



INSIDE THE VAULT

Baseball during World War II
with Dr. Michael Neiberg

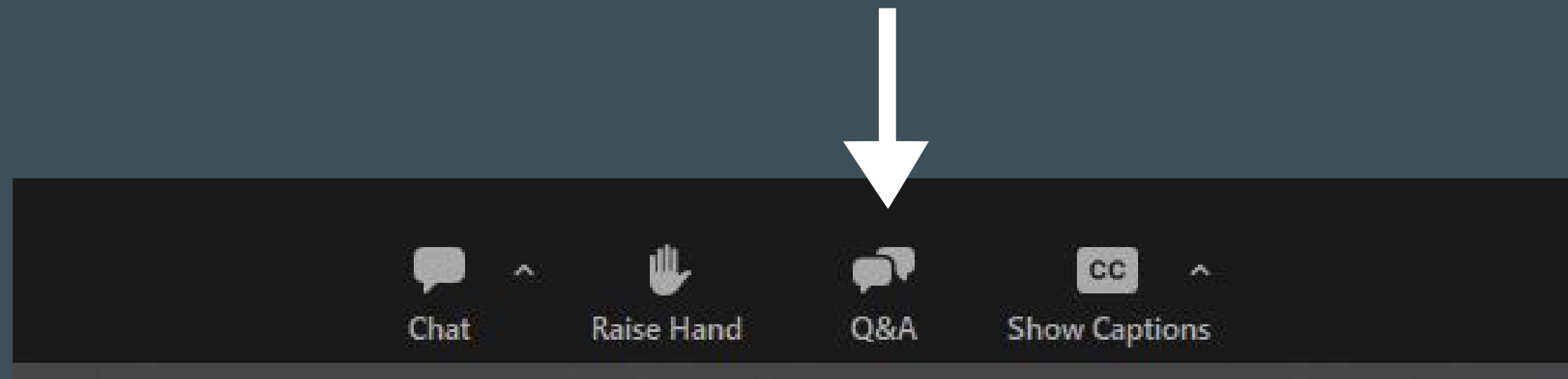
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 5, 2024

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THE
GILDER LEHRMAN
INSTITUTE
of
AMERICAN HISTORY

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How to Participate



- If you would like to ask a question, you can use the Q&A feature.
- We will be answering audience questions throughout the session.
- The views expressed here are those of the historian.

For Security and Privacy

- Your microphone is automatically muted.
- Your camera is automatically turned off.

Today's Documents



BASEBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

ARMY—0

vs.

NAVY—5

**DiMaggio, Beazley, Rizzuto, McCoskey
And Other Major League Stars To Play
In Biggest Baseball Classic Of The Year**

FURLONG FIELD, CHA3 ★ FRIDAY, SEPT. 22, 1944

TEAM ROSTERS

Navy

Number • Name • Position • Former Association
32 Johnny Mize, infielder, *St. Louis Cardinals*
29 Eddie Shokes, infielder, *Syracuse*
2 Phil Rizzuto, infielder, *New York Yankees*
17 Al Brancato, infielder, *Philadelphia Athletics*
21 Sol Recca, infielder, *Norfolk Tars*
5 John Lucadello, infielder, *St. Louis Browns*
34 Pee Wee Reese, infielder, *Brooklyn Dodgers*
4 Tom Bishop, infielder, *Semi-Pro*
20 John Jeandron, infielder, *Eastern League*
11 Dom DiMaggio, outfielder, *Boston Red Sox*
13 Moe Mozzalli, outfielder, *Louisville*
3 Barney McCosky, outfielder, *Detroit Tigers*
28 Joe Grace, outfielder, *St. Louis Browns*
9 John Berry, outfielder, *University of Oregon*
16 Jim Carlin, outfielder, *Philadelphia Phillies*
31 Gordon Evans, outfielder, *Charleston*
18 Marv Felderman, catcher, *Chicago Cubs*
1 Vince Smith, catcher, *Pittsburgh Pirates*
14 Ken Sears, catcher, *New York Yankees*
10 Norman Atkinson, catcher, *Semi-Pro*
15 George Dickey, catcher, *Chicago White Sox*
26 Arne Anderson, pitcher, *Washington Senators*
23 Rankin Johnson, pitcher, *Phil. Athletics*
24 Bob Harris, pitcher, *Philadelphia Athletics*
26 "School Boy" Rowe, pitcher, *Detroit Tigers*
25 Walt Masterson, pitcher, *Washington Senators*
30 Vern Olsen, pitcher, *Chicago Cubs*
19 Oscar Sessions, pitcher, *Navy*
Hank Feimster, pitcher, *Boston Red Sox*
29 Jack Hallet, pitcher, *Pittsburgh Pirates*
27 John Vandermeer, pitcher, *Cincinnati Reds*
12 Jim Adair, pitcher, *Semi-Pro*
27 Hugh Casey, pitcher, *Brooklyn Dodgers*
22 Virgil Trucks, pitcher, *Detroit Tigers*
31 Tom Ferrick, pitcher, *Cleveland Indians*
28 Bill Dickey, manager, *New York Yankees*
30 Wes Schulmerich, asst. mgr., *Boston Red Sox*
6 David Leibold, batboy

