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FEBRUARY 18-26

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Island Is

Newfoundland/Labrador lead Heather Martin (left) and second Sarah Paul during first-day action from The Scotties in P.E.I.



January 12-15

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Page 2 HeartChart

THE SCOTTIES Day 1

Champ starts with last-rock victory

Larry Wood HeartChart Editor

here's something about Jennifer Jones and the Scotties Tournament Of Hearts.

They go together like hand and glove. Much like it used to be with Nova Scotia's Colleen Jones, the Scotties legend whose records the Manitoba Jones is trying to match, one by one.

The defending Scotties champion skip added another notch to the belt at the Civic Centre on Saturday night, tossing a last-rock come-around draw to the face of Quebec counter behind the button to record Team Canada's first victory of this latest national women's championship.

"They (Quebec) played a perfect 10th end," said Jones in the wake of her nationally-televised 7-6 win. "We didn't play a bad 10th end but all you wanted was a shot and we had a shot and the girls swept it perfectly."

Quebec's Marie-France Larouche was chasing of most of the debate after missing a button draw for an opening deuce in the third end but manufactured deuces on the seventh and ninth ends to tie the score playing the final exchange.

"We're pretty happy with how we played after a long day with the Hot Shots," said Jones, who also



Second Jill Officer (left) and lead Dawn Askin sweep for skip Jennifer Jones in a 7-6 win over Quebec Saturday night.

won that skills competition for the first time.

"There's always a little doubt (about the last shot) because I hadn't thrown a lot of draws that game. The line was a little bit tight for a time but it just ended up perfect."

Four others joined Jones with single wins on the day. British Columbia's Kelly Scott whipped

Stacie Devereaux of St. John's 7-2 on the late draw while Alberta, Saskatchewan and Ontario all win their lone assignments in the afternoon.

New Brunswick's Andrea Kelly of Oromocto had an opportunity to climb to the head of the pack with a second win Saturday night but watched her last freeze effort overcurl allowing Heather-Smith Dacey of Halifax to score two and an 8-7 win without employing the hammer.

Both teams finished 1-1 on the day along with Winnipeg's Cathy Overton-Clapham who defeated Kerry Galusha of the Territories 7-4.

"We haven't started off well in the past," said Kelly, whose team has logged 5-6 records in three previous editions of the Hearts but is unbeaten in the last three provincial championships.

"I think we had a better day today. We're learning more about strategy each time we come here, what you can and can't do, what you can afford to do and what you can' afford to do."

Smith-Dacey has returned to the skip position this year after a long stint playing third. She was ticketed to play the position for Colleen Jones until she was diagnosed with bacterial meningitis and was forced to pull out prior to the provincial Scotties.

"I enjoy skipping," said Smith-Dacey, "but it takes some time to get back in it. But, you know, it's always an honour to be here no matter what position you're playing."

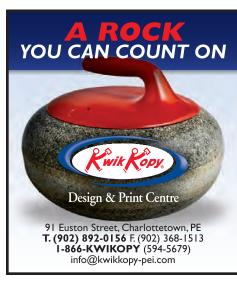
Scott, a two-time champ and 2007 world queen, stole three singles against the rookie team from The Rock.

"You can't go by the scoreboard," Scott said. "It was a battle. She made a lot of good shots early to keep the score close but later on she had some shots she didn't finish off and that gave us a jump on the board."

The Manitobans (1-1) got off to a quick 4-0 lead on the Polars, stealing three in the third end when Galusha's last rock picked up debris.

Continued on Page 3











Newfoundland/Labrador skip Stacie Devereaux.

THE SCOTTIES Day 1

Continued from Page 3

"We were fortunate there," said Overton-Clapham, who was a part of defending champion Jones's lineup but was dropped from that team at the end of last season.

"We're still not as sharp as we could be. We're still learning the ice and getting a feel for he draw weight."

The heavy hometown favourites tripped leaving the starting gate in the afternoon, allowing back-to-back thefts of deuces to Kelly in an eventual 9-7 defeat.

Suzanne Birt's Charlottetown unit cracked a promising threeender in the first end but Kelly bounced back with deuces in the second and fourth to square the account. The thefts of

two in the fifth and sixth ends decided the issue.

"We made a few great shots and had a couple of bad misses and maybe some missed communication on one or two," said Birt, a former two-time Canadian and one-time world junior champion.

"The second steal of two really hurt us. There was missed communication. It was a wide open shot and it was really too bad."

Birt was attempting a hit and stick to count but her shooter over-curled and rolled too far.

"We have to come out tomorrow in the next game and play better. We'll be fine," said the 29-year-old native of Summerside, P.E.I.

In other first-round games, Saskatchewan's Amber Holland hit for three in the second end and stubbornly kept control against Overton-Clapham to record an 8-6 win. Saskatchewan led 7-2 after six ends

and succeeded in warding off a couple of late Manitoba rallies.

"It was really important to get that first win," said Holland. "We found out how important last year when we didn't get it and didn't play well, to boot. Playing well is the most important aspect."

The same team from Kronau finished 6-and-5 at Sault Ste. Marie.

"We weren't happy with how we finished last year so we're determined. We are going to be better. I think we're working harder, everybody's a year older and a year wiser."

Alberta's Shannon Kleibrink of Calgary, the 2008 Scotties runnerup, clobbered Galusha of Yellowknife 9-2 and Ontario's Rachel Homan of Ottawa hung a 9-3 whipping on Smith-Dacey's Bluenosers.

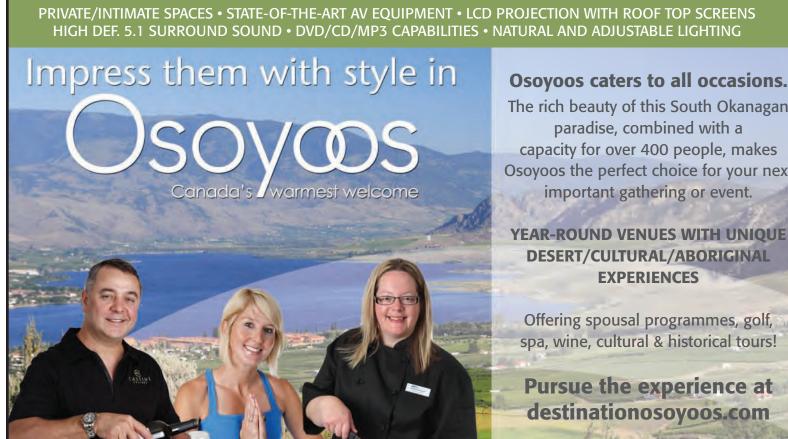
"The ice will get pretty good after a couple of draws but right now draw weight is pretty patchy," said Kleibrink, who played in he Canadian mixed champion at Charlottetown in 1986 with Mike Sali of Calgary.

"I suspect the ice is a bit green and I think you'll see us hitting for the first couple of games, anyway. It looked like a struggle for everyone when you looked around. This is normal. It always gets better after a couple of games. The good news is it's curling nicely so you can bury rocks."

The 21-year-old Homan, the youngest skip in the tournament, admitted to a slight case of nerves stepping on the Scotties ice for the first time.

"It was the same in the provincial championship," she said. "There were nerves, but good nerves. It's pretty excit-

"At least we know we're not going to go 0-and-whatever. We weren't really worried about it but it's no fun when you get on a losing streak."



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Time out for trivia

Larry Wood
HeartChart Editor

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

Three previous Ford Hotshots champions are in the current Scott Tournament of Hearts field. Name them and their provinces.

- 2. How about the years they won the Hot Shots?
 3. Name the only two curlers who have skipped teams to victory in both the Canadian women s and Canadian senior women s championships.
- 4. Their home provinces?
- 5. How about the years they won each title?



- 6. Four other Canadian senior champion skips also won Canadian women s titles but not in skipping roles. Name them and their home provinces.
- 7. Name their skips in the Canadian women s championship successes of each.
- 8. How about the years of those women's championships?9. The positions they

played?

