



PATRICK SMITH | GETTY IMAGES

**KATE GRACE** (first place), Ajee Wilson (second); and Chrishuna Williams (third) celebrate after the women's 800-meter final at the U.S. Olympic trials.

## Kate Grace

Track and field, 800 meters

**Age:** 27 (Oct. 24, 1988)

**Ties to Connecticut:** Graduated from Yale in 2011

**Career highlights:** A surprise winner of the 800 meters at the Olympic trials, coming from behind to win in 1:59.10, the best time by an American this year. Grace was seeded seventh going into the race. ... A four-time All-American at Yale, Grace set school records in the mile, 800 and 1,500. ... Won the 2013 U.S. 1-mile road championship in 4:43.02 and was third at the Wanamaker Mile in a then PR 4:28.79. ... Ran a personal best 4:28.30 in the mile this year.

**Did you know?** Grace is the second female Yale track and field athlete to compete in the Olympics after Kate O'Neill ran the 10,000 meters in Athens in 2004.

## Meghan O'Leary

Rowing, double sculls

**Age:** 31 (Aug. 24, 1984)

**Ties to Connecticut:** Learned to row at Riverfront Recapture in Hartford.

**Career highlights:** Two-sport (volleyball and softball) athlete at the University of Virginia. While working at ESPN and living in West Hartford, started rowing at Riverfront Recapture in 2010, where coaches urged her to try out for the national team. ... Won silver in the double sculls in the 2014 World Rowing Cup 2. ... Finished sixth in the double sculls in the 2014 World Rowing Championships and was seventh

in 2013. ... Won the Senior Quad Sculls and Senior Double Sculls at the 2011 Royal Canadian Henley Regatta.

**Did you know?** O'Leary quit her job at ESPN in 2013 to pursue an Olympic bid.



COURANT FILE PHOTO

**MEGHAN O'LEARY**, who learned to row at Riverfront Recapture in Hartford in 2010, played volleyball and softball in college.