Army

Number • Name • Position • Former Association
10 James Ashworth, catcher, *Eldorado, Arkansas*
9 Bill Leonard, catcher, *Oakland*
8 Charley Silvera, catcher, *Kansas City*
15 Sid Gutreaux, catcher, *Brooklyn Dodgers*
1 Bob Dillinger, infielder, *Toledo, Ohio*
22 Cornel Kohlmeyer, infielder, *Tyler, Texas*
2 Dario Lodigiani, infielder, *Chicago White Sox*
6 Joe Gordon, infielder, *New York Yankees*
7 Ferris Fain, infielder, *San Francisco Seals*
12 Don Lang, infielder, *Kansas City*
3 Walt Judnich, outfielder, *St. Louis Browns*
4 Joe DiMaggio, outfielder, *New York Yankees*
5 Mike McCormick, outfielder, *Cincinnati Reds*
11 Hank Edwards, outfielder, *Cleveland Indians*
16 Johnny Beazley, pitcher, *St. Louis Cardinals*
19 Eddie Erautt, pitcher, *Hollywood*
25 Al Lien, pitcher, *San Francisco Seals*
27 Carl DeRose, pitcher, *Amsterdam*
18 Eddie Funk, pitcher, *Federalsburg, N. Y.*
21 Don Schmidt, pitcher, *Semi-Pro*
24 Bill Schmidt, pitcher, *Sacramento*
13 "Rugger" Ardizoia, pitcher, *Kansas City*
23 Dick Molberg, pitcher, *Semi-Pro*
28 Hal Hairston, pitcher, *Homestead Grays*
30 Lt. Col. Joe Clarke, coach, *Semi-Pro*
29 Staff Sgt. John Shumbres, coach, *Semi-Pro*
20 Lt. J. T. Winsett, manager, *Brooklyn Dodgers*
Vincent Genegrasso, trainer, *Semi-Pro*

UMPIRES

LT. BOB AUSTIN, Supervising Umpire (*Navy*)
CHARLES SCHARTOW (*Marine*)

BILL SMIGELSKI (*Army*)
CHIEF C. B. SEYBOLD (*Navy*)

SGT. S. MORSE (*Army*)

Army vs. Navy Servicemen's World Series Roster, September 22, 1944.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC09620.350)

Dr. Michael Neiberg



Michael S. Neiberg is a professor of history and chair of war studies at the United States Army War College in Carlisle, Pennsylvania. His published work focuses on the First and Second World Wars in global context. The *Wall Street Journal* named his *Dance of the Furies: Europe and the Outbreak of World War I* (Harvard University Press, 2011) one of the five best books ever written about that war. His latest book is *When France Fell: The Vichy Crisis and the Fate of the Anglo-American Alliance* (Harvard University Press, 2021). In 2017 he was awarded the Médaille d'Or du Rayonnement Culturel from La Renaissance Française, an organization founded by French President Raymond Poincaré in 1915 to keep French culture alive during the First World War.

Roosevelt's Green Light Letter



FDR tossing the first ball at the official opening of the baseball season, April 17, 1935.
(United States Army Heritage and Education Center)



FDR receiving the baseball at the official opening of the baseball season, April 17, 1935.
(United States Army Heritage and Education Center)

Baseball in the Philippines



Soldiers playing baseball by the Church of San Simon, Pampanga, Philippines, ca. 1942–1945.
(United States Army Heritage and Education Center)

19th-Century Soldiers' Baseball Team



19th-century soldiers' baseball team, n.d.
(United States Army Heritage and Education Center)

Army-Navy Servicemen's World Series 1944



Army Air Force Sergeant Joe DiMaggio and Navy Chief Specialist Harold "Pee Wee" Reese with commanding officers, July 7, 1944.

