

PALO ALTO WEEKLY



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Sports Shorts

IN THE NEWS . . . Former Stanford baseball standout Michael Taylor has been acquired by the Oakland A's, who sent third baseman Brett Wallace to the Toronto Blue Jays to get the 6-foot-6, 250-pound Taylor, an outfielder. Taylor has just 30 Triple A games under his belt but will be given a chance to win the starting job in left field. Taylor spent two years with the Philadelphia Phillies' organization, which sent Taylor to Toronto as part of a package deal that sent Roy Halladay to the Phillies. Taylor, who turns 24 on Saturday, batted .312 in 314 minor league games . . . Palo Alto's Brian Martin and his partner Mark Grimmette won a race-off in Lillehammer, Norway, to earn the No. 2 luge doubles berth on the U.S. Olympic Team for the Winter Games in Vancouver in February.



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OF LOCAL NOTE . . . Sacred Heart Prep senior Heather Smith, the 2009 Central Coast Section Division II Most Valuable Player, will continue her water polo career at Bucknell University next season. Smith scored 65 goals while helping the Gators win their third straight CCS Division II title this season. Dalan Refioglu, another SHP senior, will continue his golf career at St. Mary's College next season. Refioglu was the MVP of the West Bay Athletic League last spring in the medalist at the WBAL tournament . . . Palo Alto resident **Kent Slaney** of the Palo Alto Lightning Track Club, earned All-American honors after competing at the National Cross Country Junior Olympics in Reno last weekend. Competing in the Bantam division, Slaney finished 12th out of 253 runners with a time of 11:37 over the course. It was a 20-second improvement over his previous best. Palo Alto's Claudia Denoue, also competing in the Bantam division, was 69th out of 253 runners while clocking 13:52. Only the top 25 runners in each division earned All-American status . . . Online registration for the 2010 Menlo-Atherton Little League season will open Monday. Boys and girls between the ages of 5 1/2 and 16 (by April 30, 2010) are eligible to participate. The league has six levels of baseball. Registration can be done online at www.m-all.org