

USATF HALF MARATHON MEN

SHADRACK BIWOTT

AGE: 29

COACH: ANDREW KASTOR

AGENT: RAY FLYNN

SPONSOR: ASICS

PERSONAL BEST: 1:01:25 (2014)

TWITTER: @SKIPTOOB



Shadrack Biwott returns to Houston after his third-place finish in the 2013 Aramco Houston Half Marathon and his seventh-place finish at the USA Half Marathon Championships in 2014. Running strong in nearly every race he ran in 2013, Biwott also took third at the U.S. Half Marathon Championships in Duluth, when he finished in 1:02:24. A former University of Oregon All-American, Biwott now lives and trains in Sacramento.

RESULTS

2014: 7th at USA Half Marathon Champs (1:01:56); 39th at World Half Marathon Championships (1:02:28); 6th at Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Half Marathon (1:01:25); 13th at Rock 'n' Roll Philadelphia Half Marathon (1:04:05)
2013: 3rd at Aramco Houston Half Marathon (62:23); 3rd at USA Half Marathon Championships (62:24); 3rd at Twin Cities Marathon (2:13:26); 2nd at USA 20K Championships (60:20); 2nd at USA 12K Championships (34:35)
2012: 15th at USA 10 Mile Championships (48:14); 1st at Mardi Gras Half Marathon (64:23); 21st at NYC Half Marathon (63:01)
2011: 16th at Philadelphia Half Marathon (63:56); 10th at LA Marathon (2:20:28); DNF at NYC Marathon
2010: 3rd at Rock 'n' Roll New Orleans Half Marathon (61:40); 5th at NYC Half Marathon (61:52); 13th at Philadelphia Half Marathon (64:21); 5th at Big Sur Half Marathon (65:38)
2009: 8th in 5,000m at NCAA Championships (14:11.45); 2nd in 10,000m at Pac 10 Championships (29:03.47); 7th in 10,000m at Payton Jordan Invitational (28:28.83); 10th in 5,000m at NCAA Indoor Championships (14:07.81i) and 11th in 3,000m (8:06.12i)

JOSPHAT BOIT

AGE: 31

COACH: ANDREW KASTOR

AGENT: JOSH COX

SPONSOR: ASICS

PERSONAL BEST: 1:01:33 (2014)

TWITTER: @BOIT



2014 was a year of personal bests for Josphat Boit; he set bests in the half marathon (61:33) and marathon (2:12:52). The Eldoret, Kenya native received his U.S. citizenship in 2012. While running for the University of Arkansas, Boit was the 2006 NCAA 10,000m and NCAA Indoor 5,000m champion. Boit currently lives and trains in the high altitude of Mammoth Lakes, California with the Mammoth Track Club under the guidance of his coach, Andrew Kastor.

RESULTS

2014: 3rd at USA Half Marathon Champs (1:01:41); 21st at World Half Marathon Championships (1:01:33PR); 11th at Boston Marathon (2:12:52PR)
2013: 5th at USA Half Marathon Championships (62:32); 3rd at USA 25K Championships (1:14:34); 4th at USA 20K Championships (61:17); 10th at USA 15K Championships (44:23); 2nd at Twin Cities Marathon (2:13:14)
2012: 5th at Yuengling Half Marathon (64:31); 4th at Rock 'n' Roll San Jose Half Marathon (64:51)
2011: 2nd at Big Sur Half Marathon (63:50); 1st at Rock 'n' Roll New Orleans Half Marathon (63:56); 3rd at Honolulu Marathon (2:15:40); 9th at Cherry Blossom 10 Miler (47:50)
2010: 7th at Goteborg Half Marathon (63:25); 6th at Tulsa Run 15K (46:33)
2009: 4th in 5,000m at Payton Jordan Invitational (13:28.70); 5th in 5,000m at adidas Track Classic (13:42.19)

USATF HALF MARATHON MEN

JEFFREY EGGLESTON

AGE: 29

COACH: HANSONS-BROOKS

SPONSOR: BROOKS

PERSONAL BEST: 1:03:00 (2014)

