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Langley Events Centre





Page 2 HeartChart

THE SCOTTIES Day 2

Homan, Holland holding hammers

Larry Wood HeartChart Editor

A matter of 13 months ago, Rachel Homan was skipping her Ottawa team to a 13-0 record at the Canadian junior women's curling championship.

On Sunday night at the Civic Centre, the 21-year-old Homan gave an indication she's aiming for a repeat in decidedly different company — the Scotties Tournament Of Hearts.

Representing Ontario, Homan and her team of Emily Miskew, Alison Krevaziuk and Lisa Weagle bounced 2006 Olympic bronzemedallist Shannon Kleibrink of Calgary 10-7 with a last-rock double-kill to extend Ontario's winning streak to three games.

The win sustained Ontario's position neck-and-neck with Saskatchewan's Amber Holland who directed a 10-6 conquest of home-province favourite Suzanne Birt of Charlottetown.

Holland earlier erased defending champion Jennifer Jones of Winnipeg from the unbeaten ranks with a 9-3 whipping.

"It was great, nerve-wracking, but I think everybody must have loved the game," said the 21-yearold Homan afterward. "It was a battle. And it was good to finally get a win against her (Kleibrink). But one shot in that game could have gone either way."



Saskatchewan's Amber Holland is perfect so far at 3-0 along with Ontario's Rachel Homan.

The deadly-serious Homan actually controlled it, though, with Kleibrink's Calgary team chased to stay even throughout.

"My heart rate's always right up there," said Homan. "But I don't think it affects my game. For sure, I'm dead serious out there. But I'm smiling now."

How about another 13-0 run? "Going 13-0 was tough in Juniors but it would be a lot tougher

here," she said. "I'm not sure we're going to get to that level and I'm not sure you really need to go 13-0. We just want to win the big games, build up to the playoffs.

"I think we have the skill and the dedication and we've put in the work, and I think we could be there at the end but we have to play our game and take it one at a time for sure."

Kleibrink (2-1) was undeterred

by the tight setback.

"We're not feeling too badly about that except we have to figure out the ice a little better tomorrow," she said.

"I've never been in an arena that's so hot. I had to take the shirt off underneath and I was sweating like I was playing racquetball. The ice is really patchy so it's a guessing game if you have to draw the button. It's very heavy."

Holland, meanwhile, overcame an 0-2 start with a deuce in the third, a steal of one in the fourth, another deuce in the sixth and a crushing five-spot in the eighth end.

"Three-and-O?" she repeated the query. "It's definitely a good place to be. We wanted to get on the roll early and it's always good when you're racking up the Ws.

"This is a really feeling good. It feels like a sort of relaxed intensity. You're out there playing the game, not working the game, if you know what I mean."

Joining Kleibrink at 2-1 heading into a three-draw Monday were the defender Jones and British Columbia's Kelly Scott, a former two-time Scotties champion.

Nova Scotia (Heather Smith-Dacey) and New Brunswick (Andrea Kelly) were 2-2 after Sunday night wins.

Nova Scotia routed Kerry Galusha's Territories team from Yellowknife 8-2 and New Brunswick walloped Manitoba's Cathy Overton-Clapham 9-3.

Newfoundland, P.E.I. and Quebec were 1-2, Manitoba 1-3 and the Territories 0-4.

Saskatchewan's Kronau-based team was nothing short of immaculate in the afternoon against Jones.

Skip Holland was pointed at 94 per cent on her stones. Jones was 73.

"We got some opportunities there and we took advantage of those," said the blonde Saskatchewan skip. "That made it a little easier. We executed well and Jennifer missed some key shots, hence what happened on he scoreboard."

Kleibrink stole a 7-6 extra-end decision over Scott of British Columbia who narrowly missed a long runback triple-kill with her last rock after Alberta welded two stones on the button behind its own guard.

Homan stole five points in an easy 7-1 rout of Newfoundland's Stacie Devereaux.

"We're just playing really well and capitalizing on mistakes," said Homan.

Alberta's was a tight match until B.C. claimed a ninth-end deuce to take the lead and could have stashed away an insurance point in the 10th end but Scott's last-rock guard failed to block Kleibrink's avenue to a B.C. stone in the fourfoot.

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THE SCOTTIES Day 2

Continued from Page 2

"My second rock over-curled on the guard," said Scott. "The ice was a little wonky out here. That rock swung so much it almost wound up in seats."

Sad Kleibrink:

"We've got mountains to climb right now but I'm on the way up there."

Birt gave a strong performance, doubling the count 10-5 against Marie-France Larouche of St-Romuald, Quebec. It was Birt's first win and Larouche's second loss in three games.

This issue swung in the fourth end when Birt, owning the hammer in a 3-3 argument, watched her last rock take a fortunate rub and re-direct to the four-foot with Quebec counting a bundle.

"If I don't make that they're stealing four or five," admitted Birt.

Thereafter, the Islanders stole one instead and tore the issue with three in the seventh and a steal of another deuce in the



Alberta's Shannon Kleibrink dropped her first game Sunday night.

eighth.

Defending champion Jones shrugged off her loss.

"We struggled with the ice, struggled with draw weight, struggled with where to put the broom. It was not our game.

"But you're not going to go through undefeated, I always say that. You have to think it may be the right time to lose and hopefully it's not going to kill us. The key is not to have back-to-back losses."

Jones admitted her opponent "outplayed us — they played pretty well, and put the rocks in all the right places".

Holland said she normally wouldn't expect to catch Jones with a cold hand.

Saskatchewan stole two to go up 5-1 in the fourth end when Jones pulled the string on an open in-turn draw.

"She's usually pretty bang-on, especially when we play her," she said.

"It's tough to get up early and try to kill the game. You get up four points early and you know there's lots of game left and a lot can happen. With that team, they're going to position rocks well and you're going to have your work cut out for you even though you have a lead."

Holland admitted her team "definitely is more confident in the way we're throwing and managing the ice".

"This game is all about experience," said the 36-year-old veteran.

"You look at the champions of the last few years and it's all about people who have been there, done that. We know that and we're going to take advantage of that experience."

Jones directed a wild 12-1 thrashing of Galusha's Polar entry in the morning while Scott rebounded from off the pace to steal three in the ninth end which led to a 6-4 victory over Manitoba.

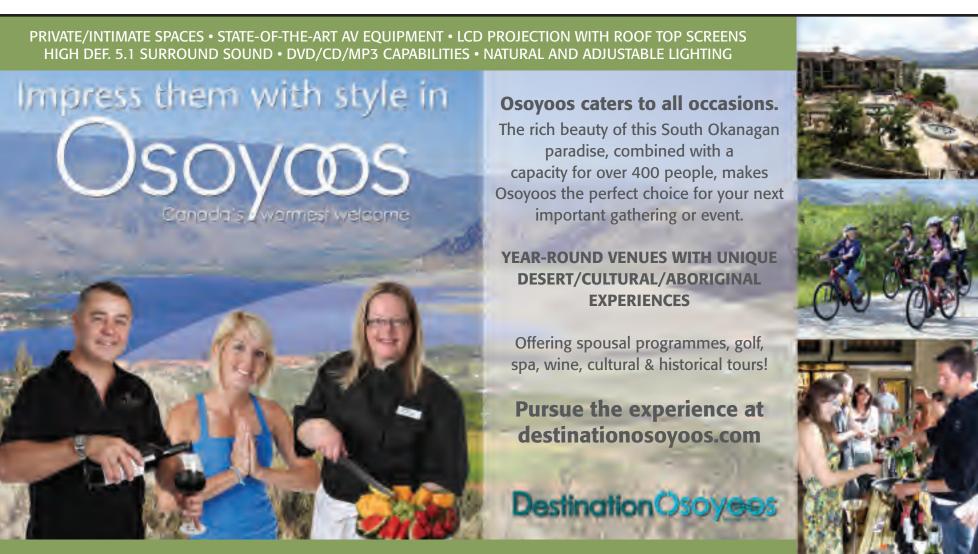
Overton-Clapham had several other opportunities to score the tying points in the last end but continually missed perfect freeze attempts. Scott executed a pair of open takeouts to clinch the decision.

