

# EYE OPENER



Issue 8 – Saturday, March 26, 2016 • An Official Publication of Curling Canada





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PAGE 1-2 GAME

ONE WIN FROM GLORY

Swiss close in on fourth world title in five years

By CAM HUTCHINSON  
Eye Opener Associate Editor

Switzerland is one win away from winning its fourth Ford World Women's Curling Championship in five years. Those are lofty heights once reserved for Canadian representatives.

Binia Feltscher and her 2014 world championship team had a battle for six ends with Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa on Friday night at the Credit Union iplex. Then, Switzerland scored three in the seventh and two in the ninth for an 8-4 win and a spot in Sunday's final.

Switzerland will play against Japan, Canada or Russia in the 3 p.m. final at the Credit Union iplex. Canada's Chelsea Carey and Russia's Anna Sidorova meet Saturday at 2 p.m. in the Page 3-4 game. The winner will play Japan tonight at 7 p.m. in the semi-final against Japan. The loser of the Canada-Russia game drops to the bronze-medal game Sunday at 10 a.m.

In addition to Feltscher's world championship in 2014, Mirjam Ott won in 2012 and Alina Patz in 2015. Eve Muirhead of Scotland grabbed the 2013 championship.

Switzerland and Japan finished the round robin this week at 9-2. Switzerland had the all-important hammer in the first end of the 1-2 game based on its 7-4 victory over Japan early in the week.

"It is awesome, we are very, very happy," Swiss third Irene Schori said after the game. "We stayed very calm . . . we knew we had to play a good game to beat this very good Japanese team. And I think they were maybe a little bit nervous. We were there two years ago, so we know exactly how it feels. Maybe that was our advantage."

She said experience is a huge factor in the playoffs.

"For sure it pays off. We know how it feels playing in an arena like this and everyone is watching you."

Swiss coach Al Moore was happy with his team's play.

"The team is focused. They go out, they know what the job is and they just execute that," he said.

A date with curling history will have to wait at least one more day for Japan. The country has never won a medal in world women's play.

In the game Friday, Feltscher made a quiet takeout to get her single in the first end. The Swiss team stole one on the second end when Fujisawa came up inches short on a draw to the eight-foot. Draw weight was a problem for the Japanese team all night.

Japan got its first point of the night in the third end when Fujisawa executed a quiet tap back while facing three Swiss stones. The teams traded singles in ends four and five, and Japan stole one in the sixth to tie the game at 3-3.

Feltscher capitalized on misses from Fujisawa and third Chinami Yoshida to count three in the seventh. Yoshida was heavy on a draw and Fujisawa was light on one, leaving Feltscher with a draw for three.

After Japan got one in the eighth, Feltscher made a double with her first rock in the ninth, leaving her shot rock guarded at the top of the four-foot. When Fujisawa wrecked on the guard, Feltscher had an open draw for two, an 8-4 lead and the win.



Binia Feltscher



Satsuki Fujisawa

SCOREBOARD

1-2 GAME

Japan (Fujisawa) ..... 001 011 010 x — 4  
Switzerland (Feltscher)...110 100 302 x — 8

JAPAN	SH	P	%	SWISS	SH	P	%
Yoshida	18	65	90	Urech	18	56	78
Suzuki	18	54	75	Kaufmann	18	62	86
Yoshida	18	53	74	Schori	18	62	86
Fujisawa	18	51	71	Feltscher	18	64	89
Team Totals	72	223	77	Team Totals	72	244	85





Christine Urech and Franziska Kaufmann sweep in a rock by Irene Schori.



Concern grows on the faces of Satsuki Fujisawa and Chinami Yoshida as game progresses.

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# Japan hits bump in road



Things just didn't go skip Satsuki Fujisawa's way Friday night.

## Swiss cruise to victory

By DAVE KOMOSKY

Eye Opener Editor

Team Japan's Magical Mystery Tour of the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, may not be over, but it suffered a serious setback Friday night when the women from Tokoro were thumped 8-4 in the Page 1-2 game by Switzerland's Binia Feltscher.

The loss sent the Japanese side tumbling into tonight's semifinal game against the winner of the 3-4 game, which will be played earlier today between Canada's Chelsea Carey and Russia's Anna Sidorova.

The loss will test the mettle of the young Japanese team, which sailed through the round-robin with a 9-2 record, and hardly knew hardship along the way.

They know it now. They'll need to win their next two games against formidable opponents to win their first world title. Team Japan has never won a medal of any kind at the world championship.

Their bubbly personalities this week will certainly be dialled down a bit the rest of the way after facing their first bit of adversity, but they seemed to be ready for what lies ahead.

"We're still in a good position tomorrow. We just have to rebound," said Japan's team coach J.D. Lind of Calgary. "Being the first game for them of this magnitude is obviously difficult,

but I think they can learn a lesson from this and be ready for tomorrow (Saturday).

"It was definitely tough out there with only one game. It was a little tricky. But I think we got a better handle (on the ice), so tomorrow we should be ready to go."