TWITTER: @JDE66LESTON

Jeffrey Eggleston ran in his second consecutive World Championships when he ran the marathon in Moscow in 2013 and finished thirteenth in 2:14:23. He debuted in the marathon in 2010 and ran 2:14:32 at the Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon. In January 2009, he ran 1:03:58 for the half-marathon

RESULTS

2014: 27th at Marugame Half Marathon (1:03:00PR); 14th at NYC Half Marathon (1:03:32); 8th at Boston Marathon (2:11:57); 2nd at Brisbane Marathon (2:10:52PR)

2013: 13th in marathon at World Championships (2:14:23); 1st at Chicago Half Marathon (65:41); 7th at Boston Half Marathon (63:41); 17th at Paris Marathon (2:14:57); 14th at NYC Marathon (2:16:35)

2012: 1st at San Francisco Half Marathon (63:54); 2nd at San Diego Half Marathon (64:57); 1st at Woodlands Marathon (2:15:42); 2nd at Pittsburgh Marathon (2:14:26); 8th at Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Marathon (2:13:13); 16th at Chicago Marathon (2:12:03)

2011: 39th in marathon at World Championships (2:23:33); 5th at Naples Half Marathon (64:20); 1st at Pittsburgh Marathon (2:16:40); 5th at Grandma's Marathon (2:13:12); DNF at Pan Am Games

2010: 2nd at USA Marathon Championships (2:14:09); 7th at Parkersburg Half Marathon (66:07); 6th at Rock 'n' Roll Arizona Marathon (2:14:32)

2009: 14th at USA Half Marathon Championships (63:59); 18th at USA 20K Championships (62:04); 3rd at Boston Half Marathon (64:16)

MEB KEFLEZIGHI

AGE: 39

COACH: BOB LARSEN

AGENT: HAWI KEFLEZIGHI

SPONSOR: SKECHERS

**PERSONAL BESTS: 1:01:00 (2009)
2:08:37 (2014)**

TWITTER: @RUNMEB



Meb Keflezighi was named USATF's 2014 Athlete of the Year for his accomplishments last year, which included winning the USA Half Marathon Championships here in Houston and going on to win the Boston Marathon just three months later in a personal best 2:08:37. The 2004 Olympic marathon silver medalist, Keflezighi made his return to the Olympics in 2012, finishing fourth in the men's marathon. Keflezighi had qualified for his third Olympic team with a remarkable victory at the U.S. Olympic Team Trials in Houston in a personal best 2:09:08. At the 2009 New York City Marathon, Keflezighi had the biggest victory of his career, winning the race in a then-personal best 2:09:15. In 2013, he finished as the runner-up at the USA Half Marathon Championships in Duluth, Minn, finishing in 1:01:22.

RESULTS

2014: 1st at USA Half Marathon Champs (1:01:23); 1st at Boston Marathon (2:08:37PR); 10th at NYC Half Marathon (1:02:53); 4th at NYC Marathon (2:13:18)

2013: 2nd at USA Half Marathon Championships (61:22); 4th at San Diego Half Marathon (62:11); 12th at Peachtree Road Race (28:53); 23rd at NYC Marathon (2:23:47)

2012: 4th at Olympic Games (2:11:06); Olympic Trials Marathon champion (2:09:08); 1st at Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Half Marathon (63:11); 13th in NYC Half Marathon (61:41)

2011: 15th at New York City Half Marathon (62:52); 1st at Rock 'n' Roll San Diego Half Marathon (62:40); 1st at Rock 'n' Roll San Jose Half Marathon (62:17); 6th at NYC Marathon (2:09:13).

