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See Sponsor Profile on page 14



Alberta skip Kevin Koe lets loose Wednesday at the Tim Hortons Brier. The former champion is hanging in there with a record of 6-3.

Brier simply 'hard' work

Teams have no room to breathe

Kevin Koe's Team Alberta is through five days of the Tim Hortons Brier round-robin with a 6-3 record, they had just finished their second win of the day and what third Marc Kennedy was thinking was how very tough it has been.

"Man, this is hard," Kennedy said after they improved to 6-3. "You can't miss much in this field. Overall we're throwing the rock well, we all feel good, we're confident, now we just need to make a couple of big shots and catch a couple breaks and who knows. We're trying to get to seven wins as quickly as possible and we put ourselves in good position."

Koe, Kennedy, second Brent Laing and lead Ben Hebert beat British Columbia 7-2 Wednesday morning and Quebec 9-4 in the afternoon draw. Win their two games Thursday – against Team Canada in the morning and Saskatchewan in the evening – and Alberta will advance into the Page playoffs.

"But 6-3, if you had asked us before the event if we're happy at 6-3 going into the last day, I think we would say yes," said Kennedy. "Last year I think we were 4-5 going into the last day, so that was disappointing. This shows we've grown as a team and gotten better."

At last year's Brier in Calgary they won both games their final day but a 6-5 record wasn't good enough to advance. It might be here, but the Calgary-based Alberta team doesn't want to get into that scenario.

"We control our own destiny, which is always nice for getting into the playoffs, and that's all we're looking at," said Koe. "The way it's looking right now, if we win two (Thursday) we're looking like we're in the 3-4 game ... I wouldn't be shocked if

five losses has a chance (to make playoffs)."

Koe lost twice Tuesday but they bounced back well on Wednesday and are confident heading into the final two days of round-robin play.

"We've been playing well all week," said Koe, who won the Brier in 2010 and 2014. "Lost a couple, but we're up against good teams who are playing well, so that just happens. It kind of gets magnified, but a good day for sure and we're in a good spot."

"We needed a good day, especially after that tough performance (Tuesday) night," said Kennedy who won 2010 Olympic gold, along with Hebert, while playing for Kevin Martin. "It was a little tough to get up and get going this morning. You want to get right back out there, get rid of the negative energy and just get rolling again."

But they are fully aware there's no room for any letdowns. With the calibre of the field, any mistake can quickly lead to big ends, steals or defeats.

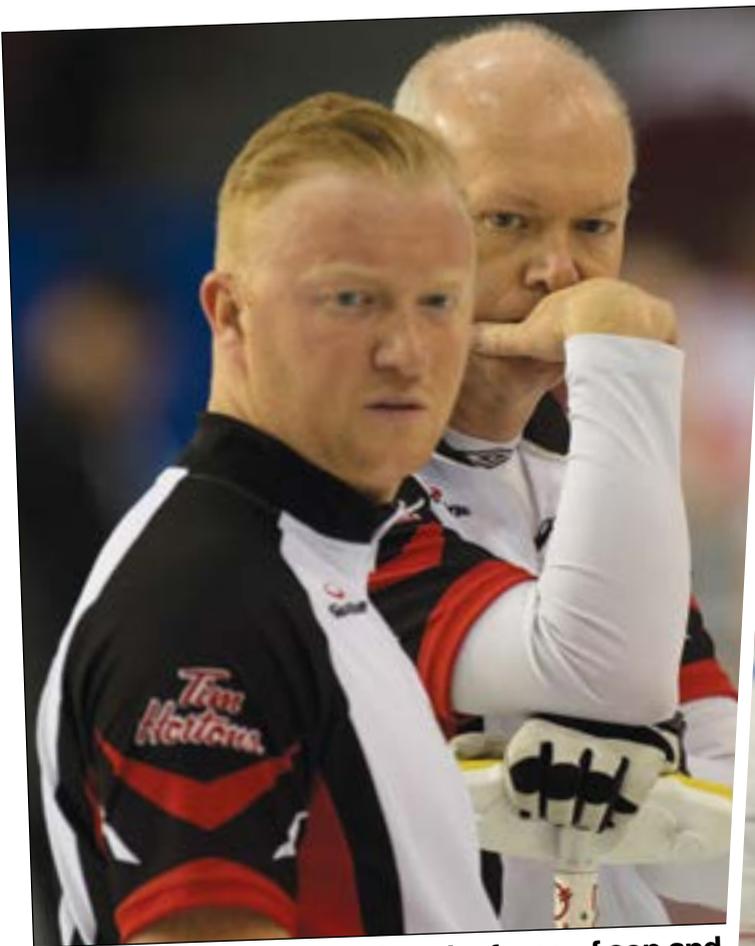
While Alberta still needs some wins, Brad Jacobs and his Northern Ontario team clinched a playoff berth Wednesday night with a 9-2 win over Jamie Koe of Northwest Territories. The win kept Jacobs unbeaten at 8-0.

