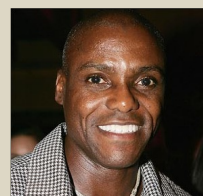




Carl Lewis ...at a glance



Track & Field

Career Highlights

9-time Olympic Gold Medalist
8-time World Champion
IOC 'Sportsman of the Century'
Sports Illustrated: "Olympian of the Century"

Community Involvement

UNICEF
Carl Lewis Foundation
Best Buddies
Wendy Marx Foundation

Personal Quotes

"By carrying the torch, you will be bridging cultural and social barriers, and all the boundaries that separate nation from nation."

"Every child that does something positive and uplifting inspires every other child."

"The trials on the road to world harmony are no greater than the courage of those who accept the challenge."

"Scientists have proven that it's impossible to long-jump 30 feet, but I don't listen to that kind of talk. Thoughts like that have a way of sinking into your feet."

Vital Statistics

Born: July 1, 1961
Hometown: Birmingham, Alabama
Resides: Los Angeles, California
Height: 6' 2
Education: University of Houston



getting to know... Carl Lewis

Biography

Leaping into the Record Books

"Lewis beat age, gravity, history, logic and the world at a rocking Olympic Stadium in Atlanta to win the Olympic gold medal in the long jump. It was quite possibly his most impossible moment in an impossibly brilliant career." - Rick Reilly, *Sports Illustrated*

Born in Birmingham, Alabama he was introduced to both track and field and the importance of heritage by his parents, both of whom grew up in the civil rights movement. Lewis matched one of his childhood heroes Jesse Owens, when he won four gold medals at his first Olympics in 1984. Lewis regularly speaks on his cultural experiences and the impact it had on his life and athletic career.

9-time Olympic gold medalist Carl Lewis never shies away from a challenge. With his professional athletic career behind him, the track and field legend has now championed a role in the community as an advocate for health and wellness, youth activity and education. His accomplishments earned him the title of "Sportsman of the Century" by the International Olympic Committee and "Olympian of the Century" by Sports Illustrated.

A five time-Olympian, more than any male in history, Lewis success in multiple events was unparalleled. Never has anyone better exemplified the Olympic motto of 'stronger, faster, higher'. A bird in the air and a cheetah on the ground, Lewis would win both the 100-meter sprint and the long jump at the 1984 and 1988 Olympic Games. Lewis was the first ever athlete to win back-to-back 100- meter titles. He would hold the reigns as the world's fastest man for eight years, but he was the world's longest jumper for 16, winning the Olympic gold in the long jump at four consecutive Olympic Games, with the first and last happening on American soil. One of only three athletes to ever win the same event at four consecutive Olympics, Lewis was dominant from Los Angeles to Atlanta. Over a span of 10 years, he won 65 consecutive long-jump events.

Beyond his heritage, Lewis is renowned as a motivational speaker, sharing his Olympic glory and the dedication and commitment it took to become one of the greatest athletes of his generation. His presentation incorporates the importance of a healthy and active lifestyle, particularly in youths.

Since his retirement from active competition in 1997, Carl Lewis has devoted a great deal of his time and energy to charity, founding "The Carl Lewis Foundation," which serves as an umbrella for the many charities that Lewis supports including the "Best Buddies" organization, The Wendy Marx Foundation (for organ donor awareness) and many youth fitness groups. He also established his entertainment business, the Carl Lewis Entertainment Group, which focuses on his acting career, film production, and Carl Lewis Athletics.