2010: 5th at Boston Marathon (2:09:26); 6th at New York City Marathon (2:11:38); 1st at San Jose Half Marathon (61:45)

USATF HALF MARATHON MEN

2009: NYC Marathon & USA Marathon champion (2:09:29); USA Half Marathon champion (61:25); set the American 20 km record en route to winning New York (57:52); USA Cross Country champion (36:06); 8th at London Marathon (2:09:21)

PATRICK RIZZO

AGE: 31

COACH: BRAD HUDSON

AGENT: BRENDAN REILLY

SPONSOR: MIZUNO

PERSONAL BEST: 2:13:42 (2012)

TWITTER: @RUNPRIZZO

Living and training in Boulder, Colorado under Brad Hudson, Patrick Rizzo last raced in Houston in in 2014 when he finished 11th in the Chevron Houston Marathon in 2:15:53 and in 2012 when he finished 13th at the Olympic Team Trials – Marathon in a personal best 2:13:42.

RESULTS

2014: 11th at Chevron Houston Marathon (2:15:53); 25th at Chicago Marathon (2:18:04)
2013: 12th at London Marathon (2:16:05); 17th at Twin Cities Marathon (2:20:08); 30th at Peach Tree Road Race (30:01); 9th at Cherry Blossom 10 Miler (49:25)
2012: 13th at Olympic Trials Marathon (2:13:42); 21st at Chicago Marathon (2:15:44); 8th at USA Half Marathon Championships (64:20); 8th at Cherry Blossom 10 Miler (49:14)
2011: 8th in marathon at Pan Am Games (2:21:58A); 11th at USA 20K Championships (62:33); 10th at USA 8K Championships (23:51)
2010: 11th at USA 20K Championships (61:18); 13th at Chicago Marathon (2:16:12); 3rd at Tokyo 30K (1:34:45); 2nd at Rock 'n' Roll Seattle Half Marathon (65:04)
2009: 15th at Boston Marathon (2:17:05); 9th at Chicago Marathon (2:15:48); 2nd at Rock 'n' Roll Seattle Half Marathon (65:34)

CHEVRON HOUSTON MARATHON MEN

AARON BRAUN

AGE: 26

COACH: GREG McMILLAN

AGENT: RAY FLYNN

SPONSOR: ADIDAS

PERSONAL BEST: 1:01:38 (2014)

TWITTER: @AABRAUNY

Aaron Braun finished as the runner-up to Meb Keflezighi at the 2014 USA Half Marathon Championships in Houston in a personal best 1:01:38. In 2013, Braun finished fifth in the Aramco Houston Half Marathon in a then-personal best 1:02:52. He had one of the best seasons of any American distance runner in 2012, finishing as the runner-up at two national championships, winning the Manchester Road Race, and twice running sub-27:55 for 10,000m, including a 27:41.54 personal best at the Olympic Trials where he finished fifth.

RESULTS

2014: 2nd at USA Half Champs (1:01:38PR); 7th at LA Marathon (2:19:51); 1st at Rock 'n' Roll San Jose Half Marathon (1:02:56)

2013: 5th at Aramco Houston Half Marathon (62:52); 1st at St. Louis Half Marathon (63:13); 9th at Boston Half Marathon (63:52)

2012: 6th at USA 10 Mile Championships (47:40); 5th in 10,000m at Olympic Trials (27:41.54); 2nd in USA One Mile Championships (4:06); 2nd at USA Cross Country Championships (35:51.7); 2nd in 5,000m at Portland Track Festival (13:20.25); 1st at Manchester Road Race (21:20)

2011: 3rd at USA 15K Championships (43:26); 7th in 10,000m at USA Outdoor Championships (28:48.31); 8th at Twin Cities 10 Miler (47:10)

2010: 4th in 5,000m at USA Outdoor Championships (13:57.82); 4th at USA 5K Championships (14:05); 32nd at Peachtree 10K (29:20)

2009: 12th in 5,000m at USA Outdoor Championships (13:56.29)

SILAH LIMO

AGE: 23

CITIZENSHIP: KENYA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:09:14 (2014)

In his marathon debut, Silah Limo won the Gold Coast Airport Marathon in 2:09:14, the fastest time ever run on Australian soil.



