

Scotties® TOURNAMENT OF HEARTS® Kingston

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Ontario's Rachel Homan stayed undefeated with two big wins against B.C. and New Brunswick Monday. Here second, Alison Kreviazuk and lead Lisa Weagle provide broom duty.





Page 2 HeartChart

Day 3: Birt does field a favour

BY JIM MORRIS

Suzanne Birt turned giant killer as Prince Edward Island handed Saskatchewan its first loss and Ontario's Rachel Homan was pushed to the wall twice but managed to remain undefeated Monday at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

While Homan wobbled and Saskatchewan's Jill Shumay stumbled Team Canada and Manitoba continued to roll, crushing both their opponents to improve to 5-0.

Birt and her crew from the Charlottetown Curling Complex waged a sea-saw battle with the team from Saskatchewan in a game shown nationally on TSN. Twice Birt opened up two-point leads only to have Shumay tie the match. The game was decided when Birt scored three points in the seventh and ninth ends.

"It feels good," said the 2003 Canadian junior champion who improved her record to 2-3. "We had a lot of rocks in play in that game and a lot of points scored.

"We're just feeling a lot better each game. We're learning every game and getting a grasp on the ice and feeling good with draw weight. Things are on the right side of the inch for us now." Shumay was blunt after the loss.

"We stunk up the joint tonight," she said. "We just came out and weren't sharp."

Homan threw a highlight reel shot with her last rock in the extra-end to defeat B.C.'s Kelly Scott 9-8 in the afternoon draw. She found herself in another scrap in the evening, going toe-to-toe with Andrea Crawford of New Brunswick before scoring two in the 10th for a 7-5 win.

"It's good for us to play against opposition that is going to make a lot of shots and make us be sharp," said Ontario third Emma Miskew. "That's what we are going to have to do to win this thing.

"It was good that were able to play to the last couple of ends today and get a feel for the ice and feel confident."

Nedohin and her rink from the Saville Sports Centre in Edmonton were in cruise control most of the day. She scored three points in three different ends to pound Quebec's Allison Ross 12-2 in the afternoon draw. In the evening she scored another three in the third end, then stole two in the fourth to whip Stacie Devereaux of Newfoundland & Labrador 10-3.

"We had a strong execution from the entire team," said Nedohin. "We capitalized on opportunities."

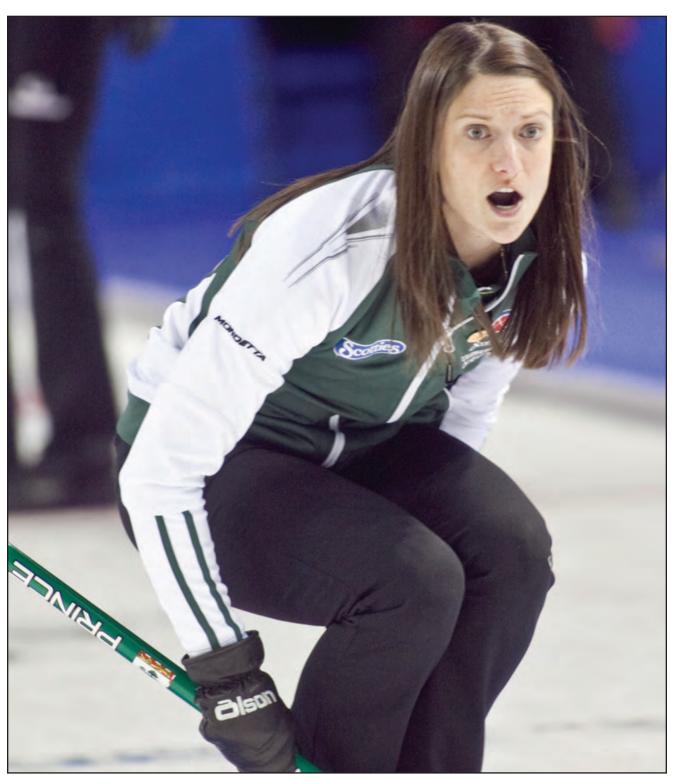
Jones, looking to win her fifth Hearts, had a little more trouble in her afternoon game against Mary-Anne Arsenault of Nova Scotia. Arsenault led 3-1 at one point before Jones scored three in the fifth, cracked the game open with four in the seventh, then decided the matter by stealing three more in the eighth for a 11-4 win.

In the evening draw Jones scored points in five consecutive ends, topping it off with three in the eighth for a 9-1 trampling of Kerry Galusha of the NWT/Territories.

"It's not easy," said Jones, the 2008 world champion. "We're pretty happy with our record but we still have six games to go."

Heading into Tuesday's games Ontario, Manitoba and Team Canada lead the standings at 5-0. Saskatchewan stands alone at 4-1. B.C. and Quebec are 2-2. P.E.I. and New Brunswick are 2-3 while NWT/Yukon is 1-4. Kristie Moore's Alberta team and Nova Scotia are 0-4 while Newfoundland & Labrador is 0-5.

Homan, who carved out the reputation of a heavy hitter, showed a feather touch to win her game against B.C. In the extra end Scott buried her rock behind a guard. Homan deliv-



 $\boldsymbol{\textbf{CCCC ANDREW KLAVER}/\text{CCA}}$

P.E.I.'s Suzanne Birt dropped Saskatchewan from the ranks of the undefeated and did the field a favour on Monday night.

ered a stone with just enough weight to slip past the guard and nudge the B.C. rock out of shot.

"It was kind of my fault we were in the position in the first place," said Homan, who waved to the cheering home-province crowd at the K-Rock Centre after the win.

"My team in front of me was playing awesome. I struggled a little bit here and there. It was a battle and we made some really good shots."

Scott was left shaking her head.

"I'm glad we made her play a finesse shot rather than bang away at something," said the 2007 world champion. "We couldn't have asked to put her in a tougher position and she made it really well."

Shumay dodged a bullet earlier in the day. She trailed Moore's Alberta rink 5-1 after four ends but rallied for a 7-6 victory. Shumay scored two in the seventh, stole a deuce in the eighth and calmly made a draw for the win in the 10th.

"It was a pretty rough start but we pulled it together," she said.

A frustrated Moore was left looking for answers.

"We had it in the palm of our hand," she said. "We're just not coming out with all guns firing."

Schmirler Day raises record \$286,000

BY JIM MORRIS

The Heart Chart

To be honest it's a commitment Jan Betker wished she didn't have to keep.

Don't misunderstand. Betker fully supports the work done by the Sandra Schmirler Foundation. That's why she joined former teammates Joan McCusker and Marcia Gudereit along with many other current and former curlers in answering telephones during Sunday's annual telethon at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts.

Betker just wishes her old friend was there laughing and joking.

"The reason why we are doing it is a reason you don't want," Betker, the third on the three-time world champion and Olympic gold medal team, said with a sigh. "So many people cared about Sandra and still do care about her. We know her legacy is living on and it's a wonderful cause."

