

OAKLAND CUSD #5

**ILLINOIS
HISTORY
APRIL 27-MAY 1, 2020**



KEVIN FLECKENSTEIN

Week of April 27-May 1, 2020

Mr. Fleckenstein

Students are expected to complete one Social Studies lesson a week for each class that they are taking. Students need to choose one of the three choices that are for the class that they are in. You may not choose an option from a class you are not currently taking. Choice 1 & 2 are review options that will not require a computer or the internet. Choice 3 is considered enrichment, which will sometimes be new information, and might require internet access. I can receive work in hard copy form (turned into the school) or I can receive assignments through my email at kevin.fleckenstein@oakland5.org If a student is turning in an assignment through email, they can turn it in as a word document or a google document. If students are answering a worksheet and turning it in online, the student does not need to copy the questions onto their document. They only need to send in their answers. Please make sure student names are on all work, so that I can figure out who has turned in assignments. Homework for each week will be available at noon each Monday. That week's homework will be due by noon the following Monday. I will be calling parents on Tuesday of each week, if I have not received an assignment from a student. We want to make sure that no student falls behind during this time. I will provide feedback on all homework assignments. If they are turned in to me through email, I will replay to the email with my feedback. If the homework assignment is physically turned into the school, I will write the feedback on the assignment and put it in the next weeks pile to be picked up. The only textbooks that should be needed are the ones that were already given out two weeks ago. If you have any questions for me, please feel free to contact me through email. My office hours will be Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday from 11-1. I will also be checking my email periodically at other times throughout the week. I miss all of the students. I hope that everyone is being safe, smart, and finding ways to keep busy!

Class	Choice 1	Choice 2	Choice 3 (Enrichment)
World Geography	Read Chapter 43 starting on page 519. Answer the questions from the following sections on page 529. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Building a Vocabulary • Recalling & Reviewing • Thinking Critically 	Using the map on page 519, make a list of all the physical features that you can find (plateaus, mountains, plains, rivers...) and state which country or countries each of these physical features are in.	Write a three paragraph essay stating if you would be interested in visiting Tokyo, Japan. You can use your book on page 525 to get information. You may also use information from the internet (must site website that you found information on). Be sure to use specifics about Tokyo, Japan to make your argument.

Civics	Read pages 392-395 in your textbook. Answer questions 1-4 at the end. Then write a brief essay (two paragraphs minimum) explaining your thoughts on a career that you are interested in.	Read Chapter 10 Section 1 on page 415 in your textbook. Answer the review questions on page 415. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Define • Review • Discuss 	Using the template that is provided, look up a current political issue that is of interest to you (ex. Gun rights, death penalty, environment) and research both sides of the argument. You will not be graded on your political opinions. You will be graded on your thoroughness in looking into the issue. Your political issue must be different than the one you did last week.
 Illinois History 	Write a three paragraph essay stating how you would respond to the corona virus if you were the governor of Illinois. Some questions to help you get started: Would you open the economy again? Would you keep it closed? For how long? Should certain things be open or closed that are not right now? What factors led to your decision?	Read the two readings that are provided “Death Dealing Disasters in Illinois” and “Professional Sports.” Answer the questions from the handout provided.	Go to the Illinois Historical Society Website. Click on “Historical Markers” and then at the bottom click on the map. Find three Historical Markers in Illinois. Write one paragraph each on why you feel the Historical Marker is important to Illinois History. https://www.historyillinois.org/FindAMarker/CountyMap.aspx

Fleck

DEATH DEALING DISASTERS IN 20TH CENTURY ILLINOIS

The Iroquois Theatre Fire

Illinois has had her share of tragic experiences. One of the most shocking events of the early twentieth century in Illinois was the Iroquois Theatre fire of December 30, 1903. The brand new "fireproof" theatre in Chicago's "loop" was not yet completely finished but was in use. The huge flues or chimneys which were supposed to carry any flame up instead of out into the audience were still boarded up.

