WE Are They Now?

Rutgers
University
Newark

X-Country
Track & Field Alumni
Class of 2008

David graduated in 2008 with a 3.83 GPA and with the Louis Gluck award as one of the best students in business management. Finding a career in his major was difficult, so he took unrelated jobs for a couple of years. Later David talked to a friend living in Ft. Lauderdale who was working at a company that was looking for a sales consultant. He applied for and got the job and has been living and working in Florida for the past three years.

David also joined three running groups, a road biking group, and a triathlon group. He started training properly and getting faster. He has completed many 5Ks, 10Ks, two half-marathons, and a triathlon. He was asked by a running store to join them and be sponsored. He now loves his training, his life and his career. He has been promoted a few times and is now the sales manager for the company.

David just purchased his own home in Fort Lauderdale and plans to stay here for a while, where the weather is beautiful and he can train all year round.
Class of 2010

Paul Bahamondes
Paul is 2010 Rutgers University Newark Graduate who earned a B.S. in Criminal Justice. As a RUN Athlete, he participated in Cross Country and Track and Field in 2008 and 2009. Immediately after graduation, he served as RUN Assistant Track and Field and Cross Country Coach until 2013.

Currently, Paul works at the Department of Homeland Security as a Federal Officer. He is an award winner and top of his class for Defensive Tactics, Arrest Techniques, and Physical Training with a combined score of 99.75%.

After RUN, Paul participated in track and field and won the following awards: 2009 War At The Shore Triathlon 1st in age group (2nd overall of 370), 2-time Rowan University Open 800m Champion; he can complete 100 pushups in under an hour, is currently weight training 6-7 days a week, while running a massive 10-15 miles per week. He still goes to the track to do workouts. For some reason, he can’t get away from the sound of spikes clicking against the rubber. Paul’s goal is to make it past selection and be chosen to be a part of the Special Response Team.

Robert Ezewuiro
Robert graduated in May 2010 with a B.A. in Biology. He worked at Iberica Clinical Research Center in Eatentown from September 2010-11. He graduated from UMDNJ School of Public Health with a Master of Public Health in May 2012. He is currently attending Temple University School of Podiatric Medicine (2012-2016) + 3 year surgical residency. Robert’s end going goals are:

- To graduate
- To work in a private practice 3 - 4 days a week
- To do surgery in a hospital two days a week
- To eventually work with athletes and treat their foot problems and perform surgery if needed
Cierra Farquharson

Cierra graduated from Rutgers with a B.A. in Psychology in 2010. She worked with people with developmental and intellectual disabilities since July 2010. Currently, she interning as a clinician at a Behavioral Health Clinic since 2012. She is also pursuing a Master’s degree in Clinical Counseling Psychology at LaSalle University and is expected graduation in December of 2013.

Peter Lake

Peter graduated with a B.S. in Management Information Systems from Rutgers Business School as a member of the Class of 2010. From graduation to present Peter has been working at AT&T’s Global Network Operations Center in Bedminster, NJ as a Network Manager. He started out on the Telco Console monitoring AT&T’s landline voicenet work in their 22 state local footprints.

Peter recently switched to the Access Console monitoring AT&T’s landline voice access network in all US states. He actively monitors traffic, responding to outages. When there is an outage (such as a cable cut) occurs his company organizes its restoration and applies controls to save the traffic.
Travia Smith

Travia graduated from Rutgers University with her BS in Business Administration. While at Rutgers, Travia ran track in 2008 and 2009, participating in the triple jump. She also played softball in 2007 and 2009.

Upon graduation, she worked at University of Medicine and Dentistry of NJ where her role included operations and HR functions. While working at UMDNJ, she trained for nine months to be a Life Coach in NYC. She then went on to pursue her MBA from Mills College and works in the field of Professional Training & Development, HR and Coaching. She spends her free time with family, friends and is currently training for a Triathlon.

Class of 2011

Gerard Farao

Gerard graduated from Rutgers Business School in 2011 with a Bachelor of Science in Finance. He is a First Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps. He is a Public Affairs Officer for the 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit. He deployed last November with the 26th MEU aboard the USS Wasp to conduct disaster relief in NY/NJ after Hurricane Sandy.

Gerard traveled around the US, Europe, and the Middle East, and has provided support to multiple Department of Defense commands and other U.S. Government Agencies. She also worked with and met with military leaders from various countries all around the world.

