



JEFF GRANIT staff

Rumson-Fair Haven High School running back Connor Riley looks to pick up extra yards while being tackled by Matawan's Devon Rice during the Dec. 3 NJSIAA Central Jersey Group II championship game played at Rutgers University's High Point Solutions Stadium.

BCC's Cornwell, Katona are tabbed as Division III soccer All-Americans

Although the season ended on a sour note for the Brookdale Community College men's soccer team, Jersey Blues players are reaping the rewards of their outstanding campaign.

Standouts Dave Cornwell and Chris Katona were named to the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) Division III All-American Teams.

Cornwell, a forward, made the First Team, and midfielder Katona was named to the Second Team. Both are sophomores.

Cornwell, who hails from London, England, scored a team-high 26 goals and dished out 16 assists to rank fifth nationally with 68 points.

Katona, a Howell High School grad, led the Blues in scoring with 73 points on 25 goals and a team-high 23 assists. He ranked fourth nationally in scoring.

Brookdale completed its first undefeated regular season in 2011 (19-0), winning the Garden State Athletic Conference title. The Blues, coached by Mike Costa, were the top seed for the Region XIX Tournament, where they fell to Bergen, 3-2, in the semifinals to finish 20-1 for the season. They had been ranked as high as No. 3 in the country.

Despite the tournament upset, the Jersey Blues still dominated the post-season Region awards.

Cornwell and Katona were All-Region First Team picks while forward Justin Gregory (Wall) was a Second Team choice and goalie Ryan Bumbera (Wall) and defender

Pat Holliday (Howell) were Third Team picks.

In 16 games played, Gregory had three goals and seven assists for the Blues.

Sophomore keeper Bumbera recorded 13 clean sheets in 2011 and had the best goals-against average in the Region, 0.56. That ranked fifth national.

Holliday anchored a defense that allowed just 13 goals the entire season.

Katona and Cornwell were second and third in the Region in scoring behind Union College's Valdo Normill (31-16-78).

Postseason honors were garnered by Brookdale's women as well. Defender Aly Kent and midfielder Daniella Santora were All-Region First Team selections. Forward Catherine Lovallo was a Second Team pick, and Third Team recognition went to defender Devin Hope and keeper Elyse Umansky.

Sophomore Santoro (Monmouth Regional) ranked fifth in the Region in scoring with 13 goals and six assists for 32 points. Kent (Lacey) anchored a defense that was scored upon just 16 times.

Lovallo (Old Bridge) was second on the team in scoring, 29 points on 10 goals and nine assists. She ranked sixth in the Region.

Sophomores Hope (Howell) and Umansky (Freehold Borough) showed their experience with very strong seasons. Umansky had a goals-against average of 1.0, fourth best in the Region. Hope chipped in with two goals and four assists.

The Blues were 10-3-2