Volume 1 Number 1

November 1992

# News from the Ardsley,∛Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews Curling Club

#### December 1992

- 4-6 Turkey Trot Bonspiel (mixed)
- Open House (1-3 PM) St. Andrew Christmas Party (6PM) All curiers welcomer
- 31 New Year's Eve Party

#### January 1993

7-10 Douglas Bonspiel (men's)

Welcome to this first issue of House Calls. The redesign of the newsletter — which includes information from the Ardsley, Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews organizations — is intended to reflect the realignment of our curling club.

The tradition of Duck Soup will continue: the newsletter will still provide information about club members, bonspiels and other upcoming events. Furthermore, Duck Soup will live on as a column containing information specific to or about members of the Ardsley Curling Club. Duck Soap is the current name of the Ardwicks and Candlewicks column. In future issues, we plan to add columns named after the old newsletters of the other clubs, as well: Stacked Brooms, from St. Andrews, and Lion's Roar, from New York Caledonian. We hope that the new format will enable members to locate information specific to them more quickly and easily.

We have added some additional regular columns, as well. The Thinking Curler will offer insight into strategy. Sweeping Up will include details about bonspiels and special events and any other miscellaneous information that is unspecific to a particular league. The pros and cons of various issues that curlers are wont to argue over will be set forth in Between A Rock And A Hard Place. And we will provide brief reviews of nearby restaurants and/ or watering holes in A Stone's Throw.

Before the next issue, we hope to locate volunteers to act as reporters for their club news. After reading this you will note, the ladies have been the most prolific writers so far. If you are interested in volunteering to report, please contact Betsy Sugahara at 212/243-5914 (home) or 212/345-3914 (office). She also curls on Thursday nights and in the five o'clock draw on Saturdays.

We hope you enjoy House Calls. Good reading!

# Sweeping Up

#### New Policy On Country Club Minimums

Brian Kenny tells us that in response to a suggestion from one of our mixed curlers, the committee has negotiated a change to the country club lease which should facilitate meeting the minimum requirements for several classes of curlers.

The change will apply to curlers with a monthly minimum of less than \$30. Under the new policy, the periods for which the minimum will apply will be November/December and January/March. The new minimum for each period will be double your current monthly amount.

#### Fruit Sale

Brian also tells us that the annual fruit sale fundraiser is underway. We ordered the fruit from Florida on the day after Thanksgiving. Orders can be picked up after December 11 at Brian and Heather Kenny's house in Irvington.

This year we are charging \$22.00 per case of either oranges or grapefruit. This price is actually below retail.

Some extra fruit is usually ordered, so if you did not have the chance to order on the sign up sheet, please contact Pippa and Geoff Broadhurst at (914) 591-7356.

#### **Turkey Trot Bonspiel**

All mixed, ladies and mens curiers are encouraged to sign up for the Turkey Trot bonspiel which commences on Friday, December 4 and runs through Sunday, December 6. It was previously announced as occurring in January, but recent

events have enabled us to reschedule it to fall closer to the holiday for which it is named.

The Turkey Trot will be similar to our very popular Headless Horseman bonspiel: interested curlers simply sign their names to the sheet posted in the Warm Room, and bonspiel organizers compile the teams. This format provides a great opportunity for all club members to get together for a good time, as well as good curling.

#### Open House

Kevin Clancy is arranging the second open house for new members on December 13, 1992 from 2-3:30 PM. The theme of this open house is "Bring A Friend."

Contact Kevin with the names of your prospective guests at (914) 779-3282.

# A Stone's Throw



We hope to include a review of a nearby watering hole in each subsequent issue of *House Calls*. Our reviews will assess criteria such as food, ambience and service at each establishment. However, in keeping with the sporting atmosphere of our club, the reviewers have developed an evaluation system of their own — as you will notice!

Big Reds American Restaurant 875 Saw Mill River Road (914)693-1111

This is a good spot for large groups, about 10 minutes from the club. There is a good variety on the menu: large salads, hamburgers, pastas, etc. Prices are approximately \$6 for a hamburger, \$10 for entrees. The fare is hearty, if not exceptional. The house wine is tasty, the selec-

tion of beer adequate. The atmosphere is a bit on the stark side, and service can, at times, be considered slow. However, in a large party of friends, some things can be forgiven. Reservations for large parties are a good idea, since they give the staff time to get ready.

Our evaluation: Heavy, but on the broom.

# Up Forgrabs

This column will include information about the Ardwicks and Candlewicks. The name is up for grabs. Any suggestions?

#### **Opening Luncheon**

Nadja McKay reports that on November 7, the Ardwicks and Candlewicks held their opening luncheon at Ardsley Country Club. The luncheon was a resounding success, with 30 ladies in attendance. Old acquaintances caught up on summer activities; new members were introduced to the league. In all, it was a lovely afternoon and the all thank Jan Conner for making the arrangements.

#### Ardwicks Feed the Candlewicks Flame

Chris Bertchie says that in a common-sense solution to shrinking rosters for both divisions, the Ardwicks day ladies are curling with the night division, the Candlewicks, on a scheduled basis for the first time this year. Eight day ladies are now regularly scheduled; three more are listed as available substitutes, bringing the total number of scheduled Candlewicks to 26, and the total list to 32.

The new scheduling format has eased the stress for both divisions of curling too often with short rinks. Furthermore — as a much appreciated plus — combining the talents of the day

and night contingents has facilitated the scheduling of rinks that include both experienced and novice curlers... because they've got new and enthusiastic additions to the sport on Thursday nights.

#### **New Members**

The Ardwicks and Candlewicks have added five new members to their ranks this year.

Leslye Alexander comes to us from her chocolate factory in New York City; Margaret Guiry (pronounced GUY-ree) comes from St. Andrews Country Club, and when Lillie Shortridge isn't in Belgium, she's curling Thursday nights. Most of us know Betsy Sugahara, but she's actually on the ice this season, both in Candlewicks and in mixed. Ellie Hollander has taken to the sport to the tune of both day ladies and mixed in her first ever season, and is on the Candlewicks substitution list.

#### Womens' Competitions

In previous years, the women curlers of Westchester have participated in the USWCA-sponsored intra-club competition *The All-American*. This year, however, scheduling conflicts and strict *All-American* regulations have necessitated creative rethinking to determine the kind of competition that can be run.

#### The Candlewick Flame

Chris writes that this competition will encompass a four or five week series of games. In essence, each Candlewick will be assigned a fixed position for the series...but team rosters will shift every week. For each game, the members of the winning rink will each score personally the number of points scored by her team; at the end of the competition, each competitor's total will be divided by the number of games she played. The first game in the series has already been played.

#### The Two Brooms

The Three Brooms will now be called the Two Brooms: the reorganization of the Ardwicks/ Candlewicks schedule will resultin the bonspiel being curled between only Nutmeg and the Ardwicks—as opposed to the traditional arrangement of Nutmeg Ladies, Ardsley Ladies and Westchester Wicks. This first Two Brooms will be held at Ardsley Curling Club on Thursday evening, December 10. We look forward to a good competition.

#### **Announcement**

Nadja McKay has a pair of old style ladies' curling boots in about size 5. If you are interested, please contact her at (914)941-7982.



# **Between A Rock And A Hard Place**

This column will present the pros and cons of various issues that are being discussed currently by curlers at our club. It will not always contain information about elements of the game; sometimes, it will focus on other types of topics pertinent to members of the club.

The Argument:

Sweepers should sweep only when and as directed by their skip and not

make any sweeping decisions on their own.

The Adversaries:

The old rock PRO vs. the hard ex CON

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but Our sweepers have always followed meticulously the kind suggestions of their Skip regarding sweeping since the founding of this club and for the three hundred years before that back to the very inception of the "roaring game". The Skip is the most accomplished player on the team and is in the best position to determine the need for sweeping on all stones delivered.

#### hard ex CON:

Hey, man! Da skip can barely see th' other end of the sheet when the rock is let go. By then, I already know that the damn rock is going to be light and me and my man here are going to have to pound the p\_\_\_ out of the ice just to get it over the swine stripe—much less get it to the damn house.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but only by suffering through many years of seasoning will a curler become sufficiently proficient to master the weight of a stone. And Sir, you must conceded that there

can be no contention that the Skip is better positioned to call the sweeping for *line* on any stone — whether takeout or draw.

#### hard ex CON:

Well, Pops, maybe for callin' the line da skip is in better position to call the sweepin' and I'm listenin' for his whisper. Butt, if my slinger has turned it over on his release or if he's lighter than wha chew want, Iknow right away I gotta get to work before my stud skip gets around to callin' the sweep. For draws, man, I'm right on top of the rock, man, and I know better'n some guy 100 feet away where it's goin'. I sweep if it needs and don't if it don't. And Pops, after the first year I been playin', you coulda called me Bo 'cuz Bo knows sweepin'!

#### old rock PRO:

Excuseme, but I certainly hope, young man, that you at least follow the Skip's directions regarding *line* and strongly consider his guidance regarding weight — especially after the

stone passes the second hog line.

#### hard ex CON:

Yeah, it seems like skips only remember 20% of their mistakes but 80% of yours.

# **Duck Soup**

#### Ice House Gang Has Historic Eight Ender

The Friday morning men's Seniors recently witnessed a historic eight ender. Those involved were Bunky Harmon, Tony Vanderberg, Ed Hand, Bill Versfelt and Bob Whitman.

Congratulations! Now for the bad news. Notice that there are five members on the team which accomplished this feat. Since each player threw two stones, the eight ender was an eight out of ten ender.

Now if they had gotten a nine or ten ender...

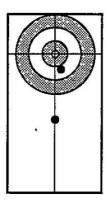
# The Thinking Curler

This column will set forth ideas on strategy. After unfolding a situation and outlining a number of shot choices, the author provides commentary as to the possible repercussions of each shot. At the end of each comment, the shot choice is scored from 0-4, with 4 being the maximum award allowed.

When skipping a game, one of the best strategies is Keep your shots as simple as possible while making your opponents' as difficult as possible.

#### An example:

Last end. White third's first rock. White has the hammer.





#### Shot Choices

- a) Outturn tap back on lying stone with back ring weight
- b) Inturn draw around center line guard to four foot
- c) Takeout weight on lying stone with alternative to remove guard
- d) Peel of center line guard with possible double on a nose hit.

#### Commentary

a) This shot is the most difficult to make and so is the most undesirable choice. If shot is light, there is a possible promote on the guard, leaving the shooterstillinfrontofthehouse - four foot will continue to be — or two guards if the stone is really light. If shooter is heavy or wide, it may miss the lying stone entirely; red will either throw a second guard or, worse yet, block the inturn draw to the button. A narrow stone may peel the guard — but a nose hit may leave a rock in front of the house. A really bad choice.

