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2008 USATF National Club Track & Field Championships:
WOMEN 2ND PLACE / MEN 3RD PLACE

March 2, 2009

Mike Powers and Desi Burt Win at Trojan Relays

LOS ANGELES, CA—New VSA athletes **Mike Powers** and **Desi Burt** were event winners at the first major invitational meet of the 2009 season—the Trojan Relays at USC. Mike, a 2008 NCAA finalist in the steeplechase while at UC-Santa Barbara, toured 3000 meters without the hurdle barriers and outran the 26-person field to the finish line in **8:50.42**, running each of his kilometers faster than the last. Desi, 2009 NCAA Division-II runner-up in the decathlon while at Cal State LA—scaled **6' 9 3/4"** (2.08m) to win the high jump with just a 6-step approach and had two near-misses at 6' 11 3/4". Beforehand, he placed 8th in the long jump at **22' 5 3/4"** (6.85m) —a jump where he took off a good 8-inches behind the 6-inch wide take-off board. Afterward the high jump, he led-off the VSA 4x 400m relay with a season best **50.3** carry.



Photos by Milton Qualls

Other encouraging performances were the 2009 debut of **Ronald Carter** in the men's triple jump at **50' 8"** (15.44m), a 2nd place finish in the men's 4x 800m relay with new VSA member **Ben Auerbach** anchoring in a PR **1:52.2** for his leg.

On the women's side, new VSA members **Kendra Lilly** and **NaShawnda Grant** placed 3rd and 7th in the shot put, with Kendra coming back to place 5th in the discus. On the track, new VSA members **Shawna Burger** and **Laura Conley** placed 5th and 6th in the Women's 3000 meters—which drew one of the best fields of the meet.

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

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