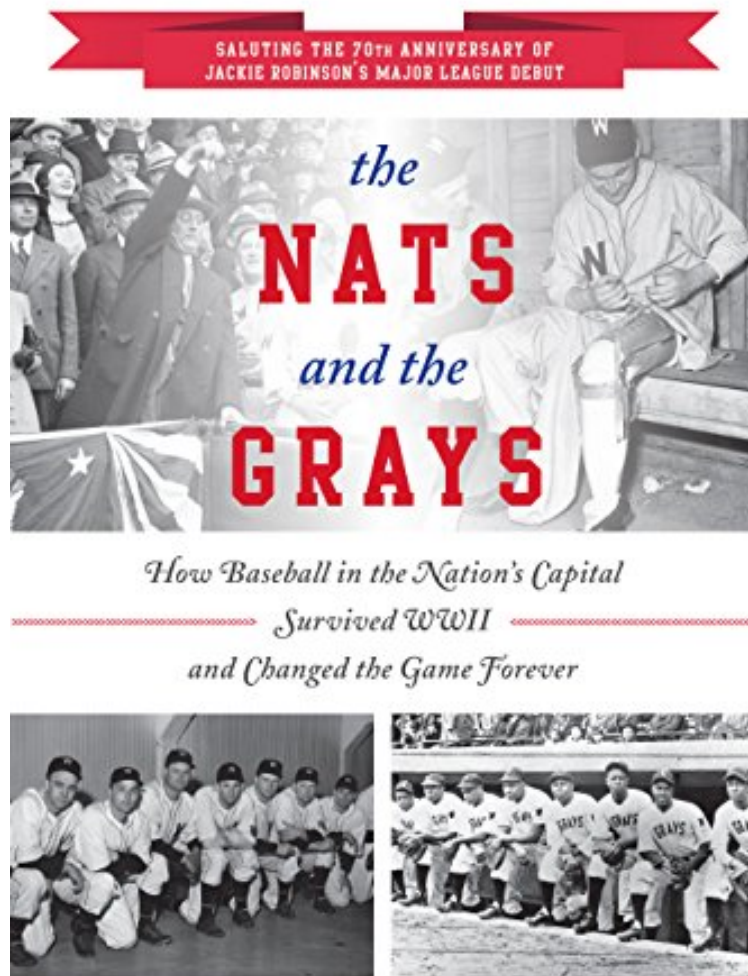


(Mobile pdf) The Nats and the Grays: How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever

# The Nats and the Grays: How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever

David E. Hubler, Joshua H. Drazen  
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David E. Hubler, Joshua H. Drazen : The Nats and the Grays: How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Nats and the Grays: How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever:

2 of 2 people found the following review helpful. For Baseball History buffs ...a must !!!By CustomerGreat story. Needed to be told. Especially now that the end WWII was 70 years ago The Nationals are the rage in the D.C. area. It's a History book and a baseball fan's delight. Full of facts and little known anecdotes about this critical era in the history of the Nation's Pastime!5 of 5 people found the following review helpful. How Baseball Survived During WartimeBy Howard V. SannBaseball has always been in David Hubler's bones. A Bronx boy, he grew up in 1950s in the shadow of Yankee Stadium and has lived and worked in the Washington area for much of his adult life. He's written a sports novel ("You Gotta Believe"). Now Hubler teams with Joshua Drazen to write a classic nonfiction book on how baseball survived in Washington, D.C. during the war years. The authors have recreated a lost history of the Washington game -- the Nationals of the American League and the Homestead Grays of the Negro Leagues -- set against an historical backdrop. In this engrossing account, baseball is more than a game.

On a chilly Sunday, December 7, 1941, major league baseball's owners gathered in Chicago for their annual winter meetings, just two months after one of baseball's greatest seasons. For the owners, the attack on Pearl Harbor that morning was also an attack on baseball. They feared a complete shutdown of the coming 1942 season and worried about players they might lose to military service. But with the support of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, the national pastime continued.*The Nats and the Grays: How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever* examines the impact of the war on the two teams in Washington, DC—the Nationals of the American League and the Homestead Grays of the Negro Leagues—as well as the impact of the war on major league baseball as a whole. Each chapter is devoted to a wartime year, beginning with 1941 and ending with the return of peacetime in 1946, including the exciting American League pennant races of 1942-1945. This account details how the strong friendship between FDR and Nationals team owner Clark Griffith kept the game alive throughout the war, despite numerous calls to shut it down; the constant uncertainties the game faced each season as the military draft, federal mandates, national rationing, and other wartime regulations affected the sport; and the Negro Leagues' struggle for recognition, solvency, and integration. In addition to recounting the Nationals' and the Grays' battles on and off the field during the war, this book looks beyond baseball and details the critical events that were taking place on the home front, such as the creation of the GI Bill, the internment of Japanese Americans, labor strikes, and the fight for racial equality. World War II buffs, Negro League historians, baseball enthusiasts, and fans of the present-day Washington Nationals will all find this book on wartime baseball a fascinating and informative read.

