

Issue 5 – Wednesday, February 18, 2015 • An Official Publication of the Canadian Curling Association.

Here comes ... Saskategenes ...

Calmole

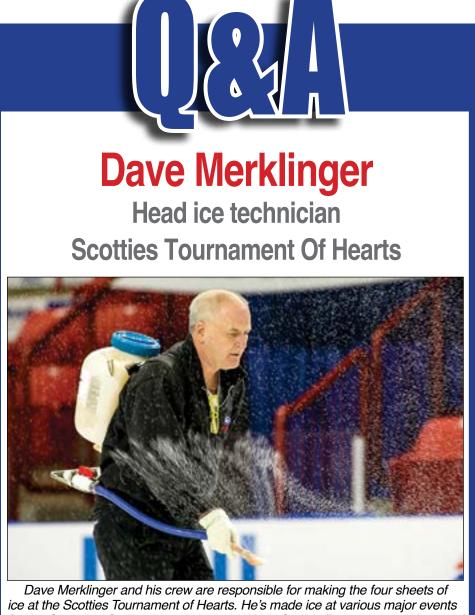
Host province makes its move

डमतिक्रमासहस्र

Saskatchewan's Stephanie Schmidt and the rest of the Saskatchewan team is creeping up on the leaders at the Scotties.







for the Canadian Curling Association and World Curling Federation, and is one of the best in the business. Merklinger spoke to the Heart Chart about his life as a big-league icemaker.

Q: YOU SAY YOU'RE HAPPIEST WHEN MEDIA PEOPLE LEAVE YOU ALONE. WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

There have been times when I hear, "Oh, my heavens, what happened? The girls are missing shots." When the media thinks it sees something (wrong) with the ice, they have questions and I have to try and answer them. So I'd rather not see them.

Q: HOW DOES ONE BECOME AN ICEMAKER? IS THERE AN ICEMAKER SCHOOL?

A: I started making ice with Shorty Jenkins. I pebbled my first sheet of ice in 1969 and worked with him for about 20 years. Usually guys learn from somebody else. I decided not to further my education any more after Grade 13. So now I make a living making ice.

Q: WHAT'S THE ONE WORD AN ICEMAKER NEVER WANTS TO HEAR?

A: Fudge. That's when a rock hits the slide path and just dies. Last night I'm watching on TV and they say it's (ice) probably going to fudge. Well it didn't.

Q: What is an icemaker's best friend?

A: Good water, obviously a good building where you can remove the heat, and good equipment like scrapers and such.

Q: How is Mosaic Place for making ice?

A: Excellent. I'd like to say easy, but nothing is ever easy when there's 5,000 people in the building.

Q: Are you getting any sleep?

A: Are you kidding? Sleep when you die.

Q: What's the worst thing that happened in one of these major competitions when you made the ice?

A: The Brier in 2007 in Hamilton. We just had trouble with the water. They



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called it the Picky Brier because there were quite a few picks.

Q: Picks? Don't those happen because of carpet fibres?

A: Some of them (picks) had to do with debris. But mostly it was because of the water not being of the right quality.

Q: HOW MANY OF THESE EVENTS DO YOU DO A YEAR?

A: A couple. Sometimes three. That's usually enough.

Q: WHEN YOU'RE NOT MAKING ICE, WHAT DO YOU DO? DO YOU HAVE ANOTHER JOB?

A: Actually, I manage a curling club in Vernon. I run it year-round and make the ice there.

Q: HOW MANY GUYS DO YOU HAVE WORKING HERE?

A: Two shifts, with 10 guys in each.

Q: ARE THEY ALL ICEMAKERS, OR WANNA-BE ICEMAKERS?

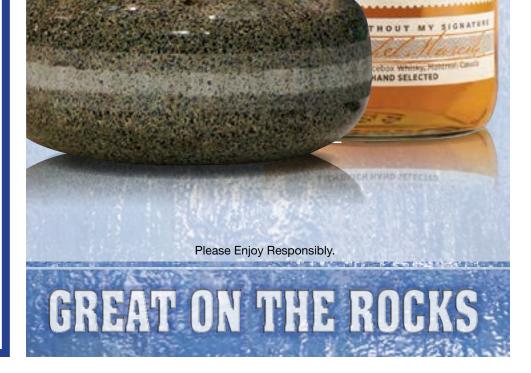
A: Heck no. There's probably only four icemakers in the whole crew.