The Japanese team, skipped by 24-year-old Satsuki Fujisawa, gave as good as they got against Feltscher, the 2014 world champion, and was deadlocked 3-3 after six ends before it all started to unravel in the seventh. That's when third Chinami Suzuki slid wide and too far on a draw, opening the door for the Swiss to score three.

It's not a good idea to fall behind Feltscher, who knows how to protect the lead.

Fujisawa ticked a guard with her final shot of the ninth, leaving the Feltscher an open draw for two, and it was game, set and match.

"This Swiss team is a great team, and they definitely outplayed us today," said Lind, "but I don't think that will shake what our girls feel about their own game. We know that if we play a little bit better, and capitalize on our chances, which we didn't do tonight, then we'll be fine.

"We've proven this week we belong here. But the playoffs are different than the round robin, and we saw that tonight."

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*"China's Bingyu Wang made history,  
by skipping the first Asian team to a  
World Curling Championship, in 2009."*

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# They're ready to rumble

## Monday's loss to Russia a distant memory for Canadian skip

By CAM HUTCHINSON  
Eye Opener Associate Editor

Canada and Russia are ready to do battle today in the Page 3-4 game at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian Manufacturing.

The two teams practised side-by-side for an hour Friday afternoon at the Credit Union iplex. While there didn't appear to be any stare-downs of the boxing and UFC variety, the teams are ready to play today at 2 p.m.

The winner advances to the semifinal tonight, while the loser will next see action in the bronze-medal game Sunday morning.

In their round-robin meeting, way back on Monday, Russia's Anna Sidorova defeated Canada's Chelsea Carey 6-3. Carey said the loss will have no bearing on today's game.

"It wasn't that bad a game," Carey said. "I missed one (important) shot."

She said the teams are familiar with each other from their time on the curling tour, so there will be no surprises. Carey said there are no obvious weaknesses in the Russian game.

Canada had an emotional day Thursday, with its 11-2 loss to Japan in the afternoon and its must-win in the evening against Scotland. Canada won the game 9-4, with Carey shooting a blistering 93 per cent.

"It's nice to have a day off," the Canadian skip said after her practice session Friday. "Yesterday was a bit of a rollercoaster, so it's nice to have a



CAREY



SIDOROVA

“Probably some Canadian guys will cheer for us, just to be something different from the crowd.”

— Anna Sidorova

relaxing day today; a little bit of practice and we'll have a nice dinner tonight and go to bed early."

She said the team spent its time on the ice

Friday matching rocks for the playoffs.

Sidorova has won bronze medals at the past two Ford Worlds and is looking for something

better this weekend.

"We are a team which comes to every event and just wants to win it. When we came here we wanted and expect to win this event," she said.

She knows she will be playing in front of a large pro-Canada crowd at the sold-out Credit Union iplex.

"I don't think it will affect us, because we are used to playing when nobody is cheering for us."

That said, she does expect there will be a few Russian fans in the rink.

"Probably some Canadian guys will cheer for us, just to be something different from the crowd," she said with a smile. "We are here to play against the stones and not to play against the crowd. ... If we make our shots, then we are going to win."

The teams stack up evenly statistically, as most do over the long haul at a competition like this.

Carey made 83 per cent of her shots in the round-robin, with Sidorova at 81 per cent. Canadian third Amy Nixon was at 83 per cent and Russian third Margarita Fomina was at 86 per cent. Canadian second Jocelyn Peterman was good on 85 per cent of her shots, while Russia's Alexandra Raeva made 80 per cent of hers. For the leads, Canadian Laine Peters curled at 86 per cent and Russia's Nkeiruka Ezech 83 per cent.

Both teams finished the round-robin with 8-3 records. Russia will have the hammer on the first end by virtue of its win over Canada in the round-robin.

