

# THE MORNING COUPERDIAN PORTING PROPRIES PORTING PORT





December 4th, 2016 • Brandon, Manitoba

**Reid Carruthers** 

### ES AND GENTLEMEN, LET'S GET BEADY TO ....



**Rachel Homan** 



# \_2016 CANADA CUP NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 4 Men's semifinal

# Carruthers sweats out win



### **SCOREBOARD**

MEN'S SEMIFINAL

Team Carruthers...... 010 202 000 01 — 6 Team Epping...... 000 010 210 10 − 5

Carruthers SH		PTS %		Epping	SH	PTS %	
Hodgson	22	78	89	March	22	84	95
Samagalski	22	78	89	Janssen	22	68	77
Moskowy	22	84	95	Camm	22	85	97
Carruthers	22	74	84	Epping	22	80	91

**Reid Carruthers** has some interested spectators behind him after delivering his rock.

### Epping's rise from the dead falls just short in extra end

#### By GRANT GRANGER

(Morning Cup Associate Editor)

eid Carruthers has been to one of the highest peaks in the curling world before as one of the climbers. On Sunday, he hopes to take a step toward reaching the summit as the team leader.

Carruthers, who played second for the Jeff Stoughton squad that won the 2011 Ford World Men's Curling Championship in Regina, on Saturday night led his Winnipeg team into the final of the 2016 Home Hardware Canada Cup, presented by Meridian Manufacturing. After frittering away a 5-1 lead in the semifinal, Carruthers manage to edge Toronto's John Epping 6-5 in a tense extra end.

"We can learn a lot from that game. We felt the full nerves we're going to feel (Sunday) in the final, so we have to take this as a learning experience and go have a good rest," said Carruthers.

The Carruthers crew will take on Brad Gushue's team from St. John's, NL, skipped by Mark Nichols, who played third for Stoughton alongside Nichols for two seasons (2012-2014), in the final Sunday night. Both teams finished the seven-team round robin with 4-2 records.

In addition to the first-place prize money of \$14,000, the winners will receive a berth into the 2017 Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings curling trials in Ottawa a year from now, an important plateau en route to the ultimate peak. It's something both Carruthers and Nichols, who is filling in at skip for the injured Gushue, want badly.

"He's my former roommate so I know a lot about him," said Carruthers of Nichols. "We're going to have to play even a little sharper than we did tonight. We had some really good ends, but that's the beauty of 10 ends, you can't take a couple off."

For most of the round-robin, Carruthers, third Braeden Moskowy, second Derek Samagalski, lead Colin Hodgson and coach Dan Carey, were immersed in intense, tight games. Relaxing was not an option, at least not until they returned to their hotel rooms. Five

of their games were grind-it-out skirmishes. They managed to win three of them and lose two close encounters. It just so happens the only game the team breezed through was its first, upending Epping easily 8-3 in eight ends.

Despite that victory, Saturday's semifinal wasn't supposed to be easy. After losing its first three games, Epping's team responded with four consecutive wins, including a 7-5 tiebreaker victory over Saskatoon's Steve Laycock earlier Saturday.

Epping, third Mat Camm, second Pat Janssen, lead Tim March and coach Jim Wilson went from stone cold to white hot. Until Saturday night. At least the first half of the game.

The semifinal seemed to turn heavily in Carruthers' favour in the fourth end when Epping, facing three, was forced to draw the four-foot just to get one. His draw, though, slid too far and he surrendered a steal of two to trail 3-0. Carruthers kept up the pressure in the fourth end and had Epping facing four as he drew the button to score one in the fifth end.

In the sixth, Carruthers bolted out to a 5-1 lead. It could have been worse if Epping hadn't made a double with his last shot.

But just as it looked like Carruthers was going to breeze into Sunday's final it turned tight, just like it did all week. Epping managed to pick up two in the seventh end to trail 5-3 when it looked like he'd only be able to get

In the eighth, even though Carruthers had five rocks in the house, Epping welded his final shot to one of his own at the top of the button to sit two. Carruthers threw heavy weight at it but only managed to eliminate one reducing his lead to 5-4.

Despite a sweet double and roll partially behind cover by Epping with his final shot, Carruthers managed to spill it to blank the ninth end. Carruthers had an opportunity to finish Epping off with a draw that had relatively clear path to the button with Epping's shot rock as backing. But it didn't curl enough and just brushed it to go too far for an Epping steal forcing the extra end at 5-5.

In the 11th, Carruthers had a similar draw to the one he had in the 10th end but this time he wasn't going to miss.

# That's all folks!

You've been reading the *Morning Cup* newspaper for five days, but it's a sad fact we never put out a final edition, chronicling the final games.

It's not that we don't want to. We do. We're newspaper people. We want to get the final story.

But with the Keystone Centre seats empty and the Patch deserted on the post-event Monday, it makes no sense to produce a paper.

So that means today curling fans who have been reading about the Home Hardware Canada Cup, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, in the *Morning Cup* will have to find the final results elsewhere, beginning with the Curling Canada's website. You will find everything you need right there at www.curling.ca

You can always pick up a copy of the *Brandon Sun*, which was one of the event's many great sponsors.

Our next print production will be the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in St.

Catharines, Ont. Hopefully there will be plenty of our Ontario readers on hand to pick up the first edition of the *Heart Chart*, hot off the press. And if not, they can always read our papers online on the Curling Canada website.