McCusker understands Betker's feeling.

"We've had a lot of time to get used to the idea we lost Sandra," said the former second. "It was tragic. It took me a long time to get over that.

"Now that the Sandra Schmirler Foundation is established and so strong and doing such important work that would make Sandra really proud, I'm just delighted to be able to come back, work this telethon and watch curling."

This year's telethon raised a a record \$286,000 in donations. That exceeded the original goal of \$275,000 that organizers had hoped for.



Knowing where the money is going eases some of Betker's sorrow.

"It gives you a warm fuzzy feeling," she said.

Created in January 2001, The Sandra Schmirler Foundation is a registered charity that raises and donates money across Canada for the care of premature and critically ill infants. The foundation also helps develop future champions through direct funding to junior curlers.

Since its inception the foundation has donated over 2.2 million dollars to help purchase life-saving equipment in neonatal units in 27 hospitals.

This year the foundation announced it would give six \$5,000 scholarship for junior curlers who are pursuing their competitive careers while maintaining their post-secondary studies.

Schmirler, who was born in Biggar, Sask., died in 2000 at age 36 from cancer.

Many of the people calling to give money also asked to talk to either Betker, McCusker or Gudereit. They were happy to oblige.

"Lot's of people remember our team and are happy to talk to one us," said Gudereit. "There's lots that have a story about a friend or somebody that went through with babies in neo-natal units

"It's just really special to hear some of the people's stories. It's a

real feel good kind of thing."

This year also marks the 15th anniversary of the Schmirler rink winning the gold medal at the 1998 Winter Olympics in Nagano, Japan. Lindsay Sparks, who coached the team, also answered phones during the telethon.

Other curlers taking donations included former Ontario skips Marilyn Bodogh and Alison Goring; Lorraine Lang, a member of Heather Houston's world championship team; and Cathy Overton-Clapham, who won Heart titles for Manitoba with both Jennifer Jones and Connie Laliberte. Jill Shumay's Saskatchewan rink that is competing this week also took a turn.

Gudereit admits to being surprised that the Schmirler team is still held in such fond memories by curling fans.

"It's been 15 years," she said shaking her head. "That's a long time.

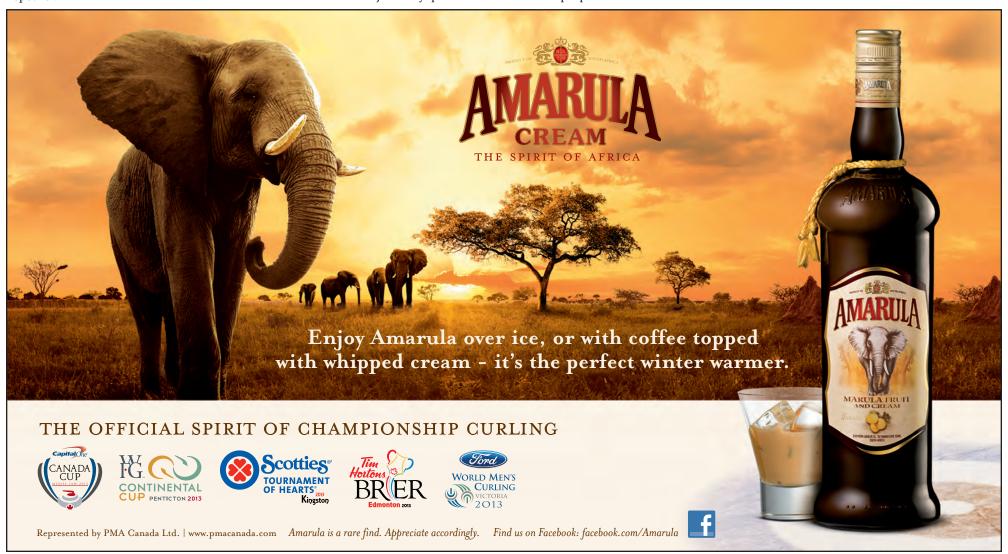
"There's been lots of curlers come up through the ranks. I think what happened to Sandra really hit home. She was a young mother with two small kids. That really touched everybody's hearts."

Betker said people admired Schmirler's skill as a curler and were captivated by her personality.

"I think people just remember Sandra and the person that she was," she said. "She was so down to earth and everybody could relate to her. That means so much to us that this legacy does live on"

The three teammates remain friends. Their children, along with Schmirler's two girls, curl together on Sundays.

"We watch them curl," said McCusker. "We laugh and coach a little." $\,$



Page 4 HeartChart

HOW THEY GOT HERE: SASKATCHEWAN

Maidstone team knocks off faves



Jill Shumay

There'll be at least a couple of Scotties Tournament Of Hearts moments this week when Saskatchewan skip Jill Shumay will feel a little bit like a raw rookie kid.

However, make no mistake, she says in it to win it.

"I certainly would like to make playoffs," said Shumay, a 38-year-old native of rural Maidstone. "That's a certainty. And then you re-assess after you make playoffs and anything can happen."

Neverthless, the seventh-seeded Shumay's victory at the Saskatchewan Scotties in Balgonie, just east of Regina, was characterized by many as a surprise.

Still is, in fact.

But surprises usually are accompanied by upsets and when you consider that Shumay's team defeated the likes of Stefanie Lawton, Michelle Englot and Amber Holland (twice) on the way to the top of the podium, there may be room for a few more surprises yet.

"It's surreal," Shumay told Murray McCormick of the LeaderPost. "All the attention and stuff has just been amazing."

Most of all, though, Shumay is waiting for Draw Nine at the Scotties on Tues-

day night when Saskatchewan plays Nova Scotia.

"I'm so looking forward to meeting Colleen Jones," said Shumay. "She's amazing. I can't wait to be on the same sheet of ice as her."

A highly-regarded young skip, Shumay decided to step out of the spotlight after, as a 23-year-old, she led a team to a 1-6 record at the 1998 Saskatchewan championship won by Cathy Trowell of Regina.

An accounts receivable administrator for the Saskatoon Media Group, she played a little front end and a lot at third including six years for Patty Hersikorn (Rocheleau).

Hersikorn, by the way, will be the Saskatchewan alternate player this week, and is likely to see action because third Kara Johnston, the skip's cousin who lives in Lloydminster, is seven month's pregnant and due to give birth in April.

"I took ten years off skipping and so people forget who you are, right?" Shumay asked.

"I just wasn't in the right mindset to skip any more. Because you're either the hero or the goat and there's no in between. I just couldn't handle it any more. So I just needed to take a step back. You know, it's a game and if you're not having fun, what's the point?"

In her first year back on the teehead last season — at the urging of her husband Darren — Shumay directed her team of lead Jinaye Ayrey, second Taryn Holtby and Johnston to the provincials and finished third, behind Englot and Lawton, who has lost the last three provincial finals and five of the last seven.

