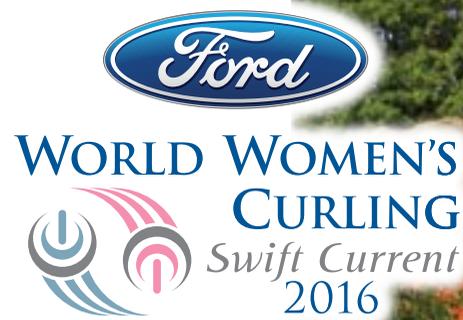
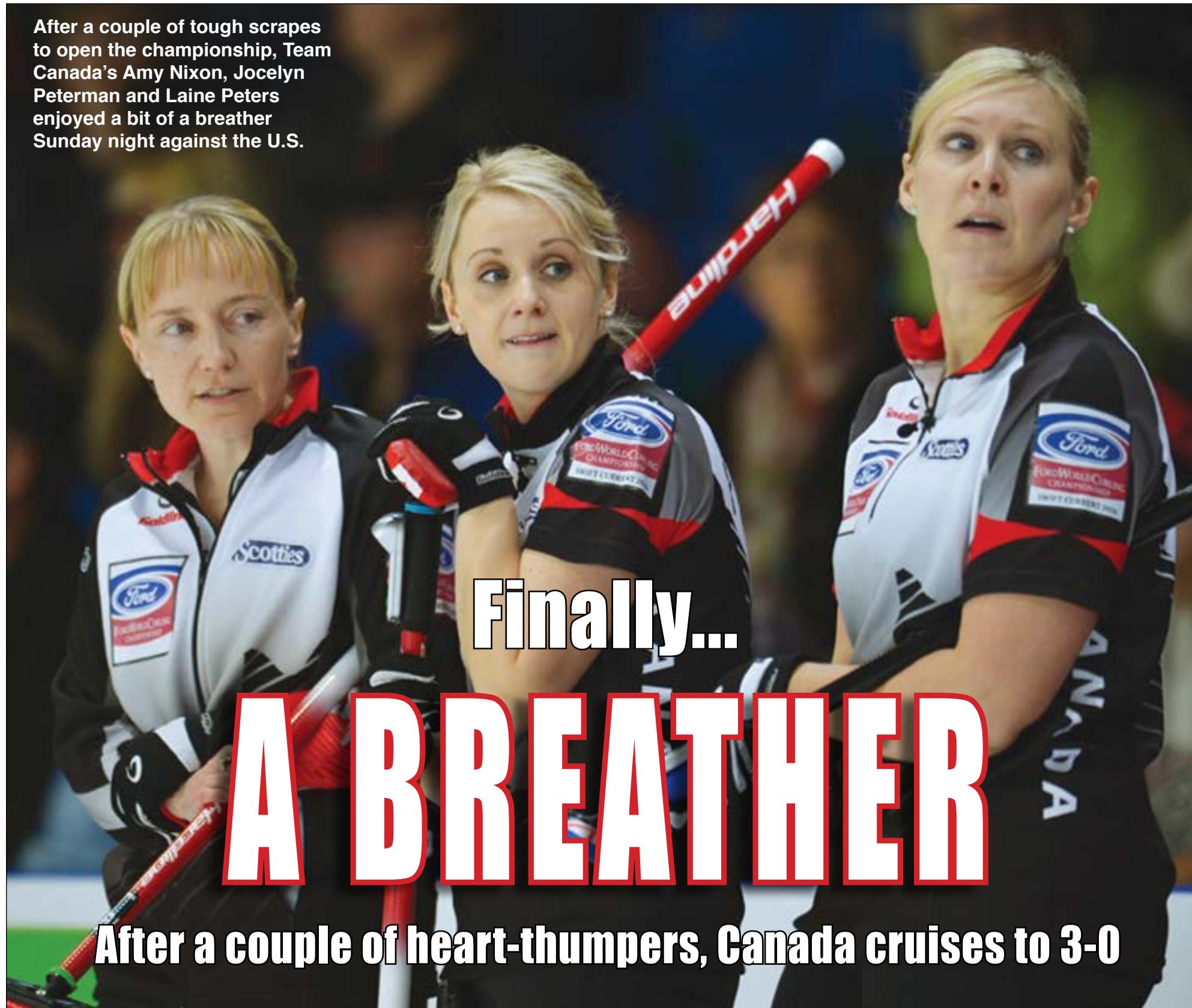


EYE OPENER



Issue 3 – Monday, March 21, 2016 • An Official Publication of Curling Canada

After a couple of tough scrapes to open the championship, Team Canada's Amy Nixon, Jocelyn Peterman and Laine Peters enjoyed a bit of a breather Sunday night against the U.S.



Finally...

A BREATHER

After a couple of heart-thumpers, Canada cruises to 3-0



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Team Japan, skipped by Satsuki Fujisawa, has played three strong games to share the lead with Canada at 3-0.

CURLERS SEEING 'RED'

By CAM HUTCHINSON
Eye Opener Associate Editor

Canada and Japan emerged from Sunday's play at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian, as the only undefeated teams left in the field of 12.

Canada's Chelsea Carey got out of the blocks fast on Sunday evening, scoring four on the first end en route to a 10-2 win over Erika Brown of the United States. Japan's Satsuki Fujisawa picked up her third consecutive win during afternoon play Sunday at the Credit Union iplex. The Canada-United States game featured some outstanding shooting by Carey and a good old-fashioned rock controversy.

In the Canada-United States game, the rock controversy was really two rock controversies. Amy Nixon's rocks red-lighted twice. The first time, it was kicked to the corner, despite the fact there appeared to be no hogline infraction. Replays are not being used at this championship.