Score: 0

b) This is the second toughest shot—and even if made would leave red with either a hit if

shooter is open or, at worst, a promote takeout. A narrow shot may open up the four foot a little, but red can throw another guard and the path to the hindered. A wide or heavy shot would be wasted; a draw shot just behind the tee line would be a disaster, allowing red to draw to it with both backing and a guard.

Score: 1

c) A takeout is attractive, but a miss lets red throw a second guard on shot rock or, better yet, guard against your inturn draw to the button with an inturn draw of his own to the full twelve foot at one o'clock.

A perfect chip out of the shot rock will evolve into a drawing contest.

Score: 3

d)The peel is the easiest shot and causes the least damage in case the thrower is slightly off. If shooter is narrow, there is still the chance for a lucky double; a wide shot may still pick out the lying stone. On your last rock, you will probably have a draw to the full four foot. You just need to ensure that the shot is available when you come to throw your last rock and that the front is not cluttered.

Score: 4

202-265-23911 Homeless

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Good - Bitsy loes ~ grand

Volume 1 Number 2

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News from the Ardsley, Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews Curling

December 1992

31 New Year's Eve Party

January 1993

7-10 Douglas International (men's)

February 1993

19-21 Headless Horseman (mixed)

# Curling: An Official Olympic Medal Sport in 1998

Later this month, the International Olympic Committee (IOC) will take the last step necessary to make Curling an official medal sport in the 1998 Olympics in Nagano, Japan. The IOC should announce sometime before Christmas that final approval has been awarded by their Executive Committee.

Medal status was gained for Curling through the efforts of many people over the past ten years — but it was not until 1988, when Gunther Hummelt of Munich, Germany became President of the International Curling Federation (now known as the World Curling Federation), that the effort became serious. Hummelt himself undertook the task of securing the required minimum 25 countries from at least three continents as members of the ICF. He appointed Jack Lynch, technical director of the Canadian Olympic Association, to lead the lobbying effort in the back corridors of Olympic Headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland. Lynch, who is well-versed in the politics surrounding the Olympic movement and is on a first name basis with many of the Olympic nabobs, was an inspired choice.

The Nagano Olympic Organizing Committee also played an important role, as did the Japanese Olympic Committee's former President. In July 1992 — in an effort to get acrobatic skiing awarded medal status—ex-skier Jack Reed, head of the Canadian delegation to the 1992 summer Olympics, presented a scathing put-down of curling at a special meeting of the Olympic Program Committee. Next to the Executive Committee itself, the Program Committee is the most important council: its sanction is required by any new sport asking for medal status. Reed's speech caused the Program Committee to vote against Curling. However, the

(continued on p. 3)

# Sweeping Up

#### Fifth Annual Douglas International Bonspiel

On January 7-10, 1993, Ardsley will host the men's annual Douglas International Bonspiel. The Douglas is one of the oldest bonspiels in the Grand National Curling Club organization: the first was played at St. Andrews in 1934. Art Mojo says that all prizes awarded are named after former St. Andrews members, including the Griffith and Williamson medals.

St. Andrews' Douglas Bonspiel was renamed the Douglas International when the club joined forces with Ardsley and

New York Caledonian. Previously, the latter two clubs had together organized the New York International Bonspiel. The 1993 'spiel will represent the Fifth Annual Douglas International—but also the Thirteenth New York International and the Fifty Eighth Douglas.

Traditionally, the Douglas has drawn teams from all corners of the curling world. Some may recall last year's bonspiel, when Bernhard Mayr of Stuttgart, Germany won the First Event. Bernie and his team eluded

Jerry Archambault and the Utica Mikes, a rink that has earned a reputation for itself in several years past. This year we expect to see several rinks from Canada.

Steve Smith, acting as Chairman, reports that 12 teams have already signed up; he expects that 20-24 teams will participate in January. The Douglas always sees fervent curling contests. Any interested men contact Steve for details.

#### Names & Numbers

Bob Hill tells us that the new 1992-1993 Membership Rosters for the Ardsley, Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews Curling Clubs have been delivered to the Warm Room. A copy has been made for each member; names are printed at the top. Please remember to take home your copy. The roster also includes the names of members who serve on any and all committees (quite helpful when you're looking for someone to thank for that lovely... something).

Treasurer Bob also reminds us that all curling dues are payable in full by January 1, 1993. Please make checks payable to the Ardsley Curling Club; send them to the address on the roster you remember to take home.

#### New Year's Eve Party

The New Year's Eve party has been scheduled for, strangely enough, December 31. Held in the Warm Room, the party's center of attraction is the dressed-up draws. Curlers in fancy attire dine, dance and deliver.

Walter Baggett is coordinating the fling. The sign up sheet is in the Warm Room. \$30 per person includes dinner, wine and champagne at midnight.

#### **Dirty Sheets**

Remember the time you threw a stone and were right on the

broom, but halfway down the ice it "picked up something" and went way out of whack?

Because of the nature of the rocks on ice, it is absolutely critical that we keep the sheets as clean as possible. This means not only wearing a gripper or sock in the Warm Room, but also being careful to wipe our feet before going out onto the ice. Even better: refrain from wearing street shoes on the ice. If you do not want to invest in a special pair of curling shoes, perhaps at least you can wear the shoes you do plan to curl in only when indoors.

Let's try to keep the number of crocks on each of our sheets to eight big granite ones.

# More Sweeping Up

#### Weekend Warriors

Sunday, December 13 marked the completion of the men's Wilds competition. The Wilds, a weekend event, involved four teams\*:

- A1 Chebetar/Clancy
- A2 Whitman/Ficalora
- C1 Smith/Austin
- W1 Messing/McKay

A1 defeated W1 in a playoff game to win the Wilds medal; C1 defeated A2 to take third.

Competition throughout the event was intense: all teams were tied at 4-4 after eight games. The ninth games were played Saturday, December 12 to complete the third round robin and determine who would play for the medal.

Because games are scheduled for both weekend days, eight players generally comprise each Wilds team. This format is intended to ensure that cohesive, complete teams will be in attendance at all matches. Members of Wilds medal winning team A1 were:

> Adam Chebetar Kevin Clancy John Keenan Herb MacIntosh Kiyoshi Matsuo Burns Patterson Bill Versfelt Ken Yoshida.

#### Congratulations!

The third annual Linc Seibert competition will begin during the weekend of December 19-20 and continue on January 2-3, 16-17, and 23-24. The Linc Seibert, another weekend event, is similar in format to the Wilds.

#### Men of the Week

The Wells Competition decides the combined Ardsley/St. Andrews/New York Caledonian men's championship. It is played during the second half of the curling season.

During the first half of the season, men's league curlers participate in the Blanton Competition. The Blanton, which is nearly completed for this season, is the forum where junior skips can earn the right to compete in the Wells.

As of Sunday, December 13, standings in the Blanton are as follows:

<b>B6</b>	Buchanan	6-1
<b>B3</b>	Kenny	4-3
<b>B4</b>	Boss	4-3
<b>B5</b>	Broadhurst	4-3
<b>B8</b>	McCarty	4-3
<b>B1</b>	Smith	3-4
B7	Austin	2-5
<b>B2</b>	Patterson	1-6

The Blanton runs through the first week in January. The Wells competition begins the following week, on January 12-13.

\* (A) Ardsley (B) Blanton

(C) N.Y. Caledonian

(W) Westchester - St. Andrews/Ardsley combo.

#### Curling: An Official Olympic Medal Sport in 1998 (continued from p.1)

Japanese representative successfully presented the sport's application to the Ex-Com anyway. The strong interest shown by Nagano to have *Curling* as a medal sport, in conjunction with various other subtle pressures applied to IOC President Juan Antonio Samaranch, finally got *Curling* the designation it wanted.

Because six years still remain before the 1998 Games, it is not impossible that someone just starting the game now will represent our nation as part of the United States Curling Team in Nagano. In many instances there have been players with less than six years' experience who have represented their national teams at the World Curling Championships.

# Still More Sweeping Up

#### Second Annual Turkey Trot Bonspiel

On December 4-6, Ardsley Curling Clubhosted the second annual Archie and Shirley Bruce Turkey Trot. The Turkey Trot boasted sixteen team entries from our three clubs and was a resounding success. This is a wonderful first competition for new members, as eight of the sixteen teams play down for four medals.

On Friday there were scheduled two of the three first round draws—but the splendid cocktail party hosted by Ed and Pam Siebert drew everyone. A sumptuous meal, a bountiful bar and a magnificent house enhanced our favorite conversations. All curlers were welcomed to the bonspiel and the Christmas season at this joyful gathering.

On Sunday, after a long and arduous schedule of matches, it cametime for the event finals. Turkey Trot organizer Don McKay stepped in as guest piper to open the draw.

David Horton's team won the First Event in a stylish mix of fresh enthusiasm and experience. David, a sharp shooter recently relocated from Glasgow, Scotland, displayed an unshaking nerve in some rather tight situations. Shirley Bruce (who, it was noted, lost no time in finding a new Scotsman as soon as Archie left town!) made critical shots as

vice; second year curler Harry Harper played second on this first-rate team. The good luck charm, though, was lead Lillie Shortridge. The First Event final was Lillie's ninth game ever—and she hasn't lost one yet!

To win the medal, Horton & Co. bested Brian Kenny's rink of Katy and Todd Clough at front end and Kim Freeman as vice. While the Kenny team put up a valiant effort and made the game exciting (and stressful!) to watch, in the end it was the Horton crew in the victor's circle. David complimented his opponents, then noted, "Brian Kenny tells me that the President of the club wins the bonspiels and makes the speeches." Is Brian telling us slyly that he's ready to retire?

The Second Event final was another exhibition of good curling, as We-Who-Were-Already-Out-Of-It witnessed Doug Buchanan's rink edging Kay Sugahara's. Peter and Gloria Hortensius and Doug and Sandi Buchanan pulled together a cohesive effort to overcome Kay, Chris Bertchie and their frontend, newcomers Neil and Anita Pilzer. At the awards ceremony, commended the Turkey Trot as a good forum for newcomers to learn what 'spieling is like. Anita Pilzer agreed that she'd learned something new: "You sure drink a lot!"

The Third Event was a competitive showdown. Gert Messing—with Judy Kelley, George Austin and another new curler, Alla Andrews— was nosed out by Peter Murphy's rink of Peter and Jean Murphy and Isa and Suad Barghout. Coming home in the eighth, Peter was down by one. He scored two and emerged victorious from this heated challenge.

The Not-As-Well-Attended 9:00 A.M. Fourth Event final saw Trevor Davey emerging as the winner. Trevor and Kitty Davey and Tom Doherty and Helen Siebert surpassed the rink of Walter and Betty Steinemann, Jinny Hill and Dennis Nagami to win the medal. Perhaps Walter and his team were somewhat daunted: after all, it was in this very bouspiel that TREVOR DAVEY BEAT ADAM CHEBETAR FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER IN EIGHT YEARS!!!