- 10. And the years they skipped the senior champs?
- 11. Name the curlers who have skipped P.E.I. teams in both the Canadian women s and senior women s competitions. (Hint: Look for three of them).
- 12. Name the first skip in Canadian women s curling championship history who was required to win 10 games in order to claim the title.
- 13. What year did she win and where was that championship played?
- 14. She came from which city in which province?
- Answers on Page 14



Skip: Heather Smith-Dacey

Nickname: None Home: Halifax **Delivery:** Right

Occupation: Self-employed Employer: Tim Hortons and Arbonne Date Of Birth: Sept. 21, 1972

Place Of Birth: Moncton Marital Status: Married

Name of spouse/partner: Mark Dacev Children (name/age): Tye (7) Carter (3) Favourite food: My Dad's Planked

Salmon

Favourite drink: Coffee AM, Wine PM Favourite book: The Slight Edge Favourite movie: Pay It Forward Favourite TV show: Modern Family &

Cougar Town

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Large black... and two timbits for the kids! Favourite vacation destination? Europe, unless there's a volcano

What or who inspired you? Originally Heather Houston . . . But now my kids inspire me.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Mark's You have superstitions? Try not to

but they may creep in depending on how we are doing!

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party? Sandra Bullock, Rachel Ray, Ellen Degeneres If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Snowboarding ... because it looks like so much fun.

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Make the button worth two points

What music do you like to listen to

before a game? Depends on my mood Pet peeves, if any? People who wear flip flops when it's been 10 years since their last pedicure

Three things you always travel with? iPad, Arbonne skincare, dental floss First on your bucket list? Culinary Tour in Tuscany with my Mom

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we are not fit Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Any shot would be ideal to win Olympic Gold

Third: Danielle Parsons Nickname: Danielle

Home: Halifax

Delivery: Right
Occupation: Sales associate
Employer: Kent Building Supplies
Date Of Birth: January 29, 1990 Place Of Birth: Halifax Marital Status: Single

Favourite food: I love Greek food Favourite drink: Stanley wine Favourite book: Anything to do with

interior design

Favourite movie: I don't think I have a

favourite

Favourite TV show: Tie between Glee and The Big Bang Theory Favourite website? Facebook

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Green tea

Favourite vacation destination? Anywhere warm What or who inspired you?: Colleen

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: I think trusting

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Danielle Parsons (left), Teri Lake, Heather Smith-Dacey and Blisse Comstock.

Russ Howard when it comes to strategy is a safe bet.

Superstitions? Absolutely. I have to keep everything the same when we're on a roll. Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Sidney Crosby, Oprah Winfrey and Kelly Scott If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Hockey because I love watching it If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? It's perfect the way it is!

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Anything inpirational Pet peeves, if any? Pants that are too

short are a little annoying.

Three things you always travel with? My cellphone, laptop, and my flat iron
First on your bucket list? Win a Canadian championship

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That you don't have to be in shape to curl! Totally not true. Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal would be: An open hit would be

Second: Blisse Comstock

Nickname: Blisser Home: Lunenburg **Delivery:** Right Occupation: Costing co-ordinator Employer: Dexter Construction Ltd. Date Of Birth: March 6, 1983 Place Of Birth: Halifax Marital Status: Co-mortgagees Name of spouse/partner: Tyson Joyce Children (name/age): None Favourite food: JBCs Favourite drink: Caesars... plural Favourite book: Diary Of Anne Frank Favourite movie: Old School

Favourite TV show: Modern Family and

Madmen

Favourite website? Any home décor

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Large coffee, two milk one sugar Favourite vacation destination? Perth. Australia

What or who inspired you?: Local curlers who make it big.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: 'The Dace'. Superstitions? We play better when I have shotgun.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Three people? Not much of a party.

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Golf. Traveling, warm weather and endorse-

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Only one sweeper behind the tee.

What music do you like to listen to be-

fore a game? Whatever is on the radio. Pet peeves, if any? Rosie Perez's voice Three things you always travel with? Camera, neckpillow, eyemask.

First on your bucket list? Cruising the French Riviera on the Clearwater Yacht What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we slide around the grocery store and take the stockboys' brooms. In reality we never forget our Scotties products.

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Double peel.

Lead, Teri Lake Nickname: T-Pain Home: Halifax **Delivery:** Right

Occupation: Communications specialist Employer: Jazz Aviation LP (operates Air Canada Jazz and Thomas Cook Canada) **Date Of Birth:** April 11, 1981

Place Of Birth: Amherst, NS Marital Status: Abysmal Name of spouse/partner: My BlackBerry. Children (name/age): Auntie Teri to

Sammy Cross, (2 mos.)

Favourite food: Sushi, Szeto's. Favourite drink: Stanley, anything alcoholic.

Favourite book: Girl With the Dragon Tattoo series.

Favourite movie: The Last Kiss. Favourite TV show: Modern Family, Cougar Town.

Favourite website? Google. Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Large black.

Favourite vacation destination? Anywhere hot

What or who inspired you?: The feeling of winning and watching Colleen Jones

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: The Dace. Superstitions? Can't go anywhere without consulting my packing spreadsheet. I have planning ADD.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Gwen Stefani, Kate Middleton, Angie Lake. If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Tennis or sprinting. I am in awe of their athleticism and tennis would get me a

chance with Rafael Nadal. If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Clock

ing "think time" like the Slams so you're not penalized for throwing more draws. What music do you like to listen to before a game? Nasty stuff.

Pet peeves, if any? Chicks who curl or work out with long hair not tied back.

Three things you always travel with? BlackBerry, neck pillow, rye-and-gingers. First on your bucket list? Wearing the Maple Leaf.

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That our game is lame. Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Draw to the pin.

Fifth: Melanie Comstock

Nickname: Mel Home: Lunenburg Delivery: Left Occupation: Lawver

Employer: Partner with McInnes Cooper Date Of Birth: November 29, 1973

Place Of Birth: Halifax Marital Status: Married

Name of spouse/partner: Greg Scott Children (name/age): Adelaide (6), Wil-

loughby (4), Wilder (2)

Favourite food: Mum's stew and dumplings

Favourite drink: Lemonade or a whisky

sour- depends on the day.

Favourite book: Mabel Murple by Sheree Fitch. All my current reads are kid's books and this one is awesome.

Favourite movie: Little Miss Sunshine Favourite TV show: Cougar Town and The Hour

Favourite website? Salvaged Bliss - my sister's blog

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Cheddar cheese bagel and OJ

Favourite vacation destination? Paris What or who inspired you?: My dad and my first coach, Bob Mayo, who told us at the age of 12 that to be a winner you first have to learn how to lose like a winner. That was the gist.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Dad's.

Superstitions? None related to curling, but I do count crows... Three people, living or not, whom you

would invite to a dinner party?: Chief Justice Beverley McLachlin, Madonna and Eddie "The Wrench" Werenich. I love a good party.

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Ping Pong- I have cat like reflexes.

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? None, I've made a career out of interpreting

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Air Traffic Control - my brother's band.

Pet peeves, if any? #'s. I can't remember a phone # to save my life.

Three things you always travel with?
Toothbrush, blackberry and debit card
First on your bucket list? If I had one, to be the best fifth player ever.

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? None. They are all true Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: A path to draw the four.

Coach: Mark Dacey

Home: Halifax Occupation: Self-employed Employer: Tim Hortons, Esso Date Of Birth: June 22, 1966 Place Of Birth: Saskatoon Won: 2004 Tim Hortons Brier Coaching for how many years: Two

Page 6 HeartChart

P.E.L. pride shows through on Day 1

aturday morning began early and I was both excited and worried about throwing the first rock in the opening ceremonies.

One of the highlights of the day was having the opportunity to walk out with the teams in the opening ceremony to the soothing sounds of the pipes. It brought back a great feeling, one that I love.

It was nice to sit in the dressing room for a few minutes with the other honourees, Julia Robinson, and my former teammates, Kathie Gallant and Cathy Dillon, before going out on the ice. We talked about our retro curling gear and the teams that were playing in the Scotties. We speculated about who will win this week. Naturally, we are all cheering for P.E.I., but we also agreed that it is



Shelley Muzika HeartChart Guest Columnist

a tough field: Shannon Kleibrink, M.F. Larouche, Cathy Overton-Clapham and Team Canada will all be in the hunt.

