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Audisee® eBooks with Audio combine professional narration and sentence highlighting to engage reluctant readers! In an era of discrimination, Jack Roosevelt "Jackie" Robinson broke Major League Baseball's race barrier. Before Robinson took his place at first base, the majors discriminated against African-American athletes, denying them a chance to compete. Despite facing harassment from fans and other players, Robinson stayed focused on the game, becoming the MLB Rookie of the Year in 1947 and later a baseball legend. This graphic biography follows Robinson's time on semi-pro teams, his days in the US military, and his history-making experience with the Brooklyn Dodgers. A brief biography of Jackie Robinson, the man who was the first African American baseball player on a major league team, as well as the first African American elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. Discover the life of Jackie Robinson--a story about breaking down barriers for kids ages 6 to 9 Jackie Robinson was the first Black Major League Baseball player and an important civil rights leader. Before he made history as a pioneer in sports, Jackie was a hardworking kid who loved to play all kinds of ball games. When Jackie was growing up, Black and white sports players in the United States were not treated the same way. Jackie used his amazing baseball talent to help bring all players together and work toward ending the unfair treatment of Black players. Explore how Jackie went from being a thoughtful young boy growing up in California to an American role model and activist. The Story of Jackie Robinson includes: Core curriculum--Learn the Who, What, Where, When, Why, and How of Jackie's life, and take a quick quiz to test your knowledge. His legacy--Explore how Jackie Robinson made the world a better place for future generations, including you! Simple definitions--Find easy-to-understand definitions for some of the more advanced words and ideas in the book. How will Jackie's hard work and dedication inspire you? Takes an in-depth look at the first African-American to play Major League baseball, at his road to the majors and his Hall of Fame career, focusing on the color barrier that existed for him, and exposing a number of myths concerning Robinson's relationship with Branch Rickey. A Fresh Look at an Inspiring Historical Figure Jackie Robinson in Quotes tells the life story of arguably the most important baseball player in history with over 400 pages of quotations by and about him. Featured are quotes by Robinson, his widow Rachel Robinson, other family members, friends, teammates, coaches, members of the media, and many more. Danny Peary has skillfully curated the best quotes to shed new light on the man behind number 42, who famously became the first black Major League Baseball player in 1947. The quotes speak for themselves, following Robinson through his childhood to his days as a young multi-talented athlete; his famous first meeting with Branch Rickey and signing with the Dodgers; then his exciting Hall-of-Fame career playing for the Brooklyn Dodgers. Read in his own words how he had to face racism and abuse with stoic silence; and how later

the true Robinson emerged—a ballplayer and political activist who refused to stay silent, and who for his whole life remained unswerving in his expectation that all Americans be treated equally, no matter their color. Jackie Robinson in *Quotes* is a behind-the-headlines narrative about the making and life of a hero. It gives a first-hand account of Jackie Robinson's baseball stardom, his friendships and rivalries, the people he loved and who loved him, the issues that troubled him, and how he took on all challenges to change the face of America's favorite pastime, the country itself, and, thus, history forever. Offers a history of African American exclusion from baseball, and assesses the changing racial attitudes that led up to Jackie Robinson's acceptance by the Brooklyn Dodgers. Autobiography of baseball legend Jackie Robinson, beginning with his athletic career and dealing particularly with baseball and the first step toward equal participation by African Americans in this great sport. "I believe that a man's race, color, and religion should never constitute a handicap. The denial to anyone, anywhere, any time of equality of opportunity to work is incomprehensible to me. Moreover, I believe that the American public is not as concerned with a first baseman's pigmentation as it is with the power of his swing, the dexterity of his slide, the gracefulness of his fielding, or the speed of his legs."—From Foreword by Branch Hickey