"The complexion of that end and that game changed rather quickly," admitted Scott

"You never expect to get a break like that when somebody like Cathy has the last brick. I think out of her hand they were happy with it but it didn't finish up."

"We made a couple of wrong calls and I wasn't controlling the house as I should have," said Overton-Clapham. "You can't give up a steal of three in the ninth end here."

In other morning tilts, Quebec and Newfoundland each posted initial victories — Quebec 10-5 over Nova Scotia and Newfoundland 10-4 over New Brunswick.



Page 4 HeartChart



Time out for trivia

Larry Wood HeartChart Editor

QUESTION OF THE DAY:

Shelly Bradley last skipped the P.E.I., champ at the Scotties in which year? And what was her won-lost record that year?

- 2. Name the curler who, in non-skipping roles, has appeared in the most Canadian women's championships.
- 3. In how many Scotties has she played and how many skips has she played for?
- 4. Name them and the number of appearances with each.
- 5. Current Nova Scotia skip Heather Smith-Dacey is representing Nova Scotia for the third

time at the Scotties. She also was a member of a Canadian junior championship team from another province. Which province?

6. Which position did she play and when did she win the junior title.? 7. Another member of that Canadian junior champion lineup also is playing in this edition of the Scotties. Her name? 8. She played which position in the junior success and is playing which position now? 9. You know that three former Scotties champions adorn the skipping field this week. But name four skips in this field who, in the past, actually beat the eventual winners of Scotties tournament. ****(It'll be five if

Larouche is in it).

10. One of them, in fact, beat the champ twice.

Name her, her victims and the years she knocked them off.

11. Now, name the

- 11. Now, name the champs beaten by the other three, and the years.
- 12. Two vice-skips in the current field have skipped victories over eventual Scotties champions. Name them. 13. Who did they beat, and when?
- 14. Name the two Scott Tournament of Hearts skips who have defeated the eventual champion more times than any other, which is to say, four.
- Answers on Page 14



Every draw. Every team. All the excitement. Our team of Scotties Insiders will be closest to the button on all the action. Stay tuned to Ocean 100.



Skip: Andrea Kelly

Nickname: Ange Home: Aroostook, N.B. (currently Fredericton)

Delivery: Right
Occupation: Human resources manager **Employer:** Canadian Forces Personnel

and Family Support Services Date Of Birth: July 31, 1985 Place Of Birth: Perth-Andover, N.B. Marital Status: Common law

Name of spouse/partner: Tyler Crawford

Children: None

Favourite food: Chicken pastas, Wraps Favourite drink: Non-alcoholic - green

tea! alcoholic? Cosmos!

Favourite book: Not much of a reader... Favourite TV show: Two and a Half Men! Favourite website: Facebook, shopping

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Not often, but everything bagel, toasted with butter; not into coffee, so would substitute for green tea.

Favourite vacation destination? Somewhere hot and sunny!!

What or who inspired you?: I guess it was to get a little taste of it ourselves when we started doing really well in our own province in juniors, and then started doing well nationally. I just wanted to go further!

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Not to make his head swell, but I would have to say my coach!

You have superstitions? Never did until this year, now I have to wear the same hoodie at provincials every year, and must continue eating at the same restaurant during provincials.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Sydney Crosby, Ellen DeGeneres, Keith Urban. If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Volleyball!

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? New time-out rule... what other sport does not have actual time outs with stopped

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Well anything that has a good beat and pumps us up, probably not the slow stuff!

Pet peeves, if any? People who go to the gym and don't break a sweat!

Three things you always travel with? Cell, money, clothes.

First on your bucket list? I think I'd like to try sky diving.

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we're not athletes, that fitness isn't required.

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: A simple draw or open hit!

Third: Denise Nowlan

Home: Moncton **Delivery:** Right Occupation: Most important and prestigious job there is — mother of my children.

Employer: Nowlan family Date Of Birth: July 28, 1971 Place Of Birth: Moncton Marital Status: Single

Children (name/age): Joshua (10), Jacob

Favourite food: Sweet and salty

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Third Denise Nolan (left), lead Lianne Sobey, and second Jillian Babin.

Favourite drink: White wine Favourite movie: The Wedding Planner and The Hangover

Favourite TV show: Modern Family Favourite website? Curlingzone.com Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Large coffee with milk

Favourite vacation destination? Sunny and warm

What or who inspired you? Various past champions

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Daryell's Superstitions? Apparently way too many. The latest, eating at the same

restaurant every day .
Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: My curling team, we have a lot of fun together. If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Tennis If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? When you call a time out and the opposing coach can come out and talk to their team.. (it may change as I am getting my certification done)

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Don't really listen to anything specific

Pet peeves, if any? Many. Biggest one is had drivers

Three things you always travel with? Tooth brush, cellphone and credit card First on your bucket list? Taking my boys to Disneyland.

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal would be: Open hit or peel, because we are up at least two points coming home.

Second, Jillian Babin Home: Fredericton **Delivery:** Right

Occupation: Student Employer: University Of New Brunswick Date Of Birth: November 7, 1989

Place Of Birth: Dalhousie, N.B. Marital Status: Taken Children (name/age): None Favourite food: Chicken fingers Favourite drink: Wine

Favourite book: I'm a university student... I don't read anything but textbooks! Favourite movie: Back To The Future Favourite TV show: Gossip Girl Favourite website? Facebook and online

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Medium tea and a chocolate glazed doughnut Favourite vacation destination? Any-

where I can lie on a beach What or who inspired you?: My parents Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: My Dad's. And of course Daryell's.

Superstitions? I listen to the same song before every game. It started three years ago in junior provincials.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Sidney Crosby, Ellen, Michael Jackson If you could be a star in any other

sport, what would it be, and why? Beach volleyball because you get to train in warm weather.

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? would make all curling games eight or 10 ends. I don't like switching between the two. Just pick one and stick with it! What music do you like to listen to before a game? Gives You Hell - The All

American Rejects. Pet peeves, if any? Dirty roommates Three things you always travel with? Iphone, money for shopping, curling iron First on your Bucket List? Snorkeling

the Great Barrier Reef in Australia, ride a gondola in Venice, go to Oktoberfest in Germany.

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we are not in good shape or that we are not athletes Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Open hit, preferably an in-turn.

Lead, Lianne Sobey Home: Fredericton Delivery: Left

Occupation: Criminal Intelligence analyst **Employer:** Royal Canadian Mounted

Date Of Birth: April 1, 1984 Place Of Birth: Miramichi, N.B. Marital Status: Married Name of spouse/partner: Robert Faulkner

Children (name/age): None Favourite food: Maple Curry Chicken Penne from Brewbakers Favourite drink: Chocolate milk Favourite movie: That Thing You Do Favourite TV show: The Wire Favourite website? Facebook, of course! Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Bagel

Favourite vacation destination? Montreal

What or who inspired you?: Gram
Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Coach Daryell Superstitions? None

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Ellen DeGeneres, Steve Carrell and John

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Ping Pong

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? The

new time-out rule...why bother calling it a time-out any more if the time doesn't

What music do you like to listen to before a game? I am not picky. Pet peeves, if any? Slow drivers Three things you always travel with? iPhone, wallet and toothbrush First on your bucket list? Visit Australia
What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we are not athletes Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: A throw-through because it would mean we are up by lots.

Fifth: Jodie deSolla

Home: Fredericton Delivery: Right

Occupation: Social worker Date Of Birth: April 11, 1985 Place Of Birth: Montreal Marital Status: Partner

Name of spouse/partner: Jonathan Wilson

Children (name/age): None Favourite food: Pizza Favourite drink: Wine

Favourite movie: Pretty Woman Favourite TV show: Modern Family Favourite website? Facebook Favourite order from Tim Hortons?

Medium regular

Favourite vacation destination? Anywhere warm with a beach! What or who inspired you?: Atlantic teams doing well at nationals inspired me. Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Daryell's.