But before we go, we want to thank a bunch of people who have helped us get the paper out to you on a brief, but daily basis.

Of course, we'd like to thank the competitors for their time and courtesy. It's hard to talk to reporters after a tough loss, but these folks do it consistently and without complaint.

We'd also like to thank all the volunteers who worked the media room, our print partners at the *Winnipeg Free Press*, event manager Neil Houston of Vancouver for his help and guidance, and communications director Al Cameron for his assistance

But mostly we'd like to thank you, the readers, for your interest.

# MERIDIAN MANUFACTURING INC. PRESENTING SPONSOR OF THE 2016 HOME HARDWARE CANADA CUP



### Meridian is proud to be the presenting sponsor of the 2016

Home Hardware Canada Cup! As a dedicated supporter of local communities across Canada, it is our pleasure to support one of our nation's most beloved sports and welcome fans and participants to the vibrant and warm-hearted community of Brandon.

#### **Glenn Friesen**

Senior Vice President – Sales and Marketing, Meridian Manufacturing Inc.





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The crowds enjoyed a rockin' good time.





ou come to expect certain truths in this world. You expect to drop your toast jamside down. You expect dust balls under your bed, surprise company at dinnertime and a politician to speak out of both sides of his or her mouth.

And you certainly expect Brandon to put up a cracking good curling show.

The Brandon organizing committee delivered exactly what it advertised, and the sport is much better for it.

So, with the finish line in sight, it's time to hand out our annual awards for the best of the

best this week, and things that stood out. The awards were introduced by former editor Larry Wood, and we keep the tradition alive today.

Al Hackner shot of the week No. 1- It came all the way back on the first draw. It was in the 10th end and Brad Jacobs trailed Mike McEwen 4-3. Jacobs could have gone for a relatively easy draw to the eight-foot to force an extra end but he opted for a long double across the house to score two for the 5-4 win.

**Best shot runner-up** – This time Jacobs was the victim. In the fifth end of Saturday morn-

ing's tiebreaker, he'd buried a shot behind what appeared to be lots of cover, but Steve Laycock made an extremely precise pick to not only get rid of it but also knock out Jacobs' other rock in the house to score five.

**Only in Brandon Award** – An elite national curling event in the same complex and the same time as the *Good as Gold Hereford Sale* and the *Keystone Classic Angus Sale*.



See ENVELOPES OPPOSITE PAGE



### **Envelopes**

#### FROM PAGE 4

Best performer in the role of a skip – In the absence of Brad Gushue, Mark Nichols has strategized, executed and performed as well as any world-class skip in recent years.

**Best upset** – Kerri Einarson's 8-5 shocker over top-ranked Rachel Homan in Draw 3 of opening day. In its first trip to the Home Hardware Canada Cup, Einarson's Winnipeg squad proved it belonged.

**Biggest freefall** – The Jacobs team went from tied atop the standings Friday morning to heading home 24 hours later.

**Biggest shock** – Who'd a thunk defending champion and reigning world champ Kevin Koe would finish in the basement? But that's how strong the field was here.

Four-star Awards – At the 2015 Home Hardware Canada Cup in Grande Prairie there were nine four enders. Here there were seven – four by men's teams – in the first four draws but none after that until the Laycock five Saturday morning (see above). No team had more than one

four-ender, although Chelsea Carey and John Epping were victims of two each.

Best quote – As always, lots of contenders. We'll give this one to McEwen. Insightful and funny. His best lines came after Thursday morning's win following two losses Wednesday: "We're an old married team. We just went out for a couple of beers and some wine and today's a new day. We know how to make ourselves feel better."

The ice — No complaints from the players, which is typical. Ice techs are so good at their jobs that ice conditions have become a non-factor at the big events these days.

The attendance —That would have to be 'excellent' considering Brandon will break the attendance record for the event. With the addition of a tiebreaker draw, attendance should hit around the 40,000 mark. Once again, well done Brandon.

The weather — A mixed bag. A mini storm blew in Monday, causing some white-knuckle driving for teams coming in from the Winnipeg airport,

but it cleared nicely, with temperatures mild for this time of the year on the Prairies.

The venue — They could hold the Canada Cup at the Westman Communications Group Place, Keystone Centre, every year. There's space galore for everything, including the Patch, and a warm connection to the hotel and restaurants was welcomed relief.

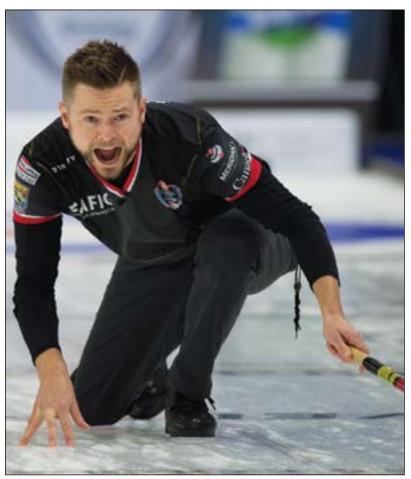
The volunteers — First-rate, of course. They wouldn't be volunteers otherwise. Brandonites have always stepped up to volunteer for these events, which is why the city keeps getting them. Betcha they get another soon.

