

# Water Polo

from page 7



Senior Beau Blacksten scoring easily early on in the first quarter. Photo by Shelley Kemp, www.photorelect.com

at the ages-old El Segundo High career goal scoring record. After Beau heaved in a cross-cage skip, the second goal, by senior driver Max Reynolds, ripped the canvas from long distance too. Following those booming plays, senior sprinter Robert "Corby" Cordobes came up with a clean steal and fed Max on the counter-attack for a sweet lob over the outstretched arms of the shocked Redondo keeper. Beau also had a steal with an unassisted goal to end the first frame 6-1.

The second and third quarters were more of the same, with El Segundo up 11-2 at the half and 14-6 after three frames. Additional goal scorers in the game were sophomores Grant Hogeboom and Anton Hedayat – but the "Beau-Max" streak continues for 2009 with 10 for Beau and three for Max.

Now for the first tournament – and what a great road trip to Riverside it was! Although 11<sup>th</sup> place sounds questionable (not making the top 10), this tournament featured 64 teams from all over the CIF southern section (all Divisions).

**Day One, Game One:** EL Segundo 12, Upland 4. Key statistics: Blacksten 7, Reynolds 2, R.Cordobes 2, and junior two-meter forward (hole set) Jackson Hogeboom 2.

**Day One, Game Two:** Montebello 16, El Segundo 12: Hogeboom 6, Reynolds 5, Blacksten 1. The defense "keyed on" Blacksten and took its chances with the rest.

It hoped for and got a better offensive tally than the Eagles.

**Day Two, Game Three:** El Segundo 16, Pasadena 14: Blacksten 7, Hogeboom 5, R.Cordobes 2, Stephen Laskey 1. According to coach Riley Brady, "It was a great total-team win, with all nine players contributing both on offense and defense. Jackson was the best pure two-meter player in the tournament, scoring two to three goals from set each game--really taking off these first two days."

**Day Three, Game Four:** Royal 11, El Segundo 6: Blacksten 3, Hogeboom 2, Laskey 1. Goalie C.Cordobes equaled his season-high of 10 saves. Of special note from Brady, "Freshman Johnathon Combs really excelled passing and stealing, improving each game and rising to the occasion by day three."

**Day Three, Game Five (11th place):** El Segundo 11, Righetti 10. Blacksten 6, Reynolds 2, C. Cordobes 2, Hogeboom 1. Chris Cordobes had eight saves in goal and 34 for the tournament. Brady commented, "We need to play these tough out-of-division opponents – it's good for us to play close (highly competitive) games against high quality teams, which we got from this tournament. We'll do better (later) in the season because of it." El Segundo boys finished 3-2 in the hot heartland of Riverside and 4-2 overall in their first official week-off to a winning start! •

# Opinion

from page 9

Knowing privately owned companies could not compete against a government owned company that pays no taxes, has no need to make a profit, has unlimited access to capital at the lowest possible rate, could never go bankrupt, and could lower premiums endlessly, private companies would be driven from the market. Voile, we would have a single payer system run by government czars. Simple, no?

While there are very legitimate questions regarding various proposals to improve the healthcare system, the core argument is about the proper role of government.

Interestingly, we have heard financial and political arguments for abandoning our current system, but we have not heard many argue that the reform will improve the quality of patient care from doctors, hospitals and other care givers. After all, isn't that what healthcare is really about?

Finally, gratuitous pandering by the President is insulting. Does anyone seriously believe:

He will add 30-46 million people to the roll of insured people at a cost of nearly \$1 trillion but will not add one penny to the

budget deficit? A Rasmussen poll says 51 percent of the public does not believe him, and believes instead that the plan will cause their taxes to increase.

The President says the Public Option would be financed solely from premium payments and not taxpayer support. If that is true, who would fund the initial \$7 billion to \$8 billion required to start the company of this size and scope? Taxpayers, of course!

The President says he will cut Medicare spending, with all reductions coming from elimination of administrative waste, not

from reductions in service. If waste were that rampant, why doesn't he eliminate that waste now, with or without healthcare reform? And doesn't that level of waste reflect on the government's ineptitude in running a major healthcare program?

Here's a last thought to keep in the back of your head. The President said Illegals would not be eligible for health care benefits. However he also proposed legal amnesty for the 12-20 million here illegally, after which they would be eligible for benefits. Clever.

Look out, folks, he thinks we're dumb. •



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