Superstitions? Apparently eating at the same restaurant when we are winning... Three people, living or not, whom

you would invite to a dinner party?: Obama, Oprah and my mom! If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? I have always wanted to try rowing.

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? New time-out rule, clocks are stopped in all sports during a time-out.

What music do you like to listen to

before a game? Anything upbeat Pet peeves, if any? Windshield wipers left on after it stops raining.

Three things you always travel with? Iphone, money, sunglasses

First on your bucket list? I want to see more of Europe.

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? We are not athletes, curling is not a sport!

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Open hit!

Coach: Daryell Nowlan

Home: Moncton Occupation: Director-General, Policy Employer: Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (Government of Canada) Date Of Birth: June 4, 1969 Place Of Birth: Lahr, Germany

Won coaching: 1992 PEI Junior Champs (bronze medalists at nationals), 1994 PEI Tankard Champs, 1995 NB Juniors (national runner up), 2009, 2010, 2011 NB Scotties Champs, 2009, 2011 NB Tankard Champs, 2006 Team Canada Coach/ Team leader World Junior men's Champ,

Playing: 3 time PEI Junior champ, 1997 NB men's champ (Bronze medal at Brier) Coaching for how many years: 20 years

Islander Day marked by marquee match

appy Islander Day Everyone. P.E.I.'s newest holiday could not have fallen on a better time for the Scotties. The big game between P.E.I. and Team Canada goes this evening.

Ticket sales have been brisk and there have been a few rumours that the game may be sold out. There are likely a few tickets left so be sure to check – it should be a great contest

Hometown fans are anticipating a big Island win in the game.

The two sides have been on a crash course the past two years at the Scotties. In 2009 at The Scotties in Victoria, in a do-or- die tiebreaker against P.E.I., Team Canada pulled off an incredible comeback by stealing the tenth and eleventh ends.

In both cases, Canada was shot by a very narrow margin.



Shelley Muzika HeartChart Guest Columnist

Last year, in an epic final, Kathy O'Rourke's crew found themselves one up with hammer playing nine and again Jennifer's Jones' Team Canada pulled out another win in an extra end.

Being able to bounce back from

a tough loss is probably a curling team's greatest strength.

This year's P.E.I. entry did so in Sunday's afternoon's game against Quebec. La Belle provence skip Marie-France Larouche has been one of the best at The Scotties over the last 10 years and provided the locals with a great game. But great shots by Suzanne Birt in the second and the fifth gave P.E.I. the early edge.

Every curling team must give a great deal of effort to make it to The Scotties each year. Practice, fitness training and many, many games are required to prepare for a provincial and national title victory. But there are also many other people involved in helping prepare and support a competitive curling team.

Each member of the P.E.I. team has benefitted from the support of family. People like Billy and Nor-



P.E.I. takes on Canada in Draw 8 Monday night

ma MacPhee, Bob and Jean Allan, Noel and Elaine Gaudet, and Ryan Bradley provide a fantastic support network for the team.

The fan support for P.E.I. has been fantastic. The crowds are big and will get bigger.

A couple of the roars heard during the Quebec game were spine-tingling and I cannot wait to see and hear the crowd when the locals play Team Canada.

It may be the biggest crowd in Island curling history.



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THE CULINARY INSTITUTE **HOLLAND OF CANADA**

Monday, February 21, 2011 Page 7

ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES: MANITOBA'S CATHY OVERTON-CLAPHAM

Skip qualifies for The Scotties... twice

HeartChart Staff

athy Overton-Clapham is the only player in the 2011 Charlottetown Scotties to have qualified twice for the competition.

Skipping the Manitoba entry at the Tournament Of Hearts for the first time ever — she actually qualified as the skip in 2000 but stepped down when Connie Laliberte returned to the squad — Overton-Clapham of Winnipeg will be making her 12th Hearts appearance, tying her with Newfoundland veterans Sue-Ann Bartlett and Cathy Cunningham.

Some will argue this should be her 13th, on account of twice qualifying this year, first as a member of the defending champion Team Canada and second following her emergence as Manitoba champion last month at the Sunflower Gardens in Altona.

Only six-time national champion skip Colleen Jones (20 appearances) and her long-time cohort Kim Kelly (14) of Halifax have qualified to play in more championships.

Everybody knows the current story, of course. Overton-Clapham, a Manitoba women's curling legend, was unceremoniously dropped from Jennifer Jones's Team Canada lineup at the completion of last season so Cathy-O, as she's known, put together her own team and battled back to her favourite event by winning the Manitoba title for the eighth time.

"Absolutely, this is the most special," Overton-Clapham told reporters after directing a 7-4 conquest of Morden's Chelsea Carey in the provincial final.

"I had won the right



to play in Charlottetown and one of the best Scotties I ever played in was in Charlottetown (1999). It's a thrill to be going back there this year."

With the final match tied 3-3 after six ends, the tables turned dramatically in the seventh as Overton-Clapham stole a pair. The game-changing end was set up by two perfect freezes by veteran Karen Fallis, who wouldn't have even been in the lineup at third if Manitoba junior champion Brianne Meakin hadn't been representing Manitoba at the junior women's nationals at Calgary.

Meakin was the team's original vice-skip with Leslie Wilson at second and Raunora Westcott at lead. The latter pair won last year's Manitoba title on the front end with Jill Thurston skipping.

Overton-Clapham confirmed immediately after

the final match that Fallis (formerly Porritt) would be playing third at the Scotties with Meakin taking over the role of alternate fifth player.

"It was kind of weird," Fallis confessed afterward. "My season was done and it was average. Then Cathy called and said, 'come and play', so I got to play. Any time you get to play on arena ice, it's so much fun. I had a good week, played some good shots. I'm excited to have the opportunity to go to he nationals."

Fallis played in only one competition with the team prior to the provincial Scotties, but it didn't show.

"You wouldn't know it by the way we clicked out there," said Overton-Clapham. "She played great. Amazing. She brings excitement for sure, and keeps me loose and laughing. It's was a great combination."

Overton-Clapham executed a clutch triple-raise

takeout in the ninth end to preserve her edge after Carey battled back with a single in the eighth. A steal in final exchange settled the issue.

It was a team exhibition of steel and determination that won it the hard way for Overton-Clapham. Her unit won one side of the 16-team split round-robin draw with a 6-1 record, losing only to veteran Janet Harvey of Winnipeg 7-5 en route, while Carey breezed to a 7-0 record on the other side.

Carey then shaded Overton-Clapham 7-6 in the Page One-One playoff to advance directly to the final. That was Carey's sixth straight decision over Cathy-O, but the record proved little consolation when the Morden unit bowed in the final.

In order to reach the final, though, Overton-Clapham was required to defeat Karen Rosser of Springfield 7-3 in the semi-final. Rosser earlier had squeezed out Kerri Einarson of Winnipeg 7-6 in an extra-end Page Two-Two tussle.

Einarson had survived to reach the final four by ousting Harvey 7-6 and Joelle Brown of Winnipeg 6-3 in tiebreakers.

Overton-Clapham had required an extra-end to defeat Einarson 8-7 in a last-round nerve-wracker that decided the playoff positions.

"It all just worked out and I couldn't be happier," said second Wilson. "I'm overwhelmed and I can't believe it. We found a new team to play with and we found a new skip and it happened to be Cathy-O — it doesn't get much better than that.

"You know what? I haven't seen her miss many shots this year. She's been on fire. She's so consistent. It shows in these major events that she puts so much into the game."

Fallis is no stranger to

success, having won a pair of Canadian mixed titles as third for Jeff Stoughton (1988 and 1991) and as skip of her own national junior champion team in 1981.

"It's nice to see Cathy come back and play well and have another opportunity at the Canadians," Fallis said.

Ironically, her only previous Scotties appearance, in 2002 at Brandon, was at third with Jennifer Jones skipping.