Between Lawton and vice-skip Sherry Anderson, in fact, a lot of trips to the Scotties have disappeared down the drain at the last gasp. In addition to losing the last three with Lawton, Anderson has lost five provincial finals, a national final and an Olympic trials final skipping her own teams.

"We really surprised ourselves getting third last year," Shumay admitted. "We thought, 'wow, let's put a little more work in this season and let's improve on that."

The team did put in a little extra work, hooking up with coach Gene Friesen of Saskatoon, and getting advice on nutrition and conditioning.

"We knew," she said, confidently. "We knew we could win provincials and that was our goal going into this year.

CONTINUE ON PAGE 5





CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

I'm sure that a lot of fans had no idea who we were when we showed up. But, I guess they know us now."

So why the sudden re-emergence as a skip?

"I'm more mature," said Shumay. "I've put it in perspective. I have kids. You know, I have more important things than curling. I love the game, don't get me wrong. But you have to put everything into perspective and now, if I miss that last one? Oh well, I'll wake up tomorrow healthy, happy and with a wonderful family. So, you can deal with it."

But it's not as though Shumay doesn't feel the pressure now and again. Take her winning shot against Lawton in the provincial final, a hit-and-stick for one and an 8-7 win.

"Sitting in the hack and the game is in your hands, you're doing everything you can not to think about that carrot at the end of the stick and to just throw it like another shot," she said.

"But you know in the very back of your mind that if you miss, people are gonna remember that." Shumay didn't miss, although she thought she had.

"I quit watching because as soon as I let go I thought I hadn't thrown it well," she said. "Then I heard Kara yell, 'it's fine, clean.' I looked up and thought, 'oh, we're gonna nose it!"

Shumay's only loss of the championship was a 5-4 defeat at the hands of Lawton in their Page One playoff game involving the top teams on each side of the 12-team split round-robin affair. But Shumay regrouped with an 8-3 semi-final victory over 2011 national champion Holland, who had reached the semi with an 11-6 win over Regina's Chantelle Eberle.

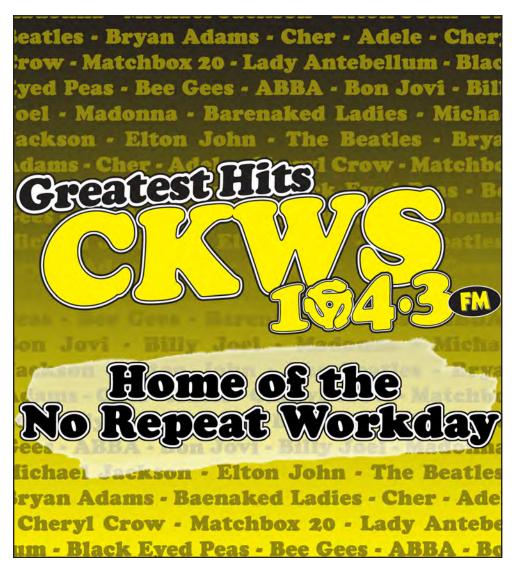
The turning points in the final were the fifth and ninth ends. Shumay grabbed her first lead of the match after successfully executing a split-raise at the top of the rings to score four in the fifth end and assume a 6-4 advantage.

Lawton battled back and needed a routine nose hit to score two in the ninth end. Instead, her rock rolled out, settling for one and a 7-7 tie heading into the 10th end with Shumay in possession of the hammer.

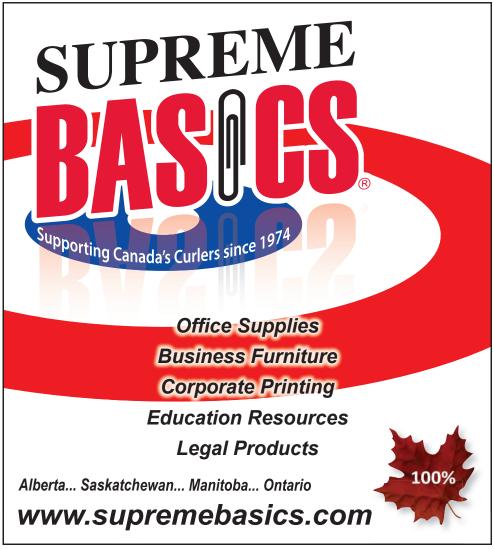
Shumay finished at 7-and-1, while Lawton was 6-and-1, Holland 6-3 and Eberle 4-2.

Holland required tiebreaker wins — 5-2 over Trish Paulsen of Saskatoon and 6-3 over Englot — to reach the Page Two playoff against Eberle.

At the finish, Paulsen and Englot both were 3-3, Candace Chisholm of Maryfield, Mandy Selzer of Balgonie and Penny Barker of Moose Jaw were 2-3, Nancy Martin of Saskatoon was 1-4 and teams skipped by Brett Barber of Biggar and Deanne Miller-Jones of Regina were blanked in five games apiece.







HeartChart Page 6

TIM HORTONS BRIER PRIMER

Edmonton set to host 2013 event

BY LARRY WOOD

again . . . one more time.

Yup, Alberta's capital city will staged the 2013 Tim Hortons Brier at Rexall Place, March

It will mark the sixth time that Edmonton has hosted the Canadian men's curling championship, the last in 2005, and the 13th time it has been staged in Alberta, since the event began in 1927 in Toronto.

Edmonton joins Calgary, Halifax, Saskatoon and Toronto as the only cities to host the Brier on at least six occasions. It also will be the fourth major curling event held in the city in the last eight years, following the inaugural Tim Hortons Brier in 2005, the Ford World men's in 2007 and the Tim Hortons Roar of the Rings (Canadian Olympic Curling Trials) in 2009.

In fact, event attendance records were established at all three.

In 2005, a record 281,985 fans attended the Brier. In 2007, the World men's attracted 184,970 fans, the best-ever for a men's only World event, while the 2009 Trials drew a

record 175,852.

"In 1973, I was throwing rocks at the old The gang from Edmonton is going to do it Edmonton Hillcrest Country Club when Danny Fink and his team from Manitoba stepped out onto the ice next to me to practise for the Edmonton Brier," says Mark Johnson, host committee chair for the 2013 Brier. Johnson skipped the 2010 Canadian Seniors and 2011 World Seniors champion team from Edmonton.

> That 1973 rendition was played in the creaky old Edmonton Gardens. It was the first, in fact, in which the CBC television network installed considerably increased arena lighting which, at times, played havoc with the ice conditions.

> "I was in awe watching them throw and then when I attended my first Brier game only days later, I was hooked on the Brier dream. It took me 33 years before I was able to fulfill that dream and represent Alberta in the 2006. Regina Brier (as an alternate player). Believe me, I soaked up every minute of that amazing experience.

> "I can't tell you how much of an honour it is to now have the opportunity to be the chairman of the 2013 Brier. Edmonton and the surrounding communities have an excellent rep

utation for supporting and hosting major events. I fully expect the calibre of play at the Brier to be the best.