The restaurants — The Keg, right across the street, serves a great prime rib, but Tavern United in the Canad Inns can't be beat for their wings. Yummy!

**The Patch** — Could have been busier during the week, but it was rockin' Friday and Saturday night.

**Opening night banquet** — One of the best in recent memory. The Bison was excellent.

Media coverage — Attendance is dropping off year-by-year, but TSN does its usual marvellous job of bringing the game to the rest of Canada. As for the print guys, the *Brandon Sun* had it all covered, along with, ahem, the *Morning Cup*.



Winnipeg's Mike McEwen didn't make the playoffs this week, but he was one of the best quotes.







## 2016 CANADA CUP NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 4

# A big 'thanks' to the sponsors

want to say a big thank you today to our title sponsor — Home Hardware. It is not so a much a note of thanks for their sponsorship, although that is very much appreciated.

Rather, it is a note of thanks for the way this national sponsor has adapted a uniquely

approach to their sponsorship this week.

Just as the event host committee includes Brandon volunteers along with volunteers from many other communities,



Home Hardware dealer/owners in four rural western Manitoba communities joined forces this week with their Brandon colleague to create a unique approach to their participation.

Together, Brandon, Carberry, Minnedosa, Neepawa and Onanole store owners, their staff members, and you curling fans who dropped

by their display on the east concourse have assembled a legacy donation from this event of about \$3,000 (the actual total won't be known until the end of the event) to Curling Canada's charitable foundation — For the Love of Curling.

You created the donation with your \$2 donations for the chance to spin the Home Hardware wheel and win a clapper or a cowbell, and you grew it when you made it a \$20 bill instead of a twoonie. Just so you know, all of the donations will go to the Foundation.

Donations to the Foundation are used to fund grassroots curling club development, programs designed to attract a new generation of curlers to our clubs, and other initiatives including scholarships for young curlers. Our new Under-18 Championship is a by-product of the foundation program. (For complete information and to donate go to curling.ca/ilovecurling).

I also want to express our appreciation to Presenting Sponsor Meridian Manufacturing a North American agricultural manufacturing company with a tie to western Manitoba. Meridian's support of the Brandon and area curling community is appreciated.

A new curling sponsor also merits special attention here. Ambrosia Apples has joined the family of curling sponsors this season with support for this week's Home Hardware Canada Cup and for last week's Travelers Club Championship. They will also be Presenting Sponsor of the Canadian Juniors in early January in Victoria.

Ambrosia brought 2,000 apples to Brandon for people to taste-test. I know I did my share, and if you did yours, you know this wonderful new apple is one you should be looking for in the store.

While it is not possible to identify every sponsor by name here, I do want to express Curling Canada's appreciation to all of the national, provincial, and regional sponsors who have supported this Season of Champions event.

At Curling Canada we realize, however, these sponsors are like the tip of the iceberg. They are the visible ones — the sponsors with TV spots and signage and ads here in the Morning Cup. The rest, the ones we don't see at events such as this one, are the small

town businesses right across the country who help keep their local curling clubs in business. From Curling Canada — a note of thanks to each of you.

I learned, through my years of helping with major events here in Brandon, that sponsors do not expect their contribution to 'buy' your business but they do hope it buys them the opportunity to earn your business. Whether your need is one of the hundreds of products on the Home Hardware store shelf, one of the grain bins or other products from Meridian or more simply Ambrosia apples at the grocery store — please give curling's sponsors a chance to earn your business.

A FINAL NOTE: It has been a real privilege for me to come home to Brandon to represent Curling Canada at the Home Hardware Canada Cup. I have enjoyed the opportunity to make this addition to the Morning Cup.

I have truly enjoyed visiting with old friends this week and I thank each of you for taking the time to say hello and share memories.











# Exit a real 'eye-opener'

By GRANT GRANGER

(Morning Cup Associate Editor)

urling fans at the 2016 Home Hardware Canada Cup, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, got some bonus entertainment Saturday with three tiebreaker games.

A three-team tie for the third and final playoff spot in the men's round robin necessitated two extra games, while there was one on the women's side.

Brad Jacobs, Steve Laycock and John Epping all completed the seven-team men's round robin with three wins and three losses.

Jacobs and Laycock battled in the opening draw to unravel the logjam. Laycock prevailed 9-3 thanks to a five-ender in the fifth. It was the third consecutive loss for Jacobs, whose team went from being tied for top spot Friday morning and heading home 24 hours later, and still in search of a berth into next year's Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings curling trials in Ottawa.

"This is an eye-opener for us," said Jacobs. "We've got to get a lot better if we expect to be in the Olympic Trials a year from now. We've got a lot of hard work ahead of us. I know we're committed to doing whatever it takes in

### Jacobs shuffled out the door

order to play better. We've got to be a lot more consistent. It's back to the drawing board, the four of us with our coach, our sports psych, and I'm confident we can get better."

Epping then advanced to Saturday night's semifinal by downing Laycock's Saskatoon squad 7-5 in the afternoon.

Epping jumped out to a 3-0 lead after two ends with a deuce in the first and a steal in the second. In addition, Epping executed an excellent in-off from the wings to punch out Laycock's rock on the button and score two in the fifth end for a 5-2 lead to take control.