Said Carey at the finish:

"Maybe I'll be happy with this (an 8-1 showing), but I don't know when hat will be. It's awful going 8-0 and losing the final. I can't think of a worse way to end it. It's brutal. I'm disappointed. I'm devastated. Every bad word I can think of."

The defeat also was difficult to swallow for third Kristy Jenion who had lost two previous Manitoba finals as a skip.

"Cathy's team is great," added Carey. "By no stretch do I ever mean to take anything away from that. We played them a whole bunch this year and that was our only loss, but it was the big one. All that other stuff is great but provincials is what we play for."

In the end, the Overton-Clapham team logged a 8-2 record to Carey's 8-1. Rosser finished 7-2, Einarson 7-3, Harvey and Brown 5-3, Kim Link of East St. Paul 5-2, Brette Richards and Michelle Montford of Winnipeg 4-3.

Brandon's Lisa Blixhavn checked out at 3-4, Thurston and Tina Kozak of Brookdale were 2-5, Betty Buurman of Carberry and Deb McCreanor of LaSalle were 1-6.

Winless in seven starts were Kelly Wiwcharuk of Snow Lake and Bev Lumax of Swan River.

SCOTTIES SCHEDULE AND RESULTS

Today's Games

Draw 6 (9:30 a.m.)

Ontario vs P.E.I. B
Alberta vs Sask. C
D

Draw 7 (2:30 p.m.)

NB vs Canada A
NL vs Territories B
Manitoba vs Quebec C
NS vs B,C. D

Draw 8 (7:30 p.m.)

NL vs Alberta A
Quebec vs Sask. B
B.C. vs Ontario C
P.E.I. vs Canada D



OF HEARTS

Charlottetown

Standings

Team	Wins	Losses
Ontario (Homan)	3	0
Saskatchewan (Holland)	3	0
Team Canada (Jones)	2	1
Alberta (Kleibrink)	2	1
British Columbia (Scott)	2	1
NS (Smith-Dacey)	2	2
New Brunswick (Kelly)	2	2
NL (Devereaux)	1	2
PEI (Birt)	1	2
Quebec (Larouche)	1	2
Man (Overton Clapham)	1	3
NT/YT (Galusha)	0	4

Scoring and Percentages Summary for Draw 3

		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	TOT	AL	
Α	NL (Devereaux)	3	1	0	0	1	0	5	X	Х	Х		10	21:44
	New Brunswick (Kelly) *0	0	1	2	0	1	0	X	Х	Х		4	21:26
	NL	#SH	PTS	PCT		NB				#8	H F	TS F	PCT	
1	Heather Martin	14	43	77	1	Lian	ne	Sob	ey	•	14	47	84	
2	Sarah Paul	14	38	68	2	Jillia	ın B	abin		•	14	41	73	
3	Stephanie Guzzwell	14	36	64	3	Den	ise	Now	lan	•	14	31	55	
4	Stacie Devereaux	14	33	59	4	And	rea	Kell	y		14	28	50	

B NS (Smith-Dacey) Quebec (Larouche) 1 0 1 0 4 1 0 0 3 X 10 17:54 #SH PTS PCT QC #SH PTS PCT NS 1 Teri Lake 18 66 92 1 Veronique Brassard 18 52 72 2 Veronique Gregoire 2 Blisse Comstock 18 60 83 3 Annie Lemay 3 Danielle Parsons 18 61 85 18 49 68 4 Marie-France Larouche 4 Heather Smith-Dacey Team Totals 72 227 79 Team Totals

Team Totals		80 2	242	76		Tea	m T	otal	8			7	79 22	23 71
		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	тот	AL	
D Team Canada	(Jones	s) *1	1	1	3	0	5	1	Х	Х	Х		12	24:30
NT/YT (Galush	a)	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	Х	Х	Х		1	24:45
CAN	#SH	PTS	PCT			NT/	ΥT			#	SH	PTS	PCT	
1 Janet Arnott	2	7	88		1	Sho	na I	3arb	our		14	42	75	
1 Dawn Askin	12	44	92		-									
2 Jill Officer	14	53	95		2	Wei	ndy	Mille	er		14	35	63	
3 Kaitlyn Lawes	14	52	93		3	Dav	vn N	lose	s		14	36	64	
4 Jennifer Jones	14	52	93		4	Ker	ry G	alus	ha		14	31	55	
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Scoring and Percentages Summary for Draw 4

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3 Amy Nixon	22	2 6	0	68		3	Je	an	na	Sch	nrae	eder	22	(37	76
4 Shannon Kleibrink	22	2 6	64	73		4	Ke	elly	Sc	ott			22		59	67
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4 Amber Holland	1	-	60	9	-	4					nes		16 4	•	73	
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16 40 63 4 Suzanne Birt 64 170 66 Team Totals

Scoring and Percentages Summary for Draw 5

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3 Kim Schneider		18	50	69	3	Shel	lly B	radle	y		1	8 5	7	79	
4 Amber Holland		18	58	81	4	Suza	anne	e Birt			1	8 3	6	50	
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TRIVIA ANSWERS From Page 4

QofD: 2001, record 7-and-5.

- 2. Kimberly Kelly
- 3. 14 Scotties, two skips.
- 4. Colleen Jones 13 times, Mary-Anne

Arsenault once.

- 5. New Brunswick
- 6. Skipped the 1991 Canadian junior champ.

Veronique Gregoire
 Annie Lemay
 Marie-France I arouche

- 7. Denise Nowlan
- 8. Third in junior, third for the current New Brunswick women's champ.
- 9. Shannon Kleibrink, Heather Smith-Dacey, Kelly Scott, Kerry Galusha
- 10. Kleibrink defeated Sandy (Schmirler) Peterson in 1993 and Jennifer Jones in 2008.
- 11. Smith-Dacey defeated Colleen Jones in 2004, Scott defeated Jennifer

jones in 2005, Galusha defeated Jennifer Jones in 2009.

- 12. Dawn Moses, Shelly Bradley
- 13. Moses defeated Connie Laliberte in 1992, Bradley defeated Colleen Jones in 2001.
- 14. Agnes Charette, Colleen Jones.



Editor: Larry Wood

Assistant Editor: Fred Rinne

Photographer: Andrew Klaver

Printed by: Transcontinental











an evening of celtic culture!

Today at 5:00 pm

In the spring of 2005, a group of talented musicians got together to have some fun over the summer doing what they all loved... playing music. None of them envisioned the summer pastime would turn into one of the Island's most beloved acts!

Celtic Ladies have struck a chord in the hearts of all who have seen them perform - not only with their talent and energy, but with their charming personalities and down home stage presence.

With lively fiddling, stunning piano playing, stepdancing and songs, the Celtic Ladies paint a musical picture of the maritimes Celtic culture – see it all tonight in the HeartStop Lounge.

Tuesday, February 22

Sunday Punch - 5:00 pm

Vintage 4.0 - 10:00 pm

Wednesday, February 23 5:00pm Cynthia MacLeod & Jon Matthews 10:00pm Signal Hill

Thursday, February 24 5:00pm Sunday Punch

10:00pm Shaydid

Friday, February 25 5:45pm Tim Chaisson Duo 10:00pm Shameless

5:00pm Cynthia MacLeod & Jon Matthews Saturday, February 26

10:00pm The Chevelles

Sunday, February 27 5:45pm Fiddlers' Sons



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 Scotties will be carried live on 89.9 FM radio. Just bring your own portable radio and tune in to the broadcast... while you enjoy the action on the ice.



Tim Chaisson & Morning Fold

Today at 10:00 pm

Tim Chaisson has been embedded in the PEI music scene since he was just thirteen years old, singing and playing in a family-based Celtic band. After years of touring and recording he followed a passion to perform his own music.

After three solo albums and the release of "Broken Hearted Beat" with Morning Fold, Chaisson is well on the way. Over the past two years the band has achieved numerous accolades including Music PEI awards for Songwriter of the Year, Entertainer of the Year, Pop Recording of the Year and Group of the Year.

