

## Howard team outrageous

The Russ Howard Rink has returned home to Mother Canada following three weeks of touring and curling throughout Europe. In two words, Glenn Howard released his feelings on the trip: "Just marvellous."

As reported earlier, the Howard team started their tour on the right foot by winning 5100 pounds (approximately \$11,300 depending on the exchange rate) in Glasgow, Scotland against the top six teams at the World Championships last spring, and two other tough Scottish teams.

However, because we were using second and third hand information from overseas to bring you the story last week, we got a few facts wrong. Sincerely, we apologize.

The Howard rink did not beat Roger Schmidt, the runner up at the Worlds. As a matter of fact they lost to Roger in the opening round of the skins game. The team that did beat Roger was Sweden's Goran Roxin and his three

brothers taking all ten skins from the former Canadian curler, now based in Lahr.

However, not to diminish the Howard rink's accomplishments they did take eight end-skins from former World Champion Eigel Ramsjell of Norway in the semi finals. Ramsjell won the round robin portion of the eight team spiel going undefeated.

In the final game, worth some eight thousand dollars, Russ and the team had to face the red hot Roxin-boys. After blanking the first three ends, Russ stole one in the fourth when Roxin was light of the button where Russ was hiding, by two inches.

Those two inches cost Mr. Roxin \$4,400. Easy come, easy go is the old saying right?

After ten ends, the Howard rink had won the game but there was still some money available because the final end was blanked. Instead of playing an extra end, the skips were given the opportunity to draw closest to the

button. Roxin going first nudged the four foot. Russ coolly drew to the button...no problem.

From Scotland, the team flew to Munich where they played an exhibition game in Fussen. This part of the tour, as Glenn explained to me over the phone, was more like a vacation. In their mini bus, they saw much of Germany and Switzerland, visiting the Alps and a castle.

At the Lahr Canadian Forces Base, the Penetanguishene Curling Club team took on Roger Schmidt again. If you're a fan of the guy with a kerchief around his neck, you'll be happy to know he beat the Howard team 4-2 in a skins style format.

Next, the rink was on to Barne for a 32 rink round robin spiel. The Canadian team won its first three games, qualifying for the quarter finals. However, the rink away from the usually perfect conditions in Penetanguishene couldn't perform their usual finesse shots on straight, flat ice that ran

about 29-30 seconds. (That's the amount of time it takes a rock to travel the length of the ice surface.) Usually, 25 seconds is fast; they must have Speedy Gonzalez cooking up the ice over there.

They lost a couple of games before winning their final one, good for seventh spot and 700 Swiss franks. But, in winning the game, Glenn said it was "an absolute basketball game" seeing the score bounce all over the place. He can't remember the final score, but said it was 9-8 or something."

Overall, the team said they were treated royally, everybody tried to give them the very best time possible. "We had a hell of a time trying to pay for anything," said Glenn. But, then again who would want to pay those outrageous prices.

A draft beer in a Swiss pub cost \$9 Canadian. That's no misprint. How about a little rye to go with your Coke. Shell out a twenty dollar bill, you may get two dollars in change.



**Smiling Nun**

Sister Doug is all smiles as he/she awaits the rock to be delivered at the Midland Curling club Saturday night at the Halloween Spiel. Several club members and

their friends took part in the fun-filled evening. Sister Doug's partner was also dressed as a woman of the cloth while guests appeared as large crayons.

## Between the Sheets with Ed Pearson

### A mixed-up night in Penetang

The Friday night mixed was a trifle more mixed than usual last Friday, Halloween Eve, at the Penetang Curling Club. The entertainment committee had prevailed on most of the curlers to attend in fancy dress. Everybody entered into the spirit of things and even took to the ice wearing their strange apparel. This called for a certain amount of dedication because some of the costumes were very sketchy. A dance was held in the lounge after the

game and judging of the fancy dress took place.

First prize for team was taken by the Bob Lauren rink of his wife Genny, Debby and Jim Szarks. The foursome had chosen ancient central Mediterranean garb, with flowing white robes and laurel wreaths, the girls looked like Greek Goddesses, Bob and Jim looked like God-forsaken Greeks. Best prize for couples went to Doreen and Pat Vaillancourt. Doreen was cute as Raggedy Ann while Pat was

magnificent as Captain Hook. Pat was complete with hook, which might have explained why Ann was so raggedy. Best individual lady was Brenda Robillard with an ingenious scarecrow outfit. Dave Yeeman did some switch-hitting with his clever costume which was half woman, half man. He wore a combination dress and suit ensemble divided down the middle. Dave had even shaved off half his beard. Wife Audrey was wearing the other half of

the combination. I hope they got their roles sorted out when they got home, I have heard of wife swapping but that was ridiculous.

All the curlers participated in the fun. Even El Presidenti, Ted Ross, showed up wearing a huge sombrero. He was supposed to be that lazy Mexican, Manuel Labour. Ron Bellisle did his usual excellent M.C. number. Don and Rita Sharpen worked hard to ensure a very successful evening.



### Come To Me

Rick Dorion of Little Lake Service Center Hawks holds his hands out waiting for the ball as a G. Willicers Toro stretches to knock the ball down in the Midland Penetang Touch Football League Consolation final

Sunday afternoon at PSS. Toros won the contest on the last play of the game by a 15-14 score. Dorion actually caught the ball on this play and ran in for a touch down.

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