

## Stephanie Reilly Named USATF-New England Athlete of the Month for January



*Photo: Tom Derderian*

BOSTON - **Stephanie Reilly**, age 32 of Whitinsville, MA, who competes for New Balance Boston, was named USA Track & Field's Athlete of the month for January 2011. On January 28, Stephanie ran a 9:11:24, winning the 3000 meters at the Boston University Terrier Invitational. Also in January, Stephanie ran a 4:43 mile and 2:10 in the 800, showing her range of ability.

Last summer, Stephanie moved into the spotlight running a 9:48 in the 3k steeplechase in Barcelona. Her performance qualified her for the European Track & Field Championships, where she represented her native country of Ireland. Her main goal for this season is to run the World Championships standard for the 3k steeplechase (9:43) and represent Ireland in Daegu, South Korea at the end of August.

Stephanie was born in Wicklow, Ireland. She has been involved in track & field "for her entire life." Indeed, her mother founded the local running club, and as soon as Stephanie could, she joined, participating in sprints, jumps and hurdle events. While in high school, Reilly also concentrated on soccer and basketball. In addition, she became a three-time Irish national champion in the 800 meters, 1500 meters, and 3000 meters and represented the Irish National team at the European Junior Championships. In her last year of high school Reilly decided to concentrate only on

distance running.

Stephanie got her high school diploma at St. Mary's College in Arklow, Ireland, and in 1997 she came to the United States to attend Providence College. At Providence, she received an undergraduate degree in Health Policy and Management in 2001, and a master degree in Guidance and Counseling in 2004. Currently, Stephanie is the full time head coach for the mens and womens Cross Country and Track & Field programs at Bryant University in Smithfield RI.

Training, racing, and being a full time head coach takes a lot of Stephanie's time. When Reilly is not thinking about running, she loves relaxing and spending every minute at home with her husband (a former Providence College teammate), and her two children, Marcus and Dylan.