



NAPIA

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NAPIA is a newsletter issued by the Nagasaki International Association for foreign residents.

Edited by : The Nagasaki International Association



The following article, "An Interview with V-Varen Nagasaki Player Juanma", was originally a special feature to mark the 100th issue of the Japanese "なぴあ(NAPIA)" Newsletter, and is being reprinted here in this foreign language newsletter, "NAPIA". (Interview conducted on Wed, August 8th at Isahaya Soccer Ground/Nagomi Club House)

1. Juanma, you have been active in your home country, Spain, as well as European countries such as Scotland. Why did you decide to sign with V-Varen Nagasaki here in Nagasaki, Japan?

One and a half years ago (January 2017), the coach and trainers came to Spain to see me play. They told me about their project to work towards the goal of "Promoting V-Varen Nagasaki to the J1 League". I really felt a connection with this project and its goals, so I decided to sign.

2. What is your impression of Nagasaki?

When I arrived in Nagasaki, I really felt like everyone was a big family together. Actually, I was warmly welcomed by the coach, players and everyone here, and I was helped out in many ways, so I have a great impression of Nagasaki.



3. Are there any differences to your home country?

One thing that is different to my home country is that all Japanese people value greetings and manners. A sense of mutual respect is something that is different to Spain, and I really like it.

4. While playing here in Nagasaki and Japan, have you encountered any difficulties?

One difficulty I have encountered since coming to Japan has been the difficulty of the language (Japanese). Also, because of the distance between Spain and Japan, it is difficult to arrange my schedule to spend time with my family. Due to daylight savings time, the time difference is about 7 hours. However, rather than the time difference or the physical distance, what is particularly difficult is being unable to meet or spend time with my family. I go back to visit them if I have at least 10 days vacation, and of course, during the off season.



4-2. Have you encountered any difficulties related to food?

In relation to food, I love Japanese food, so I haven't had any problems. Of the dishes I have eaten in Japan, my favourite has been corn soup.

5. What role do you think soccer and other sports play in international exchange between countries and individuals?

Although there are both individual and team sports, communication is an essential part of any sport. Sport create a place for people to communicate, and this contributes directly to exchange between individuals and countries.



6. Have you had any opportunities to interact with regular people in Nagasaki Prefecture, outside of the team?

Outside the soccer ground and practice, there have been times when people have come up to talk to me. However, my Japanese isn't so good yet, so without an interpreter it's hard for me to communicate. Of course, because Japanese people value mutual respect and understanding, language is essential. However, I would really like people to come up and talk to me freely.

6-2 Until now, have you had any opportunities to interact with children?

There have been many opportunities for me to speak with children. I think that international exchange and offering something good in the future for children playing soccer, for example, inviting children to the club house and locker room and showing them where J1 players work and how they play soccer, will help children keep dreaming and will have a good impact.



7. What led you to start playing soccer?

After seeing three of my friends start playing soccer, I wanted to try it too. After talking with my family, my father took me to see the local club's practice. That was the start of my soccer career.

8. Was there a player you looked up to at that time?

At first, playing soccer is what I enjoyed, so I didn't have a player I admired. However, the number of my acquaintances gradually increased, and I started watching Atlético Madrid games. Recently, when I've watched Sagan Tosu player Fernando Torres play soccer, I've thought "I also want to become able to play like that". I've been training hard while keeping his playing style in mind.

9. Please tell us your personal and team goals.

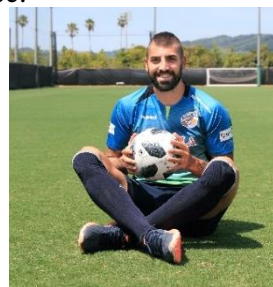
As a personal goal, I want to contribute to the team goals by scoring goals. Our team goal is to keep a firm hold on our position in the J1 league. I think that when I score goals, it also helps contribute to the team goal.

10. Please tell us your message to the people of Nagasaki (Japan), including its foreign residents.

I think that people who come to Japan (including Nagasaki) from overseas will fall in love with this place after spending time with Japanese people, who respect the feelings of other people. Just the other day, it was reported that Japanese supporters at the World Cup picked up garbage from the stands. I think that the energy of Japanese people, who do these things naturally, is wonderful. I hope that you will always treasure this spirit. Personally, I think mutual respect and ease-of-living is No. 1. If the people of the world could learn from the way that Japanese people act, I think the world would become a better place.



