Campus Times

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Neidleman finds common ground

Miguel Navarro
Staff Writer

Jason Niedleman, professor of political science, kicked off the 'What Matters to Me and Why' monthly lecture series for the fall semester with his talk Sept. 4.

Neidleman's lecture focused on his desire to understand various viewpoints, and how he values his religion and family.

The lecture took place before an audience of about 20 in the Ludwick Center Sacred Space.

Niedleman acknowledged that his opinions and perspectives may not align with his audience's.

He also emphasized the importance of finding and maintaining shared values.

He talked about the potential ills of social media, and how it can be divisive.

'Learning matters to me a lot,' Niedleman said.

'I think there's a lot in the world that is assaulting our desire to have space for learning. And my students can tell you I talk a lot about avoiding the algorithm.'

Niedleman touched on the importance of religion to him.

He went into depth about how Judaism allows him to have a relationship with something bigger than himself.

'What really speaks to me in Judaism is this idea that we're commanded to feel gratitude for freedom,' Niedleman said.

He emphasized the importance of understanding other perspectives and having empathy.

'It was really cool to see what are some of the things that really drive him, not just as a faculty member but as a human being,' Malissa Hernenez, executive assistant for the provost's office said.

—Miguel Navarro



Antonio Ceniceros

Professor of Political Science Jason Niedleman expresses his joy during his 'What Matters to Me and Why' presentation Sept. 4 at the Ludwick Center Sacred Space. The lecture discussed topics such as religion, his values and how experience shaped his appreciation for the now.

Lecture covers intersectional communication

Jordan Alcasas
News Editor

Daniel Loera, director of multicultural affairs, opened the 'Community Building for Belongingness Series' for the semester with a lecture on communication and identity intersectionality.

The lecture was Tuesday for an audience of 23 people in the Quay Davis Executive Board Room.

The lecture had a large focus on how we communicate, whether that be verbally or through our body language. Both things have importance and are necessary to be conscious of when communicating with others.

'We are not always conscious about what messaging we give our bodies,' Loera said.

'We are gonna talk about three areas: speaking, listening, and then attitude… attitude combined with speaking and listening is a big part of communication overall.'

After introducing the topic, Loera began an exercise where he put up three signs that featured varying levels of agreement.

The options were: always, sometimes, never. Then, two helpers would read prompts and the lecture audience would walk to the sign with the corresponding level of agreement.

Students that participated in the exercise would also give out their reasonings for their choices after moving. One of the prompts given was about how willing people are to speak in new social situations.

'I think it depends who is in the room.' Eliana Ramirez, a senior kinesiology major said. 'It depends on the settings I am in, that I'll be more comfortable and confident, but if it is, like, a first day of school icebreaker, respectfully, I'm last.'

One of the common themes following that prompt was that students were questioning how intentional they are about their communication and about how they listen to others in conversations.

'I was always taught you have two ears and one mouth, so you listen twice as much as you speak,' Stacey Strickland, adjunct professor of dance at the University, said.

Some students expressed anxiety around speaking or communicating with others has also been something that they have had to break away from in university. Learning how to communicate better with others and how to be more purposeful about creating opportunities to communicate with others is important.

'I started doing this (series) my sophomore year of school,' Kira Annis, a senior biology major, said.

'My freshman year, I was very scared. In my sophomore year, I was like, 'let me go around and be involved and go talk to people and stuff.' In spring, I did the community belongingness series and I have been coming back since.'

Body language was also noted as a very important form of communication. Body language has a large impact on how people are perceived by others and how they perceive others.

'Wathcing people, I can now read a person just by seeing what is going on, even from their facial expressions,' Strickland said. 'You can kind of tell when someone is having a great day or not so much… I tell my students our walk is our first impression. Whatever approach that is, you are reading what their body language is saying.'

One example Strickland gave of body language changing the impression someone can give is how a smile can make someone appear more friendly or joyous. A power walk, in contrast, would make someone look like they have some kind of business or are upset about something.

After the exercise, Loera closed out by lecturing on the fear of public speaking.

'People really fear public speaking and think it is this really big thing,' Loera said.

