



Run For the Dream Indoor Track Meet

January 16, 2006

DEREN & AGBOKE DEBUT NEW TRACK CLUB WITH 1-2 FINISH AT FRESNO INDOOR

FRESNO, CA—Aleksandra Deren and **Roseline Agboke** placed 1-2 in the Invitational Women's 800 meters at the inaugural "Run For the Dream" Indoor Track Meet at the new Save Mart Center on the campus of Fresno State University on Monday evening, Martin Luther King Day. It was the first indoor track meet ever held in the San Joaquin Valley. It was also the debut—thought certainly not the “coming out party”—for the new VS Athletics Track club.

The meet honored the memory of Dr. Martin Luther King and the Valley's many track & field stars of the past...including NCAA Champions, World Record Holders, and Olympic Champions like Bob Mathias, Tommie Smith, Lee Evans, and Randy Williams...present high school, college, and open athlete stars from the length and breadth of the State...and scores of youth runners destined to be the sport's stars of the future. Along with the Millrose Games in Madison Square Garden, NY, the **Run for the Dream Indoor Track Meet** is one of only two indoor track meets being held in large basketball/hockey indoor sports arenas and hopes to fill the void left by the disappearance of indoor meets in previously held in Los Angeles, San Diego and San Francisco.

The meet was held on the old Sunkist 145m banked board track that was transported from the LA Sports Arena to Fresno. Racing on the boards and leaning into the steeply banked curves to the thunderous beat of feet pounding plywood was a new, exciting experience for the meet's 1200 participants—especially in such close proximity to 5,400 ticket buying customers.

The scheduled 6-person field for the Invitational Women's 800 had shrunk to four entries when they took the starting line. The favorite was the Nike Farm Team's **Tyronea Heath** who ran 2:04.58 outdoors last year. At the gun, no one wanted to take the lead. So VS Athletics' **Aleks Deren** led the field through a tactical 32.7 first 200 meters and a 66.3 400 (2 ¾ laps) with teammate **Roz Agboke** on Tyronea's heels in 3rd. The pace slowed a bit on lap-4 with Aleks still leading and gathering for her kick as Roz passed Tyronea and moved up into 2nd place. As the bell signaled the final lap, Aleks and Roz were in a dead sprint for the last 145m. Aleks came off the final curve in the lead...Roz moved up to her shoulder...and both leaned at the tape...with Aleks winning by 3 one-hundredths of a second, **2:15.71** to **2:15.74**. The win earned Aleks \$1000.

Complete results are available at <http://www.flashresults.com/flashwest/>

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