At the end of the awards ceremony, Brian Kenny announced the prize drawing. Curlers had bought raffle tickets: grand prize was four tickets to a Rangers game. Geoff Broadhurst was the lucky winner. Then came a surprise runner-up drawing for a Labatts curling broom bag. The winner? Lucky Lillie Shortridge!

All participants thanked Nadja and Don McKay and the (continued on p.8)

# **Stacked Brooms**

#### St. Andrews Christmas Party

On Sunday, December 13, St. Andrews hosted their annual Christmas Party. Gerry and Elaine Scherocman and Heather and Brian Kenny organized this special evening.

The party was quite a success, with over sixty members in attendance. Guests gathered in plenty of time to register their ideas in the Guess Who's Coming To Dinner As Santa contest. They also bought chances to win free dinners.

In the dining room, Santa appeared with his sprightly elf. [Master of Ceremonies Gerry Scherocman has promised that copies of Santa's NutraSystem plan will be available soon.] Santa (a.k.a. Ed Siebert) gave gifts to each He, She and It (in what league does It play?). As guests opened their soon-to-be treasures, Gerry announced that only five people had correctly guessed Santa's identity; Todd Clough and Trevor

Davey each accumulated more votes. Jinny Hill won the Bailey's after a prize drawing. Drawings for Christmas dinners were won by both Nadja and Don McKay, Ann MacMillan, Carl Phares and Ed Doonan.

After a very tasty meal, there was a little music, a little dancing and a lot more socializing. Turkey Trot guest piper Don McKay joined more traditional music man Archie Bruce at the podium for a few carols (and, somehow, a couple of patriotic George M. Cohan tunes!). A lucky few won the honor of joining the duo for a rousing rendition of "Rudolph the Red-Nosed Reindeer."

The party wound down as guests gathered in the bar to sing both verses of "Auld Lang Syne". Since New Year's is fast approaching and this song is a favorite, Archie suggested that we print the lyrics so that all

can learn the less well-known second verse.

#### Old Lang Syne

(Begin with hands held uncrossed)

Should auld acquaintance be forgot And never brought to mind Should auld acquaintance be forgot And days of auld lang syne

For days of auld lang syne, my dear For days of auld lang syne We'll take a cup of kindness yet For days of auld lang syne

#### (Cross hands now)

Now here's a hand my trusty friend And gie us a hand o' thine We'll tak a richt guid willie waught For days of auld lang syne

For days of auld lang syne, my dear For days of auld lang syne We'll take a cup of kindness yet For days of auld lang syne

(Ask Archie about pronunciation...)

The evening was a fabulous time, and we all thank the Sherocmans and the Kennys for doing such a wonderful job in putting it together. The mood could not have been more festive. Merry Christmas!

# Still Up Forgrabs, Ladies...

#### The Two Brooms

This space was reserved for a report on the Two Brooms, the traditional competition between rival clubs Nutmeg and Ardwicks. Due to the snowstorm (that wasn't quite), the games were postponed. The night leg was scheduled for

December to avoid poor weather conditions that customarily blow our way in February. Someone forgot to inform Weather Control...

#### A Hair Curling Time

Leslye Alexander is a new curler and Thursday night

Candlewick. We can forgive her, then, for breaking a cardinal rule of curling — Never break your leg skiing! (Read: do it on the ice, if you must.)

Leslye, we all wish you a speedy recovery. We're developing the Alexander Delivery even as this goes to press.

# **Between A Rock And A Hard Place**

During the recent past, changes in the rules and traditions of the game The Declaration:

of curling have been occurring too frequently.

The old rock PRO and the hard ex-CON The Adversaries:

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but there have been just too many changes to the game of curling during the past few years! When I started, each man would have his own pair of stones and a good corn broom. We would come to the rink with sweater, gloves and hat, slip on a galosh over our right shoe and start curling. There was no changing into special curling suits, gloves and shoes — and especially, there were NO BRUSHES! This game has been played nigh onto these three hundred years and should be continued as God intended it to be played.

#### hard ex-CON:

Pops, pops, pops. I thought you had an open mind on all this. First, the designer athletic outfits make the game seem more of a sport than seeing a bunch of old guys with dress shirts, ties and fedoras. Besides, comfortable is the word. Second, style draws the girls to watch and play. And where would the club be with only guys? Dead, man. Third, custom curling clogs make you better. What would Michael be without his Air Jordans? Fourth, after an all-nighter, my head hurts and I can barely raise my arms to throw, much less swing straw.

I gotta have a brush to lean on, if nothing else.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me (Hee. hee.) Just as I suspected. You youngsters cannot keep up with real men. Sweeping with a corn broom is arduous work. You must practice and strengthen your muscles to be a really good sweeper. Our hands used to be bloody after bonspiels of ten, twelve and fourteen end games. Eight end games were only indulged in by the ladies on weekday mornings.

#### hard ex-CON:

No comment.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but let us now turn to the rule changes. Standardizing the size of the stones was a good idea, but they should have left it at that. Who needs this "FreeGuard Zone?" Games originally were all draw until the Richardsons of Regina perfected the takeout game. There should be a natural evolution to the style of the game, not legislated changes. The current free guard zone rule may well need to be changed again shortly. Once you start to tinker, there is no end to it. Besides, they think so little of the change

in the United States that the USCA does not even make everyone use this rule.

#### hard ex-CON:

Well here you're wrong, old timer. Top slingers are getting so good that games like at the Brier and Worlds were getting Booooring and a change hadda bemade. Maybe they didn't do it perfect with the FGZ but got it almost right. So maybe they gotta change it again to a three stone rule. Big deal; it's still almost the same. But I agree that it's stupit that Curl USA don't make everybody use it all the time.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but I would like to mention one last thing. It seems that lately, new curlers are not being properly educated in the etiquette and tradition of this gentleman's (and, now, ladies') game. It cannot be said that they are at fault if they are occasionally rude. I, and even you, can help in this area.

#### hard ex-CON:

Yeah, OK, but I think you're gonna find you and I got different ideas about what's rude and what's not. But thanks ( for recognizing that guys AND gals now throw granite.

# The Thinking Curler

This column sets forth ideas on strategy. After unfolding a situation and outlining a number of shot possibilities, the author provides commentary as to the possible repercussions of each shot. At the end of each comment, the shot choice is scored from 0-4, with 4 being the maximum award allowed.

When skipping a game, remember that You don't have to try and score every end. Sometimes it's better to give up a point or two, and keep the hammer and control of the game.

An example:

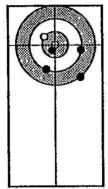
Y 500 - - -

with it,

Sixth end of eight end game.

White skip's first rock.

Red has the hammer.





#### **Shot Possibilities:**

- a) Very thin, light outturn chip out of lying stone.
- b) Angle freeze to outside face of lying stone to prevent raise takeout.
- c) Guard against promote takeout of second shot.
- d) Inturn freeze to inside of third shot so white will be lying second and third shot.

#### Commentary

a) This shot is possible, but is so difficult and dangerous as to be no choice. The margin of error is maybe two inches. If you are wide by more than that, you will miss the stone. If you are narrow by more than that amount, you will jam the lying stone onto yours and roll the shooter out. If you are even more narrow than that, you will hit the guard.

Score: 0

b) Since the freeze is the most difficult shot in curling, this

shot is also not recommended. If light enough, the stone will perhaps end up as a guard — but if it does, either the broom was placed in the wrong location or you missed the broom. A shot that is too heavy will probably jam the shot rock onto your stone.

Score: 1

c) This is the easiest shot and is therefore the preferred one. By guarding against a takeout of your second shot, you may give up one point, but you take the hammer, thus still remaining three points ahead and retaining control of the game.

Score: 4

d) This is another tough freeze. (Is there such a thing as an easy freeze?) However, if your shot is just a little long, it may still turn out to be third shot. This is the only reason that this choice does not score zero.

Score: 1

# A Stone's Throw



Goldie's By The Bridge 226 Beekman Ave. North Tarrytown, New York (914)631-9794

Goldie's By The Bridge is a charming room with a view of the Tappan Zee Bridge and the Hudson River. It is about 15 minutes from the curling club, opposite the General Motors plant. Best for smaller groups, Goldie's cozy, intimate setting is right for a special dinner with friends. Service is quiet, friendly and personal; the fireplace creates a warm, homey atmosphere.

Goldie's is open Monday through Friday for lunch, and seven nights a week for dinner. The restaurant offers a prix fixe brunch on Sundays. The dinner menu includes fish, steaks and pastas, as well as a vegetarian entree. There are home made desserts, as well as a good wine list. Prices for dinner entrees range from about \$11 to \$21.

Because the restaurant is small, reservations are appreciated—especially on Saturday nights. Trevor and Kitty Davey recommend Goldie's By The Bridge very highly.

Their evaluation:

Right on the button.

Bring your copy of this newsletter to Goldie's By The Bridge in North Tarrytown and receive a complimentary glass of house wine\* with your dinner. Ask for Deborah.

Mew York State law mandates that only persons over the age of 21 be served alcoholic beverages.

# Turkey Trot Bonspiel (continued from p.4)

bonspiel committee for putting together a thoroughly enjoyable bonspiel (and a nearly trouble free one, save the four games scheduled for three sheets at Saturday's 11:00 draw. But that turned out OK; the ousted crew took off to the clubhouse Grill Room for lunch and laughter—but what's so funny about losing your Volvo?).

The 1992 Turkey Trot had it all: goodfriends, goodfood and good curling. David Horton expressed this sentiment most eloquently in his victory speech: "Thank you all for the kind welcome. What makes this game special is the friendship and good sportsmanship you find — wherever you go in the world."

House Calls is published monthly by the Curling Clubs of Westchester.

> Brian Kenny, President Ardsley Curling Club

Nadja McKay, President Ardwicks

Km Freeman, President St Andrews Curling Glub

Steve Smith, President New York Caledonian Gurling Club

Betsy Sugahara, Editor

All questions or comments should be addressed to the editor at (212)243:5914 or placed in the envelope marked House Galls on the bulletin board.

in the Warm Room.

#### **Editor's Note:**

NadjaMcKay took some terrific photographs at the Turkey Trot intended for this issue of *House Calls*. Unfortunately, they did not scan into the system very well; a color scanner isn't in the workplace budget until 1993. Nadja's photos will be in the Warm Room for anyone who would like to see mug shots of the victors (and a really great one of the Patterson clan!).

If anyone is interested in taking photos for future issues of *House Calls*, please use black and white film. Also, if anyone is interested in reporting for the newsletter, please let me know, by phone or by note.

Thanks.

Volume 1 Number 3

January 1993

Corrected by Bob Wh: main

Freidhunst

February 1993

19-21 Headless Horseman (mixed)

20 Fundspiel with Silent Auction

# Sea Ardwicks New York Caladonian and St

# News from the Ardsley, Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews Curling

# **Douglas International Bonspiel**

On January 7-10, 1993, Ardsley Curling Club hosted the fifth annual men's league Douglas International Bonspiel. As we mentioned in the last issue of *House Calls*, the Douglas medal is one of the oldest in the Grand National Curling Club organization: the first was won at St. Andrews in 1934.

