

Cups of Coffee: Bob Dresser

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"Bob" Dresser Made His Debut.

Local pitching prospect Bob Dresser joins the Boston Beaneaters in August 1902 directly from the Northern New York League, a four-team semipro league in the Empire State.

Within days of joining Al Buckenberger's National League club, the 23-year-old Dresser makes his major league debut on August 13, in the second game of a double-header against the first-place Pittsburgh Pirates.

Pitching in front of a large gathering of friends, the Newton, Massachusetts, left-hander opens the game by striking future Hall of Famer Fred Clarke and centerfielder Ginger Beaumont ... Dresser gets two strikes on Tommy Leach before the third baseman singles to begin a three-run Pirate rally, aided by a two-out error by first baseman Fred Tenney ... Dresser goes the route against the Bucs, allowing only two earned runs on 12 hits while striking out eight.

Pawtucket (RI) Times, August 14, 1902

The feature of the second game was Wagner's wonderful base running. After stealing second and third he stole home right under Moran and Dresser's eyes, just as the latter had pitched the ball.

Boston only got one tally and that in the sixth as a result of Tenney's two-bagger and Cooley's single, the turner scoring from second.

For Dresser, the complete game will also be his only appearance at the major league level.

In the seventh inning, Pittsburgh's Honus Wagner singles to open the inning ... the future Hall of Famer proceeds to steal second, third and home to score the game's final tally in a 6-1 Corsair victory.

Pittsburg at Boston August 13, 1902 - Official Scorecard

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BOSTON.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	1B	TB	SH	PO	A	E
Dexter C.F. 	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Tenney 1 b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cooley 1 f	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Carney r f	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Greminger 3 b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Demont 2 b	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Long J.S. 	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Kittredge or Moran 2 c	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Willis, Esson or Garrison 2 c	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
7	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
8	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
9	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
10	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
R	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
1B	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
TB	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
SH	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
PO	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
A	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0</								

Pittsburg Pirates at Boston Beneaters August 13, 1902

PITTSBURG

	ab	r	b	po	a	e
Clark, rf	5	0	1	0	0	0
Burke, rf	5	0	0	0	0	0
Beaumont, cf	5	0	1	2	0	1
Leach, 3b	5	1	1	0	5	0
Wagner, 1b	5	2	2	11	0	0
Tannehill, lf	5	1	2	1	0	0
Ritchey, 2b	4	1	1	4	4	0
Conroy, ss	4	0	3	0	4	0
Smith, c	4	1	0	7	1	0
Philippi, p	4	0	1	0	2	0
 Totals	 41	 6	 12	 27	 16	 1

BOSTON

	ab	r	b	po	x	e
Dexter, cf, ss	4	0	2	2	0	1
Tenney, 1b	4	1	2	2	1	1
Cooley, lf	4	0	2	0	0	0
Carney, rf	4	0	0	3	0	0
Greminger, 3b	4	0	0	1	2	0
Demont, 2b	4	0	1	2	1	0
Long, ss	2	0	1	1	1	1
Lush, cf	1	0	0	1	0	1
Moran, c	4	0	1	10	2	0
Dresser, p	4	0	1	0	1	1
Total	—	—	—	—	—	—

Totals	35	.1	10	27	8	6				
Innings	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Pittsburg ...	3	0	0	2	0	0	1	0	0	6
Boston	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	1

Earned runs, Pittsburg 2, Boston 1; two-base hits, Wagner, Dresser, Tenney; three-base hit, Conroy; stolen bases, Leach 2, Wagner 3, Tannehill, Cooley, Beaumont double plays, Ritchey and Conroy, Conroy, Ritchey and Wagner bases on balls, off Philippi 1; struck out, by Philippi 5, by Dresser 8. Time, 1.55. Umpire, Irwin. Attendance, 3000.

Dresser's road to Boston's South End Grounds is not without incident ... on August 2, following a meeting of the officers of the Northern New York League, President Larkin announces that following a protest by league member Plattsburg, he is expelling Bob Dresser, a young left hander just signed by St. Albans, for jumping his contract with Plattsburg ... Larkin feels that the punishment is appropriate and "should prove a good lesson to others likewise inclined".

George Childs, president of the St. Albans team, wires Larkin in return that he doesn't recognize Larkin's authority to suspend Dresser and will continue to play him.

The following afternoon (August 3), Dresser makes his St. Albans' debut with a 3-2 complete game victory over Plattsburg ... Dresser allows his former team seven hits while striking out three and walking three.

On the same day that Dresser makes his debut with the Beaneaters, the Northern New York League, with the agreement of the St. Albans franchise, issues a ruling that Dresser is a "contract jumper" and can no longer play for any team in the league ... they also find that St. Albans was not aware of Dresser's previous contract with Plattsburg and is "innocent" in the matter.