



## Diane Matthews

Year of Induction: **2009**

Year of Graduation: **2000**

Pete Tylenda, JC's longtime track and cross country coach, said of Diane Matthews, "She is the best all-around female track athlete I've seen in my 30+ years of coaching." When one looks upon all that Ms. Matthews has accomplished as a runner, it is easy to understand why Coach Tylenda made such a statement.

Diane began her varsity career as a freshman on the track team in the spring of 1997. The following September she would begin her varsity career on the cross country team, beginning a series of outstanding accomplishments. She was a four-time NYSPHSAA Scholar Athlete for track. She was All-Conference in each of her four years on the track team for the triple jump and the 400m. She was a three-time All-Division and All-Conference selection as a cross country runner from 1997-1999. She set the school records in the 400m with a time of 58.59, in the triple jump with a distance of 36' ¼", in the 800m with a time of 2:17.4, and in the 1600m relay with a time of 4:16. She is the only 4 year place winner at the New York State meet in the history of the Johnson City track program. Diane was voted the MVP of the JC track and cross country teams in every year that she participated, and to culminate her high school career as a runner and track athlete, Diane received the U.S. Marine Corps Distinguished Athlete Award in 2000. And not to be forgotten is the fact that Diane was also a very successful volleyball player. She was part of two championship volleyball teams in 1999 and 2000. She also earned All-Division and All-State honors in her senior year when she was named the MVP of the Wildcat volleyball team.

The accomplishments continued to pile up for Diane during her time as a runner at the University of Albany. She set several school records in both indoor and outdoor track and she was the team captain in both her junior and senior years at Albany. She would go on to run cross country as a graduate student at Marist College where she was part of the 2004 MAAC Cross Country Championship team.

As continued evidence of her passion for running, Diane continues to run competitively today. She currently is a competitive marathon runner and she has recorded her personal best time of 2 hours, 48 seconds. Diane also coaches track and field at the College of Saint Rose in Albany, NY.

The Johnson City Athletic Hall of Fame is proud to welcome the track and cross country program's most decorated female athlete, Diane Matthews, JCHS Class of 2000.