'We just assume it comes naturally, so it is reassuring to see that we are all going through it. The way you speak is the way we need to speak. You enrich the spaces you occupy by being different.'

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The Campus Times encourages readers to submit letters to the editors regarding topics covered in the paper. Letters should be no more than 400 words in length and are due by Tuesday at 3 p.m. The Campus Times reserves the right to edit letters for clarity, space and libel. Letters may be sent to **ctimes@laverne.edu**.

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On the Cover

La Verne senior middle blocker Kaitlyn Bloomer serves the ball Friday against Whitworth at Frantz Athletic Court during the Whittier Invitational tournament. The Leopards took the win 3-1 against Whitworth and followed up with victories over Whitman and UC Santa Cruz to start the season 6-0. They are now headed to the Midwest to face Wisconsin-Oshkosh on Friday. / photo by Jesse Juarez

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Cummings shares memoir process

Adoption story discussed



Jesse Juarez

Valerie Cummings, associate professor of broadcast journalism, presents her lecture, "Remembering: A Journalistic Approach to Memoir," on Tuesday from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. in the Quay Davis Boardroom. After her lecture, the faculty and La Verne students asked questions and engaged with Cummings regarding her story of adopting her child that was presented in the lecture.

Cassidy Diaz
Staff Writer

Valerie Cummings, associate professor of broadcast journalism, shared her journey of writing a memoir about the challenging and transformative year leading to the adoption of her daughter, now 24, during the faculty lecture series Tuesday in the Quay Davis Executive Board Room.

Before an audience of roughly 40, Cummings' lecture, "Remembering: A Journalistic Approach to Memoir," focused on her research and storytelling process, and how she applied her journalism expertise to telling her own story.

She said the process of essentially fact-checking memory from two decades ago was illuminating.

She also discussed some of the ethical concerns she grappled with as her story intersected with many other peoples' stories.

"I had to deal with… verifying memory," Cummings said.

"How do I get (dialog) right? What really happened, and privacy issues, which are things I wanted to touch on," Cummings said.

She grappled with privacy concerns as the adoption process involved connecting with several potential birth moms.

"Memory is fallible," she said.

"There was a lot of research and investigation, which is why I wanted to talk about taking a journalistic approach."

She said used the tools of journalism to verify important details from that period in her life.

She also referred to journals she'd kept at the time.

Cummings started the process of writing her memoir four years ago, but she started thinking about it soon after she adopted her daughter.

In her memoir, which is currently in revision, she also explores the personal decision she made to adopt during the height of her broadcast journalism career and the challenges of the adoption process.

With support from her editor, she delved into details of her experience and the emotions she felt during the process of adoption, and the failed adoptions she had before finding her daughter

Ultimately, Cummings said, writing the memoir was very different from any of her previous journalism experience.

"I hope (readers) will be inspired… Whatever their challenge is, whether adopting a child, or taking care of a parent, that even though we may go through difficult challenges there is always something to learn; and growth comes as a result of it," Cummings said.

Several students' from Cummings' freshman FLEX class attended the Tuesday lecture.

"It was interesting to see her perspective on the adoption process and see what she struggled with, and how it influenced her memoir," said Savannah Adams, freshman political science major.

"It's … really cool to see your professor in a vulnerable state and learn a lot about her as a person, which I respect a lot," freshman McGuire Lennon added. "It's an interesting story of adoption."

The working title for Cummings' memoir is "Finding You."

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New collectibles shop features Pokémon cards

Racer opts for creative outlet

Olivia Russo
LV Life Editor

The store 44 Collectibles, which specializes in trading cards of both sports and video games, has not had its grand opening just yet, but in the meantime, founder Niko Mongenel said wants to bring fun back to Old Town La Verne.

Since unofficially opening its doors, the shop has seen people of all ages stop in to look through the Pokémon cards on display the various other collectibles items to remind customers of their inner child.

The shop sits on the corner of D Street, where 28-year-old Mongenel opens everyday at 3 p.m. until 9 p.m. and tends to customers wanting to trade their collections or answering questions from first-time buyers.