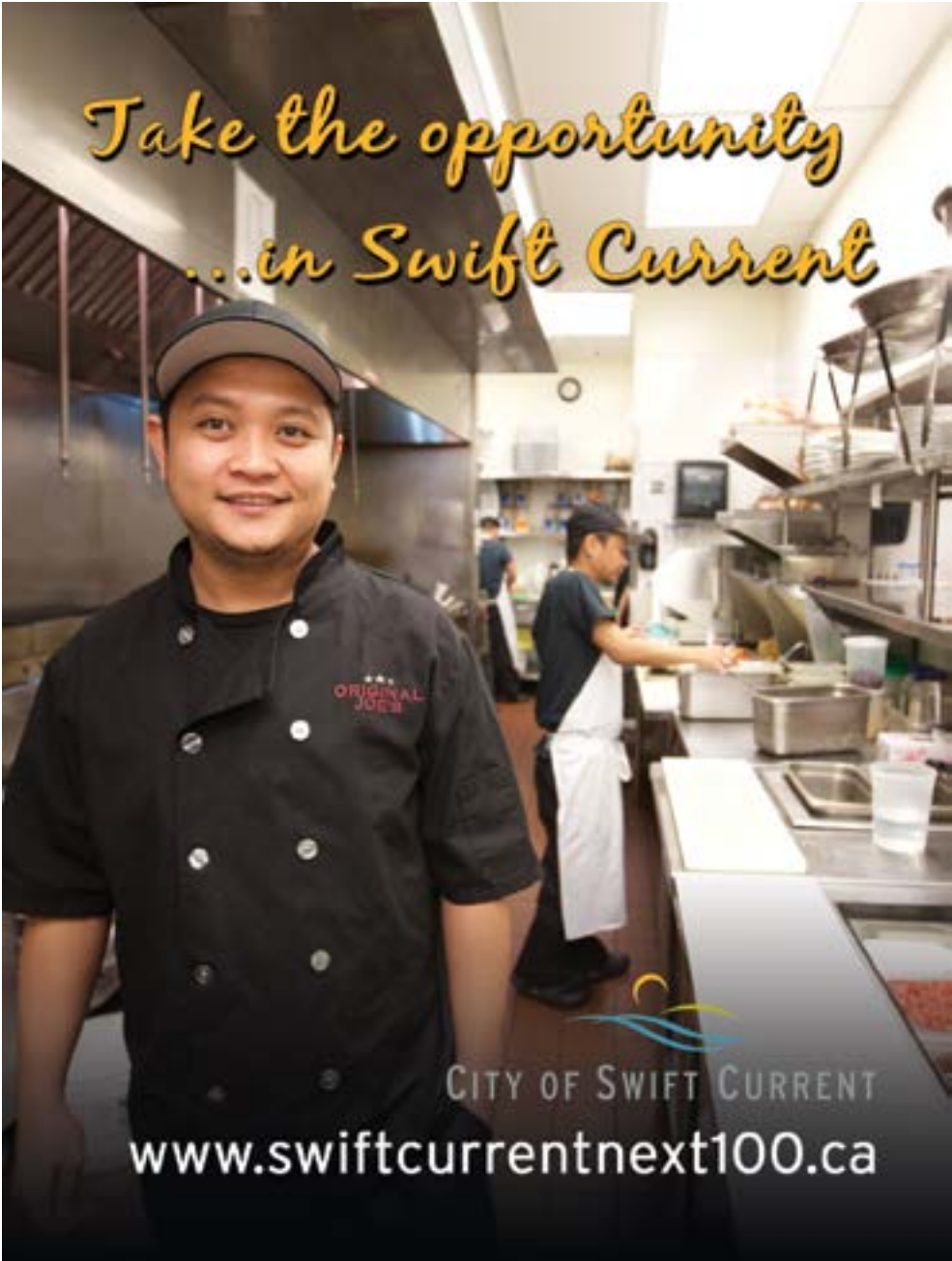
Canada's alternate is Susan O'Connor and its coach is Charley Thomas. Russia's alternate is Alina Kovaleva and its coaches are Rodger Schmidt and Svetlana Kalalb.



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▶ A loud, proud contingent of Swiss fans cheered their team into the playoffs.

▼ Canadian fans had lots to cheer about during the round-robin.



# The World Women's Curling Championship Fandemonium!



▶ A young Canadian fan beams support to the team.

▶ Curling is a great opportunity to bring out the curls.



▶ This curling fan customizes his beard for whichever team is signing autographs that day.



▶ Everything about the World Women's Curling Championship is just ducky for these Canadian fans.



Michael Burns crisscrosses the country taking photos at Curling Canada events.



# To Russia with love

## Californian may be their biggest fan

By **CAM HUTCHINSON**

Eye Opener Associate Editor

**B**rian Kreizenbeck discovered curling while watching the 2010 Winter Olympics.

The Californian, as any good American would, was cheering for the United States at those Games. His loyalty started to change, however, as he watched a young Russian team play. Three members of that team — Anna Sidorova, Margarita Fomina and Nkeiruka Ezeh — are playing here this week.

Kreizenbeck started following his new favourite team on his computer.

"I'm a big fan of World Curling TV because they keep the (games) on forever," he said at the Credit Union iPLEX earlier this week.

One day, Kreizenbeck, a cook in Mount Shasta, and a friend were watching the 2014 European championships and having a couple of beers, when his buddy suggested Kreizenbeck go watch the Russians play.

Not a bad idea, Kreizenbeck thought.

He got on his computer that night and booked a flight and hotel in Esbjerg, Denmark, where the 2015 European championship were going to be played.

"I made it through the summer and when November rolled around, I got on that plane and went to Esbjerg, and had the best time of

my life."

He met the team in Denmark.

"I was walking out after I got my tickets and they were walking by and I said something like, 'I came all the way from California to watch you guys play,' and they kind of looked at me funny. But (coach) Rodger (Schmidt) said, 'Oh really, that's very cool, and he came over and shook my hand.'"

They would talk a number of times during the championships and again here.

Kreizenbeck has had more time to watch curling now that his two sons have graduated from college. He is trying to put together a group to go to Scotland in November for the Europeans.

He was sold on Scotland when he met some of its country's curling fans in Denmark.

He was invited to a party hosted by the Scottish fans. Three of the women from that party are in Swift Current now.

"I ran into them here and we've sat down and talked a few times. Curling is like a big family."

