

EYE OPENER



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■ Canada wins do-or-die battle to squeeze into playoffs

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Thanks, Auntie Laurie

Pep talk, swear words, tears ignite Canada

By CAM HUTCHINSON

Eye Opener Associate Editor

A team meeting between draws helped re-ignite Team Canada when it needed a spark the most. Canadian third Amy Nixon credited "Auntie Laurie" for getting the team back on track.

Facing elimination on the final draw of the round-robin at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, Canada's Chelsea Carey defeated Eve Muirhead of Scotland 9-4. With the victory, Canada advances to the playoffs, while Muirhead is going home without a shot at her second world title.

After taking an 11-2 drubbing from Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa hours before, Team Canada gathered in Carey's hotel room. Among those at the meeting was "Auntie Laurie," who is really Laurie Hillis, a corporate team dynamics person and the best friend of Carey's mother, Mary.

"We had some powerful moments and some swear words and some high-fives and some tears and everything around the block," Nixon said. "It was a very powerful moment for our team. Honestly, she (Hillis) made all the difference for us between that game ... and Laine Peters showed a ton of leadership in that meeting. She basically said, 'You know what, let's garbage that, we're doing this and let's go out and do it.' She really started turning the tide."

The playoffs are now set. Switzerland's Binia Feltscher and Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa will meet in the Page 1-2 game tonight at 7 p.m. Canada and Russia's Anna Sidorova will play in the Page 3-4 game Saturday afternoon at 2 p.m.

Feltscher defeated South Korea's Un Chi Gim (5-6) 7-4 Thursday night, while Japan and Russia had byes on the final draw.

Both Switzerland and Japan finished with 9-2 records. Canada and Russia finished at 8-3.

Two hours after suffering an 11-2 drubbing to Fujisawa, Canada played arguably its best game of the week. It couldn't have come at a better time. Canada hasn't won the title since 2008 and hasn't missed the playoffs since 1999 in Saint John, N.B., when Colleen Jones didn't make the top four.

Carey is happy to be in the playoffs. "That was goal No. 1 for sure," she said.



Amy Nixon



Binia Feltscher

"Obviously we'd like to be on the podium, so we will see if we can string together a few more wins and take care of that. Goal No. 1 is checked off the list, so it's a nice feeling."

Canada controlled play early. Muirhead had to make a delicate double tapback to score one in the second end. A miss would have put Canada up 3-0. In the third end, Canada had four rocks in the house, forcing Muirhead to protect her shot rock as best she could. She escaped with Carey counting one.

With the score 2-2 playing the sixth end, Canada made textbook shots around a corner guard. With her final rock, Muirhead was unable to eliminate either Canadian stone, giving Carey a draw for three and ultimately a 5-2 lead.

That was the turning point although, as one would expect, there was no quit in the Scots.

Muirhead scored one in the seventh with the hammer and stole one in eighth when Carey's double attempt missed by a millimetre or two.

Carey made a double with her first rock in

the ninth and a runback with her second to count four and send Scotland packing.

"I was thinking I missed it the last end and I'm not going to miss it again," Carey said. "I had just thrown it so it was the same throw with lots of deep breaths and let your body do what you train it to do when I am at the rink throwing hundreds of rocks a week."

It was a disappointing ending for Muirhead, who lost her last three games, including a 10-4 drubbing to Fujisawa earlier Thursday.

"It's hard because we played pretty well at the start of the week and we got a lot of good play going," Muirhead said. "It's hard to take that we're out, but we lost the last three games, and at major championships you just can't do that."

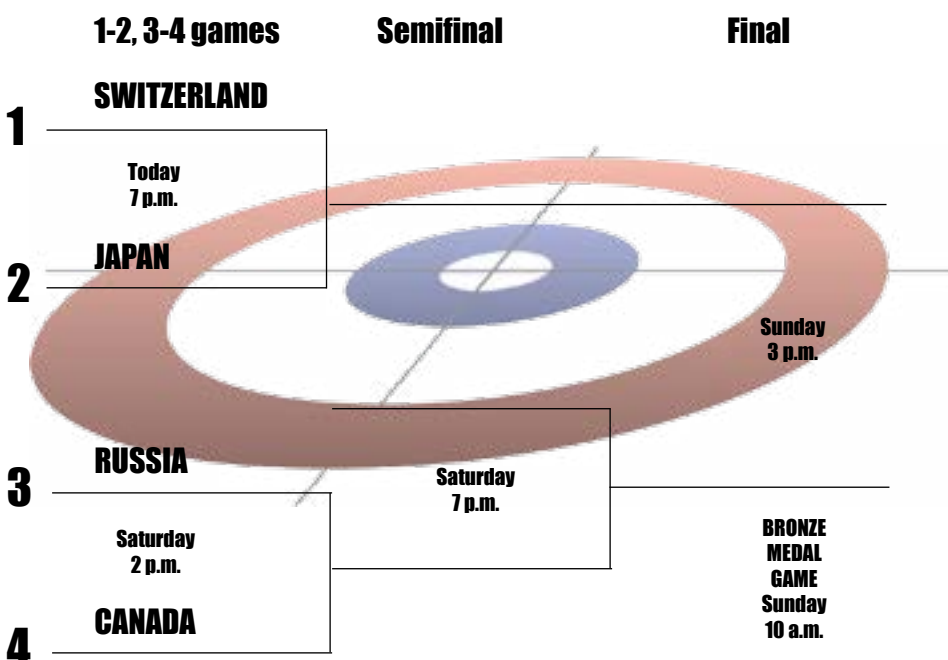
"I missed my last shot in the sixth (when Carey scored three). It comes down to skip's shot and it makes you look a bit of a fool. You get the glory when you win, but when you lose you get the sack because you don't make the shots."



