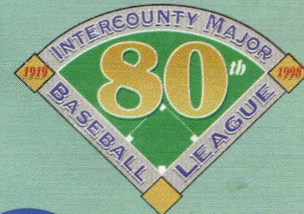


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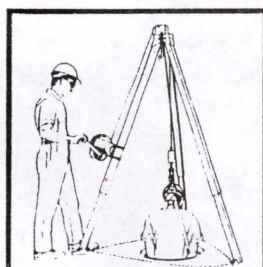
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OFFICE OF THE MAYOR



When spring breezes blow, the London Majors come out to play and they are raring to go!! On behalf of City Council, it is my pleasure to welcome the players, their families, friends, sponsors and fans to the 143rd season of London baseball.

We pass along our best wishes to the London Majors for a terrific season. City Council is proud to recognize the contributions you have made to our city and to thank you for your efforts.

Enjoy the game and all your discoveries of London.

A stylized, handwritten signature in dark ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke.

Mayor Dianne Haskett



DO YOU REMEMBER THE LONDON PIRATES?

By Carl McCoomb

London was granted a franchise in the class D Pennsylvania Ontario New York League (popularly known as the PONY League) for the 1940 season. Other teams in the PONY League at this time were Batavia NY, Bradford PA, Hamilton Ont, (known as the Red Wings), Jamestown NY, Olean NY and Niagara Falls NY.

At this time organized baseball had a "class designation". Class AAA leagues, such as the international League, American association were some of the minor leagues at the highest level, next to the major leagues. The class D leagues were the lowest level of professional baseball.

The Pony League operated from 1939 to 1956. Other teams in the league at various times were Corning NY, Erie Pa, Hornell NY, Lockport NY and Wellsville NY.

The London Pirates were sponsored by the Pittsburgh Pirates and were commonly known as the "Baby Bucs". The installation of lights at Labatt Park occurred at this time and the park became one of the most beautiful baseball parks in professional baseball. It should be noted that in 1937, the Thames river went on a rampage through London, and knocked down the old wooden grandstands, which were replaced by sturdy grandstands that are still in place today.

The 1940 Pirates started off slowly in the season, but eventually won enough games to qualify for the playoffs. They defeated the Jamestown Falcons in a Monday night game on Sept. 2, 1940 to qualify for the playoffs, despite the fact that Jamestown hurriedly imported a pitcher named Sal "The Barber" Maglie, who went on to start in the major leagues with the Dodgers and Giants. London lost out in the first round of the 1940 PONY League playoffs to the Batavia Clippers.

In 1941, the London Pirates were never in contention and finished the season in the cellar. The Pittsburgh Pirates withdrew their support of the London Pirates after the 1941 season.

Professional baseball was not played in London until the London Tigers of the AA Eastern League in 1989.

London had other professional baseball teams prior to the Pirates.

In the 1870's, the London Tecumsehs played in the International Association against teams such as the Pittsburgh Alleghenys, Guelph Maple Leafs and the Lynn Live Oaks. Games were played at Tecumseh Park, now the site of Labatt Park. A well known London player at this time was Fred Goldsmith, co-inventor of the curve ball. From 1896 to 1897, the team was known as the London Alerts while in the Canadian League.

In 1911, London joined the class D Canadian League, which included many Ontario cities, as well as Erie, Pa. The league disbanded as a class B League after

the 1914 season. At the start of the 1911 season the London team was known as the Cockneys and later reverted back to Tecumsehs. London outfielder "Greasy" Neale went on to start for Cincinnati for many years.

The London Tecumsehs became a charter member of the class B Michigan - Ontario League in 1919. London won the pennant in 1920, 1921 and 1922. The calibre of play in this league was outstanding, in fact, in 1921 the American League's Boston Red Sox played an exhibition game in London and were beaten by the Tecumsehs, 5-3.

In the 1924 season, future Hall of Famer, Charlie Gehringer played 2nd base for London. In 1925, London adopted the name Indians. This league disbanded after the 1925 season.

In 1930, the London Tecumsehs entered the class D Ontario League, which disbanded in July of the same year. London had to play their home games at Queen's Park as the Dundas St. bridge was being replaced. Other team included St. Thomas, St. Catharines, Hamilton, Guelph, and Brantford.

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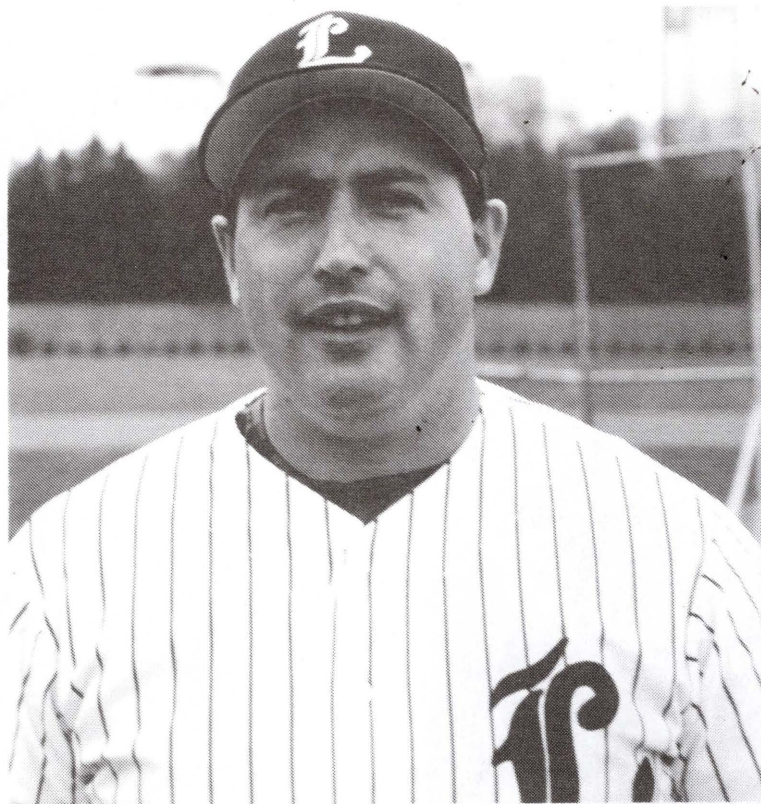


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FERGIE JENKINS

A HALL OF FAME LONDON MAJOR

by Jeffrey Reed

Before Cooperstown rightfully honored Canadian pitcher Ferguson Arthur Jenkins with membership in the Baseball Hall of Fame in 1991, the London baseball community was well aware of Fergie's love of the game and first-class demeanor. Why else would one of baseball's greatest hurlers, a seven-time 20-game winner, return to amateur baseball?

In 1984, after retiring from 19 years of major-league service, Jenkins took Arden Eddie up on his offer to join the London Majors. What a thrill it would be for both London baseball fans and the Majors themselves. In fact, Eddie, himself a veteran, was just thrilled to be able to call Jenkins a teammate.

Eddie remembers: "Fergie was just one of the guys, riding the bus with us, telling stories. He was a classy guy. In fact, when someone got a hit off of him, which wasn't often, they never showed him up, never said a word. There was nothing but total respect for the man." Eddie recalls an embarrassing moment from Fergie's first game as a Major. Even with a wet infield, the Majors owner (playing first base) opted not to wear his outfield cleats: "It was the first batter he faced. He hits a pop up between first base and home, between the pitcher's mound and the foul line. I come in full speed, and out go my feet from underneath me. Boom! I'm flat on my back! The ball comes down and lands just beside my head. Fergie, at 6'5" is looking down at me, flashing this Hollywood smile. I'm on the ground, my nose at the top of his shoes. And I wasn't quick enough to say anything! Not even 'Welcome to the Bigs' or anything!"

Jenkins just finished his professional playing days with the 1983 Chicago Cubs, pitching as a big-leaguer for the Majors in '84. In 12 starts, he completed 10 games and finished 9-3, with 81 K's, only 7 walks and an ERA of 2.30. He also impressed with his bat, hitting at a .384 clip with 7 doubles and 3 HR, 24 RBI and 12 runs scored.

Jenkins returned to the Majors for 14 games in 1985, occasionally taking the mound, and still impressing with his bat, finishing with a .367 average. More importantly, Jenkins batted 1.000 with the London Majors and their fans, as he returned to his roots, strengthening the belief that he is a classy individual.

No one knows more about Jenkins' pitching talent than the batters who faced him while he threw smoke for the Philadelphia Phillies, Chicago Cubs, Texas Rangers and the Boston Red Sox. After signing as a lanky all-around athlete from Chatham in 1962, Jenkins played four years of minor pro ball before suiting up for the Phillies on Opening Day in 1966. Between 1967-1972, while battling for a less than impressive Cubs club, he accumulated six-consecutive 20-win seasons.

The winner of 284 games, with 3,192 strikeouts under his belt, won the 1971 National League Cy Young Award, and was the American League Comeback Player of the Year in 1974. Four times, Jenkins was named Canada's Male Athlete of the Year, and he is a member of the Order of Canada. He was enshrined into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame in 1987.

On June 5, 1992 the Majors, along with a packed Labatt Park, celebrated Fergie Jenkins Night. His No. 31 was retired by the ballclub. Members of the 1984 and '85 Majors lined the first base line while Canada's greatest baseball player of all time thanked Londoners for their support.

Jenkins is the only Canadian ever to be elected to Baseball's Hall of Fame. Londoners are proud in knowing that for two seasons Fergie wore the legendary pinstripes of the London Majors.



Richard
Thompson
#5
CF

1997 Intercounty All-Star Teams *by Jeffrey Reed*

Here are the 1997 Intercounty Major Baseball League All-Star teams, as selected by the seven field managers. A five-three point system was used. Managers could not vote for their own players.