Gerard is currently deployed with the 26th MEU as part of the Kearsarge Amphibious Ready Group to the 5th Fleet Area of Operations, as a forward deployed, sea-based, expeditionary crisis-response force capable of conducting amphibious operations across the full range of military operations.

Gerard’s main goal is to retire with enough money to travel the world. Right now, he is just loving life being a Marine and being deployed.
**Justin Booker**

Justin graduated from the Rutgers Business School in the spring of 2011 with a bachelor’s degree in business management. Going into his senior year, he had an internship at Goldman Sachs, one of the largest investment banks in the world. Currently, Justin is an office manager handling the business aspect of one of the top 10 largest home health care companies in the U.S., Bayada Home Health Care as a Client Services Manager in Hauppauge, NY.

**Nnaemeka Ibeh**

Nnaemeka graduated in August 2011 as a Clinical Laboratory Science major. He did his first four years with Rutgers-Newark and his last year with UMDNJ receiving a Bachelor of Science Duel Degree.

In September 2011, Nnameka took and passed his ASCP Board of Certification exam allowing him to be licensed to work in any U.S. Clinical Laboratory.

In October 2011, he accepted an offer to work at New York Presbyterian Hospital as a Blood Bank Lab Scientist. He then decided to officially move to New York for convenience. From 2011-2013, he has been focusing on getting into a medical school in New York while working.

In May 2013 Nnaemeka received an acceptance letter to Touro College of Osteopathic Medicine, located in Harlem. He will start attending classes on August 2013 and plans to continue working.
Tauqeer Qazi


After graduation, Tauqeer volunteered to assist Rutgers-Newark Track & Field Program as well as McNair Academic High School Track & Field Program for Indoor and Outdoor Track in 2012. He had a full-time job as Security at Jersey Medical Center Hospital from August 2010 until August 2012. He had a shadowing experience at Ivy Rehab Physical Therapy in Hoboken, N.J. during the summer of 2012.

Currently, He is a second-year medical student at Avalon University School of Medicine. He also is a tutor for 1st and 2nd semester medical students. He has an observership at St. Elizabeth Hospital. Athletically, he runs 2-3 miles three times a week and recreationally lift weights three times a week in the morning prior to class. Tauqeer’s long-term goal is to be a sports medicine doctor and a cross country/track & field coach.
Class of 2012

Kenitra Washington

Kenitra was a part of the Rutgers Newark Track Team Fall 2007- Spring 2010. She graduated from Rutgers in the spring of 2012 with a B.A in Sociology. Currently, Kenitra is completing her second year of a two-year teaching fellowship program at Citizen Schools, a non-profit organization that provides an extended learning day program for students in “at-risk” communities.

Kenitra has recently started her own mentoring program, Love Out Loud, which empowers the youth in Jersey City & Newark, N.J. With aspirations to further her education, Kenitra is in the process of applying for graduate school to obtain a Masters in Public Administration. She teaches middle school students about the college and career pathways. In her spare time, Kenitra dedicates a lot of time to community service and family bonding.
Other Raiders

Dan O’Keefe
After leaving Rutgers, Dan worked two years as a Clinical Research Associate at Iberica USA - Phase I Research. He is currently working as an associate scientist at DPT Labs. He is also currently enrolled in graduate school studying Business Administration.

Notable Athletics....

- 2009 – 3rd (2nd in Age) War At The Shore Triathlon
- 2009 - 38th (8th in Age) Men’s Urbanathlon - Chicago (over 5000 racers)
- 2010 - 18th (7th in Age Group) Long Branch Half Marathon
- 2010 - 18th in Age Group Nationals Short Course Duathlon (Qualified for AGE Group Worlds)
- 2010 - Raced in Age Group Worlds - Edinburgh, Scotland
- 2011 - 29th (6th in Age) Atlantic City International Tri
- 2011 - Qualified and raced in the World’s Toughest Mudder
- 2012 - 9th (3rd Age) - Bear Mountain Endurance Challenge - 10k
- 2012 - 4 hours 55 min (~100th place, 10th in age group) Pocono Mountains Ironman 70.3 (Qualifies for 2013 Age Group Triathlon Nationals)
- 2013 - 12th (5th Age) - Bear Mountain Endurance Challenge - 10k
- 2013 - 35th (6th in Age) Escape the Cape International tri