Steve Smith, Chairman, coordinated the 20 teams that participated in the event. Guest entries ranged from as far away as Albany, Nashua, Utica and Cornwall to more familiar nemeses from Plainfield and Nutmeg. Canadian Club of New York made one of their two yearly appearances at the club; a Cape Cod crew journeyed from the coast, and the GNCC sent a special team.

The matches began on Thursday night for those teams who could get the time off; draws began in earnest on Friday at the crack of dawn. Friday night, the traditional Douglas Banquet was held at Rudy's Beau Rivage.

#### The Early Baird sometimes misses the worm...

On Sunday, after an aggressive, competitive schedule, it came time for the event finals. The Fourth, Fifth, and Sixth Event finals were held at 9 A.M.

In the Sixth Event, Don Baird's rink from Plainfield — with Howie Zwiefel, Toby Evans and Brian O'Byrne — were outranked by a rink of GNCC officers. GNCC players included Pete Mitchell (skip) with Stan Rooney, Steve Holstad and Chuck Owens. Paul Mort, who is responsible for the caretaking of the awards and medals at our club, informed the gathering that the St. Andrews Medal, which is awarded for this event, dates back to 1968. It was given to the Ardsley Curling Club by St. Andrews when we built this facility and left the St. Andrews grounds.

The Mahopac Medal, awarded to the winner of the Fifth Event, went to Bob Klouman's Nutmeg I team. Members included Angelo Marasciulo, Jay Miller and Ed Tucker. To win, they bested the Canadian Club of New York rink of Ken Ottenbrett (skip) with Ron Fior, Terry Joyce and Doug Allen.

#### Douglas International Bonspiel (continued from p.1)

In the Fourth Event, Bunky Harmon's Ardsley II rink of Walter Baggett, Tony Ficalora and Walter Steinemann edged by Cap Cod's crew of Hal Jasmin (skip), Harry Oswen, Keith Dickerson and Bob Simons. Our boys played well: Bunky's key shot in the 9th forced Cape Cod to make all of their shots in the 10th to win the Williamson medal. They couldn't—and Ardsley II won the match.

#### Road Warriors

At noon, it came time for the First, Second and Third Event finals. While 5 of the 6 teams were from rival clubs, another gang of home boys graced the center sheet. For this final draw, a bagpiper led the men down the ice to sounds of broom banging and the traditional strains of "Scotland the Braye".

The Third Event was a war between brothers, of sorts, as Nutmeg III battled Nutmeg II. Gus Fowler, with Mac Cover, Buritt McKee and Bill Mack, was the eventual victor — and to Nutmeg III went the spoils in the form of the Ardsley medal. Bob Reid of Nutmeg II with Jay Fisher, Bob Sillars and Jim Murphy, was defeated — but only for this one 'spiel.

In the Second Event, Austin Klein's Albany squad of Bruce Schultes, Orin Smiley and our own Isa Barghout (only on loaner, guys) took on Nashua's Don Wight (skip), Jack Tulley, Henry Bechard and Peter Bonnett. Nashua played tough, and walked away with the New York Caledonian medal as their reward.

#### **Fever Pitches**

Meanwhile, Sheet 2 was feeling a lot of heat as Ardsley IV, skipped by David Horton, with Kay Sugahara, Pete Murphy and Kevin Clancy fought back against Peter Tropea's Cornwall rink of Steven Deneca, Stephen Burns and Mike Roundbody. Early on, it looked as though Horton's rink would walk away with it, but in the end, the Canadians from Cornwall took home the coveted Douglas medal.

David, eloquent as always, brought the awards ceremony to a humorous and gracious conclusion. He quipped, "A Scottish farmer friend of mine used to say 'what do you say when you get beaten?' I'm not sure. But President Brian Kenny says that if you win, you get to (have to?) be the next club President—so almost inevitably, I threw my stone through the back of the house."

All curlers thanked Steve and his committee for coordinating the competitive, thoroughly enjoyable bonspiel. The curling was well worthy of the biggest bonspiel in the biggest city in the world.

# Mitchell Bonspiel

On the weekend of January 14-17, the Utica Curling Club hosted the 82nd Mitchell Bonspiel. This men's bonspiel represented the 108th year of the Mitchell medal. Paul Mort reports there were 18 Canadian teams and 14 from the U.S. The lower Hudson Valley was represented by 3 teams: Ardsley, St. Andrews and Plainfield.

David Horton's rink of Paul Mort, Ed Godbold and Walter Baggett were eliminated in the quarter finals for the Country Club medal, awarded in the Third Event. The team that defeated them did go on to the finals—and Walter did manage to avoid an 8 ender.

Gert Messing's rink of Peter Murphy, Gerry Scherocman and Ashley Griggs suffered a similar fate. They were knocked out in the semis of the Dewars medal, representing the Fourth Event. Don Baird's Plainfield rink was vanquished in the semis of the same event.

In the Mitchell medal (First Event) finals, the battle was between Grayland Cousin's Braeburn rink from Boston and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police [curling, Paul says, in full regalia. Hope their uniform brass didn't burn the stones!] In the end, RCMP emerged victorious.

The men had a roaring time — our guys closed down the party (at midnight!?). They all felt that it was a great 'spiel and...there's always next year.

The recent hubbub about selecting skips and teams for the Wells Competition, which determines the mens' club champion, has churned up a flurry of interest among club members, some of whom question what is involved in the process. Therefore, *House Calls* requested veteran Ardsley curler Bob Whitman to enlighten those of us out of the know. Bob notes that our curler promotion policy, which the Board has followed for decades, has been the most liberal of any club in the GNCC.

The structure of the mens' league competition is as follows:

Tuesday & Wednesday Evening	1st half <b>Blanton</b> (intermediate skips)		2nd half <i>Wells</i> (senior skips)	
Saturday & Sunday Morning	1st 1/3 <b>Wilds</b>	2nd 1/3 <i>Linc Seibert</i>	3rd 1/3  Jug Ogden/Thorndike* (junior skips/senior skips)	
	* 1993 Thorndike may b	e combined with Jug	Ogden due to player shortage.	

The procedure we use to select new Wells skips is intricate — and ongoing. It is laid out below chronologically, with this season as an example, to make it more easily comprehensible. [For our purposes here, 1992 refers to the season November 1991-March 1992; 1993 refers to the season November 1992-March 1993.]

[Essentially, steps in the selection process for new 1993 Wells skips began at the end of the 1992 season, in March.]

- 1. Ratings Determination. At the end of the 1992 season, the curling chairman requested that all intermediate Blanton skips and senior Wells skips assign a rating from 25 to 100 to each curler in the mens' league. This allows the chairman to determine the average rating for each curler (more on that later).
- 2. Wells Skip Advancement. Wells skips who finished, in terms of 1992 won/loss records, anywhere above the bottom two slots were automatically designated as Wells skips for 1993.

3. Wells Skip Demotions. The two Wells skips with the lowest won/lost records for the 1992 season's competition were demoted to Blanton skips for the 1993 season.

[Two Wells skip slots were vacated in step 3. The only skips who have a chance of gaining those slots for the 1993 season are the two highest finishers in the 1993 Blanton. Therefore, selection of Blanton skips becomes important.]

4. Blanton Skip Advancement. Blanton skips who finished, in terms of 1992 won/loss records, anywhere between the top two and bottom two slots were automatically designated as Blanton skips for 1993.

OIC

5. Blanton Skip Demotions. The three Blanton skips with the lowest won/lost records in the final standings after the 1992 season were dropped as Blanton skips. Furthermore, they are ineligible to become Blanton skips via the ratings determination route for the 1993 season.

[Now the discussion jumps ahead to the 1993 season.]

6. Blanton Skip Promotions. The two skips with the highest ratings after the 1992 season (other than those already designated as Wells or Blanton skips, or those disqualified due to step 5) became 1993 Blanton skips.

(continued on p. 4)

#### Wells, Wells! (continued from p.3)

7.Jug Ogden Skip Promotion. The junior skip who won the weekend Jug Ogden competition in 1992 was promoted to become a 1993 Blanton skip. The winning 1992 Jug Ogden skip can be promoted to a 1993 Blanton skip, even if he was a demoted 1991 Blanton skip from step 5.

The curling chairman then assigned all remaining curlers not already designated as Blanton skips to the rinks on a rotating basis, based on the ratings from step 1, starting with the highest rated curler.

OK, now assume that the 1993 Blanton competition has been completed. We still have two empty skip slots for the Wells competition.]

8. Wells Skip Promotions. The two 1993 Blanton skips with the best won/lost records in the final standings become 1993 Wells skips.

[The Wells can now take place. Afterwards, the cycle can begin again. For this competition, the 8-10 Wells skips gather around a table and select their rink members on a rotating basis, without regard to the ratings assigned in step 1.]

Note: If ties are involved in the final won/lost standings to determine which Blanton and Wells skips should be promoted or demoted, ties are broken based on won/lost records between the involved skips.

Ed Godbold has sent the following standings in the mens' league.

#### Weekend Warriors

The second curling session has begun: the mens' weekend league is now in the Linc Seibert competition. As of January 3, won/loss standings are as follows:

A2	Broadhurst/Harmon	4	2
C1	Huebner/Switzer	4	2
A1	Patterson/McCarty	2	4
W1	McKay/Horton	2	4

The third weekend session will start on the weekend of January 30-31 and continue on February 13-14 and 27-28 and March 6-7, 13-14 and 20-21. Both a Jug Ogden and a Thorndike competition are planned.

#### Men of the Week

In the Blanton, which finished on January 6, the winning rink was Doug Buchanan, Ashley Griggs, Bill Switzer, Matt Watson and Dennis Nagami. Second place medals were won by Don Boss' rink of Gerry Scherocman, Bob Baensch, Peter Hortensius and Carl Honzak:

Final won/loss standings in the Blanton were as follows:

B6	Buchanan	9	1
<b>B4</b>	Boss	6	4
B1	Smith	5	5
<b>B3</b>	Kenny	5	5
B5	Broadhurst	5	5
B8	McCarty	5	5
B7	Austin	3	7
<b>B2</b>	Patterson	2	8

The Wells weeknight competition began on January 12-13. The skips advancing from last season are Adam Chebetar, Ashley Griggs, Gert Messing, Ed Godbold, Bob Whitman and Gerry Scherocman. The two skips newly promoted from the Blanton are Doug Buchanan and Don Boss.

(A) Ardsley (B) Blanton (C) N.Y .Caledonian (W) Westchester — St. Andrews/Ardsley combo.