We had some powerful moments and some swear words and some high-fives and some tears.

— Amy Nixon

Guide to the playoffs



Eve Muirhead of Scotland goes home empty-handed.

Going with the flow in Speedy Creek

Random thoughts after a week of curling in hospitable Swift Current.

■ The final day of round-robin play is sad. It's always tough to say goodbye to so many teams. The building seems much more alive when all four sheets are being used.



CAM HUTCHINSON

■ The Americans had a slow start, but by the end of the week, they were playing about as good as anyone. The same can be said about South Korea. ■ Some experts picked South Korea to be a top-four team. Maybe they

meant Japan.

■ In curling, nice people do finish last. They also finish first. That has always been the beauty of the game.

■ A person on the media bench, where all world problems are solved daily, suggested it might be time to give Asia three spots at the worlds and cut Europe back to seven. Food for thought?

■ Coaching is sure different than it was in the olden days. After the fans go home, coaches and team alternates are back on the ice with stop watches and clipboards. Everyone is looking for pieces of information, however minute, that might give its team an edge.

■ Another impressive thing about late-night practices is teams that have been eliminated from play are out on the

ice, still hard at work. They might be at the bottom of the standings, but they have an impact on the final results.

■ Celebrity sighting on the media bench: broadcaster Mike Harris. Can we say where he works, given this is a TSN event?

■ When you stop to think about it, the talent pool in women's curling in Canada gets a bit shallow after Jennifer Jones, Rachel Homan and Val Sweeting. Chelsea Carey, who beat Sweeting in the Alberta final, is inching her way toward that group.

■ Directional sweeping is bad for the game.

■ Homan made history last week when she defeated a top-ranked men's team at a Grand Slam event. Homan defeated Charley Thomas one-up in a format where games were decided on the number of ends won. Thomas is coaching Canada at this event.

■ A year ago, Jones was asked about playing in a men's event. She dismissed the idea in a heartbeat. Homan's up-weight game is more suited to play against men's teams. And it helps that she has the best sweeping combo in the women's game.

■ Coaching is clearly having an impact on the game. You can get a fairly good sense which teams have full-time coaches. It has turned the once have-not curling countries into haves. Japan and Russia are prime examples here this week. These countries are spending bags of money on curling and it's showing. South Korea has also opened a vault in preparation for hosting the Winter Olympics in 2018.

■ Erika Brown, skip of the United States, made a good point before these worlds began. She said Canada has the vast majority of the top teams in the world, but only one



Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa is top skip at 87 per cent.

gets to compete at the worlds. One-game showdowns are a son of a gun, but they are great television.

■ As the old saying goes, statistics are for losers, but they do make for interesting reading. The top skip after the 15th draw was Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa at 87 per cent. The top third was Chinami Yoshida of Japan (90 per cent), the top second was Victoria Adams of Scotland at 88 per cent and the top lead was Ji Sun Kim of South Korea at 89 per cent. Not surprisingly, Japan has the top team score at 87 per cent. Canada was shooting 84 per cent as of Thursday afternoon.

■ Celebrity sighting No. 2 on the media bench: broadcaster Joan McCusker. Can we say where she works, given this is a TSN event?

■ One day on the bench, we broke the rule about not talking politics. It was fun asking a member of the American delegation about Donald Trump and the rest of gang running for president. Let's leave it at that.

■ Playing 11 games in six days is a grind. It must be difficult to stay sharp mentally. For teams in the playoffs, the real stressers are about to begin.

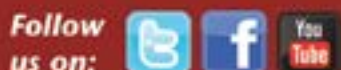
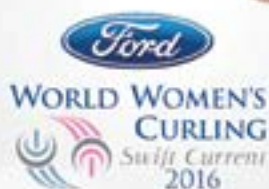
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GameSense

Aye, she's a curler!

But there's lots more going on in Scottish skip Muirhead's life



DAVE KOMOSKY

The sports world often presents us with world-class ability, beauty and dogged determination. But rarely does it come all in one package.

Then there's Scottish curler Eve Muirhead, who has perfectly meshed her performance on the ice with her wide-ranging talents away from it.

They say you can't have it all in this world. Muirhead may not — yet — but she's pretty darn close as she forges ahead with her exciting life, still only into its 25th year.

"My life is crazy busy, but I'd complain if it wasn't," says Muirhead, who has brought her Olympic bronze-medal Scottish team (third Anna Sloan, second Vicki Adams and lead Sarah Reid) from Scotland to Swift Current for the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, this

week at the Credit Union iplex.

Muirhead, who was born in Perth, was dripping with potential from the day she first stepped on the ice as a child. And for good reason. She has curling in her blood. Her father Gordon competed for Great Britain at the 1992 Albertville Olympics in France, when curling was a demonstration sport, and won a gold medal for Scotland at the 1999 world championships.

Wee Eve picked up her father's brush. Soon, the championships and accolades began to follow as she cut a wide swath through the game in Scotland.