(National Archives)

Bonds and Baseball



“Catch on to a Good Idea” - Yogi Berra promoting the purchase of U.S. savings bonds, ca. 1951.
(National Archives)

Carl Moore's Baseball Wedding



Married amid Baseball Bats, ca. 1942–1943.
(United States Army Heritage and Education
Center)

Sergeant Listening to an MLB Game



Sgt. Charley Hensley of the 4006th ASU,
August 9, 1948.
(United States Army Heritage and Education
Center)

Australia Takes 2 of 3 in Allied League



W. Woolfe of NSW Team, October 8, 1944.
(United States Army Heritage and Education
Center)

Navy All-Stars v. Army All-Stars



Dominic P. Di Maggio and Benny McCoy,
November 5, 1944.
(United States Army Heritage and Education
Center)

Members of Army All-Stars Team



Members of the Army All-Stars baseball team, October 23, 1945.
(United States Army Heritage and Education Center)

Air Corps in Fort Randolph, TX



A baseball team in the Air Corps at Fort Randolph, TX, ca. 1942–1945.
(United States Army Heritage and Education Center)

Negro Leagues



Satchel Paige and Josh Gibson at the 1942 Negro League World Series, 1942.
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC10108)

Jackie Robinson

ROOKIE of the YEAR

JACKIE ROBINSON FIRST NEGRO PLAYER IN THE MAJOR LEAGUES IS BASEBALL'S ROOKIE SENSATION AND THE BROOKLYN DODGERS' STAR FIRST BASEMAN.

AS A STUDENT AT THE UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA AT LOS ANGELES, HE WAS A FOUR-LETTER MAN - A STAR ATHLETE IN BASEBALL, BASKETBALL, TRACK AND FOOTBALL.

THERE GOES JACKIE AGAIN! EVERYTIME HE GET'S THE BALL IT'S A TEN-YARD GAIN!

ROBINSON LEFT UCLA IN HIS JUNIOR YEAR. LATER HE JOINED THE LOS ANGELES BULLDOGS, A PROFESSIONAL FOOTBALL TEAM. HE HAD JUST LEFT HAWAII AFTER A GAME ON DEC. 7, 1941 WHEN...

REPEAT BULLETIN - PEARL HARBOR HAS JUST BEEN BOMBED BY THE JAPANESE - WE JUST MISSED BEING BOMBED - HEAR THAT?

WITHIN A YEAR JACKIE WAS DRAFTED. IN NOVEMBER, 1942 HE WAS COMMISSIONED AN OFFICER AND SOON AFTER...

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS - AN OVERSEAS ASSIGNMENT.

AFTER HIS DISCHARGE EARLY IN 1945, JACKIE COACHED BASKETBALL FOR A LITTLE WHILE. BUT BASEBALL WAS HIS GAME. AT KANSAS CITY...

THEN YOU'LL SIGN AT FOUR HUNDRED A MONTH TO PLAY SHORTSTOP FOR THE MONARCHS? OKAY, SIR.

GREAT CATCH, JACKIE!

IN AN EXHIBITION GAME AGAINST ACE PITCHER BOB FELLER'S ALL STARS...

SAY - THAT'S ROBINSON'S SECOND HIT OFF FELLER!

I TELL YOU - THAT GUY IS A BIG LEAGUER.

IN 100 GAMES OF THE 1945 SEASON WITH THE MONARCHS, SHORTSTOP ROBINSON BATTED THE HIGH MARK OF .340.

MEANWHILE BIG LEAGUE SCOUTS WERE WATCHING ROBINSON CLOSELY. FINALLY BRANCH RICKEY OF THE BROOKLYN DODGERS OFFERED ROBINSON A CONTRACT TO PLAY WITH THE DODGER FARM TEAM, THE MONTREAL ROYALS. ON OCTOBER 23, 1945...

...JACKIE SIGNED TO PLAY AT \$600 A MONTH FOR THE 1946 SEASON.

