

Wadeline Jonathas & Richard Stockdale USATF New England's Athletes of the Month May 2017



Photos courtesy of Joe Viger & Beacon Athletics

Boston – Richard Stockdale of Gate City Striders and Wadeline Jonathas of U-Mass Boston are USA Track & Field (USATF) New England's Athletes of the Month for May 2017. Stockdale recently completed his 100th consecutive mountain circuit race, while Jonathas finished off her freshman year with wins in both the 200m and 400m at the NCAA Division III Track & Field Championships.

When asked about his journey to 100 consecutive races, Stockdale said this, "It started by encouragement from Dave Dunham, and inspiration from Dave, Eric Morse, Mike Casner, Dan Verrington, Ed Sheldon and many others. I've had good races, and mediocre races, but I have enjoyed them all. When I have a mediocre year, I know there is always next year to look forward to."

Aside from mountain training, Stockdale bikes for cross training, and wants to continue hiking when he retires in a few years. However, that doesn't mean Stockdale has any plans on slowing down. "I'll continue the mountain series indefinitely. The closest I came to missing a race was arriving at Mt. Kiersage and noticing a flat tire," laughed Stockdale.

On the track side, Jonathas finished off a strong freshman campaign as she set meet records of 23.57 in the 200m and 52.81 in the 400m. "I always say, specifically for the 400m, the pain is inevitable no matter how fast or slow you finish. Going into the National Championships, I just wanted to finish the season strong," said Jonathas.

In May alone, Jonathas improved her 400m time from 55.5 seconds, to 52.81 seconds and won the USTFCCA Division III athlete of the week 3 times.

While the academic year may be over, Jonathas continues her training in preparation for the Junior Nationals. "My goals for next year specifically are to continue working hard academically and athletically. Essentially, I want to build on what I have accomplished my freshman year," said Jonathas.

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 on 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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