Q: HOW MANY DAVE MERKLINGERS (NATIONAL ICE TECHNICIANS) ARE OUT THERE WORKING EVENTS?

A: Only a few. There's Hans Wuthrich, myself, Jamie Bourassa. But there's lots of up-and-coming guvs.

Q: IS THERE AN ICEMAKER IN THE CANADIAN CURLING HALL OF FAME?

A: Actually there is. Shorty Jenkins.



HeartChart

Page 4

Lawton looking good

Home province thrills crowd

By CAM HUTCHINSON Heart Chart Associate Editor

T can't be said Saskatchewan has quietly moved into fourth place at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. Not here. Not with the crowd at Mosaic Place erupting for every good shot and exploding for the great ones. After a 1-2 start, Stefanie Lawton

SCORES PAGE 13

is now 4-2 and looking good. She ran her win streak to three with a 6-5 win over Nova Scotia's Mary-Anne Arsenault (Halifax) on Tuesday's late draw. With two of her first three games coming against

Team Canada's Rachel Homan and Manitoba's Jennifer Jones (Winnipeg), Lawton has been nudging past teams most likely to pressure her for fourth place. That is assuming the top three spots go to Alberta's Val Sweeting (Edmonton), Jones and Homan. We all know about assuming.

Lawton and Arsenault played it fairly tight, with not a lot of rocks in

play on many ends. With a steal on the ninth end, Arsenault took a 5-4 lead coming home.

On 10, Saskatchewan third Sherry Anderson socked one behind a double guard. The question was could Lawton get two. Arsenault's last rock slipped a little deeper than she wanted, leaving Lawton a hit for the win.

As Lawton's rock connected with Arsenault's, the crowd erupted. There was that noise again.

Lawton was asked if she preferred to be one down with hammer or one up

without on 10th ends. "Today, one down with," she said with a laugh. "It changes from day to day."

Lawton is happy to be a win up on the pack, and just one behind Homan.

"I think we are sitting pretty good, considering how we started the tournament. I feel really good with where we are at. We're going to keep on truckin' because we have the second half to go."

Sweeting ran her record to 6-0, with a 10-5 win over British Columbia's Patti Knezevic (Prince George). Jones also has six wins. Homan notched her fifth win against one loss, with an 11-5 victory over Newfoundland/Labrador's Heather Strong (St. John's).

Sweeting is cruising. She knows the toughest part of her draw is still to



Manitoba's Jennifer Jones keeps on rolling up the wins.

come, but isn't looking ahead.

"I think it is there, but you can't focus on it at all," Sweeting said of upcoming games with Homan, Jones and Lawton. "You really have to watch the game ahead of you because no matter what the team's record is going in, you have to win that one. They can shoot lights out against you no problem. No, you can't stay ahead. You have to stay in the moment." Homan, who lost an 8-7, extra-end thriller to Jones on Monday night was pleased to get back on the winning track. Strong kept it close until the seventh end, when Homan struck for six to take an 11-3 lead.

"Every win is important," Homan said. "You don't want to get behind in a long week like this. We are looking to get to that 1-2 game. If we only have one loss at the end of the week, I think we will be in it."

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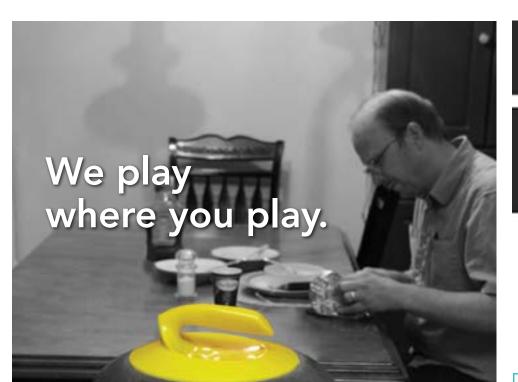
TOURISM Saskatchewan



A lighter moment for Quebec third Amélie Blais.