Brad Gushue of Newfoundland-Labrador moved a step closer to the playoffs with a 7-6 win over Quebec that improved his record to 7-1. Brier rookie Mike McEwen of Manitoba beat Jim Cotter of B.C. 8-3 to remain in third spot at 6-2.

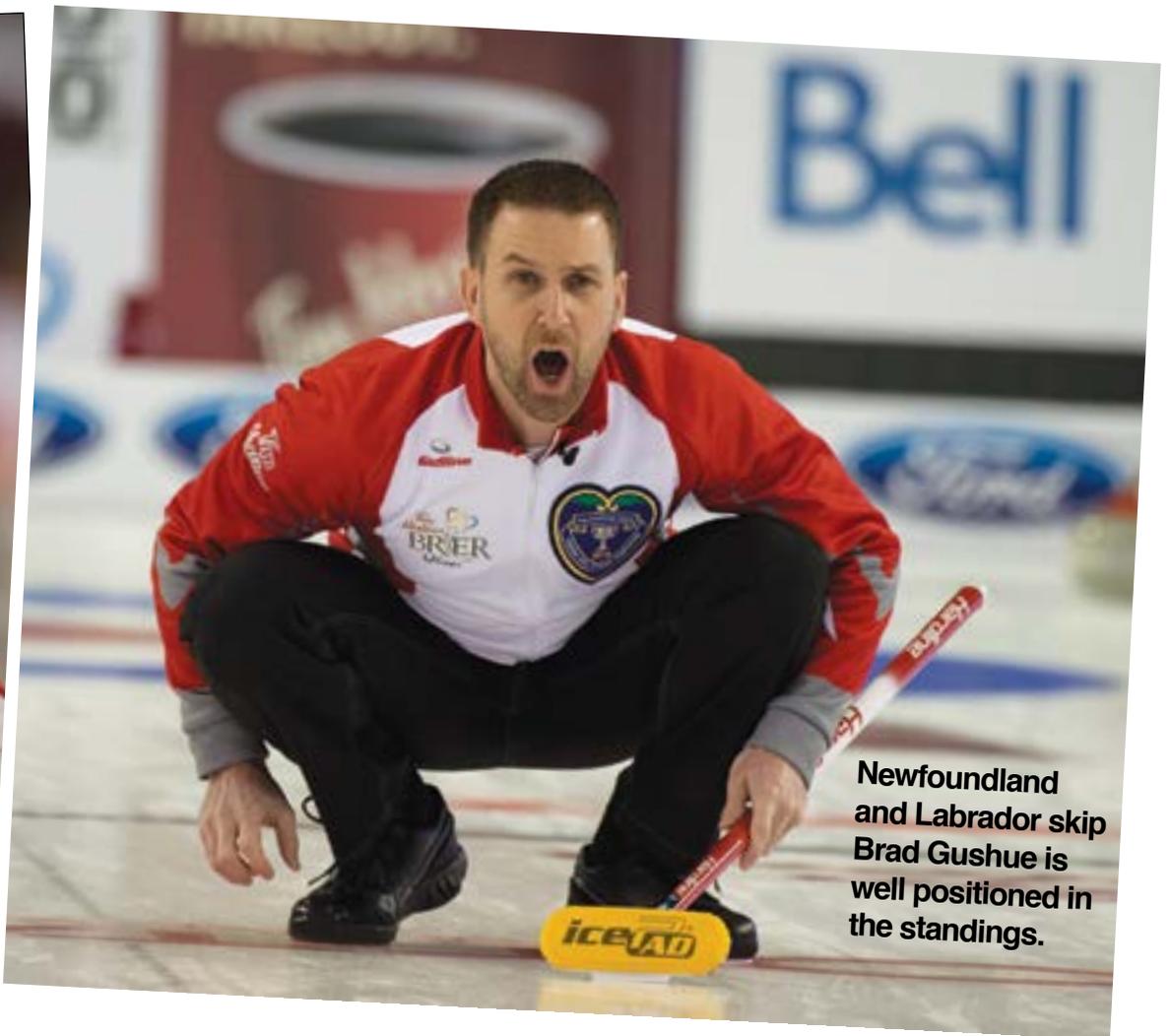
On the bubble and needing things to go their way are Pat Simmons and Team Canada (5-4), Steve Laycock of Saskatchewan (4-5), Jean-Michel Ménard of Quebec (3-5) and Mike Kennedy of New Brunswick (3-5).



Team Canada's John Morris is in full voice.



A look of concern is etched on the faces of son and dad, Scott and Glenn Howard, of Team Ontario.



Newfoundland and Labrador skip Brad Gushue is well positioned in the standings.

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Blake MacDonald (centre) and staff at Orangetheory Fitness.

 A photograph of Marc Kennedy, an Olympic curling gold medalist, using a rowing machine at an Orangetheory Fitness studio. The Orangetheory Fitness logo is overlaid on the image.

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By AL CAMERON

Tankard Times Contributor

It was a light-bulb moment for Blake MacDonald.

An owner of three Tim Hortons Brier Purple Hearts as an Alberta champ, a former Tim Hortons and world men's champion (both in 2010, throwing third rocks for Kevin Koe), MacDonald had stepped away from the Koe team, but was still semi-active on the competitive scene.

