

LONDON

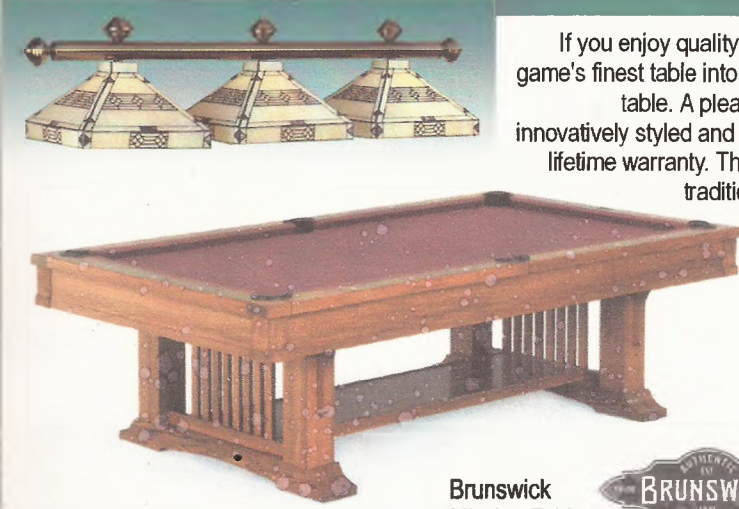


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<u>#</u>	<u>Player</u>	<u>Position</u>
1	Jared Franke	LHP
2	Mike Wainman	4
6	Kyle Piwowarczyk	4/5/6
8	Fielding Lewis	7
11	Mike Featherling	8/LHP
12	Sean McGregor	9
13	Adam Campbell	RHP
14	Chuck Roberts	3/5
15	Jordon Rosenberg	7
19	Todd Bargman	3
21	Kevin MacDonald	4
22	Kenny Williams	LHP
23	Yoel Fernandez-Cruz	6/RHP
25	Troy Keisling	LHP
26	Steve Held	5/6
28	Shawn Latimer	9/RHP
29	Mark Boynton	RHP
32	Norm Liberman	2
35	John Boom	8/9
36	Rob Robinson	RHP
39	Greg Goss	5
45	Chris Robinson	2
48	Ryan Finnson	LHP
77	Kurt Hill	7
24	Arden Eddie	MGR
33	Dave Butt	COACH
27	Bob White	COACH

### Bat Boys

1	William Bristow
33	Earl Austin
55	Danny White



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**HOME**

May 19	Mon	5:00	Tor	D/H
May 30	Fri	7:30	Kit	
June 1	Sun	5:00	Bar	D/H
June 6	Fri	7:30	Gue	
June 8	Sun	5:00	Osh	D/H
June 18	Wed	7:30	Kit	
June 27	Fri	7:30	Gue	
June 29	Sun	7:00	Wat	
July 1	Tue	7:00	Brant	
July 4	Fri	7:30	Wat	
July 6	Sun	5:00	Ham	D/H
July 16	Wed	7:30	St.Th	
July 25	Fri	7:30	St.Th	
July 27	Sun	7:00	Brant	

**AWAY**

May 10	Sat	2:00	Gue	
May 11	Sun	7:00	St.Th	
May 17	Sat	2:00	Brant	
May 25	Sun	1:00	Ham	D/H
June 5	Thur	7:30	Kit	
June 15	Sun	1:00	Wat	D/H
June 22	Sun	7:00	Kit	
June 28	Sat	2:00	Osh	D/H
July 5	Sat	2:00	Brant	D/H
July 12	Sat	1:00	Bar	
July 13	Sun	7:00	St.Th	
July 19	Sat	7:30	Gue	
July 20	Sun	1:00	Tor	D/H

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# The Roy McKay Clubhouse

By Barry (Scoop) Wells

With many failed attempts to preserve London's heritage behind us, the preservation of The Roy McKay Clubhouse at Labatt Park (the world's oldest ballpark in its original location) stands out like a ninth inning, grand-slam home run.