"We got a deuce back pretty quick (in the fourth end) after that. Playing from tied versus down one without the hammer, that's a really tough place. You've got to gamble a lot and we gambled a couple of times, and he made the shot to get deuce instead of just the one. That hurt us big," said Laycock.

"We're here chasing the Trials, which this is pretty much the exact field it will be, so we're mid-path and we need to get just that much better and get a chance at a playoff."

The morning bonus round also featured Winnipeg's Kerri Einarson downing 2015 finalist Val Sweeting of Edmonton 8-6 in a battle of two 3-3 teams seeking to earn the right to face Ottawa's Rachel Homan in Saturday afternoon's semifinal.

The teams headed to the 10th end tied 6-6 with Einarson holding the hammer. On Sweeting's first shot, sweeper Dana Ferguson, Sweeting's second, fell and burned the rock.

"She's got a big bump on her knee actually. I think she had it come down on the rock, but I don't know if that would have changed the outcome of the game because I think I was light anyway," said Sweeting, who was caught by cameras gasping as Ferguson fell.

"The girls have fallen before, but they've never actually fallen on the rock. The first thing I was just concerned about how she felt. She came down really hard on her elbow."

Sweeting's squad lost its first two games before managing to make its way back into the playoff picture.

"We felt like a cat with nine lives and didn't have one more. The team played really well," said Sweeting. "Overall, I'm just proud of our team. We had a lot of up and downs this week but the fact we scrapped together almost another win, I'm really proud of our team."



We've got to get a lot better if we expect to be in the Olympic Trials a year from now.