But then he came to a life-altering realization.

"When you're going to curling events because you love everything about it EXCEPT for the curling itself, then you start to question whether you should be doing something else, like going skiing," said MacDonald with a laugh.

Following his victory-lap 2010-11 season with Koe, MacDonald scaled back his curling schedule for various reasons — family, primarily, but also business interests and, yeah, the physical toll it was taking.

These days, MacDonald, 39, can be found far more often in arenas than curling rinks. He and his wife Lawnie are classic hockey-ringette parents, as son Spencer (12) and daughter Bronwyn, nine, are highly active.

The family ski trips are also a priority, and eased any lingering doubts about leaving competitive curling.

But make no mistake — MacDonald still pays attention, both as a fan, and as a sponsor of the 2016 Tim Hortons Brier here in Ottawa.

MacDonald is the president of Orangetheory Fitness Canada, one of the many sponsors of the 2016 Tim Hortons Brier and the fastest-growing fitness brand in the business.

His involvement with Orangetheory came about largely thanks to a tip from a business acquaintance.

Back in 2011, as MacDonald was winding down his final season with Team Koe, and having sold his fitness club business a couple years earlier, MacDonald and business partner David Hardy were looking for new opportunities, and got a tip to fly to Fort Lauderdale, Fla., to check out the first location of Orangetheory Fitness.

"We went and had a look, and we loved it so much that we negotiated the rights, before there was even a franchise, to the concept here in Canada," said MacDonald. "There were no locations; it was a very green brand, and even the studio in Fort Lauderdale was barely making any money. But we saw the potential in it."

MacDonald opened the first Canadian Orangetheory location in his home town of St. Albert, Alta., in October 2012, and since then, 24 Canadian locations have opened, with another 26 set to open this year alone; there are more than 400 open locations now in North America, and another 800 licences awarded in 22 countries worldwide.

"It's a very unique concept in the fitness club



The neat thing is that it's not just for elite athletes.

— Blake MacDonald

business," said MacDonald. "It's a science-based studio concept designed by exercise physiologists to help build muscle endurance and overall toning, and we're finding that a lot of curlers are benefitting from it."

Orangetheory sponsors the current edition of Team Koe (playing here in Ottawa as Team Alberta) and works with several other high-profile curlers, including Carter Rycroft (second for Team Canada), Team Kelsey Rocque and members of Team Rachel Homan.

"It's an amazing workout for curlers; curling is about muscle endurance, it's about playing three games in a day and you're burning 2,500 calories a game," said MacDonald. "You need strength, but it needs to be used over a long period of time (during a championship event) in short intervals. The interval training portion of the Orangetheory program just lends itself so well to curling. It's almost like it's designed for curling."

"But the neat thing is that it's not just for elite athletes. You'll see those guys working out next to an older person who's 50 pounds overweight. They're doing the exact same workout, and because of the heart-rate monitoring system, they're working at the correct intensity to accomplish what they need for their bodies. There's a trainer there helping you with your form, monitoring your intensity, and making sure you have the best experience possible."

MacDonald will be in Ottawa as a sponsor, and it'll be another reminder of why the Tim Hortons Brier remains so special to him.

"It's the event itself; the Brier is so Canadian," he said. "So many people come to the event who really don't know that much about curling, but they're there to cheer for their province and party in the Patch. That's what I was looking forward to. That's what I miss about it, for sure."

A prairie drought

Curling fans in Sask. may have to wait 'til next year

By **DAVE KOMOSKY**
Tankard Times Editor

Every year they come to the Brier with high hopes, these green-clad curlers, and every year they return home empty-handed — some of them with their tails between their legs.

The biggest Brier baffle during the past three decades has been Saskatchewan's inability to win the big one.

Saskatoon's Rick Folk was the last to do it, and that was in 1980, 36 years ago. That's ancient history.

Keep in mind that during Saskatchewan's Brier drought, two of its teams have been disasters. Don Gardiner of Lemberg came home with a woebegone 1-10 record, while

Quill Lake's Doug Harcourt was a miserable 3-8 in 1994.

This record of futility is something of an embarrassment for a province that lays claims to Ernie Richardson, and despite its record is still pretty deep in curling talent.

The mystery likely remains unsolved.

Saskatoon's Steve Laycock came, he tried, and for the first five days he has yo-yoed at the Ottawa Tim Hortons Brier, meaning that unless a miracle happens in the next few days, the sodbusters will have to wait yet another year to try to change their horrid luck.

It was supposed to be

different this year. Laycock, a Brier vet and a regular on the cashspiel circuit, was expected to challenge this year, a year removed from his bronze-medal finish last year in Calgary. He had the talent, the experience and much support from the good folks from Saskatchewan who made the trek to Ottawa.

All of that has meant squat this week. Laycock and his Saskatoon Nutana crew have been up and down all week, and a 4-5 record is about what they deserve.



See SASK.
Page 8

Steve Laycock has been up and down this week.