"In the winter of 1976, I was stomping through the snow at Labatt Park and wandered over to the clubhouse," says London Majors' owner Arden Eddie. "One of the keys I had on me unlocked the door. It was used by the PUC as a storage shed. From the outside it looked like it was about to fall over, but inside it looked great."

This moment of serendipity ignited a series of events, culminating in the heritage designation of the clubhouse 20 years later, in 1996.

Built following the flood of 1937, the frame clubhouse is steeped in sports history. Over the years, many baseball legends have either suited up in the clubhouse or stopped by to shoot the breeze with the Boys of Summer: Horace Wagner in 1941, *Connie* Mack in 1943, Satchel Page and Yogi Berra in 1948, Fergie Jenkins in 1984-5, Frank Colman, Russ Evon Tommy White, Oscar (Lefty) Judd and Roy McKay, to name but a few.

During the winter months in the 1940's, the clubhouse was used by skaters to lace up the blades for open-air, public skating at the park. During the summer months, it was used by both ball teams and the umpires, so you can imagine the heated post-game "discussions" within its walls.

During the Ontario Heritage Act plaquing ceremonies of Labatt Park on Canada Day of 1994, Eddie asked me, "What about the clubhouse? Is it protected by the ballpark's heritage designation?"

It grieved me to tell him it wasn't, as there were no "architectural reasons" listed in the by-law's reasons for designation. I promised Arden that I'd work to get the reasons for designation amended

in a year or two, as a member of the City's heritage committee.

In 1996, city council approved the bylaw amendment to protect the home of the London Majors Baseball Club. On August 1, 1996, during a pre-game ceremony emceed by longtime local sportscaster Pete (The Godfather) James, the building was officially renamed the Roy McKay Clubhouse, in honour of long-time London Majors pitcher, Roy McKay, who tragically passed away on December 25, 1995.

While the big battle was won, a few minor skirmishes were still on the horizon.

Next up was the battle to repair the building. The only person to spend a dime on the clubhouse since the late 70's was Eddie himself. As the owner of a heritage building, it was time for the City to step up to the plate and spend a few bucks. The roof was leaking like a sieve, the electrical wiring, plumbing and exterior needed work.

The city's heritage committee recommended asphalt shingles for the roof, but "Friends of Labatt Park" successfully fought for cedar shingles. "Friends" raised \$2000 for the cedar roof, with the City contributing nearly \$50,000 for the roof and other repairs. Today, there's still more work to be done.

Eddie's London Majors recently installed a boulder and commemorative plaque to Roy McKay in front of the clubhouse. If this success story doesn't touch that "sweet spot" in your heart, nothing will.

**Barry (Scoop) Wells** is vice-chair of Friends of Labatt Park, news editor of SCENE magazine and a former member of the London Advisory Committee on Heritage.





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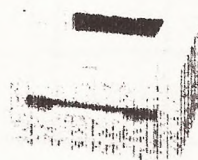
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# The Baseball Scorecard

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<input type="checkbox"/> Home:	<input type="checkbox"/> Scorer:	<input type="checkbox"/> End Time:	<input type="checkbox"/> Time of Game:

#	Line Up	Pos	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	AB	R	H	RB
			◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇	◇				
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S	Runs															
U	Hits															
M	Errors															
S	Left on Base															

#	Opposing Pitchers	W/L/S	IP	H	R	ER	BB	SO	HB	BK	TBF

#	Catchers	PB

Umpires	
HP:	3B:
1B:	
2B:	