She first burst onto the international scene as a precocious 16-year-old in 2007 when she claimed the first of her four world junior titles.

Today, she skips one of the best women's teams in the world, and proved it by winning a bronze medal for Great Britain at the Sochi Olympics in Russia in 2014.

"Winning bronze has changed my life hugely," she admits. "I'm able to continue to be a full-time athlete and train hard. I've been lucky enough to attend many nice awards (dinners) and lots of media interest."




Continued opposite page



Eve Muirhead sometimes plays bagpipes at her own curling events.

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"Ford sponsors the World Women's Curling Championship; even years, and the Men's World Curling Championship; odd years."

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But her Olympic medal, Scottish and European championships and other on-ice curling accomplishments are just part of the Big Picture. There is much, much more going on in her life.

Consider this:

Muirhead is Scottish to the very core, although she admits she's half English. She plays the bagpipes, and very well. So well, in fact, she has competed in international competitions, and was the ambassador for the world's largest piping festival, Piping Live!, in 2010. She even pipes at some of her own curling events.

"I've been playing the bagpipes since I was a child, and I love it," says Muirhead, who is a member of the Pitlochry & Blair Atholl Pipe Band. "I still do a little bit of piping. It's always a good gig for friends' weddings and things like that, but yeah, I can still play the pipes."

As well as she throws a rock, she hits the golf ball with equal precision. Muirhead, a scratch golfer, was offered golf scholarships by two U.S. universities, but turned them down.

"I had to decide if I wanted to pursue my curling or golf," she says. "I knew if I chose to go to America and give golf a go I wouldn't be able to curl at a top level. I knew I had a fantastic opportunity in curling.

"I'll never know if I made the right decision or not."

She prefers to play golf socially and closer to home, preferably at the Pitlochry Golf Course, where she holds the course record.

Muirhead has an innocent, yet radiant beauty. It has not gone unnoticed. Following the 2010 Olympics in Vancouver, she was invited to model in New York at the Dressed to Kilt! Show, a famed fashion and cultural celebration of all things Scottish, hosted by Sir Sean and Lady Connery.

"That was good fun," Muirhead says.

She has also posed with a Scottish saltire (St. Andrew's Cross) over her chest for a women's curling calendar. The flag was all that maintained her modesty.

"It was for charity and such a great cause,"

she admits. "I'll always do as much as I can to help any charity. It was fun."

There are other exhibits in the open case of Muirhead's rich and well-rounded life. She grew up on a farm and has sheared many sheep. She is a certified personal trainer. She loves rock music and says Canada's Nickelback is her favourite band. She's a huge supporter of Scottish soccer's St. Johnstone Saints. She has two tattoos and once sported bright, pink hair.

Muirhead wouldn't be human if there was not some adversity in her life. And there is. She suffers from celiac disease, an autoimmune disorder of the small intestine. It's under control, but she admits it's been a "pain".

"So many places cater for gluten-free diets now so it's getting easier and easier to deal with," she says. "Unfortunately I have no choice in it. But I'm good. Everything's perfect right now."

She's still single and is waiting for that special man in her life. But there's no hurry, and the day will come, she believes, when curling is put on hold as she deals with a steady stream of boisterous children on the cusp of bedtime.

Right now it's curling, and a lot of it, as she continues to cement her name in the sports world.



Eve Muirhead almost pursued a career in golf.

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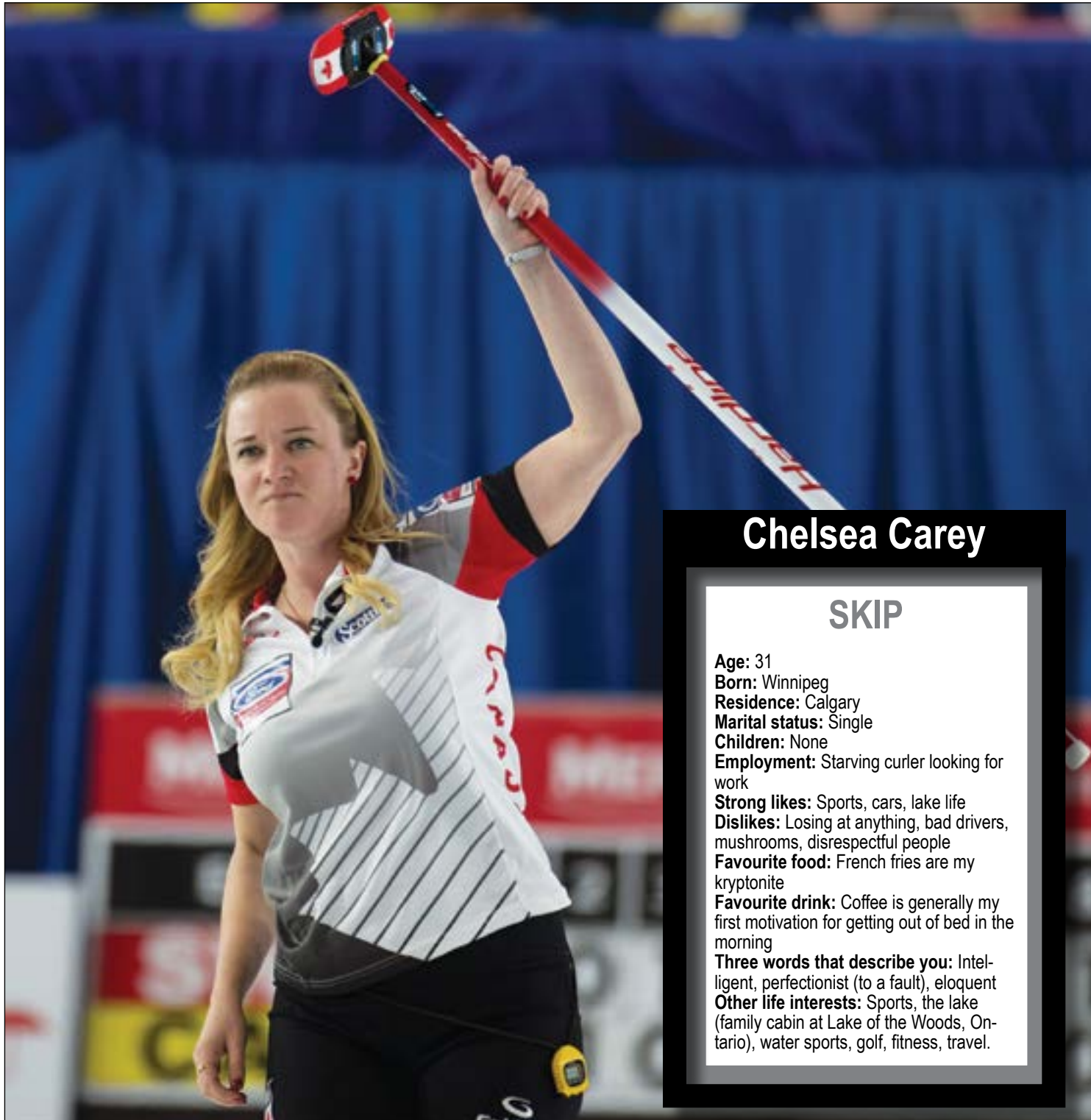
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Profile: *Canada*



