

1. How did I choose my topic?

When choosing my topic, I decided I wanted to go the route of African-American accomplishments in the early 20th century. Racism and segregation were big things around this time period, and some African-Americans took a stand against it. I'm into sports, so I was looking at "The first African-American to play this or the first African-American to do this." When I found out about Pollard and his obstacles, I knew that it would be fun to learn about him and his story. It was fairly easy in picking this project because I enjoy football and I knew this was a project for me.

2. How did I conduct my research?

When I was researching about Pollard, I knew what to look for and when in the process to look for it. I started with background information to get an idea of Pollard and the events leading to his eventual demise. I learned a lot of things about Fritz before his rise to fame. After background information, I began to read the book *Fritz Pollard: Pioneer in Racial Advancement*, to get an idea of the kinds of ways that he was mistreated and how he overcame them. This book gave me around a quarter of my facts, which were pivotal, in order to get a better understanding.

3. How did I select my presentation category and create my project?

I decided to do a website on Fritz Pollard based on the information and the way he overcame barriers. I narrowed it down by taking off documentary and play because I know that I lack the skills needed in both. I then just knew that a website was the one for me because I'm sort of tech savvy and I enjoy working with computers. I created my project by using the idea of the 1920's and incorporating the theme into my project. I used boring colors such as gray, black, and white. I created the individual page names off of the high points in his life.

4. How does my project relate to this year's National History Day theme?

My project relates to the NHD theme in many different ways. One way is that Fritz Pollard bulldozed through one of the most infamous barriers in history which was racial prejudice against African-Americans. There were so many rules at the time that limited black people to things that were less advanced than the things that white people owned. Another incredible feat Pollard accomplished was that black people weren't supposed to fight against this segregation, but Fritz took a stand and became the first black NFL coach and started making new teams of only black players. White people were not expecting anyone to retaliate against them. This resistance by many black people started an uproar that eventually gave black people equal rights as white people.

