



www.VSAtrackclub.org

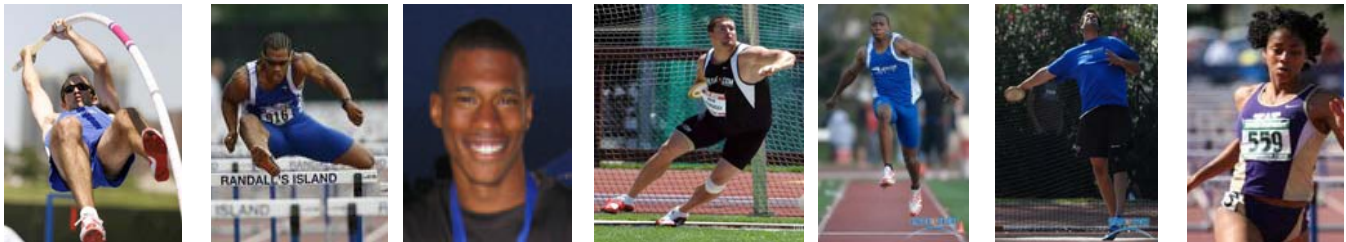
Skip Stolley, Director tel (310) 453-7655 fax (310) 829-6926 sstolley@aol.com
825 16th Street /suite B, Santa Monica, California 90302

3RD PLACE 2007 USATF NATIONAL CLUB TRACK & FIELD CHAMPIONSHIPS

SEVEN VSA ATHLETES RANK AMONG TOP-21 U.S. PERFORMERS IN THEIR EVENTS IN 2007

December 31, 2007

Seven (7) VS Athletics Track Club members ranked among the top-21 Americans in their events according to the 2007 U.S. performance lists compiled and published by **Track & Field News** on 12/21/07.



Leading the VSA contingent with #12 rankings were pole vaulter **Jeff Ryan** (18' 4 $\frac{3}{4}$ "/5.61m) and decathlete **Chris Richardson** (7871 points). Chris red-shirted at Long Beach State in 2007 and will compete for the 49'ers in his final collegiate season in 2008.

Ranked #13 was high jumper **Matt Carter** (7' 3 $\frac{3}{4}$ "/2.23m), who will also be completing his final year of collegiate eligibility at Santa Ana College in 2008, before joining VS Athletics prior to the Olympic Trials. Coming-backing discus specialist **Nick Petrucci** was ranked #19 at 198'1"/60.39m. After making the 2003 USA World Championship Team, Nick took 2-years off before returning to competition in 2007.

In the men's triple jump, **Ronald Carter** ranked #21 at 52' 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "/16.03m. Just missing the list was teammate **John Temidara**. John's 52' 2 $\frac{1}{2}$ "/ 15.91m season best was aided by a 2.4mps wind—just 0.4m over the allowable limit—and otherwise would have ranked him #25 in the U.S..

Also cracking the top-40 list was **Sam Lightbody**, who ranked #38 in the discus at 185' 5" (56.52m) after returning from a 6-year hiatus from track & field while he played collegiate and professional football. Just missing the top-40 were shot putters **Tomas Fajardo** (60' 7 $\frac{1}{4}$ "/18.47m) and **Nick Garcia** (60' 1 $\frac{3}{4}$ "/18.33m).

On the women's side, multi-talented **Ashley Lodreè** ranked #16 in the Women's 100m Hurdles at 12.99 and #32 in the long jump at 20' 8 $\frac{1}{2}$ " (6.31m). A 2007 graduate of the University of Washington, Ashley finished her collegiate career with six NCAA All-America honors—the most in UW history—and ranked among UW's all-time top-10 performers in 10 different events.

OTHER NEWS...

Welcome Back Antisa !!



This season of miracles has witnessed a miraculous recovery from recent heart surgery by new VS heptathlete **Antisha Anderson**. After suffering a black-out spell during training, tests revealed a tennis ball size tumor on her heart. Antisha underwent a subsequent successful robotic surgical removal of the tumor in Los Angeles on December 1 and returned to Arkansas. Incredibly, doctors have cleared Antisha to resume training for the 2008 track season after the first of the year.

Happy Birthday to Coach Dave Rodda !!



December 31 marks the end of each calendar year and the birthday of one of Southern California's premier track & field coaches, **Dave Rodda**. Over the past 33-years, Dave has coached 11 Olympians in the jumps and multi-events and been selected as a coach for 12 USA Teams in international competition...including Head coach for the 1995 USA Pan American Games Team and 1991 USA World Championships Team, and an assistant coach for the 1980 and 1988 USA Olympic Teams. In addition to being a multi-events and jumps coach for VS Athletics, Dave is an assistant coach at Long Beach State. There, since 2001, Dave has produced 12 Big West Conference medalists, five conference champions, 12 regional qualifiers, seven national qualifiers and two NCAA All-Americans, including current VS Athletes Ron Carter and John Temidara.

For the past several years, a group of Dave's former athletes get together the day of, or day before, his birthday to hold the annual **Clare Look-Jaeger 400 Meter Invitational**. One of America's top heptathletes/high jumpers in the mid-90's, Clare is typically the only entry and runs her traditional 61 seconds...then joins Dave and crew for a celebratory beer. This year, since Clare is recovering from a minor knee surgery, the first annual **Grant Dennis 600 Meter Invitational** in which Grant (a VS Decathlete) will be the only entry, but will have a lot of vocal support.

Roseline Agboke Selected for USA vs. the World Indoor Invitational



VS Athletics 800/1500 meter specialist **Roseline Agboke** has been selected to compete in the first meet of the *2008 VISA Championship Indoor Series*—the **Run For The Dream** meet on January 21 in Fresno, CA. Held at the new Save Mart Center on the campus of Fresno State University, the evening **USA vs. the World** portion of the meet will feature top U.S. and international athletes in seven men's and seven women's events, plus the 4x 400m Relay, in a scored team competition. The meet will be the first held on a new 145m banked synthetic surface track that was specifically built for the facility.

Roseline has 800/1500 bests of 2:05.81 and 4:23.70 and was the 2007 USATF National Club champion at 1500 meters. A native of Great Britain, she is married to former Kentucky football standout Tayo Agboke and waiting to receive her U.S. citizenship. As such, she will represent the "World Team" in the women's 800 meters.

Athletes interested in joining the VS Athletics Track Club are invited to contact:

Skip Stolley
Director, VS ATHLETICS Track Club
825 16th Street /suite B, Santa Monica, CA 90403
Tel (310) 453-7655 Cell (310) 200-5527 [sstolley@aol.com](mailto:ssolley@aol.com)