Chelsea Carey

SKIP

Age: 31
Born: Winnipeg
Residence: Calgary
Marital status: Single
Children: None
Employment: Starving curler looking for work
Strong likes: Sports, cars, lake life
Dislikes: Losing at anything, bad drivers, mushrooms, disrespectful people
Favourite food: French fries are my kryptonite
Favourite drink: Coffee is generally my first motivation for getting out of bed in the morning
Three words that describe you: Intelligent, perfectionist (to a fault), eloquent
Other life interests: Sports, the lake (family cabin at Lake of the Woods, Ontario), water sports, golf, fitness, travel.

FACTS



**Glencoe Club
Calgary**

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Coach: Charley Thomas**

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Local formal name: *Dominion of Canada*
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Main cities: Toronto, Montreal, Vancouver, Calgary, Halifax
Population: 35,160,000
Area: 9,997,140 sq. km
Currency: 1 Canadian dollar = 100 cents
Languages: English, French, many others
Religion: Roman Catholic, Protestant

CANADA AT THE WORLDS

Last five years:
2015: Jennifer Jones (9-2 silver)
2014: Rachel Homan (10-1 silver)
2013: Rachel Homan (8-3 bronze)
2012: Heather Nedohin (7-4 bronze)
2011: Amber Holland (7-4 silver)
Last championship — 2010 Jennifer Jones
World titles — 15



Amy Nixon

THIRD

Age: 38
Born: Saskatoon
Residence: Calgary
Marital status: Husband Mike Westlund
Children: Kali, 3
Employment: Senior Legal Counsel, Legal Services, Mount Royal University
Single greatest personal achievement: Olympic medallist, 2006
Strong likes: Books, food, friends
Three words that describe you: Analytical, extroverted, loyal
Most treasured possession: No possession can even come close to how much I value my family
Other life interests: Camping, gardening, cooking/baking.



Jocelyn Peterman

SECOND

Age: 22
Born: Red Deer, Alta.
Residence: Calgary
Marital status: Single
Children: None
Employment: Kinesiologist at TotalCardiology
Strong likes: Chocolate, coffee, country music
Dislikes: Early mornings, traffic, commercials
Favourite food: Ice Cream
Favourite drink: Chai Tea
Three words that describe you: Kind, ambitious, hard-working
Most treasured possession: My photo albums
Other life interests: Softball, camping and travelling.



Laine Peters

LEAD

Age: 45
Born: Carrot River, Sask.
Residence: Calgary
Employment: EA to the President of TAQA – our major sponsor!
Single greatest personal achievement: Being a Big Sister with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Calgary
Strong likes: Burberry, theme parties, sushi, spa days
Dislikes: Slow drivers, grocery shopping, opening mail
Three words that describe you: Organized, feisty, impatient
Other life interests: Golf, travel
Words to live by: Get it done . . . immediately, if not sooner!



20 things you may ^{or MAY} NOT know about Chelsea Carey



She's a die-hard sports fan — Jets, Bombers, Jays, 49ers

Is the daughter of 1992 Canadian men's champion Dan Carey

She was a competitive dancer until she was 18, and can still do the splits!



Has a Bachelor of Commerce (Honours) with a major in Marketing

She is a savant when it comes to song lyrics

As a child, her parents swear she never uttered a single word until she was able to speak in full sentences.