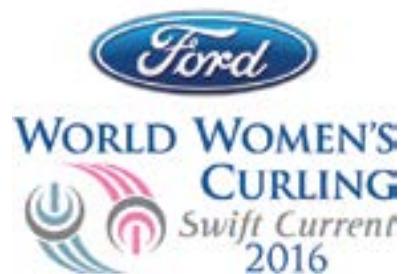
The rock controversy cast a shadow on Canada's victory, dominating post-game discussion.

"It was a difficult situation," Nixon said. "I am just trying to get over it actually."

A number of changes were made to the rock. At first it was flashing red, then it didn't flash at all and then it went red again.

"I am not one to go over (the hogline), but since we don't have a Jumbotron or screen here, it is difficult to know. The biggest thing about this is I wish somebody would have been able to tell me on the replay if I was over or not. Either you are over and you accept it or you're not and you really start to ride the officials about having to do something about it. That's the

Rock incident puts damper on Canuck win



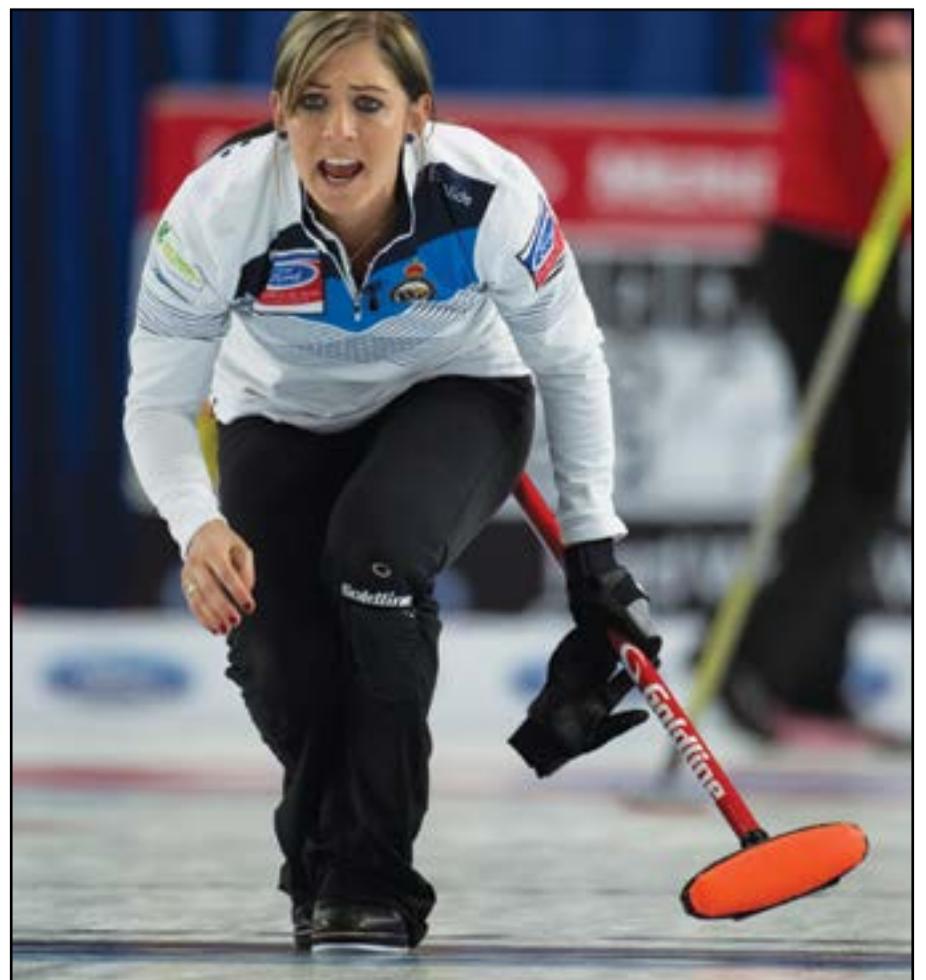
biggest problem with that situation. To be in a world championship and be in that situation is needless to say is not my favourite thing I have ever experienced."

Carey said the having a faulty rock hurt her team.

"Through no fault of our own, we were put behind the eight-ball," Carey said of the controversy. "Thankfully it wasn't a turning point in the game, but it easily could have been. It could have had huge ramifications on the outcome and it was entirely not our fault."



See RED
Page 11



Scotland's Eve Muirhead led her team to two wins Sunday.

Respite for Cardiac Kids

After clawing back in first two games, Canada coasts against U.S.

By **AL CAMERON**
Curling Canada

They're rapidly turning into the Cardiac Kids of the 2016 Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian Manufacturing.

Team Canada moved into a first-place tie early in round-robin play Sunday morning at the Credit Union iplex with a dramatic 7-4 win over 2014 world champ Bina Feltscher of Switzerland.

On Saturday, Chelsea Carey's team from Calgary — vice-skip Amy Nixon, second Jocelyn Peterman, lead Laine Peters, alternate Susan O'Connor, team coach Charley Thomas and national coach Elaine Dagg-Jackson — rallied from an early 4-0 deficit to beat Denmark's Lene Nielsen in an extra end.

They were at it again on Sunday morning, digging themselves into a hole and then scrapping their way out.

It was a lot bit easier on the nerves for the Canadians in the evening as they were in control most of the way against Erika Brown of the United States, before blowing the Yanks out 10-2 to improve to 3-0.

Canada was mostly in control of the game against the Swiss through six ends, in a 2-2 tie and holding the hammer. But Carey's final rock in the seventh end was well short of the target, leaving the Swiss with a go-ahead steal of two.