The group's sound amalgamates diverse backgrounds and genres, integrating elements of folk, pop, country and the Celtic roots that inspired Chaisson in his younger years.

cool curling's getting hot!

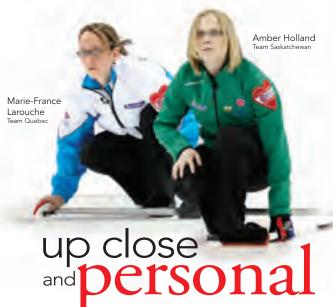
Another round of the Cool Curling competition is underway today at 4:30 pm in the HeartStop Lounge. The winner takes the \$60 daily prize and moves on along with the runner-up - to Saturday's championship.

Sign up for free and take your shot to play for the final prize money of \$350 for the champion, \$200 for second and \$75 each for the third and fourth place finishers.

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



autograph. sessions





Come out and meet your favourite curlers in the HeartStop Lounge. Team Autograph sessions bring you face-to-face with the players from all the teams at the Scotties.

ioday	1:00 pm	Alberta & Ontario
Tuesday, Feb. 22	1:00 pm	Nova Scotia & Northwest Territories/Yukon
Wednesday, Feb. 23	1:00 pm	Newfoundland/Labrador & Quebec
Thursday, Feb. 24	12:00 pm	Prince Edward Island & Saskatchewan
Saturday, Feb. 26	3:30 pm	All teams available

The first of three Up Close and Personal interviews gets underway tomorrow – giving fans the chance to get to know a little more about the off-ice personalities of the Scotties competitors.

It's an entertaining and candid conversation that always results in some fascinating insights. Make sure you're there Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday at 6:00 pm in the HeartStop Lounge.

Tuesday, Feb. 22 British Columbia Canada Newfoundland/Labrador Quebec

Wednesday, Feb. 23 Prince Edward Island Ontario Alberta Saskatchewan

Thursday, Feb. 24 New Brunswick Northwest Territories/Yukon Manitoba Nova Scotia

\$7,562.00 and counting... You can be a big winner at the Scotties! 50/50 draws will be held during every draw with tickets sold through a convenient electronic system. The total is automatically updated with each purchase... so while you're watching the action on the ice, you can also watch the pot grow.

The winners are:

Draw 2 Unclaimed – \$1,773.00

Unclaimed - \$753.00 Draw 3

Draw 4 Michelle Chandler & Doreen Hiscock Winsloe, PE - \$2,413.00

Think you're a winner? Call 1-902-393-8546 to check the number of the winning ticket for each draw.



Twenty-four young PEI curlers were chosen through a random draw to take part in the PEI Ford Dealers Junior Stars program, serving as honourary members of the 12 Scotties teams. They will all be featured in special pre-game ceremonies.

Alex Sutherland and Megan Davies, honourary members of Team Canada, are introduced prior to the Saturday evening draw.

Today's PEI Ford Dealers Junior Stars are:

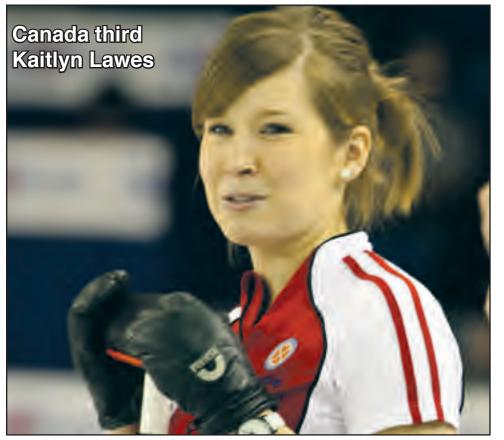
2:30 pm Draw

Team British Columbia

Comwall CC Katie Fullerton Brooks Roche Montague CC 7:30 pm Draw

Annika Kelly

Team Newfoundland/Labrador Charlottetown CC Owen Newson Charlottetown CC Page 12 HeartChart



Listen to The Scotties inside the arena on TSN. Tune your dial to 88.9 FM

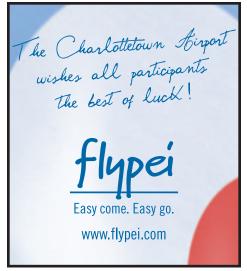




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Skip: Stacie Devereaux

Nickname: Stace Home: St. John's **Delivery:** Right

Occupation: Border Services officer **Employer:** Canada Border Services

Agency

Date Of Birth: May 27, 1986

Place Of Birth: St. John's Marital Status: Common-law Spouse/partner: Justin Curtis Children (name/age): None Favourite food: Anything Mexican Favourite drink: Root beer

Favourite book: I'm more of a news/current events reader than a book reader! Favourite movie: Ocean's 11.

Favourite TV show: NCIS LA Favourite website: www.allrecipes.com Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Large tea, one and one; and a sour cream glazed doughnut, if I'm getting something

Favourite vacation destination? Samana, Dominican Republic or Liberia, Costa Rica. But I will take anywhere that has a sandy beach and some warm sunshine.

What or who inspired you?: Curling's always been a big part of my family. I can remember so many Sundays being at my grandparents house watching finals over dinner. Watching Sandra Schmirler in the '98 Olympics may have been the first inspiration.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: My team

You have superstitions? No, not really. I do like routines, so I will try to keep things the same game to game.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Sandra Schmirler, Michael Jordan, Gordon

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Tennis, because it's so athletic

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Consistency in the number of ends between the cash circuit and the playdowns circuit. If the game's going to eight ends, just make the change.

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Anything from the current top 40.

Pet peeves, if any? Being late and bad drivers

Three things you always travel with? Passport, credit card and my cellphone First on your bucket list? Visiting Australia

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? We're not athletes! Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Draw to the four-foot, either turn.

Third: Stephanie Guzzwell

Nickname: Steph Home: Mount Pearl, NL **Delivery:** Right Occupation: Full-time student and parttime worker Employer: Crosbie-Job Insurance Date Of Birth: May 1, 1987 Place Of Birth: St. John's Marital Status: Single Favourite food: Pasta and tacos

Favourite drink: Chocolate milk

GETTING TO KNOW YOU



Second Sarah Paul (left), third Stephanie Guzzwell, lead Heather Martin and skip Stacie Devereaux

Favourite book: The Kite Runner Favourite movie: Super Troopers Favourite TV show: Seinfeld and The

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Everything bagel with herb and garlic cream cheese and a large tea (two milk, two sugar)

Favourite vacation destination? My cabin in the summer

What or who inspired you?: My poppy,

Kevin Dunphy Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Rafael Nadal, Danny Williams and Rainn Wilson in character as Dwight Shrute
If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Soccer; It's fast paced, entertaining, and the foot work of professionals is amazing If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Time clocks should be thinking time and not shotmaking time.

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Much Dance '95 Pet peeves, if any? Loud chewers and

First on your bucket list? Trip to Australia Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal would be: Out-turn hit

Second: Sarah Paul

Home: St. John's, NL **Delivery: Right** Occupation: Primary/elementary French immersion teacher at Mary Queen of Peace (Currently teaching Grade 4) Employer: Eastern school district Date Of Birth: January 12, 1986 Place Of Birth: St. John's, NL Marital Status: Single Favourite food: Pasta, salmon, fruit smoothies, wraps, Lindor chocolates and mint chocolate-chip ice cream Favourite drink: Shirley Temple with extra cherries!

Favourite book: The Book of Negroes by Lawrence Hill

Favourite movie: Billy Madison, Meet the **Fockers**

Favourite TV show: The Office Favourite website? n/a

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Everything bagel toasted with herb and garlic cream cheese and a medium green tea Favourite vacation destination? Anywhere where the sun shines and the water is warm!

What or who inspired you?: My parents have always encouraged me to continue to curl. They have been a major support and have always believed in me.

Superstitions? No.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: My grandfather (who passed away before I was born), Michael Jackson, Britney Spears (It would make for an interesting and entertaining dinner party!)

If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Volleyball because I have always enjoyed playing this sport recreationally

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? More time to play the game

What music do you like to listen to before a game? My team and I generally get together before a game and listen to a variety of music; anything from dance music to acoustic.