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— Angus McStone

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Official tags: #BRIER2016 #AngusMcStone



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THURSDAY, MARCH 10 | 6:00 P



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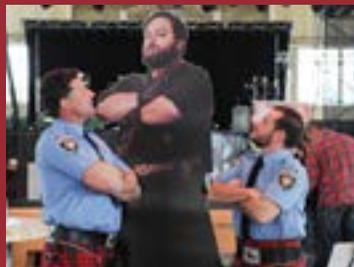


TEAM PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND



★ CONTEST ALERT! ★

Send us your photos or videos on Twitter & Instagram showing off your 'Brier Spirit' & 'Patch Spirit'! Use the tags [#BrierSpirit](#) & [#PatchSpirit](#) or private message us your pics on Facebook and you could win a Spirit of Curling Calendar or Colleen Jones' book *Throwing Rocks at Houses*. Plus! You could be featured right here in tomorrow's edition of The Tankard Times! Good luck!



THEY SAID WHAT!?

“
THE ORIGINAL TEAM WITH WAYNE & WITH MY SON ONLY BEING 25, WE STILL HAVE A TEAM AGE OF 173 YEARS OLD. REPLACING WAYNE WITH ADAM WE ARE STILL 167!
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Sask.

FROM PAGE 5

But that is hardly what Laycock had in mind.

So, what in the name of Doug Wankel has happened on the road to glory?

“Every single game we’ve had a chance to win, but we haven’t closed off a few of them,” says Laycock. “The other teams have had to play their best to beat us, so at least we’ve made them do that.”

So, with one dry well after the other, perhaps there’s something wrong with the system that has produced only two national champions since Richardson ruled the game in the late ‘50s and early ‘60s (impress your friends, Harvey Mazinke was the only other Brier winner in 1973).

The system seems OK. CURLSASK revamped its provincial system several years ago to include Tour teams, assuring some of the best teams would be in the mix for the provincial title.

Amber Holland, who recently stepped down as executive-director of CURLSASK, says there’s nothing wrong with the system. It’s what Saskatchewan teams do when they get to the Brier that may be the problem.

“I still think we have some pretty solid teams that come out of Saskatchewan,

and we are curling rich (17,000 provincial curlers), but to win a national championship you have to put your best foot forward, at that time, in that moment, and obviously the teams that have gone from here haven’t figured out how to do that.

“I don’t think it’s necessarily about the skill or talent, it’s probably about managing that week . . . managing those moments, and when getting to the big games about how you manage those. That’s sports. There’s no magic formula.”

Laycock adds another element. Luck. He believes the stubblejumpers just haven’t gotten their fair share of it lately.

“When I played with Pat (Simmons) in ‘08 we got to the Page game and we had a pick on the final rock. Last year we were a whisker away from making a three-ender in 10 to get to the semifinal. You need some breaks along the way.”

Laycock vowed his team will fight to the finish.

“We have some tough games coming up and we’re going to have to grind it out,” he says.

And right now that’s all that Saskatchewan fans can cling to. That, and the fact there’s always next year.”



CURLING QUIZ



1. He said it: “I remember the first event I ever won. I think I was 12 years old and I think I won a Nintendo Game Boy, which at the time was the coolest prize ever.”

- a) Glenn Howard.
- b) Jean-Michel Menard.
- c) Pat Simmons.
- d) John Morris.

2. No skip has won more Brier games than this curling legend’s 113:

- a) Glenn Howard.
- b) Russ Howard.
- c) Kevin Martin.
- d) Jeff Stoughton.

3. Fifteen teams have run the table at the Brier. The last skip to go undefeated was:

- a) Kevin Martin.
- b) Greg McAuley.
- c) Randy Ferbey.
- d) Vic Peters.

4. True or False: Newfoundland and Labrador skip Brad Gushue doesn’t know where his 2006 Olympic gold medal is stored.

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

5. Ontario coach and former Brier champion Wayne Middaugh once jokingly listed this as his workout regimen:

- a) Drink, draw and win.
- b) Spaghetti, meatballs and one more round.
- c) Two seconds of stretching and two hours of elbow bending.
- d) Who has time to work out?

ANSWERS: OPPOSITE PAGE



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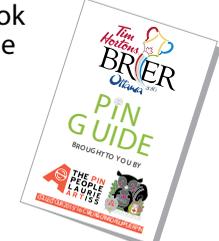
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Q&A

With Carla Qualtrough Canada's Minister of Sports



The Minister of Sports with members of Team Canada.

Canada's Minister of Sports, Carla Qualtrough, a two-time Paralympic medallist in swimming, was at the Tim Hortons Brier this week. In a chat with the Tankard Times, she addressed several issues.

Q: WHERE DOES YOUR PASSION LIE IN SPORTS?

A: I think my passion lies in the possibility of sports. The idea that it brings out the best in us, it allows us to be part of something bigger than ourselves, as a country, as a team, or however you find yourself in sports. It's a means to something, but it's also an ends.

Sports has given me so much perspective. I'm absolutely certain I wouldn't be where I am today, or who I am today, if it wasn't for sports.