The shop's shelves are stocked with cases of Pokémon cards and video games, blind box items like Labubus, and tiny figures for customers to display on their own shelves. One entire half of the shop is devoted to just Pokémon products, of the cards, boxes of cards and vintage video games.

"I've been collecting since I was five, or even before them… During COVID I dug out my collection because there wasn't anything else to do," Mongenel said. "And I started streaming on TikTok, so we started a business from scratch. It blew up into this big thing that can produce profits and it allows me to do it as a job and also doesn't feel like work."

Products in the card shop range from Labubus to sports cards to Funko Pop! Figures, but the shop mainly carries Pokémon cards.

"You can ask anyone from any walk of life about Pokémon and they're going to at least know Pikachu. So it's just been with me forever," Mongenel said.

The shop sees many different people from one day to the next, with high school kids getting out of school and checking out what the store has to offer for their collections, or older people looking for the last piece in their year-long collection.

"I was looking to get some cash for cards and my homie told me about this place so I knew we had to come," Isaiah Ambriz, first-time customer and Ontario resident, said.

The shop comes from Mongenel's love of collectibles as well as his number, 44, when he races in NASCAR races. He also notes that people who do not know him may think the business has 44 different collectibles and he wants to be able to honor that thought.

The business started on TikTok, @44Pullz, where Mongenel is still streaming live every morning, opening packs for just about anything one could think of. It's a part of his business philosophy: he wants to have something in the store for just about anyone.

"I try to cater to as many people as I can," Mongenel said. "We would have fun with that. Months ago we would open My Little Pony packs, anything anyone asked for, I tried to deliver."

While buying for his streams, Mongenel made connections with many different types of buyers, and has been able to translate those connections into supporters and customers.

"I've been personally acquainted with the owner for a little bit now, and he had told me he was opening a shop so I decided to check it out and support," Brandon Arias, frequent customer, said.

"It's always cool to come in and see people's variety, whether it's to trade or buy other items."

Mongenel met his main employee, Kyle Peregoy, at another card shop he worked at.

When Peregoy decided to get a second job, he made himself available for 44 Collectibles, just off a few interactions with the owner.

Both Mongenel and Peregoy can be found in the store during operation hours, where they make sure to greet every customer and make them feel welcome.

"We're a friendly face," Peregoy said.

"Here we go above and beyond to make you feel like this is a place you can hang out for an hour or two…you're going to have an interaction that brings you back to the shop."

The future of 44 Collectibles only gets brighter, for the grand opening Mongenel plans to have an appearance from the mayor of La Verne with a ribbon cutting ceremony, a live unboxing of an original box of Pokémon cards and his own personal racecar.

He plans to have a special deal for students of the University of La Verne, as well as a website for sales from all over the world and after his license is approved he will host tournaments for Pokémon and other trading card-based games.

The grand opening of 44 Collectibles will take place before the end of 2025.

The shop can be found on Instagram @44_collectibles.

"Just know that when you walk in you're going to walk out with a smile on your face," Mongenel said.

Olivia Russo can be reached at ***olivia.russo@laverne.edu.***

Arts, etc...

Happenings

'Material Worlds'

"Material Worlds," art exhibit featuring works from Alycia Anthony, Adam Belt, Albert Contreras, David Allan Peters and Zemer Peled, is on display in the Harris Gallery on campus through Oct. 9.

Artworks vary from sculptures made of plastics to acrylic paintings.

The gallery is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information visit **laverne.edu/event/harris-gallery-presents-material-worlds**.

'Studio Focus–COLOR!'

"Studio Focus–COLOR!" art exhibit features acrylic paintings made by students in ART 370 from the spring 2025 semester.

The works featured are from Aidan Catullo, Vanessa Cruz, Ariadne Gamboa, Julia Luera, Alicia Naranjo, Natalia Ortiz and Jasmine Vazquez are on display in the West Gallery on campus until Dec. 1.

The gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

For more information, visit **artsci.laverne.edu/art/exhibition/studio-focus-color.**

'In Context'

"In Context" is a film seminar series intended to help students develop awareness of their environment and politics. The series is at 7 p.m. every Friday in the Arts and Communication Building Room 212.

This week's feature film will be "Our Oceans" on Friday.

