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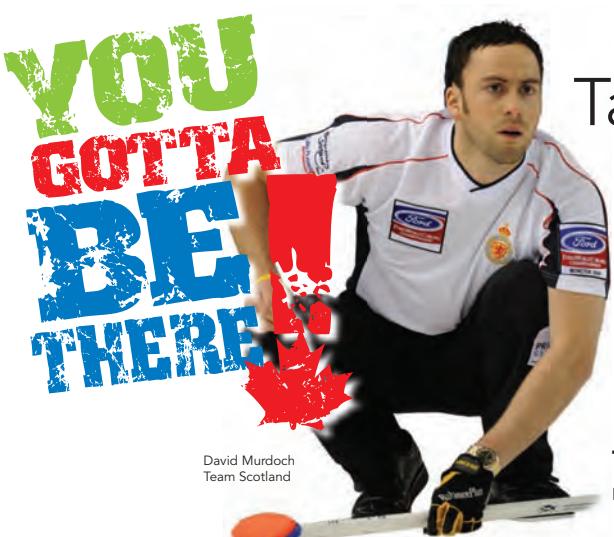
North Americans win seven
of nine showdowns on Day 1
at the Continental Cup



North America 42



World 12



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The seventh Continental Cup swept into gear Thursday morning with women's team games at Servus Credit Union Place. Above, Erika Brown's Team North America quartet from Madison, Wis., applies the brushes, while at right, Carmen Schaefer and Janine Grenier of Mirjam Ott's Team World foursome give the ice a polish.



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Hosts hold very hot hand out of the hack

**Larry Wood
and Todd Kimberley**
Morning Cup Editors

It may be early days at the World Financial Group Continental Cup but the form chart from the past more than supports the premise that this issue is far from being decided.

Team North America may have compiled a whopping 42-12 point lead over Team World on Thursday resulting from six team games (four wins) and three rounds of mixed doubles (a sweep) at Servus Credit Union Place. But stats show the eventual Cup winner has shown the way following Day One only twice in six previous editions of curling's Ryder Cup-style event.

For the record, Team World led after three rounds of the inaugural event and lost. Ditto Team North America in Continental Cup II and North America again in Continental Cup IV — both won by Team World.

The teams were dead even after opening-day play in Continental Cup III.

The past two events have been closer to first-day form with the leaders carrying on to eventual triumph.

On the other hand, no team has previously surpassed 40 points for starters.

"I kind of like that one stat but not the other," said Thomas Ulsrud of Norway,

the lone World winner on the men's side in late-shift team games.

"We need a big day tomorrow now. I really don't like the feeling. They may be getting too far ahead."

Ulsrud, with Torger Nergaard, Christoffer Svae and Havard Vad Petersson, defeated world champion Kevin Koe of Edmonton 7-2, stealing five points over the last four ends and three in the seventh end when Koe slipped a last-rock draw through the rings.

Elsewhere in the evening, Olympic champion Kevin Martin skipped his team of John Morris, Marc Kennedy and Ben Hebert past David Murdoch's World all-stars 6-4 and Pete Fenson (Shawn Rojeski, Joe Polo, Ryan Brunt) of the U.S. executed a clutch last-rock double to subdue Niklas Edin of Sweden 5-3.

China's Bingyu Wang contributed Team World's other points in the morning, rebounding for a 9-7 win over Erika Brown of the U.S.

Otherwise, it was all home side.

"It was a good day," said Martin, who contributed a dozen points to the lead, joining Ann Swisshelm of the U.S. in a 6-4 mixed

doubles win over Edin and Monika Wagner of Germany. "Every point counts in this because it always comes down to a couple of points

here and there."

Fenson controlled his match with the Swedes but needed the key shot to squelch a late comeback bid

from Edin and Co.

"He almost made his last one really good," said the Bemidji, Minn., pizza parlour operator. "If he rolled it underneath there, it makes my shot much tougher."

Edin made the last one to confront Fenson with three rocks but the shot to win was left open.

"It's nice to win the first one," said Fenson, the 2006 Olympic bronze medal winner. "We've been gone from this too long. This is a great event. There's nothing like this."

Joining in the mixed doubles sweep, Susan O'Connor (Calgary) and

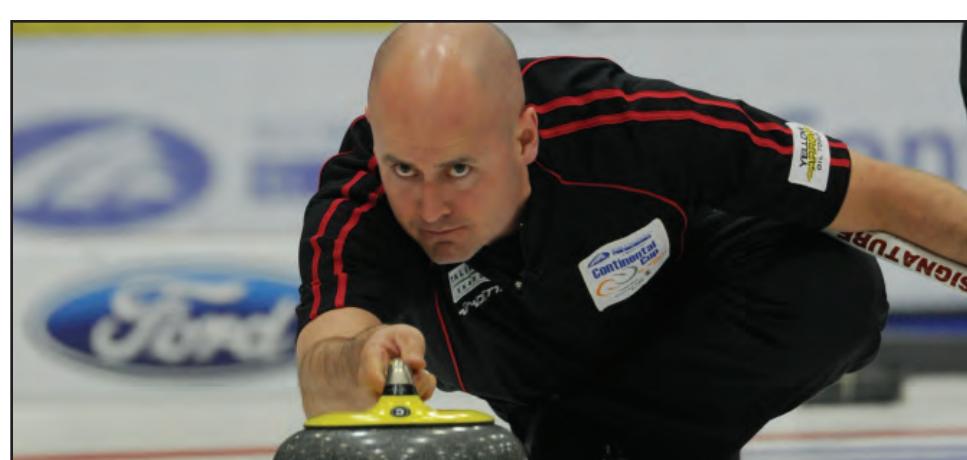


At left, Cheryl Bernard kicked off proceedings Thursday with a 6-2 morning win over Andrea Schoepp, whose crew includes Stella Heiss (L) and Corinna Scholz. Niklas Edin, top, dropped a men's team game to Pete Fenson's crew, above, by a 5-3 count. Below left, Kevin Koe was the lone North American skip to lose in Thursday's night draw, dropping a 7-2 decision to Thomas Ulsrud.

Rojeski (Chisholm, Minn.) teamed to defeat Ulsrud (Norway) and Wang (China) 7-6 in the tightest of three mixed doubles openers on the Cup's afternoon docket.

Elsewhere, Canadian champion Jennifer Jones of Winnipeg and Carter Rycroft of Edmonton hammered Torger Nergaard (Norway) and Yan Zhou (China) 12-4.

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CONTINENTAL CUP FLASHBACK: MEDICINE HAT 2004

Nedohin's nifty shot clinches win for Can-Am gang

Morning Cup staff

TIt was the Hit in the Hat.

The most successful Continental Cup venture to date with a 4,000-seat icehouse in Medicine Hat sold out for every toss of the rock.

And, again, no scriptwriter could have matched the scenario. This time, during the last week of November '04, Team North America surged out in front — 48 points after a Day-Three singles near-sweep — and then scrambled to hold on and win the rubber match on the very last \$75,000 shot of the very last exchange in the very last men's skins debate involving Randy Ferbey of Edmonton and Peter (call me Peja) Lindholm of Ostersund, Sweden.

Oh yes, and still the margin of victory turned

out to be the biggest — a matter of 56 points. That's because all the marbles were decided on a whopping 33-point carryover.

The margin was 14 in favour of the Amerks the first time around in 2002 at Regina, 29 in favour of the Europeans the next go-round in 2003 at Thunder Bay.

Organizing committee chairman Desmond Grant, 65, termed it "some of the most exciting work I've ever done."

Final attendance for the four-day event was a record 42,317.