All eyes on the rock in the B.C. vs. Ontario game Tuesday.







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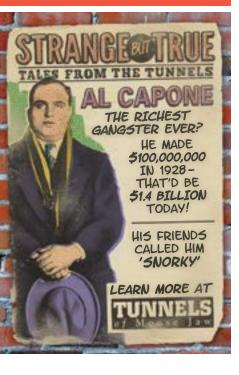




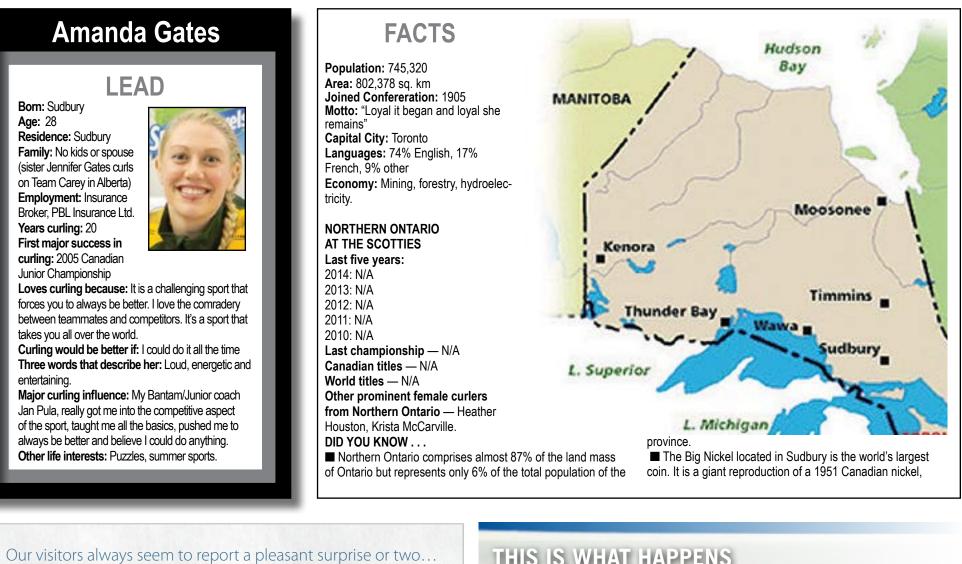
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Profile: Northern Ontario



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Profile: Northern Ontario

Jennifer Horgan

THIRD

Born: Sudbury Age: 30 Residence: Sudbury Family: Sister Tracy Horgan (on team), brothers

Tanner Horgan and Jacob Horgan Employment: Chartered Accountant, Vale Years curling: 25 First major success in curling: 2005 Canadian



Junior Championship Loves curling because: Because I get to curl with some of my best friends and it has given me the opportunity to travel to places that I would never have had the opportunity to visit. Curling would be better if: There was a rule that only allowed each team to blank a certain number of ends per game. Three words that describe her: Competitive, organized and happy

Major curling influence: My father/prior coach Gerry Horgan

Other life interests: Tennis and camping.

Jenna Enge

SECOND

Born: Fort Frances Ont. Age: 26 Residence: Thunder Bay Family: No children Employment: Letter carrier, Canada Post Years curling: 12 First major success in curling: 2008 Northern Ontario junior provincial champion



Loves curling because: The lifelong friendships we can make all over the world. Curling would be better if: I could devote all my time to it.

Three words that describe her: Quiet, confident, humble.

Major curling influence: My parents who started me in the sport, my postie team for their encouragement and support. Other life interests: Fishing, camping, singing.

HOME CLUB: Idylwylde Golf & C.C. SUDBURY

> FIFTH: Courtney Chenier COACH: Andrea Ronnebeck





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Following afternoon draws

Friday Vern Michaels Closing Saturday Chevelles Whiteboy Slim, aka Maurice Richard Libby, carries on the long tradition of gifted blues musicians with a style all his own. His raw, authoritative delivery is born out of a pure respect for the music.

Hear the sounds of many of the all time legends, such as Robert Johnson, Muddy Waters and Howlin' Wolf, along with an assortment of original tunes. You'll be feeling blue if you miss Whiteboy Slim tonight in the HeartStop!