Pet peeves, if any? When people are not true to their word.

Three things you always travel with? My camera, my cellphone and my toothbrush. First on your bucket list? Travel to

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That they don't have to be in good physical shape.

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: An in-turn draw to the button

Lead, Heather Martin

Home: St John's NL **Delivery:** Right Occupation: Senior Commercial Account Manager

Employer: RBC Royal Bank Date Of Birth: Nov. 10, 1963 Place Of Birth: Halifax Marital Status: Married Name of spouse/partner: Bernie Children (name/age): none Favourite food: Pasta and chocolate

Favourite drink: Water and red wine Favourite book: Pillars Of The Earth Favourite movie: Pay It Forward Favourite TV show: Any cooking show Favourite website? Epicurious.com Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Coffee

Favourite vacation destination? Italy, and I would like to visit Scotland and Ireland, too.

What or who inspired you?: Heather Houston and the team of Sandra Schmirler Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: The team Superstitions? Nil

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: Sandra Schmirler, Jamie Oliver, Elton John If you could be a star in any other sport,

what would it be, and why? Never really thought about it

If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? Revisit the running time-out rule.

What music do you like to listen to before a game? Any up beat Pet peeves, if any? Being late Three things you always travel with? Good book, credit card and my iPad First on your bucket list? Right after winning the Scotties it would be traveling to Tuscany for a week and attending a

cooking school. What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That we are not in any physical condition

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Draw to the button

Fifth: Julie Devereaux

Home: Logy Bay, NL Delivery: Right

Occupation: Nursing student
Date Of Birth: January 15, 1989 Place Of Birth: St. John's, NL Marital Status: Single Favourite food: Pineapple

Favourite drink: White hot chocolate Favourite book: Too many to count! Top ones include Harry Potter series and Six

Suspects (by Vikas Swarup) Favourite movie: Pirates of the Caribbean: Curse of the Black Pearl

Favourite TV show: NCIS: LA (courtesy of my sister!) and The Big Bang Theory Favourité website? As much as I hate to

admit it, probably Facebook.

Favourite order from Tim Hortons? Large tea - two milk, two sugar

Favourite vacation destination? Europe What or who inspired you?: Probably Stacie (my sister!), I always idolized her when I was a kid. And Sandra Schmirler. She was just amazing and inspiring.

Whose opinion do you most trust when it comes to curling?: Again, probably

Superstitions? I like to think that I don't

have any - more-so routines.

Three people, living or not, whom you would invite to a dinner party?: J K Rowling, Rick Mercer and Johnny Depp If you could be a star in any other sport, what would it be, and why? Volleyball - I used to love it before I had to give it up for

curling If you could change any rule in curling, which one would it be, and why? The time-out rules. I think the clock should stop for a team's one-minute time-out (even if that means two minutes less on the time clocks to start). I'm also a fan of the international rule where only the team calling

the time-out has access to their coach. What music do you like to listen to before a game? Pretty much anything from Akon to Rascal Flatts.

Pet peeves, if any? Bad drivers. And having to do electives at university that are completely unrelated to my field of study. Three things you always travel with?

iPhone, charger and a toothbrush
First on your bucket list? Travel all around Europe

What is the biggest misconception about curlers? That there's a "thrower" a "sweeper" and a "person who yells". I can't count how many times I've been asked which I am!

Your ideal shot to win an Olympic gold medal: Not throwing it! Sweeping a draw to the rings for the win!

Coach: Craig Withycombe

Home: St. John's

Occupation: Communications technician Employer: Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

Date Of Birth: September 14, 1957 Place Of Birth: St. John's

Won coaching: 2007 NL Junior men's; CIS MUN teams 2008, 2009, 2011; 2011

Coaching for how many years: 15 years

Page 14 HeartChart

Team Scott keeping things in perspective

t wasn't that long ago that Kelly Scott and her Kelowna curlmates were at the very apex of their game.

They won a second straight Scotties, then a world championship in far off Japan, and everything they knew they were capable of achieving became a realization.

Then came the arduous grind that led to last year's Olympic trials in Edmonton where Scott looked tired, befuddled and out of gas.

And maybe that's exactly what happened. Scott's wasn't the only highly competitive curling team that suffered massive burnout during the last Olympic qualifying process.

"There's been an evolution to this team, for sure," the 33-yearold Scott says now.

"We started out with that hunger and that desire to prove something and we reached that really quickly. We won Canada and came back and won Canada and won the Worlds, and maintained that for probably the next year . . . and then I think maybe our priorities began to shift a bit. We had families in there. It wound up rattling our confidence, rattling our motivation and inspirations . . . and here we are still playing together and we feel less pressure now than ever before."

And, ever-so-slowly, it looks like the old form may be re-surfacing for Scott, Jeanna Schraeder, Sasha Carter and relatively new lead Jacquie Armstrong.

"We have a real appreciation for what we've accomplished already in our careers, and that should not add pressure to stay there, it should relieve pressure," says Scott.

"We can say, 'hey, we know we can do that, we've done that already and nobody will ever take that away from us'... and we go out there now and just enjoy it.

"We've proven that to ourselves and who else do we have to prove it to?"

Back when they were winning big-time, curling seemed to be pressure-packed and unbelievably hard work for this unit.

"We felt it," Scott admits. "Dur-



LARRY WOOD
HeartChart Editor

ing our first Worlds (at Grande Prairie) we had to learn how to handle that pressure, playing an international event on Canadian soil and not having our best week.

"We felt it when other teams learned how to beat us and we weren't beating them as regularly as we once were.

"There was pressure to get back to where we were . . . always trying to win those games.

"But I think we've come around full circle and learned how we want to approach that now. And that's not to view it as pressure but to view it as a challenge . . .

"And there is no pressure. Right? It's what you make of it. And I think in the past couple of seasons we made more out of it than we should have.

"Hey, we still have that urge to win. But we might use Cheryl Bernard's word, perspective. And we try to keep it in perspective.

"At the end of the day we're going to play our hearts out this week (no pun intended) and the bottom line is that regardless of the result we will go home to our wonderful families. That's what keeps us going.

"We used to feel we were letting a lot of people down. And, No. 1, probably letting ourselves down. I don't think anyone put any more pressure on us than we did ourselves.

"But we've come around to learn how to deal with that and allow ourselves to just go and curl. You're going to win some and you're going to lose some. "Basically, if you put yourself in



enough big games, if you come to the Scotties often enough, you're going to get there again. If you just keep working, you're not going to get there every time but you're going to get there again.

"So we just have to keep trusting that approach. I mean, we're doing all the things right, we're working hard at the game and we have all the right components on our team. We just have to keep rolling with that."

Coach Gerry Richard, who is vice-skip Schraeder's daddy and

has been the providing guidance from the beginning, emphasizes that, win or lose, it has to be about enjoyment.

"That's No. 1," says the mentor who'll celebrate his 55th birthday on Saturday.



Gerry Richard

"They have to enjoy the game or somewhere down the road they're not going to want to play it any more."

Richard, a firefighting captain

who won the 1994 Brier with Rick Folk, suggests the Trials grind obviously had an adverse effect on the team, every member of which has, or is about to have, young families.

"We were a little tired and this year we planned to play a little bit less and tried to put a little more fun into it," he says. "We've given it a little bit more of an at-ease approach. The technical level and the skill level is still where it was before but we've been putting an emphasis on having fun and enjoying the game.

"I don't think any team loses what they can do at the technical or tactical level, that's kind of ingrained in teams at this level forever.

"But we want to enjoy ourselves. When they hit the ice they're going to be competitive anyway. You can't take that away. But as long as they're smiling and having fun, that's a great thing to see if you're the coach."

Richard is optimistic about the future

"We started to show some improvement at the Scotties last year," he suggests. "We played pretty good, got into the fourth

spot. We were pretty proud of that after a real long year.

