a Council that will be there for me."

In spite of Jackson's increased workload serving as both vice and president, Coleman maintained that he had no other choice. "I am sad to leave but I can come back," he said. "I chose school because it could be too late with my mom." He noted that

involved. "I would like to come back and be a senator and still be in some of the cultural organizations."

As for privacy, Coleman acknowledged that his problems are personal but he also said that he believed students have a right to know what is going on. "I wanted to put a stop to the rumors going around," he said. "Telling people my business comes with the position," he said.

Although they know his business, Coleman regrets not having the chance to be their head spokesman. "I am sorry I didn't get to be president but I'm still glad they chose me," he said. "I know they'll make another good choice."

## Fire In Chapin

By ERIN ROSENKING  
Statesman Editor

A fire broke out in Chapin Apartments Saturday morning, causing severe damage to the apartment where the fire started and smoke and water damage to the apartments around it.

According to Newsday, the fire started at approximately 10 am after a student left a kettle of water on the stove and went to take a shower.

University Police responded to the call but the fire was too intense. The Setauket Fire Department responded shortly after. "They put the fire out within five minutes," said Patrick Calabria, director of media relations on campus.

Calabria also said that the students were given other housing in Chapin a few hours after the incident and that the University estimates they will be able to return to their own rooms as soon as Monday. "The important thing is no one was hurt," Calabria said.

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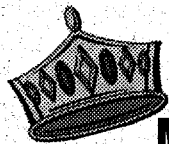
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**Eligibility Requirements:** All student candidates must:

- be enrolled at the University for the 2000-2001 academic year.
- have attended the University for at least one semester.
- have a minimum cumulative grade point average of 2.25.
- not have a disciplinary record with the University.

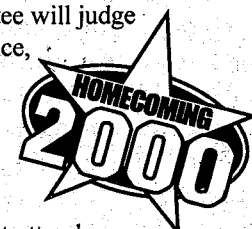
**The Application** includes a three-part essay in response to the following questions:

- Why did you decide to attend the University at Stony Brook?
- Why should you be selected as Homecoming King or Queen?
- How can Stony Brook students, faculty, and staff further promote cross-cultural interaction within our campus community?

Each candidate also is required to respond to these questions in a **3-5 minute speech presentation**. A Selection Committee will judge each contestant in the areas of speech presentation, interpersonal skills (communication), appearance, leadership experience, and campus involvement.

**APPLICATION DEADLINE:** Monday, September 25, 2000 at 5 p.m.

Applications are available from the Student Activities Office, 219 Student Activities Center. Selected candidates must attend an information session on **Wednesday, September 27, 12:40 p.m. - 2:10 p.m. (Campus Life Time)** in the Student Activities Center Auditorium. If you are not able to attend, have other questions, or need a disability-related accommodation, please call 632-9392.



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To the Student Polity Council, Senate, and the Stony Brook student body,

Due to a system and process of lethargy and control that works to damage the reputation of the Concerts Chair, in this case me, and of the University itself, while also ensuring the failure of most concerts and large-scale student planned events on this campus, along with learned elements of control within the Student Government itself, along with policy changes taking place at this University that are made regardless of how students feel about it and regardless of how students, and student life, are affected by it, working to further damage the reputation of the school and anyone working to bring many diverse concerts to it, I hereby resign from the position of Concerts Chair. This resignation shall be effective starting Monday, September 18th, 2000.

If I can offer any advice on how Stony Brook can get away from its current dearth of concerts, it would be threefold:

- 1- Everyone involved in anything having to do with concerts must have the broadest view possible of community. Last year was the "Year of Community," this year we mustn't forget to apply that as broad as possible, working to make everyone in the community a part of the community.
- Faculty, staff and alumni shouldn't be strangers to student programming any more that students should be strangers to faculty and staff programming. We are all here to live and learn and have fun.
- People from the other side of the tracks shouldn't be treated as strangers on our campus. They are a part of our community and a source of revenue. Policies against them work to further isolate Stony Brook and further ensure the failure of concerts and large-scale events on this campus.
- 2- Stony Brook Concerts needs to be its own entity, its own student club, separate from the politics and patronage of the Polity suite. Politics on this campus, like too much of the programming on this campus, is still at a high school level. We are not electing the best person for the job, but the most popular of the 1500 votes cast. This 1500 votes is just over 10% of the Student Body.
- Couple that analysis with the state and type of concerts over the past three years and one can easily see who programming is for and who those in the appointed positions of programming think about.
- 3- Stony Brook Concerts needs to have an advisor that works for concerts, not against concerts. If we are to have many diverse concerts, then Stony Brook Concerts needs to be able to work with the ease and diversity of the campus radio station. Over at WUSB, there is an assistant music director for each genre of music. I think it would be beneficial for concerts if it functioned in the same manner.

