

Jesse Owens



James Cleveland Owens, more commonly known as 'Jesse Owens,' was one of if not, the best tracks and field runner in history. Jesse Owens, born on September 12, 1913 and raised in Oakville, Alabama, accomplished many things in his 67 years of life. Jesse Owens attended the 1936 Berlin Olympics, but it was not a painless process to get there. Jesse combatted racial oppression in both America in which he lived and went to school, and in Europe in which the Olympics.

Jesse had to face racism at its finest here in America, he went through a lot, one of the things that stands out the most is the fact that he did not get an invitation to the White House after the Olympics. Normally once the Olympic are over and the athletes are home, the President invites some of the athletes over. Jesse, although getting four gold medals and being the best athlete in the 1936 Olympics, did not get an invitation to the white house.

Jesse not only had to face oppression here in America, but also in Berlin during the Olympics of 1936. Jesse and his fellow African American g had to go to Berlin in the peak of the Nazi party and Hitler as their leader. The Nazi party at the time were as racist if not more than in America, since they only believed in the Aryan race and viewed all others as lesser, especially minorities such as Black and Jews.

Despite all that happened to him and all his struggles that held him back due to his skin color, he still managed to pull through and become one of the best track runners in history, breaking records and all. Jesse shows that if you have a dream no matter what it might be or what obstacles might be in the way that make it seem impossible, keeping fighting for it.