SaskEnergy Junior Stars



SaskEnergy Junior Stars Hanna Anderson and Jade Goebel posed with Team Prince Edward Island prior to the Monday afternoon draw.



SaskEnergy Junior Stars Madison Martin and Benjamin Essin met with Team Canada at the Monday evening draw.



Manitoba third Kaitlyn Lawes smiles for the camera while second Jill Officer signs a fan poster at the Tuesday autograph session.

Team Autograph Sessions

Make sure you're in the HeartStop for today's autograph session featuring Team British Columbia. And don't forgot to bring your camera!

Today 5:15 pm Team British Columbia

Thursday 12:30 pm NS Saturday 1:30 pm ALI

ALL TEAMS (excluding those in semifinal)



The first-ever Northern Ontario team at the Scotties had a blast with the crowd during Tuesday's Up Close & Personal interview.

The action's heating up!

Another round of the Cool Shots competition gets underway today in the HeartStop. It's free to enter and you could win some really cool cash. Daily winners will take part in the championship playdowns Sunday, between the bronze and gold medal games.



Sweet Tweets!

The Provincial Spirit Selfies contest continues today and tomorrow. Tweet your best shots to #provspirit and you could be one of four lucky entrants to qualify for the draw to the button contest during Sunday's gold medal game.



Up Close & Personal Interviews

There's an eastern Canadian atmosphere in the HeartStop today with the Quebec, Newfoundland/Labrador and Nova Scotia representatives sharing time with the fans at the Up Close and Personal interview.

Today 5:45 pm Teams Quebec, Newfoundland & Labrador and Nova Scotia

Thursday 5:45 pm PE, ON & MB Friday 12:30 pm AB, NB, SK & CAN



facebook.com/ccacurling @CCAcurling & #STOH

HeartChart

Page 10

Profile: Newfoundland/Labrador

Stephanie Korab

THIRD

Born: January 16, 1982 Age: 33 Residence: St. John's

Family: Husband Jamie Korab, daughter Kendra (year-and-a-half old) Employment: Sales/Media Consultant at Coast 101.1 Years curling: 26



- **First major success in curling:** 1999 Ontario junior champs **Loves curling because:** The people, travel, sociables
- Curling would be better if: You could control the temperature
- Three words that describe her: Friendly, motivated, fun.
- Major curling influence: My parents/husband

Jessica Cunningham

SECOND

Born: Jan. 10, 1992 Age: 23 Residence: St. John's Family: Cathy, Geoff and Jen Cunningham Employment: Aircraft Maintenance Apprentice, Provincial Airlines Limited Years curling: 19 years First major success in curling: 2010 M&M juniors



in Sorel-Tracy Loves curling because: It's something I share with my family Curling would be better if: It doesn't get better then what it is now Three words that describe her: Relaxed, competitive, fair. Major curling influence: My mother and seeing her at the Scotties Other life interests: Hiking and spending time





HOME CLUB: Bally Haly Country Club St. John's

> FIFTH: Noelle Thomas-Kennell COACH: Geoff Cunningham

Heather Strong

Born: November 9, 1976 Age: 38 Residence: St. John's Family: Two dogs, one cat Employment: Terry Fox Foundation Years curling: 27 years First major.

First major success in curling: Still waiting

Loves curling because: There's are no judges

Curling would be better if: You could re throw a "pick".

Three words that describe her: Honest, competitive, cynical.

Major curling influence: Jim Miller Other life interests: Dogs, fitness, photography, true crime

Champion of OLUNTEERS

Other life interests: Hiking and spending at the cabin.



SaskEnergy is proud to sponsor the volunteers and Junior Stars at the 2015 Scotties Tournament of Hearts

SaskEnergy

Profile: Newfoundland/Labrador

Kathryn Cooper

LEAD

Born: July 11, 1972 Age: 42 Residence: St. John's Family: Means the world to me; I won the parent lottery

Employment: Teacher Years curling: 16 years First major success in curling: Winning 2014



provincial Scotties

Loves curling because: Of the honourable conduct and respect shown by both players and fans

Curling would be better if: Games were eight ends.