We were unanimous in thinking P.E.I. will be as well.

Later, after the speeches, it was my turn to throw.

Ultimately, the opening rock made it to the button, but not in the normal or most gracious way.

Like all good teams, when one person falters, the others pick up when a teammate falls.

I threw; I fell; the rock ended up on the button and the Scotties had begun – ceremonially at least.

A big crowd was on hand to watch the finals of the Hot Shots and particularly to cheer on Robyn MacPhee, second for P.E.I. Robyn got off to a great start with five points on her first shot and the crowd went crazy. On her third shot, thanks to some great sweeping from her teammates, she bagged another five and received another great ovation. Robyn and the crowd had come to play. She picked up four

I threw; I fell; the rock ended up on the button and the Scotties had begun – ceremonially at least.

on her next, the difficult tap-up, and four more on the hit-and-roll which helped her advance to the semi-finals.

Robyn's bid for the Ford edge did not finish the way she would have liked, but the crowd's reaction to her great shots means that P.E.I.'s secret weapon – provincial pride – is ready to go.

In the afternoon game, P.E.I. played New Brunswick, a comfortable way to start as both teams have played each other many times on the Maritime cashspiel circuit and at the Scotties.

I have found when you play a team you know, intense competition can result. And the two teams did not disappoint.

P.E.I. kicked off their bid for the Scotties title with a three ender set up by a perfect comearound by Leslie Allan and an angle-raise by Birt. It was what the large P.E.I. crowd was waiting for.

Birt maintained momentum with two nice raise takeouts to keep N.B. to two in the second. NB gained the momentum with a big steal of two in the sixth end and held on for the 9-7 win.





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ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES: Saskatchewan s Amber Holland

Defending champ 'upsets' Lawton to return

HeartChart Staff

t took a long time to discover the secret, but Saskatchewan Curling Association managing director Amber Holland finally knows how to win big in her own province and trample all over the betting odds to boot.

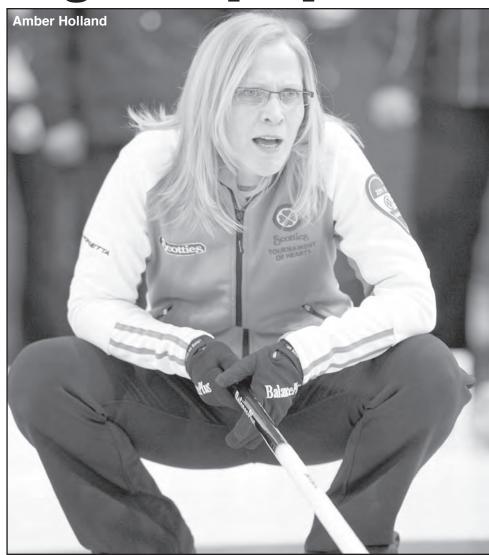
If the odds had played true to form, Canada Cup champion Stefanie Lawton's curling team from Saskatoon would have been crowned as Saskatchewan's most dominant rock-throwing foursome in provincial women's play last month.

But Holland and her Kronau-based lineup of Kim and Tammy Schneider, and Heather Kalenchuk, were planning to buck the odds and did so in stunning fashion, dumping Lawton 7-4 in the provincial championship final at Outlook.

Lawton, who conscripted veteran Sherry Anderson to play third this season when former lead Lana Vey headed south and Lawton's sister Marliese Kasner agreed to drop from third to lead and replace Vey, ridiculously dominated her side of the 12-team split round-robin preliminary and won six straight games, outscoring her opponents 54-23 to qualify for the final.

The 36-year-old Holland, who won the Canadian junior championship as a skip in 1982 but failed to take a team to the Scotties until last season, struggled to a 3-2 round-robin mark before alternately gutting out one do-or-die playoff win and then cruising through two more to reach the last gasp.

"They'll be a good rep for us (at the Scotties Tour-



nament of Hearts in Charlottetown), but I'm very, very sad right now that it's not us," said Anderson, who wondered afterward whether it was time to dump four teams from the provincial tournament and change to a modified triple-knockout.

Saskatchewan staged a 12-team triple-knockout the past few years but the draw, still in use in Alberta, has serious flaws. Most provinces already have figured out that a straight 10-team round-robin best fits the bill for a provincial warmup to the Scotties.

Holland, meanwhile, skipped the first team to win back-to-back provincial titles since Anderson skipped her way to victory in 1994 and 1995 while curling out of Prince Albert. That was back in the days when Sandra Schmirler of Regina was skipping Team Canada.

Despite her status as defending champion, the victory for Holland still was considered an upset of sorts.

Lawton, seeded first in the tournament and fifth in World Curling Tour winnings, went without a real test or pressure situation all week. And when the Saskatoon Granite skip surrendered a steal in the fourth end of the final and ticked a guard in the fifth to give up another steal, Holland's experienced foursome had a 3-1 lead and the edge they needed.

"They played better than us the first part of the week," Holland, whose team was No. 9 on the WCT's money list, told the Saskatoon StarPhoenix.

"But the last few roundrobin games, the tiebreaker, the three-four game, the semi-final game, we played really well. Finals come down to one game, and winner take all. It's about performance, and in events like these, it's performance at the right time."

Leading 3-2 after six ends of the final, Holland cracked a deuce, gave it

back in the eighth but got it back in the ninth with a cold draw to the button. It was a matter of eliminating crockery in the 10th end.

"We struggled a little bit with draw weight and Amber was right on target," said Lawton. "She didn't miss anything out there and it just wasn't going for us."

Holland, whose team played an almost perfect game in the final, headed to Charlottetown hoping to improve on a 6-5 Scotties round-robin record logged at Sault Ste. Marie last time around.

"We'll be better than 6-5," said the slender blonde skip whose team has been together for six years.

"We know that. We knew we didn't play as well as we could have last year at the Scotties. It's not all about the record, but it's how we perform. And if we perform well, like we did here, 6-and-5 will be behind us, and we'll be looking for playoffs and more."

Lawton's team, meanwhile, was left to ponder a great season with a crushing end.

The veteran Anderson said she feels it's time for the SCA to scale back its playoff format to an eight-team tournament, the way it used to be. A team winning the A event would then drop down to try and win the B, then the C. That, she says, would also prevent an unbeaten team from getting eliminated in a one-game showdown.

"You're not playing several games that are lopsided, because you're playing the best teams, and it turns into a best-of-two or best-of-three kind of format," Anderson said. "To me, it's just always been the best format for the number of

teams we have in this province, especially now (with rapidly-shrinking entry numbers). Do we need half the field that enters in our provincial? I don't think so. It's just always been my favourite format because of the equality of it."

Holland and Co., meanwhile, have their sights set on the 12-team round robin joust at Charlottetown.

"It feels pretty incredible and it's a dream come true," said third Kim Schneider. "Going once is tough, and going a second time is going to be that much better."

After losing 8-7 to Cindy Ricci of Lampman, who stole the winner, and 7-5 to Regina's Cathy Inglis in an extra end, Holland needed to outlast Saskatoon's Debbie Folk 5-4 in a gutclencher just to ensure a position in the final playoff four.

That's when the Kronau team caught fire. It dumped former junior champion Mandy Selzer of Balgonie 10-6, stealing three points in a come-from-behind Page Two-Two effort, then destroyed Ricci 9-2 in the semi-final.

Holland's final record was 7-2 while Lawton was 6-1. Ricci and Selzer both were 4-3. Lawton smoked Ricci 9-5 in the Page One-One playoff tilt.

Sawoff off with 3-3 records were Folk and former champion Michelle Englot of Regina who bowed 8-7 in an 11-end tiebreaker to Selzer.

Logging 2-3 records were Robyn Silvernagle of Meadow Lake, Chantelle Eberle of Regina and Darlene Gillies of Unity. Teams of Saskatoon's Patti Hersikorn, Penny Barker of Moose Jaw and Inglis each posted single wins in five starts.

SCOTTIES SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

Today s Games

Draw 3 (9:30 a.m.)

