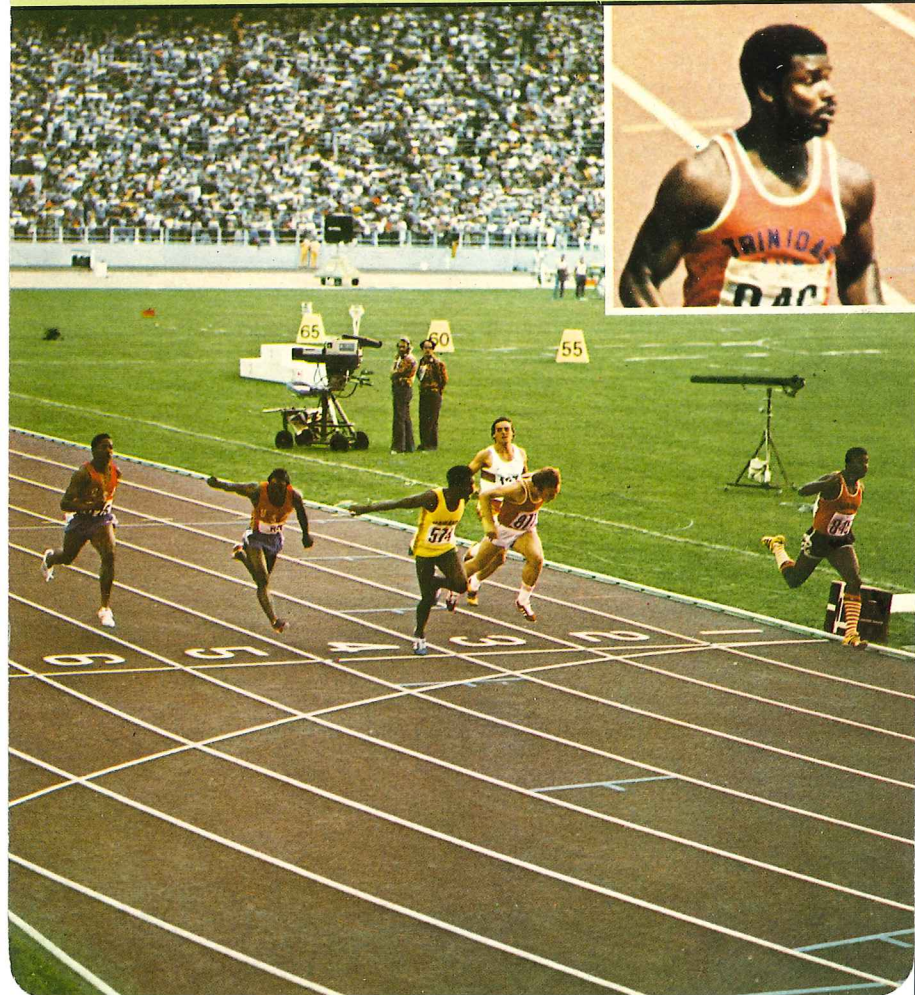
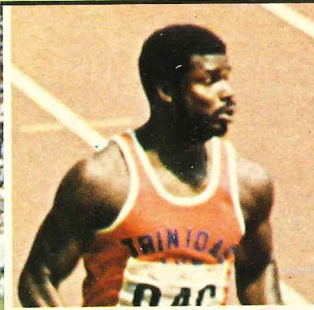


Track and Field



Hasely Crawford



Track and Field



Hasely Crawford

Super Sprinter

Hasely Crawford, from Trinidad won the 100 m at the OG in Montreal on 25 July 1976. Less than three months later, he made known his decision to abandon the track, the reason being ill health. Crawford was suffering from inflammation (of microbic origin) of the joints, preventing normal use of his fingers. Appropriate medical treatment, however, was successful, and the athlete came again in 1977, but did not succeed in upholding his title of best sprinter in the world. So, in the World Cup competition in Düsseldorf, in the 4 x 100 m relay, he was a member of the selection of the Americas, a team which finished third.

Despite his medical problem, Crawford was the first athlete from Trinidad ever to win an Olympic gold medal in track and field. Crawford had tried for that distinction four years earlier. But although he made it to the 100 m finals in Munich 1972, he failed to bring home a medal of any kind. Crawford had been a complete unknown at the 1972 Games. But even though he suffered a torn ligament after the first 15 meters, he

still managed to come in with a time of 10.18 seconds.

Montreal 1976 was an entirely different story, however. Timed at an even 10 seconds in training, this time Crawford had to be considered a favorite. He won all the qualifying heats, improving his time with every run: 10.42 in the first trial; 10.29 in the second; 10.22 in the semi-finals; and 10.06 in the finals.

A powerfully built (6' 1½", 191 lbs) sprinter, Hasely Crawford could also have tried for a medal in the 200 m at Montreal, but another pulled muscle prevented him from making the attempt.

HASELY CRAWFORD

Born Aug. 16, 1950, in San Fernando, TRI
Has ten brothers and sisters

AWARDS AND RECORDS

1976 OG: gold medal in the 100 m
1970: 3rd in the 100 m in the Commonwealth Games in Edinburgh
1975: 2nd in the 100 m in the Pan-American Games in Mexico City
Collegiate champion in USA in the 100 m

His times in the 100 m:

1972: 10.18 secs; 1973: 10.10; 1974: 10 (favorable winds); 1975: 10.21; 1976: 10.06

The finish line in Montreal—1st H. Crawford (846), 2nd D. Quarrie (574), 3rd V. Borzov (872)