MVP (John Bell Memorial Trophy) – Rob Patterson, LHP/1B, Toronto Maple Leafs

Rookie of the Year (Brian Kerr Memorial Trophy) – Matt Stockman, C, Toronto Maple Leafs

First Team

LHP	Rob Patterson, Toronto	28
RHP	Joel Garton, Hamilton	30
C	Matt Stockman, Toronto	20
1B	Rob Patterson, Toronto	19
2B	Dan Murray, Brantford	20
3B	Mike Irving, Toronto	25
SS	Sean Travers, Guelph	18
OF	Jeff Pietraszko, Kitchener	30
	Richard Thompson, London	25
	Jason Borghese, Guelph	23
DH	Randy Curran, Kitchener	28
MGR	Dave Rosenhahn, Toronto	23

Second Team

LHP	Kevin Curran, Kitchener	22
RHP	Justin Reid, Stratford	9
C	Jamie Pietraszko, Kitchener	18
1B	Curtis Green, Guelph	18
2B	Mike Asselin, Toronto	19
3B	Darcy Mintz, Kitchener	10
SS	Todd Hayward, Stratford	16
OF	Rob Pregmolato, Guelph	17
	Zelko Culibrk, Hamilton	14
	Craig Sloan, Stratford	14
DH	Tyler Shantz, Stratford	22
MGR	Nick Noonan, Guelph	9

The Toronto Maple Leafs led all clubs with six all-stars, five on the first team. Rob Patterson grabbed first team honors as both a first baseman and left-handed pitcher. The 24-year-old former Toronto Blue Jays prospect is a first-time all-star. His MVP season: .333 BA, 1 HR, 16 RBI, 10 Doubles (2nd); Pitching: 6-1, 2.51 ERA, 69 K, 28 BB. Patterson is the sixth Maple Leaf since 1989 to be honored as MVP. He follows catcher Dominic Campeau, who won the John Bell trophy in 1996. Toronto catcher Matt Stockman follows Campeau as Toronto's second-straight Rookie of the Year. Stockman also won the Reid Buck Memorial Trophy as batting champion with a .396 BA. Five rookies made the all-star teams this year: Stockman; RHPs Joel Garton and Justin Reid; 3B Mike Irving; and OF Rob Pregmolato. Also, there were nine first-time all-stars selected. Both of this year's unanimous all-star selections are rookies: Jeff Pietraszko, Kitchener and Joel Garton, Hamilton. Sean Travers, SS, Richard Thompson, OF, Randy Curran, DH, and Tyler Shantz, DH all become five-time all-stars. Thompson is a first team all-star outfielder for a third-consecutive season. Randy Curran also wins a third-straight all-star spot; it's his first time as an all-star DH. Randy Curran and 3B Todd Hayward both are named all-stars at their third position; Curran's a former all-star 1B and OF, while Hayward is a former all-star OF and 2B. In league history, nine players have earned all-star recognition at three different positions (not including manager). Only Dan Collison was an all-star at four different positions (C, 2B, OF, DH, 1978-1989, Waterloo, Kitchener, St. Thomas, Stratford).

Two brother combinations were selected all-stars this season, all four players from Kitchener: Jamie and Jeff Pietraszko, and Kevin and Randy Curran. Fourteen-year veteran Zelko Culibrk of Hamilton captures his first all-star selection. He's joined by teammate Joel Garton, a rookie RHP. Both managers are first-time all-stars in the dugouts, but both Intercounty veterans. Dave Rosehahn is a two-time all-star RHP, his last selection coming in 1988. Nick Noonan, a rookie manager with Guelph, was an all-star shortstop in 1980, 1982, and 1990.

Killer Instinct Helped Majors Find Success

by Jeffrey Reed

When London Majors owner Arden Eddie asked me to write about the man they called "Killer" the first thing I did was dig into my personal archives for the 1976 London Majors yearbook. For it was on Mike Kilkenny who helped the 1975 Majors capture the Intercounty title with his pitching expertise.

Those of you who are lucky enough to own a copy of the '76 yearbook, honoring London's last Intercounty champs, can find enjoyment in leafing through the pages, reading profiles on players like Dave Byers, Reid Heffernan, Dave "Whitey" Laphorne. In my search, a photo of Kilkenny's classic pitching motion caught my eye, shortstop Byers crouched in the background.

Further reading brought me to Kilkenny's feature, which reads: "Much of the Majors success last year was due to the pitching staff, and of course Mike, who was named Most Valuable Player, led the way. His record of nine wins without a loss, an ERA of 1.31 and his league leading 129 strikeouts speak for themselves. Another great year from the "Killer" will go a long way in helping the Majors reach another championship. We hope that his job as club professional at the Llyndinshire Golf Course will allow him to play as much as he would like to."

Retire batters is what Kilkenny did so well. After a major-league career with the Detroit Tigers, Oakland

Athletics, San Diego Padres and Cleveland Indians, he brought his talent to Labatt Park, where he became an instant fan favorite. The call of "Strike em out, Killer" still echoes in the grandstand. The '75 Majors' season was a special one for Kilkenny, who pitched in 12 games, completed 9 of 10 starts, allowed only 46 walks and only one home run. Most importantly, he helped bring a championship to the Forest City.

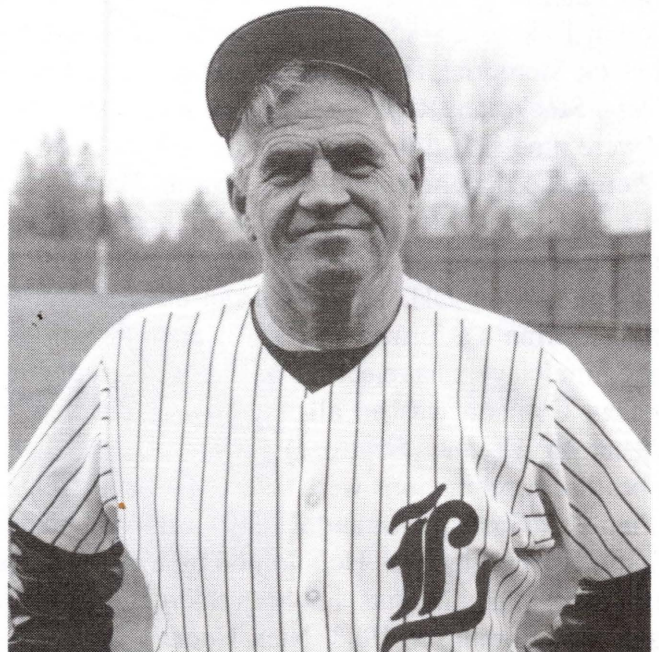
Kilkenny entered pro ball at age 17. In 140 major-league games from 1969-1973, he amassed a 23-18 record, while providing badly needed left-handed pitching. Killer is probably best known as a Detroit Tiger. He joined the club after their 1968 World Series victory. No doubt, his teammates' professionalism rubbed off on him. After baseball, Kilkenny earned his professional golfer's card, showing his versatility as an athlete.

As a 13-year old pitching in the Eager Beaver Baseball sandlot ranks, I would often visit Labatt Park on a hot summer's afternoon to watch "Killer" work his magic on the mound. Sure, he was a lefty and I was a right-handed hurler, but it didn't matter. Just as long as he won. He certainly was a winner, as were his Majors teammates. For me, it was one of those summers special to a boy's youth. And "Killer" baseball was part of that season.

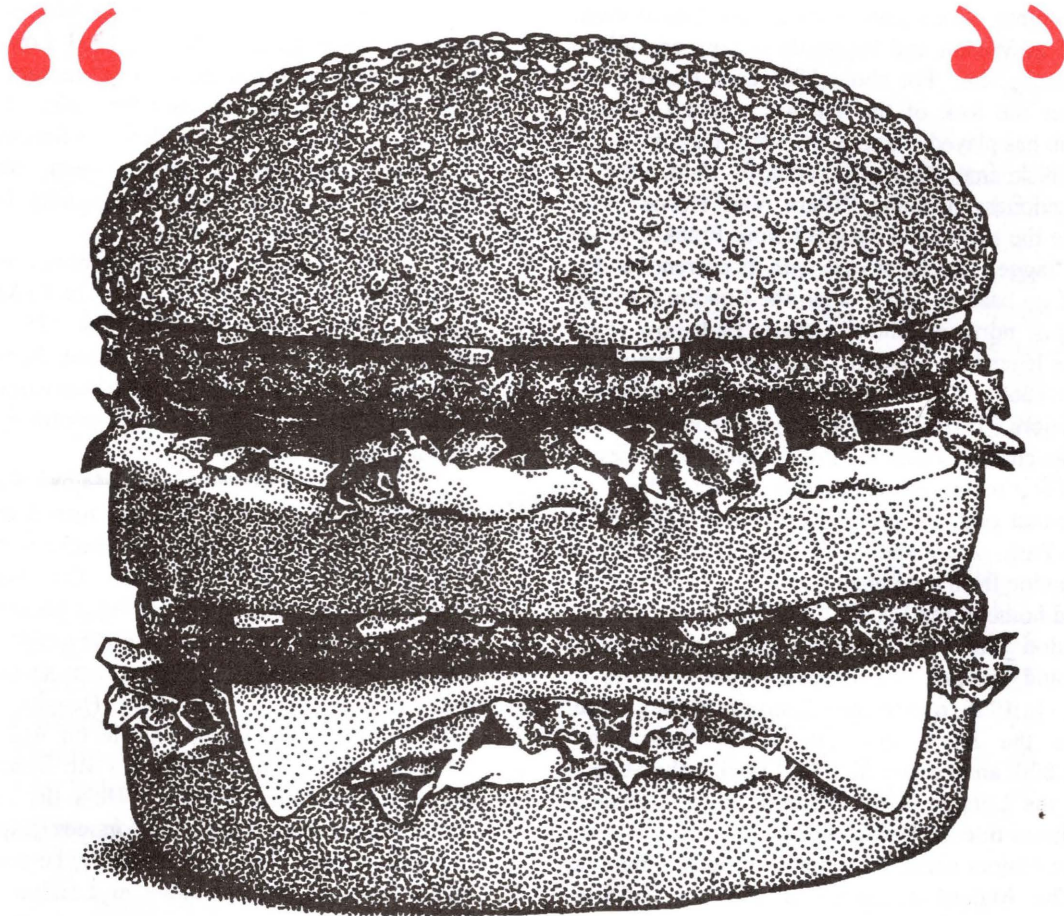
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HISTORIC LONDON MAJORS A LONDON INSTITUTION

by *Jeffrey Reed*

Intercounty P.R. Director

Stan "Gabby" Anderson. Dave Byers. Tom Burgess. Frank Colman. Bobby Deakin. Arden Eddie. Jack Fairs. Fergie Jenkins. Russ Evon. Wayne "Doggie" Fenlon. Dave "Whitey" Lapthorne. Ken McFadden. Roy and Alex McKay. Tommy White. These are just a few of the men who have made London Majors baseball a London institution. It's a tradition that today's Majors bring with them to the Intercounty diamonds. As you watch the Majors this summer, take a good look around Labatt Park. The ball yard at Wilson and Riverside is now an official designated historic site. For about 150 years, baseball has been played at the fork of the Thames. And London's senior ball club has played a large part in that history.

The nickname Majors is traced to 1944, when a group of Londoners, including Clare Van Horne (who would operate the team for a decade before Frank Colman took charge) tagged the senior club with its current handle. But one must go back to 1855, when the London Baseball Club played just north of where Victoria Park now rests. Of course, the legendary London Tecumseh's amateur club began play in 1868. The Tecumsehs were the forefathers of today's Majors. In 1877, professional Tecumsehs - the 1876 Canadian champs - beat the Pittsburgh Alleghenies to win Canada's first major-league baseball championship.

Also that year, the pro Tecumseh ball club moved to Tecumseh Park, today known as Labatt Park, a gift to the city of London from the Labatt family. It remains a city landmark, and home of the Majors.