"The Brier offers players the unique experience of representing their province or territory in a national championship and with the 2014 Sochi Winter Olympic Games taking place not long after, get ready, curling fans, because it's going to be a great show!'

Tim Hortons began its title sponsorship of the Brier in 2005 and last year extended its agreement through 2014.

The winning team at the Edmonton Brier will represent Canada at the Ford World men's curling championship, March 30-April 7 in Victoria's Save-On Memorial Centre.

Edmonton also hosted the Brier in 1954 (Gardens), 1987 (Agriplex) and 1999 (Rexall).

The Brier has been played in 31 cities across Canada, from Victoria to St. John's.

Manitoba has won a leading 27 Briers. Alberta is next with 25 victories while Ontario has produced 10 winners, the latest last year at Saskatoon when Glenn Howard of Coldwater won the title.

New Brunswick, Prince Edward Island and Yukon/Northwest Territories have yet to win.



Kevin Martin will be the hometown favourite at this year's Tim Hortons Brier in Edmonton



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THE STATISTICAL STORY

7 03:28



Canada (Nedohin)

B Manitoba (Jones)

NS (Arsenault)

C Ontario (Homan)

D Alberta (Moore)

SK (Shumay)

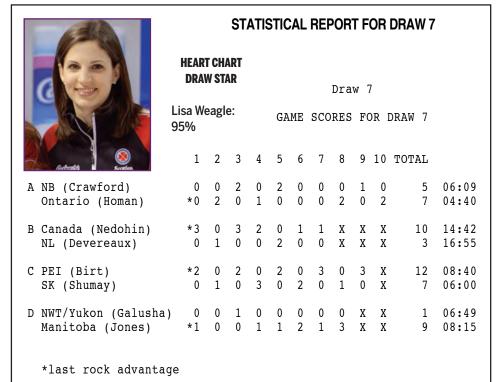
BC (Scott)

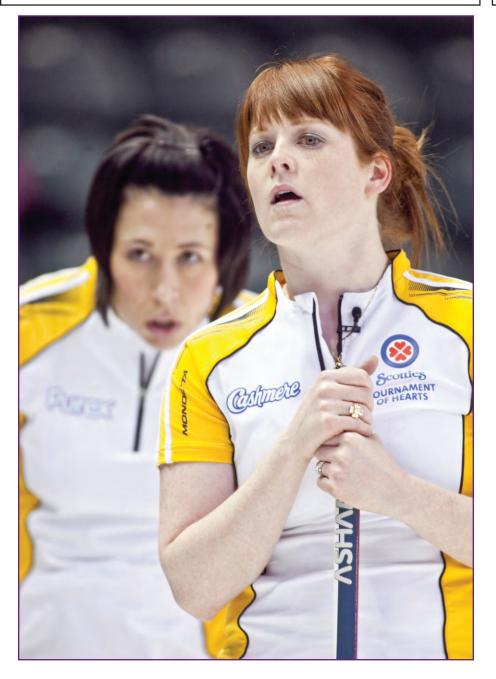
STATISTICAL REPORT FOR DRAW 6 HEART CHART DRAW STAR

Sasha Beauchamp: 96%			Draw 6 GAME SCORES FOR DRAW 6									
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*last rock advantage





TEAM STANDINGS AFTER 7 DRAWS

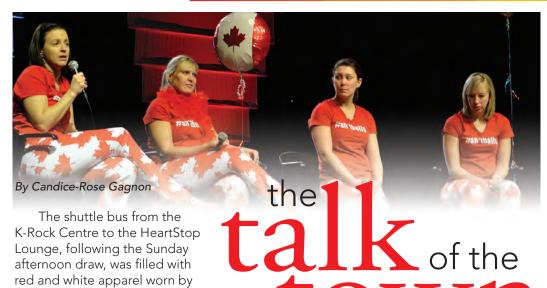
				FUTURE GAMES	
TEAM	WINS	LOSSES	8	9	10
Ontario (Homan)	5	0		QC	SK
Manitoba (Jones)	5	0		AB	CAN
Canada (Nedohin)	5	0		вс	MB
SK (Shumay)	4	1		NS	ON
BC (Scott)	2	2	NB	CAN	
Quebec (Ross)	2	2	PE	ON	
PEI (Birt)	2	3	QC		NT
NB (Crawford)	2	3	ВС		NL
NWT/Yukon (Galusha)	1	4	NS		PE
Alberta (Moore)	0	4	NL	MB	
NS (Arsenault)	0	4	NT	SK	
NL (Devereaux)	0	5	AB		NB

FUTURE CAMES

Manitobans Dawn Askin (right) and Jill Officer didn't have to worry about measures: 5-0 so far for the Jennifer Jones crew.



your guide to what's goin' on



personal with Team Canada. The Edmonton curlers, led by Heather Nedohin, were the featured

fans preparing to get up close and

quests for the Up Close and Personal interview session in the HeartStop where the fans had the opportunity to ask the questions.

A young girl asked Nedohin where the team got their pants. "It's a funny story... they come from our team sponsor," replied the skip. "But, it's also Sandra Schmirler Foundation Day, so we will be auctioning off these pants later, for the great cause."

Other fans asked the athletes how long they have been curling, all of them stating they got an early initiation, starting as young as six, and all were hooked right from the beginning.

Team dynamics and how the team prepares for draws were also questions on the fans' minds. Team coach Darryl Horne received recognition for keeping them balanced and mindful over the week of competition. "He really keeps us grounded and focused," said

Asked why Iskiw and lead Laine Peters were wearing feather boas and helium balloons, Nedohin explained that during the Ford Hot Shots Competition it was "Blondes vs Brunettes" in a race for points. The blondes wore the outfits for losing the bet.



get freak on your freak on Heartstop!

Tonight - SUPERFREAK

Take an entertaining ride back to the 80's with SUPERFREAK - the ultimate disco party band. The pulsating, gyrating funk extravaganza is unlike anything you've ever seen or heard!

Joey Bigapeenie, Reggie O'Money, Boom-Boom Trevino and Cinnamon Starr will be dusting off the classic disco hits tonight in the HeartStop. You'll hear a repertoire of all the favourites of the era including Disco Inferno, YMCA, Get Down Tonight, Funkytown, Play That Funky Music and Car Wash.

first winne



The opening round of the Cool Shots competition for the fans saw Theresa Hawkins and Karen Hodgson pick up the \$100 daily cash prize and qualify for championship play this

Action resumes at 1 p.m. today in the small-scale version of the big-time game, with qualifying rounds carrying on until Saturday. Sign up for free in the HeartStop and take your shot at some cool cash!



