

# Campolindo Football Falls in State Championship

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Photo Lenny Monge

The Cougars, down 21-16 tried to regain possession off of an onside kick, but the Panthers (14-0) recovered the ball and officially squashed the comeback bid.

"That is kind of how we played our whole season," said senior wide receiver Griffin Piatt, who caught four passes for 59 yards and a touchdown. "We always come back there in the end and they get scared that we're still hanging around."

The Cougars struggled to get back in the game because they did not take advantage of scoring opportuni-

ties. Campolindo recorded a fumble, an interception and had to settle for a field goal while in Washington territory.

"It was just mental mistakes. We shot ourselves in the foot a lot inside the 20. We had to convert those points," Piatt said. "All year long we never let those mistakes take over the game and we fought through them."

Washington Union got on the board first when All-American receiver Deonte Greenberry jumped over two defenders to haul in a 26-yard touchdown. With the touchdown



Karl Thornton #2

Greenberry became the national touchdown leader with 33. The Panthers scored again on a 3-yard run to make it 14-0.

Sophomore Christian Antezana's field goal chopped the deficit to 14-3 after an 11-play, 74-yard drive. Later, Piatt found his way into the end zone from 36 yards out to make it 14-10 with 2:57 left in the third quarter.



Connor Rosenbaum #32

Piatt weaved up the center of the field for the touchdown, fighting off five defenders' attempted tackles.

"Unfortunately those first two possessions, we put ourselves in a bad position. We said we can't let them get a lead on us," said head coach Kevin Macy. "I knew we would need some time to adjust to their speed."

Washington Union scored a 1-yard touchdown with 8:18 left to make Campolindo's road to victory much more difficult, and even the Cougar's last-minute touchdown wasn't enough to end the unforgettable season on a happy note.



Reiner Ebarle #21

"We always joked about making it to state, but never thought it would happen," said Windatt, who caught five passes for 72 yards and pulled in two interceptions on defense. "It was a great accomplishment. It's just too bad we didn't finish it up."

Stephens finished 25-for-40 with 264 yards, but also had four interceptions. Senior Karl Thornton was the team's leading receiver with 10 grabs totaling 83 yards. Senior running backs Reiner Ebarle and Connor Rosenbaum ran for 30 yards in nine carries and eight carries totaled 26 yards, respectively.



The team left last Friday with police escort to the Oakland airport.

Photo Karen Drinkwater

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Campolindo faithful cheer on their team.

Photo Lenny Monge



Campolindo fans followed the game on the big screen at the New Rheem Theatre.

Photo Andy Scheck



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