

## Campolindo Dominates Dons

Cougars record third straight win

By Michael Sakoda



Chris Hansen #44 scored first for Campo on his way to a 15-point effort.

Defeating Miramonte in the second game of the season, Campolindo (14-5, 4-1) looked to defeat its other Lamorinda rival, Acalanes (6-12, 2-3), last week.

On Jan. 22, Campolindo dominated the Dons, recording an 81-49 win.

The Cougars opened the game on a 7-0 run, getting back-to-back baskets from sophomore center Chris Hansen and a three from junior guard Andrew Zolitakis.

Acalanes went inside early to junior center Buster Souza, but Campo was ready, sending two or three defenders at him on every possession. The Cougars' team defense on Souza forced four Dons turnovers in the first eight minutes of play.

"We were trying to make sure Buster didn't get the ball," said Campolindo head coach Matt Watson after the game. "We know they've struggled shooting outside...we felt we could get away with putting a little more pressure on (Souza), and it backfired."

Indeed, Acalanes shot the lights out from distance, getting three-threes apiece from junior guard Matt Thomas and senior guard Craig Anderson.

Even so, Campo stuck to its strategy. Looking to wear out Souza on both ends of the floor, they fed Hansen on offense. "If you can put Buster in any kind of foul trouble it's to your advantage," said Watson. Hansen was effective, scoring nine points in the first half.

The Cougars' effort to draw fouls early was very successful, as they

them off the glass and slow down their transition," said Dons head coach Darrell Hirashima. "We were able to do that in spurts but not consistently enough to cut it to single digits at any point."

The Dons also kept Campo off the line, allowing only four second half free throw attempts. "They didn't shoot as many free throws," Hirashima said, "but we faltered on other parts of our defense."

With seconds left in the third, Cougars senior forward John Schmitz scored a driving bucket, giving Campo a 15 point edge. Schmitz hit a three to open the final period, and from there, Campo's depth was on display.

The Cougars half court trap started forcing Dons turnovers, led by four steals from senior guard Matt McCue. "If we give enough ball pressure, it's very difficult for a team to make good passes," said Watson.

Campolindo's bench chipped in offensively too, led by nine from Schmitz and eight from junior guard Andrew Cassidy. "Other teams go six or seven deep," Watson commented. "We go 12 deep, so we're able to get a lot of energy off the bench."

Sophomore guard Matt O'Reilly led Campo's four double-digit scorers with 16, helped out by 15 from Hansen, 11 from junior forward Justin Dunn, and 10 from McCue. The Dons leading scorers, Thomas (14) and Souza (10), were simply over run, as Campo posted an 81-49 victory.

In Orinda, Miramonte (11-9) notched their fourth win with Kiran Shastri back in the lineup, beating Dougherty Valley 71-37 on January 25. Rivalry play resumes Feb. 1, when the Mats host Acalanes.



Buster Souza #1 notched 10 points in the loss.

## Lamorinda Soccer Rivals Meet Again

By Marissa Harnett



Cougar senior Kian Maghsoodnia logged Campo's second goal in the 2-0 win over Miramonte. Photo David Lee

As the high school soccer season winds down and heads toward the NCS playoffs, the DFAL title is still up for grabs.

Except for their two league ties, both against their Lamorinda rivals, Acalanes has a perfect record, 7-0-2 (16-0-3 overall). Campolindo stands in second place with a 6-2-1 record (14-5-2 overall). Miramonte trails with 2-5-1 in league (4-7-2 overall).

The season's second round of rivalry action wrapped up Jan. 25. Campo logged the only win, defeating Miramonte 2-0. The other two match-ups, Acalanes against Campo and Acalanes against Miramonte, resulted in 0-0 ties.

On Jan. 11, Campo handed the undefeated Dons their first tie this season. Each team battled to score, but neither team could net the ball.

"(It) was a very close and exciting match and either team could have won. The result was very fair based on how both teams performed," said Acalanes head coach Paul Curtis.

On Jan. 18, Miramonte hosted Campo in their second meeting of the season.

Competitive and physical from the start, it took 30 minutes for an opportunity to score. Campo fired off the shot, but Miramonte goalkeeper Michael Akay bumped the ball up and over the crossbar to log a crucial save. Two corners followed with no goal scored.

With just three minutes left in the half, the first goal was netted by Campo sophomore Preston Kilwien.

According to Campo head coach Shane Carney, the first goal was critical. "Getting that first goal was important to give us a lead and take some pressure off heading into half-

time," he said.

The second half brought more difficulty scoring. Like in the first half, with just minutes left on the clock Cougar senior Kian Maghsoodnia found the opening low into the right corner to log the second goal.

In a final attempt to get on the scoreboard, Miramonte senior Oliver Chew came close to slipping one in, but Campo's pressure was too strong. The game ended, 2-0.

"We played well defensively, but our offense was struggling tremendously - in part due to the way Miramonte was packing their players in the middle and in part due to a lot of our guys having off nights," Carney said.

Miramonte head coach Javier Ayala-Hil said his team is used to close matches. "Results have not been in our favor this year but almost every game has come close to the wire," he explained. "If we minimize our own mistakes this team can be very successful in the way we play."

On Jan. 25, Miramonte traveled to Acalanes and also held the Dons to a 0-0 tie.

Ayala-Hil was pleased with this result. "We possessed the ball the way we wanted in the first half which created a very exciting 40 minutes. In the second half, we stayed very organized and kept our mistakes to a minimum."

Curtis agreed that the game was an exciting battle between the rivals and noted Miramonte's improvement. "The Mats played very well and have definitely improved," he said.

League action wraps up Feb. 8 and NCS tournament play begins Feb. 13.

## Saint Mary's Rugby Earns Win in Preseason

Submitted by Tony Samaniego



Saint Mary's has received huge efforts from De La Salle alumni. From left: Jordan Bouey, Matt Ramirez, Tim Maupin, Dino Waldren and Captain Michael Haley. Photo Mike Gieb

Last weekend, the Saint Mary's rugby team took on the Olympic Club of San Francisco in the last warm-up match before the start of league play. The Gaels found themselves down 0-3 off of a penalty kick by the OC two minutes into the first half but SMC came back five minutes later with a

great score by Captain Michael Haley, which was the first of his four tries. SMC ultimately pulled off a 53-11 victory. Former De La Salle football player Tim Maupin had a hat trick in the win. Saint Mary's begins regular season play at 1 p.m., Saturday, Feb. 2, at home.



Captain Mike Haley



Tim Maupin

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