— Brad Jacobs



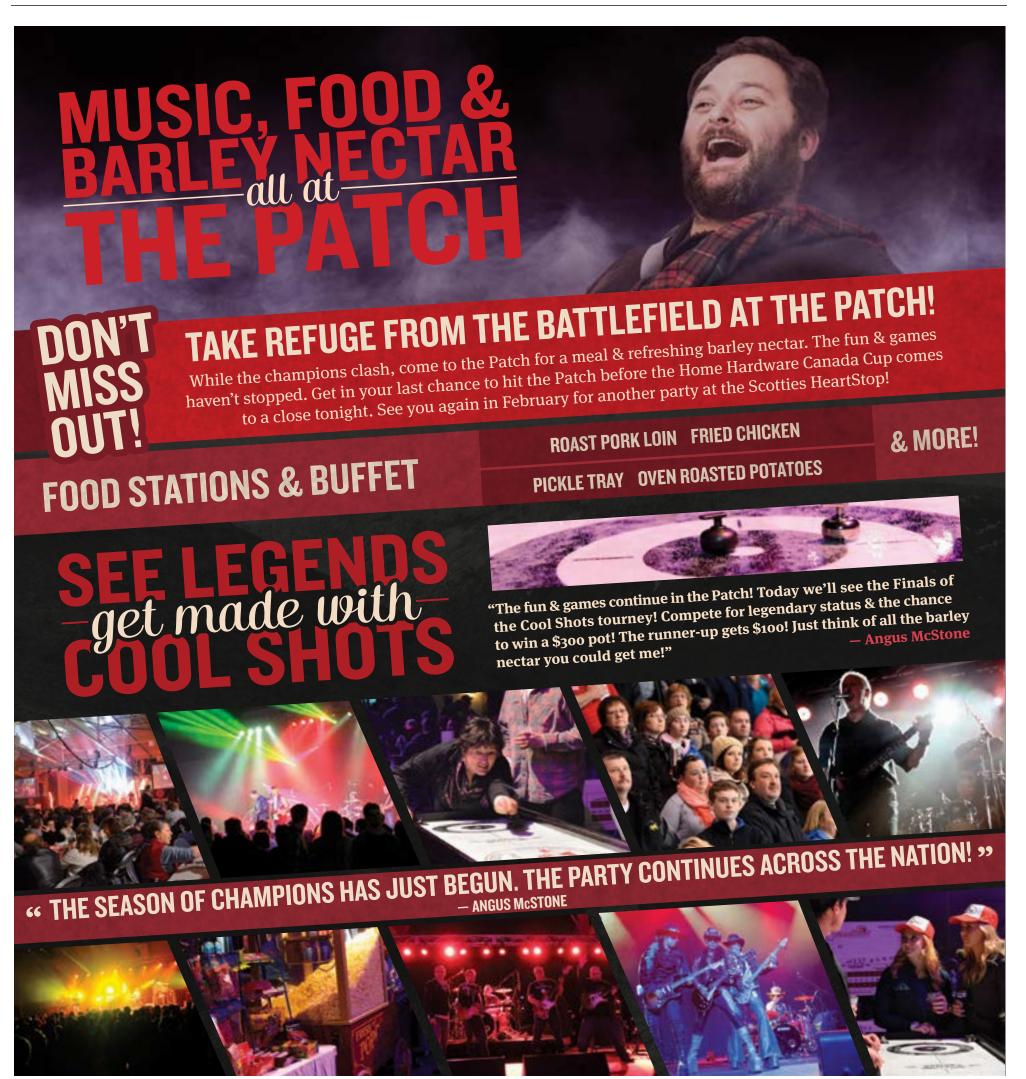


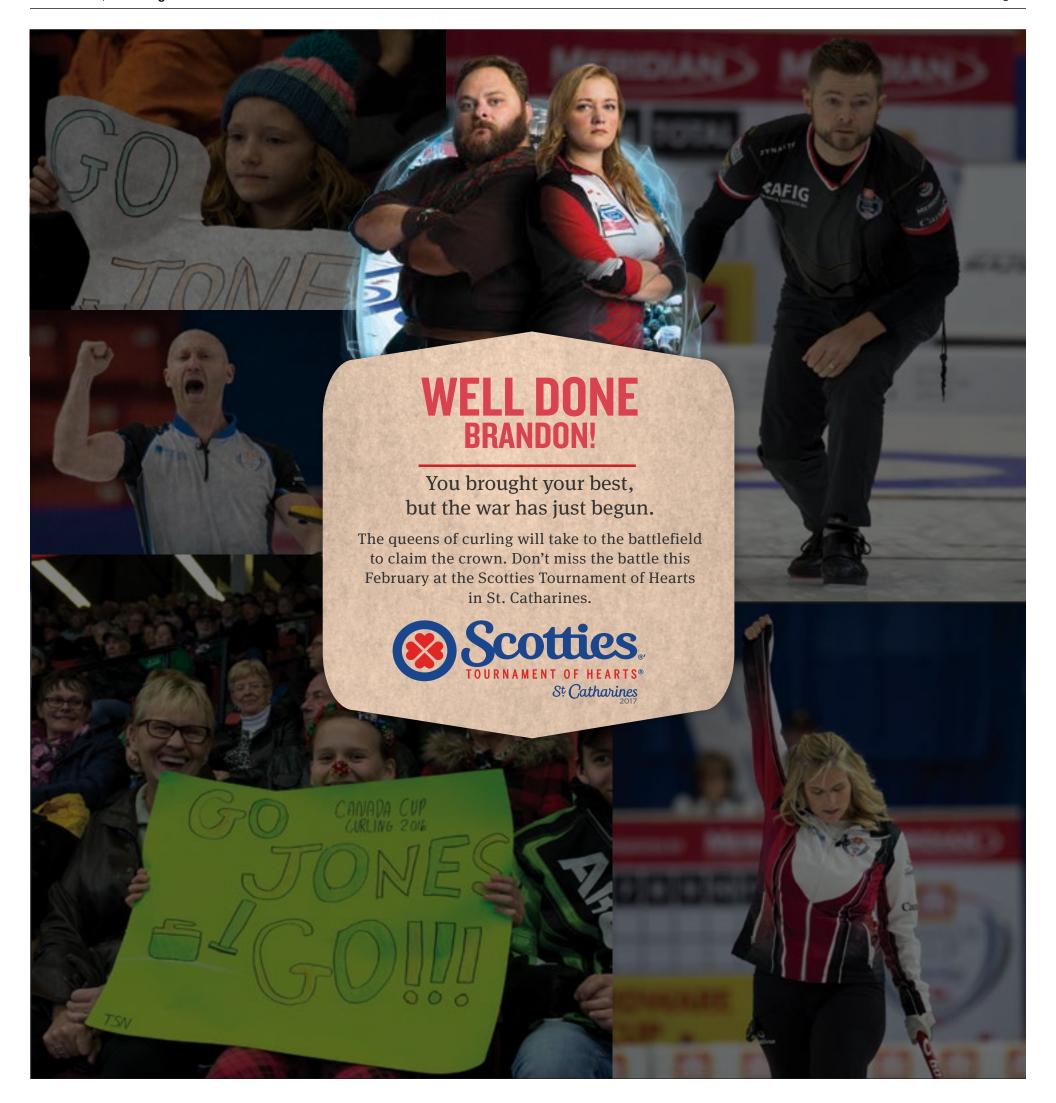
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### 2016 CANADA CUP NOVEMBER 30 - DECEMBER 4

# Scoreboard

#### HOME HARDWAR CANADA CUP TIEBREAKERS

#### MEN

#### Tiebreaker One 8:30 p.m.

\*Team Jacobs 0 0 1 1 0 0 5 0 3 x x x 7 TOTAL Time
\*Team Laycock 0 1 0 0 5 0 3 x x x 9 12:53

#### Tiebreaker Two 1:30 p.m.

\*Team Epping 2 1 0 0 2 0 2 0 0 1 TOTAL Time
\*Team Laycock 0 0 0 2 0 2 0 0 1 x 5 2:34

#### Women 8:30 p.m.

\*Team Einarson 1 0 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 10 TOTAL Time
\*Team Sweeting 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 1 0 2 0 1 1 0 1 0 1 0 6 1:35



Edmonton skip Val Sweeting reacts in horror as second Dana Ferguson slips and falls in the 10th end of their tiebreaker game Saturday against Winnipeg's Kerri Einarson. The rock was burned and Einarson went on to score three in the end to win 8-6. Ferguson suffered a huge contusion on her knee but was otherwise unhurt.





<sup>\* —</sup> Last rock advantage; Time refers to time remaining

# WESTMAN COMMUNICATIONS GROUP PLACE BRANDON, MB



# Women's semifinal



Ottawa's Rachel Homan has advanced to the women's final today where she hopes to defend her Canada Cup title.