Tomorrow Evening

Rockstar Live



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Follow us on Facebook all week long to get inside the fun at the Scotties.

www.facebook.com/scottiestournamentofhearts

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



autograph. sessions

Today – 6:00 pm

Teams Newfoundland/Labrador & New Brunswick



A pair of teams from Atlantic Canada will be on hand to sign autographs and pose for photos with the fans. Team Newfoundland/Labrador, skipped by Stacie Devereaux, will be joined by Andrea Crawford's New Brunswick foursome. Devereaux is making her second appearance at the Scotties, while Crawford has been to the national championship six times.

Tomorrow – 6 p.m. Teams Manitoba & Saskatchewan **Thursday** – noon Teams Canada & Ontario

Thursday – 6 p.m. Teams Prince Edward Island & Northwest Territories/Yukon **Friday** – 12:30 p.m. Teams Quebec & British Columbia

Saturday – 5:30 p.m. All Teams

up close and personal Today - 5:30 pm

Teams Prince Edward Island & Northwest Territories/Yukon

East meets west at today's Up Close and Personal interview in the HeartStop Lounge. Prince Edward Islands's Suzanne Birt and Sarah Fullerton will sit down with Northwest Territories/Yukon representatives Sharon Cormier and Megan Cormier for an entertaining conversation with Scotties fans.

Tomorrow – 5:30 p.m. Team Ontario **Thursday** – 12:30 p.m. Teams Manitoba & Saskatchewan

Thursday – 5:30 p.m. Team New Brunswick
Friday – 12:30 p.m. Teams Alberta & Nova Scotia
Friday – 5:30 p.m. Team Newfoundland/Labrador



Fans share a laugh during Sunday's Up Close and Personal interview... and there will be lots more laughs over the next three days.

50/50 draws \$9,242.00 and counting...



Win big cash just by purchasing a 50/50 ticket available during every draw at the Scotties Tournament of Hearts! Tickets will be on sale until the fifth end break. The winning number will be drawn at the eighth end break, the winner has 10 minutes to collect their winnings. The lucky winners will be featured each day right here in the Party Line.

The winner is:

Draw 5

Mike Proctor – Sharbot Lake, ON

- \$1,300.00

Draw 6

Mike Proctor – Sharbot Lake, ON

- \$1,505.00

Mike Proctor enjoys the Scotties 50/50 with back-to-back wins.



The Junior Stars program provides 24 young curlers from local clubs with a first-hand experience of championship curling during the Scotties.

Junior Stars receive a ticket for themselves and two guests, an official jacket, a gift package from TSN, a photo with their team and introduction during a pre-game ceremony.

2:00 pm Draw

Team Alberta

Patrick Stewart Gananoque Owen Hamilton Gananoque



Dylan Welch and Nicholas Leduc join Team Quebec during the draw 6 pre-game ceremony.

7:30 pm Draw

Team Ontario

Carolyn Jones Royal Kingston Kate Davey Cataraqui



Due to popular demand, the hours of operation for the complimentary shuttle bus service between the K-Rock Centre and Kingston Memorial Centre have been extended. Today's first departures from both venue will be at 1 p.m.

Buses will leave the K-Rock at a quarter-past and quarter-to the hour with final departure at 12:45 a.m. Buses will leave the Memorial Centre on the hour and half-hour with final departure at 1:00 a.m.

Page 10 HeartChart

HOW THEY GOT HERE: NOVA SCOTIA

Arsenault gets crew back to show

If the curling nation hadn't taken notice that Mary-Anne Arsenault, Colleen Jones and Kim Kelly are back together, it definitely will take notice this week.

Owners of a bevy of Scotties Tournament Of Hearts records, the veteran 53-year-old Jones and her long-time mates Kelly, 50, and Mary-Anne Arsenault, 44, are looking to enhance the legend of the Nova Scotia unit after winning the provincial title last month at the Halifax Curling Club.

Jones, the CBC-TV reporter who now plays second and holds the broom as vice-skip, is on hand for her record 21st Scotties over five decades. She is a record six-time winner as a skip.

Ironically, Jones played second at her first Canadian championship for Penny LaRocque 34 years ago.

Kelly is in for her 15th appearance. She is playing the same third rocks she played in winning five Canadian titles with Iones.

Arsenault was second player in those same five successes but took over skipping duties of the team after Jones hung up the whisk for a time following the 2006 Scotties. Arsenault and Kelly were back at the Scotties in 2008 along with veteran lead Nancy Delahunt who is the alternate this time around.

Arsenault and Kelly, in fact, played together at the provincials a year ago.

The group re-united under Arsenault in the off-season with the goal of getting to the Olympic trials. The two-time world champs, who also won their five Canadian titles over six years, disbanded after the 2006 season.

This time around, with 25-year-old Jennifer Baxter at lead, the squad won seven of eight games at the eight-team Bluenose championship and defeated Kentville's Jocelyn Nix 6-4 in the final.

Arsenault delivered the knockout punch, ripping two Nix rocks off the top of the 12-foot in the 10th end to run the Valley squad out of ammunition.

The Halifax Mayflower foursome allowed consecutive steals to start the game, but clawed back and turned the flow with a steal of two in the ninth end for a two-point lead.

"Our forte is being strong down the stretch," Arsenault, a massage therapist, told Monte Mosher of the Halifax Chronicle-Herald.

"We were really tested today. The ice conditions were quite different than what they've been all week. It was hard to get it into your brain and really believe what was going on. By the time we figured it all out, we started making some shots and turned it around . . . luckily."

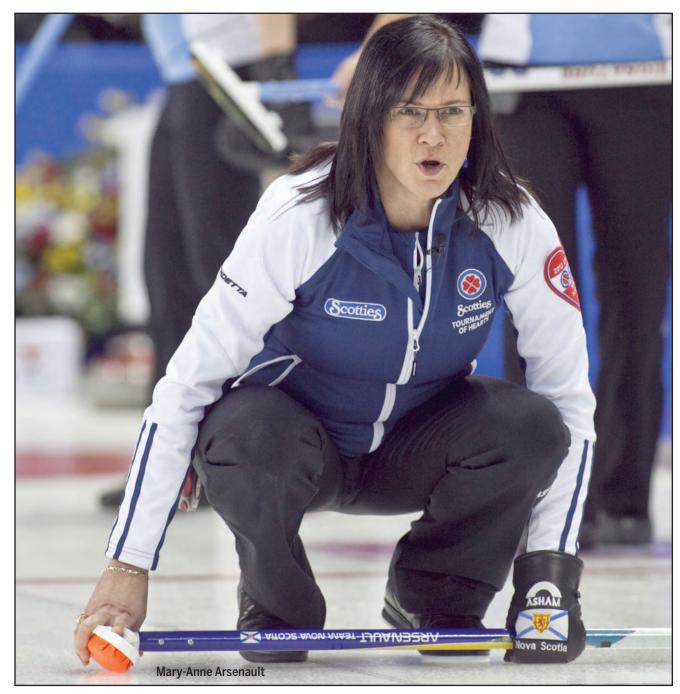
There were tears all around with the realization the group had done what it set out to do. The re-unification started with an Olympic dream and the desire to put in some work.