RESULTS

2014: 1st at Gold Coast Airport Marathon (2:09:14PR); 2nd at Kilimanjaro Half Marathon (1:03:08); 1st at Kigali Half Marathon (1:03:20)

2013: 1st at Kigali Half Marathon (1:01:41); 2nd at Wuzhong Half Marathon (1:02:28)

2012: no results

DOMINIC PIUS ONDORO

AGE: 26

COACH: NONE

AGENT: SCOTT ROBINSON

SPONSOR: ADIDAS

CITIZENSHIP: KENYA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:08:00 (2013)

TWITTER: @DPONDORO



Dominic Ondoro made his marathon debut in 2009 and just set his personal best 2:08:00 when he won the 2013 Tiberias Marathon. Ondoro trains in Eldoret in the rift valley in Kenya.

RESULTS

2014: 1st at Grandma's Marathon (2:09:06); 5th at Des Moines Half Marathon (1:03:40)

2013: 1st at Melbourne Marathon (2:10:47); 6th at Lille Half Marathon (61:45); 1st at Tiberias Marathon (2:08:00); 2nd at Dusseldorf Marathon (2:08:17); 1st at Arras 10K (28:26)

2012: 9th at Mumbai Marathon (2:14:56); 2nd at Brighton Marathon (2:12:10); 1st at Bristol Half Marathon (62:51)

2011: 20th at Dubai Marathon (2:23:40); 2nd at Stockholm Marathon (2:14:23); 1st at Helsinki Marathon (2:23:24)

2009: 8th at Karlsruhe Marathon (2:17:56)

CHEVRON HOUSTON MARATHON MEN

DEBEBE TOLOSSA

AGE: 22

COACH: BELAY WELASHA

AGENT: MATT McCARRON

SPONSOR: ADIDAS

CITIZENSHIP: ETHIOPIA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:07:41 (2012)



Debebe Tolossa set a personal best in his Houston debut, finishing as the runner-up at the 2012 Chevron Houston Marathon in 2:07:41.

RESULTS

2014: 9th at Milan Marathon (2:18:43); 5th at Beijing Marathon (2:11:23)

2013: 8th at Chevron Houston Marathon (2:18:47); 3rd at Daegu Marathon (2:10:23)

2012: 2nd at Chevron Houston Marathon (2:07:41); 14th at Paris Half Marathon (64:07); 7th at Paris Marathon (2:08:18); 7th at Hengshui Marathon (2:10:16)

2011: 14th at Dubai Marathon (2:16:37); 3rd at Ha-wassa Marathon (2:17:05); 3rd at Venice Marathon (2:09:57)

2010: 2nd at 5,000m in France (13:18.80); DNF in 10,000m at World Junior Championships

2009: 19th at Rome Marathon (2:18:19)

BAZU WORKU

AGE: 23

COACH: HAJI ADILO

AGENT: HUSSEIN MAKKE

SPONSOR: NIKE

CITIZENSHIP: ETHIOPIA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:05:25 (2010)



Two-time defending champion Bazu Worku made his marathon debut in 2009, finishing as the runner-up in Paris in 2:06:15. This was the fastest time ever run for an 18-year-old over the distance. It was also the third fastest marathon debut of all-time. Worku was one of the final three fighting through heavy rain at the 2010 Berlin Marathon achieved another personal best by placing third in 2:05:25. In cold, wet conditions, Worku won the 2013 Chevron Houston Marathon in 2:10:17. Later that year he won Grandma's Marathon in 2:11:14 before finishing as the runner-up in the Eindhoven Marathon in a season best 2:09:19. Worku returned to Houston in 2014 and again won the Chevron Houston Marathon, this time in 2:07:32.

