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## SPORTS **OTHER SPORTS**

### Majors capture league pennant

Fri, July 25, 2008

By [RYAN PYETTE](#)

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Rain clouds. Doubt. Uncertainty. The knowledge your immediate fate is in someone else's hands.

It's what the London Majors went through this week, waiting to claim their first Intercounty Baseball League pennant in 20 years.

That finally came last night with word that the Oshawa Dodgers had beaten the Guelph Royals 16-9, giving the Major first place, one game ahead of the Royals.

If Guelph had won, a tie-breaker would have been played tonight at Labatt Park.

All the uncertainty is a feeling Majors co-owner Scott Dart knows well.

It was his 2007.

Lying in a hospital bed and fighting for his life from complications after pancreatic surgery, he became disconnected from the team he bought five years ago. But he's feeling healthy again, smiling and talking to fans and flat-out enjoying the Majors' best season in two decades.

It took some baby steps to get here.



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"I feel 100 per cent -- I've been for the last few months, but when I came back this year, I didn't know where I fit in," Dart said. "I didn't want to step on anyone's toes. It felt like I'd been gone forever and I had to ask last year's game-day co-ordinator Rod Booth what we'd been doing. I had to work myself back into a role."

After last Friday's walk-off 2-1 win over Brantford, Dart stood on the park concourse with a big smile saying good night to fans. He went to Guelph on Tuesday to see if the Majors could wrap up the title, but returned with that question unanswered as rain washed out the Royals-Oshawa game which was rescheduled to last night.

"When I was gone, I missed the interaction with the fans the most," Dart said. "We have great fans who come here. I had so many people who wished me well through my dad and Roop (Majors co-owner and field manager Roop Chanderdat).

"Once you're here, the old competitiveness comes back. I'm happy when we win and frustrated when we lose a close game. The thing I'm most glad about being back is Roop just has to worry about the on-field stuff now. Last year, he had to worry about everything and I felt bad.

"But he did a great job of finding players and signing them. It's been a long time since London has competed for first place."

The Majors went to the league final in 2006 but that was a Cinderella story. This year, they finish with a 27-9 record and Dart is proud of the club's consistency.

"This is what we wanted when we bought the team. We knew it would take some time."



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**SPORTS NEWS**

**Muralitharan 4-38 put Sri Lanka in command in the first test against India**

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka - Muttiah Muralitharan shattered India's star-studded top order Friday with four wickets to put Sri Lanka firmly in command of the first test.


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- Forward Marek Svatos agrees to two-year deal with Avalanche
- In Sweden, the Stanley Cup is used as baptismal font for baby's christening
- Tony Stewart to use childhood hero A.J. Foyt's No. 14 for next season

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Proprietor and Publisher - The London Free Press,  
P.O. Box 2280, 369 York Street, London Ontario Canada N6A 4G1