"It's really exciting," Arsenault said. "We're just so looking forward to experiencing it all (the Scotties) again. And there's a new perspective. (Lead) Jenn is so excited to go. It's going to be fun."

Jones accepted the embraces of dozens of fans who crammed the south-end curling club founded in 1824. She said she didn't know how serious the group was going to be when it first discussed getting back together.

"Once we decided to go for real, it really changed everything about this team," she said. "We had a focus. We knew what we wanted to do and we've left no stone unturned."

It was a hard run for Jones over the last six years. She went through a series of teams and also had some serious health con-



cerns. She said she never really thought about a return to the Scotties, although she's played in back-to-back senior nationals.

"I mean, this is a dream come true for all of us," she said. "Mary-Anne skipping this team has been incredible. I think it's been a dream season. It's not just what I went through healthwise. I think we've each gone through personal challenges along the way."

A former provincial junior winner, Baxter is the obvious baby of the bunch.

"Honestly, it couldn't have be better," she said. "I couldn't be feeling any happier. These women have so much experience and they have inspired me in so many ways. I learned a lot from them, but at the same time they completely respect my talent and what I bring to the table. So it's been a really good mix."

Nix, who also went 6-1 in the round robin and twice beat twotime defending champion Heather Smith-Dacey of Halifax, was devastated. It was Nix's fifth loss in a women's final.

"A really great team is going to represent the province, but I

really honestly feel we would be good representatives, too," said Nix, who was joined by Andrea Saulnier, Jill Alcoe-Holland and Julie Morley. "These girls have a goal and I wish them all the best, for sure, I really do. But I am simply heartbroken."

Arsenault ran up four straight wins before losing 5-3 to Smith-Dacey in the fifth round. But the team bounced back to clobber previously unbeaten Nix 9-1 and claimed the bye to the playoff final with a last-round 9-3 conquest of former champion Mary Mattatall.

Nix, who dumped Smith-Dacey 9-7 in the last round to claim second place for playoff purposes, then repeated the process with a 6-3 semi-final win, stealing single points in the fifth, sixth and seventh ends.

Behind Arsenault (7-1), Nix (7-2) and Smith-Dacey (5-3), Coralie Duchemin of Sydney finished 4-3 while veteran Theresa Breen of Halifax Mayflower was 3-4, Kelly MacIntosh of Dartmouth and Marg Cutcliffe of Mayflower each turned in 2-5 records and Mattatall failed to record a win in seven starts.

Scotties 2013 Draw Schedule

DATE	TIME	DRAW	Α	В	С	D		
SATURDAY	2:00 p.m.	1	SK vs NT	NL vs ON	MB vs PE	CA vs NB		
February 16	7:00 p.m.	2	PE vs NB	AB vs BC	NT vs NL	NS vs QC		
SUNDAY	9:00 a.m.	3	ON vs AB	QC vs SK	CA vs NS	MB vs BC		
February 17	2:00 p.m.	4	NL vs MB	PE vs CA	SK vs NB	ON vs NT		
	7:00 p.m.	5	NS vs BC	NB vs NT	QC vs AB	PE vs NL		
MONDAY	2:00 p.m.	6	QC vs CA	MB vs NS	ON vs BC	AB vs SK		
February 18	7:30 p.m.	7	NB vs ON	CA vs NL	PE vs SK	NT vs MB		
TUESDAY	2:00 p.m.	8	AB vs NL	BC vs NB	NS vs NT	QC vs PE		
February 19	7:00 p.m.	9	SK vs NS	ON vs QC	AB vs MB	BC vs CA		
WEDNESDAY	2:00 p.m.	10	CA vs MB	NT vs PE	NL vs NB	SK vs ON		
February 20	7:00 p.m.	11	NT vs AB	NS v NL	BC vs PE	NB vs QC		
THURSDAY	9:00 a.m.	12		SK vs CA	MB vs ON			
February 21	2:00 p.m.	13	NS vs PE	NB vs AB	NT vs QC	NL vs BC		
	7:30 p.m.	14	BC vs SK	QC vs MB	AB vs CA	ON vs NS		
FRIDAY	9:00 a.m.	15	NL vs QC	BC vs NT	NB vs NS	PE vs AB		
February 22	2:00 p.m.	16	MB vs NB	PE vs ON	SK vs NL	CA vs NT		
	7:30 p.m.	17	ON vs CA	AB vs NS	QC vs BC	MB vs SK		
IF NO TIE BREAKER DRAWS						•		
SATURDAY, February 23	2:00 p.m.	PP	Page Playoff Game					
SATURDAT, February 23	7:00 p.m.	PP	Page Playoff Game					
IF TIE BREAKERS REQUIRED								
	9:00 a.m.	TB1	Tie-Breaker					
SATURDAY, February 23	2:00 p.m.	PP	Page Playoff Game (if 2nd TB is required - 2:00 p.m.)					
	7:00 p.m.	PP	Page Playoff Game					
SEMI FINAL								
SUNDAY, February 24 9:00 a.m. SF				Semi Final				
BRONZE MEDAL								
SUNDAY, February 24 2:00 p.m. BRZ Bronze Medal								
FINAL								
SUNDAY, February 24	7:00 p.m.	FNL		Fir	nal			

All times subject to change



Join us at the HeartStop for some great fun and FOOD.

Luncheon and dinner buffet will be available daily during regular

HeartStop hours offering a different hot selection daily with a selection of deli sandwiches and beverages.

The concession will also be open during regular HeartStop hours each day offering a selection of hot food and deli sandwiches and salads.

Visit the HeartStop and enjoy the activities, food and party.



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Getting to and from the K-Rock Centre is easy.

Park at the Memorial Centre and ride the bus to the K-Rock Centre.

Best of all it's free!

The shuttle service is available all day, every day.

Buses operate every 30 minutes increasing to every 5 minutes immediately before and after each draw.

Pick up a copy of the schedule at either venue or see the schedule posted at the main entrances.



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TSN's Brian Mudryk in front of the Sandra Schmirler telethon phone workers in Kingston Sunday. What a day - a record \$286,000 raised for the Sandra Schmirler Foundation. Thank you.









A Traffic Message from the City of Kingston

"Fans and athletes can access the K-Rock Centre via King Street East while construction takes place. Two lanes of traffic will remain open to vehicles, as well as the sidewalk on the east side of King Street.

All businesses remain open and ready to serve you. This includes K-Town Physiotherapy, which will have alternate access created. Should you have any difficulty navigating the construction site, please look for a construction worker wearing a blue hard hat-they are there to help you find your way."





ne for trivia

Question Of the Day: During the five tournaments in which Colleen Jones won national titles, she lost less than three games only once. That year would have been?