The Nats are breeding a new generation of homegrown supporters. . . . In their new book, David E. Hubler and Joshua H. Drazen chronicle the history of baseball in the capital during World War II. . . . I did learn a few things from this book. Franklin Roosevelt, for example, was a great baseball fan who managed the team at Groton School and helped raise the American flag at Griffith Stadium on opening day in 1917. (The Washington Post) Anyone who thinks Major League baseball during the Second World War was dull, amateurish and devoid of truly exceptional play because most of the stars were off fighting the war should pick up a copy of *The Nats and the Grays, How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever* to be disabused of such erroneous notions. . . . This extraordinary history by David E. Hubler and Joshua H. Drazen is filled with colorful stories and previously unknown anecdotes that can fuel a hot stove league for weeks, if not months. . . . [The] anecdotes . . . are told in sharp, unadorned prose devoid of sports jargon and a plethora of statistics, but often with insight and humor as befitting such an outstanding sports history. It belongs on the library shelves of all baseball fans and World War II history buffs. (East Orlando Post) History buffs and baseball fans get a lesson in an often overshadowed story of how World War II affected America's favorite pastime. Readers get a look at the relationship FDR had with the game, the missions players took on during the war and the Negro League's struggle for equality. (Northern Virginia Magazine) A compelling examination of the impact of the war on Washington, DC's two baseball teams as well as on major league baseball as a whole. (University of New Hampshire Magazine) With co-author David E. Hubler, Drazen gives a beautifully detailed look at the Nationals of the American League and the Homestead Grays of the Negro League baseball teams during World War II in Washington. (Medill Magazine) *The Nats and the Grays: How Baseball in the Nation's Capital Survived WWII and Changed the Game Forever* examines the impact of the war on the two teams in Washington, DC—the Nationals of the American League and the Homestead Grays of the Negro Leagues—as well as the impact of the war on major league baseball as a whole. This account details how the strong friendship between FDR and Nationals team owner Clark Griffith kept the game alive throughout the war; the constant uncertainties the game faced each season as the military draft, federal mandates, national rationing, and other wartime regulations affected the sport; and the Negro Leagues' struggle for recognition, solvency, and integration. *The Nats and the Grays* also details crucial events on the home front, such as the creation of the GI Bill, the internment of Japanese Americans, labor strikes, and the fight for racial equality. World War II buffs, Negro League historians, baseball enthusiasts, and fans of the present-day Washington Nationals will all find this book on wartime baseball a fascinating and informative read. (DeWitt Clinton Alumni Association) Whether you are a Baby Boomer whose mom threw out your baseball cards, or a DC area Millennials with interest sky high for the current Washington Nationals with its heaps of young

talent and scurrying around the bases, larger than life-sized Presidents, there is a new book for you. . . .Based upon a recent rich, lively, deeply enthralling interview, Hubler's book is no dry history or ribald fiction. It is a special book about rarely written events from a key time now fading from us. (DC Metro Theater Arts)The story of how Major League Baseball survived World War II is often little more than an interruption in the historical narrative, but David Hubler and Joshua Drazen provide a compelling tale of two Washington teams—the Homestead Grays and the Washington Nationals—set skillfully against the backdrop of wartime DC. Baseball provided not only much needed entertainment but its own unlikely heroes fighting for victory. This story is one that needed telling and it makes great reading. (Ted Leavengood, managing editor of seamheads.com)An important contribution to baseball, Washington Senators, and American history. With clarity and insight, Hubler and Drazen provide the full story of baseball's role in the nation's capital during a critical period in the twentieth century. (Richard Zamoff, director of the Jackie Robinson Project)Baseball remains our national pastime because it is the only sport that honors its past. A significant part of that past—the years of World War II in Washington, DC—are brought to life in vivid prose by David Hubler and Joshua Drazen in *The Nats and the Grays*. The authors seamlessly weave together the stories of those troubled seasons with the events and mood of the war years and the first steps toward the racial integration of the major leagues. A powerful performance. (Stanley Cohen, award-winning newspaper and magazine journalist, author of *The Game They Played* and *A Magic Summer: The Amazin' Story of the 1969 New York Mets*)A meticulously researched and wonderfully written account of a tumultuous time in baseball and America. This book makes a great addition to every serious fan's baseball library. (Hal Bock, retired Associated Press columnist)David E. Hubler and Joshua H. Drazen's *The Nats and the Grays* is a colorful and most satisfying history of modern baseball in Washington, DC. This book is both richly detailed and genuinely insightful—a perfect combination for those of us who love reading about our favorite game. (Paul Dickson, author of *Bill Veek: Baseball's Greatest Maverick* and *The Dickson Baseball Dictionary*)

**About the Author**David E. Hubler is a professional writer who has worked for such organizations as the Washington Post Co., United Press International, and the Voice of America, where he served as the literary editor for a decade. He has written numerous articles for such publications as *The Washington Times* magazine, *The Washington Post*, and *Islands Magazine*. This is his fourth book. Joshua H. Drazen is a professional writer and researcher. He has been a Washington correspondent for the Medill News Service, a reporter for the *Times* newspaper in Chicago, and a reporter on Capitol Hill for a variety of news outlets.