



While Washington State's Josh Kimeto (755) and Samson Kimombwa went out at a fast pace, Rudy Chapa ran his own race to win the NCAA 5,000 meter final Saturday.

Photo by Steve Schneider

Rudy, Rudy!!

Chapa gives fans a reason to cheer and Oregon fourth with win in 5,000

By MARK STEWART
Of the Emerald

While the University of Southern California sprinted past UCLA and the University of Texas-El Paso for its 27th NCAA team track championship in 58 years, the man of the hour was Rudy Chapa.

Chapa, less than an hour after he found out that world record holder Henry Rono had withdrawn, won the 5,000 to give Oregon its first individual NCAA track champ in four years.

"I wasn't disappointed that Rono was not there," Chapa said after winning with a time of 13:35.29. "Forty-five minutes before the race Alberto (Salazar) and Don (Clary) told me Rono would not run so I started planning my race."

Washington State's Joshua Kimeto started off fast, running a 4:12 first mile, but faded and teammate Samson Kimombwa took over the lead at the two mile mark. Chapa took the lead from Kimombwa with less than a mile to go much to the delight of 14,000 screaming Hayward Field fans.

"I wasn't planning on them yelling when I went by Samson," Chapa said of the crowd, which went berserk as he passed Kimombwa. "I heard them yelling so I kept going by. It's hard to stop with them yelling like that."

"I knew Josh would fold, he hasn't run that well this year," Chapa said of the race. "The way he started out, running 4:15 (the first mile), that was the fastest I'd run."

If Chapa showed the thrill of vic-

tory, Dave Voorhees showed the agony of defeat.

Voorhees, after finishing third in the shot Friday with a lifetime best put of 64-3/4, more than a foot over his previous best, could place no better than third in the discus, an event he was expected to win.

"Maybe he put too much pressure on himself to win," said Oregon coach Bill Dellinger after Voorhees could throw no better than 188-6 in the preliminaries. "He didn't have too bad an NCAA meet with six points in the shot and six points in the discus, though I'm sure he would have liked to have gotten an NCAA championship."

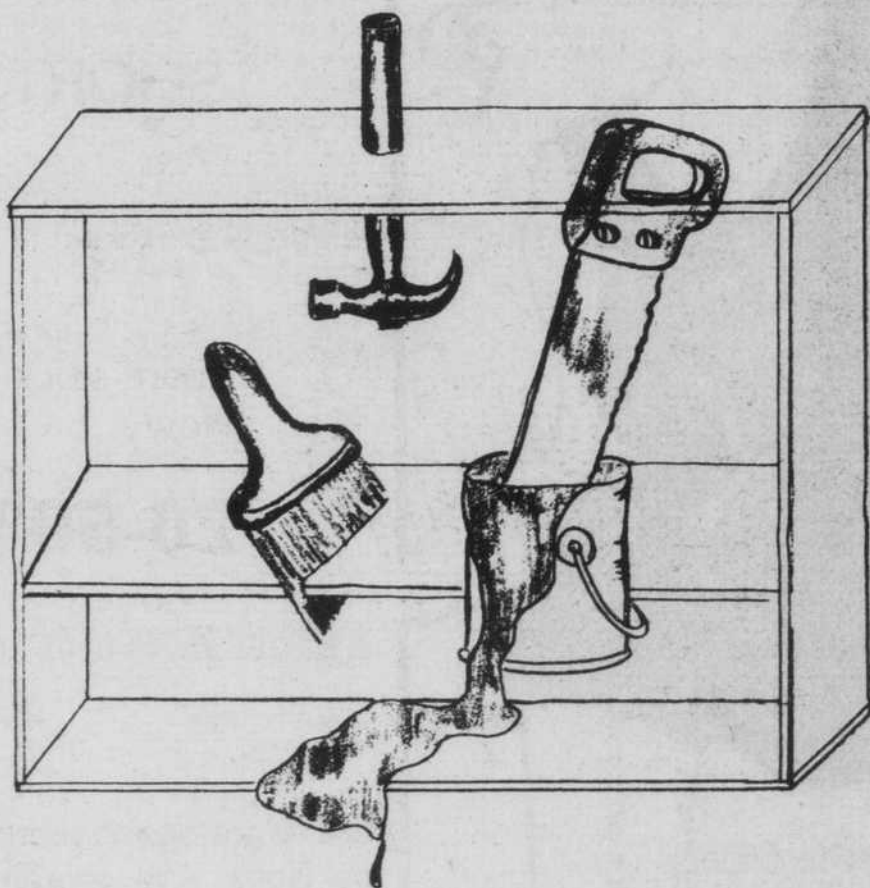
Voorhees, who ended up being the Ducks' high point man for the meet, was unavailable for comment after the meet.

Several other Ducks turned stellar performances during the meet, including Tom Hintnaus' lifetime best pole vault of 17-4, which set a new school record and gave Hintnaus second place behind UCLA's Mike Tully; John McArdle's lifetime best hammer throw of 205-1, which was good enough for fourth place; Don Clary's personal best time of 8:33.43 in the steeplechase, which earned him sixth; and Matt Centrowitz's year long best time of 3:39.29 in the 1,500.

"I knew 17-4 was there," said Hintnaus after he barely missed at 17-8 on his third attempt. "I was really going for place and when I was told that I had second on

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