# The champ digs in heels

#### By GRANT GRANGER

(Morning Cup Associate Editor)

The defending champ doesn't want to let go and she'll get a chance Sunday to hold on tight to her title for another year. Rachel Homan will attempt to defend her crown when she plays Jennifer Jones of Winnipeg in the women's final of the 2016 Home Hardware Canada Cup, presented by Meridian Manufacturing. She reached the final by defeating Kerri Einarson's team from Winnipeg 9-4 Saturday afternoon.

Homan, third Emma Miskew, second Joanne Courtney, lead Lisa Weagle and coach Adam Kingsbury won the 2015 Home Hardware Canada Cup in Grande Prairie, Alta., last December.

Jones, however, got a bye into the final by finishing first at 5-1 in the seven-team roundrobin, including a win over a 9-4 victory over Homan (4-2) Friday night.

The semifinal was tight for the first three ends. They went to the fourth tied 2-2 when

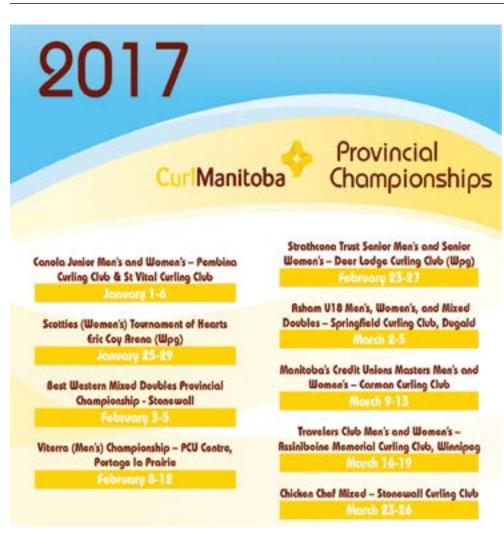
### Homan determined to keep crown

Einarson, looking at a mess surrounding the four-foot built by Homan and needing a piece of the button, had her draw against three come short of the rings. Strong play the rest of the way enabled the Homan's crew to cruise the rest of the way.

"The team played unreal. I struggled a little bit early, but the team played so strong. So did Einarson, it was a struggle the whole way," said Homan. "We're really excited to get back to the final and have a strong game against Jones."



See HOMAN Page 12 Kerri Einarson had a fine run this year, but just fell short.



#### **SCOREBOARD**

#### WOMEN'S SEMIFINAL

Team Einarson...... 020 010 010 x − 4
Team Homan..... 101 300 103 x − 9

Einarson	SH	PTS %		Homan	SH	PTS %	
MacCuish	18	65	90	Weagle	18	59	82
Fyfe	18	58	81	Courtney	18	66	92
Kaatz	18	51	71	Miskew	18	67	93
Einarson	18	58	81	Homan	17	61	90

#### From Page 11

In some ways Homan didn't mind having to play Saturday's semifinal instead of sitting until Sunday like Jones.

"We got to get another really tough game under our belts and got to learn the ice again. When you're in the final you're sitting around waiting a lot longer than maybe you want to," said Homan. "I know that Jones will be bringing a good game against us and we're looking forward to it."

Einarson and her team was one of just two teams of the 14 in both fields who didn't play last year, so she felt her squad gained some valuable confidence and experience this week.

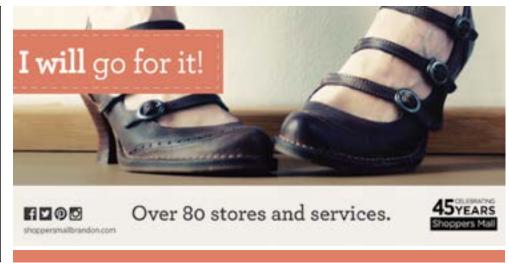
"We had one bad end and that's what did it for us," said Einarson. "We learn from our mistakes and maybe we should have bailed a little bit earlier, but it happens."

Einarson was making her first appearance in the Home Hardware Canada Cup. This week, in some sense, was a bit of a coming-out party for Einarson, third Selena Kaatz, second Liz Fyfe, lead Kristin MacCuish and coach Patti Wuthrich, and showed they could play at the top level. But she believed they were already there.

"We've been playing these teams for so many years, and we've always had really close games with them. Definitely Canada Cup is huge because it's such a tough field and you have to play well every game, and yeah, I think we fit right in," she said.

Earlier Saturday, Einarson advanced to the semifinal by beating Val Sweeting of Edmonton 8-6 in a tiebreaker game to determine third place.































### **Neil Houston**

Event manager, Home Hardware Canada Cup, presented by Meridian Manufacturing



Neil Houston is responsible for the overall operation of the Home Hardware Canada Cup. The Morning Cup caught up with him to discuss this week's event.

#### WE'RE COMING TO THE END OF THE EVENT. HOW HAS THE WEEK BEEN FROM A PRODUCTION STANDPOINT?

Very smooth. You always have a few issues Day One because there are so many bodies coming in for their first day of work, whether it's volunteers or TSN or somebody else. They're really little things, but they are important to somebody, somehow, and we have to take care of them.

#### THE WEATHER MUST HAVE CAUSED A BIT OF CONCERN AT THE BEGINNING OF THE EVENT?

We had our weather issues on Wednesday and Thursday when the roads were a little slippery. Attendance wasn't as high as it could have been. But Mother Nature does play a factor and we want people to be safe. My biggest concern was all the athletes and people we had to get from Winnipeg arrived here safely.