- 1. Can you name her conquerors (skips) in that tournament?
- 2. Count back 15 Ontario championships and current Quebec skip Allison Ross played which position on the 1999 Ontario champ?
- 3. Who skipped that Ontario team.
- 4. Who else played in that lineup?
- 5. Of the competing players (excluding skips and fifth players) at the current Scotties, how many have won a Canadian junior women's championship?
- 6. Can you name them?
- 7. Name the curler who, in non-skipping roles, has appeared in the most Canadian wom-

10. Mary-Anne Arsenault, Kelly Scott, Jennifer

9. Colleen Jones 13 times, Mary-Anne Arse-

12. Agnes Charette, Colleen Jones.

11. Galusha.

nault twice.

Jones, Kerry Galusha

8. 15 Scotties, two skips.

- 8. In how many Scotties has she played and how many skips has she played for?
- 9. Name them and the number of appearances with each.
- 10. You know that four former Scotties champions adorn the skipping field this week. But can you name four skips in this field who, in the past, actually beat the eventual winners of Scotties tournaments?
- 11. One of them, in fact, beat the champ twice. Name the double winner.
- 12. Name the two Scott Tournament of Hearts skips who have defeated the eventual champion $\,$ more times than any other, which is to say, four.

6. Sasha Carter, Jodie deSolla, Beth Iskiw, Kait-

lyn Lawes, Jill Officer, Sarah Wazney.

4. Sherry Middaugh, Sally Karam.

I. Heather Smith-Dacey, Lois Fowler.

5. Six players.

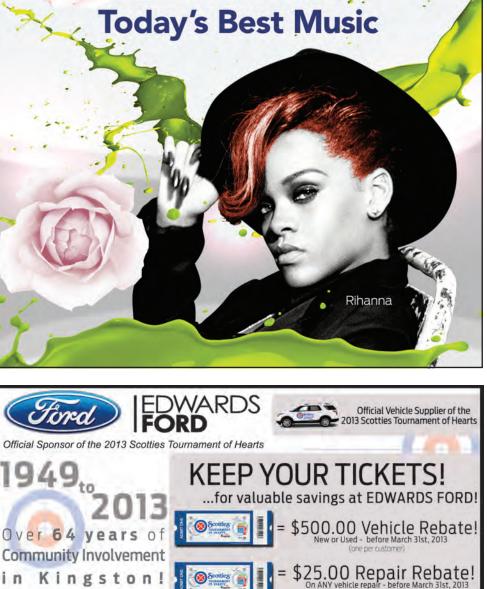
3. Kim Gellard.

2. Lead.

CRUICKSHANK Cruickshank is a proud silver sponsor of this year's Scotties Tournament of Hearts. We wish all competitors the best of luck! GREEN 30







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A LITTLE MORE FROM JIM MORRIS

Great expectations

The rink from Saskatchewan as been turning heads during this week's Scotties Tournament of Hearts and not just because of their consistent play.

Every time third Kara Johnston steps on the ice at the K-Rock she's noticed, and not just because



her rink won their first three games. The 36-year-old is pregnant. Not just a little pregnant, but VERY pregnant. At over seven months her baby bump is more of a bulge.

Johnston knows she stands out during a draw like someone daring to wear an opposition team jersey at a home Saskatchewan Rough-

"I get looked at a little bit more," she said. "Once the game starts it's just like it's always been. You almost forget there is somebody else out there with you.

"As a rule the baby is very quiet during the game. I don't feel a whole lot of movement. I kind of put that on the backburner for two hours. I said the poor thing is either scared to death because I yell so loud or I have rocked it to sleep. I don't know which."

Johnston already is the mother of two girls aged eight and six, so being pregnant isn't a new experience. Still, she good naturedly answered media questions, mostly from male reporters who seem more worried than she is about the consequences of curling while in a family way.

"I've never been concerned," said Johnston. "My body has grown through the season. Everything has naturally progressed.

"I feel good out there. I feel better in the hack than tying shoes."

Skip Jill Shumay rolled her eyes when hearing some of the questions inquiring minds were tossing at Johnson.

"I curled when I was pregnant," said the mother of two. "We're pregnant, not dying. It's

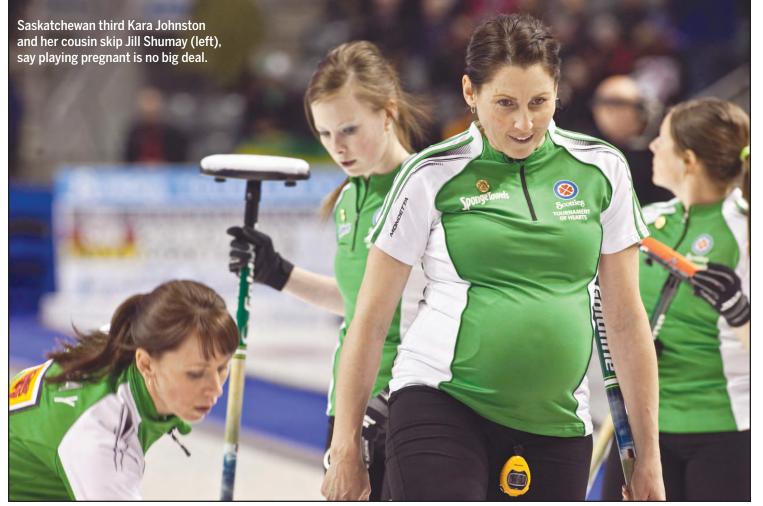
Manitoba skip Jennifer Jones might have had a little better timing, giving birth to daughter Isabella in November, but agrees maturity shouldn't sideline a curler.

"I was on the ice right up until a few days before I gave birth," said Jones. "I felt great.

"As long as you keep throwing and you feel great, there's no reason you can't. All the power

Learning your third is pregnant might cause





some skips to shudder. But Shumay said she never considered looking for a replacement when Johnston told her the news. The two women are cousins and Shumav also curled when she was pregnant.

"You're body slowly adjusts," Shumay said. "It's not like you hop in the hack for the first time seven months pregnant."

Megan Cormier, the 23-year-old second on the N.W.T./Yukon rink, has a son that will turn four next Monday. She gives Johnston full credit.

"I was saying I couldn't do it but props to her," said Cormier.

Johnston said not curling this year never occurred to her.

"Babies are a blessing," she said. "We (husband Darrin) were pretty excited and life goes on around it.

"My team is awesome. They have been so supportive the while time. None of them have ever doubted me. It's been good. With good physical conditioning and good nutrition, it's part of being a female athlete."

Johnston has even given some thought about what to do should the Saskatchewan rink win the Scotties and earn the chance to play at the women's world curling championship, March 16 to 24 in Riga, Latvia.

"My doctor jokes that I would just have to

take my physician with me if we go," she said.

Sweeping is never easy but Johnston said being pregnant hasn't made it any harder.

"It's not any more difficult than before," said the program director at Lakeland College in Lloydminster. "You still put everything into every single rock.

"I have worked very hard at maintaining my fitness so I am still at that level and I'm still an effective sweeper."

Having an extra passenger on board does present some challenges.