Q: AS MINISTER OF SPORTS, YOU ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR FUNDING OF SPORTS IN CANADA. ARE YOU SATISFIED WITH THE WAY FUNDING IS PROVIDED AND THE WAY IT IS BEING SPENT?

A: That's a tough question. There's always room for improvement. Coming into this portfolio and having a new government we have a chance to look and see how things have been done and where we can, I wouldn't say improve, but just move forward. Is this the best approach to maximize the public investment we're making in sports? Is our focus properly on targeted excellence? Should we be investing more on participation? If I ask the average Canadian taxpayer, 'Where would you like me to spend your money?' what would they say? Is it on an Olympic medal, is it on getting a kid off the couch, and where in that mix?

Q: THAT'S A DEBATE THAT'S BEEN ONGOING FOR DECADES. WILL THAT EVER CHANGE?

A: No, but I think we have to invest in both. It's in the pride of a nation and the health of a nation. We're proud to be Canadians, we're proud that our athletes are successful and they inspire our youths to get off the couch. So then we have more kids who are active because they have strong role models who are good athletes, who participate in good sports. They're clean and espouse the values that we like to think we stand for here in Canada.



See **MINISTER**
Page 16

QUIZ ANSWERS

1. John Morris was the 12-year-old kid curler all excited about winning a Nintendo Game Boy.

2. Russ (Hurry Hard!) Howard represented both Ontario and New Brunswick at the Brier, collecting 113 victories.

3. Not only did Kevin Martin and his Alberta mates run the table in 2008, they repeated the feat a year later just to prove it wasn't a fluke.

4. It's true, Brad Gushue doesn't know where his gold medal is stored. He explains: "My wife and my mother seem to have taken ownership of it and keep



track of it for me. If I go to an event, they'll go and get it for me and hand it to me, and then I hand it back to them when I'm done."

5. Time was when Wayne Middaugh would drink, draw and win (or so he joked).



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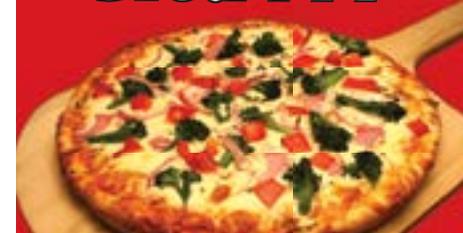
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Profile: Alberta

The Glencoe Club (Calgary) Coach: John Dunn

Kevin Koe

SKIP

Age: 41
Born: Edmonton
Residence: Calgary
Marital status: Married
Children: None
Employment: Surface Landman, Repsol Oil & Gas Canada
Single greatest personal achievement: 2010 World Champion
Strong likes: None
Dislikes: None
Favourite food: Seafood
Favourite drink: Red Wine
Most treasured possession: Brier rings
Other life interests: Golfing
Words to live by: Have fun



Mark Kennedy

THIRD

Age: 34
Born: St Albert, AB
Residence: St Albert
Marital status: Married to Nicole Kennedy
Children: Aubrey 7, Brechan 4
Employment: RBC Olympic Ambassador MBA Student University of Alberta
Single greatest personal achievement: 2010 Olympic Gold
Strong likes: Golf, my family, steak
Dislikes: Bad drivers, waiters and waitresses who don't write down the order
Favourite food: Steak
Favourite drink: Genethix Compete formula
Three words that describe you: Organized, determined, family man
Most treasured possession: Olympic Medal
Other life interests: Golf, running, camping with my family
Words to live by: Treat others the way you want to be treated



Brent Laing

SECOND

Age: 37
Born: Meaford, ON
Residence: Horseshoe Valley, ON
Marital status: Married to Jennifer Jones
Children: Isabella 3 and Wil 9
Employment: Operations Manager — Weed Man Barrie/Collingwood
Single greatest personal achievement: Successfully rooming with Ben Hebert
Strong likes: All of Team Koe sponsors — Meridian, Weed Man, WSP, UFA, Wild Rows, Repsol, Trinidad Drilling, Pomeroy Inn and Suites, North Cariboo Air
Dislikes: Sweeping to make rocks curl or slow down.
Favourite food: Italian
Favourite drink: Vanilla vodka and Coke
Three words that describe you: Middle-aged, balding, man
Other life interests: Golf, travel, boating



Ben Hebert

LEAD

Age: 32
Born: Regina
Residence: Chestermere, AB
Marital status: Married to Teddi
Children: Daughter Sloane 2
Employment: Business Development Geomatics — WSP Canada
Single greatest personal achievement: Olympic Gold 2010
Strong likes: Golf
Dislikes: Golf
Favourite food: Sushi
Favourite drink: Depends on time of day
Three words that describe you: I dunno, I think I'm a beauty, but some would say not!
Most treasured possession: No idea. Maybe my Visa?
Other life interests: Family time, hockey, football



Scott Pfeifer

FIFTH

Age: 39
Born: St. Albert, AB
Residence: Sherwood Park, AB
Marital status: Married to Chantelle
Children: Marlow 14, Dominic 12
Employment: Business owner, Ventures North Financial Group
Single greatest personal achievement: Still to come
Strong likes: Winning, travelling
Dislikes: Loud chewers
Favourite food: Too many to choose from
Favourite drink: Ice cold beer
Three words that describe you: rational, motivated, analytical.
Most treasured possession: Freedom
Other life interests: Skiing, golf, travel
Words to live by: Work hard, play hard



FACTS

Population: 3,645,257
Area: 661,848 sq. km
Joined Confederation: 1905
Motto: "Strong and free"
Capital City: Edmonton
Languages Spoken: 77% English, 2% French, 21% other
Economy: Petroleum, agriculture, technology, tourism.



