



NEW JERSEY

Association of State Colleges and Universities

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QuickTakes!

Kean University Student-Athlete Invited to Major League Soccer Scouting Event

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Kean University student-athlete Sevag Kherlopian is the first Kean athlete to receive an invitation to a Major League Soccer franchise scouting event. The forward for the Cougars men's soccer team was invited to the Columbus Crew Soccer Club College Combine on Sunday, December 4th.



“When I found out I was invited to the Columbus Crew Combine, I couldn’t stop smiling,” said Mr. Kherlopian, a global fitness and wellness major from Bradley Beach, NJ. “It is very nice to be noticed for my playing abilities and to be invited to this combine.”

Now in his senior year at Kean, Mr. Kherlopian has led the Cougars in scoring in each of his three years with the program. He has helped lead his team to an impressive 14-6-1 record

this season, earning the Cougars their first trip to the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Tournament since 2010 and their first at-large bid to the event since 2001.

John Velasco, men’s soccer head coach, says that Sevag’s “physicality, strength, quickness and knack for finding the back of the net” set him apart from other athletes. “Sev is a young man who is confident and who deals with pressure well. He cares about his teammates on and off the field, which makes it easy for his fellow student-athletes to identify with him.”

His strong athletic and character attributes are reasons why Mr. Kherlopian’s latest accomplishment also came as no surprise to his teammates.

“It is great to know someone you trained and played with was invited to try out for a pro team,” said Kazari Trought, who was selected as First Team All-New Jersey Athletic

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Conference (NJAC) this year. “Sev is not your typical, everyday soccer player. He is a guy who loves and enjoys the game.”

Sevag Kherlopian’s unwavering passion for the sport led to a successful athletic career at Kean University. He was named to the Eastern College Athletic Conference All-Region and All-Conference teams, and was an All-NJAC First Team honoree. He also scored 16 game winners, ranking him among the NCAA leaders his last two seasons. Mr. Kherlopian finished his collegiate career with 36 goals and 82 points in 47 games.

“I’m fortunate to be able to play soccer with some wonderful people and to have fun with the game as well,” said Mr. Kherlopian. “This invitation proves that I can make it pro, but I need to keep working to make my dream come true. It gives me confidence and a drive to keep going.”