Her morning routine is watching SportsCentre with a cup of coffee (cream, no sugar)



She has one sister, and they often get told how much alike they look

She gave her first media interview at 7 years old when her Dad won the Brier

She broke a rib during a game at the 2007 Manitoba Scotties provincial championship

She is a mattress expert, having sold them for a living for six years

She has been in three straight provincial finals representing two provinces and three cities with three different teams (and won two of them!)



She loves early Tom Cruise movies — Top Gun, A Few Good Men, Days of Thunder, etc.

She bought her first home at 22 years old

She would take sour candies over chocolate any day

She has an unhealthy love for her car — a Lexus IS350



French fries are her kryptonite

She got her first and only tattoo at 29 (and loves it)

Her favourite vacation spot is her family's cabin on Lake of the Woods, Ontario

She is an adrenaline junkie, whose bucket list includes bungee jumping



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— Angus McStone

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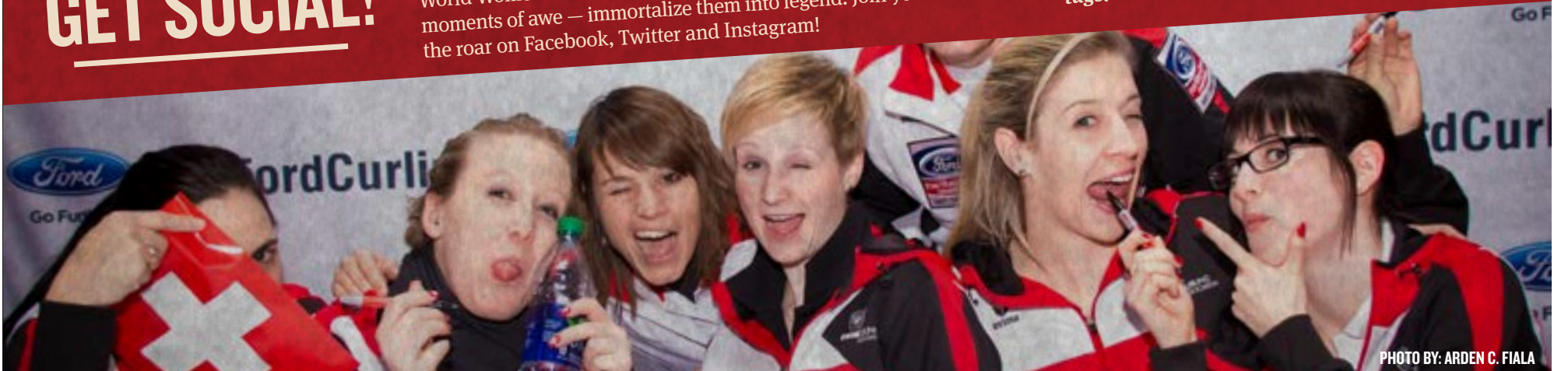


PHOTO BY: ARDEN C. FIALA

YOUR STORIES!

They will sing songs of this day! Here's what you're saying at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship!. Psst... want to be featured here? Add your voice to the roar on social media!



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Marika Trettin @MarikaTrettin

"The benefits of sitting out. You get to eat Swiss chocolate with the coach." #benchtweet #fwcc2016 @TeamDriendl



baeja1254

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albrucks

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GUESS WHO?

“ THIS TEAM'S COACH IS FROM CALGARY, ALBERTA, AND ONCE COACHED THE CURRENT CANADIAN TEAM COACH TO A WORLD JUNIOR CHAMPIONSHIP IN 2007. ”

A: TEAM JAPAN

“ THIS TEAM HAS WON BRONZE MEDALS AT THE PAST TWO WORLD WOMEN'S CHAMPIONSHIPS, AND IS THE CURRENT EUROPEAN WOMEN'S CHAMPION. ”

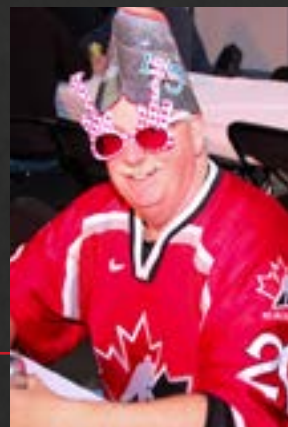
A: TEAM RUSSIA

“ THIS TEAM'S SKIP HAS BEEN A PART OF FIVE WINNING TEAMS AT THE WORLD FINANCIAL GROUP CONTINENTAL CUP, AND HAS NEVER LOST AT THE EVENT. ”

A: TEAM U.S.A.

FAN DEDICATION!

Here's a big shout out to the dedicated fans living it live at the 2016 FWWCC! Thanks for supporting women's Curling!





Skip Federica Apollonio finished 1-10, but Team Italy was a fan favourite all week.