Three words that describe her: Organized, kind, loyal.

Major curling influence: Our skip, Heather Strong

Other life interests: Fitness, dogs, baking.

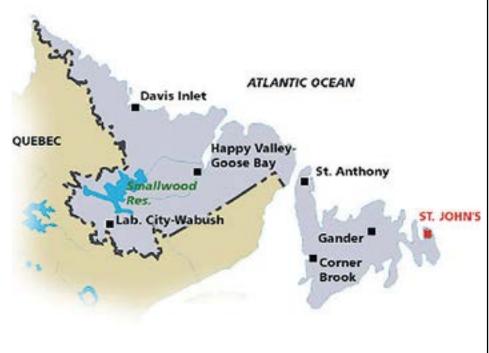
FACTS

Population: 514,536 Area: 405,212 sq. km Joined Conferenation: 1949 Motto: "See you first the Kingdom of God" Capital City: St. John's Languages Spoken: 97.6 English, 2.4% other Economy: Mining, fishing, oil production, manufacturing, tourism, service industry.

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR

AT THE SCOTTIES Last five years:

2014: Heather Strong (4-7) 2013: Stacie Devereaux (2-9) 2012: Heather Strong (4-7) 2011: Stacie Devereaux (1-10) 2010: Sherry Nichols (4-7) Last championship - None Canadian titles - None World titles - None Other prominent female curlers from Newfoundland and Labrador — Cathy Cunningham.



DID YOU KNOW

There is a crater on Mars that has been named for the town of Gander, Newfoundland. The 39-km (diametre) crater was dedicated to Gander in 1991 because of the town's history of pioneering aviation and aerospace





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Marie Wright is officiating this week at the Scotties.

The Wright Stuff *Wheelchair official loves curling*

By PAIGE KREUTZWIESER Heart Chart Contributor

Moose Jaw's Marie Wright hasn't let her disability get in the way of what she truly loves to do.

And that's getting involved in sports in a big way.

So when a tragic farm accident just outside of Oxbow, Sask., 26 years ago left Wright in a wheelchair, her first love, hockey, was no longer an option. So, she took up curling.

Lorraine Arguin, coach of Saskatchewan's wheelchair curling team, was a friend of Wright's. The team had never been represented at nationals because they needed a female on the team. Arguin convinced Wright to give the sport a try.

"So I went out and I loved it so much that I got completely involved in curling," said Wright.

And she really means "completely." Wright has represented Saskatchewan at the Canadian Wheelchair Curling Championship for the past three years. She also just arrived home in Moose Jaw two days ago after representing Canada at the World Wheelchair Curling Championship in Finland.

Wright recently received another milestone. She was awarded a development card by the Canadian Curling Association this season, and now receives monthly funding as an athlete.

Wright's talent has taken her to many places so the funding means great things for her.

"There's a lot of wear-andtear on my vehicle. I've got a lot of work to do on it," said Wright.

But she won't have to travel too far this week.

Wright is back on the ice again, this time as an official at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. She has officiated before at the Winter Games, Saskatchewan provincials, and the Canada Cup.

"I just got into officiating because I love the game of curling so much," said Wright.

Coming from a former hockey player who "didn't even like curling" when she was younger, Wright has shown where the love of a game can take you.

"At the beginning, it was the social aspect of the sport," said Wright. "Curling is not a contact or aggressive sport. It is social and you just get to know everybody and you just have friends that are there forever."

When Wright isn't on the ice officiating this week she'll be seen around Mosaic Place.

"It's great to be officiating in your home town. You know so many people and it's nice and close for travel."

Both Wright and Saskatchewan wheelchair teammate Darwin Bender are both officiating throughout the week.