*David Klein  
Concerts Chair*

The Stony Brook Statesman Monday, September 18, 2000



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## Editorials

# Family First

## Coleman Resigns from Presidency to Aid Mother

After just a few short months as Polity's president, Calvin Coleman announced late last week that he is resigning from his position. There was a lot he had wanted to do. He hoped to follow in the footsteps of his predecessor Andrez Carberry, who set a precedent as being an extremely effective president, opening up the lines of communication between students and the administration. He wanted to tackle the tough issues facing the student body, such as the eight semesters and no more housing rule. But just a few days into the semester, Calvin realized that the problems that needed his attention the most were not here on the Stony Brook campus but back home in Brooklyn.

When he won the election, some of his opponents questioned how he would do it, complaining about his numerous absences from the Senate meetings that he was supposed to run when he was vice president. But the mystery of the missing VP was solved when rumors of a sick mother brought the pieces of the puzzle together. To stop the

rumors and to let the truth be known, Calvin courageously came forward with his very personal business to clear up the controversy.

He announced that on Monday, he will be reimbursed of his student activity fee which will officially end his term as Polity president. Then it is home to Mom who needs her son more than we do as she suffers from a serious heart condition.

It is hard to imagine making a tougher choice. He has given up what could possibly be the best semester of his school career before he even had a chance to do anything with it. But Calvin probably made the best decision he will ever make, as a member of Polity and beyond. He realized that there is nothing more important than family and that you have to make the best of every moment with the ones you love because you may not get another chance. He saw that school is not going anywhere and in the grand scheme of it all, what is one semester off? He was mature enough to realize that he might have been in Stony Brook physically but mentally he

was across Long Island. He knew that just like last year, he was not going to have his mind on school, classes and Polity but home, family and doctors.

Some people are criticizing him for running for the position in the first place. They question why he thought this semester would be any different than last, commuting between campus and home and taking on more than he already saw he can handle. But can we blame the guy for having hope? Life is so minute to minute; no one knows what is going to happen from day to day. Maybe things were looking up before they took a turn for the worse. Besides, maybe his mom was comforted hearing that her boy was moving up in the world.

College life is hard enough without having personal problems to deal with as well. Polity might be in an upheaval for a little while but things will get better. Calvin's mom may not. His maturity, responsibility and true knowledge of what's important should make us all feel that we lost out on a potentially great run with him at the helm of our government. But it was the smartest decision he will ever make.

## Misery Index

Compiled by Erin Rosenking, Statesman Editor

**That's Gotta Hurt:** Last Spring, senior Andrew Murray lost a tough battle against Calvin Coleman for the Polity presidency. Murray decided to run for the post last minute and after campaigning countless hours for three days straight, he wound up with only 247 votes to Calvin's 742. But he got over it, became the president of the Commuter Student Association, and as of the first week of this semester, he gets a call from Coleman announcing his resignation and inviting Murray to run for president again. Life is so cruel.

**Don't Ask, Don't Tell:** Renovations in Kelly Deli brought in some new eateries and a new look but it also relocated some of the highlights of the campus, such as the weekend brunch and Taco Bell, to dining halls across campus. According to Angella Agnello of FSA, the changes were made as per the request of the students since "it is their job to fulfill student needs." In response to claims from students that they had no idea the changes were taking place, Agnello responded that, among other places, they were highlighted in Campus Dining's newsletter *The Buzz* and on the office's webpage. No wonder no one knew about the changes.

**Oh, Why Bother?** For yet another Fall semester, administrators in Campus Residences forgot how to do math, placing more than 1500 students three to a room the size of a closet. To ease the burden of living like sardines, the office was generous enough to reimburse the threesomes with \$100. Gee, could they spare it or what?



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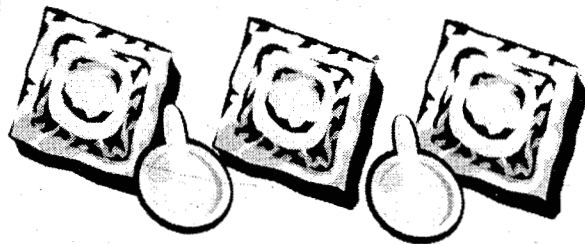
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## USB Defeated by St. John's

can't run the ball they simply can't win. Perhaps no one can attest to this fact more than Brian Stanley who had to carry the Seawolves' offense and bear the brunt of the St. Johns' onslaught. Because Stony Brook failed to establish the running game early, everyone in the stadium knew he was going to pass if the Seawolves had any aspirations of gaining first downs. Thus, Stanley paid the price, early and often.

