

# The SPAL track trials mystery

The South Peninsula Athletic League track trials at Sequoia High School last Tuesday turned out to be a comedy of errors.

But it wasn't a bit funny to Palo Alto High School and its coaches—Jim Fairchild and Al Mercer.

The Palo Alto coaches claim they were not told the starting time of the trials was shifted from 3:15 to a time earlier than that.

Just exactly what time the meet did start, the coaches will never know. They weren't there.

## LAST CALL

As the Palo Alto team bus pulled up to Sequoia High School, the public address announcer was making the last call for the 880-yard run.

That meant that the 120-yard high hurdles were already completed and two Palo Alto competitors were out.

Steve Weed and Jim Van Eaton have run fast enough this season to qualify for the finals. But they never had a chance to qualify.

Dennis Milligan of Palo Alto, the top halfmiler in the SPAL, almost missed out too.

## SHOT-PUTTER MISSES

Mike Kilmartin, a Palo Alto shot-putter, missed his chance to compete because the flight in which he was supposed to compete was held before he arrived. He later was allowed to compete and did qualify.

Meet officials claim Palo Alto was informed of the starting time of the meet.

Regardless of what happened, the meet started without Palo Alto.

This is where the meet director was at fault. How could he start without one of the eight teams that was supposed to compete?

## WHERE IS TEAM?

Suppose Stanford was late for the Big Six track meet? Wouldn't the meet director at least try and find out where the missing team was?

There is apparently nothing that can be done for the Palo Alto hurdlers now.

They were supposed to compete in a special race at Woodside High School Thursday to qualify for the SPAL finals.

The solution to the problem should come from the office of the SPAL commissioners—Paul Hannig.

## NOT HIS DUTY

But Hannig claims it is not his duty to see that all schools are told about changes in dates and times.

He told the Times:

"There are some changes that I don't even know about. My job is to assign the officials."

Last basketball season a schedule change resulted in two teams—Cubberley and San Carlos—almost not playing a game.

San Carlos was all set to play in the afternoon. Cubberley

thought it was a night game and didn't show up in the afternoon.

## OTHER CHANGES

There have been other changes in the schedule. The SPAL tennis championships were scheduled for Wednesday and Thursday. Instead, they were held Tuesday and Wednesday.

The SPAL track finals were scheduled for Friday night at Sequoia High School. Now they will be held Saturday night.

There was no notification of any change in dates from the commissioner.

Hannig said:

"Maybe the tennis finals should be declared unofficial. I didn't know of any change in dates."

He was only kidding. Schedule changes are funny unless you don't know about them.

# SPAL trials

Carlmont High School ran and jumped a long way toward the South Peninsula Athletic League track championship by qualifying 23 varsity athletes for the finals.

The trials were held Tuesday afternoon at Sequoia High School. The finals are scheduled on the same track Saturday night.

Cold and wind prevented any top marks but the Scots still had little trouble leading the meet. They dominated the distance races with four qualifiers in the two-mile and three more in the mile.

The best marks were a 2:01.4 half-mile by Dennis Milligan of Palo Alto, a 4:34.3 mile by Mike McCann of Carlmont, a 56-5/2 by Steve Walker of Cubberley in the shot put, and a 6-3 high jump by Don Brown of Ravenswood.

Cubberley qualified 18 for the finals, Palo Alto had 15 and Woodside 11.

In Class B Cubberley led with 22 qualified for the finals. San Carlos had 15.

In Class C, Elliott Kai-kee of Palo Alto set a meet record with an 8.0 clocking in the 75-yard dash, and John Buckmaster of Wilbur Junior High School threw the shot 49-9.

Sequoia had the most C qualifiers—14. Carlmont was next with nine.

The varsity qualifiers:

**120 HIGH HURDLES**—Fisher (Cu) 15.4, Stone (Ca) 15.5, Dwiggins (W) 15.5, Wilbert Webster (R) 15.5, Crosby (W) 15.5, E. Hall (S) 15.7.

**880**—Milligan (P) 2:01.4, Sandin (Ca) 2:02.5, Hanson (W) 2:06.5, Fong (Ca) 2:08.4, Barber (Cu) 2:09.3, Hines (Cu) 2:09.9, Messer (W) 2:10.7, Murphy (M) 2:12.2.

**100**—Warden (M) 10.1, Olivieri (Ca) 10.2, Barnes (P) 10.2, Rovere (Ca) 10.3, Hamilton (P) 10.5, DaCosta (Cu) 10.6, Minor (P) 10.6, Willie Webster (R) 10.8.

**440**—Mallett (M) 51.9, Romo (R) 52.6, Meyer (S) 53.1, Royal (Ca) 53.3, Birtwhistle (Cu) 53.4, Granucci (SC) 53.6, Handy (Cu) 53.9, Eng (Cu) 56.2, Greene (W) voted in.

**TWO-MILE**—Martin McCann (Ca) 9:56.5, Larsen (Ca) 10:04.5, Daubert (Ca) 10:12.8, Furst (Cu) 10:17.3, B. Bradfield (Ca) 10:18.5, Zachary (SC) 10:31.1, Byers (Cu) 10:34.9, Rehane (W) 10:35.8.

**180 LOW HURDLES**—Fisher (Cu) 20.0, Willie Webster (R) 20.2, Crosby (W) 20.4, Weed (P) 20.6, Dwiggins (W) 20.7, Stone (C) 21.0.

**220**—Warden (M) 23.1, Olivieri (Ca) 23.3, Meyer (S) 23.3, Mallett (M) 23.3, Rovere (Ca) 23.8, Barnes (P) 23.9, Eng (Cu) 23.9, Romo (R) 24.1.

**MILE**—Mike McCann (Ca) 4:34.3, Mills (Ca) 4:41.2, Robins (S) 4:46.6, Bates (P) 4:48.7, Eding (P) 4:55.5, Kaufman (P) 4:57.6, Davenport (Cu) no time, Fassett (Ca) 5:04.7.

**BROAD JUMP**—Birtwhistle (Cu) 20-3/4, Mathis (P) 80-8, Barnes (P) 20-7/2, Plummer (S) 20-5, E. Hall (S) 20-5, Crosby (W) 20-4 1/2.

**DISCUS**—Kelly (W) 151-7/4, Kilmartin (P) 151-0 1/4, Grimm (Ca) 148-0 1/4, Galbraith (Ca) 144-8 1/4, Walker (Cu) 141-0, Littell (P) 140-9 1/4.

**POLE VAULT**—Wohlschlag (P) 12-0, Weed (P) 12-0, Phillips (Ca) 12-0, White (Ca) 12-0, Anderson (Ca) 11-6, Weckiewicz (Cu) 11-6.

**HIGH JUMP**—Brown (R) 6-3, Larcina (SC), B. Hall (S), Bettinger (Ca), Stone (Ca), Dwiggins (W) all 5-9.

**SHOT-PUT**—Walker (Cu) 56-5, Mitchell (Cu) 52-10, Salvato (SC) 52-9 1/4, D'Andrea (M) 52-8, Kilmartin (P) 52-2 1/2, Potter (W) 52-0 1/2.

Number of qualifiers: Carlmont 23, Cubberley 18, Palo Alto 15, Woodside 11, Sequoia 7, Ravenswood 6, Menlo-Atherton 6, San Carlos 4.