# The Baseball Scorecard

<input type="checkbox"/> Visitor:	<input type="checkbox"/> Date:	<input type="checkbox"/> Start Time:	<input type="checkbox"/> Weather:
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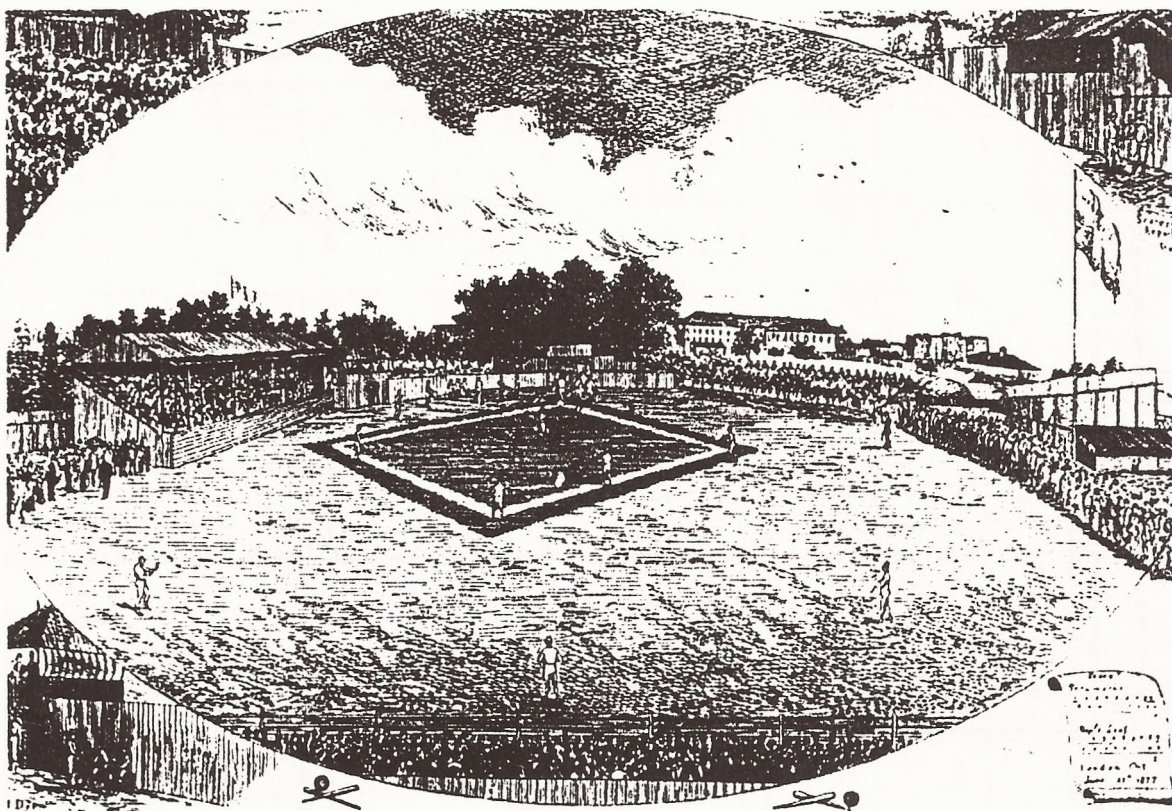
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#	Catchers	PB

Umpires	
HP:	3B:
1B:	
2B:	



London Tecumsehs play the Guelph Maple Leafs, Tecumseh Park, June 27, 1877. Final score 5 - 2, Tecumsehs

## Terminology

*aces/tallys* - runs

*match* - game

*wide* - ball

*huzzah* - hurrah

*Leg it!* - Run to Base!

*Striker to the Line!* - Batter Up!

*Three hands down* - three outs

*player dead* - put out

*foul tick* - foul ball

*cranks* - fans

*club nine* - team

*behind* - catcher

*striker* - batter

*tallykeeper* - scorekeeper

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# Base Ball ~in London

AS EARLY AS 1856, an organized Base Ball team was playing regularly on the part of the Military Reserve that is now Victoria Park. This team was perhaps one of the two that merged in 1868 to form the Tecumsehs, named after the hotel on York Street where the team was formed. Their games in the late 1860s were well-attended and often featured American opponents such as the Eckfords from Brooklyn, New York.