Labeled a pocket passer, the USB starting QB was running for his life virtually all of the game. St. John's defensive line and different blitz packages repeatedly flushed Stanley out of the pocket forcing him to throw on the run and off his back foot. This led to poor decision making, a 43% completion percentage and 2 interceptions. Perhaps another contributing factor to that poor line was the fact the USB receivers dropped a dozen passes and Stanley almost never had any time to set and throw. The Seawolves' offensive line let up 7 monstrous sacks and 5 knockdowns, and every time Stanley managed to escape the pursuit and turned upfield he got his clock cleaned by the St. John's secondary. It was truly amazing that Stanley was able to even finish the game, much less throw 44 times.

Considering the circumstances Stanley's numbers weren't that bad, 19 for 44 for 135 yards with 1 TD and 2 interceptions. After the game, he remarked about the dropped balls, "We didn't execute...If they [the receivers] drop a pass, I'm throwing to them again thinking they'll catch it." When asked about his own performance, Stanley stated, "I made some poor decisions that changed the game early. I didn't have time to look downfield and throw, but we can't point fingers, we got beat at every position."

The USB quarterback was correct, with the understatement of the day. The Seawolves averaged an atrocious 1.6 yards per play offense and their defense allowed St. John's 250 yards of offense and allowed them to score on each trip into the Red Zone.

Next up for the Seawolves are their SUNY rivals, the Great Danes of Albany, at home on September 30.

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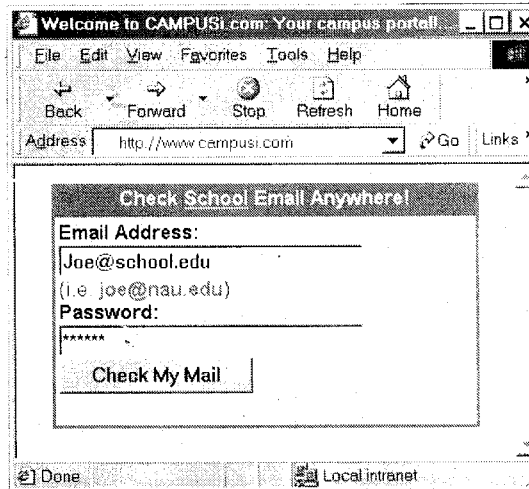
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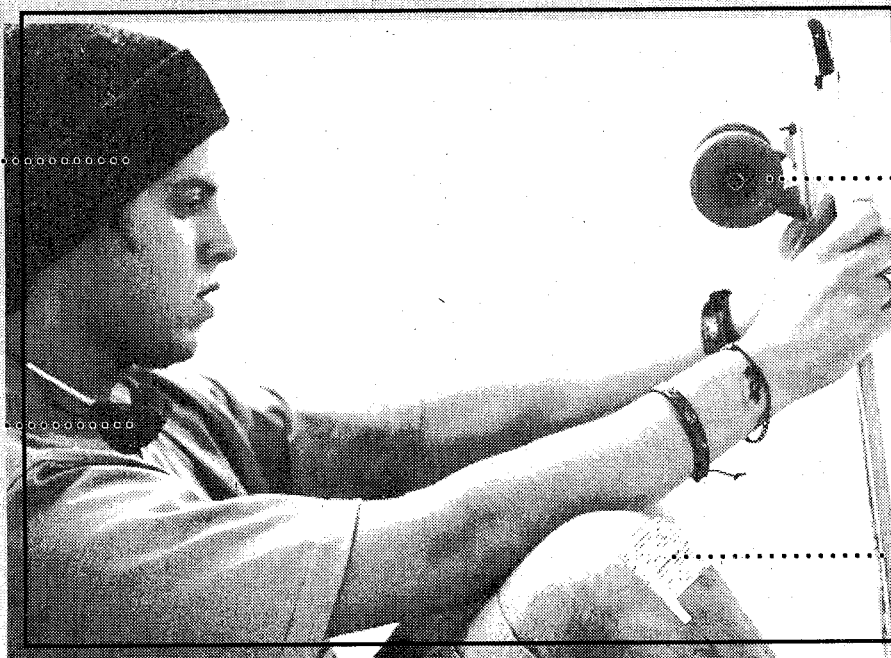
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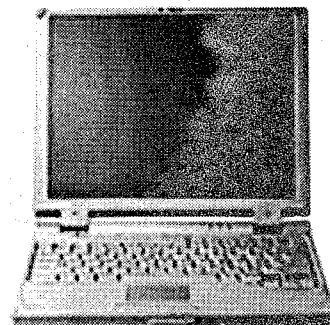
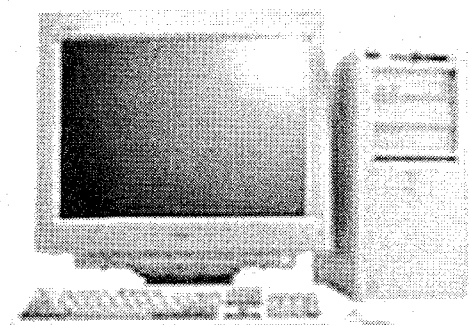
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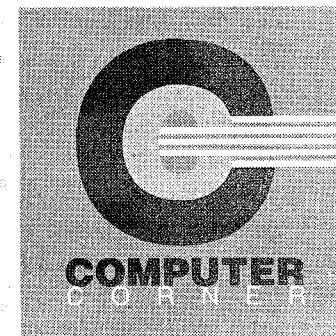
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# Sports

