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On behalf of the City of London, I would like to extend a very special welcome to the staff, players, and fans of the London Majors on the occasion of the opening of your 1987 Season.

Londoners are fortunate indeed to be represented in the Inter-County Baseball League by such a high calibre team as the London Majors and I join with all Londoners in wishing you a highly successful season.

Good luck and play ball!

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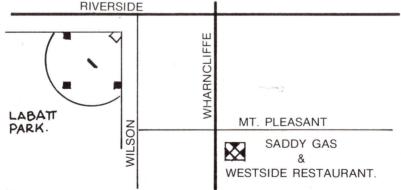
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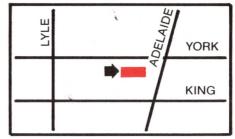
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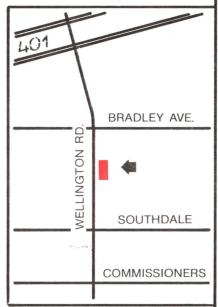
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#### WAYNE FENLON

Born: September 24, 1946 - Montreal, Quebec

- \* First team All-Star Catcher 1972
- \* Second team All-Star Catcher 1969, 1970
- ★ Member of Ontario Team at 1970 Canadian Championships at Brandon, Manitoba
- ★ Led League with 31 RBI's in 1970
- ★ Led League with 10 doubles in 1974
- ⋆ Once went a year and a half without striking out

On Friday, July 11, 1986 at approximately 8:30 p.m. Wayne stroked a solid single to right for hit number 571 to become the all time hit leader, one ahead of Tom McKenzie.

This is a great accomplishment for one of the best clutch hitters to play in the inter-county.

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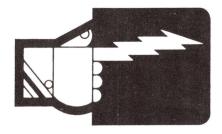
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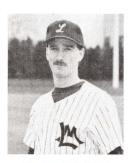
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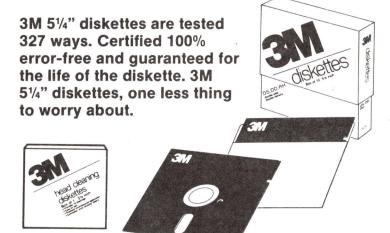
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#### BUT WE ARE SURE THAT RECORDS IN PRO BALL HAVE BEEN KEPT METICULOUSLY SINCE APRIL 22nd, 1876. AND HERE ARE JUST A FEW OF THEM FOR YOU.

The National League was born on that date back in 1876 and in the kick-off game the home team lost.

The Philadelphia Athletics hosted Boston that day (Boston was a National League Team back then) and the Bostonians won 6-5!

Did you know that the first\*major league shut-out took place 3 days later in Chaicago? The home team beat Louisville 4-0 that day!

The first tie game in baseball took place that year.

Philadelphia and Louisville went 14 innings, tied 2-2, when they called the game on account of darkness. (Lighted ball parks had to wait 59 years, the first night game was played in Cincinnati May 24th, 1935.)

The first big game was played in 1876 but it wasn't until 1883 until somebody got the bright idea to put numbers on the team sweaters so fans could tell the players apart.

Does everybody remember Cornelius M. Phelps? You should. Cornelius was the first player to ever play two teams in one season. He started the 1876 season with New York and finished it playing for Philadelphia!

Who was the youngest man to ever play a game in the big leagues? Well he wasn't quite a man then, he was 15 year old Joe Nuxhall! Actually Joe was 15 years and 10 months old, but who's counting. Joe was a pitcher for the Cincinnati Reds and made his big league debut back on June 10th, 1944. You can hear Joe today, by the way. He's the Reds radio colour commentator on W.L.W. Cincinnati.

The first players to hit home runs in the big league ball both did it on May 2nd, 1876. Roscoe C. Barnes and Charles Jones both hit "homers" that day albeit for different teams. Barnes played for Chicago, Jones for Cincinnati.

The first pinch-hitter was Michale F. Welch of New York. He stepped in on August 10th, 1989 and promptly struck-out!

The first player to be given an intentional walk with the bases loaded was "Nap" Lajoie of Philadelphia back in 1901. (His hitting prowess was that feared!)

The first southpaw pitcher was Bob Mitchell of the Cincinnati Reds back in 1878.

And if you were wondering, the first pitcher to ever wear glasses in a baseball game was William H. White of Boston back in 1877.

There, I told you they keep meticulous records in baseball.

Let's hope here in 1987 that the London Majors set some records!

We wish them luck this inter-county season. Don't forget, if you can't make it out to Labatt Park to see the game, be listening to me in the mornings on CJBK and BX-93 for game results!