"I was excited because I feel the potential is there to make this event one of best in the Season-Of-Champions lineup," said Grant. "I had the opportunity to select 21 committee chairmen and every one of them was incredibly adept. And every one of them bought into my

dream."

The players, too, revelled in the fun aspects of the tournament and the team camaraderie. The winners included teams of Mark Dacey and Colleen Jones (Halifax), Marie-France Larouche (Quebec City), Jason Larway (Seattle) and Patti Lank (Lewiston, N.Y.). Team Europe was comprised of teams skipped by Lindholm and Anette Norberg of Sweden, Dordi Nordby of Norway, Luzia Ebner of Switzerland, David Murdoch of Scotland and Sebastian Stock of Germany.

The final score read North America 228, Europe 172. But it was no blowout.

In the final game, the 60-point men's skins, Team North America, with Ferbey at the helm and Dave Nedohin throwing the last stones, led 14-13 and the eighth end had turned into



Dave Nedohin, throwing last bricks for Randy Ferbey, clinched the third Continental Cup for North America with an open takeout in the eighth end.

a 33-point bonanza after two carry-overs in the sixth and seventh. Not only was the Cup on the line but so was an additional \$25,000 earmarked for the winner of the game.

With his final stone, Sweden's three-time world champion Lindholm, facing three Ferbey counters in the

eight-foot but needing to steal in order to claim the skin, hit and rolled toward the button but rolled a little too far and into the open.

In actual fact, his last rock hung out, missed his targeted stone but hit another in front and rolled but left an open takeout for Nedohin of Edmonton. He erased the

Team Europe rock, rolled out but made the two other Ferbey stones good for the deuce, the skin, the pride and all the prize money that went with it.

"You have 20 teammates sitting there and \$75,000 (difference) on the line," said Nedohin. "It's a shot you should make pretty routinely, but you're still nervous. This is right up there in the top five wins we've ever had."

The result left the North American side with a total of \$137,500 Cdn (\$112,500 for winning the Cup, plus \$25,000 for winning the final men's skins game) while the Europeans shared \$62,500.

Heading into the final, North America led 181-159, needing 20 points to clinch the victory. After carryovers in the first two ends, Ferbey struck by taking a 14-point skin in the third end, leaving North America only six points shy. But Lindholm fought back with a 13-point skin in the fifth end after a fourth-end carryover.

That set the stage for the dramatic eighth after carryovers of nine points in the sixth and 11 points in the seventh when neither team could steal nor count at least two for a skin.

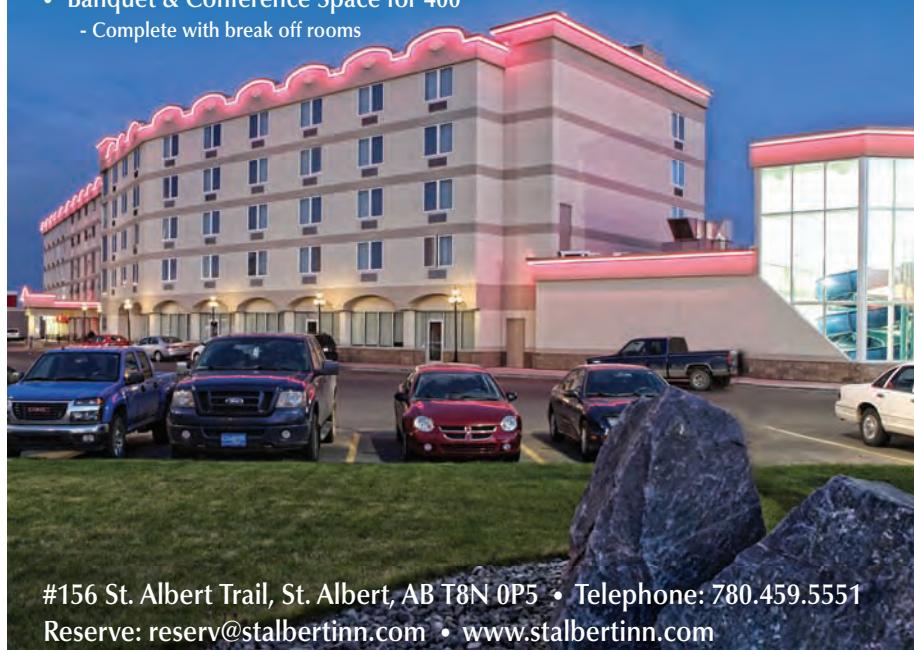
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Olympic silver winner Cheryl Bernard of Calgary and Jones skipped women's team victory in the opening morning draw.

Bernard, following her 6-2 win over world women's champion Andrea Schoepp of Germany, echoed Martin's claim that "every little point's going to count, because at the end it could be a two- or three-point difference."

She added: "You don't want all that pressure on the last day, either. You build up a little bit of a (points) bank, it probably helps. And for us, even, to feel good on the ice and come off with a win was really nice, since it's the first time here. It's really neat to play for an entire (24-person) team. It's different. You're usually playing for you. Halfway through, when they were all cheering because we got a couple of points, I thought, 'yeah, it feels good playing for a big team like this.'"

Playing with Bernard are

From Page 3

HOSTS

O'Connor, Carolyn Darbyshire and Cori Morris.

The Jones quartet (Kaitlyn Lawes, Jill Officer, Dawn Askin) outlasted 2006 Olympic silver medallist Mirjam Ott of Davos, Switzerland, by a 7-5 count.

Bernard counted a deuce in the fourth and stole one in the fifth for a 5-2 advantage.

"I never play with that many rocks, but European teams love it," said Bernard. "We got rocks set up pretty good in the middle ends, there, and getting a good lead on this ice was important."

Jones traded big blows with Ott in the late stages, scoring three in the fifth to go up 4-2, surrendering three in the sixth to fall behind 5-4, but adding another trio in the seventh, and the game's final points, after Ott missed a takeout.

"There were a few bad shots by both teams in those ends to give up the threes, but both teams also made some really good ones," said Jones. "Fortunately for us, we got the last three, which was a good position for us coming home."

Wang, meanwhile, gave up an early five-ender but counted a pair in the third to claw back into the game at 5-3, then stole deuces in the fourth and fifth to surge into the lead at 7-5.

"We were not so comfortable on the ice (early), and did not recognize the change," said the 2009 world champion and 2010 Olympic bronze medallist. "We missed a lot of shots, the weight, the line, all of those things," said Wang.

The first team to 201 points wins this marquee event, which is based on a format similar to golf's Ryder Cup, with team, singles, mixed doubles, and skins disciplines.



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fashion freeze

He's back. And he's in black. "So . . . that's OK," says Thomas Ulsrud with a grin. Following a curling season introducing the wildest collection of trousers this side of a Turkish harem, the Norwegian skip is wondering if he'll be recognized at the Servus Credit Union Place this week wearing the staid blue shirts and black pants allotted to Team World in the Continental Cup.

"But," he quips, "if a nice women's team came up to me and said, 'You better change those pants,' I'd go along with that."

The loud trousers, initially with an Argyle pattern of red, grey and white, were the brainchild of Norway second player Christoffer Svae.

"He thought our outfit for the Olympic Games was too boring," recalls Ulsrud, whose team lost the gold-medal final to the Kevin Martin crew from Canada.

"Christoffer said, we've got to bring some colour into this."

You have to know Christoffer, alerts Ulsrud.

"He likes the attention . . . he seeks it whereas I'm, probably, OK with it but I don't have to have it."

"We weren't sure we were going to play with those pants and we were talking with some Norwegian snowboard girls the night before our first game and they said, 'Guys, go on, you should do it.' And we looked at one another and said, 'Hey, young girls say we should do it, we're definitely doing it.'"