The World Women's Curling Championship Through the lens

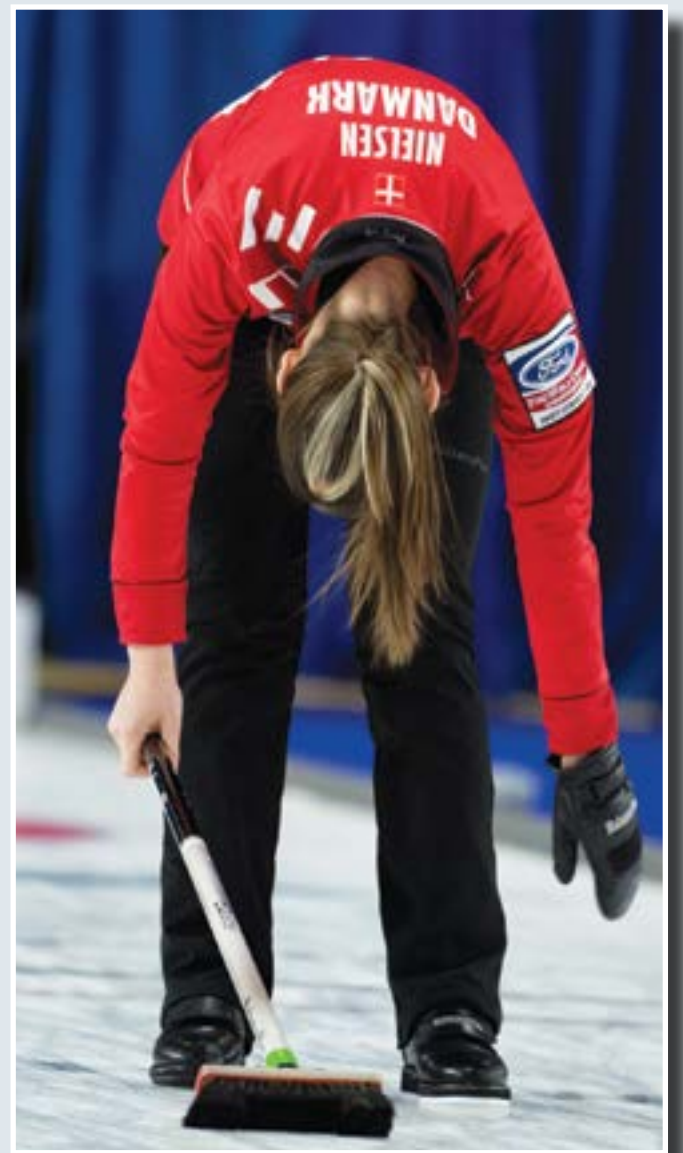


Team Russia's Alexandra Raeva and Nkeiruka Ezekh take the prize for most intense sweepers.

Japanese skip Satsuki Fujisawa has reason to be happy.



Michael Burns crisscrosses the country taking photos at Curling Canada events.



Denmark's Lene Nielsen either lost something on the ice or really didn't like her last shot.



Team South Korea's Seul Bee Lee and Min Ji Um sweep a rock home.

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Q&A

With world curling fans

When did you fall in love with curling?

"I fell in love with curling one year ago. I was in Sapporo at the World's. I got to know the Russian team, and then I started curling myself and going to more tournaments, cheering for Russia and Japan as well."

— Denis Petropavlovskiy
Sapporo, Japan



"When I was 10. It was Grade 5, and we all got to try out curling. We were so small that we had to put both feet in the hack and throw with both arms."

— Trudy Dumont
Calgary, Alta.



"I hated it as a kid! Those were during my rink-rat days. My mom would drag me to the rink, where it was so loud with all the shouting. But at 11, I started to curl. As soon as I got on the ice, it was golden!"

— Terri Johnston
Tokyo, Japan



"I started at 5, but didn't fall in love then. I grew into the game, and really fell in love with it in '97 when I played my first World Juniors. That's when it happened."

— Daniela Driendl (Team Germany skip)
Füssen, Germany



"I've watched for longer than I've played it. I loved watching Sandra Schmirler and her team. I always enjoyed their chemistry and how they played. She's a good role model for the sport. I was a golfer, and said to a curling friend 'you come golf and I'll come curl.' They needed more players, and the rest is history."

— Debbie Lutz
Medicine Hat, Alta.



"I came from a small town, Richmond, Sask. We didn't have many choices; there was the outdoor skating rink, which you had to shovel, or the curling rink, which had a roof and was warmer. So when I was 10 I started curling. And I also had a great gym teacher who turned me onto the sport."

— Arlene Keck
Medicine Hat, Alta.



EYE OPENER

Editor — Dave Komosky
Associate Editor — Cam Hutchinson
Reporter — Michael Connors
Layout — Dave Connors
Photographer — Mike Burns Jr.
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WORLD SCOREBOARD

STANDINGS

	W	L
Switzerland (Feltscher)	9	2
Japan (Fujisawa)	9	2
Russia (Sidorova)	8	3
Canada (Carey)	8	3
Scotland (Muirhead)	7	4
United States (Brown)	6	5
South Korea (Gim)	5	6
Denmark (Nielsen)	5	6
Sweden (Sigfridsson)	4	7
Germany (Driendl)	3	8
Finland (Kauste)	1	10
Italy (Apollonio)	1	10

SCHEDULE

TODAY
PAGE PLAYOFF
 1-2 Game
 7 p.m.
 Switzerland (Feltscher) vs. Japan (Fujisawa)

SATURDAY
 3-4 Game
 2 p.m.
 Russia (Sidorova) vs. Canada (Carey)
 Semifinal
 7 p.m.
 1-2 Loser vs. 3-4 Winner



LINESCORES

Draw 15	
9 p.m.	
Finland (Kauste)	0 0 1 1 0 1 0 x x x — 3
Sweden (Sigfridsson)	0 5 0 0 1 0 4 x x x — 10
Italy (Apollonio)	*0 0 1 2 0 0 1 1 0 x — 5
South Korea (Kim)	0 0 0 0 2 1 0 0 4 x — 7
Japan (Fujisawa)	*3 0 2 0 4 0 1 x x x — 10
Scotland (Muirhead)	0 1 0 2 0 1 0 x x x — 4
Russia (Sidorova)	*3 0 1 0 2 0 1 1 x x — 8
Germany (Driendl)	0 0 0 1 0 2 0 0 x x — 3
Draw 16	
2 p.m.	
Switzerland (Feltscher)	*2 0 0 0 0 2 0 0 0 1 — 5
Italy (Apollonio)	0 0 0 2 1 0 0 0 1 0 — 4
USA (Brown)	0 2 1 0 1 2 0 2 0 x — 8
Finland (Kauste)	0 0 0 2 0 0 1 0 0 x — 3



Chelsea Carey is mobbed by the press after win.