### **Between the Sheets**

Doug Buchanan and Shirley Bruce were sitting in the Warm Room with their teams after a game recently. The discussion got around to the Marco hacks; Shirley said that she had had a bit of trouble adjusting to these hacks the first two or three times she used them. However, she quickly adapted and now prefers the Marco hacks over the ones previously used at Ardsley and elsewhere for so many years. Doug said that he was lucky since he had only been curling for three years and so had not had to make the adjustment. [Ed. note: Hate to break the news to you, Doug, but this is the first year that the Marco hacks have been used at Ardsley. I guess you didn't have as much trouble as Shirley did adapting to the new hacks. Maybe the troubles at Big Blue these days are causing Doug to lose his concentration.

In a related story about memory, Kay Sugahara skipped in the recent January 2nd mini 'spiel. The format of this bonspiel had each team playing 4 four-end games. Kay's first three were on sheet 3, sheet 2 and sheet 2. During his last game, on sheet 1, he kept commenting to vice-skip Helen Siebert that he couldn't remember where to put the broom even though he had just finished playing on that sheet. After the game, Helen informed him that that game was the first

time the team had played on sheet 1. Guess this means all the broom placements he used were "remembered" from sheet 2 which is a whole lot different from sheet 1, and he must have been pretty lucky to have won any games. They say the second thing to go with age is your memory.

In the same mini 'spiel, Jean Murphy was skipping a team with her son, Michael, at vice; her husband, Peter, at second; and Pippa Broadhurst at lead. Poor Jean was constantly being questioned on her calls by her team (at least, by two thirds of it) - but luckily, she had sense enough to ignore them. The Murphy men should have petitioned for universal men's suffrage and asked to vote on every shot (voting would have certainly sped up the game). Even so, they probably wouldn't have won a vote anyway since Pippa is smart enough to recognize the clearly superior strategist and side with Jean.

Also in the same 'spiel, everybody had had enough curling after 4 of the shortened games apiece. Dinner was rushed and the many games yielded lots of winners and losers to buy and accept drinks—so the last game was cancelled. One guy who was not sorry about the reduction: Shoji Takiguchi. He went skiing for five hours before coming to curl with his wife, Mieko. Who said Japanese men are boss in their houses?

Recently overheard by Senior Ardsley Curlers, requesting anonymity, while attending a conference at a plush Hilton hotel, during a coffee break A couple strolls by, he a 40ish businessman, she a shapely matron of about 60 years.

He: ...when it gets too cold, one can always use an electric blanket. Though, I've heard it rumored in some magazine that the wires crisscrossing the blanket may in time cause a man to become sterile.

She: Oh my gosh, my Harry would not like that.

(Me, turning my head to my coskip, uttering under my breath: "I'm sure it'll no longer make any difference to Harry." She laughs and says, "Neat takeout, skip!")

Brian Kenny managed to be stranded in Florida last month and allegedly couldn't get back to help Heather with the fruit sale. Now, if he were stranded in Winnipeg, maybe...but Florida? Didn't matter, though, since Brian was about to have an operation for an ailment which prevented him from lifting even his son...

# Still Up Forgrabs, Ladies...

#### **Empire State Bonspiel**

by Shirley Bruce

In one of the coldest months of the year, the teams of Jean MacIntosh with Ann MacMillan, Marion Cowles and Betty Steinemann, and Shirley Bruce with Nadja McKay, Marlene Verdes and Molly Babcock struck out for a piece of the Frozen North called Utica, this year's host of the Empire State Bonspiel. This was the first year that the Empire State, which took place January 8-10, was held over a weekend.

A slight glitch, according to some, was that all of our team members were billeted on a non-smoking floor and that all three evening social events were held in non-smoking environments. For those of us who do still smoke, is this a sign of things to come? Where do we line up for "The Patch" to mitigate our withdrawal symptoms?

Player's Theatre of Utica, an amateur acting group, opened up their theatre for the Empire State Bonspiel. Following the hors d'oeuvres and dinner, they presented two half-hour plays by Chekov, especially chosen and performed for our entertainment — and excellent entertainment it was.

Although the trophies have not traveled in many years (typically, only the current host's trophies are displayed) this year the Utica Chairman Marty Jones requested

all trophies for display. Therefore, we lugged our own hardware up to Utica — but because we were not "allowed" to play in the finals, we grabbed them before the finals and awards ceremonies and headed back to tropical Westchester. What's a Chairman to do?! We did, however, leave our medals for the Third and Fourth Events; they were to be presented by Marty and Carole Logalbo.

#### The Play's The Thing

Some excellent curling did take place—though not contributed by our own valiant teams, who each won their first game handily but unfortunately did not come up to snuff (were we going through snuff withdrawal after a smoke-free night?) on the last two games.

In the finals of the First Event, Undine Fiedler of Schenectady II defeated Linda Vaillancourt of Lachine, Quebec. The Second Event trophy went to Dee Montgomery of Mayfield; runner up was Millie Stopera of Schenectady I. Third Event winners were Carole Logalbo's Utica II rink who defeated ex-Ardsley curler Fran Currie, now of Richmond Hill, Ontario; Betty Kelso of Niagara Falls, Ontario carried the Fourth Event by overcoming Flo Springstead of Albany.

The 1994 Empire State Bonspiel will be hosted by Schenectady in January — on a weekend, if the

club will give one up. Otherwise, it will return to the Monday/Tuesday/Wednesday schedule. In 1995 it will return to the Ardwicks; 1996 will see it return to Utica to start the three year cycle again.

# The GNCC Women's Championships

by Kim Freeman

The team of Kim Freeman, Jean Murphy, Barrie McKernan and Sandi Buchanan was cut short in its bid for the GNCC Women's Championship crown at the Norfolk Curling Club the weekend of January 8-10. The odds-on favorite faced stiff competition on even stiffer 18 second ice from a field of five rinks from Boston, Darien and Plainfield.

The teams's best game of the weekend was a near upset over the eventual winners from Nutmeg, when they scored six in the ninth end to overcome a five point deficit. Nutmeg showed what it takes to be champs by scoring a tenth end come-from-behind victory --- a pattern they would repeat in three other games — thus earning themselves a berth in the nine team National Women's Championship. It is to be held in St. Paul, Minnesota on February 21-28.

Good luck to our neighbors to the East!

### **Between A Rock And A Hard Place**

Artwork by Kevin Clancy, Jr.

The Declaration:

There has been a noticeable change for the worse in the manners exhibited by

loday's curiers compared to those of past years.

The Adversaries:

The old rock PRO and the hard ex-CON

#### old rock PRO:

Excuseme, but today's new curlers do not seem to have been

educated in the subtle niceties of the game and often break the written and unwritten rules of the game. I see frequent, disruptive breaches in etiquette in every game in which I participate or observe.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Well, Pops, excuse me, "SIR", I think this time we ain't gonna have much to fight about. I ain't much for rules and such and I know you hate my long hair and scraggy duds, but I'm Mr. Conservative when it comes to following the rules of this game, written or unwritten. But you can't blame only the new curlers. Lots of the old timers got just as bad etykett as guys going to the Kayser. You rag on the new guys but it ain't all their fault as they ain't been told what to do.

#### old rock Pro:

My, my, agreement from you! Perhaps there is hope for you, after all. I think some of the more mature members might take it upon themselves to tutor newer curlers in some of the basics of curling etiquette. For instance, if you are first to throw in an end, take your first rock and get into the hack right away. Let your team put the rocks in order.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Right on and when it's your turn to be the next slinger, you jump into the hack and clean the bottom of your piece right after the stud before you has started sliding. If you do this fast, there is still lots of time to stand and see the finish of his shot.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me! I believe you once cautioned me about assuming all curlers are men and I do not believe that "stud" can refer to any of the female gender (hee, hee). Another rule which is observed mostly in the breach is wherethesweepers should stand when the other team is delivering. They should station themselves between the hog lines, not behind the hacks. And, after checking, you should never cross the sheet if the following thrower is already in the hack.

One more thing for the sweepers. The thirds always measure stones to see which is closer to the center and all other players, including the skips, should stay away from the rings and let them do their job. Other players should not even offer their opinions as to which stone is closest.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Right on. Here's one for the sleeping, skip. If you stand behind the active skip to watch the line, keep still and hide your sweep stick. Worse, some low-lifes use small "accidental" jiggles and stuff to try and distract a thrower-man. Man, sick. You don't win curling games that way.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but no senior skip would ever consider acting in such a disgraceful manner and I'm sure the junior skips would emulate their elders. Another tip for the sweepers. Do not suggest shots to the skip unless asked. He has enough to do without debating the myriad possibilities that front ends dream up.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Whoa, Pops. I want my straw slappers to be (almost) as smart as me. They should know the whys and what-fors of every shot called, and know the curl in the ice near as good as me so if they see something they think is good (which I've probably already

have rejected), they can tell my third right away. Notice I said

(continued on p. 10)

# The Thinking Curler (or the Curling Thinker)

This column sets forth ideas on strategy. This month, the column applies to all situations — so we have not set forth any shot possibilities.

#### How Should I Miss?

When you are about to deliver a stone, the two obvious things you must think about are weight (how hard are you going to throw the stone?) and broom (make sure you are as close as possible to the target set up by the skip.) Also important is the matter of turn (in-turn or outturn)—but most curlers quickly take turn for granted and throw the proper turn automatically without conscious thought.

Yet there is one further matter to consider while entering the hack. Although you always try to make the shot called, you should ask yourself before throwing, *How should I miss?* 

#### Why Miss At All?

The question raised will be, of course, why should I worry about missing when I plan to make the shot, not miss it? As an illustration, take an example from golf. If, on your tee shot, you see a lake on the left side of the fairway and short rough on the right, you will try to miss your drive to the right since there is less trouble there. This is knowing how to miss; the same idea applies to curling.

In the sport of curling, there are only four ways to miss (and various combinations of these). They are to miss left or right of the broom and light or heavy of the weight called.

#### Watch Your Skip

It is easy to know how to miss on some shots; the skip often indicates how to miss. You may be called to deliver a light take-out around a partial guard. The skip will often call the desired shot and then, as an alternative, indicate that you should take out the guard if you must miss. You therefore throw the stone narrow, if anything — although again, you obviously try to make the shot called.

Another simple example is the situation where your skip calls for a freeze to a stone in the back of the house. Clearly, you should try to miss on the heavy side, since a light shot would perhaps guard your opponent's stone.

In other instances, it is not so easy to decide how to miss.

#### Watch Yourself

In order to understand how you should miss, you must delve a little deeper into the strategy of the game. In general — for both the side without the hammer and the side with — it is preferable to be in the front half of the house, as close to the tee line as possible. The team without the ham-

mershould play the center of the sheet, covering the width of the four foot, while the team with the hammer should play the edges, keeping the center clean.

