

Adam Kelly Named USATF – New England's Athlete of the Month for January 2015



Photo: Raphael Bieber / ri.milesplit.com

BOSTON – **Adam Kelly**, a senior at Barrington (RI) High School, is USA Track & Field - New England's Athlete of the Month for January, 2015. In the 25 pound weight throw, Adam surpassed 80 feet three times during the month, with a best of 83' 0" on January 29. On January 23, at the New Balance Games in New York City, he threw 82' 5", winning the event by almost 13 feet.

Adam is the U.S. scholastic leader, and his three best distances have all broken the 14 year old Rhode Island and New England Records. Last year, as a junior, Kelly was named the Gatorade Rhode Island Boys Track & Field Athlete of the Year.

His dominance during his 2015 senior season continued with victories in both the New Balance Indoor and New Balance Outdoor championships. On March 17 at the indoor championships at the Armory Track in New York City, Kelly won the weight throw by more than three feet with a toss of 81' 5.25". On June 21 at the outdoor championships in

Greensboro, NC, Adam won the national title in the hammer throw with a toss of 241' 7", beating his high school teammate, Bobby Colantonio by five feet.

Colantonio, a junior at Barrington High School, and Kelly, both coached by Bob Gourley, traded wins all season in the hammer and dominated U.S. high school competition in the event. Both athletes qualified for the Pan American Junior Track & Field Championships in Edmonton, Canada. On August 2 in the finals of the hammer throw, they were the top Americans, with Kelly finishing 5th with a throw of 69.11m (226-9) and Colantonio finishing 7th at 66.69m (218-9). The Junior competition used the 6.0kg hammer, which is more than a pound heavier than the 12 pound hammer used in U.S. high school competition.

Notably, Kelly and Colantonio were the youngest of the finalists in the event.

On August 26 at the Sons of Italy Throwing Championships in Providence – the last competition of the 2015 season, Kelly excelled again with a personal best throw of 245' 4", the best in the nation for 2015 and tied for 5th on the all-time U.S. list. Adam will be attending Princeton University in the fall.