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## Prep boys cross country: Zaeske of Los Altos outkicks Slaney of Paly at SCVAL meet

By John Reid | Daily News Staff Writer

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By John Reid

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BELMONT -- The duel was on. Palo Alto's Kent Slaney and rival Ben Zaeske of Los Altos left it all out on the Crystal Springs Course at Tuesday's Santa Clara Valley Athletic League El Camino Division cross country meet. Zaeske, a senior, outkicked the junior Slaney to win the individual title on an early November afternoon. Zaeske ran 15:06.7 to Slaney's 15:14.5 on the 2.95-mile course.

"I just wanted to stay with Kent," Zaeske said. "The pace was slow for the first mile, but it picked up after that. We pushed each other. I lost him with 300 meters to go."

"Ben and Kent have been racing against each other since they were 10 when they ran for the Pleasanton Heat," said first-year Los Altos coach Andrew Zaeske, Ben's father.

Slaney's Vikings won the team title with a total of 36 points. Gunn was second with 60 points, the Eagles third with 71 points. The top three team finishers advance to the Central Coast Section meet at Crystal Springs Course on Nov. 14.

Andreas Godderis of Los Altos placed third at 15:47.8. The Titans went 4-5 with Reid Kovacs and Jonas Enders clocking 16:02.0 and 16:02.8, respectively.

Paly's Henry Saul, a freshman, clocked 16:03.3 for sixth with teammate Naveen Pai seventh at 16:09.7. Paly sophomore Reed Foster was ninth in 16:18.6. Daniel Frees was Mountain View's top runner, placing 18th in 18:59.8.

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