

Young track athletes shine at nationals

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Five Bay Area athletes earned All-America honors at the US Junior Olympic National Track Championships in Sacramento over the weekend.

Ben Zaeske, 12, of Los Altos, set a Northern California record in the 1,500 meters with a time of 4:39.42 to place fifth in the United States. Zaeske teamed with Kent Slaney, 11, of Palo Alto; KJ Moody, 11, of Tracy; and Leo Skellenger, 12, of Livermore, in the 3,200-meter relay, placing seventh in 10:09.21.

In the girls division, Julia Bounds, 11, of Redwood Shores, placed seventh in the 3,000 meters, running a time of 10:59.29.

Each of the athletes from the Peninsula train with the Pleasant Heat Running Club, which is coached by Kevin McCarthy.