London ballclubs, amateur and professional, would form and disband, but baseball would continue to grip London. In 1925, during their first year in the league, London won the Intercounty title. The Intercounty celebrates its 80th anniversary in 1998. During the Second World War, the London Army Team won the Canadian Sandlot Congress title in 1943 and '44. In 1945, the team was given the Majors name, in honor of Canada's fighting soldiers. The Majors continued a winning tradition, capturing the 1947 and '48 Congress championships.

Perhaps London's most famous athletic club of all time, the 1948 Majors ballclub, won the World Sandlot title, beating Fort Wayne in a best-of-seven affair which ended at Labatt Park in late September. London's Tommy White, who would become a St. Thomas sporting legend, won three games for that '48 team. His friend, hitting legend Russ Evon, was also a member of that squad. Other members make a Who's Who list of local baseball heroes: "Gabby" Anderson; Tom Burgess; Jack Fairs; Ken McFadden, to name a few.

In 1955 Frank Colman, the former Pittsburgh Pirate and New York Yankee, purchased the ballclub and brought London the 1956 Intercounty Title. Jumping to the Great Lakes-Niagara District Association in 1957, the Majors won the Great Lakes portion, but lost the championship to Niagara Falls. London returned to the Intercounty in 1958.

The 1960 and '61 ballclubs, known as the Chester Pegg Diamonds, briefly became the Majors in 1962 under manager Dave Taylor. But in 1963 London Free Press reporter Bob Ferguson came to the rescue, purchasing the club and gathering sponsorship from London Motor Products. The new London Pontiacs finished first in 1964, '65 and '68, but failed to win the Intercounty Championship. The 1969 team, under former pitching legend Roy McKay, won it all.

And that was all for the Pontiacs, who became the Avcos for four seasons, 1970-73. The El Morocco Majors played ball in 1974 and '75; that '75 ballclub, under manager McKay, was London's last Senior Intercounty championship team. Arden Eddie purchased the club after the 1976 season, and strives to continue the legend of Majors baseball today.

Take a look at some "Major" accomplishments: pitching champion Brian Murphy turned in an E.R.A. of 0.93 in 1968. The popular Joe Bechard won the league batting title in 1949 with a .424 average. Hank Czerwieniec equaled that feat with identical numbers in 1962. Then Dave Byers hit at a .457 clip in 1977. Home runs came often too. Legendary river shots blasted off the bats of Russ Evon and Larry Haggitt, and important member of the 1975 squad when he hit .412 and knocked in 22 R.B.I. Arden Eddie, London's Mr. Baseball, is enjoying his 31st Intercounty season. He's the holder of many records, including seasons and games played, hits, walks and stolen bases. More importantly, he continues to keep senior amateur baseball alive in London. Many recent Majors stars, like local sandlot products Steve Bushby, Richard Thompson, Chuck Westman, Mike Lumley, Mike Shewan, Jon Owen - the list goes on - are glad Arden has kept their Field of Dreams alive.

There are many more outstanding London Majors - the roster is too large to list here. So when you're cheering on today's London Majors, think about the city's baseball heritage. It's a history full of London Majors highlights.

Statistics: Wood Bats Versus Aluminum

By Jeffrey Reed

Wood bats again left a significant mark on a regular-season Intercounty schedule.

In 1977, the league introduced aluminum bats, but returned to wood in 1995 in order to present a more realistic, competitive brand of baseball. As a result, game times, home runs, runs per game, and team batting averages and earned-run averages have decreased to mirror natural baseball statistics.

During the 1997 season, a third-consecutive year of wood bat use, a home run was hit once every 84 at-bats. Also, as a result of wood bat use, the average game time has dropped almost one-half hour from 1994 to just under 2 hours, 30 minutes.

Home Runs

1997	103
1996	118
1995	150
1994	344
1993	241
1977	170
1976	122

Team Batting Averages

1997	.266
1996	.266
1995	.273
1994	.317
1993	.296
1977	.270
1976	.261

Runs Scored Per Game

1997	11
1996	10
1995	12
1994	16
1993	14
1977	11
1976	10

Team Earned-Run Averages

1997	4.32
1996	4.44
1995	4.91
1994	7.06
1993	5.65
1977	4.33
1976	3.78

1997 Individual Leaders

Stolen Bases

Player, Club	G	SB
R.Pratt, Tor	37	18
J.Grevers, Lon	32	17
S.Travers, Gue	36	15
R.Thompson, Lon	27	14
G.McCallum, Lon	35	13
J.Pietraszko, Kit	29	13

Home Runs

Player, Club	G	HR
T.Hayward, Str	35	7
S.Perrin, Gue	27	5
D.Mintz, Kit	34	4
R.Curran, Kit	36	4
C.Green, Gue	36	4
10 players tied		3

Runs Batted In

Player, Club	G	RBI
T.Hayward, Str	35	38
R.Curran, Kit	36	29
S.Travers, Gue	36	28
J.Borghese, Gue	36	28
J.Pietraszko, Kit	29	25
D.McDuffe, Ham	35	24
C.Green, Gue	36	24

Doubles

Player, Club	G	2B
C.Green, Gue	36	16
R.Pratt, Tor	37	10
R.Patterson, Tor	32	10
D.Duskocy, Str	36	10
G.McCallum, Lon	35	10
R.Curran, Kit	36	10
B.Carter, Br	26	10

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Pitcher, Club	ERA	G	W	L	IP	R	H	BB	SO
Joel Garton, Ham	1.71	9	4	3	58.0	19	42	38	52
Kevin Curran*, Kit	1.89	11	5	4	81.0	29	57	30	66
Rob Patterson*, Tor	2.51	11	6	1	64.2	20	53	28	69
Chris Ebel, Kit	2.70	12	4	5	70.0	31	66	20	27
Casey Cooper*, Gue	2.85	14	7	2	98.0	37	108	18	49
Ben Eudes*, Tor	3.04	13	6	3	74.0	27	71	29	60
Chris Rauth**, Tor	3.54	10	5	1	61.0	31	71	9	49
Derek Masse, Str	4.05	11	4	4	66.2	38	57	27	62
Ian Harvey, Gue	5.16	12	4	3	59.1	40	62	31	52
Kevin Morris, Brn	8.20	12	2	7	56.0	55	73	30	41



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The Impact of Baseball

by Gary Allan Price

Baseball is such a great game. It's beauty is reflected in symmetry, leisurely pacing, precision timing, one-on-one confrontations between pitcher and hitter, spectacular skill and subtle strategies, soft hands and brute power. The competition is fair, the statistics usually don't lie, and the second-guessing is both fun and forever. But perhaps the greatest beauty of baseball, and the reason I love it so much, is its ability to bring people together, focus them and unify them. More than any other sport, baseball is common ground.

Case in point. July 1967. The racial and economic tensions of an entire community boil over. The streets of Detroit become war zones of rioting and destruction. Gordon Lightfoot called it "Motor City Madness."

The city and the people were in turmoil, and yet the interest in the Tigers remained high. The Tigers had a lot to do with easing tensions. The people of Detroit love their Tigers.

The Tigers battled for the American League Pennant that season, losing on the final day. But that simply set the stage for what was to come a few months later.

In 1968, Detroit was still trying to pull itself together after the black days of July. The city and the people still needed something on which to focus, something positive. The Detroit Tigers filled that need. A baseball

team provided the glue to bring their community back together. Everybody rallied around the Tigers.

History has recorded, of course, that the Detroit Tigers won the World Series in 1968. And while the championship was great, the way the Tigers captured that title was even greater. Paralleling their own people, the Tigers clawed their way back from the brink of defeat. Trailing 3-1 to St. Louis, manager Mayo Smith made some gutsy moves. He also appealed to players such as Mickey Lolich, Jim Northrup, Al Kaline, Bill Freehan, and Mickey Stanley to give everything they could. The players responded.

After they won Game 5, there was an attitude change. That change was a spirit and a will to come from behind and win the series in seven games.

It's simplistic, of course, to suggest that the Tigers healed the wounds of a trouble city. But the Tigers of 1967 and 1968 did reflect the 'ups' and 'downs' of Detroit, and they did provide a positive focus which united the people in a unique way. When Bill Freehan made the final out of the 1968 World Series, it signaled a new beginning. For the honest and hard-working people of America's industrial heartland, the slate was clean. Out with the fussin' and fightin', in with a new era of growth, understanding and cooperation.

No doubt about it, 1968 was a wonderful period in Detroit Tiger history. It was both memorable and meaningful. It added a great chapter in the long and glorious Tiger tradition.

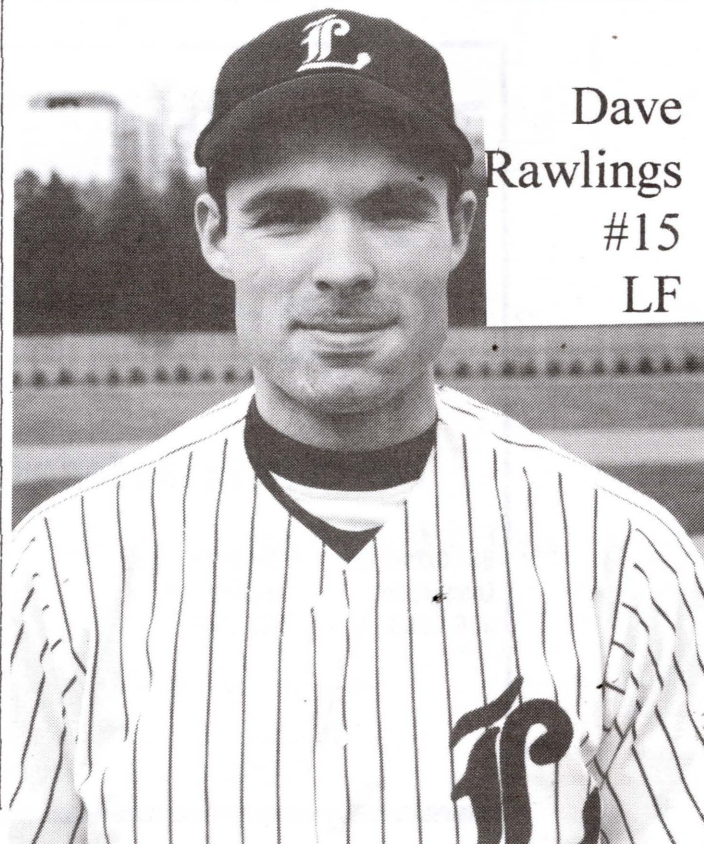
Baseball's tomorrow's build on it's yesterdays. That's another of it's beauties.