The basic reason for this pattern is that the skip with the hammer wants a clear path for a draw to the button with his last rock in case things go awry and opponents have several lying stones - to save the end. Therefore, if your team has the hammer, you should try to miss in such a way that the stone rolls toward the edge of the sheet and is heavy, if anything, keeping the center clear. If your team does not have the hammer, your miss should be towards the center and light, thus "junking up" the center and obstructing the path for the opposing skip to draw the button.

It is impossible to set rules on how to miss which would cover all of the myriad situations which occur in a game. A little understanding of basic strategy, however, can go a long way in helping you to decide yourself. Ask your skip if in doubt and hope he has already thought of the answer.

# Sweeping Up

#### New Year's Eve

Thirty plus curlers attended the New Year's Eve party to welcome in 1993. Run by Walter Baggett, Lillie Shortridge and SteveSmith, it featured a catered dinner topped off with very good, hand-made desserts contributed by many of the party goers.

Helen Siebert coordinated the decorating committee. Even those of us who weren't in town to celebrate have noticed the big, colorful balloons that continue to cheer up the Warm Room. Apparently, many more of these balloons, 18" in diameter, were blown up for the party: Helen Siebert, 30; Melissa (Walter's daughter) 50; Walter 100+.

After dinner, the games began. The winning team of Walter and Betty Steinemann and Nancy Clancy swept away with three bottles of champagne. Tied for second were the teams of Kay Sugahara with Pam and Ed Siebert, and Steve Smith with Shoji and Mieko Takiguchi. Sugahara beat Smith in two out of three Fralic Draws for three bottles of wine.

Everyone thanked the committee for organizing the festive holiday fete.

#### Mini 'spiel

On Saturday, January 2, 1993 at 5:00 P.M. there was a mini 'spiel held for those recovered from the New Year's festivities. Mike

and Linda Foster, who coordinated the event, were both called on as substitutes for late comers. There was food courtesy of the New Year's partiers (i.e., we ate leftovers - which are often better than the first time around anyway!). Again, people brought lots of good desserts but the best were cookies made by Pam Siebert (fancy, good and varied) and Peter (yes, sounds odd but it's not a misprint) Murphy, whose chocolate chip cookies were made with love.

The six teams played a round robin of four-end games, all back-to-back — except for a 45 minute dinner break. That's five four-end games or 20 ends in total over 5 hours. Get out the oxygen! Scoring was 2 points for a win, 1 for a tie. Points scored and ends won in the games themselves had no relevance to overall bonspiel standings.

The winners, with eight points, were Kay Sugahara, Helen Siebert and Shoji and Mieko Takiguchi. The prize was four miniature cordials. Tied for second with five points were the teams of Archie and Shirley Bruce and Ken and Shigeko Yoshida, and Steve Smith with Isa and Suad Barghout and Harry Harper. There was no second prize. In the end, everyone played only four games — that was enough for everybody. Besides, no team was within two points of Sugahara after the fourth game, so cancellation had no bearing on the final results.

All 'spielers agreed that the Fosters did a great job organizing this event in the new format at a busy time of the year for everybody. Although it entailed a lot of curling, everyone seemed to enjoy the format and, hopefully, some sort of similar or other new kind of event will be held more frequently in upcoming seasons.

#### Orville Redenbacher Recruited for Curling Club

Many curlers were dismayed (and hungry) to learn that the pretzels and potato chips had fallen victim to the Board's budget balancing act.

In an effort to satisfy the wants (and grumbling bellies!) of the membership, pay-as-you-pop popcorn is making its debut at curling club! microwaveable, more healthy popcorn will be available on the honor system at \$1.00 per bag, following each draw. In the next few weeks, we'll experiment with buttered and natural flavors, and Orville Redenbacher, Act II and other popular brands until we find our preferred kind of corn (and we don't mean brooms!).

If you have any questions or ideas, please contact the Popcorn King (a.k.a. Kim Freeman) at 212/254-3794. Please note this phone number; it is incorrect in the new roster.

# More SweepingUp

#### First Session Mixed Curling Results

Mike and Linda Foster report that the first session mixed curling results are as follows:

	Points	Wins
First Place		
Gerry & Elaine Scherocman Shoji & Mieko Takiguchi	59	4
Second Place		
Archie & Shirley Bruce Owen Jones Gloria Hortensius	54.5	4
Hon. Mention		
Bill & Judy Kelly Norman & Terry Buchan	52.75	4
Hon. Mention		
Walter & Betty Steinemann Thanos Dousmanis Marie Illos	52	4

This session, we will post interim results in the Warm Room and in *House Calls*.

The mixed curling committee would like all members to be aware that during the Friday night and Saturday 7:30 P.M. draws there is an unused sheet of ice, as only two games are scheduled at these times. This sheet can be used by members who bring guests to the club who would like to not only watch but also to try the sport. Please confirm your intended use of this ice time with the mixed curling committee.

#### 1992 Fruit Sale

Heather Kenny is pleased to report that the annual holiday fruit sale was again a resounding success. The cases of delicious oranges and grapefruit sold out quickly. Profit to our club was approximately \$3000. Heather wishes to thank all volunteers who came to unload the truck on a snowy Friday evening, as well as those who spent hours in her garage sorting the fruit and loading it into customers' cars. Special thanks to Pippa Broadhurst who handled the fruit ordering while Heather was away and to Joe Vulpone who donated his time to help unload the truck.

#### Stolen End

At the end of 1992, the week before Christmas, vandals broke into the curling club through the small window next to the entry door. They stole the VCR, the answering machine and two sports bags. While it is nice to maintain an informal, relaxed atmosphere at the club, please be careful with your personal belongings.

#### Between A Rock And A Hard Place (continued from p.7)

"my third". Don't want to have 'em talk too much to the Boss; might get to thinking they're real people. Besides, I'm always asking 'em how weight changes from one end to the next so they gotta pay attention all the time. They especially gotta watch each call: if it's a draw, maybe they gotta sweep on their own.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me. There is no use reiterating the argument. In any case, I hope our curlers' manners will improve and the time it takes to play a game will decrease.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Amen, man. Hey, you ever tried Speed Curling? You gotta push outta the hack as soon as the guy ahead of you gets outta the way but way before his rock stops. Sometimes you get three stones going at the same time!

But enough of this babble. Lets hope our guys "Do the Right Thing" from now on.

# A Stone's Throw



Off Broadway 17 Ashford Avenue Dobbs Ferry, New York 10522 (914)693-6170

If you're looking for a good meal after a hard day's curling, try Off Broadway, just five minutes from the club. Co-owners Angelo Liberatore and Mark Hanson, both graduates of the Culinary Institute, have created a delicious and diverse modern American menu.

Examples of their creative cuisine vary from Spaghetti Caprese, with marinated tomatoes, basil and mozzarella, toroast duckling with plum sauce and scallion

potatoes. Pasta and entrees range in price from \$10.95 to \$18.95, with some specials priced slightly higher. The bread and desserts are baked fresh each day. On Thursday through Saturday, a guitarist entertains with classical selections during dinner.

Off Broadway can seat parties of up to ten guests. The chefs are available to hire for catering. They recommend that you make reservations.

Don't be fooled by the unassuming exterior: Off Broadway is worth a visit. If you mention this article, the owners will treat you to a free glass of wine with your dinner.

Our evaluation:

A A A A

Burns and Ruth Patterson

Through the house

A good guard

A biter

Right on the button

# World Curling 1993: Update

At least one team each from Europe, North America and the Pacific Rim qualify for the World Curling Championships. A big competition on the road to the Worlds is the European Championships, held last December in Perth, Scotland. This year, Germany, Scotland, Sweden and Norway qualified to send entries in both mens' and womens' play. France and Denmark will be in the mens' field, while England and Finland secured positions in the womens' lineup. They will be joined by host country Switzerland, and the U.S. and Canada in both divisions, along with Australia in the mens and Japan in the womens' to complete a 10-team field in each section in Geneva.

The World Curling Federation approved a marketing contract with a major Canadian marketing group to cover the promotion of the World Championships from 1995-1999. It requires the selection of two sites in North America during the five year period. Oberstdorf, Germany is the host site of the World Curling Championships for 1994. WCF President Gunther Hummelt reports that the leading candidate for the 1995 site looks to be in Manitoba, Canada.

The WCF is still awaiting formal approval from the International Olympic Committee to Nagano's intention to have curling on its medal sports program in the 1998 Winter Olympics.

House Galls is published monthly by the Curling Clubs of Westchester.

> Brian Kenny, President Ardsley Curling Club

Nadja McKay, President Ardwicks

Kim Freeman, President St. Andrews Gurling Club

Steve Smith, President New York Caledonian Curling Club

> Betsy Sugatiara, Editor Kevin Clancy, Jr., Artwork

All questions or comments should be addressed to the editor at:
(212)243-5914
or placed in an envelope marked House Calls on the bulletin board in the Warm Room.

Those of you who know me realize that while this may be my first season as an official curler, I've been under foot as the world's most avid curling groupie for — let's see — a good 18 years. Why? Curlers are a special breed of their own: it is not only the game; it's the people. My father always says that if you meet almost any curler — anywhere in the world, of any age, from incredibly diverse backgrounds — you'll enjoy talking to him. He'll remind you of other curling friends.

Take Bill MacKenzie as an example. Mike Swiercz — one of the infamous Utica Mikes who just breezed through town for the Douglas — is editor of The Curlogram, newsletter of the Utica Curling Club. He passed along this poem, explaining that Bill is an avid Canadian curler who wrote the poem below after he attended the Grand Forks Mixed Bonspiel. Can you relate to this or what?!!

#### Funny Game

by Bill MacKenzie
Curling is a funny game,
We like it!
We hope it always stays the same,
We like it!

It's the old Scottish game of besom (broom) and stane (stone), It gives us blisters and it gives us pain, The unenlightened think we're insane But — we like it.

It makes us fume and it makes us fret, We sweep so hard it makes us sweat, It's the damnedest, bloody game and yet — We like it.

Though our lead or second may be a crank, And our third's shotmaking may be downright rank, And we may have a skip whose mind goes blank, Still — we like it.

Why, just last night on his final shot,
Our skip was wide and a trifle hot,
And he rubbed a guard — and he stopped on the pot!
Oh man — we like it!

Yes, curling is a funny game — Why, when we win, we take the acclaim, And if we lose, it's the skip who's to blame. Yes — we like it!

Now, take the ice at the Grand Forks rink — Man — it's just about driving us all to drink, And it's sending our skip right straight to the shrink, But — we like it.

Why, in places the whole sheet slopes to the wall, And our takeouts float and our in-turns fall, And we wonder why anyone curls at all, Still — we like it.

Because curling is a special game, Good sportsmanship's its second name, And we hope it always stays the same Because we like it! Volume 1 Number 4

February 1993

#### February 1993

19-21 Headless Horseman (mixed)

Fundspiel with Sitent Auction

March 1993

27 Pull The Plug party

# Some project of the p

# **Curling in Florida**

Sound a bit self-contradictory? No longer. Last month, the roaring game made its debut in the center of the Sunshine State and on the front page of *The Orlando Sentinel*. The two day curling exhibition kicked off the Scottish Highland Games, an annual festival in Orlando.