#### WHAT STOOD OUT THE MOST FOR YOU THIS WEEK?

How Brandon has showcased itself as one of the premier curling centres in Canada, and the world. They love their curling here, they want to host events, and they do a good job of being involved in the events. Having been coming here for 40 years, it's nice to see it still trucking along that way. Brandon showed this week it has what it takes to host major events.

#### MANITOBA TEAMS HERE HAVE FAIRED WELL. THIS MUST HELP.

You can do all the marketing you want but the best events are the one where the local teams are doing well

#### YOU MIGHT SET A HOME HARDWARE CANADA CUP ATTENDANCE RECORD THIS WEEK. THAT MUST BE VERY GRATIFYING.

That would be cool, wouldn't it? But it's not in my process to worry about records. The host committee, the volunteers, the curling fans of Brandon and surrounding area, they should be proud if that happens.

#### YOU HAD A GREAT FACILITY TO WORK WITH THIS YEAR.

This and the complex in Regina have everything. They're both fabulous.

#### WE HEARD GREAT THINGS ABOUT THE OPENING BANQUET. WHAT HAVE YOU HEARD?

Westman Place Keystone Centre staff prepared the meal on-site. I thought it was very good, and I've heard great things from people who have been going to these banquets a long time.

#### HAS IT BEEN A POPULAR PATCH THIS WEEK?

The weather affected us Wednesday night but Thursday and Friday night it was packed.





#### www.ineedpins.com

Official 2016 Home Hardware Canada Cup pins are available at the Souvenir Store!



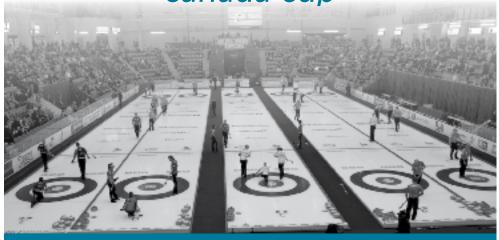
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# egito of eurling at thr

### Stuff their stockings with tickets to Season of Champions events

hristmas is coming up soon and Curling Canada has the perfect gift idea for those hard-to-buy-for members of the family — at least those who enjoy watching live, worldclass curling. Now you can stuff their stocking with tickets to any of the major Season of Champions events held in Canada in 2017 — the Tim Hortons Brier in St. John's, NL, the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in St. Catharines, Ont., or the Ford World Men's Curling Championship in Edmonton — or all three!

Tickets for all three events are now on sale, but you need to act quick to get these deals. Here's a look at ticket options for each event.

#### TIM HORTON'S BRIER

There will be a big-time party atmosphere in St. John's, which will host the Canadian Men's Curling Championship, March 4-12, for the first time since 1972. The curling will be amazing, but so will the party atmosphere in the world famous Brier Patch, which will be located a short covered walk away from the arena at the new St. John's Convention Centre. Along with the opportunity to meet face-to-face with the athletes, the Patch will offer live music, dancing, drinks and food, as well as interactive activities for the entire family.

Full-event passes are sold out but selected singledraw tickets for the first 16 round-robin draws at Mile One



#### Mile One Centre in St. John's will be home of the Tim Hortons Brier in 2017.

Centre are available over the phone or online. Tickets for the opening weekend (March 4-5), as well as all draws featuring Newfoundland/Labrador, are on sale for \$30 apiece. Weekday tickets for draws in which Newfoundland/Labrador is not playing will go for \$22 apiece.

Due to the incredible response of Newfoundland/Labrador

curling fans, no individual tickets are available for the final round-robin draw (Draw 17) or the closing weekend playoff draws, although some could be made available closer to the opening day of the Tim Hortons Brier.

**See TICKETS Page 15** 

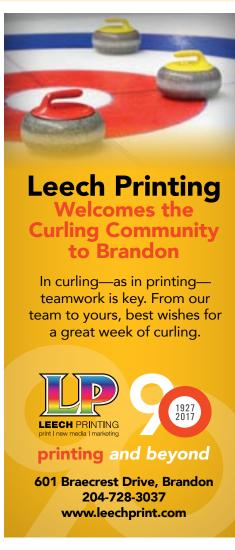


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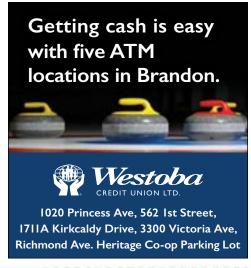
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# Tickets From Page 14

Still available are a limited number of full-event passes (same-seat tickets for all 22 draws, including playoffs and tiebreakers) for \$499, along with mini packs covering the opening weekend (first five draws) for \$139, and the first 10 draws (\$275).

Tickets are available over the phone at 709-576-7657 or at curling.ca/tickets.

Team Canada, skipped by Kevin Koe of Calgary, will be back in an attempt to defend the title it won last season in Ottawa, but standing in the way will be the champions from Canada's 14 Member Associations.

#### SCOTTIES TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS

A ticket sale is now available and runs until Christmas Eve. You can save \$5 each for selected single-draw tickets to attend the 2017 Canadian Women's Curling Championship, Feb. 18-26 at the Meridian Centre in St. Catharines.

