



## Stars making annual visit for Pre Classic



Maurice Green (9) will look to defend his meet record in the 100-meter dash Sunday at the 27th annual Prefontaine Classic.

*Emerald*

■ Led by many familiar names, the women's field of the 27th Pre Classic is shaping up to be one of the best yet

By Peter Hockaday  
Oregon Daily Emerald

Marion. Gail. Marla. Suzy. These women don't need last names. They're the stars who will come out to Hayward Field for Sunday's Prefontaine Classic, making it one of the top track and field events in the country this year. The Pre Classic, renamed in memory of Oregon track legend Steve Prefontaine 26 years ago, has a reputation for drawing many of today's future track legends. "It's such an event," meet director Tom Jordan said. "It captures the mystique and legend of Pre." This year should be no different. Marion Jones will run the 200 meters. Gail Devers will take on a world-class field in the 100 hurdles. Marla Runyan will shoot for a record in the 3,000. Suzy Favor Hamilton will try to redeem last year's last-second loss in the 1,500. The world's best pole vaulter, Sta-

cy Draglia, will ooh-aah the Eugene crowd. The big-name list of stars not only creates a buzz throughout the community, but it also generates tremendous excitement for current Oregon track and field athletes.

"I remember Michael Johnson saying last year how the Pre Classic was his favorite, and probably the best track meet he competed in," said Sarah Malone, an Oregon women's javelin thrower. "That right there says something about this meet." Just don't get up for a soda, because the action won't wait for you. The meet starts at 11:45 a.m., but most of the headlining events will take place between 12:00 and 1:00 p.m., when Fox Sports Net will broadcast the event. The meet's last event, the men's 5,000 meters, is scheduled for 1:40 p.m. Each event has a monetary stipend attached to it. The first-place finisher in each event will receive \$4,000, the runner-up gets \$2,000, the third-place finisher receives \$1,000 and the fourth-place athlete receives \$500.

The women's side of the meet kicks off at noon

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■ The men's field is again top-notch at the 2001 Prefontaine Classic, one of the toughest track meets outside the Olympics

By Robbie McCallum  
Oregon Daily Emerald

After months of anticipation for die-hard track and field fans, at last it is here — the 27th annual Prefontaine Classic Grand Prix.

What is becoming one of the greatest assemblages of track and field athletes on American soil will take place Sunday at Hayward Field. The "Pre" will feature six men's events, packed with world-class athletes on and off the track.

Two world record-holders, six Olympic champions, two American record-holders, three defending Prefontaine Classic champions and two Hayward Field record-holders will be on hand, plus many other athletes who will be close behind.

The Bill Bowerman Mile will be one of the many marquee events, but meet director Tom Jordan is calling it "the best [mile] in terms of quality of any invitational track meet held in the United States in at least the past 35 years."

World record-holder Hicham El Guerrouj highlights the entries. The Moroccan broke the world mile record two years ago with a time of 3 minutes, 43.1 seconds, and he hasn't looked back since. El Guerrouj has since set world records in the 1,500 and 2,000 meters, along with a second-place finish at the 2000 Olympic Games in Sydney, Australia.

The race will be El Guerrouj's second on American soil, the first being the 1996 Olympics in Atlanta.

Chasing El Guerrouj will be a talented field of international athletes. Third-ranked Bernard Lagat of Kenya and No. 5-ranked Kevin Sullivan of Canada are favorites for second place, followed by Oregon Twilight champion Mike Miller, NCAA leader Bryan Berryhill, prep sensation Alan Webb,

### ON TAP:

**What:** 27th annual Prefontaine Classic  
**When:** Sunday from 11:45 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
**Where:** Hayward Field  
**TV:** Fox Sports Net from Noon to 1 p.m.  
**Tickets:** Call 1-800-WEBFOOT

Jason Pyrah and many others. Kenyan Daniel Komen owns the meet record at 3:50.9 in 1998.

An equally talented field is expected in the 100 meters. Maurice Greene, the "World's Fastest Man," is the favorite. The world record-holder at 9.79 seconds hopes to capture the meet record at this year's Classic. Greene is fresh off a win at the Osaka Grand Prix in a time of 9.96 seconds, his first race since winning a gold medal in Sydney.

The entire gold medal 4x100-meter relay team, which includes Greene, will also participate individually. Jon Drummond, Tim Montgomery and Bernard Williams are the other legs.

Coby Miller set the meet record of 10.00 seconds at last year's Pre.

The only event inside the track will  
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Former Eugene resident Suzy Favor Hamilton (34) will compete in the 1,500 meters at the Pre.

*Emerald*

## Hamilton running with her head on straight



JEFF SMITH

When a Vietnam veteran experiences nasty flashbacks from his days in combat, it usually elicits some sort of sadness and remorse from people.

When St. Louis Cardinals' pitcher Rick Ankiel repeatedly sends his pitches 20 feet above and 10 feet to the left of the batter en route to the backstop, it usually

elicits some sort of laughter from people.

Thing is, both deal with one of the most fragile parts of the human body: the mind.

"Trauma is trauma; it doesn't matter whether it's war or athletics," said Dr. Scott Pengelly, Ph.D., a clinical psychologist in the Eugene area whose specialties include athletics. "It can happen to anyone."

Suzy Favor Hamilton, 32, is well aware of this. The three-time Olympian distance runner who has captured six U.S. Championships now understands how much power the mind has over the body.

At 12:21 p.m. Sunday, when Hamilton returns to the track for the first time this year to run in the women's 1,500 meters

at the Prefontaine Classic, she will do so with a clear head.

The last time she raced, on that fateful September day in Sydney, Australia, at the Olympic Games, the head above her shoulders was cluttered with confusion. It was supposed to be Hamilton's time. She had run the fastest 1,500 time in the world in 2000 (3:57.40) and was the favorite to become the first American woman to earn an Olympic medal in the event.

But after running 1,300 meters, she collapsed and dropped to the track 200 meters shy of the finish line. In a sign of exhaustion, she got up and half-jogged her way to the end. False speculation ran

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### 2001 Oregon NCAA Qualifiers announced Thursday

| Event  | Duck Men          | Rank | Qualifying Mark |
|--------|-------------------|------|-----------------|
| 5,000  | Michael Kasahun   | 17th | 13:56.04        |
| 10,000 | Jason Hartmann    | 7th  | 28:56.06        |
| 110H   | Micah Harris      | 16th | 13.79           |
| HJ     | Jason Boness      | 13th | 7-3             |
| PV     | Trevor Woods      | 17th | 17-4 1/2        |
| JT     | John Stiegeler    | 1st  | 245-9           |
| Dec.   | Santiago Lorenzo  | 4th  | 7,726           |
|        | Billy Pappas      | 16th | 7,7342          |
|        | <b>Duck Women</b> |      |                 |
| PV     | Niki Reed         | 5th  | 13-5 1/4        |
| DT     | Mary Etter        | 10th | 175-9           |
| JT     | Sarah Malone      | 2nd  | 174-0           |
|        | Charyl Weingarten | 21st | 155-6           |