



## Whirlaway Masters Marathon Team named USATF-New England Athlete of the Month for April

BOSTON – The Whirlaway Masters Men’s Racing Team has been named USA-Track & Field-New England’s Athlete of the Month for April 2005. On April 18, at the 109th running of the B.A.A. Boston Marathon, Whirlaway won the men’s masters division team race with a dominating performance as **Paul Hammond**, 45, of Lexington, MA, 5th master in 2:33:15, **Chris Spinney**, 45, of Arlington, MA, 6th master in 2:36:10 and **Mike Cooney**, 43, of Chelmsford, MA, in 2:48:37, ran an aggregate time of 7:58:00, to win by a commanding margin of 30:49 over the second place Greater Lowell Roadrunners. Not only did the Whirlaway team top the 60 teams in the masters division, amazingly they ran faster than all but three of the 54 men’s open teams! **Dave Kazanjian**, Whirlaway’s coach, spoke with pride of the masters men’s accomplishments in recent years. He noted that this was the third straight year they won the team prize in the Boston Marathon, that they have won the team division of the USATF– New England Road Racing Grand Prix series each of the last five years, and that they are riding a winning streak of 17 straight team wins in individual Grand Prix championship races.



Photo: Dave Kazanjian

Also running for the Whirlaway Racing Team at the Boston Marathon, **Simonetta Piergentilli**, age 40, of Wilmington, MA, finished 3rd in the women’s masters division, beating her previous personal best by six minutes with a time of 2:51:35. In the men’s open team race, the Greater Boston Track Club won with a total time of 7:40:27 as **Marzuki Stevens** in 2:31:13, **Josh Sohn** in 2:33:34 and **Ian Nurse** in 2:35:41 edged out the Greater Lowell Roadrunners and the B.A.A., as New England clubs claimed the top three places.

Other outstanding performances earlier in the month included **Matt Maloney** of Lasalle Academy in Providence, RI, who broke the state and New England high school records for the boy’s javelin on April 12 with a throw of 212’2”, and **Joanne Dow** of Manchester, NH, who won the US Trials for the Pan American Race Walk Cup Competition on Long Island, NY on April 3. Dow finished the 20 kilometer course in 1:37:04 and will represent the US at the Pan American competition this month in Lima, Peru.

*USATF-New England provides opportunities for athletes of all ages to pursue excellence in long distance running, race walking, and track and field, from grassroots to the elite level.*