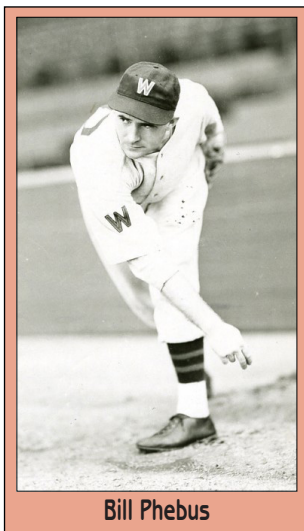


October 11, 1989

E Pluribus Phebus

On October 11, 1989, former major league pitcher Bill Phebus passes away in Bartow, Florida, at the age of 80.

Phebus begins his major league career with the 1936 Washington Senators, appearing in only two games, posting a 0-0 record with a 2.45 ERA ... the Clovis, California product enjoys his best season in 1937, finishing 3-2 with a 2.21 ERA in six games ... Phebus is plagued by wildness (35 walks in 54 1/3 innings) in his three seasons with the Senators.



Bill Phebus

Quick Start I

Signed right out of high school on June 2, 1929, by the Bakersville Bees of the California State (D) League, a 19-year-old Phebus makes an immediate impact pitching back-to-back complete game victories over the San Bernardino Padres in his first eight days as a professional.

Quick Start II

On September 6, 1937, after being recalled from the Chattanooga Lookouts of the Southern (A) Association, where he is an unimpressive 5-9 with a 4.83 ERA, Phebus hurls a 2-0 one-hit complete game shutout victory over the Boston Red Sox in the second game of a doubleheader ... Red Sox catcher Gene Desautels spoils the no-hitter with a fifth-inning double.

Over his next three starts, all complete games, Phebus allows only six earned runs in 26 innings and finishes the 1937 season allowing only 33 hits in 40 2/3 innings pitched.

Phebus makes his last major league appearance on May 16, 1938, allowing seven earned runs on five hits and four walks in two innings of work in a 13-7 loss to the Detroit Tigers ... following the loss, the Senators send him to Chattanooga to rehabilitate his sore arm.

Phebus refuses to report to the Lookouts and tells the Senators that he wants to make a deal for himself ... anxious to sign with a Pacific Coast League, Phebus returns to California and signs with the Fresno (Calif.) Brewing Company semi-pro team on June 16 ... on July 9, Phebus signs with his third team in little more than two months, inking a contract with the Modesto Reds of the independent California State League.

Phebus has two double-digit winning seasons during his twelve years in the minor leagues ... in 1938, he wins a career-high 15 games with the Davenport Blue Sox of the Western (A) League ... a year later, Phebus is 13-12 with a 3.35 ERA with the Albany Senators of the International (AA) League ... Phebus finishes his minor league career in 1942 with a 57-73 record.