Yours in Baseball, Brian Decker Sports Director, CJBK BX-93 London BX-93
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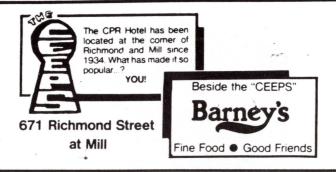
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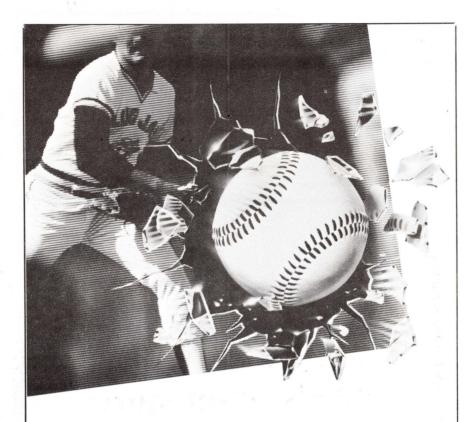
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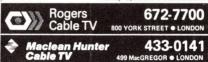




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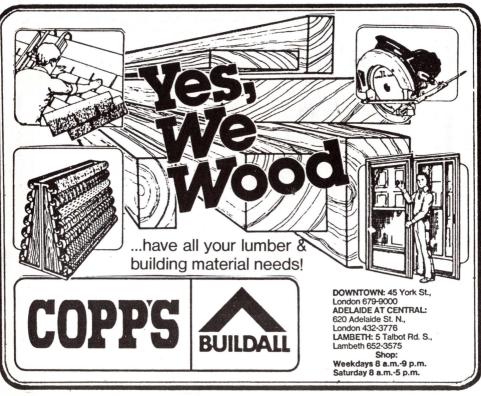






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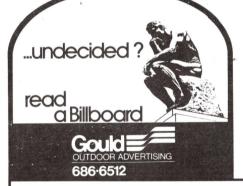
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After a successful freshman year of London Majors baseball coverage in 1986, CHRW-FM radio is very pleased to be once again associated with the Inter-County Major Baseball League team.

In the post-war era, London has been one of the few areas in south-western Ontario to be steadily involved in the I-C League entering a team every year except for the 1957 season. Success has also been with the London teams, winning the regular season pennant nine times since 1946. They have won the playoff championships for the "Red Cap" Cup six times in the post-war era.

The team has not always been called the Majors. In 1960 the team was called the Diamonds for that and the following year. After going back to the Majors for the 1962 and 63 seasons the name became the Pontiacs for the next six seasons. In these six years the Pontiacs won four pennants, winning the playoff championships in 1969. For the following four seasons the team was the London Avcos, and in 1974 the present day Majors returned as the team name.

Some of the players who have worn London uniforms have made great impact in the history of the I-C League. Before the war, names like Alfred White, Frank Colman, and Charles Males were big. After the war, Russ Evon led the league in batting in 1949 and 1952. Tommy White was the 1949 regular season MVP. Stan Anderson, a six-time first team all-star outfielder in the 50's and 60's, was the 1959 MVP. On the mound Rolf Scheel and Al Greenberg were both all-stars and MVP's in the 1960's.

In the 70's the names included Barry Boughner and Larry Haggitt in the infield, Arden Eddie, a six-time all-star outfielder, and the pitching of Mike Kilkenny, a left-hander who was named to all-star teams and MVP titles.

In 1975 Roy McKay managed the Majors to the pennant and the playoff championship with the help of a solid infield. The Majors placed two of them on the first team all-stars in 1975: Haggitt at first base and Boughner at second base.

Since their last pennant (1975) the Majors have entered post-season play every year except in 1981, and look to do so again this season. In the most recent years it has been people like Dave Byers, Bruce Gray, Alex McKay and Jon Owen who have made themselves familiar to Majors' fans, and look to lead the Majors towards the West division pennant and the playoffs.

CHRW-FM (94.7) is once again happy to be involved in its second year of covering London Majors baseball in the Inter-County Major Baseball League, and wish the Majors good luck in the 1987 season.

KAARLO KOSKIALA Sports Director CHRW-FM It's not whether you win or lose, but how well you eat after the game.



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#### Remembering London's "Mooney" Gibson

by Larry Cornies



Today, few Londoners know anything at all about George "Mooney" Gibson, his roots here or the notoriety he once brought to his home town.

