



NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Lethbridge, March 8th, 2016

The Lethbridge Bulls are pleased to present the 3rd Annual Legends of Sports Gala. It will be held on **April 22nd, 2016 at 6:00 pm** at the Lethbridge Lodge Hotel and Conference Centre. This year, baseball will be honored by two Major League Baseball Hall of famers **Andre Dawson and Ferguson Jenkins** as well as Boston Red Sox Hall of Famer **Bill “The Spaceman” Lee**.

Tickets will be available ONLINE at <http://underthelights.pointstreaksites.com/>, at the Spitz Stadium Office or call 403-320-2025 for details.

“We believe that Lethbridge is capable of hosting and supporting top events. Whether it be concerts, business conferences, or celebrity events, our city is proving this one success after another. That is why the Bulls believe in our community and hope to pack the Lodge for this event featuring some of baseball’s royalty.”

WHAT: 3rd Annual Legends of Sports Gala
WHERE: Lethbridge Lodge Hotel and Conference Centre
320 Scenic Dr S, Lethbridge, AB T1J 4B4
WHEN: April 22nd, 2016 **TIME:** 6:00 PM

“We are very excited to present this thrilling evening to the Southern Alberta sports and entertainment community. Three baseball icons in the same building at the same time will make this one a night to remember!” Commented Bulls President and General Manager Kevin Kvame.

“I am promising the attendees another special Gala that will give them some special memories; Robbie Alomar was a tremendous first year speaker, last year our 4 speakers had pushed our event to the next level, and this year we have 3 great guests with unique experiences to share.” said Chelsea Mereska, committee member.

Proceeds from the event will be going to ASDC-SW, the PBA Scholarship Fund, and Bulls non-profit fund supporting player scholarships and community initiatives.

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Andre Dawson “The Hawk,” a nickname that he picked up from his uncle because he had a hawk eye at the plate. After he recovered from his first surgery, Dawson narrowed his athletic focus to baseball. He made the baseball team at Florida A&M University and was drafted in the eleventh round by the Montreal Expos in 1975. After one year in Lethbridge, Alberta, and most of a season split between Quebec (Double-A) and Denver (Triple-A), Dawson was a September 11 call-up in 1976. Dawson’s first full season in the majors was in 1977, and he made the most of it in Montreal’s center field. Dawson batted .282 with 19 home runs, 65 RBIs and 21 stolen bases. He tallied 148 hits and 64 runs scored and won the National League Rookie of the Year. Dawson opened the new decade with his best performance yet. In 1980, he had his first season batting over .300 (.308). He also had 17 home runs, 96 runs scored, 87 RBIs and 34 stolen bases. Dawson won his first of eight Gold Glove Awards that year and his first Silver Slugger Award as well. After becoming a Chicago Cub in 1987 Dawson saw his offensive numbers jump up to new heights. The Chicago Cubs came in last place in 1987. However, it was bittersweet for Dawson, who had enjoyed his best season, leading the National League with 49 home runs, 137 RBIs and 353 total bases while batting .287. He also won his first Gold Glove and Silver Slugger as a Cub. But Dawson’s biggest honor came when he outdistanced St. Louis shortstop Ozzie Smith 269-193 for the MVP award. Dawson had 11 first-place votes to Smith’s nine and was the first player to win the MVP while playing for a last-place team. Dawson retired after the 1996 season with 438 home runs, 1,591 RBIs, 2,774 hits, 314 stolen bases, 1,373 runs scored. Dawson joins Bobby Bonds and Willie Mays as the only Major League baseball players in history with more than 400 home runs and over 300 stolen bases. He also won eight Gold Gloves and was an eight-time All-Star. In 2010 – his ninth year on the ballot - Dawson received 77.9 percent of the vote and was the lone electee from the writers’ ballot to be enshrined. He joined manager Whitey Herzog and umpire Doug Harvey, who were elected by the Veterans Committee, in the Class of 2010.

