

Pacific Association Youth Profile

Jordan Hasay

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Jordan Hasay is a familiar name to many, both in California and on the national track and field and running scene.

The junior-to-be at San Luis Obispo's Mission Prep High School made headlines her freshman year after winning the 2005 Foot Locker Cross Country Championships race with a time of 17:05.

Her sophomore year didn't disappoint either, as Hasay went on to win the Junior 6K title at the 2007 USA Cross Country Championships, and twice set national sophomore high school records in the 3,200-meter run (10:04.52). Her 3,200m mark ranks eighth-fastest on the all-time national prep outdoor list.

She holds several additional national high school records, ranging from the freshman 3,000m mark (9:26.32) to the sophomore 1,500m (4:16.98) and two mile (10:07.65) standards.

Hasay has garnered so much attention that she has her very own *Wikipedia* entry, and has been featured in news outlets such as *Sports Illustrated* (online) and *Running Times*.

In the coming weeks, Hasay will have a chance to add another feather to her cap.

The 15-year old will compete in the 3,000 meters at the International Association of Athletics Federation's (IAAF) World Youth Championships in Ostrava, Czech Republic (July 11-July 15).

Hasay has extra incentive for the trip, as she is half-Czech and has family members living in the Czech Republic.

"I'm excited," she said. "My dad's family is from the Czech Republic. We have family members there, and they might come to my race."

Approaching her first international competition, Hasay also commented on her general thoughts going into the upcoming event.

"I'm really excited to see how some of the other athletes train," she said. "It's really an honor to represent the U.S. team."

"I'm honored to have the opportunity to represent my country and it's just going to be a great experience for me the whole time. Running in a high school meet, you don't have as much competition as we will at World's [youth championship]. It'll be a lot of fun."

Despite the immense success she's had, and the overwhelming attention she has received, in her first two years of high school, Hasay is a down-to-earth girl. She doesn't let the attention bother or distort her goals.

"Sometimes [the attention] kind of gets annoying," Hasay said. "I try to put it to the side and focus on my running and how much I love the sport."

Mission Prep coach Armando Siqueiros also commented on how much he was impressed by Hasay's poise and composure under the magnifying glass.

"I was really impressed with the way she was able to carry herself despite all the attention that can be very distracting and unnerving," Siqueiros said. "She did a really good job of handling that. That impressed me more than her running ability. She's very even-keeled."

The hard-working Hasay is proud of the records and accomplishments she has already achieved in her first two years of high school, but like any great athlete, she also looks forward to future success and accolades.

"It's really an honor to get records, but I hope that I'll be setting records ten years down the line," Hasay said. "That's my goal. Hopefully, I can continue to do that."

As a runner, Hasay is in amazing physical shape, with physical endurance that few other athletes her age possess.

"She is an aerobic monster," Siqueiros said. "She's aerobically fit as a fiddle. Anyone looking at her performances can see that she can run just as fast in February as she's going to run in June. That's her aerobic conditioning."

Although she is now making news as a runner, Hasay's first athletic experience wasn't on the track or cross country course, but, rather, in the water.

Living on the coast of California in Arroyo Grande, Hasay took up surfing as her first hobby.

"I've been surfing for a long time—as long as I can remember since we live right by the beach," she said. "I've done junior lifeguards every summer. It's really fun. My brother and I surf together. We've grown up by the beach."

Like most high school juniors, Hasay is unsure of where she would like to attend college, but she does have an idea.

"I'd like to stay on the west coast somewhere, although I'm not sure yet," she said.

However, Hasay does know that she would like to take her running career as far as she can.

"I'd like to go professional and hopefully one day represent the U.S. in the Olympics," she explained.

Aside from her athletic exploits, Hasay is a straight-A student, and she's well-liked among her peers.

“She’s a great kid,” Siqueiros said. “She tries the best she can in all of her endeavors. She’s personable, very likable, and popular. She is focused on what she wants to do, what she wants to accomplish. If she were to never run another step she would be a great person.”