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## Kimata

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"I don't let frustration forecast my future," Kimata said, and he then repeated it several times during the conversation.

Growing up in Nyeri, Kenya, Kimata's future was never in doubt. He ran. It didn't matter what events, if there were hurdles or if there were coaches. He just ran. In high school, he won a national title in the 110 hurdles with an approximate time of 14 seconds, a time that would qualify him for the Pac-10s if he ran it today. But more important was the culture of running that surrounded Kimata in his early years.

"The good thing in Kenya was that everybody was good, so there was never a lack of competition," Kimata said. "Sometimes here it's hard because the level of competition isn't high. Back home, if you're running 400s, say eight of them, there's no way you can lead the first one and lead the second one."

Still, Kimata came to America in search of better amenities and more guidance.

"Back home you might go a day or two without seeing a coach," Kimata said. "I enjoy it here be-

cause they have nice facilities, good coaches, good trainers and a good education."

Kimata spent two years in Kansas and at South Plains Community College in Levelland, Texas, before coming to Oregon despite the recruiting efforts of track powerhouses like UCLA, Louisiana State and Arkansas.

*"He's the type of guy that can spend 24/7 either studying his books or watching tapes of previous Olympians, most of them Kenyans and Ethiopians."*

**Michael Kasahun**  
graduated Oregon runner

Kimata came to Eugene in summer 2001, and that's when he met future roommate and self-proclaimed "brother," graduated Oregon runner Michael Kasahun.

"We're only roommates, but we're like brothers as well," Kasahun said. "We're a family, even though we're not related by blood."

Kimata and Kasahun, a distance

runner from Ethiopia who qualified for the NCAA Championships last season, are a perfect fit. They run together, study books together and study film together. Kasahun said that if a track meet comes on ESPN, Kimata will tape it and study it religiously.

"When he's off the field, he doesn't dream of going out partying; he doesn't dream of the same things as typical college students," Kasahun said. "He's the type of guy that can spend 24/7 either studying his books or watching tapes of previous Olympians, most of them Kenyans and Ethiopians."

Those tapes could help Kimata this season as he strives to compete in the NCAA Championships for the first time. He's already qualified with the aforementioned time, and his coach thinks he can go as low as 1:44 this season.

"He's as talented an 800 guy as I've ever coached," Silvey said.

"It's all how he uses it up here," he said, pointing to his head.

Which means no more jumping fences, no matter how sly the attempt.

E-mail sports reporter Peter Hockaday at peterhockaday@dailyemerald.com.

## Track

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the fact that she suffered an injury at the start of the indoor season that hindered her throwing ability somewhat.

"She's been throwing really well after she injured her hip," head coach Tom Heinonen said.

### North By Northwest

Ducks were not seen only in Texas this past weekend. Those athletes who failed to be invited to the relays made a trip to Salem on Saturday to participate in the Willamette Open.

Just like their comrades in Texas, the Oregon women placed a high emphasis on success in the state capital and came away just as they had hoped.

The 100-meter dash led the day for Oregon as junior Heather Murtaugh took third with a time of 12.86 seconds, followed closely by freshman Michelle Donovan (12.90), junior Torkwase Fraser (12.93) and junior Lucretia Larkin (12.94).

Donovan continued her day by taking third in the 200 with a time of 26.04, while Larkin ran a 15.38 mark in the 100 hurdles, good for second place. She trailed only Portland State's Kerine Harvey (14.93).

Junior Mary Murphy claimed first in the high jump (5-07), while teammate Jenny Brogdon matched that height but was ruled to be in second place.

Much like the Oregon javelin squad did in Texas, the women's shotput entry in Salem monopolized the competition, finishing in three of the top four spots. However, first was not attainable.

Freshman Katie McKeever paced the Duck entry with a distance of 41-00.50, just behind Southern Oregon's Nikki Robertson (41-03.50). Sophomore Dani Keyser placed third (39-0), with freshman Roslyn Lundeen fourth (38-03).

Lundeen's throw is an encouraging sign that the Victoria, British Columbia, native may be recuperating well from an injury that kept her from traveling to Texas. After

leading the Ducks in the javelin throw two weeks ago in Tempe, Ariz., she injured her elbow in her final throw and was deemed unable to compete down south.

With Washington visiting Hayward Field on Saturday, Lundeen's well-being will be important to Oregon's success.

Furthering the Ducks' success in Oregon, McKeever placed first in the discus at 147-10.50, edging out Robertson. Junior Jordan Sauvage was right behind Robertson at third (144-7.50), while sophomore Jill Hoxmeier rounded out the top four with a throw at 139-11.50.

Ending the day, Sauvage gave Oregon another win, this time in the hammer throw. Her mark of 175-08 was a personal best for the North Bend, Wash., native, easily enough to pace her in front of Western Oregon's Jennifer Durkin (169-04).

Finally, McKeever ended an all-around day by finishing fourth in the event at 153-07.

E-mail sports reporter Hank Hager at hankhager@dailyemerald.com.



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