

## UMB and MLB: Our four baseball stars

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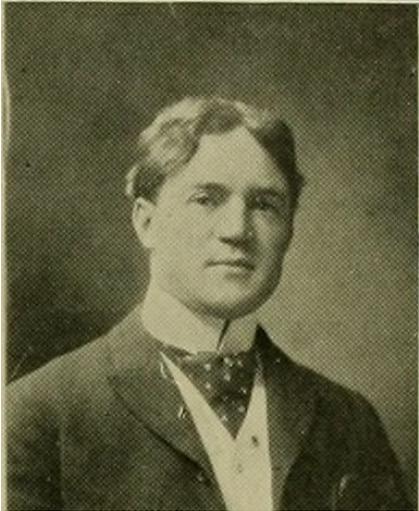
*1909 UMB Baseball Team. John Frederick Anderson, Class of 1909, pitcher. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/2465>.*

In celebration of the Oriole's 2021 opening day, let's take a look back at some of UMB's major leaguers: John Francis Hayden, Robert Baker Lawson, Archibald Wright Graham, and John Frederick Anderson. From 1901 to 1918, four UMB graduates appeared in major league baseball games, including the World Series! The players graduated from the Schools of Dentistry and Medicine with the Classes of 1902, 1905, and 1909.

The four MLB Players from UMB also starred on the University's Baseball team, which formed in the late 1890s and played the Baltimore Orioles in exhibition games in [1898](#) and 1899. Sports teams at UMB lasted until the early twenty-first century when grueling coursework and the lack of support from the faculty prevented students from showcasing their athletic abilities. The following post reflects the skills of some of UMB's athletes, many of which returned to the medical field after playing professional ball.

## John “Jack” Francis Hayden

School of Dentistry, Class of 1902, 1880-1942



*John Francis Hayden, 1902 Bones, Molars and Briefs Yearbook Photograph. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/2451>.*

John Francis “Jack” Hayden was born on October 21, 1880 in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania. He attended Villanova University and the University of Pennsylvania Medical and Dental Schools (1897-1900) before graduating from the University of Maryland School of Dentistry in 1902. While at Villanova and the University of Maryland, Hayden played both baseball and football.

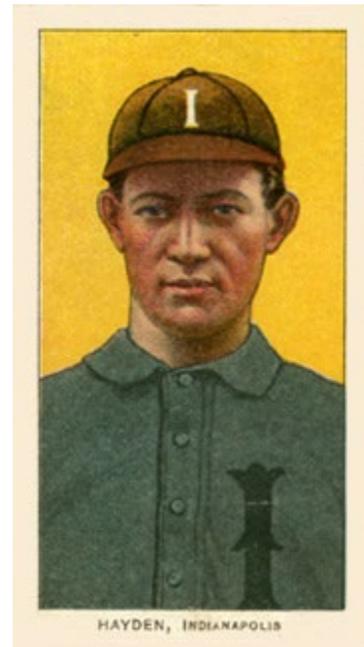
However, while a student, Hayden also played in professional and semi-professional football and baseball leagues. By 1901, he signed his first major league contract with the Indianapolis Hoosiers of the American League. That same year he signed with the Philadelphia Athletics—then a new major league team—playing his first game April 26, 1901. He played right field and was the leadoff hitter against the Washington Senators.

In June 1903, Hayden signed with the Baltimore Orioles; his first game with the Orioles occurred on June 10, 1903, where he turned heads with his hitting, scoring two runs in the 7 to 3 win against

Providence. Hayden remained with the Orioles until 1905, when he illegally signed with a York team in the Tri-State (minor) League. As a result he was blacklisted by the National Commission, preventing him from playing with another major league baseball team. In 1906 he was removed from the blacklist and signed with the Boston Americans. That same year he was involved in an altercation with his teammate Hobe Ferris; Ferris was suspended by the American League for kicking Hayden in the face. Hayden fell out of favor with the team because of lackadaisical play and was traded to Rochester in 1907. From 1908 to 1910, Hayden played for the Indianapolis Indians. In 1911 he signed with the Louisville Colonels, where a dislocated shoulder in June 1912 ended his playing career. He remained with the Louisville team as manager until 1915.

Hayden also played professional football. In 1902 he played quarterback in the National Football League with the Philadelphia Athletics, and from 1903 to 1905 Hayden played for the Franklin Athletic Club, the Cleveland Massillon Tigers, and the Canton Bulldogs.

While Hayden received his dental degree, he never entered the dentistry practice, choosing instead to return to Bryn Mawr, PA after his baseball career to run a meat and provisions business. He married Herminnie Jadot in 1913 and died from coronary thrombosis on August 3, 1942.



