Why Were Two Jewish Athletes Pulled from America’s Relay Team in the 1936 Berlin Olympics?

“Nazi Games” Author to Lead Interactive Discussion

CINCINNATI, OH:--- Marty Glickman and Sam Stoller, a native Cincinnatian, were the only two Jews on the 1936 Olympic American track and field team who were in Berlin for the games. They were scheduled to run in the 4 x 100 meter relay event on the next to the last day of the international competition. But their coach, Dean Cromwell, announced in a team meeting that Stoller would be replaced by Frank Metcalfe and Glickman by Jesse Owens. Was this just about putting better athletes in the race? Could it have been an act of anti-Semitism on the part of America’s Olympic Committee? Or was it because Cromwell and Avery Brundage, president of the U.S. Olympic Committee, did not want to offend their Nazi German hosts? What other possibilities for their removal from the race might be considered?

These questions will be the focus of an interactive video lecture and discussion featuring author and Montana State University History Professor David Clay Large on Wednesday, December 7, 2011 at The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, located on the Cincinnati campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion at 3101 Clifton Avenue, 45220. A special exhibit, “Nazi Olympics 1936” will open at the 4:30 p.m. reception, and will be on display for a limited time. The lecture and discussion will follow at 5:30 p.m.

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David Clay Large is a specialist in modern German history. He is the author of *Where Ghosts Walked, Germans to the Front, Between Two Fires, Nazi Games, Munich 1972 and Berlin*.

The event—to be held in the electronic classroom of the Jewish Foundation of Cincinnati International Learning Center—is free and open to the public, but because of limited space, reservations are required. They can be made by calling Stacey Roper at 513.487.3000.

For more information, please contact Joyce Kamen at 513.543.8109/joyce@kamencreative.com.

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The Jacob Rader Marcus Center of the American Jewish Archives, founded in 1947 by its namesake on the Cincinnati, Ohio, campus of Hebrew Union College-Jewish Institute of Religion, is committed to preserving a documentary heritage of the religious, organizational, economic, cultural, personal, social and family life of American Jewry. The Marcus Center contains over 15,000 linear feet of archives, manuscripts, nearprint materials, photographs, audio and videotapes, microfilm, and genealogical materials.