RESULTS

2014: 1st at Chevron Houston Marathon (2:07:32); 1st at Lake Biwa Mainichi Marathon (2:09:10)

2013: 1st at Chevron Houston Marathon (2:10:17); 1st at Grandma's Marathon (2:11:14); 2nd at Eindhoven Marathon (2:09:19)

2012: 13th at Dubai Marathon (2:07:48); 12th at London Marathon (2:10:14); 2nd at Lanzhou Marathon (2:15:21); 5th at Frankfurt Marathon (2:08:35)

2011: DNF in marathon at World Championships

2010: 3rd at Ottawa Marathon (2:09:54); 3rd at Berlin Marathon (2:05:25)

2009: 2nd at Paris Marathon (2:06:15); 1st at Paris Half Marathon (61:56)

USATF HALF MARATHON WOMEN

JANET BAWCOM

AGE: 36

COACH: JACK DANIELS

AGENT: SELF

SPONSOR: NIKE

PERSONAL BEST: 1:09:55 (2012)

TWITTER: @JANETRUNS



Bawcom has become one of the best American women on the road running scene, and parlayed her talent to the track and into a spot on the U.S. 10,000m squad for the 2012 Olympic Games. Bawcom has showed no intent of slowing down, winning the 2013 USA 10 mile championship and 2013 USA 15km championship. Bawcom was born in Kenya and became eligible to represent the U.S. in the fall of 2011. She first took an interest in running after a chance encounter with Kenyan gold medalist Peter Rono who helped train her and get a scholarship to Harding University in Arkansas. Bawcom graduated with a degree in health care management, and is pursuing her R.N. license.

RESULTS

2014: 1st at Rock 'n' Roll Savannah Half Marathon (1:13:06); 1st at Rock 'n' Roll Savannah Half Marathon (1:13:30)

2013: 12th at NYC Half Marathon (1:01:13); 1st at USA 15K Champs (49:44)

2012: 5th at NYC Half Marathon (1:09:55); 5th at Olympic Trials Marathon (2:29:45); 7th in 10,000m at Olympic Trials (32:17.06); 12th in 10,000m at Olympic Games (31:12.68)

2011: 10th at NYC Half Marathon (1:11:38); 1st at Birmingham Half Marathon (1:14:44); 2nd at Indy Mini Half Marathon (1:11:42)

ANNIE BERSAGEL

AGE: 31

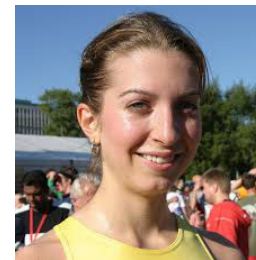
COACH:

AGENT: SELF

SPONSOR:

PERSONAL BEST: 1:10:10 (2014)

TWITTER: @ANNIEBERSAGEL



Annie Bersagel's professional career began back in 2006 when she won the U.S. Half-Marathon Championship and represented the U.S. at the IAAF World Road Running Championships and Yokohama International Women's Ekiden. She had a major breakthrough in 2013 when she won the USA Marathon Championships in a then-personal best 2:30:53. Bersagel then finished 13th at the 2014 IAAF World Half Marathon Championships in Copenhagen in 1:10:10, the top American finisher, and followed that with a win at the Dusseldorf Marathon in 2:28:59. Running 100-plus-mile weeks, Bersagel has trained through a Fulbright scholarship, a master's program in peace and conflict studies at the University of Oslo in Norway and a law degree at Stanford. She is currently an advisor for responsible investments at KLP in Oslo, Norway.

RESULTS

2014: 13th at World Half Marathon Championships (1:10:10PR); 11th at BUPA South Shields (1:13:19); 1st at Dusseldorf Marathon (2:28:59PR); 10th at NYC Marathon (2:33:02)

2013: 1st at Norway Half Marathon Champs (1:17:16); 1st at Oslo Half Marathon (1:14:52); 1st at Twin Cities Marathon (2:30:53)

2012: 1st at Kobenhavn Half Marathon (1:13:16)

2011: 6th at Rock 'n' Roll Las Vegas Half Marathon (1:14:54)

USATF HALF MARATHON WOMEN

KIM CONLEY

AGE: 28

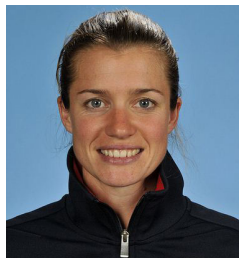
COACH: DREW WARTENBURG

AGENT: CHRIS LAYNE

SPONSOR: NEW BALANCE

PERSONAL BEST: 1:15:41 (2014)

TWITTER: @KIMCONLEY



The 2014 USA 10,000m champion, Kim Conley made her half marathon debut at the 2014 Healdsburg Wine Country Half Marathon where she finished second to Sarah Hall in 1:15:41. After a sprint to the finish in the women's 5,000m at the 2012 U.S. Olympic Trials to make her first Olympic Team, Conley finished 12th in the heats at the London Olympics.

