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.