James A. Harris
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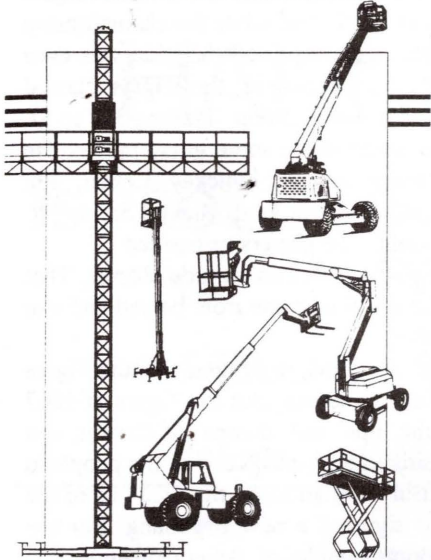
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to the

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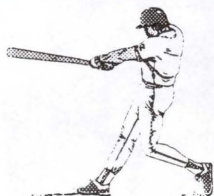


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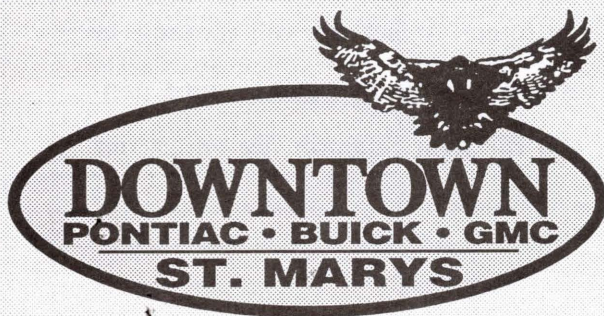
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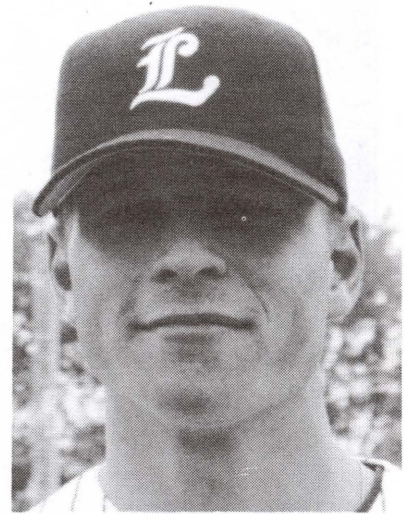
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LONDON MAJORS - 1997 FINAL STATISTICS

INDIVIDUAL BATTING

PLAYER	PCT	OB%	G	PA	AB	R	H	2B	3B	HR	TB	SB	CS	SH	SF	BB	HPB	SO	RBI
Jamie Cook	.395	.536	13	56	43	11	17	3	0	1	23	4	0	0	0	8	5	2	15
Richard Thompson	.380	.464	27	110	92	20	35	5	1	0	42	14	2	0	2	16	0	10	17
Andrew Mercier	.333	.333	2	6	6	0	2	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rick Ross	.323	.436	19	39	31	6	10	2	1	0	14	0	2	1	0	7	0	8	5
Jay Grevers	.314	.397	32	141	121	21	38	7	2	2	55	17	1	2	1	14	3	41	20
Arden Eddie	.313	.478	7	23	16	3	5	1	0	0	6	0	0	1	0	5	1	3	4
Geoff McCallum	.291	.375	35	168	141	26	41	10	0	1	54	13	7	4	1	21	1	27	13
Dan Mendham	.271	.349	36	152	133	16	36	6	0	3	51	2	0	2	0	14	3	21	23
Brandon Steele	.262	.348	20	69	61	6	16	2	0	0	18	0	2	0	0	7	1	19	5
Frank Llanos**	.261	.414	14	58	46	9	12	3	0	1	18	0	4	0	0	12	0	11	8
Kelly Burla	.238	.333	11	27	21	0	5	0	0	0	5	1	1	0	2	4	0	7	2
Wayne Forman	.214	.299	29	97	84	3	18	2	0	0	20	1	4	2	0	10	1	18	5
Bill Weir	.197	.275	31	131	117	21	23	1	0	0	24	5	2	1	0	13	0	32	6
Dave Rawlings	.190	.239	26	88	79	9	15	3	0	0	18	2	2	2	1	6	0	31	4
John Faragher	.186	.318	25	85	70	5	13	2	0	0	15	5	4	0	1	8	6	15	8
Matt Higgins	.178	.234	31	111	101	8	18	2	1	0	22	3	1	0	2	7	1	27	10
Riccardo Calderon	.176	.211	14	38	34	4	6	1	1	0	9	0	1	1	0	2	1	11	2
Roop Chanderdat	.000	.125	10	16	14	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	4	0
Kurt Hammond	.000	.000	7	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0
Matt McNight	.000	.000	1	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Harry Muir	.000	.000	8	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2	0
Al Ready	.000	.667	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2	0	1	0
Totals			1422	1215	1068	310	50	6	8	396	67	35	16	10	158	23	291	148	

MGR
Arden Eddie
#24



"THE TEAM"

by Dave Byers

"What makes baseball teams will?" "That's easy," you say, "good pitching, hitting, defence up the middle, speed on the bases...." Yes, all of these points are major contributors - but the main reason good teams become GREAT is excellent TEAM play. On offence, the timely bunt, the hit and run executed to perfection, the stolen base, the squeeze play - and let's not forget the delayed steal being executed by a big man which put your team in scoring position and deflated the opposition's momentum. On defence, denying a bunt situation from advancing the runners - by holding the runner close and having the third, first and/or pitcher aggressively charging the plate. Definitely this aggressiveness could be hazardous to your health if the batters swings away, but the manager has given the signal that a certain (well practiced) bunt defence is on. The play is automatic because of repetitious practice and hard work. I could talk of many more defensive plays - like the various infield depths, depending on the situation/score i.e. half-way, in tight or cover the lines, the different pick-offs, cutoffs, etc., etc....but I probably have bored you all by now.

But how does this enhance the team? Well, the honing of the above skills through practice/team interaction is the ingredient that brings the team closer. It makes the team unique from others and enhances a feeling of oneness. It also encourage creativeness and dialogue among ALL, to come up with the best method of execution i.e. signal to

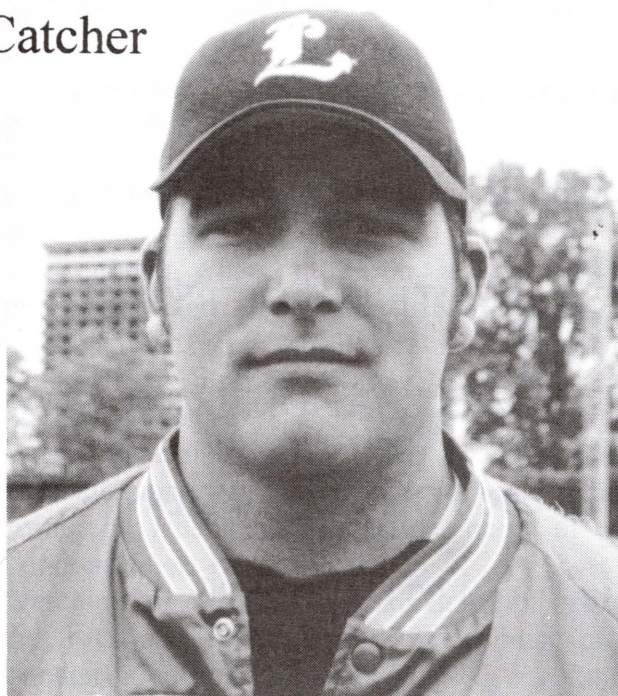
activate, decoys/fakes, style, etc... Oh, what a feeling it is when execution is perfected in the "heat of the battle" - the team exaltation, the momentum gained, the togetherness. But that moment can't last forever, it has to be repetitive - recreated through execution/teamwork. Each time the feeling is cumulative (it gets better and better).

On GREAT teams, the team chemistry is so strong you don't want to go home after the game. You want to sit and enjoy each others' camaraderie/stories. Game situations are rehashed and on occasion the team goes out together after the game - all players are equal, there are no cliques. More stories are born for the next game. The TEAM gets STRONGER.

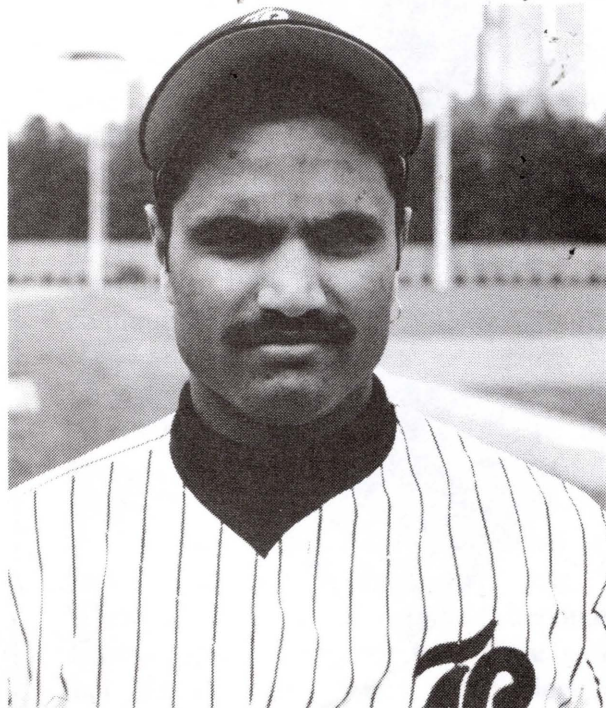
For the '97 London Majors and all London teams, I hope this unique team feeling can be realized many times-with success surely to follow. I will end with a Mike Kennan quote, said while coaching the New York Rangers to the Stanley Cup, a couple of years ago: "Practice doesn't make perfect; GREAT practice makes perfect."

Editors Note: Dave signed a Pro contract and played 3 yrs in the St. Louis Cardinal chain. Dave's I-C accomplishments included the batting champion in 1977 with a record .457 average; 74 HRS. Also a record when he retired; 442 games played, 551 hits, 101 doubles, 317 RBI's; and 6 times an All-Star. In his last I-C game Dave hit 3 home runs.