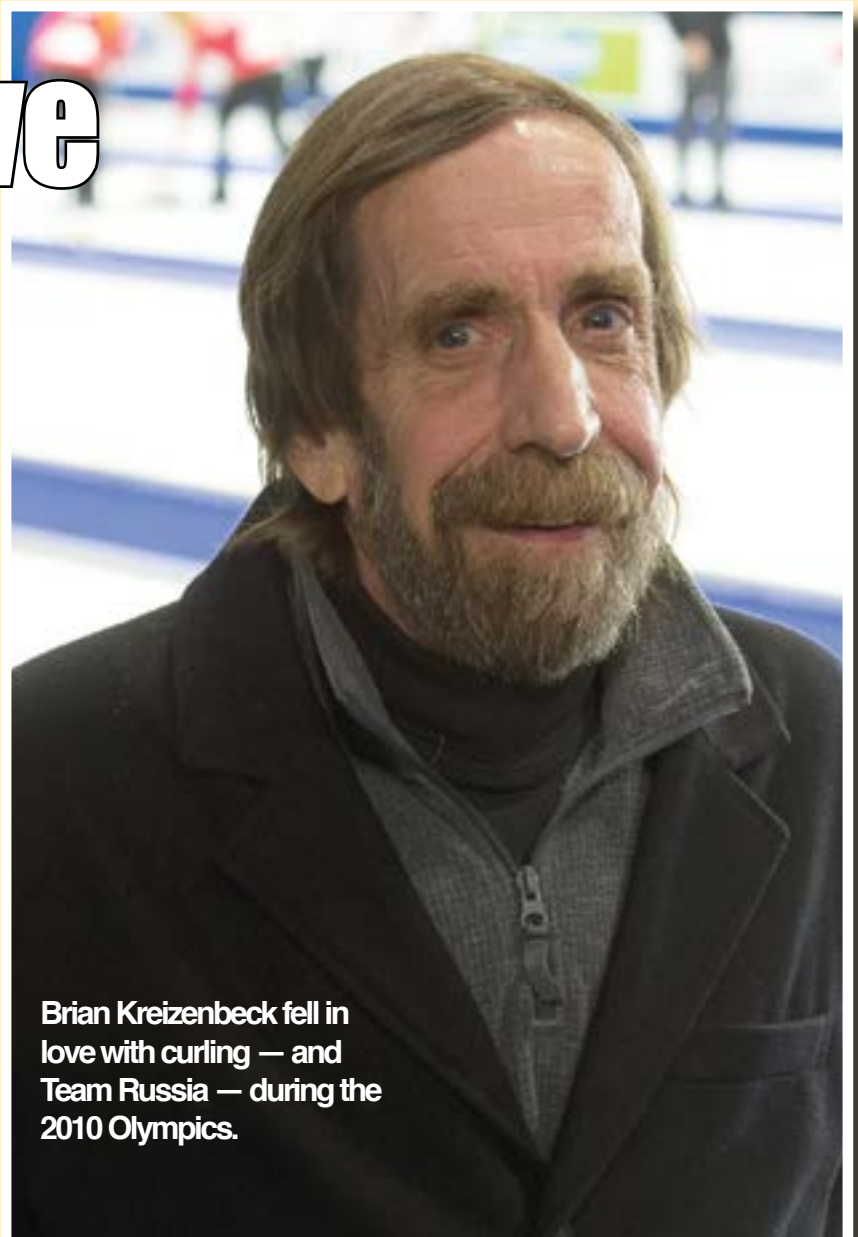
While in Denmark, Kreizenbeck fessed up and told his party hosts that he was cheering for Russia.

In a whisper they said, "That's OK."

Kreizenbeck has never curled and really has no desire to try the game.



**See RUSSIA  
Page 15**



**Brian Kreizenbeck fell in love with curling — and Team Russia — during the 2010 Olympics.**

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## ROCK CANDY

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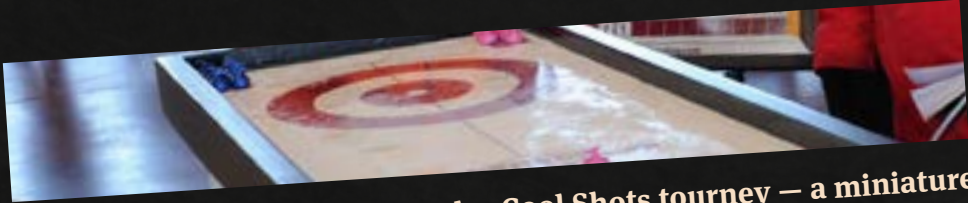


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— Angus McStone

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They will sing songs of this day! Here’s what you’re saying at the Ford World Women’s Curling Championship!. Psst... want to be featured here? Add your voice to the roar on social media!



