

SPORTS



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Gunn girls run to a league title in De Anza Division finals

It should have been a day for celebration for the Gunn High girls, who put together a championship effort to win the SCVAL De Anza Division track and field finals on a cool and windy Thursday at Los Gatos High.

The Titans scored 117.50 points to hold off second-place Los Gatos (104) and claim the overall league crown after finishing the dual-meet season undefeated. But, near-tragedy marred the day.

"It was a tough day," said Gunn coach PattiSue Plumer. "A young man from Milpitas

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The Vikings came through with their usual big points in the sprints as they started off by winning the 400 relay in 42.87. Eli Givens and Austin Cox, who ran the first two legs of the relay, came back in the 100 with Givens winning in 11.07 into a headwind and Cox taking fourth. Givens came back to win the 200 in 22.39, again into a stiff headwind.

Junior Kent **Slaney**, who woke up earlier in the week with a knee problem and had an MRI on Wednesday that discovered no meniscus tear, was supposed to run to just qualify for next week's SCVAL Qualifier. Instead, **Slaney** finished second in the 1,600 in 4:25.20 and won the 3,200 in 9:42.82. Both times were well off his season bests.

The Vikings scored plenty of points in the distances with Reed Foster (4:28.52) and Sam Craig (4:28.92) taking fourth and fifth in the 1,600 and Naveen Pai (9:49.25) and Henry Saul (9:56.10) finishing in the same spots in the 3,200.

Palo Alto also won the closing 1,600 relay in 3:27.90 and picked up extra points in the shot put from Ryan Jamison (fourth) and Sam Desre in the 800 (fourth).

Gunn got a pair of victories as Jeffrey Lee-Heidenreich won the high jump at 6-2 and Andy Maltz took the shot put with a season best of 48-6 1/2.