Denmark (Nielsen)	*2 0 1 0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 — 7
Russia (Sedorova)	0 1 0 2 0 2 0 0 2 0 3 — 10
Canada (Carey)	0 0 1 0 1 0 x x x x — 2
Japan (Fujisawa)	*2 2 0 2 0 5 x x x x — 11
Draw 17	
7 p.m.	
Germany (Driendl)	0 0 0 2 1 0 1 0 1 x — 4
Denmark (Nielsen)	*0 0 2 0 0 1 3 2 0 x — 8
Scotland (Muirhead)	0 1 0 0 1 0 1 1 0 x — 4
Canada (Carey)	*1 0 1 0 0 3 0 0 4 x — 9
South Korea (Kim)	2 0 0 0 0 1 0 1 0 1 — 5
Switzerland (Feltscher)	*0 1 0 1 1 0 1 0 3 0 — 7
Sweden (Sigfridsson)	*0 1 0 1 0 1 0 0 0 1 0 — 4
USA (Brown)	0 0 1 0 1 0 0 2 0 0 1 — 5

* — Last rock

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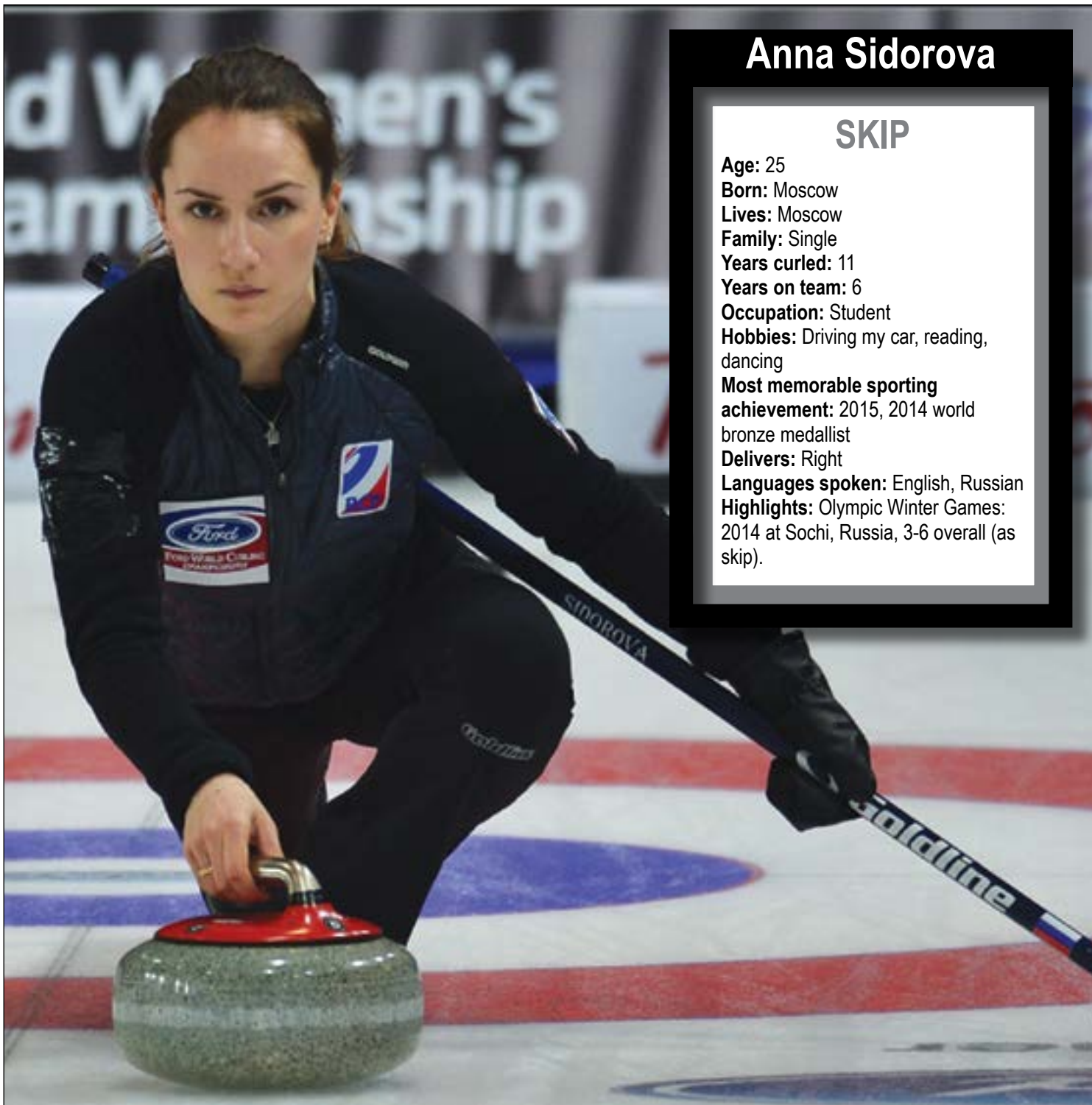
CROWD SWEEP ON SATURDAY PLEASE DIG INTO YOUR POCKETS WHEN CURLERS SWEEP THE CROWD DURING THE 3RD END BREAK OF THE SEMI-FINAL GAME. THANK YOU!

