

Knut has the last laugh

From AP Reports

HELSINKI — Steve Prefontaine's bid to conquer Europe's best has begun in record-breaking fashion but with a losing effort.

To an old teammate, no less.

Norwegian Knut Kvalheim, like Prefontaine an ex-University of Oregon star, ran 5,000 meters in 13:20.4 Thursday night, leaving Pre and present UO star Paul Geis in his wake.

Prefontaine's clocking of 13:22.2 bettered by two-tenths of a second his pending Ameri-

can record set a year ago, also in a losing run in Helsinki.

Geis, meeting Prefontaine in a serious race for only the second time, ran third in 13:23.6. Prefontaine beat Geis at two miles a year ago.

Kvalheim, like Prefontaine finishing his UO career in 1973, became the seventh fastest at 5,000 in world history. The world mark of 13:13-flat is held by Belgium's Emiel Puttemans.

Prefontaine ranks 10th on the all-time world list and

Geis, now second on the American list, ranks 13th in the world.

In another highlight of the two-day international meet, John Walker of New Zealand upset world record-holder Filibert Bayi of Tanzania in the 1,500, Walker timed in 3:34.4 and Bayi in 3:37-flat.

John Ngeno, the Kenyan who attends Washington State University, ran off with the 10,000 in 28:05.6 as Shorter dropped out with a leg cramp with 1,000 meters to go.