But after being forced to a single in the eighth



Chelsea Carey



We know we're going to be in tough, no matter which Swiss team is here. There're all so good.

— Chelsea Carey

end, Canada ratcheted up the heat in the ninth end, grouping three stones around the button and

leaving Feltscher with nothing other than a tricky hit-and-roll attempt to land into the pocket. But

Feltscher was well wide of the target, and the three Canadian counters were left untouched for a go-ahead steal to take a 6-4 lead into the 10th.

"We actually felt like we played pretty well and then my draw for one (in the seventh end) hit a spot that we just didn't anticipate (the slowness)," said Carey. "I thought it was close out of my hand and then all of a sudden it's six feet light; we just didn't see that coming. So we got fooled with the ice, but again, we hung in there, put together a good end in nine and got a miss out of her, which was good for us. We pulled it off, and onward and upward."

Doing against the Swiss — holders of three of the last four world titles (Mirjam Ott in 2012 at Lethbridge, Alta.; Feltscher in 2014 in Saint John, N.B.; Alina Pätz last year in Sapporo, Japan) — made it extra special, said Carey.

"We know we're going to be in tough, no matter which Swiss team is here," she said. "They're just all so good, and whoever they send, it's going to be one of your toughest games. So, it's big for us to come up with a win, and again, we learned a whole bunch about the ice. We'll take that and get better from it."

Besides the three straight victories, there have been other positives to be derived from Team Canada's opening weekend.

"Even when we're struggling, we're doing a good job of staying calm, staying together and just kind of grinding through it and continuing to make shots," said Carey. "That's where you need to be in such a long week, and we feel really good about that."

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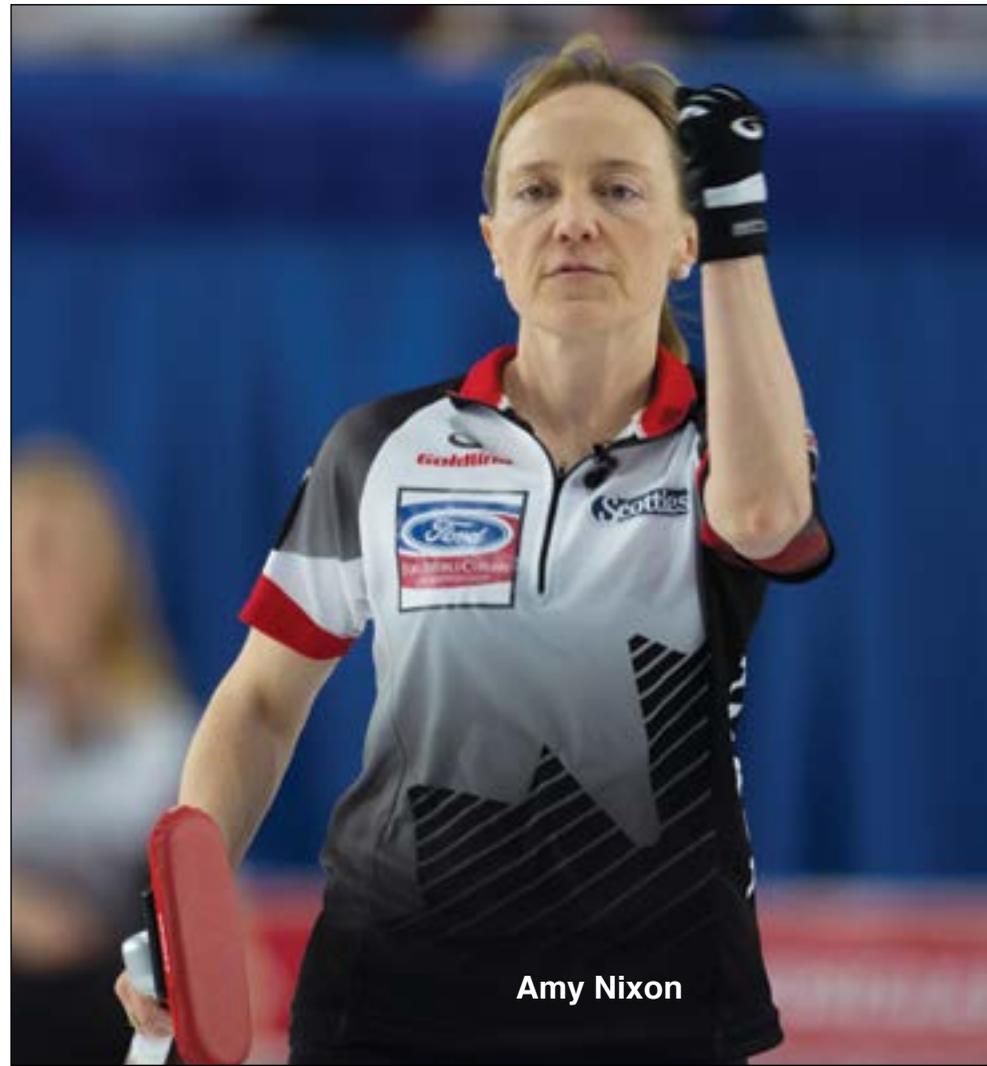


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GameSense

The numbers game



Amy Nixon

Stats a big part of curling today

By **DAVE KOMOSKY**
Eye Opener Editor

"Statistics are like a drunk with a lampost: used more for support than illumination."

— Vin Scully

Sports fans love statistics. Next to the action on the field, or ice, they love to devour stats like M&Ms. It's got something to do with our obsessive targets-and-results culture. If you want to know what's really happening, check the stats.

But are they really that important, especially in curling where, for the most part, the only stat that really matters is on the scoreboard?