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“The fans are getting behind their teams and having alot of fun at the Ford World Women’s Curling Championship 2016 in Swift Current, Canada.” #wwcc2016






teamdriendl


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“

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AT THE 2014 FORD WORLD  
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”

A: TEAM SWITZERLAND

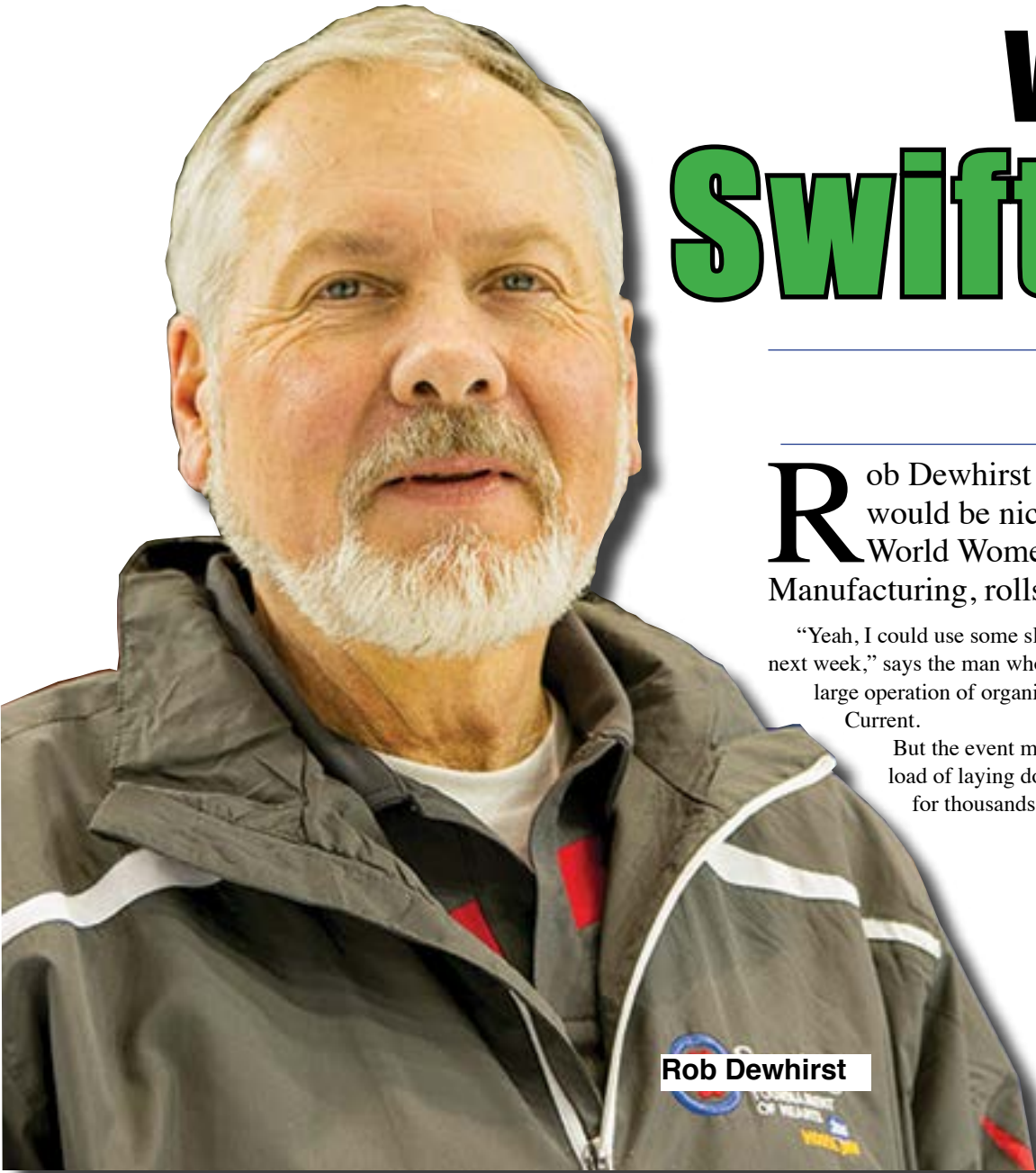
“

CURRENTLY, BOTH  
THIS TEAM’S SKIP AS  
WELL AS HER BROTHER  
HOLD THE HIGHEST  
TITLES IN CURLING IN  
THEIR COUNTRY

”

A: TEAM FINLAND





Rob Dewhirst

# Well done Swift Current!

By DAVE KOMOSKY  
*Eye Opener Editor*

**R**ob Dewhirst looked tired, admitted he was, and suggested that it would be nice to finally kick off his shoes and relax once the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, sponsored by Meridian Manufacturing, rolls out of town.

"Yeah, I could use some sleep, but that will happen next week," says the man who has overseen the very large operation of organizing the event in Swift Current. But the event manager admits the workload of laying down the welcome mat for thousands of curling fans has been

satisfying . . . very satisfying. "It's been a really good week," said Dewhirst. "I think what's most satisfying is watching it all come together. To watch people do the hard work of getting this building set up and ready, then the athletes and fans show up, and then to see the building full and people watching the sport and enjoying themselves.



**It's been a really good week. I think what's most satisfying is watching it all come together.**

— Rob Dewhirst

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Some of the 513 volunteers who made this event a success.

Very satisfying.”

Dewhirst admits his buttons have been popping over the performance of his committee and the bang-up job of his army of 513 volunteers. And the venue, Credit Union iplex, has been a wonderful place to hold this international event, as he knew it would.

And Swift Current? Well, what can be better than a city that embraced the event in 2010, and would love to have it back here again as soon as possible?

