

SPORTS

LAMORINDAS LOCAL SPORTS NEWS

College Park Hands Campolindo First League Loss

By Kevin D. Shallat

The Campolindo men's soccer team has gotten off to a good start in league play, as they went 2-0 to start the regular season. On Wednesday, Dec. 5, they hosted a potent College Park team under the lights. Campolindo kept the score close in the first half, but allowed too many shots on goal in the second half, and lost this match, 4-1.

Two players, who also claim the same jersey number (#12), led their respective squads on the field in the first half. College Park's Kelly Lazzara was speedy with the ball in the first half. Campolindo forward Thibault Deichler was also very active, as he was able to push the ball up field and set up his teammates in the first half of play.

Neither team established a rhythm offensively early on. Midway through the first half each team only had two shots on goal. College Park gained a large advantage in time of possession, as they had control of the ball in

Cougar territory for much of the first half. However, it wasn't until the nine minute mark in the first half before either team recorded a goal. Midfielder Joe Hantos was able to kick the ball in the side of the net for the first College Park goal. Campolindo came close to keeping it a one goal game for the half, but College Park capitalized on a point blank penalty shot at the two minute mark that gave the Falcons a 2-0 lead going into the half.

Campolindo came out in the second half with the right mentality. They were aggressive, and were able to control the ball in College Park territory for most of the half. Unfortunately this didn't equate into goals, as Campo managed only one goal in the game. Georgio Tavecchio just missed a goal for the Cougars, as he turned out an impressive bicycle kick that wooed the crowd, yet missed up high by a few feet.

Campolindo goalkeeper Noel Raine had a good game for

the Cougars, as he made several diving saves at the goal. However, the law of averages caught up to Raine and the Cougars, as the Falcons were able to take too many shots on goal Wednesday night. College Park's Jose Villalobos scored the Falcon's third goal of the game with an assist from a teammate executing a corner kick. Donnie Beeler recorded the Falcons fourth goal of the night on another penalty kick that went up and over Raine's outstretched arms for a 4-0 lead.

Max Smith-Gee was the most active Cougar on the field Wednesday night, as he did his best to get his teammates involved throughout the course of the game. With just under seven minutes to play the Cougars were able to convert a goal. Deichler started it off with a pass to Smith-Gee, who then set up Ben Rudolph for a beautifully executed goal that took it to 4-1, which was the final score of the game.



The Blue Angels Youth Ski & Snowboard Program Offers Professional Coaching for Local Youth

Submitted by Heidi Emery

Boys and Girls (ages 7-16) can snowboard and ski the Sierras with friends and other snowsport enthusiasts during the five Blue Angel Youth Ski & Snowboard Saturday programs on Jan. 26, Feb. 2, 9, 23 and March 1. Open to all ability levels, from beginners to experts, the program includes five full days of professional ski or snowboard coaching at Sierra-at-Tahoe Resort, luxury bus transportation, adult supervision on and off the slopes, a ProTec snow helmet, lunch and a Bill-abong sponsor bag. For more information please call the Blue Angels at (925) 939-7669 or visit www.BlueAngelSnow.com.



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Bus Return Time: 7:30 p.m.
Program Fee: \$799
Enrollment: www.blueangel-snow.com or call (925) 939-7669

Campo Falls Short of History

By Alex Crook



Photo Jamie Fox

Campo had their sights set on making team history as the first Cougar squad ever to win the NCS East Bay two weeks ago. The only team standing in their way was Las Lomas.

In a rematch from six weeks earlier, the Cougars and Knights went at it in Walnut Creek on Friday, Nov. 30, but host Las Lomas showed they still had some fight left in them in a nail-biting 21-17 victory.

Knights' running back Danny Ward played his all despite having a cast on his strong right arm. Still, Ward did everything to help his team to victory. As for the rest of the Knights, junior Max Yago practically threw his arm out throwing long to USC-bound standout Diante Jackson. Senior running back Corey Paclebar also did everything he could to help the Knights. But still, Campolindo led almost the entire game.

The Cougars got on the board first with a 30-yard field goal from Georgio Tavecchio with five minutes left in the first quarter. The Knights soon responded with an amazing 85-yard touchdown pass to

Paclebar, putting Las Lomas up 7-3, ending the first quarter.

In the second, Yago fumbled a snap picked up by Campo's Evan Peters. Three minutes later, Bo Richter took the ball one yard for the score. After a 22-yard gain from Tommy Stephens to Nick Mascheroni, Stephens threw the ball away to Diante Jackson, who ran the interception back for the long touchdown. But a late flag spotted the ball around Campo's 20, and the Knights could not capitalize. Both teams went to the break with Campolindo up by a field goal, 10-7.

After a disappointing drive to start the second half, Campolindo's defense completed an improbable goal line stand inside their own 5-yard line.

Early in the final quarter, Luke Crossley intercepted Yago's pass and ran it back for the touchdown. The following kickoff was a disaster. Corey Paclebar took the kick through about seven Cougars on his way to a 100-yard return for the touchdown. That cut Campo's lead to 17-14 with just over 11 minutes left. After forcing the Cougars to punt, Las Lomas

could not then convert on a critical 4th and 11 with 6:23 to play, giving Campo another chance. With 42 seconds left in the game, Max Yago finally broke Campo's heart with a 7-yard touchdown pass.

Winners of the NCS East Bay and still unblemished at a perfect 13-0, the Knights played for the 2A final last week. Campolindo just missed out on the ultimate dream, but already have their sights on next year. They say it's always hard to follow in the footsteps of greatness. We'll see if the 2008 Cougars can live up to the challenge.



Photo Jamie Fox

Lafayette Native Earns Spot on All-NESCAC Men's Soccer Team

Submitted by Kathy Castillo

Lafayette native Alex Bedig, who attended Head Royce School and is now a senior at Tufts University in Medford, Mass., was voted on to the 2007 All-New England Small College Athletic Conference (NESCAC)

teams on Nov. 8. Bedig was the first Tufts defender to be honored by NESCAC since 2001, and played an integral role in the Tufts' defense during the 2007 season.

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