



College

search site Web Search powered by **YAHOO! SEARCH**

[Home](#) > [Sports](#) > [College](#)

Locals in college notebook: Rangel sensed CSDH could win soccer title

By [Rhiannon Potkey](#)
Sunday, December 14, 2008

[Download this story as a podcast!](#)



Photos courtesy of Cal State Dominguez Hills Athletics

Oxnard resident Hiram Rangel is a junior midfielder on Cal State University Dominguez Hills' Division II national champion men's soccer team. Cal State Dominguez beat Dowling University 3-0 in the final. Rangel started 25 of 26 games this season.

[order photo reprints](#)

STORY TOOLS

- [E-mail story](#)
- [Comments](#)
- [iPod friendly](#)
- [Printer friendly](#)



MORE FROM COLLEGE

- [Arizona, Wise leave Gonzaga smarting](#)
- [San Diego takes down Oregon, 64-57](#)
- [UMass holds off Kansas](#)

Hiram Rangel included the line in his personal information for the media guide as soon as he stepped on the Cal State Dominguez Hills campus.

It reads "Goal is to win a national championship." It comes right before "... Most admires his parents" and right after "Also recruited by San Jose State. ..."

Rangel's aspiration became a reality this season as the Cal State Dominguez Hills men's soccer team captured the NCAA Division II national title with a 3-0 victory over Dowling University last Sunday in Tampa, Fla.

Rangel, a 5-foot-7 junior midfielder from Oxnard, scored the final goal to ice the program's second national title in its history.

"It is probably the best experience of my life," said Rangel, an all-tournament selection. "There is really no words to describe it. It was a dream come true."

Rangel moved to the Oxnard area just before high school, but attended Santa Barbara High because his parents worked in the Santa Barbara area.

He committed to Cal State Dominguez Hills because of its soccer reputation, yet wasn't sure if this year's team had the potential to win it all.

But once he saw the group's first practice, he became convinced.

"I became pretty confident right off the bat," Rangel said. "We had good players and it just all came together. The chemistry was just there and everything felt perfect."

The team's confidence only grew as the victories mounted.

"We knew we could win every time we stepped in that locker room and we felt like we were the best team," Rangel said. "Before the championship, we looked at each other and said there was no way we are going to lose. There was no doubt in our minds."

Rangel was named a team captain before the season started, but chose to defer to the older players.



Media Player

[view all videos](#)

MOST EMAILED [Most Viewed](#) [Most Discussed](#)

Most e-mailed from VenturaCountyStar.com

- [Marijuana ID cards coming on Monday](#)
- [Rare 50 year Arctic Blast Sets Sights On Southern California.](#)

"I am not much of a verbal communicator," he said. "I felt like I could lead more by example and the other guys could talk more to the players and deserved it more."

Rangel's championship goal in the 78th minute — a shot to the upper far post — was only his second of the season and fourth of his career.

"I couldn't believe the quality of the goal that I scored," said Rangel, who started 25 of 26 games. "I thought it was the best way to finish the season."

Since the team returned to campus, the players have been receiving kudos from their fellow students.

"It's crazy. People I never even talk to are congratulating me and saying we saw you on TV," Rangel said. "It's so much fun. I am living it up right now and enjoying every moment of it."

Rangel's parents weren't able to attend the championship, but he was planning to drive home to Oxnard this weekend to show them the championship watch and other memorabilia he received.

"They are going to be super proud," he said.

Around the rim: UC San Diego senior forward **Shane Poppen (Thousand Oaks)** was the school's male athlete of the week for his performance off the bench in wins over Humboldt State and Sonoma State. Poppen scored a season-high 15 points and grabbed eight rebounds against Humboldt State and had 11 points and seven rebounds against Sonoma State. ... UC San Diego center **A.J. Maulhardt (Nordhoff)** scored 14 points and seven rebounds in the win over Humboldt State. ... Westmont sophomore forward **Dan Rasp (Camarillo)** scored 21 points in a victory over Hope International. Rasp was 7 of 10 from the field and the free-throw line. ... Pepperdine freshman guard **Lorne Jackson (Simi Valley)** tied his season high with 17 points in a loss to UC Irvine. ... Washington junior guard **Sami Whitcomb (Buena)** had a nice opening return to Southern California. Whitcomb scored 16 of her 18 points in the second half, including three straight 3-pointers, in a victory over Pepperdine. Whitcomb also led the Huskies with five assists. ... Junior guard **Jacqui Heck (Oxnard, Ventura College)** scored 11 points as the Academy of Art University recorded its first win in program history with a 68-66 victory over Dominican University. ... USC senior guard **Brynn Cameron (Newbury Park)** was 3 for 4 from behind the 3-point line to finish with nine points in a loss to BYU-Hawaii.

News and notes: Freshman **Peter Kurzeka (Agoura)** was a member of USC's NCAA championship men's water polo team this season. USC beat Stanford 7-5 last Sunday to win its fourth men's water polo championship and first since 2005. The Trojans finished 29-0 — the first undefeated season since 1944 when the program went 5-0. Kurzeka was a second-team all-NCAA Tournament selection. ... Pepperdine senior outside hitter **Julie Rubenstein (Oaks Christian)** was named to the AVCA Division I all-Pacific Region women's volleyball team. ... USC senior **Clay Matthews (Agoura)** was an All-Pacific 10 Conference second-team defensive selection in football. Cal redshirt freshman punter **Bryan Anger (Camarillo)** was a second-team specialist selection.

[Camarillo research foundation puts 1 million eggs in one basket](#)
[St. Bonaventure dominates Moorpark to win eighth section title in last 10 years](#)
[Simi Valley man gets life terms](#)
[Man charged with murder in hit-and-run death](#)
[Jones' four TDs lead Oaks Christian to rout of Serra for sixth straight CIF title](#)
[Economy takes toll on recovering addicts](#)
[Oxnard man injured in offshore oil rig fall](#)
[St. Bonaventure given chance to defend state title in Div. III](#)

[JOBS](#) [Homes/Rentals](#) [Cars](#) [Merchandise](#)

VenturaCountyStar.com
in partnership with
YAHOO! hotjobs

Keywords (e.g. Nurse or Insurance)
Location (City & State, or ZIP)
Ventura, CA
 Include Surrounding Cities
Job Category
Select a Job Category
Search

Ads by Yahoo!

Quality Ohio Broadcasting College
Develop expertise in broadcasting media - learn from industry
www.beonair.com

Need Title Insurance
Call or apply online with Anchor Title Co.
AL,
anchortitleins.com

Real Estate Closing & Title
#1 Closing, Title & Escrow settlement software with over 50,000
softprocorp.com



More news and information from our local news partners
Scripps Interactive Newspapers Group
© 2008 The E.W. Scripps Co.
[Privacy Policy](#) | [User Agreement](#)

Discussions

Discuss this article
(Requires free [registration](#).)

Article discussions on this site are to support community debates of issues related to our stories and editorials.

Discussions should not stray from the subject of the story or editorial.

We do not allow the following:

- Posts that degrade others on the basis of gender, race, class, ethnicity, national origin, religion, sexual orientation or disability.
- Disparaging remarks, abusive language or obscene comments.
- Threats, whether obvious or veiled.

We reserve the right to delete threads and/or ban users for these or other reasons we deem necessary.

Opinions are the sole responsibility of the person posting them. You agree not to post comments that are off topic, defamatory, obscene, abusive, threatening or an invasion of privacy. Violators may be banned. [Click here for our full user agreement](#).