Curling got into the stats business back in 1986. It was mostly player percentages back then, but now Curling Canada's volunteer staff of statisticians chart things such as cumulative shooting stats for teams, hammer, steal and force efficiency, plus/minus results and hogline violations, among other things. The World Curling Tour even has something called a sweeping stat.

But what's the value in all these numbers?

It all depends on who you talk to. Curling Canada officials think stats are important, and a much-needed component of any of their Season of Champions events, including this week's Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian Manufacturing, where 18 stats people are at work. Baseball has its plethora of stats, ditto pro football, so why shouldn't curling?

"These stats are available to anyone," says Curling Canada's Danny Lamoureux who is Director, Championship Services and Curling Club Development. "The average fan just looks at the shooting percentage of the game. We get a lot of traffic on those ones. But the rest of these stats are for coaches."

Lamoureux says stats are important because they show trends.

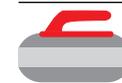
"You might have a player who is weak on inturn takeouts," he says. "When the opposition sees that, they're going to try to expose that player."

Team Canada third Amy Nixon agrees that some stats are great for coaches and curling fans, but when it comes to the players, not so much.

"I don't look at them," Nixon says. "It's just not useful information for me. The coach and fifth player at events like this look at stats to see if there are any sort of trends and can give us a heads up on other teams before we play. In games, when we are at an event, I have no interest in stats."

Former world champion Binia Feltscher of Switzerland says she does look at stats, but doesn't put much stock in them.

"They are not important to me," says the Swiss skip. "We have to make the key shots to win the game. That is all that is important. But for others it's cool. It's fun."



**See Numbers
Page 5**

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Numbers

FROM PAGE 4

Some players take particular issue with the shooting percentage numbers because they are, after all, judgments. Just as the French judge at a figure skating competition can make a bad call, so, too, can a curling scorer. What the scorer decides can be open to interpretation and criticism.

“It can be subjective,” says reigning Olympic gold-medal champion Jennifer Jones of Winnipeg.

Precisely.

Every shot thrown this week at the world championship is graded on a scale of one to four. At the end of a 10-end game, where all the shots are thrown, there is a possible 80-plus points awarded per player, although throw-throughs are not counted.

But — and this is a big but — does the scorer know exactly what a skip is asking his teammate to play in order to judge the intent to the result? A straight draw or takeout is pretty easy to figure out, but there are times when granite fills a house, a skips makes a call (not always clear to everybody watching) and the scorer ‘thinks’ he/she knows what is wanted.

That’s not all. For example, a third on one team can have a relatively straightforward game, with open draws and some wide-open takeouts. His opposing third could be faced with much more difficult come-around freezes and double attempts. One player may be faced with much more difficult shots, and yet both are graded on the same one-to-four scale.

And scoring doesn’t reflect the importance of each shot and when it was made or missed.

Lamoureux agrees that charting shooting percentages is not an exact science.

“Ideally for us it would be great to listen to the conversations on the ice, but that’s not



Binia Feltscher

always possible,” he says. “But I think, give or take five per cent, the shooting stats are pretty accurate.”

Not so says Håvard Vad Petersson, the longtime lead for Team Norway and skip Thomas Ulsrud. Petersson is dead-set against percentage stats and said so in an issue of the Curling News.

“I stopped looking at these numbers ages ago,” he wrote. “If my team is playing well, that’s all I really need to know. But when I see games on television and these numbers show up on the screen in the sixth end, and the

commentators use them to tell the viewers how the players are performing, I can’t help getting upset ... because the numbers are most likely wrong.”

Like them or not, curling stats gives you a rough guide on a player’s consistency and shine’s a little more light on the game, and that’s not bad.

You can interpret stats in different ways, but there is no ignoring them. And in today’s sports world — for various reasons — stats have become more important than ever.

Even in the Roarin’ Game.



You might have a player who is weak on inturn takeouts. When the opposition sees that, they’re going to try to expose that player.”

— Danny Lamoureux

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Profile: U.S.A.



Erika Brown

SKIP

Age: 43
Born: Madison, Wisconsin
Lives: Oakville, Ontario
Family: Husband, Ian Tetley – Nick 23, Nathan 9, Cole 8
Years curling: 36
Years on team: 1
Occupation: Physician Assistant
Hobbies: Hockey mom, golf (played for University of Wisconsin)
Most memorable sports achievement: Playing in 2014, 1998, 1988 Olympics
Sports hero: Serena Williams
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: English

FACTS

AMERICA



Land of the Free

Various Curling Clubs

Alt.: Tabitha Peterson
Coach: Ann Swisshelm

Formal name: United States of America
Local name: *United States*
Local formal name: *United States of America*
Location: North America
Status: UN member country
Capital city: Washington, D.C.
Main cities: New York, Los Angeles, Chicago, San Francisco
Population: 322,369,000
Area: 9,372,610 sq. km
Currency: 1 US dollar = 100 cents
Languages: English, Spanish, and over 30 others
Religion: Protestant, Roman Catholic, Judaism

U.S.A. AT THE WORLDS

Last five years:

2015: Aileen Sormunen (3-8)
2014: Allison Pottinger (6-5)
2013: Erika Brown (6-5)
2012: Allison Pottinger (7-4)
2011: Patti Lang (6-5)
Last championship — 2003 Debbie McCormick
World titles — 1



Allison Pottinger

THIRD

Age: 42
Born: Brampton, Ontario
Lives: Eden Prairie, Minnesota
Family: Married: Doug Pottinger - two daughters: Lauren (9), Kelsey (7)
Years curled: 33
Years on team: 1
Occupation: Manager, Sales Priority and Predictive Analytics
Hobbies: Running, water skiing, skiing
Most memorable sporting achievement: 2012, 2008 Athlete of the Year; 2003, 1999 Team of the Year
Languages spoken: English
Delivers: Right