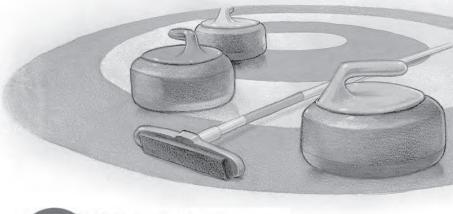
NL vs N.B. A
N.S. vs Quebec B
B.C. vs Manitoba C
Canada vs Territories D

Draw 4 (2:30 p.m.)

Alberta vs B.C. A
Sask. vs Canada B
Ontario vs NL C
Quebec vs P.E.I. D

Draw 17 (7:30 p.m.)

Sask. vs P.E.I. A
NB vs. Manitoba
NS vs Territories
Alberta vs Ontario
D





Standings

Team	Wins	Losses
Alberta (Kleibrink)	1	0
British Columbia (Scott)	1	0
Team Canada (Jones)	1	0
Saskatchewan (Holland)	1	0
Ontario (Homan)	1	0
Man (Overton Clapham)	1	1
NS (Smith-Dacey)	1	1
New Brunswick (Kelly)	1	1
NL (Devereaux)	0	1
PEI (Birt)	0	1
Quebec (Larouche)	0	1
NT/YT (Galusha)	0	2

Scoring and Percentages Summary for Draw 1

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NS (Smith-Dacey)	1	0	1	0	0	0	1	0	Х	Х		3	11:0	8
ON	#SH	РΤ	SF	СТ			NS					#SI-	PTS	PCT
1 Lisa Weagle	16	- 4	47	73		1	Teri	Lake	9			16	5 56	88
2 Alison Kreviazuk	16	- 4	45	70		2	Bliss	e Co	mst	ock		16	3 43	67
3 Emma Miskew	16	4	14	69		3	Dani	elle	Pars	ons	3	16	43	67
4 Rachel Homan	16	-	52	81						h-D	acey	16		
Team Totals	64	18	38	73			Tear	n To	tals			64	180	70
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B NT/YT (Galusha)	0	0		0	0	1	0	0	X	X		-	17:0	
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1 Shona Barbour	16	5	-	86			Chel	-				14	47	84
2 Wendy Miller 3 Dawn Moses	16 16	39	-	61 55			Bron			DSte	er	16 16	47 49	73 77
4 Kerry Galusha	16	3	-	55 58			Shar			ibrir	ale	15	51	85
Team Totals	64	_		65			Tear			וווטוו	IK		194	80
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Scoring and Percentages Summary for Draw 2 Draw 2

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4 Kelly Scott	17	48	71		4	Stacie	e De	ever	eau	x	18	30	42	
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m- nio				(Calles), Marj Mitchell ezer (Rowan), Marilyn
16	(Rode	ah) D	art	e (.lurgenson)

8. Hansen 1962 and 1964; Mitchell 1980; Pezer 1971, 1972 and 1973; Darte 1986.

9. Calles third, Kerr third, Rowan third, Jurgenson second.

10. Calles 1973, Kerr 2003, Rowan

1992, Jurgenson 2010.

11. Elizabeth MacDonald, Elayne Thomson, Barbara Currie. Anne Dunn, Fern Irwin, Jill Greenwood, Pat Reid, Sheila Ross, June Shaw.

12. Susan Seitz.

13. 1981 at St. John s, Nfld.

14. Calgary, Alberta.



Quebec s Marie-France Larouche dropped a 7-6 decision to Jennifer Jones and Team Canada in the evening draw.

TRIVIA ANSWERS

From Page 4

Team Totals

QofD: Suzanne Birt, PEI; Jill Officer, Canada; Amber Holland, Saskatchewan.

- 2. Birt 2003, Officer 2008, Holland 2010.
- 3. Emily Farnham, Pat Sanders.
- 4. Saskatchewan, British Columbia.

5. Farnham won the Canadian women s in 1974 and the Canadian senior women s in 1989. Sanders won the Canadian women s in 1987 and the Canadian senior women s in 2008.
6. Ada Calles, British Columbia; Nancy Kerr, Saskatchewan; Sheila Rowan, Saskatchewan; Christine (Bodogh) Jurgenson, British Columbia.

Team Totals

20 56 70

79 224 71

Sunday, February 20, 2011



Editor: Larry Wood

Assistant Editor: Fred Rinne

Photographer: Andrew Klaver

Printed by: Transcontinental







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*Cancer Care Ontario, Public Health Agency of Canada, Canadian Cancer Society, Cancer in young adults in Canada, May 2006. www.cancer.ca



The Country of the Co



Today at 5:00 pm

When you want to get the kettle boiling for a good old Atlantic Canada kitchen party, what better way to start than with some rollicking sounds from the **Boys in the Kitchen**?

These guys offer up a hearty menu of traditional tunes that are guaranteed to get feet stomping all over the house... and keep the dance floor packed the whole night long. Regulars at Charlottetown's legendary Olde Dublin Pub, the Boys in the Kitchen bring the magic of maritime music to the HeartStop Lounge tonight.

up **next**

Monday, February 21

Celtic Ladies

Tim Chaisson & Morning Fold 10:00 pm

Tuesday, February 22		Sunday Punch Vintage 4.0
Wednesday, February 23		Cynthia MacLeod & Jon Matthews Signal Hill
Thursday, February 24	5:00pm 10:00pm	Sunday Punch Shaydid
Friday, February 25		Tim Chaisson Duo Shameless
Saturday, February 26	•	Cynthia MacLeod & Jon Matthews The Chevelles
Sunday, February 27	5:45pm	Fiddlers' Sons

Today at 10:00 pm

The **Roger Jones Band** is the life of any Prince Edward Island party... and you can be sure it's going to be a lively performance when they take to the stage tonight in the HeartStop Lounge!

With more than 30 years experience on the East Coast music scene, Roger Jones has developed a wide fan base as one of the most respected musicians on the Island. This four-piece band energizes the crowd every time it takes to the stage with a solid collection of pop/rock sounds ranging from the 70's right through to today's top 40 hit list.

Leading the way on vocals/guitar, Jones is joined by Jeff Wilson, vocals/guitar, Johnny Trenholm, drums/vocals and Ronnie Switzer, bass.



The first round of the Cool Curling competition hits the tables today in the HeartStop Lounge at 4:30 pm. Sixteen players will compete for a cash prize of \$60 and the chance to move on to the champhionship finals.

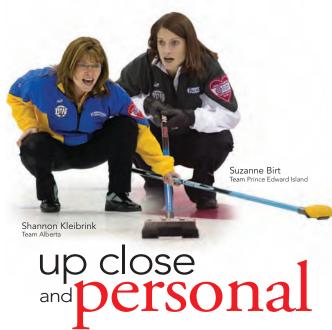
It's just like real curling, played on a shuffleboard style table. Matches will be held every night until Friday, with the daily winner and runner-up advancing to the Saturday playdowns.

The Cool Curling champion receives \$350, with \$200 for second and \$75 each for the third and fourth place finishers. Entry is free so get in the game!

There's only one word to describe the added value of every ticket...



autograph. sessions





Come out and meet your favourite curlers in the HeartStop Lounge. Team Autograph sessions bring you face-to-face with the players from all the teams at the Scotties.

Today	1:00 pm	New Brunswick & Manitoba
	6:00 pm	British Columbia & Team Canada
Monday, Feb. 21	1:00 pm	Alberta & Ontario
Tuesday, Feb. 22	1:00 pm	Nova Scotia & Northwest Territories/Yukor
Wednesday, Feb. 23	1:00 pm	Newfoundland/Labrador & Quebec
Thursday, Feb. 24	12:00 pm	Prince Edward Island & Saskatchewan
Saturday, Feb. 26	3:30 pm	All teams available

Ever wonder what it's like to be among the best curlers in the country? Well, here's your chance to find out. Competitors at the 2011 Scotties will be sitting down in the HeartStop Lounge for a heart-to-heart discussion with the fans.

The Up Close and Personal interviews take place in a casual environment where you can ask any question you like. It might relate to this competition, or previous experiences in championship play. Or, it may have nothing to do with curling at all.

You can always be sure of some candid and entertaining comments. It all takes place **Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 6:00 pm** in the HeartStop Lounge.