B.C. skip Kelly Scott

"It was more the team wanting that approach this year. I'm totally on board with it. It was something they needed to do. I think there's a real level of calmness about the team right now. "We'll take whatever happens. I think we're better at rolling with the wins and losses than maybe we ever were before. "Sometimes a lot of those losses affected us and now I think we're more able to adapt to that and if someone beats us in a good curling game, well, that's fine."

Someone beating you? It happens to the best in curling, to say nothing of most other sports, right?

"We'll have to reassess everything next year," says Coach.

"Obviously a lot of teams will be playing more for the next two seasons so we'll see how the rest of this season goes first and then we'll sit down and make plans for next year.

"In the meantime, we'll be happy with whatever happens this week.

"Of course, we'll be trying to win it, no doubt. That part never changes . . ."

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ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES Newfoundland/Labrador's Stacie Devereaux

A mix of youth and experience

HeartChart Staff

heir opponents may be older and wiser for the most part, but Stacie Devereaux and her team from St. John's Baly Hally won't be making like deer in the headlights when they launch their Scotties Tournament Of Hearts chase at Charlottetown.

Devereaux is technically considered a rookie heading into this scrap but the Newfoundland/Labrador team isn't without a decent collection of credentials.

For openers, Devereaux, third Stephanie Guzwell and second Sarah Paul formed the back end of the 2007 Canadian junior women's championship team, the first-ever from The Rock.

Devereaux defeated Manitoba's Calleen Neufeld 7-6 in a wild final match with a 10th-end three-spot to close it out.

Six weeks later, the team finished second in the World Juniors at Eveleth, Minn., losing the final 7-6 on the strength of an extra-end theft perpetrated by Scotland's Sarah Reid.

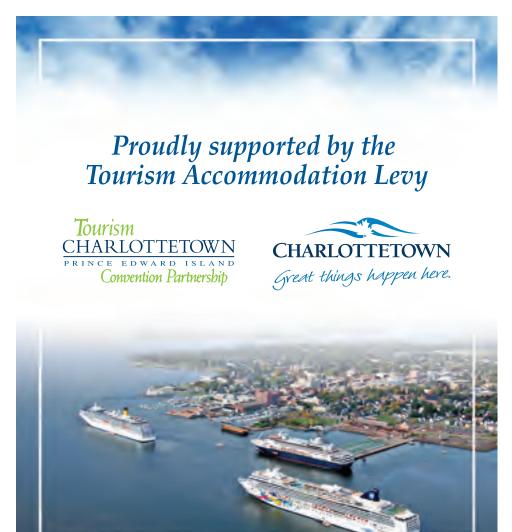
Skip Devereaux has lurked in the background since. She skipped a team including Shelly Nichols, Steph Jackson and Susan O'Leary in 2008, but moved aside halfway through the season due to work commitments as a Canadian Border Services officer.

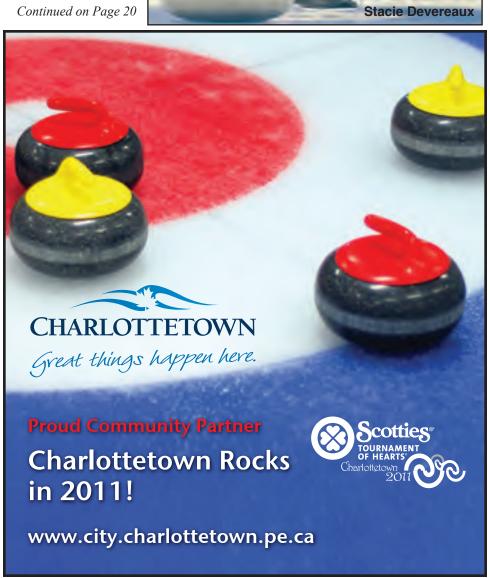
In 2009, she formed a makeshift team that lost in the provincial semi-finals. Last year, Devereaux, Guzzwell, Paul and veteran lead Heather Martin hooked up, and the four decided to go, "full out," but still lost in the provincial semis.

"Curling is the kind of game that sometimes you have to take a step back and sort out some things in life," Devereaux told Robin Short of the St. John's Telegram, moments after defeating defending champion Nichols 9-8 in the 2011 Newfie final at Baly Hally.

"Sarah was finishing her education degree, and I was sorting out my career. But all that is done and after the semi-final last year, we were very upset. We regrouped after that loss, and we agreed and realized the drive is still there."







Page 16 HeartChart

ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES Prince Edward Island's Suzanne Birt

A little added pressure

HeartChart Staff

uzanne Birt became the record six-time Prince Edward Island provincial women's curling champion skip last month at Cornwall which is appropo in more ways than one.

The lefthanded Birt, formerly Gaudet, represents her province at the Scotties Tournament Of Hearts in her hometown this week. She also will be angling to improve on her record of 26 wins in the national event, second among Island skips to Rebecca Jean (MacPhee) MacDonald who has 30.

MacDonald, Kim Dolan and Marie Toole, all of Charlottetown, were tied with Birt at five provincial titles apiece until Birt and her team of Shelly Bradley, Robyn MacPhee and Leslie MacDougall cracked a 10th-end three-spot to oust defending champion Kathy O'Rourke by a 7-3 count in the 2011 provincial showdown.

The heat will be on Birt at least to repeat O'Rourke's fine showing of 2010 at Sault Se. Marie when the

Charlottetown team that featured Erin Carmody playing second and dispensing last rocks, Gery-Lynn Ramsay playing third and Tricia Affleck leading, battled right to the championship final before settling for runnerup status.

"It would just be a dream come true to me," Birt said of the current opportunity. "To play in Charlottetown, in front of our home fans, it would just be wonderful."

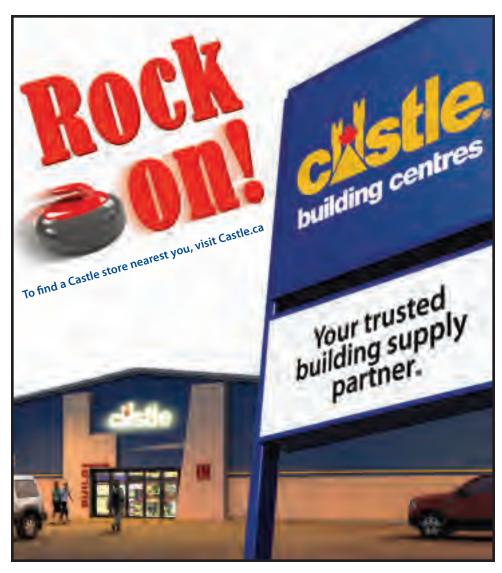
Birt already has popped a few eyeballs at the Scotties.

She made her Scotties skipping debut in 2003 at Kitchener-Waterloo, a year after claiming her second straight Canadian junior title, by winning 10 of 11 games in the round-robin preliminary before losing two straight in the playoffs — to eventual champion Colleen Jones and eventual runnerup Cathy Cunningham.

The Summerside native has been less effective in four subsequent visits to the Nationals, amassing an average of only four wins per appearance.

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P.E.I. Continued from 16

Her team defeated O'Rourke 7-4 in the A final of the six-team modified triple-knockout tourney this time, lost the B final 6-4 to O'Rourke, stole the C final 8-7 in the 10th end and wrapped it up in the A-B playoff that was in doubt until the final shot.

The last match, which featured the two pre-tournament favourites trading single points for much of the duration, drew hundreds of fans to the Cornwall club.

"I think it was a very wellplayed game," losing skip O'Rourke told the Charlottetown Guardian. "Neither team was able to score more than one (until the 10th end)."

Birt was up 4-3 heading into the final exchange, with O'Rourke holding the hammer. On her last shot, Carmody attempted an angled tap-back raise for one to force an extra end. But the raised stone was off line and

Birt stole three counters.

A win for O'Rourke in the A-B would have forced a suddendeath fifth battle between the two teams.

"The extra life boosts your confidence," admitted Birt.

"They (O'Rourke) are just a really strong team and anything can happen in sudden death. So the earlier you get them out, the better."

