

## SPORTS



SHAUNAE MILLER-UIBO

## IAAF AWARDS UP FOR GRABS TODAY

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# Shaunae Miller-Uibo LOOKS TO YET ANOTHER MILESTONE

This evening in Monaco, Shaunae Miller-Uibo could be anointed as the International Association of Athletic Federations (IAAF) 2018 Female Athlete of the Year.

It is astounding indeed just for her to be among the final list of nominees, along with Dina Asher-Smith of Great Britain; Beatice Chepkoch of Kenya; Caterine Ibarguen of Colombia; and Nafissatou Thiam of Belgium.

When she won the 2016 Olympic 400 meters gold medal, Miller-Uibo unequivocally placed herself among the deities of Bahamian athletes on the all-time list and for some, right up there, arguably at the top of the heap, gender aside.

If the votes go her way, Miller-Uibo will make Bahamian history and further fortify her case for being the greatest sports figure of all time in Bahamian history. Just to contemplate the prospect of Miller-Uibo as the greatest of all time, almost seems sacrilegious, irreverent to the memory of such as Sir Durward Knowles,

Tommy Robinson, Sloane Farrington, Cecil Cooke, and Elisha Obed, as well as Pauline Davis, Tonique Williams, Debbie Ferguson, Chandra Sturup, Cynthia Moxey-Pratt and Jonquel Jones, who, long before her, made glorious historic contributions to the Bahamas Sports Brand.

Here we are though, with Miller-Uibo cemented as the Bahamian athlete who glitters most at this time.

Note the following brief chronicle of the aforementioned:

A young Durward Knowles of Star Class sailing along with Farrington, won the first world championship for The Bahamas; Knowles and Farrington won the first Olympic medal (bronze) for the country; Knowles and Cooke captured the first Olympic gold medal; Robinson blazed the incredible international track trail during the 1950s that brought The Bahamas to the attention of the world, equally (in my view) as much as Knowles and Farrington did; Davis, Ferguson and Sturup were three

of the famous Original Golden Girls, but with incredible individual records (Davis with an Olympic Gold, Ferguson with a World Championship Gold and Sturup with several World Championship bronze medals); Williams reigned as Olympic and World Champion in the 400 meters at the same time and was also a Golden League winner; Moxey-Pratt was once ago, before the emergence of Waltiea Rolle and Jonquel Jones, recognized as the country's greatest female basketball player, a reputation that was supplemented by her (athletic scholarship) recruitment genius and softball prowess; Obed won the first authentic world boxing title; and Jones is the record-setting Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) rebounder and all-star.

I could add several more names to the list with short bios of their accomplishments but wished only to make the point of how far up the mountain-side of sports excellence Miller-Uibo has climbed. She will be in the debate

as to who is the best of Bahamian sports luminaries, no matter what unfolds in Monaco.

The 24-year-old holder of the national records for the 200 meters (21.88) and the 400 meters (48.97) has crafted a glowing body of work in a career that could be far from completion, but it's what she has done this year that will be judged by the IAAF panel.

She raced 15 times and never lost in 2018. Along she way, she set world bests for the 200 meters straight (21.76); 300 meters (35.45); won the Commonwealth Games and IAAF diamond League championships over 200 meters; she had a special double at the IAAF Continental Cup, 200 meters and 4X100 relay; and she won three times over 400 meters.

She had an incredible "run" for sure, pun intended.

Hopefully the year wraps up with the coveted IAAF Athlete of the Year accolade in her possession.

Best wishes Shaunae!



## Sports Scope

by Fred Sturup

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