



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LONDON MAJORS ANNOUNCE FIELD MANAGER & PITCHING COACH FOR 2006 SEASON

London, ON: The London Majors confirmed key members of their 2006 coaching staff today with the announcement of their Field Manager and Pitching Coach. General Manager and Co-Owner, Roop Chanderdatt will lead the team as Field Manager with strong bull-pen support from Pitching Coach Harry Muir.

Dart said: 'Having two guys like Roop and Harry at the helm for the Majors is our competitive advantage over other teams. Roop's experience within the League will be a key lever to our success as well as Harry's knowledge of pitching coupled with his proven ability to get the most from each pitcher. Roop understands the effort needed to be successful on and off the field and has shown his dedication to the success of our organization by building relationships that will help support our initiatives to build not just a good team this year, but a great platform for a program that will attract and retain players for years to come.'

As General Manager, Roop is responsible for player development and recruitment, and is currently working very closely with college and university coaches, professional scouts, and developmental baseball programs to create strong affiliations throughout baseball. Roop has been very busy since his appointment as General Manager in October 2005 and this is reflective in the talent he has assembled to be part of the team for the 2006 season.

Roop has played in the Intercounty Baseball League for 11 seasons, 6 of which were with the London Majors.

The team's motto is **HARDWORK, DEDICATION and RESPECT**. "With all personnel and players adhering to these three guiding principles, we will build a strong program now and for the future," says Chanderdatt. "I think our fans and supporters will be excited with our team once they see our play this season. The players we have assembled are talented ball players and more importantly good people that fit the Majors' philosophy."

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Not just a team in the community but a community team

Harry's coaching and pitching experience will be a tremendous asset to the Majors this season. "Harry and I have played together on past Major teams and I know first hand that he is hardworking and dedicated and I am looking forward to working closely with him this season," says Chanderdat.

Londoner, Harry Muir returned home and to the Majors in 1995 after playing professional baseball in France. Harry was named as the London Majors Field Manager in 2005, however before the season started was struck down with a near fatal blood infection which placed him in a coma for several weeks. Harry's recovery is going well and he is back to work full time.

Muir shared that, "It really is the best decision for the organization. This will allow us both to focus on our strengths. Roop has spent more than a decade in this league and knows the players and the league better than anyone I know. He has been relentless in his pursuit of new talent all winter and has a clear vision of what he wants the Majors name to be and mean in the community. He really is the only choice for the Managers position - hands down."

The London Majors have been a part of the Intercounty Baseball League (IBL) since 1925 and are celebrating 80 years of membership. The London Majors have been part of family-friendly entertainment at historic Labatt Park, the world's oldest ballpark in its original location (1877). The high caliber of IBL baseball has drawn players from major colleges and professional leagues, including former major league players. Although the core of the team is lead by London and Ontario based players, the Majors are proud to welcome several import players from the United States and Venezuela.

The Majors are honoured to have in their alumni internationally renowned baseball players including:

- Frank (Lefty) Colman - played for the Pirates and the New York Yankees. He was a reserve first baseman-outfielder when the Yanks beat the Brooklyn Dodgers in 1947.
- Tom (Tim) Burgess - spent 28 years in pro company as a player, manager, coach and hitting instructor with time in the bigs as an outfielder-first baseman with the Pirates, St. Louis Cardinals and Los Angeles Angels. He was also a coach with the New York Mets, Atlanta Braves and Kansas City Royals. In recent years he has been a coach and advisor with Team Canada.
- Ferguson (Fergie) Jenkins – having played for the Philadelphia Phillies, Chicago Cubs, Texas Rangers, and Boston Red Sox (the only Canadian honored in the American Baseball Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY and he is ninth on the all-time strikeout list.

– 30 –

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