Nicole Joraanstad

SECOND

Age: 35
Birthdate: October 11, 1980
Born: Seattle, Washington
Lives: Verona, Wisconsin
Family: Married - daughter Emma, 3
Years curled: 20
Years on team: 1
Occupation: Manager – Talent Acquisition (heads a recruiting team for Fortune 1000 company -TDS Telecommunications Corp with placements across the US)
Languages spoken: English
Delivers: Right



Natalie Nicholson

LEAD

Age: 40
Born: Bemidji, Minnesota
Lives: Bemidji, Minnesota
Family: Married – daughters Stella (7), Mya (4)
Years curled: 23
Years on team: 1
Occupation: Advanced Practice Registered Nurse/Certified Nurse Practitioner
Hobbies: Biking, outdoor activities, golf
Most memorable sporting achievement: Winning USA Olympic Curling Trials and competing at 2010 Winter Olympics
Languages spoken: English





CURLING QUIZ

1. True or false: American skip Erika Brown was only eight days old when she attended her first curling event.

2. If you see the members of Team Canada in the Patch and say hello to Wee, you will be talking to:

- a) Skip Chelsea Carey.
- b) Third Amy Nixon.
- c) Second Jocelyn Peterman.
- d) Lead Laine Peters.

3. She said it: "I'm tired of people asking if we drink beer on the ice while we're curling in (Grand) Slams."

- a) Anna Sidorova
- b) Eve Muirhead
- c) Chelsea Carey
- d) Erika Brown

4. Russian skip Anna Sidorova was



considered a future star in this sport until she broke a leg at age 13:

- a) Gymnastics.
- b) Figure skating.
- c) Track and field.
- d) Cycling.

5. Curling was seen in this movie:

- a) Men with Brooms.
- b) Help!
- c) On Her Majesty's Secret Service.
- d) Kong Curling.
- e) All of the above.



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nothing more than beer-swilling party animals.
4. Anna Sidorova was an up-and-coming figure skater before breaking a leg.
5. Men with Brooms and Kong Curling (a Norwegian comedy) are movies about curling, while The Beatles' Help! and the James Bond flick On Her Majesty's Secret Service included curling scenes.

1. True. Erika Brown was just eight days old when her mother took her to watch her father compete in the Milwaukee men's bonspiel.
2. Amy Nixon is the wee lass whose nickname is Wee.
3. Canadian skip Chelsea Carey has had it up to her eyeliner with people who believe curlers are

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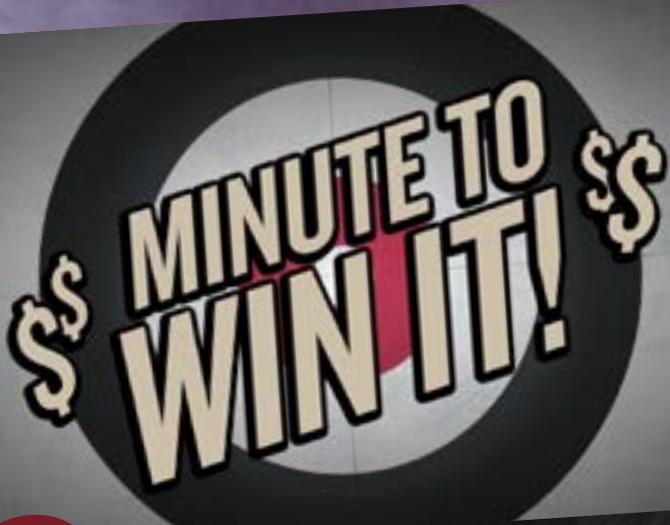
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— Angus McStone

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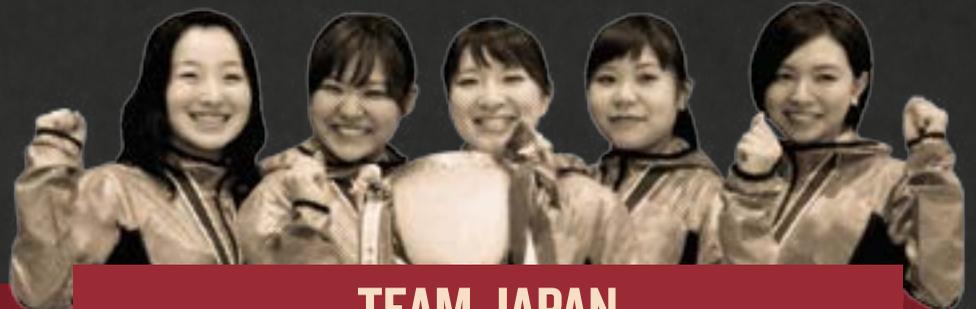
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MONDAY, MARCH 21 | 5:15 P



TEAM DENMARK



TEAM JAPAN



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"Yeah, @TeamCareyCurl wasn't having ANY fun @originaljoes for @oFordCanada #WWCC2016 event today..."



[RCCC Curling](#) @rccccurling

"@evemuirhead leads scots into @worldcurling action in Canada. #fwwcc2016"



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A: TEAM SCOTLAND

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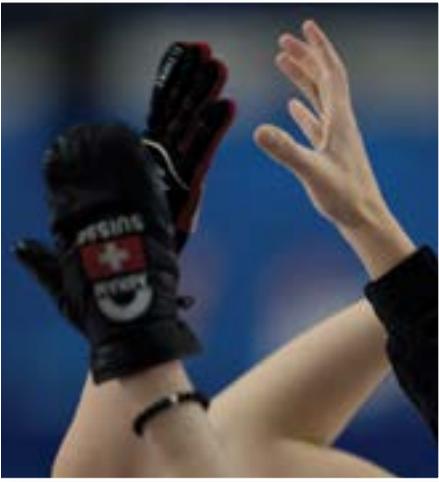
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A good shot always deserves a little hand-slapping.