ALBERTA AT THE BRIER
Last five years:
 2015: Kevin Koe (6-5)
 2014: Kevin Koe (9-2 Gold)
 2013: Kevin Martin (7-4)
 2012: Kevin Koe (8-3 Silver)
 2011: Kevin Martin (9-2)
Last championship — Kevin Koe (2014)
Canadian titles — 26
World titles — 10 (Hec Gervais 1961, Ron Northcott 1968-69, Ed Lukowich 1986, Pat Ryan 1989, Randy Ferbey 2002-03, 2005, Kevin Martin 2008, Kevin Koe 2010).
Other prominent male curlers from Alberta — Wally Ursulak, Matt Baldwin, Warren Hansen.



Junior Stars are saluted Wednesday at the Brier.

Juniors get star treatment

The 2016 Tim Hortons Brier rolled out the red carpet for young curlers Brooklyn Lalonde and Mackenzie Weedmark on Wednesday afternoon: the best seats in the house, up-close and personal time with the players – even free, autographed team jackets.

It's all because Lalonde, 16, and Weedmark, 12, are among 24 budding curlers selected from the Ottawa area as Junior Stars for the 2016 Tim Hortons Brier.

Over the course of this year's Canadian men's curling championship, they got the chance to meet players face-to-face, be introduced during pre-game ceremonies and, with two family members, watch teams warm up and play from VIP benches at ice level.

"It's was pretty amazing," said Weedmark, who has curled with her family since she was seven. "You get to meet the team, you get to know so much stuff about them and you can ask them questions."

Junior Stars at this year's Brier also got to tour the TSN mobile broadcast truck and media stands, where they saw how games get packaged and sent to viewers across the country.

"We got to see all the camera videos and we got to see them fast forward and rewind all the shots. I'm surprised at

how they can figure out all the buttons. They don't even look at them half the time," said Lalonde, who curls with Weedmark at the Granite Curling Club of West Ottawa.

Lalonde and Weedmark walked away from TD Place with some Brier swag, too. On Wednesday afternoon, they gave homemade curling hats to members of Glenn Howard's Ontario rink, and in return, got a signed broomhead and Team Ontario coats.

To choose this year's group of Junior Stars, Brier organizers received two rounds of applications from more than 60 young curlers aged 12-16. Each answered the question, "What does curling mean to me?" in their own way.

"We had so many different submissions. We had photomontages, poems, short stories, videos – everything you could imagine," said Andrea Weedmark, the Brier's Director of Game Day Activities. "There were some that we laughed at and others where we actually cried. Some very emotional stories and they were so beautifully done."

"It's just such an amazing opportunity for these kids and they are embracing it," she said. "It's really nice to get it out there to introduce them to this level of curling."

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Profile: *Canada*

The Glencoe Club (Calgary) Coach: Earle Morris

Pat Simmons

SKIP

Born: Moose Jaw SK
Residence: Moose Jaw SK
Marital status: Married to Cindy
Children: Makena 10, Max 8
Employment: Chiropractor
Single greatest personal achievement: TBD



Strong likes: Hiking in the mountains, tennis (especially watching), the Continental Cup tomatoes, needles, arrogance
Favourite food: Sushi
Favourite drink: Forty Creek, water and a bit of cola
Three words that describe you: Methodical, determined, helpful
Most treasured possession: Family and friends
Other life interests: Hiking, travel, following kids sports, hunting (new found)
Words to live by: Treat others as you wish to be treated

John Morris

THIRD

Age: 37
Born: Winnipeg
Residence: Canmore, AB
Marital status: Single
Employment: Chestermere Fire Service
Single greatest personal achievement: 2010 Olympic Gold Medallist



Strong likes: Sports, outdoors, nutrition, food, travelling, friendly genuine people
Dislikes: Cucumbers
Favourite food: Whole foods
Favourite drink: Mill Street
Three words that describe you: Passionate, ambitious, outdoorsman
Most treasured possession: My fishing rod
Other life interests: Fishing, hunting, camping, cooking, vinyl
Words to live by: How much wood could a woodchuck chuck if a woodchuck could chuck wood?