In fact, the table was beautifully set for this championship. Most everything planned was spot-on.

Which is why, with the event winding

down to its final hours, Dewhirst was in a upbeat mood.

“I think operationally we’ve done a tremendous job, due to the work of all kinds of partners and stakeholders,” he said. “And all the wonderful volunteers.”

“We started organizing a little over a year ago and three volunteers stepped up to be vice-chairs. They recruited another thirty-some committee heads who, as directors, organized committees to work on all aspects of this event.”

Dewhirst had particular praise for his three co-chairs, Kelly Schafer (facilities), Sheena Gatzke (volunteers and special events) and David Spencer (hosting).

Dewhirst admits it helped that Swift Current hosted this event in 2010, so the town was squarely behind it and the volunteer base ready to roll.

“It definitely did (help),” he said. “It’s great to have the positive experience of 2010. That event was so good, so it leads to a good repeat. The community understood us and had stories about how much fun it was. That really got us off to a quick start to this event.”

Dewhirst also caught a few breaks. The weather was pretty good for this time of year, and Canada’s Chelsea Carey snuck into the playoffs, assuring added interest for the stretch drive.

“We may be indoors but we’re not weather-proof,” said Dewhirst.

The Patch was a huge hit, right from the start.

“It was pretty phenomenal,” Dewhirst said. “Last night was a perfect example of a great crowd of curling fans enjoying the socializing and fun after the curling.”

The event has been so well received in Swift Current that Dewhirst wouldn’t be surprised to see another major event come to town in the not-so-distant future.

“I would say that we’re having such good experiences here with our fans, our facilities, and the volunteers, that it speaks well for future events to come.”

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# Sweepless

## In Seattle

By **CAM HUTCHINSON**  
*Eye Opener Associate Editor*

Some of our favourite sleeping, er, sweeping movies. You've no doubt heard of Sweepless in Seattle? Here are some less famous films.

**Where Did You Sweep Last Night?**  
An expose on the secret lives of curlers.

**Sweeping Beauty**  
The story of curling in Russia.

**Nice Guys Sweep Alone**  
A documentary on directional sweeping.

**To Sweep with Anger**  
The story of a young John Morris.

**Fish Never Sweep**  
A film starring Ryan Fry.

**At Dawn They Sweep**  
The story of early-morning draws.

**The Bear That Couldn't Sweep**  
A short film on Kevin Martin.

**Sweep My Love**  
The story of Jennifer Jones and Brent Laing.

**Who Needs Sweep**  
A documentary on mixed doubles curling.

**Before I Sweep:**  
Ben Hebert explaining his pre-game routine.

**The Power of Sweep**  
A movie starring Joanne Courtney.

**Talking in Your Sweep:**  
A compilation of TSN out takes.

**Miles to Go Before I Sweep**  
The story of European rinks travelling to North America.

**Two Beds and No Sweep:**  
An account of skips rooming together.

**Is It OK to Sweep with Another Man's Wife?**  
(1992): A documentary on the Continental Cup.

**Other titles:**  
**Sweep No More** (Invasion of the Body Snatchers) (1956)  
**The Big Sweep** (1946/1978)  
**Chasing Sweep** (2000)  
**Sweepers** (1996)  
**Sweeping Beauty** (1959)  
**Doctor Sweep** (2002): The story of Dr. Jim Armstrong who won multiple awards during his career.  
**Sweepless in Seattle** (1993)  
**Sweepwalking** (2008)  
**The Sweep Room** (1998)  
**Sweep with Me** (1994)



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# Q&A

## With volunteers

Tell us a memory or impression from your time here volunteering.

"At the opening ceremony, when all the volunteers walked in, we got to see how many people it took to run the event, and how Swift Current came together for this. It's impressive how the area can pull it off!"

— Ally Pilkey  
Gameday Co-ordinator



"Thursday night it was impressive to see Canada walk in and have so much fan support. That was great, even though I'm here to cheer for Sweden! I saw Sweden didn't have many fans, and I love the country. Some Swedish fans gave me a flag and a skip's T-shirt, so that was great."

— Daiton Greenway  
Arena Rocks and Ice



"It was all so good, seeing all the people being so happy. Well, maybe not always happy; there's the emotion of the event. I liked hearing all the cheers and ahhs. It all comes with the excitement."

— Faye Rister  
Programs



"I enjoyed Thursday night when they played the national anthem but toned it down so everyone could sing. I like to think that it helped out Team Canada because before that they seemed down in the dumps a bit. The amount of people who showed up is nuts."

— Klarke Braaten  
Arena Rocks and Ice



"Meeting Joan McCusker (former Olympic gold medalist with Sandra Schmirler and now CBC curling commentator). I was doing stats and she was one down from me and we had a good visit. She's an awesome lady."

— Myrna Gehl  
Stats



"I enjoyed seeing how well the community comes together. When I watch what happens in The Patch, I see how this region pulled this all off, and I see that it's because of the people here. I marvel at how we did it!"