The curlers of Westchester were well represented at this landmark event: Archie (skip) and Shirley Bruce and Don and Nadja McKay made the trek to the tournament, representing St. Andrews. Don was quoted in the newspaper article reporting on the event. He voiced our own unanimous opinion that the sport "is on it's way up."

The "Curling in Florida" event may not have had the best ice, but there was no lack of curling spirit. Competitors and their fans traveled from further north than New York to attend; it was a Thunder Bay, Ontario rink that eventually walked away with top honors.

However, they did not have an easy time in the finals: they were tied going into the final end. To win, Thunder Bay had to overcome no less serious a threat than the Bruce/McKay rink from St. Andrews!

The organizing committee plans to continue promoting curling in Florida. The winners names are to be inscribed on the Florida Cup, and the championship team is expected to return in 1994 to defend their championship. Orlando now has the stones, brooms and hacks for two sheets of ice.

The committee reported that many seemed excited about the game, and that the young were most enthusiastic. (Perhaps someone ought to try to reform the reporter who called it a sport "that combines the thrill of bowling with the competitive fury of shuffleboard on ice." The rest of the US is not necessarily up on our cruise ship sports.)

We'll continue to keep an eye on this newest addition to the curling world.

### Stacked Brooms

January was a busy month for the men's league, as the Mitchell and our own Douglas International were held in the first half of the month and several others took place in the latter weeks.

Gerry Scherocman reports that two teams representing St. Andrews recently participated in a pair of tough competitions.

#### **GNCC**

The Grand National Curling Club Championship was held January 18-24 at Nutmeg Curling Club. St. Andrews was represented by a team of Gert Messing atskip, Ashley Griggs at vice, Derek Kayser at second and Gerry Scherocman at lead.

The team had a 2-2 won-loss record. One of the two losses was a heartbreaker, as everything rode on the final stone in the tenth end.

#### USCA

St. Andrews sent almost the same group of guys to the United States Curling Association's men's play downs. Held January 28-31, this competition took place at Philadelphia. Gert Messing again led the rink at skip, supported by Ashley Griggs at vice, Allen Merry at second and Gerry Scherocman at lead.

The USCA play downs was a double knockout competition. St. Andrews lost their first two games, both in the tenth end. It was a heartbreaking day of competition.

Ed Godbold has sent the following standings in the mens' league.

#### Weekend Warriors

January 24 marked the end of the Linc Seibert competition. The competition was won by the New York Caledonian rink of Victor Huebner, Bill Switzer, Steve Smith, George Austin, Bob Baensch and Tony Vanderburg.

Final standings in the competition were as follows:

		Won	Lost
C1	Huebner/Switzer	6	2
A1	Patterson/McCarty	4	4
A2	Broadhurst/Harmon	4	4
W1	McKay/Horton	2	6

There will be a playoff held between the A1 and A2 rinks to determine the winners of the second place medals.

The Jug Ogden competition, held on Saturdays, began on January 30. The Sunday Thorndike competition began January 31. As detailed in the last issue of *House Calls*, the Jug Ogden is a junior skip competition; the Thorndike is for senior skips.

#### Men of the Week

Standings in the Wells weeknight competition, as of the week of February 10, are as follows:

		Won	Lost
W7	Buchanan	5	0
W2	Griggs	4	1
W3	Messing	4	1
W4	Godbold	3	2
W6	Scherocman	2	3
W1	Chebetar	1	4
W5	Whitman	1	4
W8	Boss	0	5

(A) Ardsley (C) N.Y. Caledonian (S) St. Andrews (W) Westchester—St. Andrews/Ardsley combo.

## **Between the Sheets**

Has anyone noticed that Shirley Bruce is pregnant? She informed me that she was going to give birth on Tuesday, February 16 to a Skye Terrier. She says that she met the S.T. in Orlando, while she was attending the "Curling in Florida" event mentioned on page 1 of this issue of House Calls, and fell in love immediately.

Even though there's another male involved, Archie seems pleased at the prospect of the new addition. He proudly announced that he had gotten the pup's papers just recently, and that he had been studying them.

Archie reports that S.T., a male, has quite a lot of *Candlewicks* in his pedigree. Are we introducing into the club the first male Candlewick?

Speaking of babies, many congratulations to **Don and Cindy Boss** on their new son!

Cindy had the baby on January 9, and Don popped by the club to let everyone at the Douglas in on the info.

Congratulations, too, to Gert Messing, winner of the baby pool. He was closest to the mark in the order of sex, date of birth and weight. Losing pool participants thought it was interesting that Gert, who also ran the pool, based eliminations in the order listed above instead of by date of birth, sex, then weight — as listed on the sheet.

A House Calls apology goes to Doug Buchanan. This column listed him as the newish curler who had the conversation with Shirley Bruce about the Marco hacks.

Wrong! Doug approached me, somewhat confused about the tidbit. He said that perhaps he had had such a conversation — but he could not remember it. However, we agreed that the mere fact of his inability to remember the incident did not necessarily mean that it did not happen.

Just then, Mike Foster strolled by. He heard a snatch of the conversation, and said that he had thought that when he read it it had seemed familiar!

Hmmm. The person who repeated the conversation to *House Calls* in the first place was, after all, the person who said that the second thing to go with age is memory...is there a connection here?

# Still Up Forgrabs

by Carol Meszaros

The first event for the Ardwicks was the recently completed "Ice Breaker!" which ran for six weeks with four teams competing. We were hoping to field six rinks—but came up a little short and curled with five person teams.

The winning team — with a won/loss record of 4-2 — was Jinny Hill (skip), Jan Conner,

Carol Gutekunst, Ritsuko Sakurai and Suad Barghout.

The runners-up were determined by ends, after a tie of Mary Jean Keenan and Shirley Bruce's teams ensued with records of 3-3. Mary Jean's team, which consisted of Vanda Ficalora, Marian Cowles, Anne Dudley and Shigeko Yoshida emerged as the victors.

The ladies are currently involved in the "All American" competition, with one more game to be played as of this publication date.

For this event, we were happy to recruit two new curlers — Ellie Hollander and Akiko Yatagai. We are also pleased to welcome back to the ice Ann Elliott, a most formidable lefty!

# Sweeping Up

#### The 'Spiel Sheet

We at House Calls have designed a nifty little form dubbed the 'Spiel Sheet. Developed as a direct result of noses lopped off in the process of trying to pry information from busy curlers, the 'Spiel Sheet is intended to simplify the process of reporting back on what happened at an away bonspiel.

For example...I know that club members attended two competitions I have only some information about:

- The Dykes is the bonspiel held annually for male curlers who have experience of five years or less. Kevin Clancy skipped a team consisting of Mike Murphy (vice), Peter Hortensius (second) and Todd Clough (lead). Doug Buchanan was up for a game, too.
- ☐ While the men had a slew of bonspiels to choose from, I know of only one mixed competition at Chesapeake. It was held over Katy Clough's birthday weekend January 22. Trevor (skip) and Kitty Davey and Todd and Katy Clough attended the bonspiel.

We're all interested in the progress of our fellow curlers, even when we are unable to cheer them on. Bonspieling can be quite an experience, and it's fun to share your trials and tribulations (and to see your name in print!).

The next time you plan to attend a bonspiel, pick a team member to fill out the form. 'Spiel Sheets can be found right next to the bell in the Warm Room, in the Take One box.

Thanks, ahead of time.

#### ...Literally!

In order to reduce expenses in the operation of the curling club, we are encouraging the member ship to assist with some of the housekeeping duties which were formerly performed by paid staff. In an attempt to share these duties among the curlers, the following cleaning schedule has been established:

#### Competitive League Monday 9:00 PM draw

Weekly

- ☐ Vacuum viewing area, stairs & basement carpet
- ☐ Polish shelving & tables in Warm Room
- ☐ Straighten kitchen

Monthly

Clean inside of viewing windows

Twice per season

Dust inside of trophy case

#### Mens' League

Saturday 9:00 AM

Weekly

Vacuum rugs in ice area

#### Ice Man

(Joe Vulpone)

- ☐ Scrape, sweep and pebble ice
- Mop Warm Room
- Clean bathrooms
- Clean fireplace
- □ Keep stairs clean
- ☐ Remove garbage
- Make and remove ice

Many thanks for all the help!

— The House Committee

This month's Between A Rock And A Hard Place talks a bit more about this subject. We all want to keep club expenses down, and this schedule is one way to do it. We all appreciate the work that members of these leagues have been doing to help. — Ed.

#### Hurry, hurry!

Walter Steinemann and Bob Hill are both missed at the club for the time being. Heather Kenny reports that they are both home now, and recuperating.

House Calls wishes Walter and Bob speedy recoveries.

## Between A Rock And A Hard Place

Artwork by Kevin Clancy, Jr.

The Declaration: Dues and other fees paid to the Ardsley Curling Club must be raised to the level

necessary to cover all the expenses of running the curling club.

The Arguers: The old rock PRO and the hard, ex-CON

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but I am not opposed to the position taken by the

Ardsley Country
Club and their
president, Mr.
Herbert Camp, that
the dues of the
Curling Club must be
raised so as to be consistent
with the dues structure
paid by the other classes
of membership at the
Country Club.

#### hard, ex-CON:

You never change, do you Pops. I know you been sliding stones since before the Rangers last won the Stanley Cup in 1940 and that all that time you been humping good behind a desk, and stashin' the cash with the trash since the Crash, so it ain't no problem for you to lay Big Green onto Mista Bob, the keeper of the club's cash. But, the 600 Figueroas a year I gotta pay to play hurts me, man, and besides, I never choked down so many cokes since that damn minimum got put on us. Can't use it up at the club since the grill ain't never open when I'm here and I can't swing the prices anyhow.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but if we had accepted their offer to amalgamate with the Country Club, we

would now be able to enjoy all the amenities offered by the Country Club and not have to do all the menial chores now proposed to be discharged by the Curling Club's membership. I started out working with my hands and now would prefer to hire others to handle these tasks.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Well that's cool for you, but me and my guys wanna get the tariff reduced, put the play duty on a diet. And I ain't saying I'm talking about you, Pops, since you and your woman (mainly she) do your part of the work around here, but it seems that the few, same guys always seem like they're doing all the volunteering. There's a bunch of about 20 who are always working or running something. I don't want to start naming names 'cause I'm gonna miss a bunch of guys but Sandi and Doug are always around working on something. How come you can't get more of your gray studs to sweep OFF the ice as well as they do ON the ice, like in the warm room.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but many of our wives are the backbone of the group which keeps the lounges supplied and the groups which run most of the clubs events. These fine women have saved

the club thousands of dollars over the years.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Pops! Don't you hear yourself? You said "our wives". What about you? I know that you guys have been funding the club for lots of years but this recession has been squeezin' 'em and costing the club a lot of members, especially the young members. That's why we all gotta help keep expenses and, therefore dues, down. You know no more free chips and pretzels with your beer and now everybody gotta help keep the place clean, vacuumed and swept, etc., in addition to volunteering for a committee or working on an event. Sorry, Pops, but you gotta start getting your hands dirty again like in the beginning when the club just opened. And besides, most of today's

wives work and don't have any more time than you do and many, a lot less what with kids and all.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but, as a group, I think we seniors do as much work as any

other and will undoubtedly continue to do so. However, I will

(continued on p. 7)

# The Thinking Curler (or the Curling Thinker)

This column sets forth ideas on strategy. This issue's topic is the fundamentals of strategy — either for new skips or for curlers who want to think a little more about the game.

