

The All Star Loser

The year 1903 was a big year for baseball. The first World Series was played that year. The game was between the Pittsburgh Pirates and the Boston Red Sox.

In the first game, the Sox were to start a pitcher by the name of Denton Young. When Boston fans heard this, they couldn't believe it.

"Denton Young? What are you thinking! How could you possibly start Denton Young?"

And they would be right in thinking this. After all, Denton Young was the losingest pitcher in baseball history. In fact, to this day, he is still the losingest pitcher in baseball history.

On this particular day, Denton was the man to start for the Red Sox, and that was final.

The first two batters went down in order...1, 2. Things were looking good for Denton Young at this point.

But that would quickly change. After the first two batters, things went down hill and Denton looked like he was going to live up to his reputation. There was a triple, a single, a few errors by Boston to bring in a run, and after the end of the first inning, the score was Pirates 4, the Red Sox 0.

At this point fans must have been shaking their head in disgust wondering how they ever got this far in the season with a pitcher like this

The Sox lost the game that day. Denton Young was charged with the loss. One more to add to his long list.

Not only did the Red Sox lose the game, they lost the series as well. It seems as though the fans were right about this one.

But thank goodness Denton didn't focus on what the fans thought of his talent or on what he couldn't do, but rather on the talent he had.

"Talent he had ?" you might ask. "The guy was the losingest pitcher in baseball history. What talent are you talking about?"

Oh, he had talent and he knew it. In fact, to this day, there is an award named after him that is given out each year to the best pitcher in baseball.

That's right, an award named after the losingest pitcher in baseball history is given out to the best pitcher in baseball every year.

If you play baseball, you've heard of it. If you are a pitcher, you dream of receiving it.

For you see, Denton "Cy" Young was not only the losingest pitcher in baseball history, but also the winningest pitcher in baseball history.

Sure he lost 316 games.

But he also won 511.

And that prestigious award given out each year to the winningest pitcher in baseball?

TheCy Young Award



Denton "Cy" Young