LARRY WOOD
Morning Cup Editor



The pants caused a fashion uproar for the remainder of last winter. The Norwegians turned up in a variation of plaid for the Worlds while the women checked in at Swift Current in colourful polka-dot slacks.

And a few kroner changed hands, too, as sales of the legwear first sported on the golf links by the rotund John Daly exhibited a meteoric rise.

"It wasn't big money for us," says Ulsrud, "but it was good for the guy who runs the company. It tripled his income. He couldn't believe it. He said, 'Funny what two weeks of TV coverage can do for you, with eight million people watching during the Olympics, it's pretty good advertising.' He was happy."

And the team generated a huge following.

"Something like 550,000 on a Facebook fan club," said Ulsrud. "It was kind of big. All the guys said, 'Well, we're all spoken for now guys, this should have happened 10 years ago! This is happening too late to wait!'"

Ulsrud is more thankful to report that his team comported itself well, not only at the Olympics but at the Worlds, too. And it responded last month at Champéry, Switzerland, with its first-ever Euro gold medal.

"For a while there we were known more for the pants than our curling,"

A year after modelling those pants in Vancouver, Thomas Ulsrud and Co. are back in basic black

he says, "but I think it's levelling out a bit more now. But, this week, we have to lean on the curling because we don't have the pants!"

"We've had tons of TV time. Way more than most guys winning gold medals at the Olympics. It definitely was the talk in Norway and maybe over here, too."

"It's really helping curling in Norway, getting the TV time. It was pretty similar for us and for Pal (current Team World captain Trulsen) when he won his gold medal. People love him back there, too, because he was just a regular guy on the street, the people's kind of guy. A smoker. He didn't really look like an athlete, let's put it that way."

"Looking back at it, though, I'm just so happy we did so well. Wearing those pants and finishing eighth wouldn't have been so much fun, I think."

Ulsrud has been around the game for more than 15 years and may be the most patient skip in the world.

When Trulsen was ruling the roost in the Nineties, Ulsrud always was the No. 2 skip in his country. But he knocked off the champ (Wayne Middaugh) the first and only time he made it to the Worlds . . . in '98.

The Troll won the Norwegian title the next seven years. But when he signalled a slowdown following an abortive Olympic gold-medal defence in 2006, Ulsrud took over as the national skip. Until last month, he'd raked in a fair amount of booty, but it was exclusively of the silver and bronze variety.

"When we played at Vancouver it was our first Olympics and we said, this is going to be big, it's going to be like a bit of a bigger Worlds, but it was bigger than that. It was massive and ooohh, I'm just happy we had a good week because it's tight there."

"Last month, we finally won (Euros) and Niklas (Edin) wound up in sixth place and had a bad week. And



Top left: Thomas Ulsrud's fashion statement at the Vancouver Olympics. **Above:** The understated Norwegian attire in St. Albert.

that's how tight it is all the time.

And the week after the Euros he went to a Slam over here and went 5-and-0.

"So that tells you, it's getting closer and closer. And that's why I'm excited about this week because I think, with Team World, the gap is getting smaller and smaller every year."

"I know they have a couple of good teams over here but if they have a so-so week and we have a good one, well, it may be too close for your liking."

**Please see WOOD,
Page 17**

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"It could have been clinched a lot earlier," said Ferbey, "but this event has created so many special moments in its three years of existence, it's unbelievable."

"It came down to one shot and it was probably the most money anybody's ever

thrown a rock to win, that's in the history of the game. That's pretty special."

Lindholm defeated Ferbey in the final game of the '03 event after inheriting a huge lead of 191-149 prior to the start of the game. The Swedish skip has represented Team Europe in all three

men's skins finales.

"Of course, I'm disappointed," he said. "We were thinking about getting some carryovers and I would say we played a good game, tactically. We were playing against a very good team, and all the best to them."

North American captain

Ed Lukowich of Calgary enjoyed a homecoming of sorts. Back in 1978, he threw fourth stones for a Medicine Hat Curling Club team that won the Brier in Vancouver.

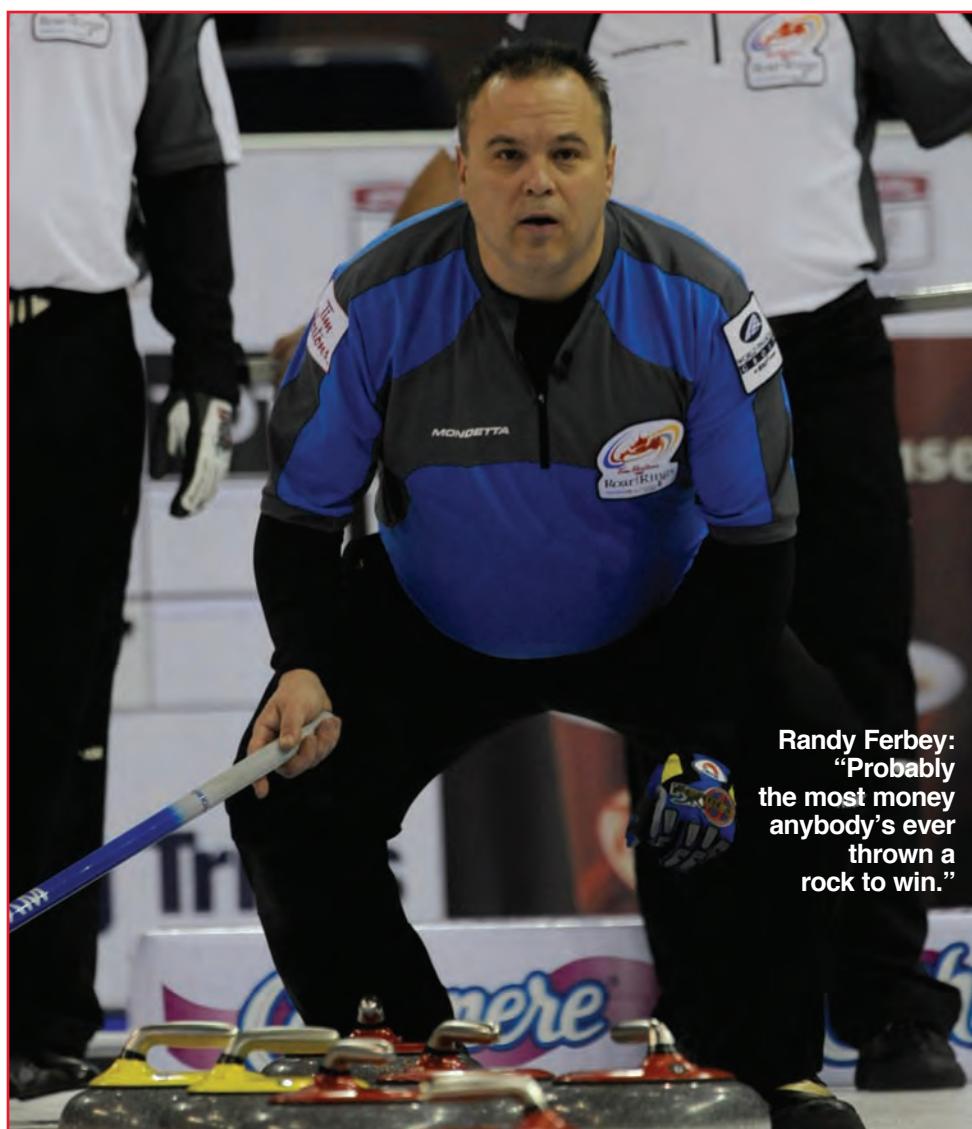
"I feel very privileged to have been a part of this event," said Lukowich. "I don't compete any more, but I almost felt this whole weekend like I was competing, like I was back out there again. I was living and dying with every player out there and it really was a fantastic feeling."