RESULTS

2014: 2nd at Healdsburg Wine Country Half Marathon (1:15:41); USA 10,000m champion (32:02.07); 3rd at USA 12K Champs (38:42)

2013: 4th in 5,000m at USA Outdoor Champs (15:37.80); 12th in 5,000m at World Outdoor Champs (15:36.58)

2012: 3rd in 5,000m at Olympic Trials (15:19.79); 12th in heats at Olympic Games (15:14.48)

SARA HALL

AGE: 30

COACH: STEVE MAGNESS

AGENT: RAY FLYNN

SPONSOR: ASICS

PERSONAL BEST: 1:12:26 (2014)

TWITTER: @SARAHALL3



Sara Hall set her half marathon PR in later 2014 when she won the Dallas Half Marathon in 1:12:26. She made her half marathon debut in 2013 when she won the Healdsburg Wine Country Half Marathon in 1:14:33. She earned a gold medal at the 2011 Pan American Games in the 3000-meter steeplechase. In 2012, she took home the American title at the USA Cross Country Championships. She has also won several elite road races including the Drake Relays Grand Blue Mile and the U.S. National Road Mile Championships. During her college career at Stanford University, she was named an All-American seven times. Hall is married to Ryan Hall, who set an American record when he won the 2007 U.S. Half Marathon Championships in Houston.

RESULTS

2014: 11th at USA Half Marathon Championships (1:13:38); 1st at Napa-to-Sonoma Wine Country Half-Marathon (1:13:16); 1st at Healdsburg Wine Country Half Marathon (1:12:54); 1st at Dallas Half Marathon (1:12:26)

2013: 1st at Healdsburg Wine Country Half Marathon (74:33, debut); 15th at Peach Tree Road Race (33:29); 9th in 5,000m at Payton Jordan Invitational (15:39.32)

2012: 8th in 3,000mSC at Olympic Trials (9:47.63); USA Cross Country champion (26:50.1)

2011: Pan Am Games 3,000mSC champion (10:03.16); 4th at USA 5K Championships (16:00); 5th in 3,000mSC at USA Outdoor Championships (9:52.52); 1st at NYRR Dash to the Finish Line 5K (15:56)

2010: 2nd at USA 5K Championships (15:58); 9th in 1500m at USA Outdoor Championships (4:17.87); 2nd at Fifth Avenue Mile (4:24.34)

2009: 2nd at USA 1 Mile Championships (4:39.1); 2nd in 3,000m at USA Indoor Championships (8:53.72); 18th in 5,000m at USA Outdoor Championships (16:54.94); 4th at USA 5K Championships (15:33)

USATF HALF MARATHON WOMEN

LAUREN KLEPPIN

AGE: 26

COACH: ANDREW KASTOR

AGENT: JOSH COX

SPONSOR: ASICS MAMMOTH TRACK CLUB

PERSONAL BEST: 1:10:16 (2014)

TWITTER: @YEPITSKLEP



Lauren Kleppin finished as the runner-up at the 2014 USA Half Marathon Championships in Houston. She went on to finish 14th at the 2014 World Championships in a personal best 1:10:16. Kleppin entered her first marathon on a whim in 2013 in Carlsbad and won in 2:42:17. Later that year she joined the Mammoth Track Club to train with American record holder Deena Kastor. Less than a year later she smashed her personal best by finishing third in the 2014 LA Marathon in 2:28:48.