It hasn't always been this way. During this century's first decade. Gibson was an institution among local baseball fans as the London kid that made it to the big times. He was born on July 22, 1885, and first displayed his athletic ability on corner lots and elementary school yards. His skill as a catcher and his strong throwing arm qualified him for the church league's Knox Baseball Club at the age of 12. From there, Gibson picked up additional experience with the West London Stars of the Canadian League, the Struthers and McClary teams of the City League and with Buffalo in the Eastern League. After playing a year with Montreal, Gibson was purchased by Pittsburgh Pirates president Barney Dreyfuss, who took him south. At the age of 20, the son of a London bricklayer had a National League

Londoners followed his career closely. Gibson quickly became the Pirates' regular catcher and dazzled opposing base-runners with the dead-on accuracy of his throw to second. He led the league's catchers in fielding percentage several times; that was Gibson's strength. His hitting was less remarkable. Goerge batted .178 in both his first two years with the Pirates and improved that to only the .220s during the 1907 and 1908 seasons. He never hit more than three home runs in one year.

Of the 12 seasons he played with Pittsburgh, none could match 1909—the year Mooney caught 150 regular season games, posted a batting average of .265 with 52 RBIs, then went into a seven-game World Series against the Detroit Tigers.

That series, more than any other aspect of his career, made Gibson a local hero here in London. The Free Press and Advertiser regularly carried articles on the home-town kid, who by this time had grown into a 190 pound six-footer, and had been called the "best catcher in the business." Thousands of baseball fans from across Western Ontario packed London's train station prior to each of the Tiger's World Series home games, anxious to cheer on Mooney and the Pirates against their traditional favorites at Detroit's Bennett Park.

In a pre-series analysis of the two teams, press reports noted that "Pittsburgh regards catcher Gibson as one of the best factors. Gibson is far and away the best catcher in the National League."

When the Pirates wrapped up the championship with an 8-0 victory in the final game on Oct. 16, Gibson was showered with the acclaim of teammates, sportwriters—and the Tigers.

Gibson returned to the Pirates in 1910 and caught steadily for Pittsburgh until 1917, when the New York Giants' John McGraw acquired him in a trade. As a player, Mooney's major league career lasted only two more seasons. During his tenure with Pittsburgh, Gibson caught 1,203 games. Today, he still holds the record for most games played by a Pirate catcher. Manny Sanguillen ranks second with 1,185.

After leaving the New York Giants in 1918, Mooney coached the Toronto Maple Leafs of the International League for one sason, then was persuaded by Barney Dreyfuss to return to Pittsburgh as manager. During his two stints as Pirates manager, 1920-22 and again from 1932-33, Gibson's win percentages hung around the .500 mark. He also managed the Chicago Cubs for 26 games during the 1925

Mooney Gibson was inducted into the Canadian Sports Hall of Fame near Toronto's Exhibition Stadium in 1958, mostly on the strength of several articles written about his career in the London Free Press. Finally, on Jan 29 of this year, the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, located at Ontario Place, voted to induct Gibson into that shrine this summer.

Speaking for the selection committee, Bruce Prentice, president of the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, said, "The man is overdue for his recognition. He had a very distinguished career and gave a lot to the sport in Canada. Aside from Canadian-born pitchers, I can't name a Canadian who had a better career than Mooney Gibson."

On Jan. 27, 1967, two days after Gibson's death of cancer at Victoria Hospital, *London Free Press* sports columnist Jack Park wrote, "I have an idea that few natives of this city brought as much fame to their home town than did Mooney and got as little credit for it."

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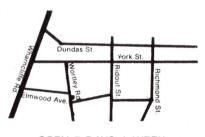
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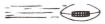
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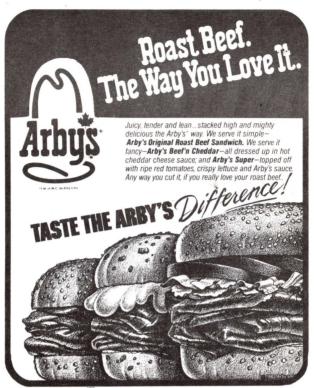
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### CK5LI4I

By: Tim Kilpatrick, CKSL Sports Editor

#### **MAJORS IMPROVE PITCHING STAFF:**

London Majors president Arden Eddie has taken some major steps to improve the clubs pitching staff.

Over the winter the Majors added three new pitchers to their line-up.

The new faces include . . . Bob Bush, who was M.V.P. in the Southwestern Ontario league last year. Also signed was left-hander Mike Kaschak, a 21-year-old from Windsor and big 6-foot, 3-inch Shane Thompson, a right-hander from Sault Ste. Marie on the American side.

Eddie said although he has not seen the players pitch, all three come highly recommended from their respected coaches.

