

Eagles Grounded Against Cathedral

By Gregg McMullin

When the El Segundo Eagles football team traveled to face Cathedral in a non-league match-up, Eagle head voach Steve Shevlin said he knew his team would face a number of challenges. Even though the Phantoms lost All-American receiver Randall Carroll (UCLA) to graduation, they did return Division I quarterback prospect Trevor Olson, junior running back Ivory Kristaan and a number of defensive standouts. The result was the Eagles fell behind early and lost 55-28.

The Eagles’ running game was better than average a year ago with Gage Mortesen (Northern Arizona) and Kyle Yatabe (Willamette College, Oregon) running behind an experienced line. This year however, the ground game has been a little more challenging even with capable running backs Brice Savage and Nick Kessler carrying the ball. In the first game of the season against West Torrance, the Eagles had their troubles moving the ball on the ground. Against Cathedral, they couldn’t get the first downs on the ground when they needed them. With El Segundo falling behind 14-0 early in the first quarter, the Eagles were forced to go to the air for the bulk of the night.

In the second quarter, the Eagles got on the scoreboard when senior quarterback Mike Bundy led the offense on a short series drive that culminated in a 32-yard touchdown pass play to Savage. But the Phantoms didn’t waste time in countering the Eagles by scoring three unanswered touchdowns in the second quarter to go up 35-7 at halftime.

It was an eve-opener for the Eagles and it really forced them out of their game plan. In last year’s game, the Phantoms did essentially the same in building a big lead by halftime and cruising the rest of the way. “They are a quick and physical team that really gets after it on both sides of the ball,” said defensive coordinator Dan Heck.

Not being able to establish a ground game early on meant that the Eagles couldn’t play keep-away from Cathedral like they had hoped to do. The Phantoms made the most of their running attack with Kristaan gaining just over 200 yards on the night. “When you don’t sustain drives and eat up the clock, you give the ball back to a very good offensive team,” said Shevlin.

Still the Eagles had their opportunities to score throughout the game, but on three occasions they turned the ball over. Bundy, who was 18-of-33 for 254 yards with two touchdown passes, was also intercepted three times. The interceptions came at inopportune times since all three turnovers were on Cathedral’s side of the field, including two in the red zone.

The Phantoms built a 49-7 lead in the third quarter before the Eagles cut into the score. With the Phantoms backed up near their goal

line, Sean DeFrancesco recovered a fumble in the end zone to make it 49-14. Then on the Eagles’ next possession, Bundy directed a drive to the Cathedral one yard line, where he rolled out for a one-yard touchdown run to make it 49-21 early in the fourth quarter. With the score 55-21 and the game essentially out of reach, the Eagles scored once more when Bundy hooked up with Jimmy Quinones for a 13-yard touchdown pass for the final 55-28 score.

Besides Bundy throwing for an area-leading 251 yards on the night, junior tight end Nigel Nootbaar had five receptions for 75 yards while Grant Palmer had a long 58-yard reception that set up one of the Eagles’ touchdowns. The Eagles will certainly need to rectify their ground game in the coming weeks before they head into the competitive Pioneer League. For now though, the Eagles (0-2), who have started the season playing two highly touted and ranked teams, will need to prepare for their next opponent Mary Star (1-1). The Stars normally give the Eagles all they can handle, but it would be hard to imagine they are in the same class as West Torrance (2-0) or Cathedral (3-0). Still the Eagles will need to bring their “A” game to defeat Mary Star in the Eagles’ home opener Friday night at 7 p.m.

Eagle News and Notes

The El Segundo Eagles girls’ volleyball team is off to a great start after beating Chadwick 3-2. The Dolphins are usually one of the top teams in the South Bay, but the Eagles’ Toni Alugbue had 25 kills and five blocks to lead the Eagles (2-1). Ashleigh Thoan had five aces while Miranda Gagnier contributed five kills and three blocks. The Eagles are on the road at Mary Star tonight (Thursday September 24) at 6:30 p.m.

ESHS Boys Polo Off to Great Start



Sophomore Anton Hedayat eyes the net as Redondo defense flounders. Photo by Shelley Kemp, www.photorelect.com

By Kelvin “Kelly” Kemp

The El Segundo High School boy’s water polo team home opener against cross-town foe Redondo Union High School featured a full game of glory by your recent set of Soaring Eagles. Although there were only four scorers, the full field played and assisted in

the 15-10 victory. Junior Christopher “Chris” Cordobes anchored the defense as goalkeeper, earning 10 saves for the match.

The first quarter was led off by senior sensation Beau Blacksten, scoring his first goal of the season and resuming his attempt

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| 7:00-8:15pm | Hatha Basics – All Level | Leyla |
| Tuesday | | |
| 5:30-6:45pm | Yin Yoga – All Level | Via |
| 7:00-8:15pm | Vinyasa Flow - Level I | Leticia |
| Wednesday | | |
| 6:00-7:15am | Vinyasa Flow – All Level | Jamie |
| 5:30-6:45pm | Hatha Basics – Level I-II | Andy |
| 7:00-8:15pm | Hatha Basics – All Level | Teri |
| Thursday | | |
| 5:30-6:45pm | Forrest - All Level | Theresa |
| 7:00-8:15pm | Beginner Hatha | Robyn |
| Friday | | |
| 6:00-7:15am | Vinyasa Flow – All Level | Jamie |
| 6:15-7:30pm | Vinyasa Flow – All Level | Alex |
| Saturday | | |
| 9:30-10:45am | Hatha Basics – All Level | Andy |
| 11:00-12:15pm | Tai Chi – All Level | Ara |
| Sunday | | |
| 8:00-9:15am | Hatha Basics – All Level | Cathy |
| 9:30-10:45am | Yoga Tune-Up® - All Level | Theresa |
| 5:30-6:45pm | Hatha Basics – All Level | Andy |

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