Through this, it was easy to feel Juanma's friendliness and the way that he respects the people around him. We expect great things of him in the future. Thank you very much to Juanma and the V-Varen Nagasaki staff for your co-operation.



Results of the 10th ~Let's Speak in Nagasaki~ Japanese Speech Contest for Non-Native Speakers

This Japanese speech contest was held on Saturday, June 16th, 2018 at the Nagasaki National Peace Memorial Hall for the Atomic Bomb Victims. This year, 12 contestants from four different countries participated!

First Prize

Name: William MORGAN
Nationality: America
Title: 褒め言葉 (Compliments)
Affiliation: Nagasaki Prefecture
International Affairs Division (CIR)



Second Place

Name : Wen Li CHENG
Nationality: China
Title: 日本と中国の結び
 (The Ties between Japan and China)
Affiliation: Nagasaki University
 of Foreign Studies (Student)



Third Place

Mamta SACHAN KUMAR
Nationality: Singapore
Title: 小さな勇気が感動に！
 (A Little Courage has the Power
 to Move!)
Affiliation: Nagasaki Prefectural
 Hasami SHS (ALT)



Future Prize

Name:
Dominic Richard BALASURIYA
Nationality: Australia
Title: 虹の足に住んでいるあなたへ
 (To You Who Live at the Foot of
 the Rainbow)
Affiliation: Nagasaki Prefectural
 Kamitsushima SHS (ALT)



Director's Prize

Name: Molly ERNEST
Nationality: America
Title: 国際交流がもたらす変革
 (The Change that International
 Exchange can Bring About)
Affiliation: Seiwa Joshi Gakuin
 High School (Student)



A Notice about the 20th Nagasaki International Festival

Organizations from all over Nagasaki Prefecture will gather to tell you about their activities, to sell food, and more. Just like last year, there will be a Japanese Culture experience corner, where you can try on a kimono (you can put on a kimono easily over the top of your clothes) and experience the Tea Ceremony (a small charge will apply). Also, there will be quiz about the organizations participating in the festival. The Nagasaki International Festival is sure to be a great day out for everyone from small children to adults, regardless of nationality, so be sure to come!

Time and Date: 11am to 4pm, Sunday, October 28th

Venue: Dejima Koryu Kaikan (2-11 Dejima-machi, Nagasaki City), next to the Nagasaki Prefectural Art Museum

※ Entry is free.

※ Please use public transport when coming to the venue on the day.

We are currently looking for volunteers to help us on the day to make the festival amazing!

For more details, please check the NIA website at:

<http://www.nia.or.jp/>



About the Nagasaki International Association

Have you heard of the Nagasaki International Association?
We offer lots of information about international exchange and life in Nagasaki.

We are open Monday to Friday from 9am to 5:30pm.
(excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and Public Holidays)

Feel free to stop by!

This is the Nagasaki International Association's Official "Facebook Page"!

★Facebook Page URL:

<https://www.facebook.com/nia.nagasaki/>

★ Nagasaki International Association Website:

<http://www.nia.or.jp/>



Please "like" and
"follow" us!!



Facebook



We are looking for supporting members for the NIA!

Membership Fee - Individual Members: ¥3,000/yr Corporate Members: ¥10,000/yr

If you would like to support international exchange activities in Nagasaki Prefecture and provide assistance to foreign residents by becoming a member, or if you would like further details, do not hesitate to contact the NIA for more information.



We distribute useful guidebooks for free!!



The NIA creates useful guidebooks for foreign residents of Nagasaki Prefecture and distributes them for free. Here is some information about these guides, so feel free to make use of them! Also, all of the guidebooks are also available on the NIA website!

A Guidebook for Living in Nagasaki Prefecture

A compilation of basic information necessary for living in Nagasaki.

Languages available: Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean

URL : <http://www.nia.or.jp/record/files/medias/07link/seikatugaido.pdf>



Guide for Using Medical Institutions

A compilation of useful information for foreign people when they visit a hospital.

Languages available: Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean

URL : <http://www.nia.or.jp/record/files/medias/iryouguide.pdf>

Things You Need to Know Before Disaster Strikes!!

A guide on how to prepare for natural disasters and what to do when they happen.

Languages available: Japanese, English, Chinese, Korean

URL : <http://www.nia.or.jp/record/files/medias/07link/saigai.pdf>



Please your friends know about these guides!



If you have any comments or suggestions about NAPIA, Please let us know

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