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NEWS

Steve Mangan Named USATF – New England’s Athlete of the Month for February 2017



Steve Mangan (right), pictured with teammates Nick Ross and Ryan Widzowski was a top qualifier at the USATF-NE Indoor Championship.

Boston – Steve Mangan, the 24 year old distance runner of the NE Distance Project, is USA Track & Field - New England’s Athlete of the Month for February 2017. On February 19, Mangan ran a 4:00.97 mile at the USATF-NE Indoor Championships. After his rabbit broke off at the halfway point, Mangan finished the rest of the race with no one else in sight.

“With pacing help from my teammates Ryan and Nick, I ran my first solid mile in over a year at the USATF-NE Indoor Championships. It was a fun and exciting atmosphere at the meet, and it reminded me why I enjoy racing so much,” said Mangan.

Following his impressive performance at the USATF-NE Indoor Championships, he went on to run a 3:59.49 mile at the BU Last Chance Meet just one week later. He was the top New England finisher in his event.

“Riding the momentum from previous week, I race the mile again at BU against a very high-caliber field, and ran under 4 minutes for only the second time in my career.”

When Mangan isn’t on the track, he is dedicated to his organization’s mission: providing running programs to middle schools in underfunded school districts. After battling allergy and asthma issues the previous year, it provided him with a great sense of purpose and motivation.

“I came into the indoor season after a terrible year in terms of running. After having a string of terrible races, I could not figure out what was going on. I kept putting myself out there hoping for a miraculous turnaround, which only shook my mentality in a way it would for anyone with an injury or health issue they can’t figure out. I wasn’t sure if I could run fast anymore, but thankfully the coaches and teammates at NE Distance kept me going when my self doubt dwindled,” said Mangan.

USATF New England’s Athlete of the Month program is designed to recognize outstanding performers at all levels of the sport. USATF New England names an honoree each month and features that athlete of usatfne.org.

USATF – New England’s mission is to continue its leadership role as one of the outstanding associations of the national governing body in Athletics.

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