Team Denmark plots strategy against Team USA in Draw 3.

Through the lens of Michael Burns



Japanese fans grab a chance to do a little flag-waving.

Italian skip Federica Apollonio bring a rock in against Finland



Team Canada skip Chelsea Carey exhorts her sweepers in a Draw 3 game with Switzerland.



South Korean sweepers put their backs into it in a Draw 4 game against Scotland.



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

Red

FROM PAGE 2

Technology is great, but as far as I am concerned, give everybody handles without sensors in them. And if you have a problem with the other team, call an official out or something.”

She said other competitions, such as Grand Slam events, don't use rocks with sensors.

“After experiencing that, that would be my preference. It is really unfortunate getting punished for something you don't deserve.”

On the next end, with an official monitoring the hogline, Nixon's light turned red again. After much discussion, Nixon was allowed a redo.

Controversy aside, the first end really decided the game.

The Canadian skip hit a corner of one of her rocks, pushing it onto a buried American counter. When the granite quit rolling, four yellow rocks formed a nice little pattern in the four-foot.

Other members of the Canadian team are second Jocelyn Peterman, lead Laine Peters, alternate Susan O'Connor and coach Charley Thomas.

While Canada was expected to be near the top, many were surprised to see Japan sitting with them at 3-0. J.D. Lind, the Alberta native who coaches Team Japan, is not among the surprised.

“I knew if we played the way we could that we would have a chance to start off well,” Lind said. “We're very happy for sure. We have been practising hard and were really prepared for this event. We had a lot of time to go through a lot of scenarios, so I think they are very comfortable.”

He said the comfort level extends to areas such as sweeping and ice.

“This year with the sweeping and the



Scotland's Anna Sloan and Vicki Adams

fabrics and all that stuff — there is a lot going on — we were really prepared to come here and that really paid off.”

Lind says he is a fan of the ice made by Jamie Bourassa.

“I've known Jamie Bourassa since I was a kid and the ice is great. I've played on his ice lots of years. It was very good for me to give the girls a lot of information about his ice and it's really paid off, too.”

Other members of the Japanese team are third Chinami Yoshida, second Yumi Suzuki, lead Yurika Yoshida, alternate Mari Motohashi and coach Lind.

Japan's third win came at the expense of Russia's Anna Sidorova.

Japan scored two on the second, two on the fifth end and stole singles on the six and seventh ends to win 6-1. The teams shook hands after the ninth end.

Lind said beating the Russians wasn't a statement.

“No, it's still the first Sunday. If we're still here next Sunday, that will be the statement. Right now, we're 3-0 and we still have a long way to go. We just have to maintain what we are doing throughout the week.”

Canada plays two games today — at 9 a.m. against Russia and at 7 p.m. against Sweden. There is also a 2 p.m. draw.

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WORLD SCOREBOARD

STANDINGS

	W	L
Canada (Carey)	3	0
Japan (Fujisawa)	3	0
Scotland (Muirhead)	2	1
Russia (Sidorova)	2	1
Switzerland (Feltscher)	2	1
Germany (Driendl)	2	1
Denmark (Nielsen)	1	2
S. Korea (Gim)	1	2
Sweden (Sigfridsson)	1	2
Finland (Kauste)	1	2
Italy (Appollonio)	0	3
United States (Brown)	0	3



SCHEDULE

TODAY

9 a.m. Draw

A—CAN vs. RUS; B—DEN vs. JPN; C—USA vs. ITA; D—SUI vs. FIN

2 p.m. Draw

A—JPN vs. KOR; B—RUS vs. SWE; C—FIN vs. GER; D—ITA vs. SCO

7 p.m. Draw

A—SCO vs. USA; B—GER vs. SUI; C—SWE vs. CAN; D—KOR vs. DEN



LINESCORES

Draw 3

9 a.m.

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	Total
Denmark (Nielsen)	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	1		— 8
U.S.A. (Brown)	*0	0	0	2	0	1	0	2	2	0		— 7
Canada (Carey)	0	0	0	2	0	0	0	1	3	1		— 7
Switzerland (Feltscher)	*1	0	0	0	0	1	2	0	0	0		— 4

Draw 4

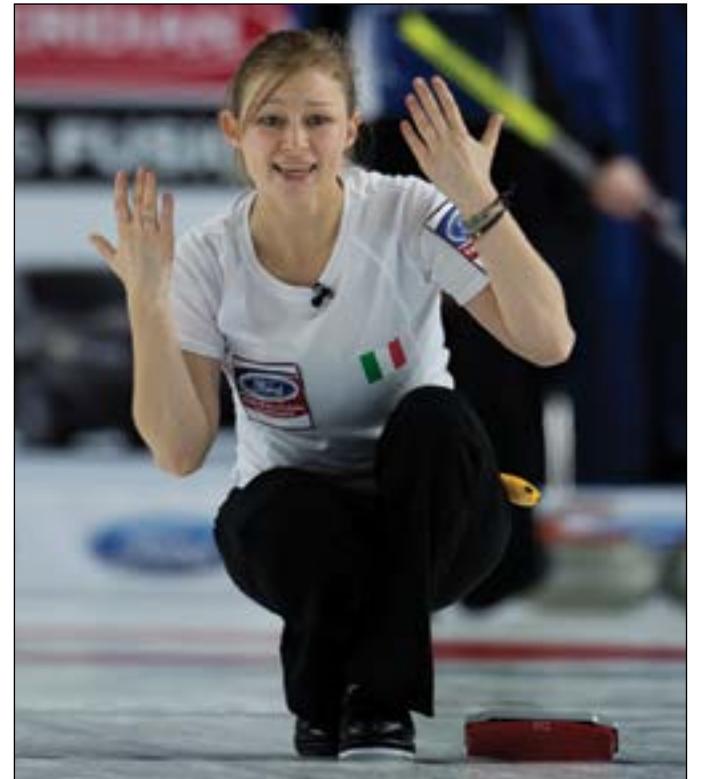
2 p.m.