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Profile: **RUSSIA**



Anna Sidorova

SKIP

Age: 25
Born: Moscow
Lives: Moscow
Family: Single
Years curled: 11
Years on team: 6
Occupation: Student
Hobbies: Driving my car, reading, dancing
Most memorable sporting achievement: 2015, 2014 world bronze medallist
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: English, Russian
Highlights: Olympic Winter Games: 2014 at Sochi, Russia, 3-6 overall (as skip).

FACTS

RUSSIA

CC Moskvitch
Moscow
Alt.: Alina Kovaleva
Coaches: Svetlana Kalalb, Rodger Schmidt

Formal name: Russian Federation
Local name: Rossiya
Local formal name: Rossiyskaya Federatsiya
Location: Europe/Asia
Status: UN member country
Capital City: Moscow (*Moskva*)
Main cities: St. Petersburg, Yekaterinburg, Vladivostok, Nizhny Novgorod
Population: 149,476,000
Area: 17,075,000 sq. km
Currency: 1 ruble = 100 kopeks
Language: Russian
Religions: Russian Orthodox, Muslim, Buddhist

RUSSIA AT THE WORLDS
Last five years:
2015: Anna Sidorova (8-3 bronze)
2014: Anna Sidorova (8-3 bronze)
2013: Anna Sidorova (6-5)
2011: Anna Sidorova (4-7)
2010: Anna Sidorova (6-5)

Margarita Fomina

THIRD

Age: 27
Birthdate: Aug. 19, 1988
Born: Dmitrov, Russia
Lives: Moscow
Family: Single
Years curled: 15
Years with team: 8
Occupation: Curler
Hobbies: Journalism
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: English, Russian
Highlights: Olympic Winter Games: 2014 at Sochi, Russia, 3-6 overall (as third for Anna Sidorova); 2010 at Vancouver, BC, 3-6 overall (as alternate for Liudmila Privivkova).

Alexandra Raeva

SECOND

Age: 23
Birthdate: August 20, 1992
Born: Moscow
Lives: Moscow
Family: Married
Years curled: 13
Years with team: 3
Occupation: Curler
Hobbies: Swimming
Most memorable sports achievement: 2015, 2014 World bronze medallist
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: Russian
Highlights: Olympic Winter Games: 2014 at Sochi, Russia (3-6, as second for Anna Sidorova).

Nkeiruka Ezekh

LEAD

Age: 32
Born: Moscow
Lives: Moscow
Family: Single
Years curled: 19
Years on team: 14
Occupation: Curler
Hobbies: Photography
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: English, Russian
Highlights: Olympic Winter Games: 2014 at Sochi, Russia (3-6, as alternate for Anna Sidorova); 2010 at Vancouver, BC, 3-6 overall (as second for Liudmila Privivkova); 2006 at Pinerolo, Italy, 5-4 overall (as third for Liudmila Privivkova); 2002 at Ogden, Utah, 1-8 overall (as third for Olga Jarkova).

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CURLING QUIZ



1. Match the curler with her occupation:

- | | |
|------------------------|------------------------------|
| Christine Urech | Forensics civil agent |
| Carole Howald | Architect |
| Irena Shori | Industrial designer |
| Lene Nielsen | Insurance underwriter |

2. True or false: Curling is the official sport of Saskatchewan.

3. U.S. skip Erika Brown is married to this former world champion:
- a) Ian Tetley.
 - b) Ed Werenich.
 - c) Randy Ferbey
 - d) Jeff Stoughton.

4. If you need a piano player for your house party, this is the curler you want to call:

- a) German lead Pia-Lisa Schoell.
- b) Canadian lead Laine Peters.
- c) Scottish lead Sarah Reid.
- d) Finland lead Marjo Hippi.

5. This world championship curler was a competitive dancer until the age of 19:

- a) Chelsea Carey.
- b) Erika Brown.
- c) Margarita Fomina.
- d) Maria Prytz.

declared the official sport of the province and each Jan. 21 is Curling Day.
3. Erika Brown is the bride of former world champion Ian Tetley and they live in Oakville, Ont.
4. German lead Pia-Lisa Schoell plays the piano.
5. Team Canada skip Chelsea Carey danced jazz, tap and ballet before turning to curling full time.

ANSWERS:
1. Christine Urech, Industrial designer;
2. It's true. While it seems that cheering for the Roughriders is the official sport of Saskatchewan, curling has been declared the official sport of the province and each Jan. 21 is Curling Day.
3. Erika Brown is the bride of former world champion Ian Tetley and they live in Oakville, Ont.
4. German lead Pia-Lisa Schoell plays the piano.
5. Team Canada skip Chelsea Carey danced jazz, tap and ballet before turning to curling full time.



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