— Sally Wiens  
Stats



## EYE OPENER

**Editor** — Dave Komosky

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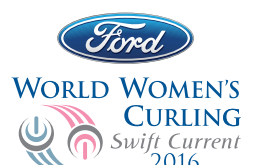
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# CURLING QUIZ

1. She said it: "Curling is a very intense, strategic sport that, like golf, can never be perfected and keeps you coming back for more."

a) Chelsea Carey.  
b) Amy Nixon.  
c) Eve Muirhead.  
d) Erika Brown.

2. Former world champion Colleen Jones was a favorite of the media during her much-decorated career because she often fed them juicy quotes. One year, the Canadian skip delighted news scavengers when she told them this:

a) She could imitate Meg Ryan's fake orgasm in the movie When Harry Met Sally.  
b) She had been asked to pose in Playboy.

c) She was giving up curling in order to operate an escort service in Halifax.  
d) She smoked a joint after every game.

3. True or false: German skip Daniela Driendl speaks seven languages.

4. The term "burnt stone" refers to:

a) Keith Richards.  
b) Mick Jagger.  
c) Charlie Watts.  
d) A stone in motion that is touched by a player or their equipment.

5. Canadian third Amy Nixon has this university degree:

a) Bachelor of Kinesiology.  
b) Bachelor of Arts.  
c) Bachelor of Law.  
d) All of the above.

ANSWERS:

1. That's American skip Erika Brown talking.  
2. Colleen Jones caused quite a stir with the media when she claimed she could pull off a fake orgasm every bit as good as Meg Ryan. "Any woman can," she cheekily told scribes.  
3. False. Like many Europeans, Daniela Driendl is multilingual and she speaks three languages—English, German and French.  
4. Mick, Keith and Charlie might be burnt-out Stones, but a burnt stone is one illegally handled by a curler.  
5. Amy Nixon is a very clever woman and has three (count 'em, three) university degrees.

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## Rocks 'n lochs

A Scottish curling love story

By MIKE CONNORS  
*Tankard Times Contributor*

Most of the Canadians fell in love with curling in a quonset hut rink or a more modern take on that concept. It's quaintly Canadian and part of curling's heritage.

Harkening back to Scotland's deep curling roots, one couple fell in love with the game on the frozen end of one of Scotland's lochs during an especially cold winter in 1968.

"We didn't know anything about curling until we moved to a rural part of Scotland," said Robbie Scott, who's here with his wife Kathleen. "The local farmer, gamekeeper and forester were going out in the evening with two large pieces of granite, a broom, a Tilley lamp, and often a bottle of whiskey. We decided we must go see what's going on."

That was 48 years ago. Today, Robbie and Kathleen find themselves in Swift Current from beginning to end for the World Women's. This is their 32nd major tournament. They didn't only fall in love with curling during that cold winter; they committed to it and have since found much joy.

It all started with an invitation when they went out onto the loch.

"These elderly men said: 'Come have a shot!' But the ice was cracking and we were worried about falling through," said Kathleen. "They assured us that the ice that was cracking was actually really good ice. Then we started playing outdoors with them. We got a bug for the game."

The pair eventually became members of the Dunkheld Curling Club, which might ring a bell for Eve Muirhead and team Scotland fans out there.

In 1968, when the pair started on the loch near Pitlochry, curling looked far different from what we see today. The couple's first sight of the sport would've observed a 'dolly' to mark the centre of the house, with circles scraped into the ice. And there was no hack. Instead, a curler would stand on a metal platform, or 'crampet' as it was called, and swing the granite stone with both hands, releasing it from a standing position instead of sliding down the ice to release it.

Still, the fundamentals were in place, along with good company and good whiskey.



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The Saskatchewan Indian Gaming Authority (SIGA) and its Living Sky Casino are a proud Diamond Sponsor of the Ford World Women's Curling Championships. As an official partner of the Ford World Women's Curling Championships, we offer our sincere congratulations to the women participating in this event, and celebrate this remarkable achievement with them. Thank you to the volunteers and sponsors for their contributions towards the success of this event. SIGA and its casinos are building stronger communities by Sharing Success. We are proud of our value Wĭtaskêwin that speaks to the sharing of our land and its resources. SIGA is a proud non-profit; 100% of profits are re-invested back into our communities. For more information visit SIGA.sk.ca.







Colleen Jones survived a very serious health issue.

# Jones embraces ‘second chance’

By **TED WYMAN**  
*Eye Opener Contributor*

She stood atop a world championship podium twice, wore Canadian colours six times and represented her beloved home province of Nova Scotia on dozens of occasions.

And yet, for Colleen Jones, the most significant moment of her illustrious curling career may have come in 2013, when just stepping on the ice at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts at age 52 held deep meaning.

“I didn’t think I’d ever be back there at that stage,” Jones said.

In 2010, Jones had a health scare that nearly took her life. What she thought was a cold or flu turned out to be bacterial meningitis, a condition that can be fatal in just a few hours and can leave survivors with brain damage, deafness, blindness and paralysis.

The life-saving treatment was only half the battle. It was discovered she had a small hole in the lining of her brain that allowed the bacteria to enter her system. Brain surgery was required.

She survived, recovered, and had an epiphany about her life. She had so much gratitude for getting a second chance and everything she did took on new meaning.

