

TODAY *in* GEORGIA HISTORY

December 14, 1920: Charley Trippi Born

Introduction:

The daily activities created for each of the *Today in Georgia History* segments are designed to meet the **Georgia Standards of Excellence for Information Processing Skills (K-12), English Language Arts (ELA; 8-12), and Social Studies: Grade Eight Georgia Studies**. For each date, educators can choose from various activities differentiated for various levels of student ability. The activities focus on engaging students with context specific vocabulary, improving communication skills, and investigating primary and secondary sources related to the topic.

One suggestion is to use the *Today in Georgia History* video segments and daily activities as a “bell ringer” at the beginning of each class period. Using the same activity daily provides consistency and structure for the students and may help teachers utilize the first 15-20 minutes of class more effectively.

Vocabulary & Writing Activities:

Level 1: Provide the students with the vocabulary list and have them use their textbook, a dictionary, or other teacher-provided materials to define each term. After watching the video, have the students write a complete sentence for each of the vocabulary terms. Student created sentences should reflect the meaning of the word based on the context of the video segment. Have students share a sampling of sentences as a way to check for understanding.

Level 2: Provide the students with the vocabulary list for that day’s segment before watching the video and have them guess the meaning of each word based on their previous knowledge. The teacher may choose to let the students work alone or in groups. After watching the video, have the students revise their definitions to better reflect the meaning of the words based on the context of the video. As a final step, have the students compare and contrast their definitions to their textbook, dictionary or other teacher provided materials definitions.

Level 3: Provide the students with the vocabulary list and have them use their textbook, a dictionary, or other teacher provided materials to define each term. After watching the video, have the students write a five sentence paragraph based on the provided writing prompts.

Vocabulary/Writing Prompts:

Vocabulary Terms

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Scholarship
Fearsome
Backfields
Stellar
Gridiron

Writing Prompts

1. What makes someone the best at something? Do you think good sportsmanship is an important part of being the best, or is it all about winning games? In a five-sentence paragraph, explain what criteria you would use to decide who is the all-time best football player.
2. Use your knowledge of American history to explain why a great football player like Charley Trippi would decide to take two years of his career and serve in World War II
3. Charley Trippi caught the attention of a former Georgia Bulldog who then extended him a scholarship. In a five-sentence paragraph explain what qualities that former Bulldog may have seen in Charley Trippi that made him want to invest money in sending him to college. What qualities do you have that make you a good candidate for a scholarship?

Primary Source Investigation:

Based on [this article](#) covering Charley Trippi's admittance to the Professional Football Hall of Fame, courtesy of *The Red and Black*, and what you have learned from the episode, answer the following prompts.

1. **Observation:** study the article carefully. What do you notice? List at least five (5) things that stand out to you.
2. **Think/Infer:** Based on what you already know, what can you infer or assume regarding how Charley Trippi was remembered? What makes you think that?
3. **Wonder:** What additional questions do you have about Charley Trippi and his impact on Georgia History?

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**Pro Hall Picks
Ex-Great Trippi**

All-American halfback Charley Trippi generally considered the finest all-around back in Southern football history and captain of Georgia's only undefeated team, is one of seven to be enshrined in the Professional Football Hall of Fame.

Joining him are former pro standouts Elroy (Crazy Legs) Hirsch, Marion Mantley, Cliff Battles, Wayne Millner, Art Donovan and Alex Wojtachowicz.

Trippi, an All-SEC and All-America performer for the Bulldogs in the mid-1940's, is the most celebrated back in Georgia history.

As a sophomore he paced Georgia's 9-0 Rose Bowl victory over UCLA by rushing 27 times for 115 yards and receiving the Heims Award as the game's most outstanding player.

AFTER A three-year hitch with the Third Air Force in Tampa he returned to Georgia and led the Bulldogs to the 1945 Oil Bowl. There he passed 65 yards to John Donaldson for a touchdown and returned a punt 68 yards for another as Georgia swamped Tulsa 20-6.

The following year Trippi captained the only undefeated Bulldog team in the school's history that was claimaxed by a 20-10 Sugar Bowl win over North Carolina.

At the Sugar Bowl he closed his Georgia football career by passing to end Dan Edwards for 47 yards and a touchdown, still a Sugar Bowl record.

HE WAS named to the All-American team in 1946.

At Georgia he holds the individual one-game record for rushing with 239 yards against Florida in 1945 and the season record for average-per-play, 7.79 yards set in 1942.

In 1947 he joined the late Coach Jimmy Conzelmann's Chicago (now St. Louis) Cardinals and was a member of their famed "Dream Backfield" that won the NFL title that same year.



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Pro Hall Picks Ex-Great Trippi, [Courtesy of the Red and Black.](#)

"Pro Hall Picks Ex-Great Trippi" *The Red and Black* Presented Online By the Digital Library of Georgia

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Related Georgia Standards of Excellence:

Georgia's K-12 English Language Arts Standards

Middle School English Language Arts 6-8: Practice

- 6-8.P.EICC – I. BIG IDEA: Engagement & Intention for Comprehension & Composition: Students develop personal and academic identities as readers and writers, approaching texts for a variety of tasks and purposes and engaging in reading and writing processes in order to deepen comprehension and strengthen composition.

Middle School English Language Arts 6-8: Language

- 6-8.L.GC – I. BIG IDEA: Grammar Conventions: Students observe, analyze, and use the structures and conventions of Standard English grammar, usage, and mechanics as they interpret and construct texts.
- 6-8.L.V – II. BIG IDEA: Vocabulary: Students engage in a wide range of written and spoken activities during which they expand and deepen their vocabulary, build word analysis skillsets (morphology), and determine or clarify the meanings of words and phrases.

Social Studies – Georgia Standards of Excellence

Information Processing Skills K-12

- SSIPS6 Identify and use primary and secondary sources.
- SSIPS11 Draw conclusions and make generalizations.
- SSIPS14 Formulate appropriate research questions.
- SSIPS15 Determine adequacy and/or relevancy of information.
- SSIPS16 Check for consistency of information.

National Curriculum Standards for Social Studies

Theme 3: People, Places, and Environments

- Social studies teachers should possess the knowledge, capabilities, and dispositions to organize and provide instruction at the appropriate school level for the study of People, Places, and Environments.

Theme 5: Individuals, Groups, and Institutions

- Social studies teachers should possess the knowledge, capabilities, and dispositions to organize and provide instruction at the appropriate school level for the study of interactions among Individuals, Groups, and Institutions.