The extraordinary life of Jackie Robinson is illuminated as never before in this full-scale biography by Arnold Rampersad, who was chosen by Jack's widow, Rachel, to tell her husband's story, and was given unprecedented access to his private papers. We are brought closer than we have ever been to the great ballplayer, a man of courage and quality who became a pivotal figure in the areas of race and civil rights. Born in the rural South, the son of a sharecropper, Robinson was reared in southern California. We see him blossom there as a student-athlete as he struggled against poverty and racism to uphold the beliefs instilled in him by his mother—faith in family, education, America, and God. We follow Robinson through World War II, when, in the first wave of racial integration in the armed forces, he was commissioned as an officer, then court-martialed after refusing to move to the back of a bus. After he plays in the Negro National League, we watch the opening of an all-American drama as, late in 1945, Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers recognized Jack as the right player to break baseball's color barrier—and the game was forever changed. Jack's never-before-published letters open up his relationship with his family, especially his wife, Rachel, whom he married just as his perilous venture of integrating baseball began. Her memories are a major resource of the narrative as we learn about the severe harassment Robinson endured from teammates and opponents alike; about death threats and exclusion; about joy and remarkable success. We watch his courageous response to abuse, first as a stoic endurer, then as a fighter who epitomized courage and defiance. We see his growing friendship with white players like Pee Wee Reese and the black teammates who followed in his footsteps, and his embrace by Brooklyn's fans. We follow his blazing career: 1947, Rookie of the Year; 1949, Most Valuable Player; six pennants in ten seasons, and 1962, induction into the Hall of Fame. But sports were merely one aspect of his life. We see his business ventures, his leading role in the community, his early support of Martin Luther King Jr., his commitment to the civil rights movement at a crucial stage in its evolution; his controversial associations with Eisenhower, Kennedy, Nixon, Humphrey, Goldwater, Nelson Rockefeller, and Malcolm X. Rampersad's magnificent biography leaves us with an indelible image of a principled man who was passionate in his loyalties and opinions: a baseball player who could focus a crowd's attention as no one before or since; an activist at the crossroads of his people's struggle; a dedicated family man whose last years were plagued by illness and tragedy, and who died prematurely at fifty-two. He was a pathfinder, an American hero, and he now has the biography he deserves. An introduction to the personal life and baseball career of the legendary player, Jackie Robinson. Shows how Jackie Robinson's superior athletic skills, coupled with his dignity and perseverance, helped to break the color barrier in professional sports. A brief biography of the man who was the first African American baseball player on a major league team, as well as the first African American elected to the Baseball Hall of Fame. The bestselling autobiography of American baseball and civil rights legend Jackie Robinson *Before Barry Bonds*, before Reggie Jackson, before Hank Aaron, baseball's stars had one undeniable trait in common: they were all white. In 1947, Jackie Robinson broke that barrier, striking a crucial blow for racial equality and changing the world of sports forever. *I Never Had It Made* is Robinson's own candid, hard-hitting account of what it took to become the first black man in history to play in the major leagues. *I Never Had It Made* recalls Robinson's early years and influences: his time at UCLA, where he became the school's first four-letter athlete; his army stint during World War II, when he challenged Jim Crow laws and narrowly escaped court martial; his years of frustration, on and off the field, with the Negro Leagues; and finally that fateful day when Branch Rickey of the Brooklyn Dodgers proposed what became known as the "Noble Experiment"—Robinson would step up to bat to integrate and revolutionize baseball. More than a baseball story, *I Never Had It Made* also reveals the highs and lows of Robinson's life after baseball. He recounts his political aspirations and civil rights activism; his friendships with Martin Luther King, Jr., Malcolm X, William Buckley, Jr., and Nelson Rockefeller; and his troubled relationship with his son, Jackie, Jr. *I Never Had It Made* endures as an inspiring story of a man whose heroism extended well beyond the playing field. Jackie Robinson is one of the most revered public figures of the twentieth century. He is remembered for both his athletic prowess and his strong personal character. The world knows him as the man who crossed baseball's color line, but there is much more to his legacy. At the conclusion of his baseball career, Robinson continued in his pursuit of social progress through his work as a writer. *Beyond Home Plate*, an anthology of Jackie Robinson's columns in the *New York Post* and the *New York Amsterdam News*, offers fresh insight into the Hall of Famer's life and work following his historic years on the baseball diamond. Robinson's syndicated newspaper columns afforded him the opportunity to provide rich social commentary while simultaneously exploring his own life and experiences. He was free to write about any subject of his choosing, and he took full advantage of this license, speaking his mind about everything from playing Santa to confronting racism in the Red Sox nation, from loving his wife Rachel to despising Barry Goldwater, from complaining about Cassius Clay's verbosity to teaching Little Leaguers how to lose well. Robinson wrote to prod and provoke, inflame and infuriate, and sway and persuade. With their pointed