Manitoba (Jones)	6	
Alberta (Sweeting)	6	
Team Canada (Homan)	5	
Saskatchewan (Lawton)	4	
Ontario (Hastings)	3	
N. Ontario (Horgan)	3	
P.E.I. (Birt)	3	
N/L (Strong)	3	
Nova Scotia (Arsenault)	2	
N. Brunswick (Robichaud)	1	
B.C. (Knezevic)	1	
Quebec (Mann)	1	

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SCHEDULE

TODAY
9 a.m. Draw
A — Nova Scotia vs. Manitoba; B — Ontario vs. New/Lab;
C — B.C. vs. N. Ontario; D — Quebec vs. P.E.I.
2 p.m. Draw
A — Quebec vs. Alberta; B — New Brunswick vs. B.C.; C —
Canada vs. Nova Scotia; D — Saskatchewan vs. Newf/Lab.
7 p.m. Draw
A — Saskatchewan vs. N. Ontario; B — Canada vs. P.E.I.;
C — Ontario vs. Alberta; D — Manitoba vs. New Brunswick

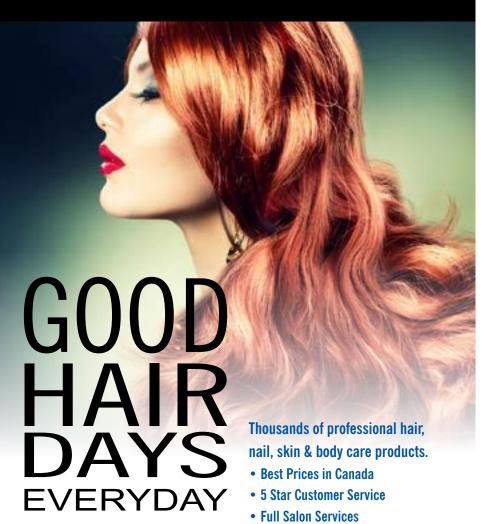


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Ontario (Hastings) B.C. (Knezevic)	1 *0 1	2	3 0 1	2	5 0 1	1	0		2	10 x x		То — —	otal 9 4
Quebec (Mann) Manitoba (Jones)	*0 1	-	0 1	0 2	0 4	1 0		1 0		X X		_	3 9
Nova Scotia (Arsenault) P.E.I. (Birt)	*2 0	0 0	0 1		0 2		1 1		1 0	0 1		_	5 6
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Newf/Lab (Strong) Canada (Homan)	1 *0 2	0	-	3	5 0 0	Ō	0	8 2 0	x	10 x x		_	tal 5 11
Saskatchewan (Lawton) Nova Scotia (Arsenault)	*0 0	0 1	2 0	0 1	1 0	0 1	-	0 1	0 1	2 0		Ξ	6 5
Quebec (Mann) N. Brunswick (Robichaud)	0 *2	3 0	0 1	1 0	0 2	1 0	0 1	0 1	3 0	0 1	0 1	_	8 9



Quebec skip Lauren Mann's not too pleased. *B.C. (Knezevic) 0 0 2 0 2 0 1 0 0 x - 5 Alberta (Sweeting) 0 1 0 3 0 3 0 0 3 x — 10 * - Last rock advantage





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Page 14

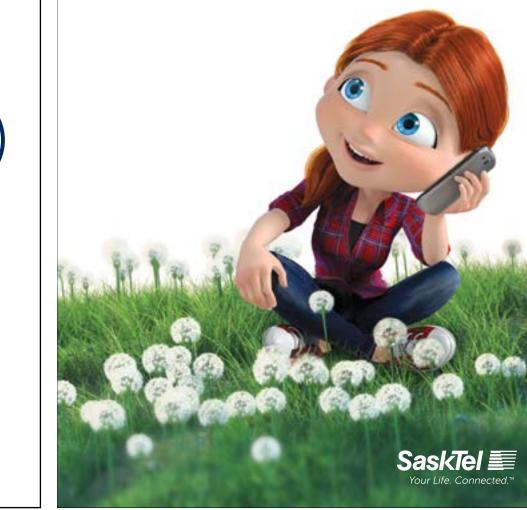
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Maureen and Kelly Miller



BOOK IS SO ID GOD

Writer documents journey to Olympic podium

By KENT MORGAN For the Morning Cup

The story of the curling competition at the 2014 Winter Olympic Games in Sochi, Russia, where the Canadian men's and women's teams both won gold medals will be a familiar one to curlers and fans.