Johnston admits to getting tired.

"At the end of the day yes but during the game I feel pretty good," she said. "We have pretty good adrenaline. I feel pretty good from the beginning to the end."

There's also been some anxious moments waiting for a break in the game to use the bath-

"When you have somebody sitting on your bladder you use a few more trips," she said.

"I tend to hit the washroom two or three times during a game. That's probably one of the biggest challenges. I can't just hit the fifth end break anymore."



PURI ISHER-THE CANADIAN CURLING ASSOCIATION **EDITOR-IN-CHIEF:** LARRY WOOD MANAGING EDITOR: **FRED RINNE**

LEAD WRITER: JIM MORRIS PHOTOGRAPHER: ANDREW KLAVER **MEDIA PARTNER AND PRINTER:** KINGSTON WHIG-STANDARD/ QUEBECOR

GUEST COLUMNIST • RON BROWN

Lefty and Marg:

Ultimate volunteers

garet and Harvey Eugene McDonald , more commonly known as "Marg & Lefty" have made to the Kingston and area curling community since they first started tossing rocks in the Limestone City back in 1961 and 1960 respectively.

Today, five plus decades later, they are still curling three and four times every week ... and more importantly, their roles as volunteers continue to grow faster than the numbers on their biological calendars.

Ask Margaret about volunteering and she says, "It keeps us young and involved."

Lefty goes a step further, going back to United States President John F. Kennedy's inauguration speech and says: "Ask not what curling can do for you, but rather what you can do for curling."

And, believe me, they have done more than their fair share. Let's take a peek at their volunteer duties.



CONTINUED ON PAGE 16

Sponsor of the Day



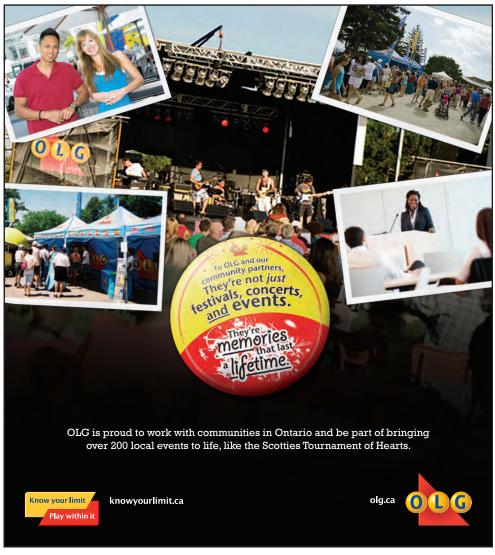
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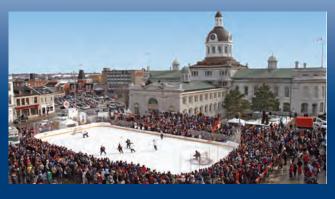


Welcome to a *Classic Winter* in Kingston.

Tourism Kingston and the City of Kingston welcome you to Canada's First Capital for the 2013 Scotties Tournament of Hearts! Spend the week with us and enjoy all the action at the K-Rock Centre and Heart Stop Lounge, score the hottest deals at our many boutiques and outlets, and get cozy in any one of our exceptional restaurants!

Extend your stay for one of our exciting upcoming events!

- The Tenors
 Feb 26 K-Rock Centre
- Diana Krall Feb 28 - K-Rock Centre
- Kingston Canadian
 Film Festival
 Feb 28-March 3
- Randy Bachman
 March 1 Grand Theatre





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Marg and Lefty McDonald

Marg:

• Committee member for the 150th anniversary of Kingston Curling Club (now the Royal Kingston Curling Club) in 1970

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 15

- Chair of the Ontario Intermediate Ladies final at KCC in 1981
- Chair of Eastern Ontario Ladies at KCC in
- Chair of Food committee at the Ontario Men's Curling Championship at KCC in 1995.
- Chair of Southern Ontario Ladies at Cataraqui (Cataraqui golf and Country Club) in 1999
- Chair of the all-Ontario Championship (Scotties) at Cataraqui in 2001.
- Statistician at Canadian Junior championship in Napanee in 2011.
- Timer at BDO Grand Slam curling championship at the K-Rock Centre in 2012.
- Timer Scotties Tournament of Hearts at K-Rock Centre right now

Lefty:

- Chaired the Men's 64-rink Whig-Standard Bonspiel for many seasons, along with Empire Life Mixed, Royal Trust Mixed-Mixed, Abramsky Mixed and numerous other secondary bonspiels
- Bonspiel chairman at the Kingston Curling Club 1969-72
- Public relations chairman 1972
- Vice-president of KCC in 1973-74
- President of KCC in 1974-75
- Past president in 1975-76
- Competitive curling OCA representative in 1976-78
- Chairman of the Ontario Men's Curling Championship (Labatt Tankard) at KCC in 1995.
- Founded and chaired the Kingston and District Senior Men's Major League in 1999 and still holds the same position today.
- Committee member at Ontario Men's championship in Napanee in 2010
- Statistician at the Canadian Junior curling championships in Napanee in 2011.
- Statistician at BDO Grand Slam at K-Rock Centre in 2012.
- Statistician at Scotties Tournament of

Hearts at the K-Rock Centre right now.

Sandwiched around their "off-ice duties" Kingston's most prominent curling couple has managed to compete in 20 provincial final competitions over the years. Marg was in 12, winning the Ladies Tweedsmuir in 1978 and 1979 and the Ontario Senior Mixed in 1987 with Lefty as her skip. Lefty won the Ontario Silver Tankard (Burdon Trophy) in 1975 and was runner-up on two other occasions in the same competition .

Locally, they have 33 club championships between them at both Kingston and Cataraqui. Both are life members at RKCC and joined Cataraqui Golf and Country Club together in 1988.

"I was a little reluctant to join there because I only knew of two Cataraquis in Kingston. One was the golf club and the other was the cemetery," said Lefty.

They are indeed Kingston 's curling couple... and are never idle. Both curl three or four times a week. Both play bridge two or three times a week. And both volunteer whenever and wherever they can. The only day Lefty will miss in the stat booth this week is Thursday, as he has a chemo treatment in the morning. In the summer, they are on the golf course two or three times every week.

"For an 80-year-old with a touch of cancer, I don't think it's really slowed me down that much."

Both are on the Wall of Fame at the Royal Kingston and are also the only husband-wife team in the Kingston and District Sports Hall of Fame. They were inducted in 2007 and their photos and accomplishments now adorn the walls at the K-Rock Centre. Lefty is also a member of the prestigious Governor-Generals Curling Club, which has only 125 members across Canada including the likes of former Brier winners Ernie Richardson and Ron Northcott. Lefty is the only Kingston member of this elite group and it will add further dates to his "volunteer calendar" in 2015 when the annual Governor-General's golf tournament will be held In Kingston.

"I'm not the chairman, but I'm on the committee," said Lefty.