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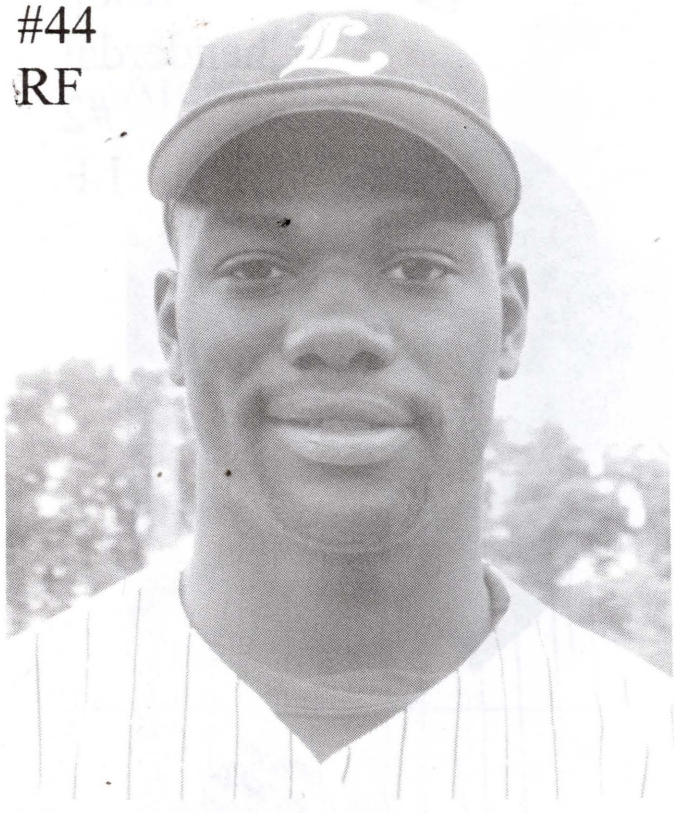
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 - Failing to yield right of way
 - Failing to obey a stop signal, signal light or railway crossing signal
 - Failing to report an accident to a police officer
 - Improper passing
 - Wrong way on a one-way street or highway
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 - Pedestrian crossover offence
 - Failing to share road
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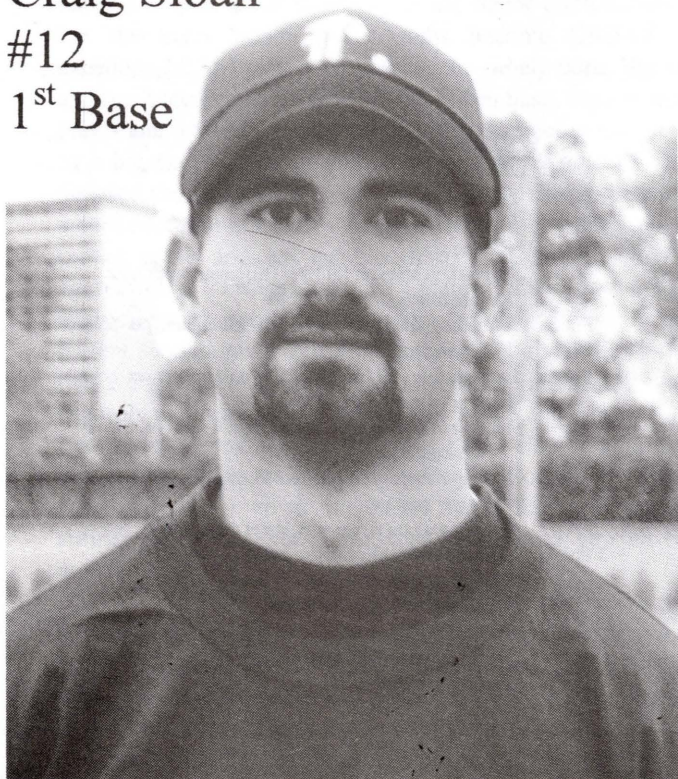
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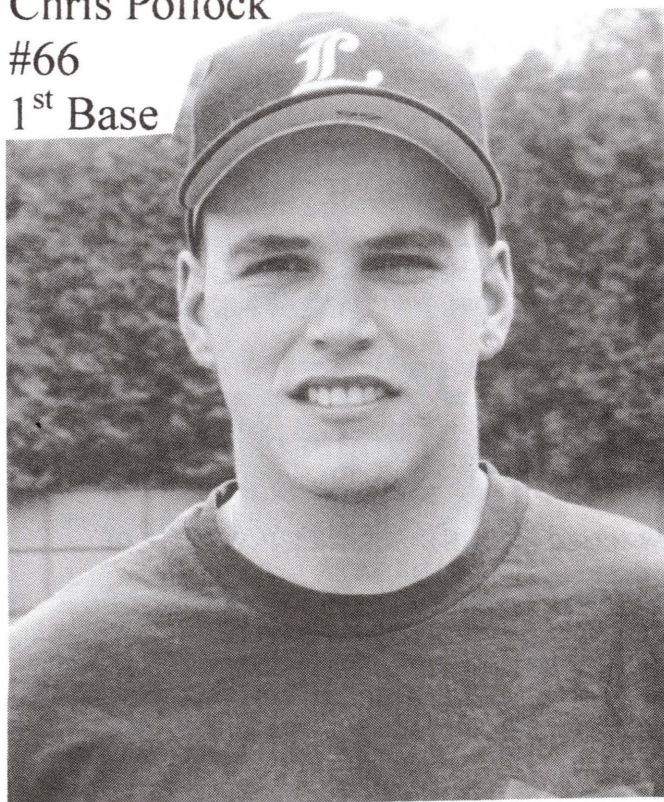
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London Majors History *by Jeffrey Reed*

During the past three years, I was fortunate enough to have enjoyed the wonderful task of operating the public relations office for the historic Intercounty Major Baseball League, celebrating its' 80th season in 1998. Excuse the dramatics, but just like the ghosts of ballplayers past who disappeared into the cornfield in the baseball file, Field of Dreams, it was time for me to leave behind a part of my passion – a love of the diamond game.

This summer, when I'm not on the local links, I plan to pay more frequent visits to the corner of Michigan and Trumbull, before a wrecking ball calls strike three on Tiger Stadium, and SkyDome, where "Rocket" Roger Clemens is sure to retire his share of batters. But my fondest baseball memories will always be made at the corner of Wilson and Riverside, home of the London Majors Baseball Club.

Watching the Majors play their brand of ball at the forks of the Thames is just as much of a London tradition as is filling J.W. Little Memorial Stadium for a homecoming football game. In fact, for about 150 years, baseball has been played at the forks. Today's Majors continue that tradition with their involvement in the Intercounty League.

The moniker "Majors" is traced to 1944, when a group of Londoners, including Clare Van Horne (who would operate the team for a decade before Frank Colman took charge) tagged the senior club with its current handle. But history buffs can research all the way back to 1855, when the London Baseball Club played just north of where Victoria Park now rests. Of course, the legendary London Tecumseh's amateur club began play in 1868; they were the forefathers of today's Majors. And in 1877, the professional Tecumsehs – who were also 1876 Canadian champs – beat the Pittsburgh Alleghenies to win Canada's first major-league baseball championship.

Also that year, the pro Tecumseh club moved to Tecumseh Park, today known as Labatt Park, a gift to the city of London from the Labatt family.

It remains a city landmark, and home of the Majors.

London ballclubs, amateur and professional, would form and disband, but baseball would continue to grip Londoners. In 1925, during their first year in the league, London won the Intercounty title. During the Second World War, the London Army Team won the Canadian Sandlot Congress title in 1943 and '44. In 1945, the team first used the Majors name, in honor of Canada's fighting soldiers. The Majors continued a winning tradition, capturing the '1947 and '48 Congress championships.

This year also marks the 50th anniversary of the World Sandlot championship won by the 1948 Majors, perhaps London's most accomplished athletic club of all time. London beat Fort Wayne in a best-of-seven affair which ended at Labatt Park in late September of that year. Tommy White of London, who would become a St. Thomas sporting legend, won three games for that '48 team. His friend, hitting legend Russ Evon, was also a member of that squad. Other members of that dream team help make up a Who's Who list of local baseball heroes: Stan "Gabby" Anderson; Tom Burgess; Jack Fairs; Ken McFadden; and current Majors coach Norm Aldridge, who was a trainer with the '48 champs, just to name a few.

History continued on page 28 →

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History - continued

In 1955, Frank Colman, the former Pittsburgh Pirate and New York Yankee, purchased the ballclub and promptly brought London the 1956 Intercounty title. Jumping to the Great Lakes-Niagara District Association in 1957, the Majors won the Great Lakes portion, but lost the championship to Niagara Falls. London returned to the Intercounty in 1958.

The 1960 and '61 ballclubs', known as the Chester Pegg Diamonds, briefly became the Majors in 1962 under manager Dave Taylor. But in 1963, sportswriter Bob Ferguson came to the rescue, purchasing the club and gathering sponsorship from London Motor Products. The new London Pontiacs finished first in 1964, '65 and '68, but failed to win the Intercounty title. The 1969 team, under former pitching legend Roy McKay, won it all.

And that was it for the Pontiacs, who became the Avcos for four seasons, 1970-73. The El Morocco Majors played ball in 1974 and '75; that '75

ballclub, under manager McKay, was London's last senior Intercounty championship club. Arden Eddie, London's "Mr. Baseball," purchased the club after the 1976 season, and has continued to keep the Majors alive and well, and living at Labatt Park.

Many recent Majors stars, including all-star centre fielder Richard Thompson (whose great-grandfather, "Bull Thompson, was a member of that legendary 1877 Tecumsehs ballclub) have continued to keep London's field of dreams alive. As we celebrate the 50th anniversary of the 1948 Sandlot title, and 80th year of Intercounty ball, consider London's baseball heritage. It's a history full of London Majors highlights.

Jeffrey Reed is a long-time member of the London sports media. He has photographed and interviewed baseball hall-of-famers' at SkyDome, Olympic Stadium, Tiger Stadium, Three Rivers Stadium and Labatt Park - his favorite ballpark.

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PITCHER	G	GS	CG	W	L	S	ERA	IP	BF	R	ER	H	HR	BB	IBB	SO	HB	WP
McChesney**	1	1	0	0	1	0	2.25	8.0	37	2	2	14	0	0	0	5	0	0
Muir	7	0	0	2	0	3	2.53	10.2	48	5	3	9	0	4	0	7	2	0
Faragher*	5	4	2	4	0	0	3.51	33.1	137	14	13	27	0	12	0	20	1	2
Owen	8	0	0	1	1	0	3.94	16.0	76	8	7	21	0	6	0	12	2	4
Williams*	7	4	0	3	1	0	4.15	39.0	174	20	18	40	0	24	0	41	2	3
Ross	10	0	0	0	1	2	4.68	25.0	119	15	13	30	4	11	0	14	4	2
Martin*	9	8	1	2	3	1	5.29	47.2	220	33	28	59	2	16	0	23	1	5
Thomas	11	6	0	3	2	0	6.11	45.2	224	34	31	48	0	40	0	46	7	6
Chandler	2	2	0	0	1	0	7.00	9.0	49	14	7	9	0	13	0	11	1	0
P.Mendham	9	7	0	1	4	0	8.07	35.2	177	33	32	44	3	18	0	16	4	7
Calderon*	3	3	0	0	2	0	8.71	10.1	66	16	10	13	0	21	0	14	2	8
O'Brien	10	1	0	0	3	0	9.49	24.2	144	39	26	35	0	27	0	18	5	12
Hammond	7	0	0	0	1	0	13.50	8.2	55	14	13	10	0	14	0	6	1	1
Totals	36	3	16	20	6			313.2	1526	247	203	359	9	206	0	233	32	50

Balks - none.

Shutouts -- Faragher, 2.

FIGURING AVERAGES

WON, LOSS PERCENTAGE - Number of wins divided by games played.