The teams were all square after Day One of the competition that featured team and mixed doubles action. But North America

Norberg scored skins of 9, 11 and 13 points in the last three ends to run away from Jones who elected to surrender the seventh-end skin in exchange for last rock in the eighth end. But Norberg engineered a theft there with a perfect last-rock freeze that Jones couldn't remove.

"I liked our strategy," Jones insisted later. "We had a draw to the button to force the sudden-death shootout and that's exactly where I wanted to be but this time I missed it."

Jones engineered the same parlay in the first Continental Cup, drawing the pin twice to help North America to the 2002 victory.



Randy Ferbey:
"Probably
the most money
anybody's ever
thrown a
rock to win."

North America 228, World 172

North America (players and points scored)

Randy Ferbey (63), Dave Nedohin (65), Scott Pfeifer (59), Marcel Rocque (59), Edmonton, Canada. Total: 246
Mark Dacey (49), Bruce Lohnes (39), Rob Harris (39), Andrew Gibson (39), Halifax, Canada. Total: 166.
Colleen Jones (29), Kimberly Kelly (31), Mary-Anne Arsenault (25), Nancy Delahunt (25), Halifax, Canada. Total: 110.
Patti Lank (26), Erika Brown (28), Nicole Joraanstad (22), Natalie Nicholson (22), Madison, Wis. U.S.A. Total: 98.
Marie-France Larouche (22), Karo Gagnon (25), Annie Lemay (19), Veronique Gregoire (19), Quebec City, Canada.

Total: 85.
Jason Larway (25), Doug Pottinger (18), Joel Larway (15), Bill Todhunter (15), Seattle, Wash., U.S.A. Total: 73.

World (players and points scored)

Anette Norberg (59) Eva Lund (53), Cathrine Lindahl (53), Anna Bergstrom (53), Stockholm, Sweden. Total: 218.
Luzia Ebner (30), Carmen Kung (37), Yvonne Schlunger (30), Laurence Bidaud (30), Berne, Switzerland. Total: 127.
David Murdoch (27), Craig Wilson (21), Neil Murdoch (21), Euan Byers (21), Lockerbie, Scotland. Total: 90.

Dordi Nordby (17), Linn Githmark (23), Marianne Haslum (17), Camilla Holth (17), Snaroen, Norway. Total: 74.
Peja Lindholm (16), Tomas Nordin (22), Magnus Swartling (16), Peter Narup (16), Ostersund, Sweden. Total: 70.

Sebastien Stock (16), Daniel Herberg (19), Stephan Knoll (16), Patrick Hoffman (16), Oberstdorf, Germany. Total: 67.

Mixed Doubles: North America 21, World 15
Singles: North America 18 (including 8-point bonus), World 4

Teams: North America 45, World 27
Skins: North America 134, World 126

CONTINENTAL CUP FLASHBACK: CHILLIWACK 2006

A 'big break' and a closed Schoepp

Morning Cup staff

The contention persists that Team North America enjoys a distinct Continental Cup advantage due to the event's lopsided point distribution leaning to curling's skins games in the stretch run.

Yeah, and they've never heard of rain or blizzards on the lower mainland of British Columbia, either.

The skins, you understand, is designed to guarantee a latter-day climax to the 12-team Ryder Cup-style curling event, the fourth renewal of which was staged at surprisingly wet and wintry Chilliwack in late November.

And much like the preceding three editions, the naysayers were still chirping and still harping about the skins.

The Europeans aren't familiar with the format, the naysayers argued. It's an unfair bonus for the home side, they maintained.

Of the 400 points available in the competition, 260 go up for grabs in skins.

A total of 72 points are available in eight-end team games, 36 in mixed doubles

and 32 in singles.

Well, once again there was a climax in this deal . . . sort of. But it wasn't extended very far into the Sunday shooting. Hence it made for something less than gut-clenching viewing.

To boot, the so-called North American advantage had long since evaporated during the penultimate day of skins activity when the Europeans literally wiped the floor of those with the supposed edge in experience and knowledge of skins strategy.

The final tab was Europe 229, North America 171 (163-97 in skins), which deadlocked the series at two wins apiece and proved to be the widest margin of victory by a single digit over the Amerks' win at Medicine Hat in 2004.

Bottom line is the skins format isn't exactly an equivalent to rocket science. You don't have to play at it for years in order to figure it out. It's just curling one end at a time, thereby encouraging more rocks in play and, it follows, more exciting shots and more luck-tinged results.

One incidence of the latter proved to be the TSN, oops,

CBC turning point in this affair. It occurred around lunch time on Day Three in the women's 30-point skins tussle involving international curling veteran and Continental Cup rookie Andrea Schoepp of Germany and 2006 world silver medalist Debbie McCormick of Madison, Wis.

Schoepp had picked up a four-point skin in the second end before the teams indulged in a succession of carryovers that brought matters to a head in the eighth and final exchange.

The 1992 Olympic gold medallist at Albertville, France, owned the hammer but McCormick had a counter hidden deep in the four-foot leaving Schoepp two or three long angle-raise options with the in-turn. She selected one but her stone failed to take the anticipated swing and, seemingly on its own, selected another route to the same target.

"It was luck," Schoepp admitted afterward, although anyone watching wouldn't have known she hadn't called the shot and would have been inclined to describe it as a pistol.

And once she gave her



Andrea Schoepp authored a 52-point swing with a 30-0 blanking of Debbie McCormick in the women's skins game, leading the World to a big victory.

own description of what she'd intended it seemed obvious that the shot she was attempting was decidedly more difficult than the

shot she made.

No matter. It afforded the Europeans a 30-0 whitewash of McCormick and forged a 52-point swing in

a competition that, to that point, had seen the North Americans clinging desperately to a mere two-point lead (62-60) following teams, singles and one-half of mixed doubles action. And it was a momentum-grabber of the first order.

"No doubt that was the big turnaround," assessed North American captain Lindsay Sparkes of Vancouver afterward. "There are always breaks to be had in sport and that was one of them. We had a great start but then we just ran into a gangbuster team. All in all, I think it was a phenomenal event."

European captain Elisabet Gustafson of Sweden agreed.

"That 30-pointer was the big break for us," she said. "After that, I think our experience came to the fore.

"Despite our big lead going into the final day, I still didn't feel safe. I couldn't have expected this outcome, especially in terms of the margin of victory. I'm so proud of this fantastic team."

**Please see BREAK,
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Mixed doubles format earns mixed reviews

Larry Wood
Morning Cup Editor

Susan O'Connor of Calgary knows mixed doubles curling.

Matter of fact, she knows mixed curling, having won two Canadian championships.

The second of those, in 2008 in her hometown, earned her a trip, along with her skip Dean Ross, to the very first World Mixed Doubles championship at Vierumaki, Finland.

It was a nice trip, O'Connor says now, but she's less enthralled by the discipline conceived as a possible third curling entry on the Olympic Games program.

"It's just not curling," she was saying Thursday afternoon, moments after vacating the Servus Credit Union Place ice surface on which she and Team North America partner Shawn

Rojeski recorded one of three opening victories in Continental Cup mixed doubles.

"I don't think it's curling," said O'Connor, who played third last February for the Canadian Olympic silver-winning juggernaut skipped by Cheryl Bernard.

"It doesn't have any kind of a team aspect where you have the communication thing. I mean, you try your best, the two of you, but . . . it's a fun gimmick."

"To me it's not curling. Maybe because we're from Canada we're still ingrained with the team aspect. With countries that are just getting into curling, everything is new to them, right?"

She admitted she hears it's a possible future Olympic discipline but she shows no sign of being impressed by the fact.

"I felt the same way at the first Worlds," said O'Connor. "It was new for everybody then. It was the

very first Worlds for mixed doubles.