Sweden (Sigfridsson)	0	0	2	0	2	0	2	0	0	x		— 6
Germany (Driendl)	*0	1	0	2	0	2	0	2	2	x		— 9
Finland (Kauste)	2	2	0	3	0	0	0	1	0	0		— 8
Italy (Appollonio)	*0	0	1	0	2	0	1	0	2	1		— 7
Japan (Fujisawa)	*0	2	0	0	2	1	1	0	0	x		— 6
Russia (Sidorova)	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	x		— 1
Scotland (Muirhead)	*2	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	0	x		— 8
South Korea (Kim)	0	0	1	0	2	0	2	0	1	x		— 6

Draw 5

7 p.m.

Switzerland (Feltscher)	*0	0	2	1	0	2	0	1	0	1		— 7
Denmark (Nielsen)	0	1	0	0	2	0	2	0	1	0		— 6



Italian third Stefania Menardi rues a missed shot.

Germany (Driendl)	*1	0	1	0	1	0	0	x	x	x		— 3
Scotland (Muirhead)	0	2	0	3	0	1	4	x	x	x		— 10
South Korea (Kim)	*1	0	0	2	0	1	0	3	0	1		— 8
Sweden (Sigfridsson)	0	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	2	0		— 6
USA (Brown)	0	1	0	1	0	0	x	x	x	x		— 2
Canada (Carey)	*4	0	1	0	1	4	x	x	x	x		— 10

* — Last rock



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Q&A

With world curling fans

Today's question: What do you love about being at WWCC 2016?

"The freeness of the fans. Everybody has the freedom to be ridiculous, whether they're 10 years old or 110. It unites us all. And I get to talk with everybody since everyone is at their friendliest. Saskatchewan and Canada are already known as friendly, and then curling just takes this over the top. We're crazy Canucks. And curling is the bomb! It rocks."

— Loralee Herter
Golden Prairie, Sask.



"The curling's great, and then just meeting everyone is interesting. For me it's partly about the socializing, and partly about the game. All in all it's about taking it all in, taking in the whole event."

— Orin Balas
Ponteix, Sask.



"When the games are going, it seems like everyone cheers for all the good shots, not just for one team only. And here, there's that spirit in the Patch. You have lots of friends here, and it's high energy. Everyone dresses up a bit crazy too so it's a lot of fun."

— Clayton Wicks
Swift Current



"The girls are fantastic to watch. We watch every game, even when Team Canada isn't playing. Also, I'm matching my beard design with whatever team is doing autographs at that time – that's two different beards per day. It's just to make the girls smile a bit."

— Hans Madsen
Yorkton, Sask.



"My daughter, who's the skip for Team Finland, said that even though we're the only Finns here, we still feel the friendliness. The atmosphere is very nice, with people cheering for every team."

— Kirsti Kauste
Helsinki, Finland



"I like to see this prosperity in the community, to see all the people coming out. It's nice to see how many fans have come out here, to small town Saskatchewan."

— Dylan Gerbrandt
Swift Current



EYE OPENER

Editor — Dave Komosky
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Reporter — Michael Connors
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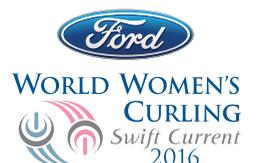
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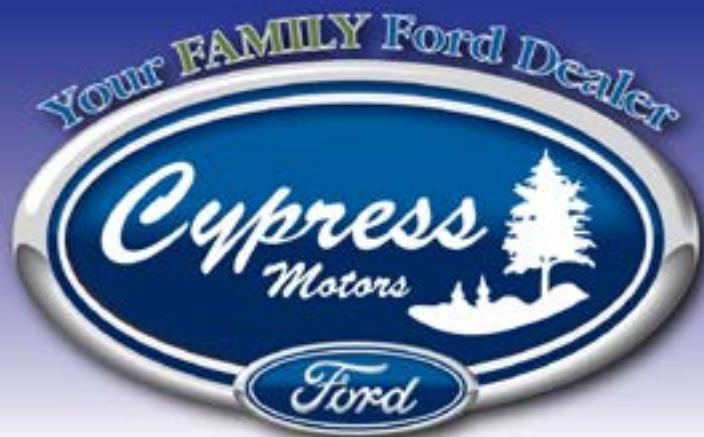


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Russian coaches Rodger Schmidt and Svetlana Kalalb.



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Russians bear down

*'We are expected to win gold now,'
says team's Canadian coach*

By **CAM HUTCHINSON**

Eye Opener Associate Editor

Rodger Schmidt has coached at 21 world and 35 European championships. He's also coached at four Olympic Games. Not bad for a guy who thought he'd left curling behind when he moved from Canada to Germany about 35 years ago.

Schmidt, a native of Duff, Sask. (population 30, give or take a person or two) is coaching the Russian team at the Ford World Women's Curling Championship, presented by Meridian. Also on his resume are one Brier appearance and two world championships as a player.

"When I went to Europe it was with no intention of curling. It just sort of happened."

