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Mental errors hurt Majors

Mon, June 26, 2006

By **ERIC BENDER**, FREE PRESS SPORTS REPORTER

First place in the Intercounty Baseball League eluded the London Majors in Toronto yesterday as they lost both ends of a doubleheader, 16-4 and 9-8.

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"We made a lot of mistakes, mostly mental," said Majors field manager Roop Chanderdat.

The Majors saw the gap between them and the first-place Toronto Maple Leafs widen. London is now 14-5. Toronto improves to 18-3.

Majors pitcher Erick Perez, who was 6-0, had his poorest game of the season in recording his first loss in the first game. The winning pitcher was David Steffler.

The Majors built a healthy lead in the second game behind the pitching of Josh Palmer and three-run home runs from outfielders Brad McElroy and Kevin Virtue. Palmer, facing Toronto's Yoleyardry Reina, left with the score 8-5 in favour of the Majors in the seventh inning with two out and two on.

Hiarali Garcia came in to get the final out but surrendered a home run to Damon Topolie to tie the game and send it into extra innings. Toronto scored the winning run in the bottom of the eighth as Garcia continued on the mound. He dropped to 2-1 on the season.

The Majors can get even with the Maple Leafs Saturday as

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Toronto comes to Labatt Park for a Canada Day doubleheader starting at 4 p.m.

But before that, the Majors have home games Wednesday and Friday against the Hamilton Thunderbirds. Tom Van Kasteren is slated to pitch Wednesday for London.

LEAFS 16-9 MAJORS 4-8

Sports Headlines

Beautiful game turns ugly
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Mental errors hurt Majors

Williams, Federer seeking fourth titles
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Ball highlights
Mets slice up Jays' Towers
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Korean overjoyed by win
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SPORTS NEWS

Ortiz comes through again

Playing against the National League put David Ortiz in post-season form. The Red Sox slugger beat the Philadelphia Phillies in extra innings for the second consecutive game, singling home the winning run in the 12th for an 8-7 victory on Monday and extending Boston's winning streak to nine games.

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- Coyotes acquire Boynton from Bruins for fellow blue-liner Mara
- Blackhawks go in different direction, buy out forwards Barnaby and Brown
- Booz postponed another day
- Sanchez may stick around

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