

NEW JERSEY CITY UNIVERSITY MEN'S STUDENT-ATHLETE-OF-THE-WEEK

OCTOBER 24-30, 2005

JUAN ESPINOZA

Men's Soccer ● Freshman ● Striker

New Brunswick, NJ ● Buen Pastor (Lima, Peru) HS



ESPINOZA'S SEASON TOTALS

● Goals:	18
● Assists:	4
● Points:	40
● Game-Winning Goals:	5
● Shots/Shots on Goal:	70/34

Freshman forward JUAN ESPINOZA (New Brunswick, NJ/Buen Pastor (Lima, Peru)) was selected as the New Jersey Athletic Conference Offensive Player of the Week and the Eastern College Athletic Conference Division III Metro Player of the Week, and after scoring three times with an assist in a seven-point week, has been named the NJCU Men's Student-Athlete of the Week for the third time this season.

Espinoza is the third NJCU player ever to receive the ECAC award and the first this season. He is the only freshman in the NJAC this season named NJAC Player of the Week after previously being selected Rookie of the Week on two occasions.

In his seven-point week, he led NJCU to the NJAC Semifinals after the Gothic Knights defeated two nationally-ranked opponents last week and improved to 5-0 this year against ranked teams.

In NJCU's 4-0 shutout of #8 ranked Ramapo College on October 24, Espinoza scored the opening two goals of the game against a team which had only allowed three goals the entire season entering the contest and just one goal in the conference. Espinoza surprised Ramapo College at 11:41, as he set the tone for the contest by receiving a cross at the top of the box. There, he dribbled to his right and curved a bullet inside the right corner of the net, to regain the conference lead in game-winners with five. Espinoza made it 2-0 at 33:31, when his right-wing header of a cross banked in off the right post.

In a 2-1 road loss at William Paterson University on October 26, Espinoza assisted on Chris Rosenthal's goal in the 74th minute, as NJCU attempted to rally from a 2-0 deficit, before falling, 2-1.

On October 29 in the NJAC Quarterfinals in Pomona, NJ, the fifth-seeded Gothic Knights upset #23 ranked and fourth-seeded Richard Stockton College, 3-2, to advance to the semifinals and gain the school's second-ever victory in the NJAC Tournament. Minutes before halftime and trailing Stockton 1-0, NJCU drew even, as Espinoza blasted a shot from the left wing at 39:12 that was struck so hard, it deflected off the finger tips of the Stockton keeper and across the goal line. The unassisted tally was Espinoza's conference leading 18th goal and 40th point of the season, breaking the NJCU single-season rookie points record. Pedro Prior had 39 points in 2003 (18 goals, three assists) and was that season's NJAC Rookie of the Year.

Through November 1, Espinoza leads the NJAC in five of a possible nine offensive categories, and ranks second in two other areas. He is the NJAC leader in points, goals, goals per game (0.90), shots (68) and is tied for first in game-winners. He is second in points per game (2.00) and shots per game (3.40).

PREVIOUS ATHLETES OF THE WEEK

● 09/05/2005:	MARCELO CARPIO (Men's Soccer)/KELLY DALY (Women's Soccer)
● 09/12/2005:	JUAN ESPINOZA (Men's Soccer)/LIZZELLE CINTRON (Women's Volleyball)
● 09/19/2005:	JOHAN GONZALEZ (Men's Soccer)/LIZZELLE CINTRON (Women's Volleyball)
● 09/26/2005:	CHRIS ROSENTHAL (Men's Soccer)/LIZZELLE CINTRON (Women's Volleyball)
● 10/03/2005:	CHRIS ROSENTHAL (Men's Soccer)/LIZZELLE CINTRON (Women's Volleyball)
● 10/10/2005:	JUAN ESPINOZA (Men's Soccer)/LIZZELLE CINTRON (Women's Volleyball)

● 10/17/2005:	EDISON BILBAO (Men's Soccer)/LIZZELLE CINTRON (Women's Volleyball)
● 10/24/2005:	CHRIS ROSENTHAL (Men's Soccer)/KATIE FEEHAN (Women's Soccer)
● 10/31/2005:	JUAN ESPINOZA (Men's Soccer)/KELLY DALY (Women's Soccer)

The NJCU Athlete of the Week is awarded every Monday by the Office of Sports Information. For more information, please call 201/200-3301.