The next feature film will be "Water for Life" on Sept. 19.

'Friday Noon Concert Series'

The Friday Noon Concert series on the Scripps College campus in Claremont have different musical guest every Friday.

The concert starts at 12:15 p.m. in the Balch Auditorium and other location on campus stated on the website.

The concert series runs through the fall. Admission is free and the concerts are open to the public.

For more information visit **pomona.edu/academics/departments/music/concert-calendar/friday-noon-concert-series**.

—Jordan Alcasas

AMOCA features

Eclectic ceramics

by Margaret Contreras

photography by Baljot Rathor



The "Making in Between: Indigenous Americans Work" exhibit, curated by Mercedes Dorame, at the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona runs until Nov. 30. It is the third and last exhibition in AMOCA's "Making in Between" series, which features artwork by artists who address community, culture and identity.

The exhibits "In Their Hands: The Evolution of Mata Ortiz Pottery," "Hot and Ready to Serve," and "Making In Between: Indigenous Americans," all currently on display at the American Museum of Ceramic Art in Pomona, range from utilitarian ceramics to sculptures that make a political statement.

"Hot and Ready to Serve," located on the main floor and running through Sept. 28, features ceramic works including mini salt and paper shakers, interesting tea sets, plates of different shapes and uses and more.

The various colorful pieces in this exhibit also include an old fashioned typewriter, a rotary phone, ceramic lettuce and more.

"The 'Hot and Ready' was an exhibit made with items we had here at the museum already," MudMobile instructor Samuel Reguerra said.

Mary Labrucherie, a La Verne alumna and retired teacher, was viewing the AMOCA exhibits last weekend with her cousin, Mimi Labrucherie.

"This would be a good place to take photos of the exhibits – and have fifth graders see a photo slide to see what names they would give them," Mary Labrucherie said.

On the main floor in the Igal and Diane Silber vault gallery, "In Their Hands: The Evolution of Mata Ortiz Pottery" runs through Nov. 23.

Within the vault the lavender walls showcase a range of handmade, intricate ceramics.

"During the summer we have an intern from the Getty Foundation that put the Mata Ortiz exhibit together," said museum store and guest services manager Melissa Scrivner.

> 'The sculpture is made with things that have to do with the oil industry. And the warriors are the embodiment of the protesters.'
> *– Melissa Scrivner*
> *museum store and guest services manager*

One side of the wall shows the steps Ortiz took to create the pieces featured: From finding the clay to firing it in the kiln.

"There are historical pieces, there are contemporary pieces, there are whimsical pieces, there are functional, there are some pieces that are non functional," Mimi Labrucherie said. "There's just a little bit of everything."

Ortiz's works were brown, black, white and multi-color earth tones. One piece called Oso Effigy was of a bear with a fish in its mouth.

The body of the bear had intricate designs visible when a light shined on it.

The "Making In Between: Indigenous Americans" exhibit runs through Nov. 30. It explores identity, culture and community.

It features works by Mercedes Dorame, Anita Fields, Courtney M. Leonard and Cannupa Hanska Luger, whose works explore boundary-pushing themes.

There is a sculpture of a snake made out of tires and gasoline nozzles and there are two warriors.

Scrivner explained the name of the artwork, "This is Not a Serpent."

"The piece is about the Dakota's pipeline protest," Scivner said. "The sculpture is made with things that have to do with the oil industry."

"And the warriors are the embodiment of the protesters."

AMOCA, at 399 N. Garey Ave., is open from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m., Friday through Sunday.

For more information, visit **amoca.org**.

Margaret Contreras can be reached at ***margaret.contreras@laverne.edu.***

Midwest Emo shreds at The Haven

Marina Bravo
Arts Editor



Vicente Rodriguez

Bassist Luke Leibee, guitarist Jack Carone and lead vocalist and guitarist Sam Krones of Stereosity continued the night for the Off the Rails tour in Pomona at The Haven on Sept 4. Sterosity are a guitar-driven twinkle rock band from Orange County

Arcadia Grey and Leisure Hour rocked their show on Sept. 4 at The Haven in Pomona. With doors opening at around 7 p.m., The Haven became the home for the Midwest emo and alternative rock lovers.