"But it was difficult, especially having won a Canadian title with a four-member team. Then only two of us got to go to the Worlds to play an entirely different event."

"I guess it was a good experience. We only got fifth, we didn't medal. That was disappointing. But everybody was in the same boat. Walking in there and not really knowing."

"Who knows? Maybe that little bit of experience, wearing the Maple Leaf on your back, helped me at the Olympics. I don't know. Maybe."

Certain of Thursday's other practitioners were more favourable to the concept.

"It was fun," said Norway's Thomas Ulsrud. "You know we don't get to play mixed doubles much. I was tired as a skip running up and down sweeping all those rocks!"



Susan O'Connor and Shawn Rojeski of Team North America won their mixed doubles match Thursday, 7-6, over Thomas Ulsrud and Bingyu Wang.

Niklas Edin of Sweden agreed.

"I think it's a lot of fun because there are so many rocks in play, you only use five rocks but you can't hit before the fourth rock," he said. "So it's aggressive . . . and really exciting to watch, too, I can imagine."

Canada's Carter Rycroft declared it to be "the most fun you can have with your curling shoes on."

Rycroft, the second from

Kevin Koe's world championship team, said it mixed doubles would be great at the Olympics.

"I love it," he said. "It's totally fun. And it's great to watch. Lots of other sports have different kinds of events at the Olympics. Why not curling?"

Olympic gold medallist Kevin Martin is likewise enamoured.

"People might not believe me when I say this but

there's a lot more strategy to it than our normal four-player game. I mean, you are never safe. We were up 6-0 in our game and if

I don't make that in-off shot on the last end, we lose. And we were up 6-0!

"I think it would go great in the Olympics. It's so exciting!"

**Please see MIXED,
Page 17**

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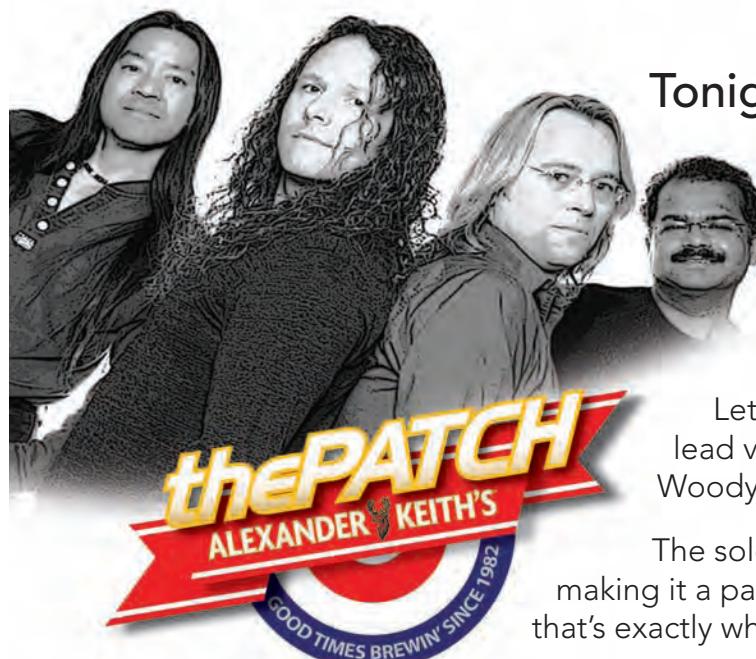
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The sole purpose every time they step on stage is to provide a night of pure entertainment, making it a party the fans will never forget. And, with a playlist of over 200 tunes, you can be sure that's exactly what you'll get tonight at 5:00 pm and again at 10:30 pm in Keith's Patch.

how about lunch... with a side of Hendriks?

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Karac Hendriks - Alberta-based singer, songwriter and guitarist – is a frequent traveler on the roads across western Canada, sharing the stage with the likes of Diamond Rio with Tera Lee, April Wine and Ronnie Prophet.

His musical style ranges from traditional and new country to modern rock.

Hendriks is certainly no newcomer to the entertainment world. "I started singing on stage when I was four, then my

Great-Grandpa Chester gave me his old mandolin and taught me some chords when I was six," he recalls. "My Uncle Rob showed me my first three chords on the guitar when I was about eight, Dad taught me a couple more, and... well... here we are."



cool curling's getting hot!

The opening day of Cool Curling is in the books... and the winners of the \$100 daily prize are Ruby Bokenfohr and Susie Kluthe from St. Albert. You still have time to shoot for a share of the \$1,000 in prize money up for grabs.

The matches continue today at 11:15 am when another 32 teams take their turn at the tables. The top two teams each day advance to

Sunday's championship playdowns.

Cool Curling is the small-scale version of the roaring game, played on shuffleboard style tables. Sign up for free at Keith's Patch and try your luck at the tables. The Sunday champs receive \$350 cash, plus an Alexander Keith's dartboard. The second place team wins \$200 and third spot is worth \$150.

up
next

Saturday, January 15

Tera Lee

5:00 pm



Souled Out

10:30 pm



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Draw 2 winner Connie Stankey picks up her 50/50 cheque.



You can be a big winner at the Continental Cup! 50/50 draws will be held throughout the event. The prize is awarded following each draw and previous day's winners will be featured daily in the Party Line.

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Draw 1	Carolyn Jaques St. Albert, AB \$777.00
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junior stars

Today's Junior Stars are:

8:30 am Draw

Team North America

Bryce Pope
Julie Chomlak

Team World

Ethan Melenka
Jesse Squires

7:30 pm Draw

Team North America

Alicia Koziak
Daniel Maine

Team World

Shelby Gill
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So, you really enjoy the excitement of the live experience of championship curling... but at the same time, it's always nice to have the expert analysis provided by the TSN commentators.

Well, now you can have it both ways! TSN coverage for all draws at the Continental Cup will be carried live on 88.9 FM radio. Just bring your own portable radio and tune in to the broadcast... while you enjoy the action at Servus Credit Union Place.

Added Sparkes: "Our team played its heart out. I couldn't have asked any more from any one of them. I think it's a case of one team got really hot. Team Europe had touch on their shots all week and, even though they don't play as much skins curling as we do, they carried that over into the skins play."

European teams of Finland's Markku Uusipaavaliemi (20-10) over Pete Fenson of Bemidji, Minn., Swiss miss Mirjam Ott (34-6) over Kelly Scott of Kelowna and Pal Trulsen of Norway (30-10) over Jean-Michel Menard of Gatineau, Quebec City, etc., proceeded to decide this issue in a matter of hours, constructing a sudden 180-100 lead before the Saturday rock-smacking ceased.

That left Canada's Olympic teams of Brad Gushue and Shannon Kleibrink with the insurmountable task of overcoming an 80-point lead with 120 points remaining on the table in the final round of skinny-skin-skins.

The Canucks couldn't make it happen, to no one's surprise, but they fought the good and valiant fight, kept the suspense going for much of the last draw which, as good fortune would have it, was overlapped for the first time in order to fit into 210 minutes of television time.

"It was tough," allowed Kleibrink, who finally succumbed 32-28 to world and Olympic champion Anette

From Page 8 BREAK: No final-day Canuck comeback

Norberg of Sweden.

"In the end, the margin was just too great."

Kleibrink piled up 28 straight points, 22 of them stolen, after Norberg went in front 8-zip. But the jig was up when the ice-cool Swede nabbed seventh- and eighth-end skins worth 24 points, Kleibrink missing difficult shots on both ends.

Brad Gushue of The Rock was performing magic against world champion David Murdoch of Scotland on an adjacent sheet. Murdoch also took an 8-zip lead but Gushue battled back with a 19-point skin in the fifth end and closed out the debate with 24 more points long after the Cup issue had been decided.

