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SPORTS, 12A



# The Daily Record

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## A legacy renewed

### Centuries later, Wooster's star athlete Charles W. Follis is again finding notoriety

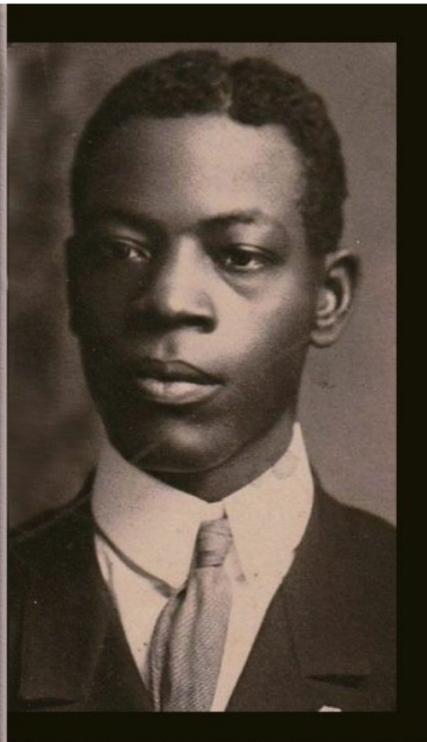
Miranda McGrath | Wooster Daily Record | USA TODAY NETWORK

In the late 19th century, amid the shadows of post-Reconstruction America, a young Black man from Virginia found opportunity in Wooster that would etch his name in sports history. • Charles W. Follis, born Feb. 3, 1879, in Cloverdale, Virginia, became the first African American professional football player on an integrated team – a legacy now celebrated with Ohio's "Charles Follis Day," a recent induction into the Ohio Sports Hall of Fame for football and baseball, and an upcoming induction into the National High School Football Hall of Fame.

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ABOVE: Charles Follis was born Feb. 3, 1879, in Cloverdale, Virginia, and raised in Wooster, Ohio, where he became the first African American professional football player.

PROVIDED BY MADELEINE NOBLE



## How Black History Month got its start

### Origins trace back to event created 100 years ago

Alex Perry

Cincinnati Enquirer | USA TODAY NETWORK

Black History Month is celebrated throughout the month of February, and its origins trace back 100 years. Here's what to know about its founder, Dr. Carter G. Woodson, and how the monthlong celebration of Black history and culture has evolved over the years.

#### Who founded Black History Month?

Historian Dr. Carter G. Woodson helped launch the national recognition of Black history.

Woodson was born on Dec. 19, 1875, in New Canton, Virginia. He later worked as a coal miner in West Virginia beginning at age 17 before attending high school. Woodson earned degrees from Berea College (Kentucky) and the University of Chicago before earning a doctorate from Harvard in 1912, according to the Association for the Study of African American Life and History, an organization Woodson founded in 1915.

Black History Month dates back to 1926, when Woodson, a historian and author, launched Negro History Week to highlight the achievements of Black Americans, according to the ASALH. It later became a month-long celebration nationally recognized in the U.S.

The observance gained national recognition in the 1970s, when President Gerald Ford issued a message on the observance of Black History Week, and later Black History Month, urging Americans to honor Black contributions and the often-overlooked achievements of Black Americans, according to the Library of Congress.

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Woodson

## Not many single people in county if you need a date on Valentine's Day

Miranda McGrath

Wooster Daily Record | USA TODAY NETWORK

This Valentine's Day, if you're spending the night alone in Wayne County, you may be wondering where your soulmate is. The answer might be nearby, but data shows you're more likely to meet a married person in the area.

According to data from the United States Census Bureau, the majority of households in the county are occupied by married couple families, with 55.6% of

households accounted for. Of the remaining households, 4.5% are male-occupied with no spouse present and 8.4% are female-occupied with no spouse present.

When it comes to marital status, around 56% of the population 15 years and over is married. Around 34% of men and 26% of women have never been married. A lower percentage of people are widowed, divorced or separated.

Wayne County has a population of around 116,632 people, but only around 89,000 are over 18 years old.

When we take the age of those over 18 and multiply

it by the percentage of unmarried individuals, we can find that around 15,130 men and 11,570 women in the county have never been married.

The numbers for the entire state of Ohio are similar, with a high percentage of married people, 48.7% of men and 45.6% of women, and 36.8% of men and 30.8% of women having never been married.



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