Tuesday, Feb. 22

British Columbia Canada Newfoundland/Labrador Quebec

Prince Edward Island



Ontario Alberta

Alberta
Wednesday, Feb. 23 Saskatchewan



Thursday, Feb. 24

New Brunswick Northwest Territories/Yukon Manitoba Nova Scotia

draws \$2,623.00 and counting...



You can be a big winner at the Scotties! 50/50 draws will be held during every draw with tickets sold through a convenient electronic system. The total is automatically updated with each purchase... so while you're watching the action on the ice, you can also watch the pot grow.

The winner is:
Draw 1 Darla Brown

Kensington, PEI \$2,623.00

Think you're a winner?

Call 1-902-393-8546 to check the number of the winning ticket for each draw.

Twenty-four young PEI curlers were chosen through a random draw to take part in the PEI Ford Dealers Junior Stars program, serving as honourary members of the 12 Scotties teams. They will all be featured in special pre-game ceremonies.

Today's PEI Ford Dealers Junior Stars are:

2:30 pm Draw

Team Alberta

Jessica Chapman Sara MacPhee Montague CC Montague CC 7:30 pm Draw —
Team Nova Scotia

Spencer Matheson Crapaud CC Desiree MacDonald Charlottetown CC Page 12 HeartChart

Ford World Women's headed to Lethbridge in '12

HeartChart Staff

The 2012 World Women's Curling Championship returns to Canada and will be played at the Enmax Centre in Lethbridge, March 17-25.

It will mark the 12th time that Canada has hosted the World Women's since the championship began in 1979 in Perth, Scotland. The last time it was held in Alberta was in 2006 at Grande Prairie.

Ford of Canada has sponsored the World men's and women's championships since 1995, held in Brandon. When the men's and women's championships were separated, beginning in 2005, Ford continued to be the title sponsor of the men's or women's event held in Canada each year.

While Ford is currently in the final year of its title sponsorship under an existing contract, negotiations are ongoing regarding a possible renewal starting in 2012.

"When Lethbridge hosted the 2007 Scot-

ties Tournament of Hearts, it proved our community's willingness to work to make that event successful," said host committee chair Jody Meli.

"With the Canadian Curling Association, World Curling Federation and the City of Lethbridge backing this championship, we can't wait to showcase our city as a community ready and able to host an event of this calibre.

"The timing is perfect since we are able to host athletes and spectators in a newly-renovated venue. The fact that this is an international event, combined with our ability to build on our community's enthusiasm for curling, is sure to make it a great success."

Coincidentally, the 2012 Scotties will be staged 400 kilometres north in Red Deer.

Canada has won a leading 15 gold medals at the World Women's since 1979, followed by Sweden with seven. Canada's last victory came in 2008 in Vernon, B.C. when Winnipeg's Jennifer Jones defeated China's Bingyu Wang in the final. Last year, at Swift

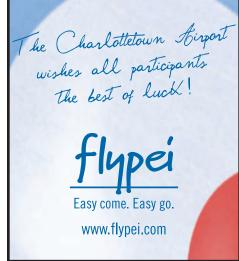
Current, Jones earned a bronze medal, as Germany's Andrea Schöepp won her second world title, beating Scotland's Eve Muirhead in the final.

The 2012 World women's will also earn Olympic qualifying points for the compet-

ing countries. Based on cumulative points earned for their finishes at the 2011, 2012 and 2013 World Women's, the top nine countries (host Russia receives an automatic berth) qualify for the 2014 Olympic Winter Games in Sochi, Russia.











FORD HOT SHOTS: Canada s Jennifer Jones tops the pack

Skip outduels third for title

HeartChart Staff

f individual shotmaking has anything to do with it, Jennifer Jones is more than ready to defend her Scotties Tournament Of Hearts title.

Jones won her first Ford Hot Shots title at the Civic Centre on Saturday, defeating her vice-skip Kaitlyn Lawes in an all-Team Canada final.

"This doesn't say a whole lot — you kind of make of few good shots in the afternoon," allowed Jones.

"The competition is completely different, but it's kind of fun to come out here."

Jones qualified for the final eight on Friday with 19 of a possible 30 points, then recorded 21 in Saturday's quarter-final, 23 in the semi-final and out-scored Lawes 15-13 in the final.

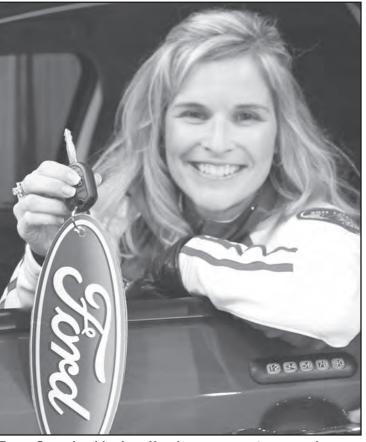
The Hot Shots winner is provided with a two-year lease on a \$36,000 2011 Ford Edge SEL FWD. Lawes collected \$2,000 for finishing second.

"I can't actually remember what we agreed to," said Jones. "But the money will be divided and we'll do something for the car.

"We always have some kind of arrangement. It's a team effort out there. And to have both of us in the final was super-fun. I was super happy for Kaitlyn."

The shotmaking competition requires the participating Scotties curlers to execute six shots: Hit-andstay, draw-the-button, draw-the-port, raise, hit-and-roll and double-takeout. Each shot is awarded points on a scale from 0-to-5, rating the success of each.

Defending Hot Shots





Team Canada skip Jennifer Jones won a two-year lease on a 2011 Ford Edge SEL FWD as champion of the Hot Shots competition. Right she shares a hug with her third Kaitlyn Lawes who was runner-up.

champion Amber Holland, Saskatchewan's skip from Kronau, won \$1,000 for finishing third.

Holland topped the field during Friday's qualifying, scored a blazing 27/30 in the quarter-final but faded to 16 in the semis and missed the final.

"The Hot Shots is the Hot Shots," said Jones. "It's completely different than a curling game so you never look too hard at it going into the week. But it's a fun way for us to start. And like I said, I wanted to make sure Kaitlyn enjoyed herself this week and it's a pretty nice way for her to start."

Lawes said she'd hoped it would go down to the last rock and "whoever was throwing . . . had to make it to win".

But Jones had the decision wrapped up prior to her last shot, the double.

"It was really fun; I've never actually participated in the Hot Shots," said Lawes. "I went into it with an open mind; I didn't really want to put any pressure on myself.

"The first round (Friday), I just wanted to get something out of every shot, get a couple points here and there and move on. That worked out, and I had the same mentality today.

"I didn't feel any nerves until the final four. Then I was . . . 'Oh, I can actually maybe get something here.'

Charlottetown's Robyn MacPhee also was eliminated in the semi-finals with a score of 7. In the quarters, behind Holland and Jones, MacPhee scored 19 points, Lawes logged 18, Alberta's Bronwen Webster checked in with 17, Cathy Overton-Clapham of Manitoba and Alison Krevaziuk of Ontario each scored 16 and Quebec's Marie-France Larouche managed 10.

Among other previous winners, New Westminster's Kelley Law is the only two-time champ (2000, 2001). Other single winners: Kelli Turpin, then of Yellowknife; Kristy Lewis and Sherry Fraser of Richmond, B.C.; Cheryl Bernard of Calgary, Marcy Balderston of Grande Prairie; Saskatchewan's Kay Montgomery of Prince Albert; Manitoba's Gerri Cooke of Brandon and Jill Officer of Winnipeg; Ontario's Andrea Lawes of

Toronto and Jenn Hanna of Ottawa; New Brunswick's Allison Farrell (Franey) of Saint John, Nova Scotia's Colleen Jones of Halifax and Prince Edward Island's Birt.

In collaboration with the Canadian Curling Association, Ford has launched an interactive on-line version of the Hot Shots competition where fans will have a chance to win a two-year lease on a new 2011 Ford Edge SEL plus an Apple iPod Touch.

The runner-up will receive one 11-inch Apple MacBook Air. In addition, the top three finishers will each receive an Xbox 360 Kinetic Package while six secondary prizes will also be awarded, each consisting of one Apple iPod Nano

each.