GAMES BEHIND THE LEADER - The number of games on team is ahead or behind in each of the won/loss columns, divided by two.

MAGIC NUMBER - The number of games yet to be played by the division leader, plus one. Then subtract the number of games ahead in the loss column from the closest opponent. The result is the magic number to clinch the division. Example: On September 25, 1989, the Toronto Blue Jays had an 85-71 record with 6 games to play. Toronto's magic number was $(6+1)-1=6$. Any combination of Toronto wins or Baltimore losses totaling 6 clinched the pennant for the Blue Jays.

BATTING AVERAGE - Hits divided by total at-bats. At-bats, which do not count in this total include walks, hit by pitch, sacrifice bunts or flies, or catcher's interference. However, a player is charged with an at-bat in the case of an error or fielder's choice.

SLUGGING PERCENTAGE - Total bases divided by total at-bats. In determining total bases, award one base for a single, two for a double, three for a triple and four for a home run.

EARNED RUN AVERAGE - Number of earned runs allowed by a pitcher, multiplied by nine, then divided by the

FIELDING PERCENTAGE - Total of putouts and assists divided by total chances accepted. Total chances include putouts, assists and errors.



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"It is designed to break your heart. The game begins in the spring, when everything else begins again, and it blossoms in the summer, filling the afternoons and evenings, and then as soon as the chill rains come, it stops and leaves you to face the fall alone. You count on it, you rely on it to buffer the passage of time, to keep the memory of sunshine and high skies alive, and then, just when the days are all twilight, when you need it the most, it stops."

A. Bartlett Giamatti

THE MEN BEHIND THE MASKS

by Michael Mitchell, I-C Assignor of Umpires

"Who ARE those guys???!!!"

Rest assured, this isn't the ONLY thing you can hear from the stands at any Inter County ball game. The "Men in Blue," as they are referred to from time to time, have been called many things over the years - most of which is unprintable! But the question remains, "...who ARE they, indeed??"

The current roster of Intercounty umpires includes fellows from all types of backgrounds. Pretty much everyday people, really. Sales executives, labourers, journalists, teachers, retirees. Some with 20 years experience. Some with two. Some are former Intercounty players (All-Stars, too!). All sharing a common passion for the game of baseball. No, this isn't a career. It's a hobby. An umpire might earn pocket money in the range of \$60.00 on a given night in the Intercounty league. Not too shabby, some will say. But, not enough to make a living.

There are six "crews" representing six of the eight cities. London and St. Thomas umpires are listed as a single crew, while Guelph hasn't enough senior-level umpires to make up their own crew. So the Royals are serviced by the Toronto, Hamilton and Kitchener crews. The crews are shifted around during the season, so as to avoid "home-team" advantage. Most crews work about 20-25 games in the regular season. In the playoffs, the more experienced umpires are selected and the crews "mixed".

How do you become an Intercounty umpire? I've heard some fans say "...just show up at the door, and they'll find you a shirt, some pants and shoes, and off you go!!!" But

it's a little More than that. The best approach is to work your way through your local association, gain the knowledge and experience necessary to move up from age group to age group. The next step to junior and senior baseball becomes as natural a move as for any player having similar goals.

Players will tell you the best games played are those in which the umpires are never noticed. It's true. As umpires, we understand this theory and make every attempt to let the players decide the outcome. But umpires DO have a universal creed. We DO make mistakes...but admit this? NEVER!

Enjoy the 1997 Intercounty Season. Be kind to the boys in blue!



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BASEBALL NICKNAMES

by Gary Alan Price

You can tell a lot about a sport by its nicknames. In baseball, nicknames abound. They have played a creative and colorful role in building a rich tradition and heritage. Just ask "Yogi" Berra.

Over the years, the weaving of baseball nicknames into the fabric of the game has been so intricate that it's often difficult to remember which is the real name and which is the nickname. Fans internalized nicknames to such an extent that the name itself becomes the identification. Right, "Sparky"?

So, to give you an idea of the impact nicknames have had on the game and its fans, we invite you to take your best swings at the paired pitches below. Down the left side you'll find the fastballs, down the right side you'll find the curves. Your job is to smack a series of doubles. Good luck!

(To find out if you're safe at second, check page 36)

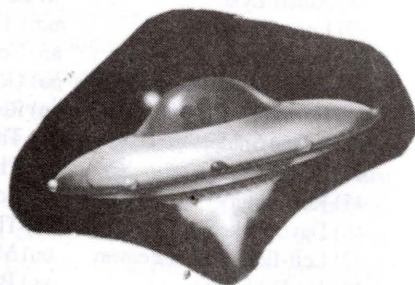
- | | |
|------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1) Daniel Staub | a) The Georgia Peach |
| 2) The 1927 NY Yankees | b) Shoeless Joe |
| 3) Lou Gehrig | c) Senior Circuit |
| 4) John Powell | d) The Splendid Splinter |
| 5) Yankee Stadium | e) Dizzy |
| 6) Reggie Jackson | f) Homerun |
| 7) Bill Skowron | g) Connie Mack |
| 8) Luis Tiant | h) Marvellous Marv |
| 9) Andre Dawson | i) The Sultan of Swat |
| 10) Denton Young | j) Red |
| 11) Ty Cobb | k) The Big "O" |
| 12) Leo Durocher | l) Hammerin' Hank |
| 13) Tom Seaver | m) Pudge |
| 14) Ted Williams | n) Louisiana Lighting |
| 15) Ernie Banks | o) The Penguin |
| 16) Jerome Dean | p) Catfish |
| 17) Pete Rose | q) Scooter |
| 18) Edward Ford | r) Tug |

- | | |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|
| 19) Frank Baker | s) The Iron Horse |
| 20) Joe Jackson | t) Green Monster |
| 21) Robert Grove | u) Mr. Clutch |
| 22) Rich Gossage | v) Moose |
| 23) Babe Ruth | w) The Man |
| 24) Bob Feller | x) The Bird |
| 25) Cornelius MacGillicuddy | y) Pee Wee |
| 26) Walter Johnson | z) Hawk |
| 27) Hank Aaron | aa) Country |
| 28) Olympic Stadium | bb) Duke |
| 29) Willie Mays | cc) Murderer's Row |
| 30) Steve Garvey | dd) Mr. October |
| 31) Albert Schoendienst | ee) Whitey |
| 32) The 1906 Chicago W.S. | ff) Rapid Robert |
| 33) Jim Hunter | gg) Human Vacuum Cleaner |
| 34) Mark Fidrych | hh) Yankee Clipper |
| 35) Carlton Fisk | ii) The Lip |
| 36) Stan Musial | jj) Big Train |
| 37) Brooks Robinson | kk) The House Ruth Built |
| 38) Albert Lyle | ll) Lefty |
| 39) Enos Slaughter | mm) The Say-Hey Kid |
| 40) Ron Cey | nn) Tom Terrific |
| 41) Frank McGraw | oo) Goose |
| 42) Harold Reese | pp) Rusty |
| 43) Edwin Snider | qq) The Cobra |
| 44) Phil Rizzuto | rr) Charlie Hustle |
| 45) Ron Guidry | ss) Senor Cigar |
| 46) Dave Parker | tt) The Hitless Wonders |
| 47) Left-field wall at Fenway | uu) Mr. Cub |
| 48) Joe DiMaggio | vv) Boog |
| 49) Marv Throneberry | ww) Sparky |
| 50) The National League | xx) Cy |

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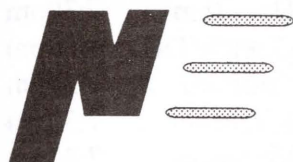
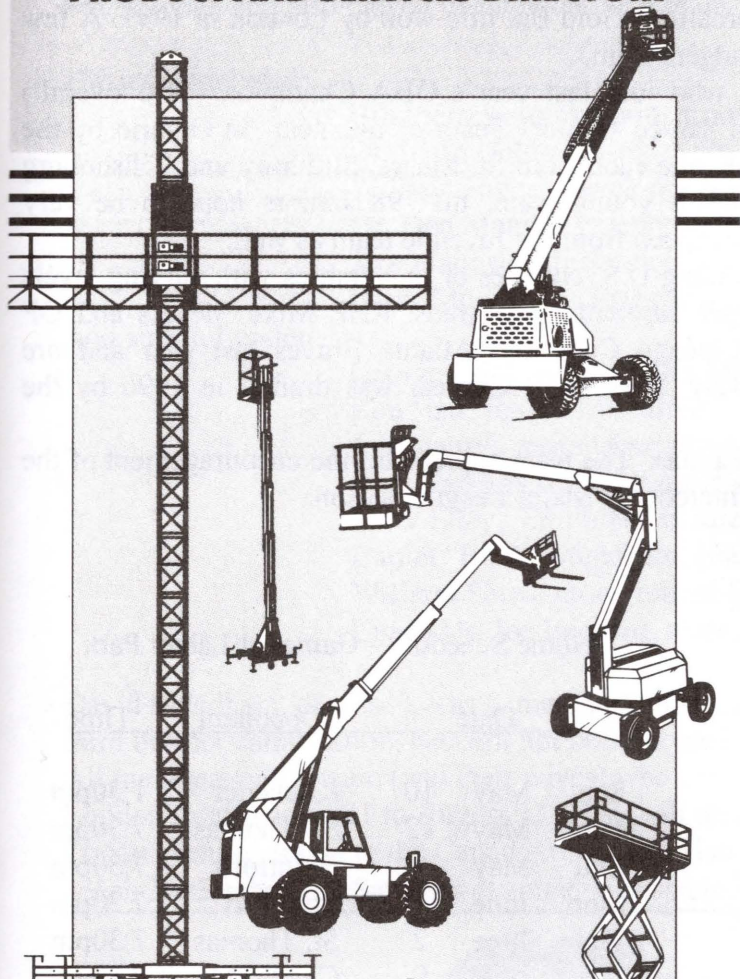


