

SPORTS



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Big races short and long pace Paly boys, Menlo girls

by Glenn Reeves/Palo Alto Online Sports

Competition arrived from within for the Palo Alto High distance runners.

Kent **Slaney** led a Paly sweep in the boys 1,600 Friday at the Santa Clara Valley Athletic League track and field championships at Los Gatos High. It wasn't an easy first-place finish, as teammate Reed Foster battled **Slaney** down the stretch.

Slaney's winning time was a season-best 4:21.84. Foster was second in 4:23.60 and Sam Craig came in third in 4:25.17.

When **Slaney** went for his second win of the meet in the 3,200 the battle he waged with Foster took its toll when fresh-legged sophomore teammate Henry Saul, in his first race of the meet, kicked past him to take first place in personal-best 9:21.73.

"He ran a great race," Palo Alto coach Michael Davidson said of Saul. "He sat right off the lead, ran smooth and relaxed."

Slaney, who led for 95 percent of the race, was timed in a season-best 9:22.83. Another teammate, senior Naveen Pai, came in fourth (9:34.73) as the Vikings loaded up on points in the distance events.



Palo Alto's Kent **Slaney**, Reed Foster and Sam **Craig** went 1-2-3 in the 1,600.



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