The on-line game, unveiled in 2009, culminated with a one-game playoff at the Ford World Men's Curling Championship in Moncton.

Dan Sherrard of Edmonton was the inaugural winner and also won last year in a one-game playoff held at the Ford World Women's in Swift Current, Sask.

Similarly, once the current contest closes on March 17, two finalists will be flown to Regina, site of the 2011 Ford World Men's (April 2-10), for a onegame playoff on April 8.

All information, including rules, regulations, eligibility, player registration and game instructions are available at FordHotShots. curling.ca.

HeartChart Page 14

Skip: Kerry Galusha

Nickname: Double K Home: Yellowknife, NWT

Delivery: Right

Occupation: Finance clerk

Employer: Department of Justice - Gov-

ernment of the NWT

Date Of Birth: November 3, 1977 Place Of Birth: Yellowknife

Marital Status: Married Name of spouse/partner: Scott Children (name/age): Sydney (19mos) Favourite food: My husband's home-

made pizza

Favourite drink: Vodka, cranberry and

Favourite book: Don't really read a whole lot. But I do read What To Expect In The Toddler Years every now and then. Favourite TV show: One Tree Hill

Favourite website: www.pleasemum.com or www.ae.com - don't have a lot of shop-

ping in Yellowknife! Favourite order from Tim Hortons?

Don't drink coffee so usually go for a small hot chocolate and peanut butter cookie Favourite vacation destination? Maui What or who inspired you?: My entire family who I watched curl for years before I decided that I was interested in the sport.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Our coach's! You have superstitions? Yes, of course I do! I have lots. It comes down to clothes,

hair styles, socks, what to eat, where to sit, what music to listen to...and the list goes on.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Ellen DeGeneres, Rihanna, Roger Federer If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Tennis,

because the ladies are super strong and tall and you make lots of money.

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Change games to eight ends and bring back real time-outs!

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Anything upbeat. Our fave team song this year is Dynamite!

Pet peeves, if any? The crazy drivers in Yellowknife.

Three things you always travel with? Blackberry, wallet and, usually, my daughter.

First on your bucket List? Go skydiving or travel to Greece

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we aren't really athletes and that curling is so easy. Only true curlers know how tough it is! Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Draw to the button, of course

Third: Dawn Moses

Nickname: Moses-Bo, Dawny Girl, Dawny

Home: Yellowknife, N.W.T.

Delivery: Right

Occupation: Youth an Volunteer Program

Employer: Government of Northwest Territories

Date Of Birth: November 10, 1969 Place Of Birth: Mayo, Yukon Marital Status: Single Name of spouse/partner: None

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Lead Shona Barbour (left) third Dawn Moses, skip Kerry Galusha and second Wendy Miller.

Children (name/age): None Favourite drink: Coffee n' Carolans Favourite book: The Power Favourite movie: Avatar

Favourite TV show: Harry's Law Favourite website? Facebook Favourite order from Tim Hortons?

Large regular, please! Favourite vacation destination? Minto Lake, Yukon

My dream destination: Around the world in a vear.

What or who inspired you?: Support from my family, and some incredible coaches along the way.

Superstitions? "I've decided to take superstitions in the spirit of fun, but I do keep to routines; and those routines change when they need to!"

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: I'd rather have a back yard BBQ with a campfire, and I would invite "William & Kate", David Suzuki, Barack Obama.

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? "Hmmm

... probably tennis. It's one of the only women's pro sports in which to earn large amounts of money. And maybe golf. But really, I have always desired to be on the Canadian national volleyball team, simply because I love the game! Or how about horse racing? Wouldn't being a jockey balanced on the back of a speeding horse be fantastic!?!'

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? "I want the timeout back!'

What music do you like to listen to before a game? "The team cd; it is created new each year.

Pet peeves, if any? "Dog owners who don't use a leash and don't pick up after their animal, and who don't ask if it's OK to approach my dog and me.'

Three things you always travel with? "A good book and my moosehide slippers."

First on your bucket List? "Travel to Scotland with my mother.

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? "That curlers are not athletes.

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal would be: "Draw to the button

Second: Wendy Miller Nickname: The Thriller Home: Yellowknife, NWT Delivery: Left

Occupation: Crown counsel Employer: Public Prosecution Service of

Date Of Birth: March 3, 1981 Place Of Birth: Fredericton, NB Marital Status: Single

Favourite book: Anything by Margaret

Favourite movie: The Hangover Favourite website? Globe and Mail.com Favourite order from Tim Hortons? I am obsessed with their chili

Favourite vacation destination? Anywhere in the Caribbean! What or who inspired you?: Started

curling because of my dad Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: My coach

Superstitions? Didn't really have any until I started playing with Team Galusha, now it could be a number of things like which earrings or what colour shirts to wear, how to do my hair, what to eat for breakfast, or where to sit in the van.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Margaret Atwood, Nelson Mandela, Sandra Schmirler

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Golf because I'm so terrible but wish I was great, plus it seems like a pretty good lifestyle! If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? The LSD rule so I wouldn't have to throw (ha-ha). What music do you like to listen to

before a game? Our team cd which is quite the variety - from Eminem to Tanya

Pet peeves, if any? People who still consider curling to not really be "a sport". Three things you always travel with? Sweatpants, flat iron, ipod First on your bucket List? Trip to Africa What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we're boring because we curl - the most interesting, fun people I

know are curlers! Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold

medal: Hit-and-stick Lead: Shona Barbour

Home: Inuvik, NT **Delivery: Right** Occupation: Early Childhood Consultant

Employer: Government of the NWT Date Of Birth: July 4, 1979

Place Of Birth: Calgary Marital Status: Single Favourite food: Cranberry muffins

Favourite drink: G2 Favourite movie: Love Actually Favourite TV show: Parenthood Favourite website? Globe and Mail

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Boxes of Timbits to bring home on the

What or who inspired you?: Watching the Scott Tournament of Hearts on TV as a junior curler.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Kerry Galusha and Dawn Moses

Superstitions? Lots of superstitions about pre-game routines... clothing, music, sitting in the vehicles, routes to the rink, uniforms,

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Tiger Woods, Johnny Cash, my great- grand-

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Tennis

because men and women get equal TV time and money.

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? NWT and Yukon curlers could play together.

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Team mixed CD Three things you always travel with? Book, comfy clothes, an extra bag for shopping

First on your bucket List? Go to the Antarctica

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Sweeping a final shot, and only needing to 'clean' the whole way.

Fifth: Sharon Cormier

Home: Yellowknife, NWT

Delivery: Right

Occupation: Manager, finance and admininstration.

Employer: Govt. of the NWT, Public Works and Services

Date Of Birth: July 8, 1964 Place Of Birth: Regina Marital Status: Married

Name of spouse/partner: Tex Cormier Children (name/age): Joshua (23), Megan

Favourite food: Steak Favourite drink: Water, Coors Lite Favourite book: Mind Gym Favourite movie: The Hangover Favourite TV show: Grey's Anatomy

Favourite website? Facebook Favourite order from Tim Hortons?

Extra large regular Favourite vacation destination? Las

What or who inspired you?: My father,

Al Delmage Whose opinion do you most trust when

it comes to curling?: Same as above,

Superstitions? Repeat routines when on a roll.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: My mother, my father and my grandson...so my mom could meet her Great-Grandchild Kobe.

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Golf - warm weather and cute clothes.

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Upbeat music of all kinds. Pet peeves, if any? People who stand behind you and yell sweep to the player in the house while your rock slips too far.

Three things you always travel with?
Cellphone, VISA and spare cash!
What is the biggest misconception
about curlers? They are not physically fit
and they drink a lot of beer.

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold **medal:** Draw, with the sweepers off and on it until it hits the full button!!

Coach: Fred Koe Home: Yellowknife, NWT Occupation: Retired/Consultant Employer: Self Date Of Birth: March 8, 1947 Place Of Birth: Aklavik, NWT Won: Represented the Territories at the mixed in 1999 and seniors in 2000.

Coaching for how many years: 25 years.

ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES British Colombias Kelly Scott

It's been deja-vu for the B.C. crew



HeartChart Staff

It was deja-vu yet again at the B.C. Scotties championship.