#### **MAJORS '86 STATS:**

Last year's record was 11 and 23... Majors were seventh in team batting with an average of .283... Seventh in pitching with an E.R.A. of 5.65... Fifth in team fielding... Catcher Terry Cox led the team in homers with ten... Majors won their 1986 home opener with a 5-0 win over Stratford.

#### **MAJORS MINDBUSTING TRIVIA:**

- What London Major led the league in homers in 1984?
   A....Dave Byers, 14
- What former London Majors made the 1984 first team all-star?
   A....Dave Byers (SS), Bill Yelton (OF), Fergie Jenkins (P)





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#### **CHRW London Majors Trivia**

by Ed Klajiman - 1987 Summer Sports Co-Ordinator

- Name the last London Major to win the Reid Buck Memorial Trophy as batting champion of the Inter-County League.
- 2. 1975 was the last time the London Majors won the Inter-County League title. How many players did the club place on the first all-star team?
- 3. The London Majors have on their roster two players that have played in more Inter-County League games than anyone else. Name them.
- 4. The London Majors also have Inter-County League's all-time home run king. Who is he?
- 5. Name the last London Major to throw a no-hitter.
- 6. When was the last time the London Majors appeared in the championship series of the Inter-County League?
- 7. Which pitcher led the Majors in strike-outs last year?
- 8. Who led the Majors in on-base percentage last year?
- 9. Who was the last London Major to lead the Inter-County League in triples?
- 10. Which radio station provides the most in-depth coverage of the London Majors, including selected live play-by-play broadcasts?

Answers on page 51

#### AMATEUR:

JENKINS, Ferguson A, - Pitcher

JENKINS, Ferguson A. TEXAS RANGERS

Ht 6'5" Wt-205 Bats-R Throw-R Resides-Blenheim, Ontario, Canada Born December 13, 1943, Chatham, Ont. Canada Signed by Tony Lucadello

Graduated from Chatham (Ont. Can.) High School in 1962. Tied Major League record with five 1 to 0 losses in 1968. Allowed most home runs in National League in 1967 (30), tied for most in 1968 (26), allowed most in 1971 (29), 1972 (32) and 1973 (35). Led 1972 National League pitchers in putouts (28). National League Cy Young Award Winner in 1971, also named National League Pitcher-of-the Year by The Sporting News. Selected by The Sporting News as pitcher on National League All-Star team for 1967, 1971 and 1972. The Sporting News 1974 American League Comeback-Player-of-the Year and Texas Sports Writers Association Pro-Athlete-of the Year.

YR	CLUB	LEAGUE	G	GS	CG	ShO	W	L	PCT	IP.	Н	R	ER	TBB	SO	ERA
62	Miami	Florida State	11	8	5	3	7	2	.778	65	-34- :	10	7	19	69	0.96
62	Buffalo	International	3	2	0	0	1	1	.500	13	18	9	8	5	6	5.54
63	Miami	Florida State	20	18	10	2	12	5	.706	140	110	66	53	59	135	3.41
63	Little Rock	International	4	1	0	0	0	1	.000	10	13	7	7	3	13	6.30
64	Chattanooga	Southern	21	20	7	2	10	6	.625	139	124	61	48	42	149	3.11
64	Little Rock	Pacific Coast	11	9	4	2	5	5	.500	57	40	27	20	34	49	3.16
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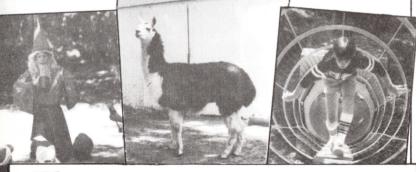
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#### **ANSWERS**

- 1. John Gourley batted .409 in 1978.
- 2. 4; Larry Haggitt, 1st Base; Barry Boughner, 3rd Base; Mike Kilkenny, Pitcher; Roy McKay was also named as the manager.
- 3. Arden Eddie has played in 540 games and manager Wayne Fenlon in 507.
- 4. Dave Byers has hit 69 homers in his inter-county league career.
- 5. Doug Beckett on July 5, 1974 defeated Stratford 1-0. (The game went only seven innings.)
- 6. In 1982, the Majors lost in the finals to the Toronto Maple Leafs in 6 games.
- 7. Brice Gray had 63 to Mike Patterson's 38.
- 8. Catcher Ian Anderson .457 percentage.
- 9. Arden Eddie led the league with 4 in 1974.
- 10. CHRW, London's only alternative.



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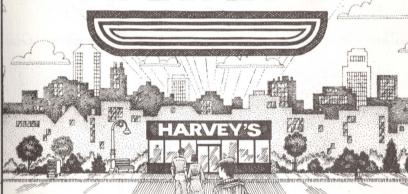
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