The night opened with supporting acts from Townies, Stereosity and Mint Green.

Around 60 people were in attendance, some even coming from nearby cities like El Monte and Los Angeles. Some guests even traveled from Indiana.

Each band played about an equal amount of songs. Each set being at least five songs long. With each band showcasing their own unique sound and lyrics that reflected their own stories and identities.

The three piece band Townies was the first act to take the stage. With vocals from Tom Lynch the lead singer and guitarist opening up the night. Promoting their new EP "Speak With Your Chest."

The next act was the four member band Stereosity. With a twinkle dreamy guitar driven sound the Orange County band immersed the audience.

They played some unreleased songs and even a song for all the pet and specifically dog lovers called "Manny, Manny!"

They ended with their song called "Cocaine Bear" which was officially released in July after the band played it at shows for some time.

Arcadia Grey took the stage with a guitar shred that came all the way from Chicago.

The three piece band delivered energetic music that got the crowd to mosh and meow. Their music explored themes about gender identity, specifically about what it's like to be transgender.

The song "Her name engraved" which told the aftermath of a transgender woman's funeral and how even after she is gone no one will truly remember her name.

How her family members will rummage through her belongings but forget her name.



Vicente Rodriguez

Vocalist and guitarist Coraline Kunda of Arcadia Grey perform their co-headling concert for the Off the Rails tour in Pomona at The Haven on Sept 4. Arcadia Grey are a Chicago-based Midwest shine punk band.

Mint Green, the four piece band from Boston, took the stage and opened with their song "Foggy." Their music also took guests on an artistic journey of singing and dancing.

The lead vocalist Ronnica opened up about her experience as a queer person of color and created a space full of love and acceptance.

Leisure Hour closed out the night with their energetic set and had guests on their feet even if it was 10:45 p.m. They played their song "jenny" which had some guests singing their hearts out.

"We've been listening to the song "jenny" all summer…and it's definitely our summer song for sure," Kam Casey from Indiana said.

Casey came to the show with his friend Eva and spoke about how important it is to do spontaneous things in life.

"We just love a side quest, because you never know what you might find," Casey said. "You…might find a new favorite song, new favorite band… you just never know."

Which is exactly what had happened that night. He said he had only come to the show to see Leisure Hour but he is leaving with so many new anthems to add to his "Midwest emo summer" playlist.

Casey also shared the magic that is going to small artist shows and venues. Especially one with an environment like The Haven. A theme common with many guests that attended the event.

"It's just really awesome to just come here and…feel," Jazlyn Jacobo from El Monte said. "You feel very connected and it just hits all the feels."

Jacobo shared how she always comes to DIY shows. She shared how her experience at DIY shows is what keeps her coming back is the sense of community.

"You're in a safe space and you just know who you're with," Jacobo said.

Not only do the fans feel this sort of connection but so do the artists themselves. Stereosity shared how they prefer small DIY venues.

"It's more intimate, you know, you get to know all the people that you're sharing your art with and your music with," Sam Krones, lead vocalist and guitarist from Stereosity said.

"It's so intimate, you really get to experience the music and the live performance as it was meant to be," guitarist Jack Carone said. "There's a kind of disconnect when you're sitting in, like a huge stadium…."

Krones even encouraged those who have never been to a small local show like this to give it a try.

Whether it be for one band, a song or just a spontaneous adventure, there is no doubt that a concert at a DIY venue is something many individuals cross off their bucket list.

"There is a sense of community coming to.. a DIY show that you don't get anywhere else," Hunter Leibee, drummer of Stereosity said.

The Haven became a space for all music lovers to come together and form a community. The next show at the venue will be Tv Sundaze with The Knopf at 7 p.m. Sept. 13.

*Marina Bravo can be reached at **marina.bravo@laverne.edu**.*



Vicente Rodriguez

Lead vocalist and bassist Grace Dudas of Leisure Hour plays trumpet during the band's co-headling concert for the Off the Rails tour in Pomona at The Haven on Sept 4. Leisure Hour is an emo rock band from Muncie, Indiana.

