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## From Front Page

### Campo Reaches NCS Soccer Finals

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Ian Franklin #15

Photo David Lee

The game's only goal was scored half-way through the first half when the ball came loose in Cougar territory. Concord managed to get past Campo's solid defense and capitalized on the clear shot on an empty net. Unable to convert their own scoring opportunities into goals, the Cougars ran out of time and suffered a tough loss.

Despite the loss, Campo has come far this season. "From getting smacked 4-0 by Acalanes in our first league game to the NCS final has been a dream turnaround by a team of hard-working guys who are hungry to prove they belong among the elite teams," said head coach Shane Carney.

To secure its berth in the finals, Campo cruised through its first two rounds of NCS tournament play, but battled hard to win its semi-final match against No. 2 Ygnacio Valley on Feb. 20. The Cougars were down 2-0 at the half. The momentum shift began with just four minutes remaining and their opponent up, 3-1. Sophomore Preston Kilwien drilled a free kick to the top right corner of the net to narrow the gap. Senior

Kian Maghsoodnia evened the score during stoppage time sending the game to sudden-death overtime. Campo's Kilwien scored first to end the game, 4-3.

It was a sweet win for the Cougars. "The semifinal [was] the culmination that our mental toughness is finally there," Carney said.

Acalanes' run for the title was not as sweet. The Dons saw their 24-game winning streak broken with their 1-0 loss in the second round, a repeat of last year's outcome.

"It was a very close match and while the Dons seemed to have the better scoring opportunities throughout the match, St. Mary's prevailed with a stout defense and the single tally," said head coach Paul Curtis.

DFAL champions four out of last five years and winner of the Winter Soccer Classic, the Dons have enjoyed a successful season. "While they would have liked to have earned their third title of the season, they walked away from the season with two of the three possible titles," Curtis explained, "A very worthwhile and rewarding season for the Dons."

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SELLING THE LAMORINDA LIFESTYLE SINCE 1994

## Civic News Moraga

### Lights of Contention

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At the time, nobody foresaw problems with light spillage—the town had no experience with 70-foot-high lights shining brightly near neighboring homes every night of the school year.

Today some residents, although they continue to affirm their love of Saint Mary's, say the lights, and noise, are a serious nuisance.

"The lighted sports field continues to be the source of intrusive noise and light trespass, violating the permit conditions by denying us the peaceful enjoyment of our homes," wrote David Gow, who lives in the Fernwood neighborhood, in a letter to the town. The 20 neighbors who signed that letter have no major concerns about occasional lights and noise that are part of the life of the campus, but they feel that the almost-constant lighting of the new field at night disrupts or degrades their quality of life. Gow adds that not everyone dislikes the noise and the light. "A couple on Fernwood who are Saint Mary's alumni told me that they moved there to see the lights and hear the noise," he said.

Neighbors in the Bluffs are even closer to the campus and began organizing early to ask for

mitigation. They would like the town council to deny the appeal. And in a letter to the college transmitted through Dr. Larry Binenati, a Moraga resident and former SMC professor who agreed to try to mediate the dispute, they asked that the design of the system be re-examined on the grounds that the field is currently lit to the level required for broadcasting and that 40 percent less light would be adequate for an intramural field.

In a carefully crafted response, SMC agreed to retain a lighting engineer to re-evaluate the lights but preserved its right to act or not to act. The college also hired Lozano Smith, attorney at law, to defend its legal standing. Its argument is that the initial permit only refers to noise, not light, as possible grounds to restrict the operating hours of the field's lights, and that the planning commission's decision is a violation of the college's vested property rights.

When it meets, the council will have three options: deny the appeal and require lights-out at 9 p.m.; approve the appeal and allow the lights to stay on until 10 p.m.; or continue the issue to a future date.

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