opinions, his columns reveal that the mature Robinson was a truly American prophet, a civil rights leader in his own right, furious with racial injustice and committed to securing first class citizenship for all. These fascinating columns also depict Robinson as an indebted son, a devoted husband, a tenderhearted father, and a hardworking community leader. Robinson believed that his life after his baseball career was far more important than all of his baseball exploits. *Beyond Home Plate* shows why he believed this so fervently. Barriers have existed to deny people the chance to compete athletically based on their race, ethnic background, or sex. Some athletes, through their courage and class, have broken down the barriers that have afflicted our society, and sometimes affected greater social change. Jackie Robinson fought racism in the army before integrating baseball when it was our national pastime. He endured and excelled through a tumultuous 1947 season and opened the doors to other African-American players at a time when the fight for civil rights was beginning in earnest. Explores Jackie Robinson's compelling and complicated legacy Before the United States Supreme Court ruled against segregation in public schools, and before Rosa Parks refused to surrender her bus seat in Montgomery, Alabama, Jackie Robinson walked onto the diamond on April 15, 1947, as first baseman for the Brooklyn Dodgers, making history as the first African American to integrate Major League Baseball in the twentieth century. Today a national icon, Robinson was a complicated man who navigated an even more complicated world that both celebrated and despised him. Many are familiar with Robinson as a baseball hero. Few, however, know of the inner turmoil that came with his historic status. Featuring piercing essays from a range of distinguished sportswriters, cultural critics, and scholars, this book explores Robinson's perspectives and legacies on civil rights, sports, faith, youth, and nonviolence, while providing rare glimpses into the struggles and strength of one of the nation's most athletically gifted and politically significant citizens. Featuring a foreword by celebrated directors and producers Ken Burns, Sarah Burns, and David McMahon, this volume recasts Jackie Robinson's legacy and establishes how he set a precedent for future civil rights activism, from Black Lives Matter to Colin Kaepernick. For major league baseball, the decade following Jackie Robinson's 1947 debut was one of slow yet persistent change. Four other black players made their first, brief big-league appearances that year, followed by only two in 1948 and four in 1949. But by the end of 1959, 122 black ballplayers had made it to the big leagues. Like Robinson, their lives were made difficult off the field, and on it they dodged beanballs and spikes. This book brings attention to the accomplishments of this transitional generation of African American players—made up of men like Luscious Luke Easter, Sam "The Jet" Jethroe, and Sad Sam Jones—many of whom spent years in the minors, the Negro leagues, or both before getting their shot. Chapters on each season from 1947 to 1959 incorporate biographical and career profiles for 25 players who stood out during baseball's integration. A final chapter covers the outstanding minor league players who for various reasons never got a real chance to play major league ball. Appendices include a roster of black major leaguers from 1947 through 1959, a list of black-player firsts and statistics on the year-by-year population of black players in the majors. Help your little one dream big with a Little Golden Book biography all about the trailblazing baseball player Jackie Robinson! The perfect introduction to nonfiction for preschoolers! This Little Golden Book captures the essence of Jackie Robinson for the littlest readers. Lively text and compelling artwork detail Robinson's remarkable journey from childhood, to playing for the Negro Leagues, to then becoming the first African American to play in Major League Baseball in the modern era. Little ones will be inspired by the many challenges Robinson gracefully rose to, while they learn important baseball and civil rights history. Read all the Little Golden Book biographies: *My Little Golden Book About Kamala Harris*, *My Little Golden Book About Frida Kahlo*, *My Little Golden Book About Ruth Bader Ginsburg*, *My Little Golden Book About Jackie Robinson*, *My Little Golden Book About Martin Luther King Jr.*, *My Little Golden Book About George Washington*, *My Little Golden Book About Abraham Lincoln*, *My Little Golden Book About Balto*, and *My Little Golden Book About Johnny*

