

Howard to move on to Tankard

Russ Howard will represent this region at the Labatt's Ontario Tankard Feb. 7-12.

Howard swept the A side at St. Catharines during the weekend in the regional Ontario Curling Association finals.

Howard, from the Penetanguishene Curling club, defeated Ed Davies of Toronto, 4-2. Howard stole the ninth to climb to two up coming home.

"The ice was straight so the rocks didn't curl. We were unfamiliar with the ice where Davis wasn't, so we had to be cautious," Howard explained during a telephone interview.

Howard's next opponent was Steve Brown of Gravenhurst, the "B" winner at the zones in Alliston. Russ was one up coming home with the hammer and won 7-5.

The key in Howard's third match was the sixth end when he stole three to lead 7-3. Bob Fedosa picked up a single in the seventh and was sitting two in the eighth when Howard clicked with a double takeout and counted a pair for a 9-4 lead. Fedosa shook hands to end the match after eight ends.

Howard's team curled only 22 games before Christmas as opposed to around 100 for Ed Lukowich.

Russ explained, "we're better in February than in November because we don't play enough games (early in the season)."

Next for the Howard foursome will be the Port Elgin Bonspiel Feb. 3-5 before venturing to Trenton for the Labatt Tankard Feb. 7-12.



This is how it's done

Melissa St. Amant, 4, of Penetang shows how easy figure skating lessons can be during her Monday afternoon class at the Penetanguishene arena.

Arena to get some improvement

by Robert Risk
Staff Writer

The arena's 30-year-old compressor is being replaced, thanks to a \$15,454 grant from the ministry of tourism and recreation.

The grant is part of \$21 million in capital projects the government has slated for communities across the province.

The town applied for a grant in September and should receive the fun-

ding next month.

Ron Marchildon, Penetang recreation director, said the grant covers a third of the cost for the compressors, which freezes the ice surface.

"We bought it 10 years ago, and it was old then. We'll be tendering it now to get an actual cost," he said.

Next on Marchildon's improvement list is a new water cooling system and putting a final grade of gravel on the parking lot.

TRW rehiring

The TRW plant in Penetanguishene has rehired 157 of 200 workers furloughed in late November.

Larry Sylvester, human relations manager, said it's mostly the probationary workers who aren't being asked back.

"We're back to about 500 employees, which is are usual level of employment," he noted.

Slow sales and re-tooling at General Motor's Oshawa plant were given as reasons for the layoffs.

Sylvester said the company knew they would be rehiring once the market picked up again in January.

"So far, we've recalled 86 in December and 71 in January," he said.

The local plant puts together seat belt parts for the auto industry across Canada and the U.S.

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