

# On This Date

# August 22, 1888

Born on August 22, 1888, Al Bashang makes his major league debut on July 30, 1912, with the Detroit Tigers against the Philadelphia Athletics. As a pinch-runner for pitcher Jean Dubuc, Bashang scores the tying run in the bottom of the ninth inning on Donie Bush's single to left field in an eventual 7-6 Tiger victory.

In six games with the Bengals, Bashang is 1-for-12 (.083) with three walks and six strikeouts. Brought back to the majors in 1918 with Brooklyn, Bashang finishes his major league career 2-for-17 (.118) with three runs scored and six strikeouts.



The Cincinnati native plays 18 minor league seasons (1910-1927), including two seasons where he is the player-manager of the Three-I League's Evansville Evas. On July 16, 1920, Bashang succeeds Lew Groh, who quits because of team dissension. A year later, he directs the Evas to a 67-69 record and a 5th place finish. In his two seasons as the Evas' manager he is 107-90 (.543).

A switch-hitting outfielder and sometime infielder, Bashang has 13 seasons with 100-or-more hits and has a career-high .327 batting average as a 34-year-old with the Saginaw Aces in 1923. Known early on as Alley or Allie Bashang, he begins his pro career hitting .236 in 1910 with the Junction City Soldiers but is released on July 11, "because he could not hit." On June 23, 1967, 78-year-old Albert "Al" Bashang passes away in his hometown of Cincinnati.