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## SPORTS **OTHER SPORTS**

**McGorman handcuffs Red Sox**  
 Sat, August 23, 2008  
**The London pitcher throws a one-hitter as the Majors win 2-0 and take a 2-1 lead in the final**  
 By **MORRIS DALLA COSTA**

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It didn't take long for Ryan McGorman to recognize he had good stuff.

In fact, the London Majors right-hander thought in the first inning that his stuff was good enough for a no-no.

McGorman came close, oh so close.

He took a no-hitter into the eighth inning before giving up a single.

But it didn't matter. McGorman had the game by the scruff of the neck. He finished with a one-hitter to carry the Majors to a 2-0 win over the Brantford Red Sox in Game 3 of the Intercounty Baseball League final, giving London a 2-0 lead in the best-of-seven affair and thrilling 1,400 fans at Labatt Park last night.

The no-hitter was broken up by Jason Gotwalt, who led off the eighth with a clean shot through shortstop into left field.

McGorman had everything going. The only other ball that was really stung was a long fly to centre by Hyung Cho that Christian Ruiz tracked down.



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Second baseman Vince Burke then made a big-league play in the ninth, going a long way into centre to take what would have been a bloop hit away from Josh McCurdy. It was the last gasp of life in the Red Sox.

"All my pitches were working," McGorman said. "And I was fortunate that the defence turned out a great game.

"I really knew I had good stuff right in the first inning. I was thinking it may be good enough."

McGorman had not started since the third game of the semifinal series against Oshawa. All his pitches were working but he had a nasty curveball and a change going all night.

"I kept them off balance with the curveball and the change. I had a sneaky fast fastball," he said.

McGorman struck out six, walked two and hit a batter.

His gem overshadowed a fine night by Tillsonburg native Mike Meyers.

The Brantford starter was 2-0 going into the game with a 2.10 ERA and 26 strikeouts against just three walks.

"He's been throwing really well," Red Sox pitching coach Bruce Gray said. "He's got AAA stuff."

But it was McGorman who looked as if he had the stuff an organization would look for.

It was Game 3 in the series and the third time that pitchers staged a duel.

In Game 1, London's Josh Palmer and Red Sox Brad Hogeterp hooked up. In the second game in Brantford, Adam Echlin gave the Majors a strong start but the Red Sox got an even better one from Gabe Ribas, who went 11 innings for the win.

"All year I've been saying there's our No. 3 starter and everyone is saying, 'McGorman?' " Majors manager Roop Chanderdat said. "Yeah, McGorman. He had some tough losses and a slow start but when he's on, his stuff is unhittable. Unhittable. If he has command of his pitches, we know he's on right away."

The Majors got to Meyers in the bottom of the second. Mason Reilly started things with a one-out single. He was followed by a double by Will Richards. Red Sox right-fielder Adam Parliament thought he had a shot at Reilly going to third, made a strong throw but it was off line, allowing Reilly to score.

Kevin Virtue then stroked a single that moved Richards to third. With two out Rudy Vallejos singled to score Richards.

Meyers was pretty much in control after that, but so was McGorman.

"I built this team on pitching, solid defence and timely hitting. I knew



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that's what it would take," Chanderdat said.

London leads the series in ejections 5-1. Two more Majors went last night for arguing. Coach Casey Pulham was tossed for the second game in succession. Kevin Virtue was run in the seventh for arguing balls and strikes.

Game 4 is tomorrow in Brantford at 8 p.m. with Josh Palmer getting the start for the Majors.

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