WITH THE ROYALS, HE PLAYED SECOND BASE.

HE'S AS GOOD AT SECOND AS HE WAS AT SHORTSTOP

JACKIE WAS PLAYING AND HITTING LIKE A STAR. AT THE SPORTS DESK OF MONTREAL NEWSPAPERS...

I SEE THAT THE SPORTS WRITERS ARE CALLING ROBINSON THE NEW BABE RUTH!

AND AT THE END OF THE 1946 SEASON, ROBINSON WAS THE INTERNATIONAL LEAGUE'S STAR PLAYER. DURING THE LITTLE WORLD SERIES JACKIE WAS THE HERO OF MONTREAL'S CHAMPIONSHIP TEAM. WHAT WOULD THE '47 SEASON BRING?

THIS second issue of NEGRO HEROES, like the first, comes to you full of honest-to-goodness true stories of Negro Americans who are real Champs. They are fighters! They are folks who kayoed everything that tried to stop them, and stood up winners. There's never been anything like NEGRO HEROES! If you want additional copies for your friends, see reverse side.

“Rookie of the Year Jackie Robinson,” *Negro Heroes* #2 (1948), pp. 30–32.

(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC09639.02)

All-American Girls Professional Ball League



ALL-AMERICAN GIRLS PROFESSIONAL BALL LEAGUE—1944

RACINE BELLES

Manager: JOHNNY GOTTSELIG

Chaperone: VIRGINIA CARRIGG

Name	Bats	Thr.	Ht.	Wt.	Date and Place of Birth	Residence
PITCHERS:						
Mary Nesbitt Crews	L	L	5'8"	158	2- 1-1925 Greenville, S. C.	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Jane Jacobs	R	R	5'4 ½"	130	6-16-1924 Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio	Cuyahoga Falls, Ohio
Joanne Winter	R	R	5'7 ¾"	138	11-24-1924 Maywood, Ill.	Phoenix, Ariz.
CATCHERS:						
Irene Hickson	R	R	5'2"	116	8-14-1921 Chattanooga, Tenn.	Chattanooga, Tenn.
Anna May Hutchison	R	R	5'7"	149	5- 1-1925 Louisville, Ky.	Louisville, Ky.
Ruby Knezovich	R	R	5'2"	130	3-18-1918 Hamilton, Ont., Can.	Regina, Sask., Can.
INFIELDERS:						
Clara Chiano	R	R	5'	108	9-19-1921 Pennsylvania	Dorchester, Mass.
Margaret Danhauser	R	R	5'7"	140	6- 9-1921 Racine, Wis.	Racine, Wis.
Julianna Dusanko	R	R	5'5 ½"	126	2-22-1922 Leross, Sask., Can.	Regina, Sask., Can.
Madeline English	R	R	5'4"	130	2-22-1925 Everett, Mass.	Everett, Mass.
Sophie Kurys	R	R	5'5"	120	5-14-1925 Flint, Mich.	Flint, Mich.
Charlotte, Smith	R	R	5'5 ½"	130	8-22-1921 Chattanooga, Tenn.	Cincinnati, Ohio
OUTFIELDERS:						
Eleanor Dapkus	R	R	5'7"	160	12- 5-1923 Chicago, Ill.	Chicago, Ill.
Edythe Perlick	R	R	5'3 ¼"	138	12-12-1922 Chicago, Ill.	Chicago, Ill.
Clara Schillace	R	L	5'3"	128	3-29-1922 Melrose Park, Ill.	Melrose Park, Ill.

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The Roster for the Racine Belles, 1944.
(The Gilder Lehrman Institute, GLC10170)

All-American Girls Professional Ball League



All-American Girls Professional Baseball League Player Marg Callaghan, April 22, 1948.

(State Library and Archives of Florida)

All-American Girls Professional Ball League



The Rockford Peaches, All American Girls Professional Baseball League champions, 1945.

(The Library of Congress)

Upcoming Free Programs

INSIDE THE VAULT: October 3 at 7 p.m. ET (11 a.m. PT)

- We will discuss the Salem Witchcraft Trials with Karin Wulf, Professor of History at Brown University.

BOOK BREAKS: September 8 at 2 p.m. ET (11 a.m. PT)

- Jon Grinspan will discuss his book *Wide Awake: The Forgotten Force That Elected Lincoln and Spurred the Civil War*.