Ferguson Jenkins Born in Chatham, Ontario, in 1942, Ferguson Arthur Jenkins was discovered by Philadelphia Phillies scout Gene Dziadura at the age of 15. While he initially had dreams to become a professional hockey player, Fergie’s 21-year professional baseball career began with the Phillies in 1965. From 1967–1972, while a member of the Chicago Cubs, Fergie accomplished an incredible achievement of six straight 20-win seasons, winning the 1971 NL Cy Young Award as the league’s top pitcher. In 1974, after being traded to the Texas Rangers, Fergie won the American League Comeback Player of the Year Award, winning a career-high 25 games. He remained in Texas for one more season before going to the Boston Red Sox for two years, and then back to the Rangers for four more seasons until 1981. Fergie retired after the 1983 season, returning to Chicago and retiring as a Cub, not long after recording his 3,000th strikeout. At the time, he was the only pitcher in baseball history to strikeout more than 3,000 batters while accumulating less than 1,000 walks (997), a feat only since matched by Curt Schilling, Pedro Martinez and Greg Maddux. Career Highlights include the following: the first and only Canadian to be inducted into the National Baseball National Hall of Fame in Cooperstown, NY, July of 1991; induction



into the Canadian Baseball Hall of Fame at St. Mary's, Ontario, 1987; Lou Marsh Award recipient as Canada's top athlete, 1974; Canadian Press Male Athlete of the Year 1967, 1968, 1971, 1974; inducted onto Canada's Walk of Fame in 2001; received the Order of Canada, 2007; Inducted into Oklahoma Sports Hall of Fame, 2012. On March 18, 2009, it was announced by the Cubs that Fergie's number would be retired at Wrigley Field in Chicago. In a ceremony on May 3, 2009, Fergie's number, 31, was raised up the historic left field foul pole, enshrining him among the other greatest Chicago Cubs players in its storied 138-year history.

Bill "The Spaceman" Lee Over the years, reporters came to know that regardless of the on-field prospects of the Red Sox, this refreshing newcomer could provide them with lots of colorful copy. Lee rarely disappointed. He always seemed good for an original quote, not just a canned cliché. Bill Lee's own baseball career started at the University of Southern California. He helped the Trojans capture the 1968 College World Series. Lee graduated from USC with a BA in geography, a degree both appropriate and useful in that he became a roving ambassador for baseball throughout the world. Immediately after graduation, Lee was selected by the Red Sox in the 22nd round of the free-agent draft (June 7, 1968). He was assigned to Waterloo of the Midwest league and then to Winston-Salem of the Carolina league. Lee began the 1969 season with Pittsfield, and started ten games, racking up a 6-2 mark, with a 2.06 ERA. By late June, he was brought up to the big-league club. Lee's debut came in a relief appearance on June 25, 1969, in the second game of a Fenway Park doubleheader against Cleveland. After 19 relief stints, Lee earned a start late in the season, on September 30. Lee played his first full season of major-league ball in 1971. The 1973 campaign was Bill Lee's breakout season. After four quality long-relief stints in April, and after several Red Sox starters struggled, Lee got his first start on May 1, and never left the rotation. He started 33 games, and won 17 while losing 11. Lee was honored by being named to the American League All-Star squad. Then came 1975. For the third year in a row, Lee won 17 games. His record was 17-9 (3.95 ERA). Lee remained a workhorse, tying for the team lead, throwing 260 innings and was a major part of the pennant-winning Red Sox team. His retirement from Major League Baseball happened after his 1982 season with the Montreal Expos. The Spaceman never really retired from the game. In August of 2012, at the age of 65, he signed a one-day contract with the San Rafael Pacifics of the North American League. He threw a complete game win, 9-4. This created a new record for the oldest pitcher to win a professional baseball game. This wasn't the only way that he remained in the game as after his retirement he spent some time in both Cuba and Russia trying to help establish the sport in other countries