“The fastest man in the world”

By: Mason Councill
James Cleveland Owens was born on September 12, 1913 in Oakville, Alabama. He suffered many illnesses and got pneumonia every year. One time a big lump was on his leg and his mom had to give him surgery with a knife. After that he never got as bad of a sickness again. He soon got a scholarship for the Ohio State track team. In 1935 Jesse married Minnie Ruth Solomon and they had three kids. Gloria, Marlene, and Beverley. A year later in 1936 Jesse went with the USA track team to the 1936 Olympics. He won four gold medals and was considered the “fastest man in the world.” Sadly, on March 31, 1980 in Tuscon, Arizona Jesse Owens died of lung cancer.
I think the important thing about Jesse Owens is he always believed in himself. He always fought off pneumonia during the winter. Jesse had to be brave and overcome surgery on his leg by his mom with a knife. He pushed himself in high school and set records. Then he believed in himself even more at Ohio State and went to the Olympics in 1936. Jesse worked especially hard and was the first African American to win gold four medals at one Olympic game. He also tied the 100-meter race world record and set new world records in the 200-meter race and the long jump. Jesse always believed in himself no matter what obstacles or challenges he had to face.
Historical Impact

Jesse Owens got four gold medals at the 1936 Olympic games but most importantly he made an impact on uniting Germany and the USA by showing his friendliness to Lutz Long. Just by healing an injury he proved to Hitler that the Americans were actually pretty good. Jesse even did so good that the welcome home parade united both races and showed that the different races could get along if they didn’t fight all the time. Jesse Owens united countries and races just by friendship.
Interesting Facts about Jesse

When Jesse Cleveland Owens was born he was nicknamed J.C. But the first day he went to school the teacher asked him his name. In a soft and quiet tone he said, “J.C.” The teacher thought he said Jesse. So she called him that. He liked it, so he kept the name Jesse. When Jesse went to Ohio State he was nicknamed the “Buckeye Bullet” by his college. Jesse was so fast that he even raced horses for money!
Conclusion

Jesse Owens said, “We all have dreams. But in order to make dreams come into reality, it takes an awful lot of determination, dedication, self-discipline, and effort.” This quote shows that Jesse didn’t easily get to where he got, it shows that he had dreams and he worked hard and he never gave up on himself or all of the other people in his life.
Bibliography


http://www.biography.com/people/jesse-owens-9431142#related-video-gallery