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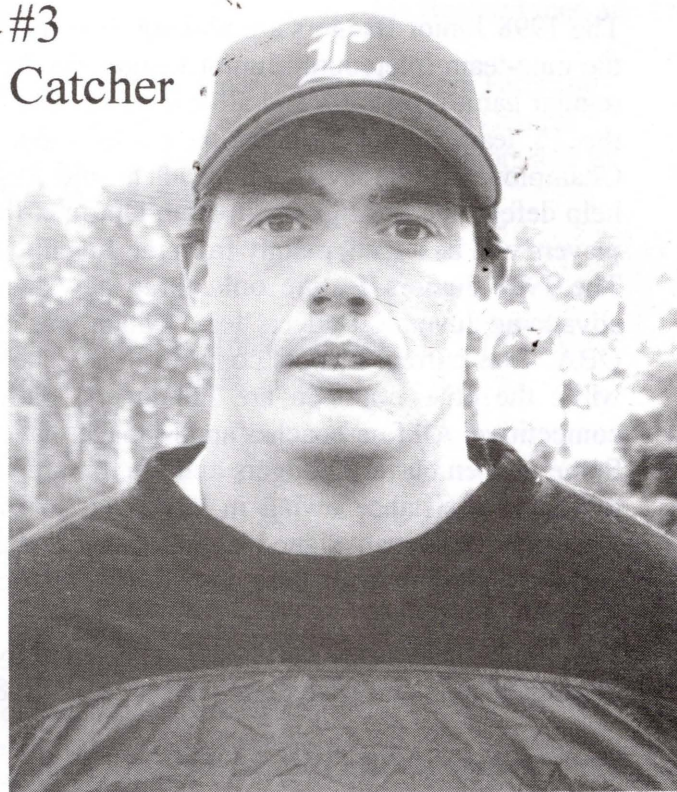
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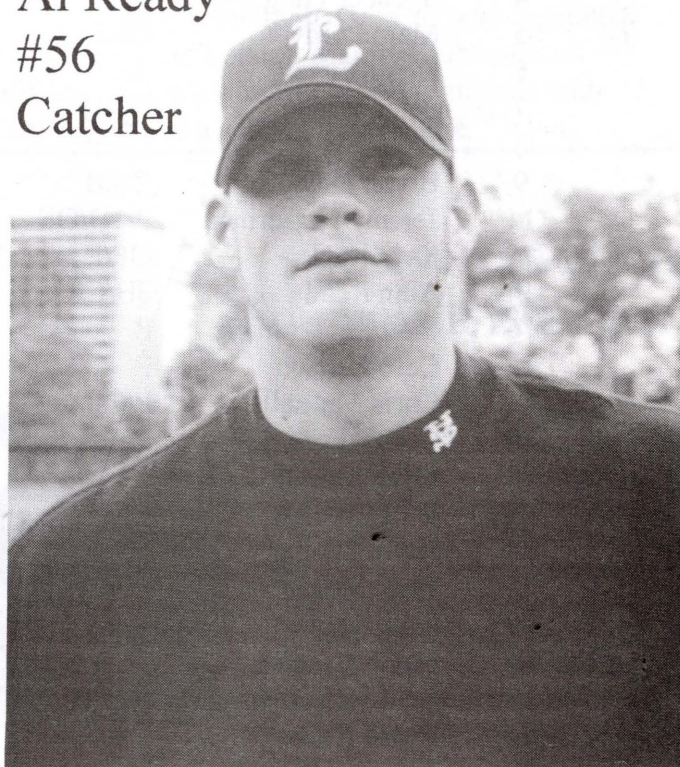
Catcher



Al Ready

#56

Catcher



1998 London Junior Badgers

The 1998 Junior Badgers are playing their inaugural season, replacing the London EBBA Tecumsehs in the nine-team Intercounty Junior League, as the London representative. The I/C season will comprise 32 regular games, playoffs and all-star game. In addition, the team will play in three tournaments as well as the 15 team Junior Elimination competition, with the winner representing Ontario in the National Championship tourney in Kitchener in mid-August. All but four junior roster players remain eligible to help defend the prestigious 28-team Optimist Internations Gold Bat title won by London in 1997. A few players will be added, mainly from the Juvenile Badgers team.

The 1998 Juniors feature only three new faces who join last year's OBA Champion (51-6 overall) advancing Juvenile Badgers team which was also named 'senior' Team of the Year in Ontario by the OBA. Two current players come from St. Thomas, one each from St. Marys, Strathroy and Tillsonburg while the other fourteen are Londoners. Although a young team, the '98 Juniors hope to be very competitive. All four coaches and Manager have advanced from the Juvenile team as well.

Some sixteen current Badgers and alumni are attending U.S. colleges or universities with varying levels of tuition assistance owing in large part to Badger baseball. Two grads, RHP Mike Meyers and OF Christian Heffernan signed contracts with the Chicago Cubs and Atlanta Braves last year and are currently playing with their farm clubs respectively. RHP, Will Cornish was drafted in 1996 by the Kansas City Royals.

The junior Badgers are corporately sponsored by Paratax. The team appreciates the encouragement of the London Majors and wish them well in their 1998 Intercounty Major League Season.

1998 London (LDBA) Junior Badgers Roster

No	Player	Positions	Home Schedule – Games at Labatt Park				
			Day	Date	Opponent	Time	
1	Jeremy Hudson	2B/SS					
3	Wayne Forman	C/IF/OF					
4	Spencer Lang	P					
5	Marc Purdy	OF/IF	Sun	May 10	Kitchener	1:30pm	
6	Kris Kewley	SS/P/OF	Tue	May 12	St. Thomas	7:30pm	
7	Peter Wiebe	IF/OF	Thu	May 28	Brantford	7:30pm	
8	Justin Welsby	OF/P	Mon	June 1	Stratford	7:30pm	
9	Bryan Howcroft	C/1B	Tue	June 2	St. Thomas	7:30pm	
11	Jeremy Heffernan	P/1B/OF	Tue	June 9	Cambridge	7:30pm	
12	Kyle Hack	OF/P	Thurs	June 18	Hamilton	7:30pm	
14	Alan Ready	3B/C/OF	Sat	June 20	Guelph(DH)	6:00pm	
16	Matt McCormick	P	Mon	June 22	Stratford	7:30pm	
17	Cole Bertsch	P	Tue	June 23	Kitchener	7:30pm	
19	Chris Mulhall	P/OF	Mon	June 29	Waterloo	7:30pm	
20	Culley Ford	P/OF	Tue	July 7	Cambridge	7:30pm	
22	Mike Kukolj	P	Fri	July 10	Brantford	7:30pm	
23	Will Cornish	P/1B/OF	Tue	July 14	Hamilton	7:30pm	
24	Jason Farmer	3B/1B/OF	Mon	July 20	Waterloo	7:30pm	
25	Peter Babcock	1B/C					
10	Greg Meyers	Coach					
15	David Cornish	Coach					
18	Reid Heffernan	Coach					
21	David Nichol	Coach					
26	Graeme Nichol	Manager					

Fifty Year Reunion

In June 1948 16 youngsters aged 11 to 13 began to play baseball daily under coach Joe Bechard then an 18 year old rookie sensation with the London Majors.

From then to mid October the team met and defeated rivals from Kitchener, Sarnia, Niagara Falls and Hamilton. In October they lost a heart breaking series with the Mimico Mountaineers in the Ontario Baseball Association Championship. Many of these players eventually graduated to the Majors and to Pro Baseball and also played juvenile baseball under Norm Aldridge.

The team included:

Bill Pierson, retired printer now in St. Thomas
Dr. Irwin Goldstein, retire physician, Worcester, Massachusetts
William Higgs, Developer & Entrepreneur, Naples, Florida
Dr. Don Maudsley, retired Educator, Toronto
Jere Maudsley, Insurance Executive, California
Barry Mussolum., Proprietor, Abbotsford, B.C.

And still in London:

George Cook, retired Sales Manager
Ron Hair, retired Executive
John Jarrell, retired Executive
Ross Karlson, retired Executive
Marv Liley,. Employed in sales of industrial chemicals
Daniel "Buck" Mendham, coach with the London Majors
William Shoebottom, retired financial Manager
Coach Dr. Joe Bechard, retired Educator

David Mendham, deceased, was a member of the team. Two men, Ed and Harold Ridgley, the team's third brother combination, had still not been located at press time.

All members of the team (and their wives) who can be located have been invited to a 50 year reunion in London from August 21 to August 23. They will meet at the Historic London Majors Clubhouse on Friday evening, travel to the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame, Saturday morning, and reminisce with coach Joe Bechard on Saturday evening. If possible, they will attend a Majors home game.



Steve Davidson
Equipment Manager

CANADA'S BASEBALL CAPITAL CELEBRATES 143rd YEAR by William Humber

Just before the start of the 1989 baseball season I accepted a challenge from the CBC radio's afternoon phone-in show to debate the notion that baseball, not hockey, is Canada's national game. A flurry of puck aficionados from Wawa to Renfrew had me backtracking for almost an hour until the caller from London came on the line. He embraced the proposition with as much enthusiasm as myself and I kept him on the telephone as long as possible.

I've since abandoned such clutch and grab debates preferring to seek solace in the wisdom of finer cities in the Dominion who realized that not only does baseball predate hockey's popularity by a half century, but is far more universally played than a game requiring hundreds of dollars worth of equipment.

Nowhere is the above more self-evident, than in London, which I beg to argue deserves the title of "Canada's Baseball Capital".

Consider at least the following:

- London's record of organized baseball predates by three years even that of the home of the Blue Jays.
- The only major league baseball title won by a Canadian team was captured by London in 1877.
- Today's London Majors play in the oldest still functioning site for organized or amateur baseball anywhere in the world.

Of the above the first is fact, the second requires clarification, and the third awaits a challenge to the claim.

There's no doubting the primacy of London and its surrounding region in the origins of baseball in Canada. The thorough research of Bob Barney and Nancy Bouchier at the University of Western Ontario clears any doubts from the loose threads I included in my baseball history "Cheering for the Home Team" released in 1983.

Going all the way back to June 4, 1838, they untangled all the details of a game in Beachville, Ontario, just outside Woodstock. Under the watchful eyes of young Adam Ford who recalled it in splendid details a half century later, two teams, back of Enock Burdick's shops, knocked about a ball made of double and twisted yarn, with a cedar club blocked out with an axe and finished on a shaving-horse with a drawing knife. They played the five bases game then popular in Massachusetts, it being less than a decade before Alexander Cartwright would formalize the now popular 4 bases New York game.

George Railton's 1856 London directory listed a London baseball club and its 22 members who practiced twice a week on the military grounds. The Canadian game with 11 men on the field was then in vogue, though by the end of the decade Cartwright's 9-man game had moved westward and induced even Torontonians to give the game a crack.

The best Canadian teams of the next 15 years were London's neighbors--Woodstock, Hamilton, Ingersol and Guelph. In 1875 however, an ambitious group of Londoners equipped their well meaning amateur outfit with what was then dubbed "a better class of American professionals". At the same time

London boys were coming into their own as future major leaguers. If there was ever a time of the gods in London baseball when heroes walked the land and legend rang tall it was the four brief summers from 1875 to 1878.

London's baseball leadership included, Jacob Englehart, a pioneer oil man and future Imperial Oil vice president; London newspaperman Harry Gorman; Ed Moore, manager of the Tecumseh House; Richard Meredith, a future chief justice of the Supreme Court of Ontario; William Southam who was to found a publishing empire; and to add an egalitarian touch, Jim Jury, janitor at the collegiate institute.

After years of chasing Guelph, the London Tecumsehs swept to the Canadian championship of 1876 led by the magnificent curveballer Fred Goldsmith, a star in Chicago in the 1880's and Joe "Ubbo Ubbo" Hornung, a future fan favorite in Boston.

