

Community Sports

Soberanes Fire forces CCS to change course



Palo Alto senior Kent Slaney runs at the Stanford Invitational, where he finished seventh in the boys seeded 5k race on Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016. (Courtesy of Malcolm Slaney)

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Every other year, the Central Coast Section cross country championships are held at Toro Park in Salinas. But that's no longer the case after Friday's decision by CCS commissioner Duane Morgan to

Cal Fire and the Soberanes Fire in so far — last month for Oct. 17.

The CCS champion "We knew the East

The Palo Alto boys finished as the CCS Division I runner-up last year at Crystal Springs, and once again have aspirations of qualifying for the state meet.

"The overarching goal for this season is making it to state," Davidson said. "And then being in the conversation, so to speak, when it comes to how we place and how we do. So that doesn't change, and we're excited about our chances of getting there."

Palo Alto senior Kent Slaney is a reigning CCS champion, winning his race last year at Crystal Springs with a time of 15:22 — the second fastest among five divisions.

Tuesday afternoon, Slaney ran 15:23 to take first at Crystal Springs during a Santa Clara Valley Athletic League meet.

"He's not the kind of guy you have to worry about pushing at all, he's more of the one you have to worry about pulling back," Davidson said of Slaney, who finished seventh at Saturday's Stanford Invitational in the boys seeded 5-kilometer race. "He's always going to put the work in and he leads from the front."

The Vikings had four top 10 finishers, including sophomore Henry Saul (3rd, 15:51), junior Sam Craig (6th, 16:05) and senior Spencer Morgenfeld (8th, 16:10).