Appleseed. Presents the life and accomplishments of the baseball player who became the first African American to play in the major leagues and who led the Brooklyn Dodgers to six National League pennants and one World Series championship. The story of legendary Jackie Robinson, the first African American to play major league baseball, is recounted in this title. As a kid, Jackie Robinson loved sports. And why not? He was a natural at football, basketball, and, of course, baseball. But beyond athletic skill, it was his strength of character that secured his place in sports history. In 1947 Jackie joined the Brooklyn Dodgers, breaking the long-time color barrier in major league baseball. It was tough being first- not only did "fans" send hate mail but some of his own teammates refused to accept him. Here is an inspiring sports biography, with black-and-white illustrations throughout. With these words, President Clinton contributed to Long Island University's three-day celebration of that momentous event in American history when Robinson became the first African American to play major league baseball. This new book includes presentations from that celebration, especially chosen for their fresh perspectives and illuminating insights. A heady mix of journalism, scholarship, and memory offers a presentation that far transcends the retelling of just another sports story. Readers get a true sense of the social conditions prior to Robinson's arrival in the major leagues and the ripple effect his breakthrough had on the nation. Anecdotes enliven the story and offer more than the usual "larger than life" portrait of Robinson. A melange of contributors from the sports world, academia, and journalism, some of Robinson's contemporaries, Dodger fans, and historians of the era, all sharing a passion for baseball, reflect on issues of sports, race, and the dramatic transformation of the American social and political scene in the last fifty years. In addition to the editors, the list of authors includes Peter Golenbock, one of America's preeminent sports biographers and author of *Bums: The Brooklyn Dodgers, 1947-1957*, Tom Hawkins, the first African-American to star in basketball at Notre Dame and currently Vice-President for Communications of the Los Angeles Dodgers, Bill Mardo a former writer for the *New York Daily Worker*, Roger Rosenblatt, teacher at the Southampton Campus of Long Island University, and author of numerous articles, plays, and books, Peter Williams, author of a study of sports myth, *The Sports Immortals*, and Samuel Regalado, author of *Viva Baseball!: LatinMajor Leaguers and Their Special Hunger*. *Reclaiming 42* centers on one of America's most respected cultural icons, Jackie Robinson, and the forgotten aspects of his cultural legacy. Since his retirement in 1956, and more strongly in the last twenty years, America has primarily remembered Robinson's legacy in an oversimplified way, as the pioneering first black baseball player to integrate the Major Leagues. The mainstream commemorative discourse regarding Robinson's career has been created and directed largely by Major League Baseball (MLB), which sanitized and oversimplified his legacy into narratives of racial reconciliation that celebrate his integrity, character, and courage while excluding other aspects of his life, such as his controversial political activity, his public clashes with other prominent members of the black community, and his criticism of MLB. MLB's commemoration of Robinson reflects a professional sport that is inclusive, racially and culturally tolerant, and largely postracial. Yet Robinson's identity—and therefore his memory—has been relegated to the boundaries of a baseball diamond and to the context of a sport, and it is within this oversimplified legacy that history has failed him. The dominant version of Robinson's legacy ignores his political voice during and after his baseball career and pays little attention to the repercussions that his integration had on many factions within the black community. *Reclaiming 42* illuminates how public memory of Robinson has undergone changes over the last sixty-plus years and moves his story beyond Robinson the baseball player, opening a new, broader interpretation of an otherwise seemingly convenient narrative to show how Robinson's legacy ultimately should both challenge and inspire public memory. Bring history home and meet some of the world's greatest game changers! get inspired by the true story of the player who broke the color barrier in Major League Baseball. This biography series is for kids who loved *Who Was?* and are ready for the next level. When Jackie Robinson stepped up to the plate for the Brooklyn Dodgers on April 15, 1947, everything changed. He was the first black man to play in a major-league baseball game in the twentieth century! His brave act opened the door for more black players to achieve their own big-league dreams. But how did Jackie break baseball's color barrier? Whether excelling at every sport he tried as a youngster or standing up for his civil rights as a soldier in the US Army, Jackie always focused on his goals. Find out how this boy who loved baseball became one of history's greatest trailblazers! *Trailblazers* is a biography series that celebrates the lives of amazing pioneers, past and present, from all over the world. Get inspired by more *Trailblazers*: Neil Armstrong, Jackie Robinson, Jane Goodall, Harriet Tubman, Albert Einstein, Beyoncé, and Simone Biles. What kind of trail will you blaze? The NPR Weekend Edition broadcaster recounts the 1947 integration of major league baseball, capturing the drama of Jackie Robinson's first year in baseball. "In graphic novel format, tells the life story of Jackie Robinson and his pro baseball career"--Provided by publisher. A warm, intimate portrait of Jackie Robinson, America's sports icon, told from the unique perspective of a unique insider: his only daughter. Sharon Robinson shares memories