Seeking greater glory, London and Guelph joined the International Association for its inaugural 1877 season. Later historians have dubbed the association, baseball's first minor league. It's false and unfair claim. For one thing, the reserve clause, the basis of major and minor league ball, wasn't even in use until the 1880's. Every player was effectively a free agent. Correspondence indicates that the International Association rejected any attempts by the National League, founded a year earlier, to control its affairs. There was simply an understanding to respect each other's contracts.

Answers from Nicknames on page 31:

- | | | | | | | |
|------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----------|
| 1)pp | 8)ss | 15)uu | 22)oo | 29)mm | 36)w | 43)bb |
| 2)cc | 9)z | 16)e | 23)i | 30)u | 37)gg | 44)q |
| 3)s | 10)xx | 17)rr | 24)ff | 31)j | 38)ww | 45)n |
| 4)vv | 11)a | 18)ee | 25)g | 32)tt | 39)aa | 46)qq |
| 5)kk | 12)ii | 19)f | 26)jj | 33)p | 40)o | 47)t |
| 6)dd | 13)nn | 20)b | 27)l | 34)x | 41)r | 48)hh |
| 7)v | 14)d | 21)ll | 28)k | 35)m | 42)jy | 49)h 50)c |

LONDON MAJORS - TURNED PRO

1) ROY McKAY	TIGERS	33) TOMMY WHITE	INDIANS
2) STAN SLACK	BRAVES	34) HARRY FISHER	PIRATES
3) BILL SLACK	RED SOX	35) LOU FISHER	GIANTS
4) FERGIE JENKINS	CUBS	36) JERRY WILSON	GIANTS
5) MIKE KILKENNY	TIGERS	37) ED JORDON	
6) DAVE ROSEMA	TIGERS	38) GENE RIZAK	TIGERS
7) DENNY McLAIN	TIGERS	39) ARNOLD EARLY	RED SOX
8) DAVE BYERS	CARDINALS	40) RAY YELLE	INDIANS
9) JIM RODRIGUS	TIGERS	41) BOB DEAKIN	YANKEES
10) RIED HEFFERNAN	PIRATES	42) LES THOMAS	CARDINALS
11) DAVE MOHARTER	SENATORS	43) CHRIS CSARNIK	ATLANTA
12) DEREK BRANDOW	JAYS	44) DAVE MILSTIEN	BOSTON
13) MIKE LUMLEY	TIGERS	45) PETE CRAIG	
14) KENNY WILLIAMS	TIGERS	46) BILL LAJOYE	TIGERS
15) HARRY MUIR	JAYS	47) TY CRAWFORD	TIGERS
16) DAVE HAMMOND	TIGERS	48) BILL ATKINSON	EXPOS
17) BARRY BRUNDENCAMP	RANGERS	49) JACKIE TUCKER	CARDINALS
18) KEN BENJAMIN	DODGERS	50) TERRY COX	JAYS
19) JIM PRICE	TIGERS	51) RANDY RIVER	
20) LARRY HAGGITT	TIGERS	52) GREG JACOBS	BOSTON
21) RICK BIRMINGHAM	BRAVES	53) BOBBY ROSE	
22) TOM BURGESS	CARDINALS	54) BOB MCBEE	CARDINALS
23) FRANK COLMAN	YANKEES	55) PETE GRAY	BROWNS
24) AL GREENBERG		56) GEORGE (MOONEY) GIBSON	PIRATES
25) DON McLENNAN	CARDINALS	57) JIM DALTON	TIGERS
26) ROLF SCHEEL	ORILLES	58) FRED GOLDSMITH	CHICAGO
27) CHARLIE WINGER	GIANTS	59) JOE (UBBO UBBO) HORNUNG	BOSTON
28) DON COOPER	CARDINALS	60) BOB EMSLIE	
29) JOHN AMBROSE	PHILLIES	61) WILLIAM MOUNTJOY	
30) STAN (GABBY) ANDERSON	DODGERS	62) CHARLIE GEHRINGER	TIGERS
31) TED BOGAL	DODGERS	63) BOB ATTRILL	CARDINALS
32) BILL DIXON	DODGERS		



Sue Gibson
Park Operations

Good Luck
London Majors
from your friends at



SELECTED PERSONAL MILESTONES REACHED 1997

By Jeffrey Reed

ALL-TIME ALL-STARs

Zelko Culibrk, OF, Hamilton Cardinals – 300 Games, 350 Hits

Kevin Curran, LHP, Kitchener Panthers – 160 Games (4th all-time), 15 Yrs, 889.1 Innings (4th all-time), 78 Wins (2nd all-time), 712 K (4th all-time)

Randy Curran, OF/DH, Kitchener Panthers – 269 Games, 1,000 AB, 10 Yrs, 378 Hits, 67 Doubles, 89 HR (1st all-time), 289 RBI (7th all-time)

Dean Diconzo, Manager/DH, Hamilton Cardinals – 504 Games (4th all-time), 1,923 AB, 18 Yrs, 582 Hits (2nd all-time), 142 SB (4th all-time), 222 RBI

Arden Eddie, Manager/1B, London Majors – 832 Games (1st all-time), 2,889 AB (1st all-time), 31 Yrs (1st all-time), 764 Hits (1st all-time), 115 Doubles (3rd all-time), 21 Triples (tied 4th all-time), 42 HR, 179 SB (1st all-time), 382 RBI (1st all-time), 645 BB (1st all-time)

Carl Embro, IF, Guelph Royals – 250 Games, 250 Hits, 1,000 AB

John Faragher, OF/LHP, London Majors – 15 Yrs, 300 Games, 300 Hits, 50 Doubles, 200 RBI. On Aug. 3 he tossed the league's first (7-inning) no-hitters since 1990, the first August no-hitter.

Kevin Hinton, DH, Guelph Royals – 1,000 AB, 300 Hits, 60 Doubles, 200 RBI

Jon Owen, RHP, London Majors – 22 Yrs, 166 Games (3rd all-time), 994.1 Innings (3rd all-time), 67 Wins (4th all-time), 758 K (3rd all-time)

Dennis Schooley, Manager/1B, Stratford Hillers – 819 Games Managed, 489 Wins (.597), both 1st all-time, 574 Games (2nd all-time), 28 Yrs (2nd all-time), 1,801 AB, 446 Hits, 59 Doubles, 53 SB, 168 RBI.

Tyler Shantz, IF/DH, Stratford Hillers – 300 Hits, 200 RBI, 250 Games, 900 AB

Richard Thompson, CF, London Majors – 1,000 AB, 50 Doubles, 101 SB (6th all-time)

Sean Travers, SS, Guelph Royals – 250 Hits, 800 AB, 91 SB (8th all-time)

Milestones

10 Seasons – Dave Rosenhahn, Toronto Maple Leafs

100 Hits – Dana Duskocy, Stratford Hillers; David McDuffe, Hamilton Cardinals; Rob Pratt, Toronto Maple Leafs; Scott Ranney, Toronto Maple Leafs

150 Hits – Pat Gosselin, Stratford Hillers

200 Hits – Mike Asselin, Toronto Maple Leafs; Joe Iannuzzi, Hamilton Cardinals

100 Games – Scott Ranney, Toronto Maple Leafs

200 Games – Dan Mendham, London Majors

250 Games – Todd Hayward, Stratford Hillers

200 At-Bats – Jeff Ramos, Hamilton Cardinals

300 At-Bats – Marty Chubb, Kitchener Panthers; Rob Pratt, Toronto Maple Leafs

350 At-Bats – Scott Ranney, Toronto Maple Leafs

400 At-Bats – Jamie Cook, London Majors; Dana Duskocy, Stratford Hillers; David McDuffe, Hamilton Cardinals; Chris Polock, Brantford Red Sox

500 At-Bats – Brian Carter, Kitchener Panthers; Brad Hagedorn, Kitchener Panthers

600 At-Bats – Joe Iannuzzi, Hamilton Cardinals

650 At-Bats – Darcy Mintz, Kitchener Panthers

700 At-Bats – Mike Asselin, Toronto Maple Leafs

800 At-Bats – Dan Mendham, London Majors

950 At-Bats – Todd Hayward, Stratford Hillers

50 Stolen Bases – Pat Gosselin, Stratford Hillers

More Milestones on Page 40 →

Milestones - *continued*

30 Doubles – Dan Mendham, London Majors; Darcy Mintz, Kitchener Panthers

40 Doubles – Joe Iannuzzi, Hamilton Cardinals

40 Games Pitched – Scott Medvin, Kitchener Panthers

50 Games Pitched – Casey Cooper, Guelph Royals

80 Games Pitched – Miles Tourigny, Stratford Hillers

100 Games Pitched – Dennis Reynolds, Hamilton Cardinals

100 Innings Pitched – Darcy Mintz, Kitchener Panthers; Kenny Williams, London Majors

200 Innings Pitched – Scott Medvin, Kitchener Panthers; Mike Lumley, Brantford Red Sox

350 Innings Pitched – Casey Cooper, Guelph Royals; Dennis Reynolds, Hamilton Cardinals; Miles Tourigny, Stratford Hillers

20 Wins – Scott Medvin, Kitchener Panthers

25 Wins – Casey Cooper, Guelph Royals; John Douris, Toronto Maple Leafs

100 K – Darcy Mintz, Kitchener Panthers; Rob Patterson, Toronto Maple Leafs

200 K – Mike Lumley, Brantford Red Sox

300 K – John Douris, Toronto Maple Leafs, Dennis Reynolds, Hamilton Cardinals

Bill Weir

#64

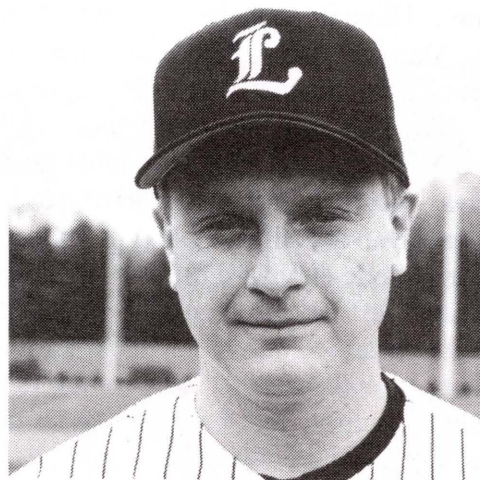
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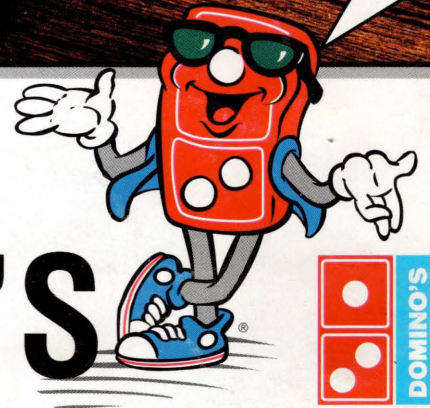
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