That’s why throwing second stones for Mary-Anne Arsenault’s Nova Scotia team at the 2013 Scotties in Kingston, Ont., meant so much to her.

“It was so wonderful to be back on that stage,” Jones said. “It just meant so much to be to be back home. To be back in there, looking around and taking it all in, in different context from normal, being able to say ‘I am lucky to just be back here.’”

It was at the 2013 Scotties that Jones was approached by author Perry Lefko about writing a book. The idea led to *Throwing Rocks at Houses* (Viking Canada), which Jones co-wrote with Lefko and is on bookshelves now.

In the book, Jones tells of growing up in Halifax with seven sisters and a brother, with parents who supported her pursuit of curling success but never pushed her.

“We had two curling teams in the house and a spare, if my brother wanted to play on the girls team,” Jones laughed. “It was a pretty supportive environment but my parents never came to the games to stand behind the glass. That kind of gave us a freedom as kids to make mistakes without judgement and that was a pretty huge advantage.”

A large part of the book is devoted to striking a balance between her family life with husband Scott and sons Zach and Luke, her professional life as a CBC reporter and weather personality and a curling career that made her one of the greatest women’s skips of all time.

She won her first Nova Scotia championship at age 19 and her first Canadian title at 22. She went on to win Nova Scotia 15 more times and was the Scotties champion five more times, despite going 17 years between her first and second titles.

“Definitely the 1982 win in Regina at the first Scotties, shaped my life,” Jones said. “That was the catalyst for everything else that came about. If you find that magic once, you can find it again.”

Jones, with teammates Kim Kelly, Arsenault and Nacny Delahunt, won five Canadian championship in six years from 1999 to 2004 and took world titles in 2001 and 2004.

At the height of her success Jones was often criticized by fans for her defensive style and one of her in-game habits: chewing gum.

“My problem is I chewed like a cow and I can see why people would say ‘What are you doing?’ Jones laughed.

“(The criticism) never bothered me. I chewed gum to relieve stress. Just having something else to do.”

Jones had a funny story from her book signing event at a curling club in Burlington, Ont.

“I never ever chew gum outside of a curling event, but the person I was with gave me gum because I had just had clams with garlic. So I just had a quick bit of gum to get rid of this fish taste and a man came up to me and said ‘I just won \$25 ... I had a bet that you’d be chewing gum!’

After what she’s been through, even those kinds of moments are just a little more special.

## Russia

FROM PAGE 7

“I think I would probably fall over and make a fool of myself,” he said with a laugh.

Kreizenbeck has a connection with Saskatchewan. It’s a small world after all. His father was born in Moose Jaw. In the years after the First World War, his grandparents moved to Canada from Minnesota to farm.

With the devastation in Europe, there was starvation. The Kreizenbecks wanted to do their part and headed northwest to grow wheat.

With the stock market crash in 1929 and wheat suddenly being worth next to nothing, the family packed up and moved to California.

As far as the curling this weekend goes, Kreizenbeck thinks the Russian team will be hard to beat.

“When they’re good, nobody can touch them,” he said.

Russia and Canada play in the Page 3-4 game at 2 p.m. today.

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# Give me the goods!

*Sales show size of Swift Current party*

**By MICHAEL CONNORS**  
*Eye Opener Contributor*

As the tournament swings into playoff mode, there's one thing emerging as a surefire win: sales have been strong across all concessions, in the merchandise shop and The Patch.

And with most tickets sold for the final weekend, the good times should continue to roll.

"I didn't think it would be as crazy as it is," said Nancy Bakus, concession manager for the Credit Union iplex. "It's just awesome, totally great."

Two indicators of success for the concessions come from the 200 pounds of popcorn and the 600 or so hamburgers being sold per day on average.

And in The Patch, across both the food kiosks and bar, things are on the up.

"A lot of people who weren't here in 2010 are here now," said Jeff Chambers, manager of The Patch. "They made a point of coming this time."

Chambers, who is also the golf pro at Elmwood Golf Course in Swift Current, has reprised his role as manager, being invited back after the success of the 2010 Worlds.

"We expect to exceed sales from 2010," he said. "We were budgeted for \$120,000 last time, and did \$300,000. This time we expect to do better."

Chambers says that Coors Banquet has been their number one seller, followed by Coors Light and Molson Canadian. As for hard spirits, vodka is the top choice, followed by spiced rum and rye.

"Players will start coming in now," he said. "That's when it will start to get really cool. People love to dance and party with the athletes."

As for memorabilia, the merchandise shop has restocked twice and many things remain sold out.

"I'm happy; it's been a very good year," said manager Brenda Gibson, who's been overseeing sales at sporting events since 2003 and was here in 2010. "Merchandise went over well back then as now."

Sold out are official shot glasses, curling rock hats and Christmas ornaments.

"We're very happy on how it's going so far," said Chambers. "The afternoon crowds have been great. And, of course, in the evening it's been crazy — last Saturday was off the charts. And we expect the last few days will be big. Lots of partying."



Food and merchandise sales are through the roof. 'I didn't think it would be as crazy as it is,' said concession manager Nancy Bakus.



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