

# On This Date

# October 27, 1918

**Ed "Rube" Albosta** is born on October 27, 1918, in Saginaw, Michigan. An 88-game winner in the minors, the 6-foot-1, 175-pound right-hander is a little less successful in his two seasons at the major league level, finishing 0-8 with a 6.15 ERA in 19 appearances.

Taking it one step further, Albosta never even plays in a major league game where his team wins. In 19 games with the Brooklyn Dodgers (1941) and Pittsburgh Pirates (1946), Albosta is 0-19.



A three-sport star at Arthur Hill High School in Saginaw, Albosta signs with the Detroit Tigers in 1938, and is sent to their minor league team in Beckley, West Virginia. On January 14, 1940, following two seasons in the Tigers' farm system, Albosta is one of 87 minor leaguers and five major leaguers under contract with Detroit, that are declared free agents by Baseball Commissioner Kenesaw Mountain Landis who finds that Detroit has "mishandled" the players' contracts.

On February 1, 1941, after rejecting offers from the St. Louis Cardinals and Boston Bees, the hard-throwing "moundster" signs with the Brooklyn Dodgers for \$1,500. On September 1, 1941, the Dodgers promote Acosta from the Durham Bulls where he was 15-5 with a 1.73 ERA in the B-level Piedmont League. Two days later he makes his major league debut against the Philadelphia Phillies and absorbs his first loss in a 4-1 defeat. He makes two starts for the Dodgers, losing both, and is on their World Series roster, but does not appear in a game.

After missing three years to military service in World War II, he returns to baseball with the hapless Pittsburgh Pirates in 1946. The 27-year-old is 0-6, yielding 41 hits and 35 walks in 39 2/3 innings, with a 6.13 ERA.

Albosta dies on January 7, 2003, at 84 years of age, in Saginaw, Michigan.