The sale offers Opening-Day tickets (Draws 1 and 2) for \$25, all-day Sunday (Draws 3 to 5) and Monday to Thursday evening draws for \$20, and Monday to Thursday morning and afternoon draws for \$15.

The remaining single-draw tickets, including playoffs, will go on sale on Jan. 5. Still on sale are full-event passes (\$369) and various mini packs, including for the closing championship weekend (\$169) and the opening weekend \$79.

After each draw, the party will move over to the World Famous HeartStop Lounge, located at the nearby St. Catharines Golf and Country Club. It will be open to everyone

for the duration of the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. Along with the opportunity to meet face-to-face with the athletes, the HeartStop Lounge will offer live music, dancing, drinks and food, as well as interactive activities for the entire family.

You can purchase tickets online at curling.ca/tickets or by phone at 1-855-985-5000.

Team Canada's Chelsea Carey and her crew from Calgary are the lone qualified team so far. The 14 Member Association champions that will travel to St. Catharines will be decided in the new year.

#### FORD WORLD MEN'S CHAMPIONSHIP

You can save \$5 each for selected single-draw tickets to attend the 2017 Ford Worlds, presented by Service Experts, April 1-9 at the Northlands Coliseum in Edmonton. The sale will last until Christmas Eve and will offer Opening-Weekend tickets (Draws 1 to 5) and all Team Canada round-robin draws for \$27.50, and Monday-to-Thursday non-Team Canada draws for \$17.50.

The remaining single-draw tickets will go on sale on Feb. 2, but before then, you still have the chance to purchase numerous other packages that are available, including Full Event (\$429), Opening Weekend (\$109) and Championship Weekend (\$169).

The Ford Worlds is more than just a curling event; it's a nine-day party that will also take place at the World Famous Patch — just a short walk away from the arena at the Edmonton EXPO Centre. You can meet the athletes and fellow curling fans from around the globe, while enjoying live music, dancing, drinks and food, as well as interactive activities.

The 2017 Ford Worlds will play a significant role in deciding which countries will be playing for gold at the 2018 Winter Olympics in PyeongChang, South Korea. It's the final event for countries to earn qualifying points to be part of the



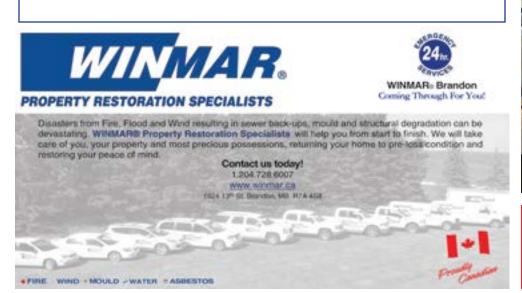
Chelsea Carey will return to the Scotties Tournament of Hearts in St. Catharines.

Olympic field. The Canadian champs, who will be decided at the 2017 Tim Hortons Brier, will be taking on 11 other teams from around the world.

Tickets are available at www.curling.ca/tickets/ or by phone at 1-855-985-5000.



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**Justin Anderson** 

# Life back on track

#### By DAVE KOMOSKY

(Morning Cup Editor)

Brandon teenager Justin Anderson is hoping one day he can play in the Home Hardware Canada Cup, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, just like some of his favourite players who performed this week at the Westman Communications Group Place, Keystone Centre.

But it wasn't very long ago that he wasn't sure he would every curl again, or what his future held, after being diagnosed with second-stage Hodgkin's lymphoma.

"Yeah, it was scary," said Anderson, who was on hand to take in a couple of draws this week at the Home Hardware Canada Cup to watch his curling heroes, Mike McEwen and Rachel Homan. "It never really hit me until I had to go into surgery and chemo."

Anderson first realized something was wrong just after high school graduation last year when he went through a few months of shoulder pain. Then his right arm began to tingle and go numb. Eventually he couldn't use it and had to wear a sling.

"It had about nine different surgeons confused," he said. "No one could figure it out."

It was only after a chest X-Ray, followed by a CT scan and biopsy, that the cancer was detected.

"They called me and said they had found a shadow," Anderson said.

Anderson went through 16 weeks of chemotherapy, and he's been doing checkups ever since.

The disease is now in remission. It wasn't easy, though.

"I'd have chemo and then all weekend there'd be no getting out of bed," he said. "I'd be maybe up for five minutes and then I'd be passed out pretty much for hours. You basically feel like having the flu 24/7 but 10 times worse

"The hardest part was getting up every day and putting a smile on your face."

He is still battling the effects of the chemo treatments. He suffers from migraines, has flulike symptoms sometimes and an occasional shooting pain in his right arm.

But otherwise he's healthy and able to

continue to curl at quite a high level. He plays for a Junior Super League team in Brandon and is hoping to grab a spot in the junior provincials in January.

"It'd mean a lot," he said. "My grandpa used to be big-time curler ... and he passed away four years ago from (colon) cancer. I do it all for him."

His dad was also a curler and through him was able to play four ends on the Home Hardware Canada Cup arena ice at the Keystone Centre.

"That was pretty cool," said Anderson, who is taking the Communications
Engineering Technology program at
Assiniboine Community College.

Anderson works part time at NetSet Communications, one of the event sponsors. The company has provided him with some tickets to the event.

He'll be in attendance today for the finals, safe in the knowledge his life is back on track

With files from Nathan Liewicki,
 The Brandon Sun



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