Gushue, Mark Nichols, Russ Howard and Jamie Korab wound up the lone North American team to triumph in skins. Otherwise, the competition was a skin-tight fit.

The sides sawed-off totally in team play with five wins each and two games tied. Menard's Canadian champion outfit of Francois Roberge, Eric Sylvain and Maxime Elmaleh was the only one in the field to win

twice.

North Americans excelled at mixed doubles, winning four of six matches. But the Europeans dominated singles by four wins to one with a sixth match drawn.

Veteran 50-year-old Howard, who performed his swan song at second for the Gushue crew, individually led the Amerks by being involved in a 55-point contribution. Howard returns to New Brunswick with a view to that provincial championship in the company of Mark Dobson, Grant Odishaw and son Steven. The Gushue team will add Alberta transplant Chris Schille at second.

Switzerland's Ott, a Continental Cup rookie, was involved in 50 Team Europe points.

The winning side received \$75,000 and the losers \$45,000 from a \$120,000 purse, reduced by \$80,000 from previous years because of a lack of major sponsorship.

In addition, television coverage was down from 30 hours on TSN during the first three competitions to a relatively meagre seven

weekend hours on CBC.

"We definitely want to see a rubber match now," said World Curling Federation president Les Harrison of Moncton. "And we're going to do our level best to make Continental Cup V happen."

Tentatively, it is set for Medicine Hat next year. But it has yet to be officially announced, pending discussions between the WCF, Canadian Curling Association and potential sponsors.

Des Grant, who chaired the Hat committee in 2004 was

on hand in Chilliwack with an organizing group of three.

"I don't think it's the last one," said event manager Warren Hansen of Coquitlam, B.C. "I think there's a will to continue on."

Without exception, the

players described the event as one of the best in which they've participated.

"I had a much fun here as I've ever had on the ice," said Gushue. "The format is incredible. It's a blast."

Added Kleibrink.

"It would be too bad if we lost it. Because, for the fans, this is one of the most exciting events to watch."

And Menard:

"It's a young event but the feeling of playing here is tremendous. It's so much different from playing a regular 'spiel' and it would be sad if it didn't exist."

Schöpp, the 1987 world champion, said "it's good for curling because it's a new event and completely different".

Many of the participants

urged officials to work harder toward locating a sponsor. Some suggested the ideal would be to stage the event every two years, providing it was alternated between North America and Europe just like the golf event upon which it's patterned.

But nobody wants a repeat of the last-day eruption of wild weather when a blizzard hit B.C.'s lower mainland for the first time in years.

Airports were closed on the Sunday and many teams were still waiting to get out of Dodge on Monday after several flights were cancelled, thereby wrecking overseas connections and highways were glossed with black ice and blowing snow.

World 229, North America 171

World

(players and points scored)

Mirjam Ott (50), Binia Felstcher-Beeli (40), Valeria Spalty (40), Janice Greiner (40), Flims, Switzerland. Total: 170.

Anette Norberg (38), Eva Lund (44), Cathrine Lindahl (38), Anna Svard (40), Stockholm, Sweden. Total: 160. Andrea Schoepp (39), Monika Wagner (39), Anna Hartelt (39), Tina Tichatschke (39), Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany. Total: 156. Pal Trulsen (36), Lars Vagberg (30), Flemming Davanger (34), Bent Anund Ramsfjell (30), Oslo, Norway. Total: 130. Markku Uusipaavaliemi (33), Kalle Kiiskinen (29), Jani Sul-

lenmaa (29), Teemu Salo (29), Helsinki, Finland. Total: 120. David Murdoch (23), Ewan MacDonald (33), Peter Smith (23), Euan Byers (23), Lockerbie, Scotland. Total: 102.

North America

(players and points scored)

Brad Gushue (49), Mark Nichols (49), Russ Howard (55), Jamie Korab (49), St. John's, Canada. Total: 202. Shannon Kleibrink (42), Amy Nixon (34), Bronwen Saunders (34), Christine Keshen (34), Calgary, Canada. Total: 144. Jean-Michel Menard (28), Francois Roberge (22), Eric Sylvain (22), Maxime Elmaleh (22), Ste-Foy, Canada. Total: 94.

Pete Fenson (19), Shawn Rojeski (19), Joe Polo (13), Doug Pottinger (13), Bemidji, Minn., U.S.A. Total: 64. Kelly Scott (13), Jeanna Schraeder (15), Sasha Carter (9), Renee Simons (9), Kelowna, Canada. Total: 46. Debbie McCormick (12), Nicole Joraanstad (12), Natalie Nicholson (6), Tracy Sachetjen (6), Madison, Wis., U.S.A. Total: 36.

Mixed Doubles: North America 24, World 12

Singles: North America 18 (including 8-point bonus), World 14

Teams: North America 36, World 36

Skins: World 163, North America 97

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Continental Cup trivia time

1. Only three skips currently competing at the Continental Cup played in the 2006 Winter Olympic Games at Torino, Italy. Name them.
 2. Only one skip currently competing at the Continental Cup played in the 2002 Winter Olympic Games at Salt Lake City. Name the skip.
 3. Of the six North American skips involved here, how many are rookies in Continental Cup play?
 4. Name the rookie skip(s).
 5. Of the six European skips involved here, how many are rookies in Con-
 - tinental Cup play?
 6. Name the rookie skip(s).
 7. Of the 12 skips involved here, how many have competed in more than one Olympic Games curling tournament, full-medal or demonstration?
 8. Name them.
 9. Of the two captains and two coaches here, name those who have competed in an Olympic Games curling tournament, full-medal or demonstration.
 10. Of the 48 curlers competing here, how many have competed in

Answers

- more than one Olympic Games curling tournament, medal or demonstration.

 11. Name them and the number of Games in which they have participated.
 12. Name those double Olympians who have won Olympic gold medals.
 13. Name those who have won silver medals.
 14. Name those who have won bronze medals.
 15. Name all other Olympic medal winners competing here (and their medals).



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Schoepp around

Skiing, cycling, or slinging stones, this veteran German skip never stops moving

Larry Wood
Morning Cup Editor

Andrea Schoepp doesn't have the use of a bicycle during the Continental Cup at the Servus Credit Union Place this week.

If she did, the current world women's curling champion skip claims she's be riding from the hotel to the arena and back every day, and never mind the minus-20 temperatures or the ice-bound streets.

"Oh yes," she was saying this week, "you don't have it cold here. This is great weather. Definitely not too cold for biking."

Eh?

"Actually," she was saying, "I wish they would stage this event a little earlier in the season. This is the best ski time back home (in

Garmisch-Partenkirchen, Germany)."

Fact of the matter is, the dates for this Continental Cup were set back to January primarily because they conflicted with the Euro championships in December.

But Schoepp would have preferred the changes be made in other direction . . . like November.

The 45-year-old veteran of 17 world championship assaults (she's won twice) arranged for the use of a bike last March at Swift Current during the Worlds and not only rode to the rink from the hotel every day, but 10 to 15 miles up the road to Saskatoon and back, too.

Exercising is just part of life for this mathematics and statistics teacher. She doesn't know what she'd do without the constant movement.

You want an example? She was scheduled to fly here

this week from Germany but booked a later-in-the-day flight because — wait for it — she wanted to squeeze in two or three more ski runs before boarding the jetliner.

"You have to understand," she says, "that skiing is what I love the most. My trouble is, I'm not talented enough."

Curling isn't far behind on the Schoepp popularity meter.

"Sure, it was a great feeling to win," she recalled of last year's success at Speedy Creek.

"It's the best feeling you can have. But winning the Worlds is really difficult."

