

Gevvie Stone Profile

She's on the Charles River the same time the sun creeps through the Boston skyline. After she finishes on the water, she hits the Harvard football stadium for 50 flights of stairs, and then back to the river for one more ride. Her day is concluded with a night lecture at Tufts School of Medicine, where she is studying to become a doctor.

Such is a typical Wednesday for professional rower Gevvie Stone.

But to call her a *professional rower* is disingenuous to who she really is. To a sports journalist, she's an Olympic silver medalist. To her colleagues, she's Dr. Stone. And in her eyes, she's just another New England girl with a burning zeal for Tom Brady.

Above all, however, these passions and titles can be mixed together to derive one word that describes the life and personality of Stone: *relentless*.

"I would get very upset about bad results. I would ask, what am I doing wrong? What could I do better? I don't want my boat to lose," Gevvie asked as she pestered her high school rowing coach, Lisa Hansen, a 1976 Olympic rower. Like Stone, Hansen also had multiple identities. To Gevvie Stone, Hansen went by "coach" while out on the water. The rest of the day, however, Gevvie referred to Hansen as another name: Mom.

This relationship had set the groundwork for her relationship with her Olympic coach, who she called *Dad*. After Gevvie had stepped away from rowing to pursue a career in emergency medicine, her father, a former national team rower, insisted that she sign up for local races.

It was the fall of 2008, and Stone's wins began to pile up. She broke personal record after another and eventually won her first of eight Head of the Charles women's singles events. Soon, she qualified for the 2012 Olympics in London where she finished seventh in women's singles.

"This was it. I thought I had the experience, and I was able to check off this box," Stone thought to herself after London. But after she visited a Cambridge elementary school, suddenly the thought of London being her last Olympics seemed disheartening. Her explanation to why she stopped rowing baffled one of the students she spoke with, so he asked, "If you still love it, and you're still getting faster, why don't you keep doing it?"

She was stumped.

And so the greatest multitasker in rowing history had a new training regimen. During the day, she'd train. During the night, she'd apply for residency.

Stone says her medical knowledge has helped her along the way to her rowing success. She credits the connections she has made in the medical field in addition to hearing about what her colleagues are researching when she mentions her success. "I still do yoga and I go to the chiropractor. I do come across some things in my research that help. My colleagues tell me about their studies on thiamine and Diabetic ketoacidosis," Stone says on how she incorporates her medical knowledge with rowing.

It's her never-quit attitude that's made her one of the sport's elite. After she had won the silver medal in Rio, Stone recalls watching the other rowers at the finish line. Each seemed exhausted, muscles screaming with fatigue. Most couldn't even find the strokes to get to the

podium. Stone, however, thought to herself, “I could have gone and practiced. I just love rowing.”

But even after competing in the London Olympics, winning the Head of the Charles and earning silver in Rio, Gevvie Stone there was one moment where she felt she had truly made it.

It was the fall of 2017, and the Newton native was visiting her high school during its spirit week. As the tradition goes, the senior class paints a mural depicting any theme of their choice, and this particular year, the class painted a mural they called “the boat of awesome.” On it, they included figures like Barack Obama, Marilyn Monroe, Darth Vader, and Tom Brady. As Gevvie glanced up at the mural, she noticed on more figure: herself.

“That was the moment where I was like, ‘wow,’ I did it,” Stone says with a beaming smile.

So, the question now becomes: What’s next?

She’s won an Olympic medal. She’s conquered one of the most internationally renowned races in the world. She’s an emergency doctor in Boston, and she’s even featured on her high school’s boat of awesome.

This fall, she’ll compete in the Head of the Charles where she’ll likely win her ninth women’s singles title. She’ll cross the finish line, ready to practice once more. And when she’s done, she’ll head on home.

Probably to study for her next anatomy exam.