A spark from faulty wiring in a spotlight touched off a fire in the sets high above the stage. The fire curtain failed to lower completely, and within minutes the fire was roaring through the stage area toward the audience. Many people died in their seats in the front rows of the theatre. Hundreds more were trampled to death or died from smoke inhalation in the mass confusion and panic. People from the gallery and balconies jammed into corners and exits in the smoke-darkened building, making it impossible for anyone to escape. Bodies were piled ten feet high at the exit doors. 570 men, women, and children had died within 15 minutes.

Sinking of the Eastland

Another tragedy in Chicago occurred on July 24, 1915, when the steamship, *Eastland*, loaded with more than 2,000 Western Electric Company employees ready for a holiday picnic on Lake Michigan capsized and sank at her mooring in the Chicago River. As people boarded the excursion steamer, from 700 to 1,000 passengers, according to some estimates, went to the top deck. Something on shore may have attracted their attention, causing many to rush to that side of the vessel. Suddenly the boat began listing. With a great "whoosh" and the screams of many people, the ship overturned, dumping her passengers into the river. It was one of the worst maritime tragedies occurring in peacetime that this nation has ever experienced. 812 people drowned.

Tragic Mine Disasters

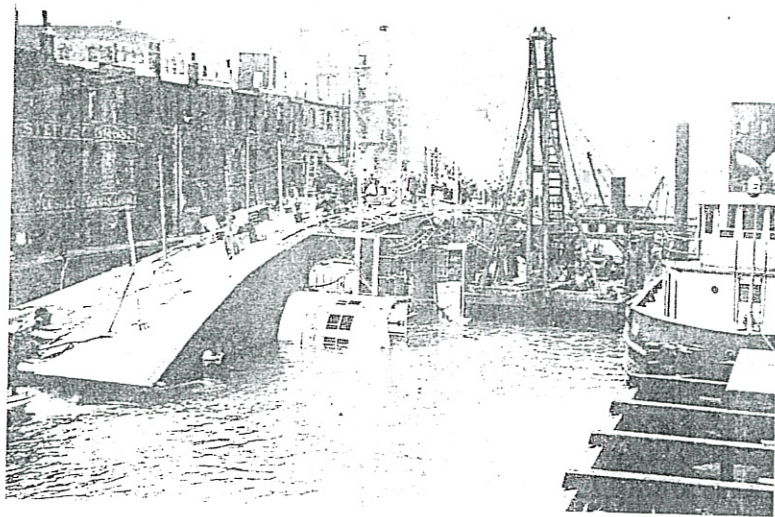
Coal mine disasters have been all too common in Illinois. The sheer hopelessness and horror of a mine disaster have

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THE EASTLAND DISASTER
Courtesy Illinois State Historical Library

periodically brought great public sympathy and outrage over the conditions miners face in their work.

The worst mine disaster in the history of the state occurred at Cherry, in Bureau County, on November 13, 1909, when 259 men died in a fire started when hay used as feed for the mules in the mines caught fire. Eleven of the victims died in a rescue attempt, after going down into the mine many times to bring out unconscious miners. On their last trip, the raging fire caught their elevator car and killed these brave helpers.

The nation was shocked when the third worst mine disaster in the state's history hit the Centralia Coal Company's No. 5 mine at Centralia on March 25, 1947. The mine was riddled with safety violations. Just days earlier an inspector had noted inadequate ventilation, a broken wall and a lack of security dusting along the corridors to blunt explosions. During World War II with both operators and miners under constant pressure to produce as much coal as possible, many safety rules in mines had been ignored, and many postwar mines were in poor condition.

An explosive used in blasting the coal misfired, causing the fatal explosion. After days of rescue efforts, the death toll was set at 111. The scenes viewed by rescuers were heartbreaking.

Toward the end, a group of twelve men, all dead, were found seated in a semi-circle with heads bowed and their lunchpails between their knees.