"It makes no difference, really, whether you win or lose when you're as dedicated to the sport as I am."

Strangely, Schoepp's lineup at the Worlds was a swan-song deal. Vice-skip Melanie Robillard had announced prior to the Worlds

that she was leaving the team at season's end to join her fiancee in Spain.

"We knew the team would change," Schoepp says. "But we have replaced Melanie with a new third player — Imogen Lehmann — who may be even better than Melanie."

"She is younger and she can practise a lot and she is living in Switzerland. She has a German mother and a Swiss father so she has both passports. And she already has played the Euro mixed championship with us."

Lehmann is a year out of junior, which makes her a perfect fit with Corinna Scholz, 21, and Stella Heiss, 18, on the front end. "She played third for Switzerland in the Junior Worlds last year and finished fourth," says Schoepp.

A fifth alternative in this lineup is veteran Monika

Wagner, who has played with Schoepp for two decades but lives in Munich and is unable to take a lot of time off her job as an executive secretary to curl.

"So far, the team has been me and the three young ones," says Schoepp. "We were really successful and have had a really good time. But having Monika play is good, too. The problem is she has not so much time to practise. When you're 45 you require more practice than when you're 20 or 30."

Lehmann isn't here with the German team which was chosen based on last year's victory. Then, again, Robillard is missing, too.

"I'm used to this," says Schoepp, who has put together more revamped lineups than she can remember.

"But, you know, I will not quit before my body says 'No.' "

"This is great weather. Definitely not too cold for biking . . . I will not quit before my body says, 'No.' "

Defending world champ
Andrea Schoepp

CONTINENTAL CUP NOTEBOOK

Beer, bull sessions, and a Walmart fix

Morning Cup staff

North American captain Neil Harrison shared the most humourous story during the Continental Cup's kickoff banquet at the St. Albert Inn on Wednesday night . . . at the expense of World captain Pål Trulsen.

Harrison was the alternate for Ed Werenich's Canadian champions at the 1990 Worlds in Västerås, Sweden.

"We'd been over there before," Harrison recounted, "so we knew how expensive the beer was over there."

Hence the Labatt people, Brier sponsors at the time, kicked in a couple of dozen cases of the finest for the Canadian team's trip to Sweden.

"So we're sitting around having a cool one and we notice that Eddy and Pal are in quiet conference in the corner. It appears to be such a secretive discussion, we figured it must have been some sort of great international curling parley concerning the state of the game."

Not so.

"Turns out this serious discussion has nothing to do

with curling. It concerns the price of beer overseas and an explanation why the team packed its own to Sweden."

Having recently travelled to Switzerland for a bonspiel, the Wrench is expounding on the excessive price of lager in the land of the white cross.

"But that's nothing compared to how expensive it is here (in Sweden)," Wrench is complaining.

"You think this is expensive?" asks Trulsen. "You should come to Norway. It's even more pricey there."

To which Werenich, in typical fashion, leans back and affixes Trulsen with a quizzical look and a sly smirk:

"I guess that's why you guys want to come over to Canada so much," says the Wrench. "You think you're going to Walmart."

* * * * *

Norwegian skip Thomas Ulsrud figures this Continental Cup scrap will be heavy-duty intense before it's over.

"With us winning the last time over here I guess all the North American teams want a rematch," Ulsrud says.

"The ice is perfect and we have a strong team this year

so I hope it won't be over before the last skins.

"Everybody thinks it real fun to be here. I mean, I just flew over from London, sitting with David (Murdoch) and he's usually one of our toughest opponents in Europe. We just had the best of times on the plane for 10 hours. We really enjoyed talking about old games and old stories and how we're going to beat you guys. Well . . . we have a plan, at least.

"That's what is special about curling. You know, in a couple of weeks we may be going at it hammer and tongs again. We'll be big rivals. We get along real well off the ice. All the teams from the World get along real well."

Somebody suggested the World team is lacking its ace pointgetter and set-up skins player from two Continental Cup victories — Sweden's Anette Norberg.

"She had a great team, back-to-back golds in the Olympics, and a big cog in our wheel," admits Ulsrud.

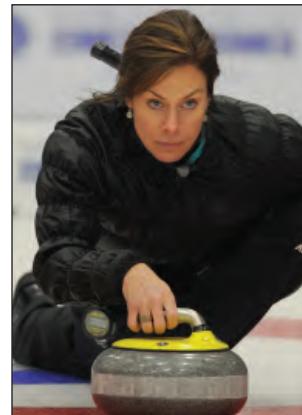
"But the captain and coach didn't pick her team this year so we have to trust that they selected the best teams.

"Whoever plays Kevin Martin in the last skins, because I guess he'll be

playing in the last skins, will feel safer if he goes in with a bit of a lead, that's for sure."

* * * * *

Cheryl Bernard of Calgary did not wave her arms in the air and beg to be a part of the mixed doubles competition at the Continental Cup of Curling.



Cheryl Bernard: Chasing rocks in mixed doubles.

But North American captain Neil Harrison and coach Rick Lang have fingered Bernard for a partnership with Ben Hebert, the strong-armed lead for Kevin Martin's Olympic gold-medallists, today in mixed doubles competition.

"Mixed doubles? The

jury's out," admits Bernard with a laugh. "I'll have to play it to see. I'm not really into getting up (after throwing a rock) and chasing my rock down the sheet.

"I emailed (Hebert) and I said, 'Ben, I can't sweep!'" He says, "Don't worry, I've been working out really hard, I'll sweep all of them." And he promised me."

Bernard told Allen Cameron of the Calgary Herald she expected her first Continental Cup to be a "fun" exercise.

"It seems bizarre that we're going. But I'm excited," she said. "It's the first new thing in curling that we've ever been involved in, so I think it's going to be really neat. What everybody says is that you're so into it because you're part of this massive team. And when am I ever going to say that Jennifer Jones and Ben Hebert are on my team? It would never happen in a million years, and it's happening now."

On the heels of this event, Bernard's Olympic silver-medal winning team heads to Ontario to compete in the TSN Skins Game, where they'll take on Martin, who's won more skins game money than any player on

the planet, in a semi-final.

Then it's back to Alberta for the Scotties Tournament of Hearts provincial women's championship, beginning on Jan. 26 in Camrose.

"We've been looking forward to this, and I think it's kind of been our focus," said Bernard. "It was one of the reasons why we all agreed that we would play again this year, with the Continental Cup and the Skins. It's something unique and different that, because of the success last year, we have access to this kind of competition."

* * * * *

Says World captain Trulsen: "There should be a rule that prohibits captains picking teams to play each other twice. It has happened before. It can happen once in teams, once in skins and that may be unavoidable. But nobody wants to see Martin and Ulsrud play twice, or Martin and Murdoch play twice. Fans want to see all the teams."

"This," adds Trulsen, "isn't the toughest job in the world. We're only here to keep everybody happy so they'll play their best."

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O'Connor eschewed any preference of singles to mixed doubles as an Olympic choice.

"I wouldn't prefer either one," she said. "I understand the reason why they don't want to go to a full mixed team event. But, to me, if they were going to put in another event I'd rather see an actual team event."

Rojeski, her partner from Chisholm, Minn., said he favoured singles as a possible new Olympic discipline.

"That's where you're going to get your skill shots and your skill people," said Rojeski. "A step away from the rest of the crew. That's in my opinion."

Rojeski first played mixed doubles at the 2006 Continental Cup in Chilliwack. He also played singles in the same event.

"But we played with sweepers then," he said. "Now, it's a two-person event. When you have sweepers you can concentrate on the shot totally. With only one sweeper and half the sheet to sweep on you

From Page 9

MIXED

have to be very much more precise. It's far more challenging.