RESULTS

2014: 2nd at USA Half Marathon Champs (1:12:12); 14th at World Half Marathon Championships (1:10:16PR); 3rd at LA Marathon (2:28:48PR); 15th at NYC Marathon (2:39:13)

2013: 2nd at Hollywood Half Marathon (1:15:54); 1st at Carlsbad Marathon (2:42:17); 1st at Green Bay Marathon (2:47:19)

2012: 1st at Kansas City Half Marathon (1:15:21); 3rd at Rock 'n' Roll LA Half Marathon (1:15:49)

BECKY WADE

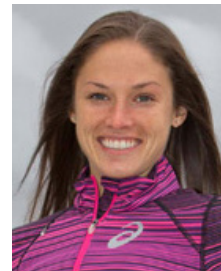
AGE: 24

COACH: JIM BEVAN AND JOE VIGIL

AGENT: RAY FLYNN

SPONSOR: ASICS

PERSONAL BESTS: 1:18:34 (2013)
2:30:41 (2013)



TWITTER: @BEXWADE89

In her marathon debut in December 2013, Becky Wade won the California International Marathon in 2:30:41, the fifth-fastest marathon by an American woman in 2013. She focused on the 10K and steeplechase in college.

Wade is a Phi Beta Kappa graduate of Rice University in 2012 with a triple major of history, sociology and psychology. After graduation, Wade secured a Thomas J. Watson Fellowship (named for IBM's long-time chairman and CEO), which required that "we have to stay out of the U.S. for a year. We don't have to produce anything but we have to submit quarterly letters," she explained to Runner's World. The fellowship began in July 2012 and took Wade through 22 countries and 11 pair of running shoes. She currently works four or five hours a day as a legal assistant at a Houston law firm and is a volunteer coach at Rice.

RESULTS

2014: 7th at USA 20K Champs (1:12:42)

2013: 1st at California International Marathon (2:30:41, debut); 2nd at Forssa Half Marathon (78:34)

2012: 14th in 3,000mSC at Olympic Trials (10:10.50); 8th in 10,000m at NCAA Championships (33:13.57); 7th in 10,000m at Payton Jordan Invitational (32:40.82); 13th in 5,000m at NCAA Indoor Championships (16:33.35i)

2011: 23rd at NCAA Cross Country Championships (20:10.8)

2010: 5th in 5,000m at Conference USA Indoor Championships (16:46.06i) and 6th in 3,000m (9:46.29i)

CHEVRON HOUSTON MARATHON WOMEN

SERENA BURLA

AGE: 31

COACH: ISAYA OKWIYA

AGENT: ISAYA OKWIYA

SPONSOR: MIZUNO

PERSONAL BESTS: 1:10:08 (2010)

2:28:01 (2013)



In 2013, Burla ran a 2:28:01 for second place at the Amsterdam Marathon on Oct. 20. That 2:28:01 is the fastest 26.2-mile time in 2013 on a record-eligible course. "Amsterdam is amazing," Burla told Runner's World. "I was looking for a new experience and as someone who beat cancer, I also decided to run in Amsterdam because of the Golden Shoelace Campaign. With this charity program, we support the research into cancer at the VUmc Cancer Center in Amsterdam." Just a few weeks after finishing as the runner-up at the 2010 USA Half Marathon Championships, Burla was diagnosed with synovial carcinoma, a dangerous form of soft-tissue cancer, a sizeable tumor was surgically removed from her right hamstring. That July, in her comeback race, she won the Boston Scientific Heart of Summer 10K in Minneapolis in 33:58.

RESULTS

2013: 7th at USA Half Marathon Championships (72:14); 13th at NYC Half Marathon (71:24); 2nd at Amsterdam Marathon (2:28:01)

2012: 4th at USA 20K Championships (68:45); DNF at Olympic Trials Marathon; 9th at RAK Half Marathon (73:43); 3rd at Seoul Marathon (2:28:27); 11th at Yokohama Marathon (2:33:43)

2011: 2nd at USA Half Marathon Championships (71:38); 6th at Prague Marathon (2:35:08)

2010: 2nd at USA Half Marathon Championships (70:08); 13th at Philadelphia Half Marathon (74:23); 18th at NYC Marathon (2:37:06)