Jennifer Jones and her team of Kaitlyn Lawes, Jill Officer and Dawn McEwen from Winnipeg went through the tournament undefeated. For Brad Jacobs and his team of Ryan Fry and, E. J. and Ryan Harnden from the Soo Curling Association club in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., the road to the podium wasn't as easy. After three games, Canada's record was 1-2. Team Jacobs then ran off six straight wins in the round-robin and beat China in the semifinals and Great Britain for gold.

Ice Gold's author Ted Wyman, sports editor of the Winnipeg Sun, covered the Olympic curling competition for the Sun Media Corporation. He has flushed out the book subtitled *Canada's Curling Champions* with the stories of the successes and



failures the curlers had en route to their Olympic glory.

All the curlers got an early start in the game and did have success at the junior or high school level. Following them through the years leading to the Olympics, the reader learns about the off-ice lives of the individuals and about the importance of team chemistry.

TSN analyst Cathy Gauthier, who curled with Jones, the CBC's Colleen Jones and Mike Harris, and Fry's former skips Jeff Stoughton and Brad Gushue, the 2006 Olympic champion, are among the curling experts who provided their insights. As a result, readers should find plenty of new and interesting information about the two teams and the individual curlers.

Ice Gold published by ECW Press and priced at \$22.95 is a excellent addition to the short list of Canadian curling literature.

(Morgan is a Winnipeg freelance writer.)



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For the competitors, best of luck, and to the spectators, we hope you cheer your team to the finals, and may this be the best Scotties That there can be.





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HeartChart

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Gather 'round, folks, we're going to test your curling know-how.

1. The Sandra Schmirler Award is presented to the curler at the Scotties who: a) Wins a fan vote as most popular player.

b) Is voted most valuable player in the playoffs.

c) Wins the Ford Hot Shots competition. d) Has the highest shooting percentage during the round-robin.

2) Sylvie Robichaud is making her second appearance as skip for New Brunswick at the Scotties, but she's noted for at least one other thing on the national curling stage:

a) She scored an 8-ender in the final of the Canadian Junior Women's Championship.

b) She played the bagpipes during the opening ceremonies of the Scotties.

c) She was the only female skip at the 2012 Canadian Mixed Curling Championships.

d) She won the Ford Hot Shots event at her previous Scotties appearance.

3. It isn't uncommon for family members to play curl together. Which of the following is not a sister act at this year's Scottes: a) Jennifer Jones and Dawn McEwen. b) Julie Hastings and Christy Trombley.

c) Stefanie Lawton and Marliese Kasner.d) All of the above pairs are sisters.

4. When asked if she could be a star in any other sport, Sherri Singler of Saskatchewan said: a) "Beach volleyball, because it is so hot, and you don't have to worry about much equipment." b) "Tennis. I love team sports, but I love the challenge of being out there on your own with no one to depend on." c) "Golf. It looks so easy, but it's so hard." d) "Believe it or not, I'd like to be a barrel racer in the rodeo. I just love horses. I'd love to travel the rodeo circuit, going from town to town every week, just me and my horse and a pickup truck. What a life that would be."

5. This curler made the trek to a Mount Everest base camp in 2006:

- a) Lori Olson-Johns.
- b) Kerry Galusha
- c) Lauren Mann
- d) Jill Officer

5. Jill Officer, second with Jennifer Jones's 5. Jill Officer, second with Jennifer Jones's Manitoba team, made the climb to an Everest boot camp. Apparently she would have continued climbing, except the curling season was about to begin, so she came back down.

4. Sherri Singler spend so much time indoors and on ice that she would prefer to be near the water, so if she wasn't such a great curler she'd play beach volleyball.

a tiebreaker in '14. 3. Jennifer Jones and Don McEwen are not sisters. Julie Hastings and Christy Trombley are twin sisters, while Stetanie Lawton and Marliese Kasner are the former Miller girls but still sisters.

playoffs, as voted by the media. 2. Sylvie Robichaud isn't atraid of the boys, because she was the only female skip at both the 2012 and '14 Canadian Mixed Curling Championships. He New Brunswick teams reached the semi-final in 2012 and lost teams reached the semi-final in 2012 and lost

1. The Sandra Schmirler Award is presented to the most valuable player in the

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