"In a format like this, a fun event, everybody who has played it likes it. But I know at the World mixed two people fell down and injured themselves running out to sweep. I think that has to be taken into consideration."

Rojeski admitted her knew the event wasn't his partner's favourite.

"But she speaks from experience and still we had a lot of fun with it," he said.

O'Connor is playing in her first Continental Cup.

"We've won a couple so, sure, it was good to get out on the ice here," she admitted.

"Every time you can be out there on arena ice it makes you more comfortable and that's a nice thing for us because we have a very busy schedule coming up and we'll get lots of opportunities

to play on arena ice which other teams in Alberta are not getting."

But she suggested an early North American lead wasn't much of indication of how the remaining matches would pan out.

"This event really is back-end weighted so running up the big lead is great for confidence and getting on a roll but it's a long, long weekend yet," said O'Connor.

"It looks like the pressure is going to build in those later days. And they are leaving \$13,000 back for the last skins game so there's more emphasis on the finish and that will mean something no matter what."

For the record, the World Mixed doubles has been played three times — in 2008 (Vierumaki), 2009 (Cortina d'Ampezzo) and 2010 (Chelyabinsk, Russia).

Swiss duos have won two gold medals and Russia won last season. Finland, Hungary and New Zealand have won silver medals, while Sweden, Canada and China have claimed bronze.

From Page 6

WOOD

"After the Olympics it was pretty intense for two weeks," recalls Ulsrud. "We had to go to the castle and say hello and have a glass of champagne with the king. That was pretty good. Walking past all the

guards. I didn't think it was going to be special but it was. He (the king) isn't a curler but he's really into sports and he watched some games at the Olympics, so we feel like we're old buddies now, you know?"

Another grin flashes across the Ulsrud countenance.

"Oh yes," he says, "and he has a pair of the pants, too."

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CONTINENTAL CUP: SCORES, STATS, AND SCHEDULE

After Day 1



North America 42

	Team	Doubles	Singles	Skins	Total
Men	12	9	0	0	21
Women	12	9	0	0	21
Bonus	0	0	0	0	0
Total	24	18	0	0	42

World 12

	Team	Doubles	Singles	Skins	Total
Men	6	0	0	0	6
Women	6	0	0	0	6
Bonus	0	0	0	0	0
Total	12	0	0	0	12

Women's Team Results

		Wins	Points
North America		2	12
World		1	6
Thursday's Draw 1			
Bingyu Wang (W)*	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
Erika Brown (NA)	1 0 2 2 2 0 2 x 9		
Player %age	0 5 0 0 0 2 0 x 7		
Yan Zhou	Laura Hallisey	81	
Qingshuang Yue	Ann Swisshelm	75	
Yin Liu	Nina Spatola	80	
Bingyu Wang	Erika Brown	43	
Team World	Team North America	70	
Andrea Schoepp (W)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
Cheryl Bernard (NA)*	0 0 1 0 1 0 x 2		
Player %age	1 0 0 2 1 0 2 x 6		
Stella Heiss	Cori Morris	77	
Corinna Scholz	Carolyn Darbyshire	86	
Monika Wagner	Susan O'Connor	81	
Andrea Schoepp	Cheryl Bernard	88	
Team World	Team North America	83	
Mirjam Ott (W)*	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
Jennifer Jones (NA)	1 0 0 1 0 3 0 x 5		
Player %age	0 0 1 0 3 0 3 x 7		
Janine Greiner	Dawn Askin	84	
Carmen Kung	Jill Officer	72	
Carmen Schaefer	Kaitlyn Lawes	73	
Mirjam Ott	Jennifer Jones	84	
Team World	Team North America	79	

* — started game with last rock

Mixed Doubles Results

		Wins	Points
North America		3	18
World		0	0
Thursday's Draw 2			
World	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
North America	0 *1 *2 *0 *0 *0 1 x 4		
Player %age	*2 0 0 4 2 4 0 x 12		
Yan Zhou	Jennifer Jones	80	
Torger Nergaard	Carter Rycroft	88	
Team World	Team North America	79	
World	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
North America	0 *0 *0 *0 *3 1 x 4		
Player %age	*1 1 1 1 2 0 *0 x 6		
Monika Wagner	Ann Swisshelm	68	
Niklas Edin	Kevin Martin	82	
Team World	Team North America	77	
World	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
North America	*1 *0 *3 *0 *0 *1 *1 *0 6		
Player %age	0 3 0 1 2 0 0 1 7		
Thomas Ulsrud	Shawn Rojeski	86	
Bingyu Wang	Susan O'Connor	70	
Team World	Team North America	78	

* — last-rock advantage

Men's Team Results

		Wins	Points
North America		2	12
World		1	6
Thursday's Draw 3			
Niklas Edin (W)*	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
Pete Fenson (NA)	0 0 1 0 0 0 2 0 3		
Player %age	1 0 0 1 1 1 0 0 5		
Viktor Kjaall	Ryan Brunt	66	
Fredrik Lindberg	Joe Polo	91	
Sebastian Kraupp	Shawn Rojeski	86	
Niklas Edin	Pete Fenson	88	
Team World	Team North America	82	
David Murdoch (W)	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
Kevin Martin (NA)*	0 0 2 0 3 0 0 1 0 6		
Player %age	0 2 0 3 0 0 0 1 0 6		
Simon Streubin	Ben Hebert	91	
Andreas Lang	Marc Kennedy	73	
Ralph Stoeckli	John Morris	75	
David Murdoch	Kevin Martin	89	
Team World	Team North America	82	
Thomas Ulsrud (W)*	1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 T		
Kevin Koe (NA)	0 1 0 1 1 1 3 x 7		
Player %age	1 0 1 0 0 0 0 x 2		
Håvard Vad Petersson	Nolan Thiessen	89	
Christoffer Svae	Carter Rycroft	86	
Torger Nergaard	Blake MacDonald	65	
Thomas Ulsrud	Kevin Koe	77	
Team World	Team North America	80	

* — started game with last rock

Today's Matches

Women's Team Games (8:30 a.m.)

vs. North America (Ben Hebert and Cheryl Bernard)
Sheet C — World (Carmen Schaefer and David Murdoch) vs. North America (Pete Fenson and Erika Brown)

Men's Team Games (7:30 p.m.)

Sheet A — World (David Murdoch) vs. North America (Kevin Koe)
Sheet B — World (Niklas Edin) vs. North America (Kevin Martin)

Sheet C — World (Thomas Ulsrud) vs. North America (Pete Fenson)

Mixed Doubles (1:30 p.m.)

Sheet A — World (Mirjam Ott and Ralph Stoeckli) vs. North America (Blake MacDonald and Jill Officer)
Sheet B — World (Sebastian Kraupp and Andrea Schoepp) (wins are worth six points, while ties are worth three)



Team World's Andrea Schoepp and her crew get down to work brushing a stone during their 6-2 loss to Cheryl Bernard of Team North America on Thursday morning Servus Credit Union Place.

Join Us As We *Rendezvous* in 2011!

Now that you know St. Albert is celebrating its 150th anniversary, we hope you'll plan to join us as we rendezvous at events throughout the year. Today, we invite you to mark your calendars for these events.

Snow Festival February 21

Celebrate Family Day at the Snow Festival at Lacombe Park Lake, one of St. Albert's most popular parks. Take part in winter activities from the past and present. Gear up for tobogganing, skating, snowman building competitions, hot chocolate and more.

Meet the Street June 12



Join Rooney and Punyi Educational Theatre Productions for this exciting, engaging look back at St. Albert's history. Board a bus and tour eight of the community's streets where you'll witness vignettes about the lives of the historic figures for which they're named.



For more information, please visit www.rendezvous2011.ca or call 780-458-4630.

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