2009: 16th at World Half Marathon Championships (70:55); 2nd at USA 20K Championships (67:38); 7th in 10,000m at USA Outdoor Championships (32:56.40)

FATUMA SADO

AGE: 23

AGENT: HUSSEIN MAKKE

SPONSOR: NIKE

CITIZENSHIP: ETHIOPIA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:25:39 (2012)



Fatuma Sado made her marathon debut in May 2011 when she won the Hamburg Marathon in 2:28:30. Since then, she has finished no worse than sixth. In 2012, she won the LA Marathon in a personal best 2:25:39 and finished sixth in Chicago later that year in 2:26:09. Sado's most recent win came at the 2014 Beijing Marathon, when she crossed the line in 2:30:03.

RESULTS

2014: 1st at Beijing Marathon (2:30:03); 3rd at Dongying Marathon (2:38:04)

2013: 1st at Xiamen Marathon (2:27:35); 5th at Taiyuan Marathon (2:36:30); 5th at Lille Half Marathon (1:12:36)

2012: 1st at LA Marathon (2:25:39); 6th at Chicago Marathon (2:26:09); 2nd at Mumbai Marathon (2:30:20); 1st at Pittsburgh Half Marathon (1:12:43)

2011: 2nd at Istanbul Marathon (2:28:01); 2nd at Humarathon Half-Marathon (1:09:02); 1st at Hamburg Marathon (2:28:30)

CHEVRON HOUSTON MARATHON WOMEN

BIRUKTAIT DEGEFA

AGE: 24

AGENT: WELLAY AMARE

COACH: WELLAY AMARE

SPONSOR: ADIDAS

CITIZENSHIP: ETHIOPIA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:26:22 (2014 - HOUSTON)

Biruktait Degefa set her personal best in the marathon last year in Houston when she finished fourth in the Chevron Houston Marathon in 2:26:22.

RESULTS

2014: 4th at Chevron Houston Marathon (2:26:22);

4th at LA Marathon (2:31:17); 1st at Eugene Marathon (2:33:15); 1st at Sydney Marathon (2:29:42)

2013: 8th at Rome Marathon (2:32:52); 1st at Sydney Marathon (2:32:46); 5th at Ljubljana Marathon (2:34:19)

2012: 2nd at Barcelona Marathon (2:29:52); 2nd at Ottawa Marathon (2:33:12); 10th at Berlin Marathon (2:33:27)

2011: 8th at Frankfurt Marathon (2:27:34)



SECHALE DALASSA

AGE: 23

AGENT: HUSSEIN MAKKE

SPONSOR: NIKE

CITIZENSHIP: ETHIOPIA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:26:27 (2012)

RESULTS

2014: 9th at Dubai Marathon (2:27:47); 9th at Lanzhou Marathon (2:41:37)

2013: 9th at Rome Marathon (2:34:43); 3rd at Ottawa Marathon (2:27:31); 2nd at Toronto Marathon (2:26:43)

2012: 5th at Shanghai Marathon (2:26:27PR)

GUTENI IMANA

AGE: 23

AGENT: LEE-ROY NEWTON

SPONSOR: ADIDAS

CITIZENSHIP: ETHIOPIA

PERSONAL BEST: 2:30:23 (2014)

2014 was a year of personal bests for Guteni Imana as she set a personal best in the half marathon when she finished third in the RAK Half Marathon in 1:08:31 and then went on to set a personal best in the marathon with her runner-up finish at the Rotterdam Marathon in 2:30:23.

Results:

2014: 2nd at Rotterdam Marathon (2:30:23PR); 5th at Amsterdam Marathon (2:36:57); 1st at Egmond Aan Zee Half Marathon (1:11:55); 3rd at RAK Half Marathon (1:08:31PR)

2013: 10th at Amsterdam Marathon (2:42:25); 1st at Luanda Half Marathon (1:08:59)

2012: 6th at Ostia Half Marathon (1:10:07); 1st at Nice Half Marathon (1:11:11)