*Jack Hayden Baseball Card, 1909-11 Indianapolis Indians. <http://www.vintagecardprices.com/pics/34358.jpg>.*

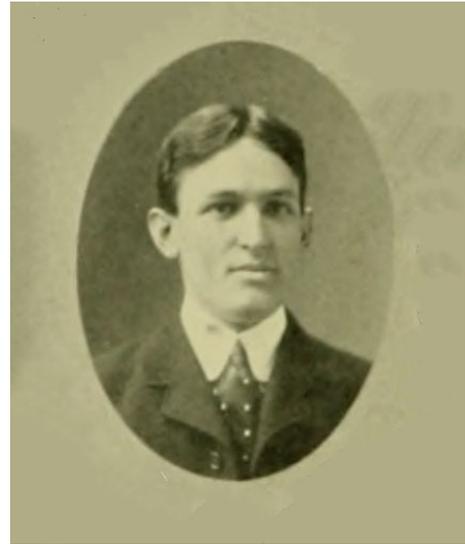
## Robert Baker “Bob” Lawson School of Medicine, Class of 1902, 1875-1952

Robert Baker Lawson was a School of Medicine classmate of Dr. Hayden; while, there is no proof the two probably played football and baseball together for UMB. Dr. Lawson was from Lynchburg, Virginia. He attended and graduated from the University of North Carolina (UNC), Chapel Hill, where he played baseball, football, and ran track. While at UNC he held a 35 to 1 record as a pitcher.

Dr. Lawson’s first major league game was played May 7, 1901 with the Boston Beaneaters, where he played for three games before signing with the Baltimore Orioles in May 1902. Lawson’s first game for the Orioles occurred May 31, 1902; he came into the game as a relief pitcher and gave away six runs. The Orioles lost six to three to Cleveland. Lawson played three more games as an Oriole before returning to Rhode Island where he played in the minor leagues.

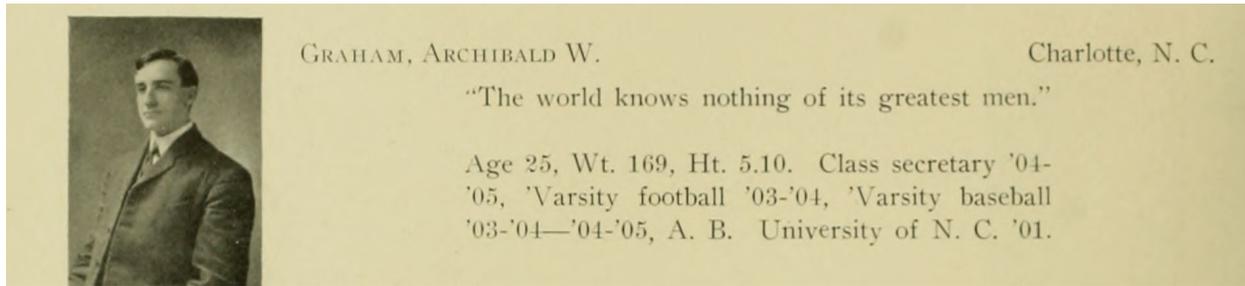
Lawson’s time as a professional baseball player was short lived; he joined UNC as a faculty member in 1905. During his 43 years at UNC, he served as head baseball coach (1900, 1905-1906, and 1910) as well as coached football, track, and gymnastics. He was also the school’s first athletic director and trainer and taught in the School of Medicine. In 1906, Dr. Lawson is credited with introducing UNC—arguably one of the best NCAA basketball school’s today—to the game of basketball during physical education classes. In 1911, und the petition of UNC student, Marvin Ritch, Basketball became a formal team sport at UNC.

Dr. Lawson married Estelle Adlaide Ward Lawson (died in 1949). Together they had a daughter, Estelle Lawson Page. Page became an amateur golf champion in 1932. Dr. Lawson passed away October 28, 1952.



*Robert Baker Lawson, 1902 Bones, Molars and Briefs Yearbook Photograph. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/2451>.*

## Archibald Wright “Moonlight” Graham, School of Medicine, Class of 1905, 1876-1965



*Archibald Wright Graham, 1905 Terra Mariae Yearbook Photograph. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/2454>.*

Dr. Archibald Wright Graham or “Moonlight” Graham is the most famous Major League Baseball Player to graduate from the University of Maryland. His story was the inspiration for Doc Graham in *Shoeless Joe*, a novel by W.P. Kinsella, and in the major motion picture, “Field of Dreams.”

Dr. Graham was born to a large, well-educated family in Fayetteville, North Carolina. Both his parents and his nine siblings were college graduates. Graham, like Dr. Lawson, earned his bachelor’s degree from the University of North Carolina, graduating in 1901. It is possible that Lawson’s and Graham’s paths crossed at UNC, as Graham played both Football and Baseball there. In the Fall of 1901, Graham began a two-year postgraduate medical course at the UNC, School of Medicine.

When not in school, Graham played baseball, signing with the Charlotte Hornets of the North Carolina League in June 1902. Later he signed with Manchester of the New England League, playing there in the summers while continuing his medical education at the University of Maryland, School of Medicine. While at UMB, Graham played on the school’s baseball and football teams.