O'Rourke said her team will be rooting for Birt at the Scotties.

"You're always hoping for the P.E.I. team to do well," she said.

"Hopefully they can finish what we couldn't (last year)."

Birt says she hopes her team is up to the task.

"Definitely, watching them last year gives the P.E.I. ladies teams a lot more confidence in themselves, knowing that P.E.I. can do well at the Scotties."

The key victory of the three against O'Rourke probably transpired in the C final where Birt stole a shocking two in the 10th end.

"This sport is so crazy sometimes," said Birt.

"You never know what's going to happen."

Birt was down 7-4 after eight ends but scored a deuce in the ninth to make it 7-6 heading home.

In the final end, Carmody missed a hit on a Birt rock sitting on the button.

"It felt like we were in control for most of it," said O'Rourke.

"We missed our last shot which cost us the game. We learned it last year at the Scotties. It's a game of inches."

Birt's unit won six of seven starts in the competition while O'Rourke finished 4-3.

Dolan, who is chairing the Scotties organizing committee, wound up winning three of six during the tournament while Donna Butler of Cornwall was 2-3, Shirley Berry of Cornwall was 1-3 and Tammy Dewar of Montague lost three straight.





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Page 18 HeartChart

ROAD TO THE SCOTTIES Nova Scotia's Heather Smith-Dacey

Not the original plan, but...

HeartChart Staff

his was supposed to be the return of the all-time queen of the Scotties.

Six-time champion skip Colleen Jones, a 20-time Scotties competitor, had joined forces with Heather Smith-Dacey, Blisse Comstock and Teri Lake this season with a view to another shot at the tournament Jones once said was "the biggest thing in my life".

But it was not to be for the veteran Jones this time. She was diagnosed in the fall with bacterial meningitis and now is awaiting surgery.

Her new-found mates, however, refused to be derailed by the disappointment. And the improbable chain of events continued in the Nova Scotia Scotties playdowns at Kentville, climaxed by Smith-Dacey skipping the team to a 7-3 final-match victory over veteran Halifax Mayflower clubmate Theresa Breen.

Smith-Dacey, who won the 1991 Canadian junior title out of New Brunswick and previously represented Bluenose country at the 2000 and 2004 Scotties, took over the teehead just prior to provincial qualifying play in December. Former provincial junior champion skip Danielle Parsons was conscripted to take over third rocks with former national junior champion Comstock and Lake remaining on the front end.

"It seems like this is just the way the team was supposed to be," Smith-Dacey told Monty Mosher of the Halifax Chronicle-Herald shortly after the provincial win.

"It's been a bizarre year. But we've been playing well and hopefully we'll continue that play into the Scotties in Charlottetown."

Had Parsons won the provincial juniors

and gone to nationals in Calgary earlier this month, former long-time Jones cohort Kim Kelly was set to join the team. Parsons showed no jitters and more than held her own at her position during the week.

"It's surreal, for sure," said Parsons. "I thought I would be in a different position at this point, but I am so thrilled to be playing with these girls. I wasn't that nervous until the last couple of ends in the last game. It just felt like I had a job to do, and a fun job to do."

Four stolen points in the middle ends vaulted the Smith-Dacey crew to victory. Smith-Dacey responded to a single opener from Breen by blanking two ends and making it pay off with a three-ender in the fourth. Then Smith-Dacey stole a single in the fifth, two in the sixth and another single in the seventh.



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Nova Scotia

Continued from Page 18

Breen, a four-time Ontario champion third with Anne Merklinger, and her team of Kristen MacDiarmid, Helen Radford and Mary Sue Radford, forged a 6-1 record in the eight-team round-robin preliminary to move directly to the final. Smith-Dacey went 5-2.



Breen won five in a row, then lost 8-6 to unsung Tanya Hilliard of Halifax before defeating Sarah Rhyno of Halifax 7-6 in an extra end to move directly to the final. Rhyno was a late skipping addition herself, filling in for veteran Mary Mattatall who coached the Nova Scotia junior champions in Calgary.

"It wasn't our day," Breen said following the final. "They (Smith-Dacey) played



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fantastic. We had a bad pick in the fourth end and they just played defence so well once they had the lead."

Smith-Dacey executed a freeze with her first shot in the first end, forcing Breen into an open hit for her single point.

Breen got a tough break in the fourth. With Smith-Dacey sitting two on opposite sides of the eight-foot, Breen's rock caught debris and ran wide on a takeout. Smith-Dacey looked to be a touch light on her open draw for three, but her brushers carried her stone into the top 12 for a 3-1 lead.

Breen faced disaster in the fifth. Looking at four Smith-Dacey counters when she crouched down for her last rock, she played an angle-raise off her own rock at the edge of the 12-foot to cut Smith-Dacey down to a steal of one.

The deficit grew in the sixth with the Smith-Dacey front end continuing its dominance. Breen, a force all week with draw weight, had to draw against four with her last rock and was a foot too heavy, yielding an additional steal of two and a 6-1 gap.

Smith-Dacey got two more behind cover in the seventh and Breen was unable to blast them out for the third straight steal which, for all intents and purposes, wrapped it up.

The playoff round turned out to be vengeance-tinged for Smith-Dacey who, during the round robin, lost 6-5 in an extra end to Breen and 6-3 to former champion Mary-Anne Arsenault of Halifax. Smith-Dacey ousted Arsenault 8-3 in the semifinal.

The eventual champ stole five points in the first three ends of the semi, added another deuce in the fifth end for a 7-1 lead and breezed.

Comstock and Parsons will be Scotties rookies in Charlottetown while Lake will be making her second appearance. She played second for Jill Mouzar in 2007 at Lethbridge.

Smith-Dacey finished the provincial argument with a 7-2 record while Breen was 6-2, Arsenault was 5-3 and Rhyno was 4-3.

Rounding out the field, Hilliard finished 3-4, Coralie Richard of Sydney and Jennifer Crouse, skipping three-quarters of the defending champion team skipped the last two years by Nancy McConnery, were 2-5 and Simone MacKenzie of Halifax won once in seven starts, a final-round 6-5 squeaker over Hilliard.le Miller was 2-3, Phillips 1-4 and Jewer 0-5.



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Newfoundland/Labrador

Continued from Page 15

It's an interesting lineup. Martin has played lead in seven previous Scotties including a runner-up finish in 2003 with Cathy Cunningham. In fact, Martin stepped back when Cunningham folded her team in 2008 and joined Heather Strong at third.

Team Devereaux won six straight for the title last month. And the win moves Devereaux into select company. Among skips from Newfoundland, only four others have made it to the Scotties since 1993 — Nichols, Strong, Cunningham and Laura Phillips.

Ironically, both Nichols and Strong competed at mainland 'spiels this winter while Devereaux struggled to reach .500, wins-over-losses, in the hometown super league.

"We didn't feel the needed to get away," Devereaux told the Telegram. "The things we needed to work on weren't necessarily game-related, but the mental aspect of the game.

"Our record isn't great, but we've been building and building all year. We were trying out a few new things with the focus being the provincials. We were doing everything in our power to allow us to come together and win."

And win they did, sweeping the sixteam round-robin tourney with five wins that catapulted the team directly to the championship final.

Devereaux opened proceedings with a 7-5 win over Strong. Then the soon-to-be-champs edged clubmate Cindy Miller 9-8, doubled up on Nichols 10-5, thumped Michelle Jewer of the St. John's club 9-4 and squeaked past the veteran Phillips 8-7.

Nichols and Strong each finished with 4-2 records and Nichols won the semi-final with a triple in the ninth end the key count in a 7-5 final score.

Devereaux opened with a deuce in the first end of the final and added another in the third for a 4-2 lead. A stolen single in the sixth to make it 6-3, and three in the eighth to forge in front 9-4, contributed to the triumph. Nichols posted a deuce in the ninth and stole another two in the 10th to tighten up the final score.

Nichols and Strong both finished 4-3 while Miller was 2-3, Phillips 1-4 and Jewer 0-5.