Only a few months after Centralia, 27 miners died in an explosion in a West Frankfort coal mine. Little did the town of West Frankfort know that it would soon thereafter be the site of the second worst mine disaster in Illinois history.

On the night of December 21, 1951, 250 men went down into New Orient Coal Mine No. 2 for the last shift before the Christmas holidays. When a request for a doctor to go to the mine went out over the loudspeaker at the high school basketball game in West Frankfort, most in the crowd knew what had happened. Relatives and friends rushed to the mine for news, mostly bad, about their men.

Some men in the mine had felt a shock wave and heard a rumble in the distance. They sprinted for elevator shafts to get out, but many did not make it before they were overcome by the force of the blast. The final death toll was 119. Only one man survived the blast and fire.

[Electrical equipment had touched off a pocket of explosive methane gas.] The fire which followed was fed by coal dust and pockets of methane. As a direct result of the West Frankfort explosion, the federal Coal Mine Safety Act was passed within the next year.

The Flooding of Southern Illinois

On many occasions the rivers of Illinois have been the source of serious trouble for the state. Southern Illinois suffered one of the worst floods in American history in January of 1937 when the rampaging Ohio River and its tributaries did \$75 million worth of property damage. In Shawneetown alone, a town of less than 2,000 people, the damage was \$500,000.

Shawneetown and Cairo were protected by sixty foot levees along the river. By January 22, rain had been falling for 30 straight hours in the upper Ohio River valley. At the same time, southern Illinois received over six inches of snow. The river rose to 55 feet at Shawneetown, and soon the water began to seep into lower Shawneetown, flooding the town out

in a few hours. The nearby towns of Elizabethtown, Golconda and Rosiclare became isolated islands in the middle of the swollen river.

The water reached 57 feet at Shawneetown on January 24. By the next day it was 58.3 feet at Cairo which was the lowest land-level point in the state. Many people left town to go to Carbondale and higher ground. All the elderly and sick were evacuated from Cairo when the river level reached 59.62 feet, but there the crest rested and the main levees held firm. Late in February, Shawneetown still had ten feet of water in the streets. One of the results of the flood was the reluctant decision to relocate Shawneetown on higher ground nearby.

Each area of the state and many towns have some disaster, the record of which remains fixed in everyone's memory. The mine tragedies, the *Eastland*, the Iroquois Theatre and the Flood of 1937 are just a few of the catastrophes which have brought sadness to Illinois.

SUGGESTED READING

Beyer, Richard. "Hell and High Water" in Clyde Walton, ed., *An Illinois Reader*. Northern Illinois University Press. DeKalb, 1970, pp. 423-435.

Kalisch, Philip A. "Death Down Below: Coal Mine Disasters in Three Illinois Counties, 1904-1962," *Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society*. Spring, 1972, pp. 5-21.

Memorial Publishing Company. *Chicago's Awful Theater Horror*. Chicago, 1904 (D.B. McCurdy).

Everett, Marshall "The Great Chicago Theatre Disaster." Chicago, 1904.

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PROFESSIONAL SPORTS

In 1871, Illinois' first professional baseball team took to the diamond in Chicago. Unfortunately 1871 was also the year of the great Chicago Fire. The fire ruined the team's playing quarters, dashing its hopes of winning the pennant. Because of the fire the team disbanded, and in 1876 a new team came to Chicago.

"Colts" Become "Cubs"