Schmidt skipped German teams twice at the worlds, including a loss to Russ Howard in the 1987 final. That must have been quite the shouting match. During that time, he also won a European championship.

Soon after going to those two worlds, he left the game again. But the game never left him.

At first he dabbled in coaching as a hobby. That turned into a curling academy in Lucerne, Switzerland, and an ice-making business. For the past 22 years, Schmidt has travelled the world, with coaching stops in the United States, Italy, Germany and now Russia. In European play, he has coached in Russia, Austria, Italy, Czech Republic, Germany and the Netherlands. What's left? Liechtenstein?

Schmidt coached the Russian men's team at the Sochi Games and then was handed the reins to the women's team. While they are focussed on the task at hand, Schmidt said it is difficult not to cast an eye toward the 2018 Olympics in South Korea.

Schmidt said the Olympics have given the sport a big boost globally. Dollars have been spent on programs like nobody's business. Russia has a delegation of nine people in Swift Current, including the five curlers.

"The Olympics brought the money and the credibility and made it the sport it is. The Russian system is run very professionally. That's why the entourage, because sports is highly regarded."

Schmidt said coaching curling, like coaching

any sport, is a results-based job. What have you done for me lately? Russia has won bronze medals at the past two worlds, so expectations are growing.

You get the feeling Vladimir Putin is checking the Internet regularly to see how his teams are doing, as well as keeping tabs on Donald Trump, of course. The team started the Ford Worlds with wins in two of their first three games.

"We are expected to win the gold now," Schmidt said matter-of-factly. "How do you explain when you don't?" (Insert worn-out Siberia joke here.)

In preparation for these Ford Worlds, the Russian team spent 12 days in Saskatoon, Sask. They used the time to train and play a number of exhibition games against men's and women's teams. He said the team has to travel to compete; there are no home games in Russia. This is the team's fourth trip to Canada this season.

"It's all about being prepared," he said. "Most of the work is done here (in Saskatoon) now. During the games, it's watching for things that can go wrong and trying to catch them before they go wrong. So it is a lot of anticipating what could go wrong."

He said his team has what it takes to win. Not only are there those bronze medals from the past two worlds, but he has seen steady improvement since then. The team is young, with lead Nkeiruka Ezekh the eldest at 32. Skip Anna Sidorova just turned 25, while third Margarita Fomina is 27 and second Alexandra Raeva is the team's baby at 23.

He said it should be noted the team had to replace Ekaterina Galkina, one of the best leads in the world.

"She was extremely valuable," he said.

She brought a lot of intangibles that are hard to find and harder to replace. She's dynamic, highly intelligent, speaks English and studied psychology, Schmidt said.

"And she is a wonderful person. She retired at 26."

Schmidt sees a bright future for the team.

"We don't think we are the greatest team in the world, but we want to go that direction, so we are trying to do the little things. It's a process, it is not a pill. We've been going through the process over the last two years."

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Saskatchewan Lotteries is pleased to sponsor the 2016 Ford World Women's Curling Championships.

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Profile: Sweden



Margaretha Sigfridsson

SKIP

(Throws lead stones)
Age: 40
Born: Sveg, Sweden
Lives: Sundsvall, Sweden
Family: Engaged
Occupation: Curler
Hobbies: Outdoor life
Most memorable sports achievement: 2014 Olympic silver medallist.
 Sports awards: All Star team 1997 Junior Worlds, member of the Swedish Hall of Fame
Sports hero: Larry Bird
Delivers: Right

FACTS



Skelleftea CK
Skelleftea

Alt: Agnes
Knochenhauer
Coach: Fredrik Hallstrom

Formal name: Kingdom of Sweden
Local name: Sverige
Local formal name: Konungariket Sverige
Location: Europe
Status: UN member country
Capital City: Stockholm
Main cities: Gothenburg, Malmo, Uppsala
Population: 9,859,000
Area: 449,960 sq. km
Currency: 1 Swedish krona = 100 ore
Language: Swedish
Religion: Lutheran Protestant

SWEDEN AT THE WORLDS

Last five years:
2015: Margaretha Sigfridsson (5-6)
2014: Margaretha Sigfridsson (8-3)
2013: Margaretha Sigfridsson (10-1 silver)
2012: Margaretha Sigfridsson (8-3 silver)
2011: Anette Norberg (9-2 gold)
Last championship — 2011
World titles — 8



Christina Bertrup

THIRD

Age: 39
Birthdate: December 23, 1976
Born: Sundsvall, Sweden
Lives: Sundsvall, Sweden
Family: Partner, twin sons — Oscar & Liam (10)
Years curled: 24
Years on team: 7
Occupation: Curler
Hobbies: Music, cycling
Most memorable sports achievement: 2014 Olympics silver medal
Sports hero: Peter Forsberg



Maria Wennerström

SECOND

Age: 30
Birthdate: April 10, 1985
Born: Skellefteå, Sweden
Lives: Sundsvall, Sweden
Family: Engaged – Son John (8 months)
Years curled: 18
Years on team: 10
Occupation: Curler
Hobbies: Board games
Most memorable sports achievement: 2014 Olympic silver medallist
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: English, Swedish



Maria Prytz

LEAD

(Throws skip rocks)
Age: 39
Born: Sveg, Sweden
Lives: Hämlisand, Sweden
Family: Single, two sons — Adrian (11), Edvin (9)
Years curled: 27
Years on team: 7
Occupation: Public relations manager/curler
Hobbies: Running, skiing, hiking, music, travelling, friends and family
Most memorable sports achievement: 2014 Olympic Silver Medallist
Delivers: Right
Languages spoken: English, Swedish, French



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