Carter Rycroft

SECOND

Age: 38
Born: Grande Prairie, AB
Residence: Sherwood Park AB
Marital status: Married to Sheila Rycroft
Children: Jayden 20, Leah 11, Ryker 1
Employment: Owner Prairie West Ventures/Majestic Rentals



Strong likes: Freedom, capitalism
Dislikes: Government officials who break the law but never go to jail
Favourite food: Steak king crab
Favourite drink: Red wine
Three words that describe you: Good friend, teammate
Other life interests: Fishing, hunting, golf
Words to live by: Do not trust your government

Nolan Thiessen

LEAD

Age: 35
Born: Pilot Mound, MB
Residence: Spruce Grove AB
Marital Status: Married to Christine Sinclair
Children: Taylor 18, Tyra 12, Mason 3
Employment: Self employed accountant and curler
Single greatest personal achievement:



Staying above the dirt every day
Strong likes: Winning curling games
Dislikes: Losing curling games
Favourite food: Pizza
Favourite drink: Canadian Whiskey
Three words that describe you: Rockhead, seamhead, sneakerhead
Most treasured possession: Brier champion rings
Other life interests: Baseball, boxing, working out, running
Words to live by: If your dreams don't scare you they aren't big enough

Thomas Sallows

FIFTH

Age: 32
Born: Grande Prairie, AB
Residence: Grande Prairie
Marital status: Single
Children: None
Employment: Hunting guide/outfitter, concrete finisher



Single greatest personal achievement: Starting, running a business
Strong likes: Like anything outdoors
Dislikes: Rush hour, politics
Favourite food: Sushi, wild meat, pizza
Favourite drink: White Owl spiced whisky
Three words that describe you: Hardworking, relentless, try to get most out of life
Most treasured possession: Mountain back pack because it's gotten me out of more jams than I can count
Other life interests: Fishing, hunting, baseball, weight training, whitewater rafting, travelling

FACTS

Population: 35,345,000
Area: 9,984,670 km²
Moto: A Mari usque ad Mare ("From Sea to Sea")
Capital City: Ottawa
Ethnic groups: 76.7% White, 14.2% Asian, 4.3% Aboriginal, 2.9% Black, 1.2% Latin American, 0.5% multiracial, 0.3% other
Principal Products: Manufacturing, agriculture, technology.



TEAM CANADA AT THE BRIER

Last five years
 2015: Pat Simmons 7-4 (Gold)
 2014: N/A
 2013: N/A
 2012: N/A
 2011: N/A

Last championship — Pat Simmons 2015
Canadian titles — 1
World titles — None

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HALL OF FAME

Hometown high for two members

By **PATRICK BUTLER**

Tankard Times Writer

Two high-profile hometown curlers were inducted into the Canadian Curling Hall of Fame Wednesday night.

Earle Morris, an Ottawa native and Team Canada's coach at the 2016 Tim Hortons Brier, and Pierre Charette, originally from Gatineau and one of Quebec's most accomplished curlers, were honoured at a Hall of Fame banquet Wednesday night along with fellow inductees Ina Forrest, Darryl Neighbour and Bob Weeks.

"I've loved the game of curling since way back when. I love it as much today as I loved it then," said Morris, who is currently coaching his son John's team at the Brier. "It's nice to be recognized for doing something you love."

Morris's honour comes decades into a

curling career in which he mentored Canadian champions Rachel Homan and Pat Simmons, as well as his son, John.

"If I look from a coaching point of view I like to think that I just was a good generalist, who could help people in all of the areas. Each team needs something different and I think I'm good at recognizing that and helping in that area," Morris said.

Morris and Charette, a seven-time Quebec champion who also played an integral role developing the Grand Slam curling events series, were honoured in the curler/builders category for their contributions to the sport both on and off the ice.

"I'm pretty proud to be inducted as a curler/builder," Charette said. "I think I've had a two-part career. I've had a lot



Hall of Fame inductees were honoured Wednesday evening. Back row, L-R, Pierre Charette, Earle Morris, Bob Weeks; front row, Ina Forrest, Darryl Neighbour.

of fun, played with some great guys, and then when I took over as the president of the (World) Players Association and all the turmoil around the Grand Slams, you know, I kind of think of that as a second career."

Charette, the only curler ever to play at the Canadian curling championship in all four positions, said it's especially important to him to become a Hall of Fame member

because so few Quebec curlers have been given the honour. Morris said becoming a Hall of famer in his own backyard makes the honour that much more special for him.

"It's wonderful. Because we're in our hometown, my daughters and their husbands can be here, my wife can be here, John can be here," Morris said. "It really couldn't be better."

