

# PRESIDENTIAL ACTIVITIES

## In Berlin

It was for a trip back into the past and forward into the future that the West Berlin Municipal Council welcomed H.E. Mr. Juan Antonio Samaranch, on the occasion of the "Three Olympic Days". The President inaugurated the "Jesse Owens Avenue" in honour of the marvellous black American athlete, quadruple gold medallist at the Games of the XIth Olympiad in Berlin. The eight hundred metres long drive which now bears his name leads up to the 80 000 capacity stadium, built in 1936, in which he won these medals.



*Jesse Owens*

The ceremony took place in the presence of the widow and the three daughters of the American champion who died in 1980 at the age of 66, of Mr. Willi Daume, IOC member and President of the NOC of the Federal Republic of Germany, and of Mr. Dieppen, city mayor.

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Many athletes attended the inauguration, including former American sprint star Wilma Rudolph, nicknamed the "black gazelle", who won three gold medals at the Games of the XVIIth Olympiad, and Edwin Moses, the American 400 m hurdles world record holder. The International Amateur Athletics Federation, which awards the Jesse Owens trophy each year, was represented by its President, Mr. Primo Nebiolo.

In his address, Mr. Samaranch expressed the opinion that *Owens was a true adept of the Olympic ideal.*

The future was personified by the Federal Republic of Germany's Olympic team which was meeting for a seminar in view of next summer's Olympic Games.

President Samaranch then stopped over in the German Democratic Republic capital city before flying to Hungary. With the members of the GDR NOC, he was able to discuss the organisation conditions for the 89th IOC Session, which will take place in June 1985 in East Berlin.