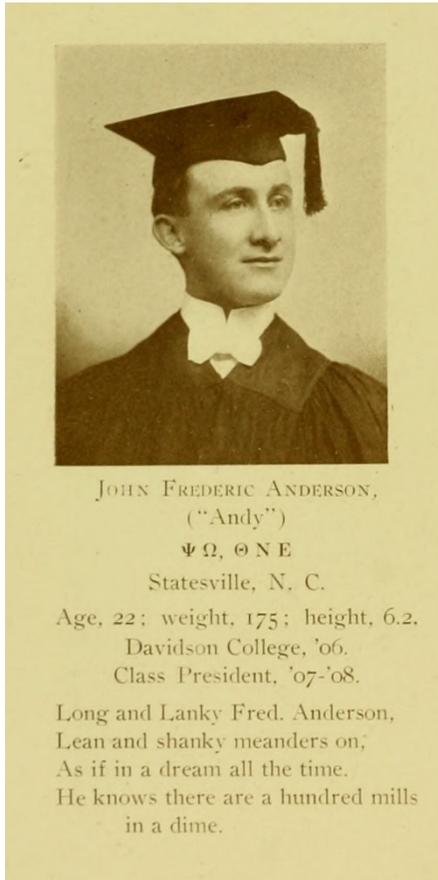
After graduating from UMB, Dr. Graham took an assistant resident physician position at Bayview Hospital and signed with the New York Giants, playing with their minor league affiliate. Dr. Graham’s first and only major league game appearance occurred on June 29, 1905. The Giants were playing the Brooklyn Superbas; Graham entered the game in the ninth inning. He reportedly never touched the ball and was “on deck” when the third out occurred to end the game. The Giants won the game 11 to 1. Graham—except for a brief stint with the Memphis Egyptians in 1906— continued to play minor league baseball with the Scranton Miners until 1908. He also continued studying and practicing medicine in New York and Pennsylvania.



*Archibald Wright “Moonlight” Graham while playing on the New York Giants. Image from Wikipedia: [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moonlight\\_Graham](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Moonlight_Graham).*

In 1909, he retired from baseball and moved to Chisolm, Minnesota, reportedly in search of relief from respiratory problems. In Chisolm, he set up a family practice and became a beloved figure in the town. He married Alecia Flowers on September 15, 1915. In 1917 he became the physician for the Chisholm City Schools as well as the Chisolm High School sports’ team doctor. Dr. Graham also became a well-known researcher in the field of hypertension in children. He retired from work in 1960 and died in 1965.

## John Frederick “Fred” Anderson, School of Dentistry, Class of 1909, 1885-1957



*John Frederick Anderson, 1909 Terra Mariae Yearbook Photograph. Available at: <http://hdl.handle.net/10713/2465>.*

UMB's final Major Leaguer was John Frederick Anderson from Calahan, North Carolina. Anderson attended Oak Ridge Military Institute and Davidson College before attending the University of Maryland, School of Dentistry. In his final year at UMB, he pitched for the University's Baseball Team, reportedly setting the strikeout record. The 1909 April-May *Old Maryland* had this to say about him after a game with the Midshipmen: "Anderson certainly pitched peerless ball, making an exceptional record against the Navy in fanning twenty batters. His record for three consecutive games was fifty-three strikeouts in twenty-four innings of actual play, something practically unparalleled in the history of college baseball." Anderson graduated from the School of Dentistry in 1909.

Dr. Anderson pitched for Wilson of the Eastern Carolina League and the Worchester Busters of the New England League before joining the Boston Red Sox in 1909. His first game for the Red Sox occurred on September 25, 1909 where the team beat the St. Louis Browns. After the 1909 season, Dr. Anderson left baseball to practice dentistry in North Carolina. He returned to the Red Sox in 1912 but did not make the team; instead he played with the Brockton

Shoemakers of the Colonial League. In August 1913 he again returned to the Red Sox but had a series of disappointing games resulting in him leaving the team in 1914 for the Buffalo Blues of the Federal League. After the collapse of the Federal League in 1915, Anderson returned to the majors with the New York Giants. In 1917, Anderson was still with the NY Giants when they went to the World Series, losing to the Chicago White Sox.

Following the shortened 1918 baseball season caused by World War I, Dr. Anderson joined the U.S. Army Dental Corps. When the War ended in November 1918, Anderson returned to dentistry and set up practice in North Carolina. He married Clementine Tise on June 28, 1921. He retired from dentistry in 1948 and after a two-year illness committed suicide on November 8, 1957.



*Fred Anderson Baseball Card, Pitcher New York Nationals, Image from: <http://www.vintagecardprices.com/card-profile/43658/1917-Boston-Store-Fred-Anderson-5-Baseball-Card-Value-Prices.htm>.*

## References and Additional Reading

### HSLS Historical Collections:

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- 1905 Terra Mariae [Yearbook](#)
- 1909 Terra Mariae [Yearbook](#)
- 1909-1910 Old Maryland [Newsletter](#)
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### Web Sources:

- Society for American Baseball Research
  - [Moonlight Graham](#)
  - [Jack Hayden](#)
  - [Fred Anderson](#)
- Find-a-Grave
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  - [Fred Anderson](#)
  - [Bob Lawson](#)
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