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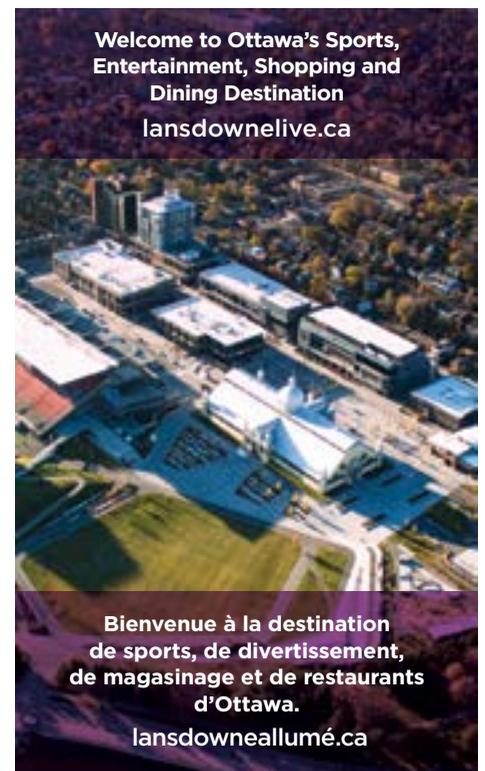
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BRIER SCOREBOARD

STANDINGS

	W	L
N. Ontario (Jacobs)	8	0
NL (Gushue)	7	1
Manitoba (McEwen)	6	2
Alberta (K. Koe)	6	3
Canada (Simmons)	5	4
Saskatchewan (Laycock)	4	5
Ontario (Howard)	4	5
Quebec (Ménard)	3	5
New Brunswick (Kennedy)	3	5
B.C. (Cotter)	2	6
P.E.I. (Casey)	1	7
NWT (J. Koe)	1	7

SCHEDULE

TODAY

9:30 a.m. Draw

A—ON vs. SK; B—CA vs. AB; C—BC vs. NL; D—PE vs. NT

2:30 p.m. Draw

A—PE vs. NL; B—BC vs. NT; C—NO vs. MB; D—NB vs. QC

7:30 p.m. Draw

A—MB vs. QC; B—NO vs. NB; C—CA vs. ON; D—SK vs. AB



LINESCORES

Draw 11

9:30 a.m.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
B.C. (Cotter)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	x	x		— 5
Alberta (K. Koe)	*0	3	0	0	2	0	1	1	x	x		— 7
Ontario (Howard)	1	0	1	3	0	2	2	0	x	x		— 9
PEI (Casey)	*0	2	0	0	1	0	0	1	x	x		— 4
Territories (J. Koe)	1	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	0	— 4
Saskatchewan (Laycock)	*0	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	— 5
NL (Gushue)	*0	3	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	2		— 7
Canada (Simmons)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	0	0		— 3

Draw 12

2:30 p.m.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
New Brunswick (Kennedy)	*0	2	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0		— 4
Canada (Simmons)	0	0	1	0	0	0	2	0	0	3		— 6
Saskatchewan (Laycock)	0	0	1	0	1	1	0	1	1	0		— 5
Manitoba (McEwen)	*2	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	1		— 6
Alberta (K. Koe)	*2	0	1	0	2	0	0	4	x	x		— 9
Quebec (Ménard)	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	0	x	x		— 4
Ontario (Howard)	*1	0	0	0	2	0	1	0	0	0		— 4
N. Ontario (Howard)	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	3	0	1		— 6

Draw 13

7:30 p.m.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	Total
Territories (J. Koe)	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	x	x	— 2
N. Ontario (Jacobs)	*2	3	0	3	0	0	1	0	x	x	— 9
NL (Gushue)	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	1	0	1	— 7
Quebec (Ménard)	*1	2	0	1	0	1	0	0	1	0	— 6
New Brunswick (Kennedy)	*1	2	0	1	0	1	0	2	0	x	— 7
PEI (Casey)	0	0	1	0	1	0	1	0	1	x	— 4
Manitoba (McEwen)	0	0	0	2	0	0	3	1	2	x	— 8
B.C. (Cotter)	*2	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	x	— 3

* — Last rock

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FROM PAGE 4

Q: TWO OF CANADA'S PREMIERE DISABLED SKIERS ARE VIVIAN FOREST AND KIMBERLY JOINES. DOES IT BOTHER YOU AT ALL THAT PREMIERE DISABLED ATHLETES GET SO LITTLE RECOGNITION?

A: Yeah, of course it bothers me and we have to do more to increase the awareness of our para-athletes, but we also have to look at this in context of the whole movement. You have to look at how far we've come. When I swam in the Paralympics . . . my parents had to pay for my uniform, they had to pay for my ticket, so I represented my country with my parents paying for me to do that.

Athletes in today's generation, they don't even know that happened. So we've come a long way. We've got a long way to go but athletes like Vivian are going to push the limits and they're going to challenge those stereotypes and they're going to lead us to a point where people understand that sport is just sport.

Q: PARALYMPIC HAVE BEEN SORT OF JOINED TO THE OLYMPICS. DO YOU SEE THAT AS A GOOD THING, OR DO PEOPLE SEE IT AS JUST AN ADD-ON TO THE REAL GAMES?

Q: It's a question that's debated quite fiercely internationally in the Paralympic movement. I'm of the opinion it's exactly where it needs to be right now, particularly in our stage of development. If it became one event, I think we would lose a lot of Paralympic athletes in sports and events and disciplines and I'm not prepared to do that. I'm of the all of us or none of us approach. I think if it was before the Olympics it would be perceived as a test event so all the kinks could be worked out. So I think it's exactly where it needs to be and we will work more at creating the equality of the event and the medal, so we have athletes understanding that a gold Paralympic medal is the same as a gold Olympic medal.

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