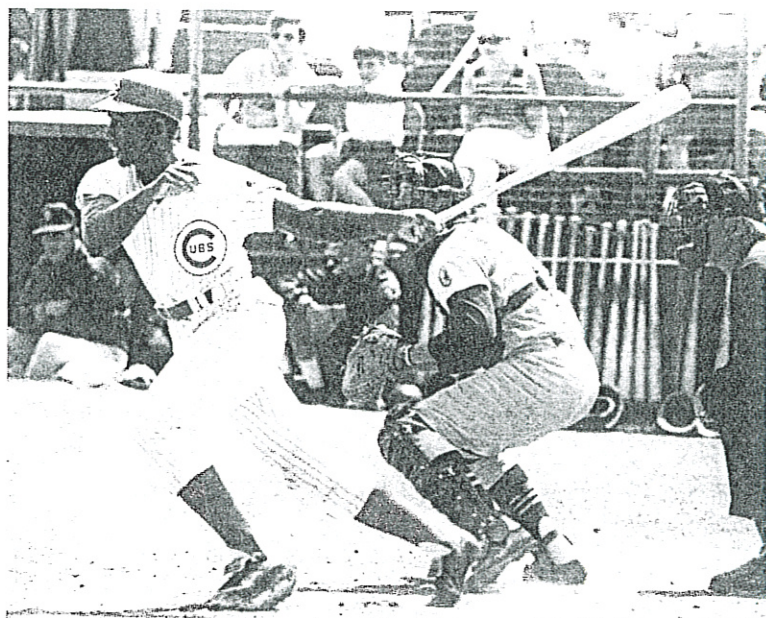
The team was nicknamed the "White Stockings," but around the 1890's, when a successful older team had been replaced by younger players, the name was changed to "Colts." In the early 1890's, a copywriter for the *Chicago News* named Chris Sinsabaugh re-christened the "Colts" the "Cubs." He wanted the name of a young animal to substitute for Colts because that name was too long for his headline! In 1900 the Cubs officially adopted their name. This team has been in the major leagues longer than any other baseball team which is active today. By the early 1900's, there were two major league teams in Chicago—the Chicago Cubs, representing the National League, and the Chicago White Sox, representing the American League.

The White Sox Come to Chicago

Charles Comiskey brought the Chicago White Sox to the "Windy City" in 1900, borrowing the name of the earlier National League team. Although the Cubs and the White Sox did not meet each other on the diamond at first, they were constantly battling each other off the field in an effort to get the best players. At that time a player did not belong to his club, and if another team offered him more money he simply switched clubs. In 1903, the two Leagues agreed that "player stealing" had to end, and from that time on players belonged to their clubs.

"Black Sox" Scandal

The growth of professional sports in America soon attracted the more unsavory elements of society. Professional gamblers haunted the stadiums, and heavy betting took place at almost every game. In 1919 the "Black Sox" scandal shocked the baseball world. Chicago White Sox players were



MR. CUB — ERNIE BANKS

Courtesy of Chicago Historical Society

accused of having taken bribes to throw the World Series to the Cincinnati Red Legs. The scandal stimulated a crackdown on gambling in the stands. The creation of the office of the Commissioner of Baseball, with Judge K.M. Landis as the first Commissioner, helped to restore the respectability of major league baseball.

Baseball Idols

Both the White Sox and the Cubs have throughout the years boasted great teams. In the early twentieth century the Cubs were led by one of the great double play combinations of all time, Tinker to Evers to Chance. In 1930 the stumpy, barrel-chested outfielder, "Hack" Wilson, played for the Cubs and set a record of 190 runs batted in, that stands to this day. Though the Cubs last won a pennant in 1945, it was in the 1960s that Ernie Banks (nicknamed "Mr. Cub") and his teammates endeared themselves to Chicagoans and made the Cubs a team to be reckoned with.

The White Sox, too, have had their share of the "greats." Ted Lyons, Luke Appling, and "Red" Faber each played for

the White Sox for at least twenty years and today all are in baseball's Hall of Fame. In 1959, the White Sox, led by Nelson Jacob "Nellie" Fox, won the American League pennant.

George Halas and the Bears

Professional football arrived in Chicago in 1921. Young George Halas of the University of Illinois was recruited by A.E. Staley to organize a football team in Decatur. Halas was given permission to move the team to Chicago with the provision that the team retain the Staley name for one year. In 1914, William K. Wrigley had acquired ownership of the Chicago Cubs baseball team, and built Wrigley Field. Halas rented the ball park for his games and in 1922 renamed his team the Chicago Bears.