of her famous father in this warm loving biography of the man who broke the color barrier in baseball. Jackie Robinson was an outstanding athlete, a devoted family man and a dedicated civil rights activist. The author explores the fascinating circumstances surrounding Jackie Robinson's breakthrough. She also tells the off-the-field story of Robinson's hard-won victories and the inspiring effect he had on his family, his community. . . his country! Includes never-before-published letters by Jackie Robinson, as well as photos from the Robinson family archives. Recounting Jackie Robinson's story as a pioneer of civil rights, *Jackie Robinson and Race in America* explores how and why the racial integration of professional baseball profoundly affected American society and culture. "We can all be heroes" is the message entertainingly told in this *New York Times* Bestselling picture-book biography series, with this title focusing on groundbreaking baseball player, Jackie Robinson (Cover may vary) Jackie Robinson always loved sports, especially baseball. But he lived at a time before the Civil Rights Movement, when the rules weren't fair to African Americans. Even though Jackie was a great athlete, he wasn't allowed on the best teams just because of the color of his skin. Jackie knew that sports were best when everyone, of every color, played together. He became the first Black player in Major League Baseball, and his bravery changed American history and led the way to equality in all sports in America. This friendly, fun biography series inspired the PBS Kids TV show *Xavier Riddle and the Secret Museum*. One great role model at a time, these books encourage kids to dream big. Included in each book are: • A timeline of key events in the hero's history • Photos that bring the story more fully to life • Comic-book-style illustrations that are irresistibly adorable • Childhood moments that influenced the hero • Facts that make great conversation-starters • A virtue this person embodies: Jackie Robinson's bravery led him to make his mark in baseball history. You'll want to collect each book in this dynamic, informative series! A biography of the black athlete who broke the color barrier in major league baseball when he joined the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947. Introducing the latest addition to the *Who HQ* program: board book biographies of relevant and important figures, created specifically for the preschool audience! The #1 *New York Times* Bestselling *Who Was?* series expands into the board book space, bringing age-appropriate biographies of influential figures to readers ages 2-4. The chronology and themes of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s meaningful life are presented in a masterfully succinct text, with just a few sentences per page. The fresh, stylized illustrations are sure to captivate young readers and adults alike. With a read-aloud biographical summary in the back, this age-appropriate introduction honors and shares the life and work of one of the most influential civil rights activists of our time. Today many children dream of playing professional baseball. Perhaps you are one of them. If you have good athletic skills and you work hard, your dream may be realized. But this wasn't always true for athletes in the first part of this century. More was required. A player had to be white. Black players--no matter how well they could hit, catch, or throw--were not signed up by the major leagues. One brave black player named Jackie Robinson worked to change the "rules," so that all races could have the opportunity to fulfill their dreams on the baseball diamond--or anywhere. This is Jackie Robinson's story. Just in time for the major motion picture release, discover everything you wanted to know about Jackie Robinson! To tie- in with the April 2013 release of the movie *42*, the life story of Jackie Robinson, this full-color comprehensive biography will feature everything there is to know about this inspiring American hero. The movie, featuring high-profile actors such as Harrison Ford, Christopher Meloni, and T.R. Knight, explores Robinson's history-making signing with the Brooklyn Dodgers under the guidance of team executive Branch Rickey. The biography will explore what led up to Robinson's signing and what happened after. As the first black man to play major league baseball, his progress monumentally influenced the desegregation of baseball. Because of this, Robinson became an icon for not only the sport of baseball, but also for the civil -rights movement. Featuring photos throughout, this biography will be a sports tale and a history lesson. It will coincide with the movie and also provide many more Robinson details, introducing him to a new generation of readers. *Jackie Robinson: A Life in American History* provides readers with an understanding of the scope of Robinson's life and explores why no Major League baseball player will ever again wear number 42 as his regular jersey number. This book captures Robinson's lifetime, from 1919 to 1972, while focusing on his connections to the unresolved promise of the Reconstruction Era and to the civil rights movement of the 20th century. In addition to covering Robinson's athletic career with the UCLA Bruins, the Kansas City Monarchs, the Montreal Royals, and