5-29-1984

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News Release

UNIVERSITY OF DAYTON COORDINATES 1984 ARCO JESSE OWENS GAMES IN DAYTON

DAYTON, Ohio, May 29, 1984 -- The University of Dayton will coordinate the Dayton 1984 ARCO (Atlantic Richfield Company) Jesse Owens Games on June 28 at 10 a.m. at Welcome Stadium. Funded by the Atlantic Richfield Company, the ARCO Jesse Owens Games are part of a nationwide track and field program for the beginning level athlete. This year marks the games' twentieth anniversary.

More than 400 children from the community will compete for places on the team that will advance to the Louisville, Kentucky, regional championship on July 14. Those children who advance to Louisville will be sponsored by Airtron, Inc., a subsidiary of the Atlantic Richfield Company. Regional winners will advance to a national competition sponsored by the Atlantic Richfield Company, in San Diego, California. These competitors will also spend a day in Los Angeles at the Summer Olympics.

Donald Morefield, project administrator, and Keith Cosby, acting director for the National Youth Sports Program at UD, will coordinate the track and field events that will include the 50, 100, 200, and 400-meter races, as well as the running high jump and running long jump.

First, second, and third place winners in each of 28 events will be presented with Olympic-style medallions by 1960 gold medal winner Lucinda Adams, supervisor of the Health Physical Education Program for the Dayton Public Schools.

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300 College Park  Dayton, Ohio  45469-0001  (513) 229-3241
At each level of competition, participants will compete in one event of their choice against someone of the same sex and in the same age category.

Girls and boys born in the years 1969 through 1974 are eligible to participate in the June 28 competition at Dayton's Welcome Stadium. However, children who have participated in a national track and field meet or who have placed first, second, or third in a state level or age group competition prior to January 1, 1984, may not compete.

In order to compete in the ARCO Jesse Owens Games, eligible children must participate in a pre-competition clinic on June 26 at 10 a.m. at Welcome Stadium. Also conducted by UD, the clinic is designed to teach basic track and field techniques to better prepare participants for the June 28 competition. Registration for the June 28 competition will take place at the clinic.

Founded by 1936 Olympic gold medal winner Jesse Owens, the games are conducted every spring in 13 different regions throughout the country. They are nationally recognized by the Olympic Organizing Committee and its Youth Advisory Commission.

For more information, contact UD's Youth Sports Office at 229-2646.