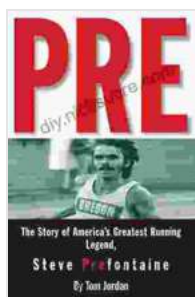


# The Story of America's Greatest Running Legend Steve Prefontaine

Steve Prefontaine was an American distance runner who is widely considered to be one of the greatest runners of all time. He was born in Coos Bay, Oregon, on January 25, 1951. Prefontaine began running in high school, and quickly showed a natural talent for the sport. He went on to compete for the University of Oregon, where he won four NCAA championships in the 5,000-meter run.



## Pre: The Story of America's Greatest Running Legend, Steve Prefontaine by Tom Jordan

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

Language : English  
File size : 561 KB  
Text-to-Speech : Enabled  
Screen Reader : Supported  
Enhanced typesetting: Enabled  
Word Wise : Enabled  
Print length : 128 pages



Prefontaine's running style was characterized by his aggressive and fearless approach. He was known for his ability to close races with a powerful finishing kick. Prefontaine also had a strong competitive spirit, and he was always determined to win. He was a vocal advocate for the sport of running, and he helped to inspire a generation of young runners.

Prefontaine's career was cut short by a tragic car accident on May 30, 1975. He was just 24 years old. Prefontaine's death shocked the running world, and he is still remembered as one of the greatest runners who ever lived.

## **Early Life and Career**

Steve Prefontaine was born in Coos Bay, Oregon, on January 25, 1951. He was the youngest of five children. His father, Raymond Prefontaine, was a logger, and his mother, Elfriede Prefontaine, was a homemaker.

Prefontaine's parents were both immigrants from Norway.

Prefontaine began running in high school, and quickly showed a natural talent for the sport. He won the Oregon state cross-country championship in 1968 and 1969, and he set a national high school record in the 2-mile run.

Prefontaine went on to compete for the University of Oregon, where he won four NCAA championships in the 5,000-meter run. He also set American records in the 2-mile run, the 3-mile run, and the 5,000-meter run.

## **International Career**

Prefontaine made his international debut at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, Germany. He finished 12th in the 5,000-meter run, but he impressed the world with his aggressive running style.

Prefontaine continued to compete internationally in the years following the Olympics. He won the gold medal in the 5,000-meter run at the 1974 Commonwealth Games, and he set a world record in the 2-mile run in 1975.

## **Tragic Death**

Prefontaine's career was cut short by a tragic car accident on May 30, 1975. He was just 24 years old. Prefontaine was driving home from a track meet in Eugene, Oregon, when he lost control of his car and crashed into a tree.

Prefontaine's death shocked the running world. He was considered to be one of the greatest runners who ever lived, and his death was a huge loss to the sport. Prefontaine is still remembered as a legend, and his story continues to inspire runners around the world.

## **Legacy**

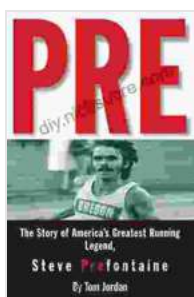
Steve Prefontaine was one of the greatest runners of all time. He was a fierce competitor, and he had a passion for the sport of running.

Prefontaine's death was a tragic loss, but his legacy continues to live on. He is still remembered as a legend, and his story continues to inspire runners around the world.

Prefontaine's legacy is also carried on through the Steve Prefontaine Foundation. The foundation was founded in 1975 by Prefontaine's family and friends. The foundation's mission is to support young runners and to promote the sport of running.

The Steve Prefontaine Foundation has helped to fund a number of running programs and initiatives. The foundation has also helped to create the Prefontaine Classic, which is one of the most prestigious track and field meets in the world.

Steve Prefontaine was a great runner and a great person. His legacy continues to inspire runners around the world.



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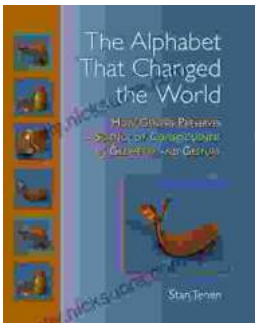
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