the Brooklyn Dodgers, the book explores sociopolitical elements to situate Robinson's story and impact within the broader context of United States history. The book makes deliberate connections among the failure of Reconstruction, the creation of the Negro Leagues, the rise and decline of legalized segregation in the United States, the progress of the civil rights movement, and Robinson's life. Chronological chapters begin with Robinson's life before he played professional baseball, continue with an exploration of the Negro Leagues and Robinson's career with the Brooklyn Dodgers, and conclude with an examination of Robinson's post-retirement life as well as his influence on civil rights. Supplemental materials including document excerpts give readers an opportunity to explore contemporary accounts of Robinson's career and impact. Provides readers with insight into the ways the unfulfilled promise of the Civil War

and Reconstruction eras impacted areas of life beyond politics Provides readers with an understanding of how professional baseball reflects American society and vice versa Informs readers that Major League baseball in the 19th century experienced a period of integration before entering a prolonged period of segregation Demonstrates how the effort to reintegrate the Major Leagues was tied to World War II and to efforts to promote integration in other areas of American society Shows Robinson's significance both within and outside of the world of professional baseball Most of the time sports are seen as the height of competition, but often they also bring people together in times of cultural, social, and political upheaval. Jackie Robinson explores the way the iconic and groundbreaking baseball player brought Americans together in a time of social unrest. Includes ties to 21st Century themes, as well as infographics, timelines, glossary, and index. 'How did you let a black man take your job?' This is the question I've been asked more times than I care to admit. And despite its inherent prejudice, its misunderstanding of history, its naiveté, I'm compelled to respond. My name is Ed Stevens. In baseball circles I was known as Big Ed Stevens, and I played first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1945, '46, and '47. I was the first man to be replaced by a black player in the history of Major League Baseball. This is a story about the Brooklyn Dodgers, and a secret I have kept for over fifty years. 'Ed Stevens was a good teammate and an even better friend. You will find his story very interesting. Ed found himself in a spot, and I think you will enjoy reading his account of what happened and his role in this historic transformation of baseball.' Tom Lasorda Special Advisor to the Chairman Los Angeles Dodgers Ed Stevens played first base for the Brooklyn Dodgers from 1945-1947. After that fateful '47 season, he was traded to the Pittsburgh Pirates, where he played from 1948-1950. After finishing out his career in Toronto, he served as a major league scout for twenty-nine years. Ed was later elected to the Brooklyn Dodger Hall of Fame, the International League Hall of Fame, and the Baton Rouge Louisiana Kids Clinic Hall of Fame, where he served for forty years as a baseball instructor along with Mel Ott, Dizzy Dean, Ted Williams, Stan Musial, and Mickey Mantle. Biography of the African-American ball player who broke the practice of racial exclusion in the major leagues. Situated firmly in the social and political conditions of the time, this biography illustrates the role African American baseball star Jackie Robinson played in changing not just baseball but society. By breaking the "color barrier" in the major league sport, Robinson paved the way for new opportunities for Americans everywhere. Here, readers will come to know Robinson and his legacy. They'll also learn about such fascinating characters as Branch Rickey, Pee Wee Reese, and Boston City Council member Isadore Muchnick, who threatened to deny the Red Sox a permit to play if they did not let African American ballplayers try out for the team. Plenty of baseball lore and stats will engage young baseball fans, but even readers who have little interest in baseball will be inspired by this story of a man who took on racism and changed the world. A chronicle of the 1947 baseball season during which Jackie Robinson broke the race barrier is a sixtieth anniversary tribute based on interviews with Robinson's wife, daughter, and teammates. Describes the life and accomplishments of baseball star Jackie Robinson, who became the first African American in twentieth-century major-league baseball. Illus. in full color with black-and-white photos. "Covers not only the story of Robinson's prowess and his problems as the first black man to play in the major leagues, but also the story of the rise and fall of black baseball and some of its star players and managers. Nicely geared by vocabulary, sentence length, and print size to the primary grades audience."--Bulletin, Center for Children's Books.

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- [Jackie Robinson](#)
- [Beyond Home Plate](#)
- [Jackie Robinson](#)
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- [Trailblazers Jackie Robinson](#)
- [Opening Day](#)
- [42 Today](#)
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