In his first year in Chicago, Halas had only sixteen men on his roster. Their salaries were between \$75 and \$100 per game. If a game was rained out, the player lost his pay. For the Staleys this custom came to an abrupt and dramatic end during their first Chicago season. The team had lost one week's pay and on the following Sunday, the players launched professional football's first players' strike. They refused to line up for the opening kick-off unless they were paid in full for the rained-out Sunday. Halas promised them full pay for the missed day if they delivered a win that day. The Staleys won easily and finished the season with 10 wins, 1 loss and 1 tie.

"The Galloping Ghost"

Sports came of age at the college level in the early years of the twentieth century. Between 1923 and 1925, Harold "Red" Grange, the "Galloping Ghost" of the University of Illinois (and later the Chicago Bears) propelled Midwestern athletics into the national headlines. His most stunning performance came in 1924 when he scored four touchdowns in twelve minutes while leading the "Fighting Illini" to a spectacular victory over a powerful Michigan team.

Title Teams

In 1940 the Bears introduced the "T" formation to the National Football League. They won titles in 1940, 1941, 1943 and 1946. Later they won the NFL championship in 1963 and the Super Bowl in 1985.

The Black Hawks

In 1926, the Chicago Black Hawks became part of the National Hockey League when Major Frederic McLaughlin started the franchise. Three years later they moved to the new Chicago Stadium. In World War I Major McLaughlin served in the Black Hawk Division named after the famous Indian Chief of the Sauk tribe and he gave the name to the hockey team.

The Black Hawks have won the Stanley Cup, hockey's national Championship, three times, and have given the fans many exciting seasons.

The Chicago Bulls

In 1946 professional basketball came to Chicago with the Chicago Stags. The Stags disbanded in 1950, to be replaced by the Packers for one year, followed by the Zephyrs who after one season moved to Washington D.C. In 1966 the banner was picked up by the Chicago Bulls. One of the stars was Jerry Sloan who played for ten seasons and returned as head coach in 1979 to rebuild the Bulls. In 1981, his second year, the Bulls finished second in the Central Division.

In the later 1980's the Bulls assembled a team around their star player Michael Jordan. This team won three consecutive N.B.A. titles in 1991, 1992 and 1993.

SUGGESTED READING

- Brown, Warren, *The Chicago Cubs*, New York, 1946.
———, *The Chicago White Sox*, New York, 1952.
Roberts, Howard, *The Chicago Bears*, New York, 1947.
Seymour, Harold, *Baseball*. 2 vols. New York, 1960 and 1971.

Fleck - IL History - Option 2 April 27-May 1 9/12

Illinois History

Professional Sports

1. Why did the first professional baseball team in Illinois disband?
2. Why was the professional baseball team in 1890 renamed the "Colts?"
3. Why did Chris Sinsabaugh rename the "Colts" the "Cubs?"
4. When did the Chicago White Sox come to Chicago?
5. What was the "Black Sox" scandal?
6. What office helped to restore the respectability of major league baseball?
7. Where did A.E. Staley organize a football team?
8. What was the salary for a football player in Chicago during its first year?

Illinois History

Death Dealing Disasters in 20th Century Illinois

1. What started the fire in the Iroquois Theatre fire?
2. Why did the chimneys not work correctly?
3. How many people died in this fire?
4. What was the name of the steamship that sank on July 24, 1915?
5. Why were the people on the ship?
6. How many people were on board this ship?
7. What happened to cause the boat to begin listing?
8. How many people died from this accident?

9. Where did the worst mining disaster in the history of Illinois occur at?

10. What caused the disaster?

11. How many men died in the worst mine disaster in Illinois?

12. What caused the fatal explosion in the Centralia Coal Company mine?

13. Why were the safety standards not up to code?

14. How many died in the Centralia Coal Company mine accident?

15. What caused the explosion in the New Orient Coal mine accident?

16. What river overflowed in the Flood of 1937?

17. How many dollars in damage did it do to Shawneetown?