



(Register-Guard photo by Paul Petersen)

Linda Prefontaine says 'I'm as competitive as my brother . . .

The other Prefontaine

The name appears in the small type underneath the small story.

Prefontaine, UO, d Layton, OCE, 7-5, 6-2.

"I wondered when you'd ask me if there was any relation," said Linda Prefontaine, a congenial 21-year-old University of Oregon senior in elementary education.

Among other things, Linda is the No. 2 singles player on the U of O women's team, and the defending Northwest doubles champion with Heather Wilson.

She is also Linda Prefontaine of Coos Bay, Ore. Her older brother, Steve, is a long distance runner.

"All I can say is that Steve is my brother, and I'm proud of him," she said.

"It used to bother me a little that everybody wanted to know if I was Steve's sister, but now I accept it. I just figure that people are interested."

Linda was a district doubles champion at Marshfield High in Coos Bay, and later played two years at

Southwestern Oregon Community College, also in Coos Bay.

"My brother used to try to talk me into running," she said, "but track comes during tennis season. I enjoy the competition of tennis, and, I suppose it's something different from running."

Linda says she thinks she is as competitive as her brother.

"But there's a difference," she continued. "He's on a different scale; he eats and sleeps running. I enjoy the competition of tennis, but it's not my whole life. I enjoy other things, and that's the difference.

"But I suppose we're the same in one way: We both have the killer instinct."

Linda readily admits that she can't keep up with her brother on a family jog. Tennis?

"He can't even play," Linda laughed. "It's hard for him to keep it in the court."

Linda and the U of O women's team host Southern Oregon this afternoon. The Ducks are 7-1 this season, and a threat, with Washington, for the Northwest title.