With memories of a 2007 world championship fading further by the day, Kelly Scott's Kelowna team appears to be finding it tougher and tougher to claw its way back to the top. But tough this team remains.

The latest 10-team provincial scramble at Cloverdale last month was another case in point, where the Scott team of Jeanna Richard, Sasha Carter and Jacquie Armstrong staged another last-gasp rise from the canvas, battling from off the pace in the round-robin event to defeat 2000 world titlist Kelley Law of New Westminster 5-3 in a final match that won't be remembered for all-out offence.

The prize for the Scotts? The Okanagan team's sixth trip to the Scotties Tournament Of Hearts in the last seven years.

For Law, the question was simple. Could she beat Scott three times in a row?

The round-robin leader with an 8-1 record, Law and her lineup of Jody Maskiewich, Shannon Aleksic and Kristen Recksiedler, had solved the Scott puzzle by a lopsided 9-3 count in the third round of the preliminaries and again by an equally breezy 9-2 (seven ends) score in the Page One-Two playoff tilt.

So Law figured to be riding high heading into the final while a reeling Scott, for the second year in a row after losing the One-Two to Law, required a sudden-death 7-4 conquest of Duncan's Roselyn Craig in the semi-final.

The Craig team — the veteran Island curler tossed second rocks with Sarah Wark delivering last stones and former Scott teammate Michelle Allen at third — trailed by one with the hammer in the ninth and there wasn't much of an argument from either team that the penultimate exchange would be blanked.

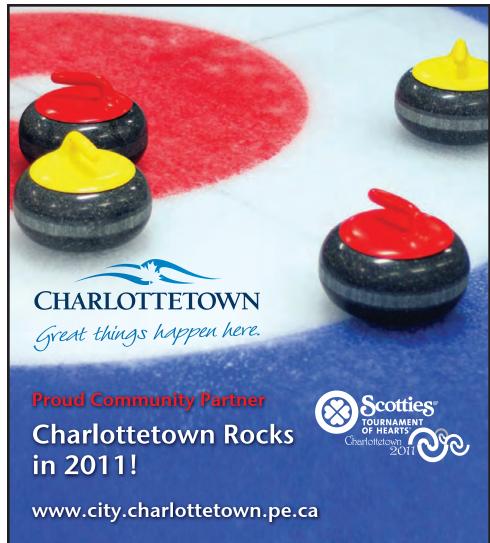
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Page 16 HeartChart

Islanders have been getting closer

ou may have wondered how it would be to follow the kind of Scott Tournament Of Hearts act that Prince Edward Island curlers have performed the last couple of years.

And how it would be to follow that act in your home town, in your home province, which just happens to be the smallest in the nation and you know just about everybody in it by name.

Two years ago, in Victoria, Robyn MacPhee came within an inch on two out-turn shots that would have sent Jennifer Jones to the sidelines instead of the final playoff four.

Last year, Kathy O'Rourke and her young back-enders won the Scotties round robin, led the championship final 6-3 after six



LARRY WOOD
HeartChart Editor

ends but lost to Jones in an extra exchange.

Any way you slice it, this is heady stuff still for a province that boasts a .375 won-lost percentage in 50 years and a Scotties record

in playoff games of two wins, 11 losses.

One argument is, of course, that the Island fortunes this time are in the best of hands on account of the fact Suzanne Birt, in 2003 as a rookie Scotties skip, won 10 round-robin games. That's a record unmatched by 49 other P.E.I. standard-bearers at the Canadian women's curling championship.

Mind you, O'Rourke and her 2010 provincial champs might mount a convincing argument to the contrary. Except that, in a game where you're only as good as your last win, Birt beat O'Rourke three times in last month's provincials and earned her way to the Civic Centre, no question.

"Everybody in the province dreamed of this," said Birt's

savvy vice-skip Shelly Bradley on Saturday.

"More than any other year, this is the one, at home, that every-body wanted to win and every-body wanted to be a part of."

But what about the pressure, not only associated with recent fine P.E.I. performances at the Scotties, but stemming from massive expectations and more distractions than this team would find in any other Scotties venue, anywhere in Canada?

"Well, I think it's a good distraction," said the 29-year-old Birt

"Everybody's been so supportive . . . and that's what you need. That's what keeps you going.

"Obviously, people are going to be disappointed when you miss a shot but that's just your mental game. You have to focus on controlling what you can control and that's it."

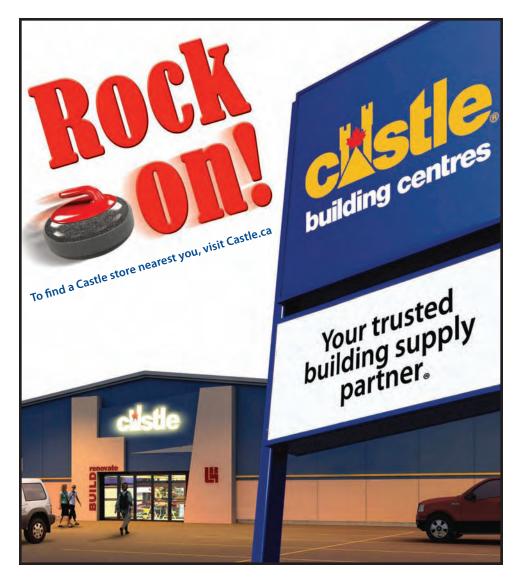
The Islanders steamed out of the starting gate Saturday with a three-ender but a couple of stolen deuces bulldozed their best-laid plans and they suffered defeat in their first game.

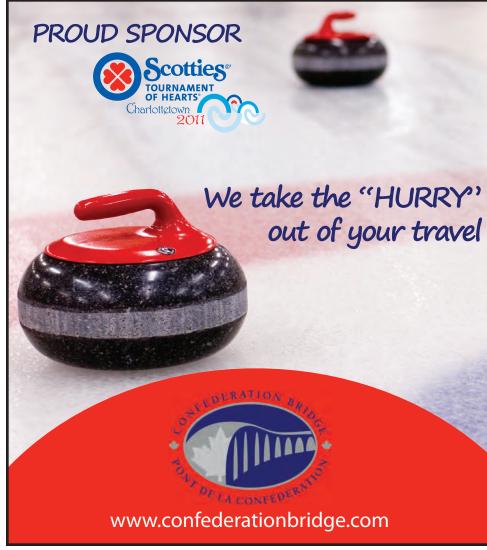
But, said Birt, the loss had nothing to do with nerves or distractions or pressure or anything else.

"The crowd is great," she said. "It's really fun to play. After two shots were thrown we really settled in to enjoy the experience. We have lots of supporters and they give you that extra little boost."

Bradley reiterated the home crowd won't be a detriment.

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"Sure, everybody knows everybody here, but we've planned to counter all those problems if distractions. We've a game plan and even our families are aware of it.

"This is a long week. Losing one game is neither here nor there. As long as we keep our focus, all the other stuff won't be a factor in what we accomplish on the ice."

One way . . . or the other.

And if you don't believe it from the principals, how about the skip of last year's near-champ and this year's provincial runnerup?

"They are a pretty good team with a lot of experience," said Kathy O'Rourke. "They're used to playing at this level. I think they'll probably try to do what we did last year and just take it one shot at a time and not try to think too much about what's going on around them.

"They're probably feeling a little bit of that (pressure) from what we did last year but you just have to put that stuff aside and concentrate on each game as it comes.

"If our team was going out there — and I wish we were — we'd be talking about the importance of each game, just chatting a bit and breaking it down to the simple form . . . that's taking it one shot at a time and trying not to dwell on the scoreboard, the crowd, the expectations, all of that."

O'Rourke suggests it probably is a more difficult assignment, representing a smaller province at home "where everybody knows everybody and there's a little more distraction".

"Walking out of the arena, you'll encounter a lot of people that you actually know by name so you have to handle that. You can't just ignore people because on P.E.I. that's just not what we do.

"So they need to take some time and learn to keep that separate, the part where they're Team P.E.I. and the part where they're on the ice trying to win games.

"In, say, Halifax or some other place, you can kind of blend in a little. But on P.E.I. it's pretty tough."