Students enter a world of colors

Alexander Hernandez
Staff Writer

An all-student art exhibit is now on view at the West Gallery in the Abraham Campus Center.

"Studio Focus – COLOR" features the paintings of students Aidan Catullo, Vanessa Cruz, Ariadne Gamboa, Julia Luera, Alicia Naranjo, Natalia Ortiz and Jasmine Vazquez.

Each student artist created a unique experience using acrylic paint on canvases.

Every piece showcases the artist's individual interpretation of expressive color.

"Each painting is a student's unique voice," said Dion Johnson, director of galleries and distinguished artist. "Whether they're painting a portrait, an animal, or flowers, or ornamental patterns and designs, each has its own idiosyncrasies. When you spend time looking through the layers of colors, you'll be surprised with an element of discovery."

The artists each had their own personal source of inspiration, which they applied to their projects, expressing their ideas through color and style.

Ortiz's piece featured different colored flowers, along with painted white lace.

"I really wanted to focus on something when I was a child, and I used to dance folklorico," Ortiz, a sophomore psychology major, said. "I feel like the colors that I use really resemble the costumes that I wore, but also the vibrancy of the music and the rich culture that I am a part of and love."

Gamboa, a senior criminology major, had a similar notion, mentioning a dual inspiration for her piece, one coming from her favorite movie growing up and another from nature itself.

Her piece featured the narcissus flower.

"It might not be noticeable, but it's based on one of my favorite movies growing up as a child," Gamboa said. "And to this day I really love this movie… 'How to Train Your Dragon' and all of the colors you might see are inspired by some of the scenes." "It symbolizes the cycle of spring and rebirth. There were moments throughout my childhood where I said 'This might go bad, but there's a new beginning everyday for me," Gamboa said.

Alicia Naranjo's piece was inspired by nature and childhood memories.

"I like to travel, and the flowers in my piece remind me of my mom and my grandma," said Naranjo, a sophomore journalism major. "So whenever I look at it, I just think of traveling, my mom, my grandma and then my childhood too. The patterns and the craziness of it all."

With all of their work on display, the artists said they hope viewers will be inspired by their creative expression.

"I hope that they see everyone's paintings and see the creativity," Naranjo said. "Everyone has different artistic levels, but we are all capable of creating things and being creative and putting ourselves out there."

Gamboa added she hopes viewers will "just enjoy the moment."

The "Studio Focus – COLOR" runs through Dec. 1. The West Gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Admission is free.

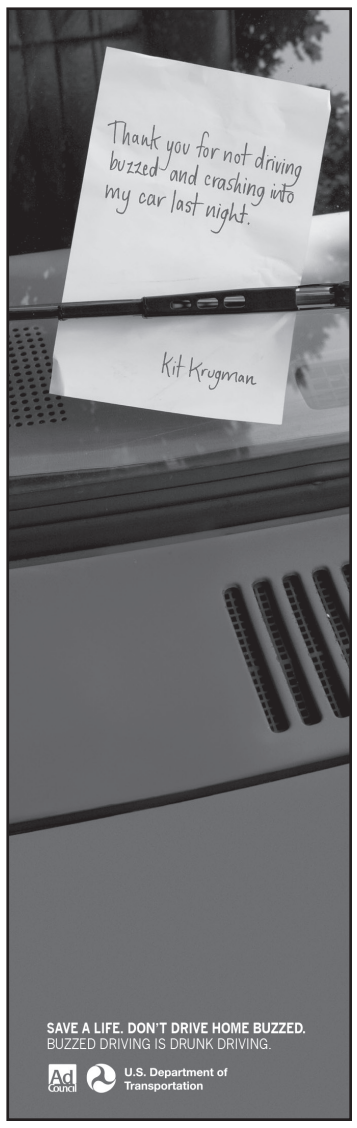
Alexander Hernandez can be reached at ***alexander.hernandez3@laverne.edu.***



Rylee Fournier

A painting by senior studio art and digital media major Jasmine Vazquez heads up a line of vibrant student artwork in the West Gallery for "Studio Focus– COLOR!," highlighting bold colors and layering. The exhibition continues through Dec. 12, giving visitors a chance to explore the creativity of student paintings from the Art 370 Painting 1 class of Spring 2025.