## Seawolves Lose to St. John's

JEFFREY JAVIDFAR  
Statesman Staff

Stony Brook turned the ball over three times and rushed for a total of minus 4-yards as they lost their first North East Conference game of the season, 28-6 to the Red Storm of St. John's.

Stony Brook has not won two successive games since joining Division-I last year and to 0-1 in conference play. USB Head Coach, Sam Kornhauser remarked, "Last week we played a perfect game. The difference this week was the turnovers, drops, interceptions and the fact we couldn't take advantage of their mistakes. They crowded the box and we couldn't throw the ball down the field."

In a complete reversal from last week's victory over Southern Connecticut, which saw the Seawolves rush for 229 yards on the ground and a total of 417 total yards of offense, USB collapsed in all facets of the game and managed to only eke out only 131 net yards. USB starting quarterback Brain Stanley (#13) even admitted, "they beat us at every position."

Nevertheless, the game did begin with the Stony Brook defense shutting out the Red Storm for the first 23 minutes of the game. The USB defense initially held strong allowing only one 1<sup>st</sup> down in the first 11/2 quarters. However, after the second Seawolves' turnover, which gave St. John's the ball on the Stony Brook 10 yard-line, there was very little the defense could do to keep the Red Storm of the scoreboard.

St. John's quarterback Josh Krapf (#9) connected with Elliot Hulse (#42) for a 3-yard touchdown pass. Tom Gavenonis (#6) converted the extra-point and the Red Storm went up 7-0.

The St. John's touchdown clearly phased the team. The Seawolves' offense, which couldn't do anything all day, was forced to punt for the third time. The Stony Brook defense was placed in a bad position for the second successive drive, after a weak 26-yard punt by



The Red Storm scores a touchdown in the beginning of the fourth quarter.

Statesman/Erin Rosenking

Michael Soto (#43), gave St. John's good field position. For the second straight Red Storm possession, the USB defense buckled under the pressure, allowing Krapf to throw a 16-yard touchdown pass to Alicio Metelius (#85). With 3:17 left in the first half, Stony Brook had quickly fallen behind 14-0 to St. John's.

USB ended the half with 58 yards of total offense and two turnovers in 16:39 of possession.

The second half was pretty much the same story—stagnate offense and a defense that was getting run over and worn out because they were on the field too long. The Seawolves were 0 for 9 on third down conversions and turned the ball over twice on downs after they failed to advance 10 yards in four chances.

The Red Storm took advantage of good field position to score two more touchdowns. With 9:36 in the third quarter, SJU quarterback, Krapf capped off a 6 play, 71-yard drive with a seven-

yard TD pass to Eddie Romano (#19). Twelve minutes later Hulse ran the ball in from seven yards out for his second TD of the day. The Gavenonis extra point put the Red Storm up 28-0 with 12:05 left in the game.

The lone highlight of the game was the fumble forced and recovered by linebacker John Phelan (#30) on the 2-yard line. Phelan who also had 11 tackles and one sack and Alexis Ayala (#51) who chipped in with 10 tackles and one broken-up-pass were the only defensive standouts.

Following the St. John's turnover, Stanley connected with Phil Lombardi (#35) for a two-yard TD pass, for the lone Stony Brook points of the game. After a failed two-point-conversion, the Seawolves trailed the Red Storm 28-6 with 2:33 left in the game.

However, Stony Brook's problems weren't from defensive miscues or blown converge. The Seawolves' simply could

not control the line of scrimmage, particularly on offense, and got pushed around all game because of this. Winning the "battle in the trenches" doesn't require great tactics or ingenious play calling, all the offensive and defensive lines have to do is to play hard and execute cleanly. To all those watching it was clearly evident that St. John's won that battle and the rest of the statistics reflect this fact accordingly. A disappointed Coach Kornhauser stated "we have to play harder next time."

Stony Brook rushed 38 times for a total of minus 4 yards, because the offensive line couldn't open up any holes for the runningbacks Ralph Menendez (#20) and Clinton Graham (#22). These were the same backs who churned up 229 yards on the ground last week against Southern Connecticut.

Unfortunately, in football if a team

*continued on page 8*