O'Rourke agrees that last year's locale — Sault Ste. Marie — probably was a bit of a boon for her Island girls.

"Playing in a place where nobody knew who we were, that might have helped us . . . especially for the young girls. They didn't have to deal with this hometown pressure.

"But, you know, when I look at the team Suzanne has, with Robyn and Shelly and Leslie, they've got tons of Scotties on their resumes? And, I mean, Robyn and Suzanne played in a national junior final in Summerside and won so they know a little of what the hometown crowd is about.

"Obviously this is going to be far bigger, far different, but I think they have enough of these games under their belts that they'll handle it well."

Something else. Suzanne Birt is a cool cat under fire. "She doesn't express a lot of emotion," said

O'Rourke. "She's on a pretty even keel. And I think that's the way you have to be — pretty straight-faced out there and concentrating on the job at hand."



Kathy O Rourke

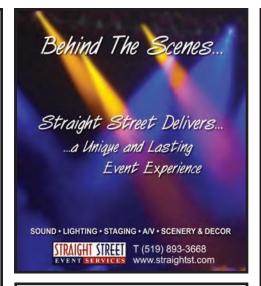


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Continued from Page 15

In the 10th end, Wark was afforded an opportunity to bury an inturn draw with her last rock but it hung wide, rubbed a guard, which deprived it of the necessary oomph to reach a counting position on the re-direct. Hence Scott stole two and headed for a third crack at Law.

Strangely, the seven-time Scotties veteran and 2002 Olympic bronze medallist went along with the wide-open, no-rocks-in-play strategy employed by Scott for five ends. Law stuck trying to blank two ends with last rock and Scott experienced the same problem once.

Then Scott finally made blank tactics in the fifth pay off with an open hit for a deuce in the sixth for a 3-2 edge which, as it turned out, gave her control of the issue.

Law was forced to settle for a tying single in the seventh, facing three, but she executed a cross-rings bailout double in the eighth and forced Scott to play for the go-ahead single.

Law required a draw to the four-foot in order to force an extra end in the 10th but her rock was inches heavy.

"Same as any other loss," reacted Law through pursed lips. "Just a draw shot. It felt good out of my hand."

The win afforded Scott her first sigh of relief since trailing from the third-round loss earlier in the week. Her unit lost only once more in the round-robin — 6-5 to Adina Tasaka of New Westminster. But there were plenty of hair-raising moments as the Kelowna crew won three other games in extra ends, two of them stolen.

The champs heisted an 11th-end deuce against Nicole Backe of Nanaimo, stole an 8-7 decision in the 11th from former champion Kristy Lewis of Richmond, and then won 8-6 in the 11th with last rock against Jen Fewster of Prince George.

"The way the round-robin went, all those close ones, it only makes you that much more mentally tough," the 33-year-old Scott told the Vancouver Sun's Gary Kingston afterward. ""We didn't feel bad with our two losses to them. They nailed it to us bad on the scoreboard, but we didn't feel that we played that badly in those games.

"Today (in the final), we just stayed

mentally the whole 10 ends. It was a battle all week. But now it's exciting to be going to a Scotties in P.E.I."

It was another heartbreaking loss in a B.C. final for Law who beat Scott 9-3 in the Page One-Two last year and lost 8-4 in the final.

Law's team headed back to the drawing board trying to figure out how and why it can't put the finishing touches to this championship. Law beat Scott 9-3 in the Page One-Two last year but lost the final 8-4. Law finished the tournament with a 9-2 record, losing to Lewis in the round robin. Scott was 9-and-3.

"Thankfully, we've been in a lot of these games the last five years," Schraeder said. "You get yourself in enough of these finals and good things happen."

Craig, who defeated Lewis 7-6 in the Page Three-Four, finished 7-3 to Lewis's 6-5 log. Lewis earlier dumped Tasaka (5-5) 6-5 in a tiebreaker.

Trailing the field, Kirsten Fox of Kamloops was 4-5, teams skipped by Fewster, Backe and Patti Knezevic of Prince George were 3-6, and Jill Winters of Nelson racked up a single win in nine starts..

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ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES New Brunswicks Andrea Kelly

Third straight for Kelly crew

HeartChart Staff

obody appears to have the solution to Andrea Kelly's curling prowess in New Brunswick women's circles.

The rangy 25-year-old former national junior champion skip is back for her third consecutive Scotties, directing the fortunes of the black and gold, having won her provincial title without a defeat for the third straight year.

The hitch, of course, always has arisen at the Scotties, where Kelly has logged identical 5-and-6

records in three previous appearances

But, on the homefront, Kelly and her teams have been unbeatable. In fact, Kelly is 24-and-0 in the past three provincial eight-team round-robin arguments. She beat Mary-Jane McGuire of Fredericton in the 2009 final, Ashley Howard of Moncton last year and former champion Sylvia Robichaud of Moncton 7-2 last month at Moncton's Beausejour icehouse.

In fact, Kelly has been racking up big wins in New Brunswick for as long as she can remember.

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Lead Lianne Sobey (right) and second Jillian Babin sweep for skip Andrea Kelly.



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New Brunswick

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She started back in 2003 when she took advantage of the rare opportunity to represent her province on home ice at the Canada Winter Games in Bathurst-Campbellton, N.B., claiming a bronze medal.

That set the stage for her glittering junior career, which actually started in 2002 when she made her first trip to the junior nationals in Summerside P.E.I.

Two years later in Victoria, Kelly skipped New Brunswick to a bronze medal, and then, finally, in 2005 — again, in her home province, in Fredericton — Kelly was able to capture a long-awaited Canadian title.

A few weeks later, she curled on the same Pinerolo, Italy, ice surface that would host the 2006 Winter Olympics curling competition, and skipped Team Canada to a bronze

She was a heavy favourite to win a fourth New Brunswick junior title in 2006, her final year of eligibility, but she lost in the provincial final.

She recovered nicely, winning her first women's title the same vear.

"Things have gone very well for us and we saved our best game of the week for the final," Kelly said in the wake of her playoff win over Robichaud.

"We knew there were a lot of good teams here, but we had a feeling we might see Sylvie (the 2008 winner) in the final," Kelly told Dwayne Tingley of the Moncton Times

Transcript. "She's got a great team and we knew that we had to play our best game against them.

"In terms of execution and confidence, it was our best game. It feels awesome to win this three times in a row."

Kelly plays out of the The Gage Golf and Curling Club in Oromocto. She's a human resources manager for Canadian forces personnel and fam- Andrea Kelly ily support services



at CFB Gagetown who also is studying for her Masters degree in Business Administration at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton.

Playing with the identical team that represented the province at the Sault Ste. Marie Scotties a year ago — third Denise Nowlan, second Jillian Babin, lead Lianne Sobey and alternate Jodie deSolla (the latter pair have been around since junior days) — Kelly opened the final with deuces in the second and fourth ends before stealing singles in the fifth and sixth to put the issue out of reach.

"We played well right from the start and that gave us a lot of confidence," said Kelly.

"We played the same way all week," she said. "We kept our focus on what we needed to accomplish. We never tried to do too much."

For the record, Kelly's round-robin streak started with a 6-4 win over Robichaud in the first round. Then it was a 7-6 win over former world junior champion Melissa Adams of Fredericton, a 7-2 decision over McGuire, a 9-5 victory over Sharon Levesque of Fredericton, an 11-3 rout of Sackville's Kathleen Trites, a 7-3 win over Becky Atkinson of Saint John and a 10-5 conquest of Howard.

"It was a team effort from start to finish," Kelly said. "Everyone worked together and supported each other.

'We're looking to take the next step and have a good showing (in Charlottetown). In the past, we've started slowly then picked it up as the week went on, but we're going to do some things differently and hope we have a better start this time."

Robichaud won six straight after her first-round loss to Kelly and proceeded to drop Atkinson 6-4 in the semi-final, stealing the go-ahead points in the ninth end.

Robichaud logged a 7-2 final record while Atkinson was 5-3. McGuire checked in at 4-3 while Adams started strong and faded to a 3-4 record. Howard finished 2-5, Levesque 1-6 and Trites 0-7.