New head coach eager for victories

Sanchez has hands-on approach

Karina Rodriguez
Sports Editor

Discipline, teamwork and respect are part of the culture that Richard Sanchez is cultivating as new head coach for the University of La Verne's football program this season.

Sanchez was born and raised in San Diego County and lived in a town called National City in California.

He got into the sport of football because it matched his competitive nature.

"I think the most fascinating thing about the game of football is that there's rules, whether they're written or unwritten, about respecting the game," Sanchez said.

"If I had to put something on it, it's the competition as a very competitive person," Sanchez said.

Prior to coming to the University, he coached for Cardinal Newman High School in Santa Rosa.

Sanchez began his career at Montclair High School, where he was head coach from 1994 to 1998.

He has also held head coaching positions at San Diego High School and St. Augustine High School in San Diego.

Sanchez has also previously coached at the University of San Diego, Valparaiso University in Valparaiso, Indiana, and was a graduate assistant coach at San Diego State University.

He played for two seasons at New Mexico State University, where he earned his bachelor of science physical education.

He earned his master of science in exercise and nutritional science from San Diego State University.

Sanchez has his work cut out for him. Last season, the La Verne team did not win a single game. Sanchez, who started coaching over the summer, said believes discipline was what was lacking.

"When you look at a program that hasn't had a lot of success. One of the first things you look at is the discipline part of it," Sanchez said.

"Not just kids showing up to practice on daily basis but the discipline within the lines of scrimmage, making sure they're doing all the right things at all times and effort."

Sanchez credits some of his career success to his supportive family: his wife, Maria, a play therapist, daughter; Kristiana, 27; and son, Richard, 22.

"As long as you're best friends with your wife, I think you can work through anything," Sanchez said. "We've been through a lot together and that's why I am successful because I am near the right person," Sanchez said.

"It takes a lot of commitment from a spouse."

Sophomore wide receiver Ethan Veta echoed Sanchez's idea that while the team had great players, it lacked discipline.

"We had a really talented group," Veta said.

"I mean we had a couple of the players transferred up to higher division schools but it lacked discipline."

Veta said Sanchez carries himself differently.

"What Coach Sanchez does differently is that he commands respect and authority and he means business," Veta said.

Freshman offensive line player Jordan Garcia appreciates Sanchez as well.

"He will go through with every player on what they're supposed to do," Garcia said. "

Rather than just overseeing everything and yelling at mistakes, he'll really go through the position and explain why it works."

Despite knowing Sanchez for just a few months, Garcia said he gets that his coach cares.

"If I am going through something I can definitely go to his door and talk to him about it and definitely will try to find ways to help you out," Garcia said.

Senior tight end Julian Martinez, who has been on the University of La Verne's football team since his freshman year, is also happy with Sanchez' style.

"You can see Coach Sanchez on the sidelines coaching the other coaches and telling them what to tell the other players," Martinez said.

"It's a new year and I think this is going to be the best year ULV football has…seen in decades," Martinez said.

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Antonio Ceniceros

University of La Verne head football coach Richard Sanchez observes his players as they prepare to execute a play at practice on Sept. 2. It is Sanchez's first season leading the Leopards.

Men's soccer gets first win



Joseph Nocero

Kevin Arreola, La Verne junior forward, maneuvers through sophomore defender Mamadou Seck and senior midfielder Ryan Lea of Park University from Arizona on Sept. 4 at Ortmayer Stadium. The Leopards beat the Buccaneers, 2-0, for their first win of the season.

Amanda Geiger never saw the drunk driver.

Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk.



Photo by Michael Mazzeo

U.S. Department of Transportation

Ad Council

Leopards go back-to-back at home

Water polo drops Iona, Grossmont

Rubbie Chavez
Staff Writer



Aaliyah Alamillo

La Verne junior utility player Richard Montanez looks for an opportunity to pass the ball at Las Flores Park on Monday against Iona freshman center Samson Williams. Montanez ended up with two shots, one assist and two steals.

