

Principia Focuses on the Road to Redemption

By Ben Conner

The Principia Panthers played Orchard Farm and lost 72-0 during Family Weekend. Orchard Farms is currently in class five, while Principia is in class three. After the 2024 season, Principia was also beaten brutally by Orchard Farm by 72-0 on Principia's home field. After the 2024 hard loss, the Panthers, with new players, were ready to strike back at the Eagles. The Panthers are on a roll not seen in a while, with a score of 3-3. With the influx of new players and coaches, this team has achieved wins not seen in the past. Principia is ranked #258 in Missouri for football for the 2025-2026 season. This is based on the team's 3-3 overall record for the current season and its current rank within the state's rankings. Orchard Farm High School's football team is ranked #81 in Missouri for the current season, according to MaxPreps, an online sports website for high school players' stats to be posted. They are also ranked #4 in the Missouri Class 4 rankings, as of an October 13, 2025, Sports Illustrated article. The team also holds a 4-0 record in its district and 7-0 in this season. This game was placed on Principia's family weekend. While being an international school, parents were looking forward to this game.

After the hard loss, Tristin Coon, the QB for the Principia Panthers, is a new player in his Junior year of high school. Tristin sits at 5'10, 170 pounds. During this game, Tristin was being chased down by #0, Tyson Bronson, a senior for the Eagles who sits at 6'1, 205 pounds. (The photograph is of the Orchard Farm team of players.) This loss was hard for Tristin, being a dorm student himself, and his mother, Tricia

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Coon was at the game. Tristin says, “The game was hard, especially knowing that my mom was there watching.” Tristin Coon, after the game, says, “Trusting my abilities and trusting my teammates”. This allows Tristin to keep a cool head in game knowing that his team is able to back him.

Jeremias ““Jere”” Ciampitti Burgert, #77, plays right tackle. Protecting Coon's blind spot. He stands at 6'4" and weighs 275 pounds. During this game, Ciampitti struggled with Orchard Farms' defense. What he struggled with was having to try blocking two players at a time. This game deeply affected Jere, feeling as if he couldn't play to his best ability due to the two players on him.

When asked what ways you can prepare yourself for this upcoming game, he said, “Being able to learn and prioritize a player that can affect the QB to be able to protect Tristin better”.

Jordan Hubbard, a sophomore wide receiver, is already thinking about the next game to come. “The team is ready to ring that bell and get us another win in the pocket.” Hubbard, being a man of focus and spirit, didn't believe looking in the past was worth it and only looked to the future and what he could do better for the team and himself. “Being able to track the QB and running back better to help on defense and on offense, being able to get to the ball and get more touchdowns”. He pushes the team morale after this hard loss, making sure everyone is in a good head space to be able to “knock people's heads off” for this upcoming game against Priory, the rival of Principia for the past 120 years.

Panthers' Grit Tested

By Ron Henry

The Principia boys football team was off to a strong start heading into Family Weekend, with a 3-2 record, already surpassing last year's 1-9 mark. The boys had a game on Friday, October 10th, against Orchard Farm. Leading up to the game, one of the star players for Principia, 2026 Wide Receiver Neo Swanson, said, “This game shouldn't be too hard because we prepared in practice and are ready for this.” If they can win this game, this will be a huge win considering the losses that they took in the previous years. Last year, they lost 13 - 60, so the tension going into this game should be high.

Another star player, 2027 Wide Receiver Kingston Money, said, “They don't know what's coming for them.” This is Money's first year playing football, and he is developing well, with nice hands and great footwork that allow him to get open. He also plays both sides of the ball. He is not afraid to make a tackle or go up and contest a pass or even intercept it. This should cause problems for Orchard Farm.

JJ Marshall is not eligible to play, but he gave his opinion on how he thinks the game will go: “The team knows how important this game is and how much this win would mean for us. I know we will pull out the victory,” Marshall said.

The final score of the game was 72-0. This was a devastating loss for Principia. “This was an unexpected score for everyone, even them,” said Marshall.

As of October 31st, the team's record is 4 - 4.