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Acton darts team 'in tough' at weekend Ontario finals

Branch 197 foursome 'could have played better'

Acton Legion's top darts team went a long way this year – but they were stopped just short of a trip to Nova Scotia.

The foursome of Captain Rod Leech, Ed Ebbinge, Kenny Hilditch and Ken Jones competed in the Provincial Legion Championships in Goderich on the weekend, but the team failed to advance out of their eight-team round-robin on Saturday afternoon.

"We were disappointed, but that's the way it goes," said Leech on Monday night.

"We played better at the District playoffs than we did in Goderich; we certainly are capable of doing better than we did."

An Ottawa foursome won the 44-team tournament, and they will now head off to the Dominion

Championships in Nova Scotia.

"I was there last year, but this time around there were more players that I recognized," reported Leech.

"It was really tough competition, that's for sure."

The Acton side finished their round-robin with a 3-4 record; a team from Belleville advanced from their group of eight.

"It was just one of those things," explained the captain. "At this level of competition you've all got to click at the same time – and we just didn't."

The team took two vehicles to Goderich as Ebbinge's wife was expecting a child and he had to be prepared to leave the tournament in a moment's notice.

Leech said there is "a good pos-

sibility" that the four-man squad will stay intact for next year's Zone and District competitions.

"And next year we'll be hosting the Zone playoffs, since we won that competition this year," said Leech. "Then everyone will have to come to us to play."

On their way home on Sunday the team stopped off at the Legion in Elora to compete in a tournament there, along with three other Acton teams.

"We got down to the money in that tournament, and we won \$50 between us," reported Leech, whose wife Barbara was on a team which won money in the same competition.

Shaun Warwick and Bob Jarrett were two other Acton residents on that team.



OFF TO PROVINCIALS!

Darlene Labombard, right, is coach of Acton's high-rolling fivesome which won the Regional roll-offs for the TelRoute/Holiday Classic five-pin bowling tournament on March 19 in Brampton. The team now goes on to the 24-team provincial finals on April 29 in Scarborough. "When we win there, we all win trips for two to Florida," says a confident Labombard. The "Maple Hills" zone champions are, from left: Paul Coull, Dave Black, Chris Tennant and Barry Dempsey. Team member Hilton Fendley was missing when this photo was taken. (Doug Harrison photo)



HURRICANE HARDWARE!

Three Acton players skated off with awards at Wednesday's Halton Hurricane year-end hockey banquet at Bishop Reding school in Milton. From front to back, Major Novice Chad Henry took home the Most Improved Player trophy; Joel Petkoff won Most Sportsmanlike in the Minor Pee wee division; and Daryn McIntyre took the hardware for Most Improved Major Pee wee player. (Doug Harrison photo)



THE MYSTERY CONTINUES

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