The Leopards swept a doubleheader Monday for their home opener, 15-13 against Iona and 21-16 against Grossmont, at the La Verne Aquatic Center.

With a roster of new players and a new head coach, the wins showed what the Leopards are looking forward to this season.

Head coach Robert Echeverria said the wins gave him a feel of how the team will perform.

"This was one of those games that shows how promising our season looks," Echeverria said.

The first quarter against Iona started off with the Leopards' defense struggling while they were down by two, but they quickly recovered in the second quarter to take the lead, 9-8.

With early attacks and steals, the Leopards were able to keep the momentum going after half time.

By the third and fourth quarter the Leopards put up six more points.

With a statement attack by Josh Lamberton, who put up 12 points, and the team recording 12 steals, the Leopards secured the victory against Iona.

"I thought that was a great win against a very competitive Division I team," graduate assistant Alba Espinar said. "I think the team finally played together and just competed with a really well-rounded team like Iona."

One of the Leopards' junior attackers, Jordan Baker, said he feels good about the upcoming season.

"I think everybody's pretty hopeful with a new team and new coach," Baker said. "Our offense was pretty solid throughout….our defense just needs a little fine tuning."

Baker had four goals and four assists against Iona. He added three more goals and six more assists against Grossmont.

Junior goalkeeper Henry De Luna said he is confident that the team chemistry is starting to build.

"We are starting to really come together, chemistry-wise," De Luna said. "We are becoming a unit…defense and offense are getting better so I'm really excited for this season."

De Luna had 11 saves against Iona.

The growth of the team's chemistry and consistency was not only felt during the Iona game but became prominent in the Leopards second game of the evening.

The Leopards set an early tone using their attacking style to put up early goals against Grossmont.

Junior utility Zachariah Barclay and Lamberton put up big numbers to help the Leopards get their second win.

Having a new team with new players means building that trust and keeping a consistent effort is important for the Leopards this season.

"We have a lot of talent on the team, a lot of speed, great attackers and we are getting better every day defensively," Espinar said.

These wins were more than just wins for the Leopards.

They were confidence builders for the new players on the team, learning how to play with each other.

"We have a brand new team of young men that are excited to make an impact for La Verne," Echeverria said. "We're in a tough conference, so I think good things can happen if we continue to work hard."

The team's next match up will be at 11 a.m. Sept. 27 against Pomona-Pitzer at the La Verne Aquatic Center.

Rubbie Chavez can be reached at ***rubbie.chavez@laverne.edu***.

> 'This was one of those games that shows how promising our season looks.'
> *—Robert Echeverria, head coach*

LEOPARD SCOREBOARD

AT THE BUZZER

Volleyball, September 6
Whitman - 0
La Verne - 3

Volleyball, September 6
UC Santa Cruz - 0
La Verne- 3

Women's Soccer, September 6
The Master's - 3
La Verne - 0

Men's Soccer, September 8
La Verne - 0
Westmont - 3

Women's Soccer, September 9
Soka University of America - 2
La Verne - 0

Men's Soccer, September 10
La Verne - 1
Chapman - 0

SCHEDULE

Friday
Volleyball vs. Wisconsin-Oshkosh @ Wisconsin-Oshkosh Invitational, 5 p.m.

Saturday
Volleyball vs. Hope College @ Wisconsin-Oshkosh Invitational, 8 a.m.
Volleyball vs. Chicago @ Wisconsin-Oshkosh Invitational, 3:30 p.m.
Women's soccer vs. Life Pacific, 7 p.m.

Monday-Tuesday
Men's and women's golf @ California State Intercollegiate Tournament,Ventura, all day

Wednesday
Men's soccer vs. Occidental, 7 p.m.
Women's soccer @ Occidental, 7 p.m.

MEN'S SOCCER STANDINGS

	SCIAC	Overall
La Verne	**1-0**	**2-1-2**
Pomona-Pitzer	0-0	4-0
Whittier	0-0	4-0
Caltech	0-0	3-1
Occidental	0-0	2-2
Chapman	0-1	1-2-1
Claremont-Mudd-Scripps	0-0	1-3
Redlands	0-0	0-3
Cal Lutheran	0-0	0-3