During the early 1870s, the London Tecumsehs' major rival was the Guelph Maple Leafs who were sponsored by brewer George Sleeman. The Maple Leafs were the first Ontario team to hire professional American base ball players to strengthen their side. When J.L. Englehart, a London oil refiner, became the president of the

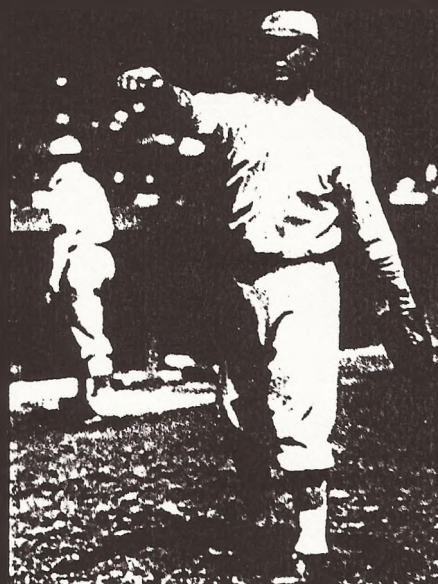


Tecumseh Club in late 1875, he too set about employing professional American players. In 1876 the Tecumsehs signed three Americans, pitcher Fred Goldsmith of New Haven, Connecticut, catcher Phil Powers, and outfielder Joe "Dutchy" Hornung from Carthage, New York. With the arrival of these professionals attendance and interest in the games grew. On May 24<sup>th</sup> 1876 London played Guelph in front of 6000 spectators at the Fair Grounds north of Central Avenue. The Tecumsehs capped their successful 1876 season by defeating the Maple Leafs to win the Canadian Championship.

The following season the Tecumseh Club became fully professional and joined the newly formed International League along with Guelph. This was also the first season of play in the new Tecumseh Park in Kensington, West London (Labatt Park). The first regular season game to be played in the new stadium took place on Saturday May 5<sup>th</sup> against the Hartfords of Brooklyn, New York. The new base ball field was lauded for its many amenities including a grandstand capable of seating 600, piped-in water for maintaining the grass, and facilities for scorers, telegraph operators, and reporters. One local newspaperman wrote, "The new grounds are the most complete in every respect of any kind in Canada, and but few American cities have such a convenient playing field." The Tecumsehs won the championship of the International Association in 1877 defeating the Pittsburgh Alleghenys 5 to 2.

Although the opener of the 1878 season attracted 4000 spectators, the crowds started to drop off and the team fell into debt. On August the 22<sup>nd</sup> 1878 the club folded due to "unsufficient patronage". The general feeling was that the players had been unhappy with the team management and had become indifferent. This, combined with the high expectations from the public led to the team's demise.

Professional base ball in the form of a new Tecumseh team was briefly resurrected in 1888 and 1889 as a part of the new International League. The team was funded by a business group believing it would be good advertising for the city. Yet, as with its predecessor, the new team did not achieve enough success to endure.



## George "Mooney" Gibson

George "Mooney" Gibson, a nephew of William Southam the famous newspaper publisher, is regarded as one of Canada's greatest ball players. Born in London in 1880, he was a right-handed batting catcher who first played in the major leagues in 1905 with the Pittsburgh Pirates. His playing career included 12 years with the Pirates and 2 more with the New York Giants. He was the Pirates' catcher in their World Series win over Detroit in 1909. Over his 14 years in the majors he batted .236. Later, Gibson managed the Pirates from 1920 to 1924, the Cubs in 1925, and the Pirates again from 1932 to 1934. He was the last Canadian born manager in the big leagues. Gibson was elected to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in St. Marys in 1987.

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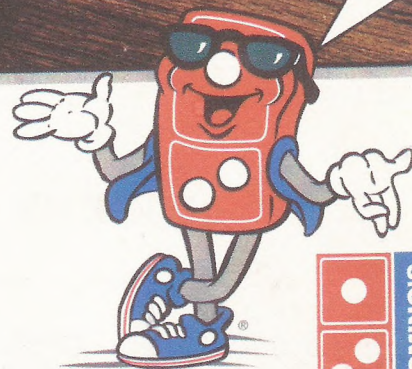
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