#### A Little Basic Strategy

New curlers learn to deliver the stone — to the best of their ability — to the spot where directed by their skip. It quickly becomes routine, when setting up for delivery, to take into consideration several details:

- ☐ The target at which you should aim (the broom)
- The turn which you should usefor release (check his arm)
- ☐ The right weight (as he has previously indicated).

You obediently get into the hack and do as you were told "to the best of your ability." But have you ever thought to yourself, how did the skip decide which shot he wants me to throw? This is Strategy, an inherent part of the game.

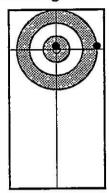
Most dialogues you encounter regarding Strategy all assume one fact: that your opponents will probably make their next shot (or come pretty close). Therefore, these dissertations conclude, you should leave them with the most difficult shot you can. However, at the level of curling found at our club, we should go back one step further; we should not accept the above assumption. On the contrary, we should first focus on whether to assume opponents will make or miss their next shot.

Consider the following situation:

Score is tied in the last end.

White skip's last rock.

Black has the hammer.



#### Shot possibilities:

- I) Freeze to the shot rock.
- Light takeout on lying black stone, shooter sticks.

#### Commentary

Black is lying two and has the hammer. Each skip has one more rock to throw. As outlined above, white has two choices.

When determining which shot to throw, the white skip must take into consideration what black will do as a counter attack. And this involves deciding whether black will make or miss the shot:

#### Case I

Freeze to the shot rock. Here, white hopes that with the last stone, black will jam white's stone onto the backing, thus allowing white to win. This requires a much more difficult shot by white than does the other

option—but also makes black's last shot much more difficult. By choosing this shot, the whiteskip has assumed that black will make (or come close to making) the last shot.

#### Case II

Light weight take out on the lying black stone to save the whiteshooter. Here, whitehopes that black will miss the takeout with the last stone, allowing white to win. This shot is much easier for white as well as for black, compared to Case I. However, the white skip assumes black will miss with the last shot so decides to leave the wide open hit.

Traditional wisdom says that the main factor influencing strategy is whether or not you have last rock. Obviously, score, end, ice conditions, relative weaknesses/strengths of the teams, etc. have bearing as well — but the critical concern is who holds last rock.

The fundamental approach is for the team without last rock to direct play towards the center of the sheet, while the team with last rock typically tries to force play towards the edges of the sheets. The rationale of this strategy is graspable when you con-

(continued on p. 7)

#### The Thinking Curler (continued from p.6)

sider the draw to the four-foot with last rock:

The team "without" will try to gain shot rock, then block the team "with" from having a clear path to the four-foot.

The team "with" will try to keep a clear path open to the four-foot so that if things go wrong during an end, the end may still be saved with a good draw to the button by the skip.

It is also generally assumed that any skip can always draw the four-foot, when required.

This strategy is successful if both your team and opponents make

most of your shots. However, this is not always so. Let's look at the case where both teams are less skillful and they miss many shots.

Here, the goal should be to keep things clean, play most shots into the rings and set up the end so that the expected misses by both your own team and by your opponents will cause the least damage. It is not as important to keep the center of the sheet clear for the last shot; more important is to direct plenty of stones into the rings since it is expected that opponents will miss most of their shots. Guards should be used sparingly by your team, as

should takeouts. If you miss the house, miss on the short side since one of the later shots (either yours or your opponents') may tap you in.

While this advice is contrary to most text book strategy, it is followed by skips experienced with curlers at our skill level. True, difficulties will arise if you aspire to curl at a competitive level but have only had the experience of curling with novices. You will have to unlearn these habits and absorb new ideas in order to win at the top levels. However, this empirical development of stratagems can lead to a plethora of ideas.

# Between A Rock And A Hard Place (continued from p.5)

will encourage everyone to increase their donations of time to the club. If everyone does, the donations of money will not have increase too fast. And I suggest you be a little kinder when speaking of the senior members of the club. You'll be one of us before you realize.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Didn't mean to be such a smartass. You keep after the senior curlers and I keep after the others. We gotta make sure that the work gets done, keep the place clean, the ice good and the dues will stay down. We lost enough of our guys already and losing more will just mean we gotta pay more and volunteer more. I don't like neither of them choices.

House Calls is published monthly by the Curling Clubs of Westchester

> Brian Kenny, President Ardsley Curling Club

Nadja McKay, President Ardwicks

Kim Freeman, President St. Andrews Gurling Club

Steve Smith, President New York Caledonian Curling Club

> Betsy Sugahara, Editor Kevin Clancy, Jr., Artwork

All questions or comments should be addressed to the editor at (212)243-5914 or placed in an envelope marked

House Calls on the bulletin board in the Warm Room:

Volume 1 Number 5

March 1993

March 1993 27 Pull The Plug party

# lews from the Ardsley, Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews Curling

# The Last End of the Year

On Saturday, March 27, the curling season will come to an end when the proverbial plug is pulled and the ice runs wild. The season certainly seemed short!

Mike and Linda Foster and Isa and Suad Barghout comprise this year's organizing committee. They have posted a sign up sheet in the Warm Room; it states that the theme for the dress-up is "elegant".

#### And I haven't a thing to wear...

There has been a bit of confusion on that matter: perhaps the theme would be more aptly described as "Rags to Riches" or "Quarter Formal". Brian Kenny says that the "Rags to Riches" theme allows you to come dressed as Jay Gatsby - or as a bum. "Quarter Formal" is a term that generally refers to a mish-mash throwtogether outfit — such as tails worn with boxer shorts (only!) or a full slip worn with heels.

Prizes will be awarded, by team, in three categories:

- Most elegant
- Most inappropriate
- Most original.

#### Games, Food and Fun

The Barghouts are cooking an elegant meal for the event, including appetizers and dessert. There will be a raffle and an auction of various items not sold at the Silent Auction held the weekend of the Headless Horseman. Carol Meszaros says that the infamous Archie Bruce has volunteered his services as auctioneer. There will be music and, of course, curling.

The cost is \$12 per person. The Pull the Plug party is always one of the best of the year. If you have any friends or acquaintances who are prospective curlers, please don't hesitate to bring them along. All are invited to this festive event. It is a wonderful time to see what the sport looks like — and to meet friendly curlers!

# Sweeping Up

#### Spotlight on Center Sheet

Thanks to Wayne Stewart and Archie Bruce, avid curling fans no longer have to strain their eyes to see the action in the far house on Sheet 2. Archie Bruce found an old color camera and donated it to the club. Wayne was able to repair the color monitor. Now all we need is another bonspiel, to really test out the equipment...

#### Treasures Boost the Treasury

Carol Meszaros and her committee of Mary Jean Keenan, Jean McIntosh and Shoji and Mieko Takaguchi, thank all for their generosity in making the Silent Auction — which was run in conjunction with the Headless Horseman — a resounding success. Carol reports that the

profit from the auction was a grand total of \$1420.

As mentioned on page 1, several items are left over from the event. These, along with several others that have accumulated in the Lost and Found, will be auctioned off at the Pull the Plug party on March 27.

#### The Roaring Game Soars

A disturbing rumor has been floating around the club. Apparently, some curlers are under the impression that there will be no curling next year. That rumor belongs in hog heaven: Brian Kenny assures us that we have a three-year lease with Ardsley Country Club and there is absolutely no reason why we will not be here next season. Again, all are encourages to invite any prospective curlers to attend the Pull the Plug.

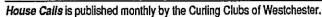
#### Letter from the Editor:

I apologize for the brevity of this issue (perhaps some find it refreshing!). I am rushing to publish this in time for Pull the Plug, although I believe Brian Kenny intends to call some curlers about the party.

Retraction time: grade me a C minus on the Boss Baby info. By some miracle, the baby turned into a girl without my knowledge! Also, Gert decided that no one had won the baby pool, and so gave the funds to Stacey.

I neglected to report 'spiel results in this issue, although there certainly have been many this month. They'll be in April's wrap-up issue (Istill can't believe the season's almost over). Now if I can just refrain from getting snowed in, stranded in Utica again...

Ed.



Brian Kenny, President, Ardsley Curling Club • Nadja McKay, President, Ardwicks • Kim Freeman, President, St. Andrews Curling Club • Steve Smith, President, New York Caledonian Curling Club

Betsy Sugahara, Editor • Kevin Clancy, Jr., Artwork

All questions or comments should be addressed to the editor at (212)243-5914 or placed in an envelope marked *House Calls* on the bulletin board in the Warm Room.



 Lead	2nd	Vice	Your Team Members Skip	□ Other	☐ NY Caledonian☐ St. Andrews	©lub you represented □ Ardsley	Dates Held	Name of Bonspiel	Curling Club where held
		5		4		3	2		Your Team's Progress (by game)
			The Awards Ceremony		4th	3rd	2nd		Event Finals Results  1st

# Social Scene (any good parties?)

# 'spiel sheet

This folder is designed to facilitate the task of reporting back to your friends at the club about any bonspiels you attended.

For games you describe, please include the names of both winner/ loser home clubs, the names of skips participating and any interesting or noteworthy situations or shots.

Thanks for your help. Please mail this sheet to:

Betsy Sugahara House Calls 92 Horatio Street, #4B New York, NY 10036 or place it on the bulletin board with my name on it.



Volume 1 Number 6

May 1993

# News from the Ardsley, Ardwicks, New York Caledonian and St. Andrews Curling

July 1993

22 Green Bonspiel golf cuting (all golfer-curiers welcomel)

 St. Andrews summer picnic at Steve Smith's

Welcome to this last issue of the year for *House Calls*. It's a big one, as we report on the many bonspiels in which our busy members participated. I wish I had room for a Table of Contents!

You will notice a cartoon series, "Besom 'n Stane", on pages 2 and 13. Thanks go to Mike Swiercz of the Utica Curling Club for those clever items. Great ideas!

Also, it is time to pass the torch from the old administration to the new, as Geoff Broadhurst has assumed his duties as the new club President and Gerry Scherocman has taken over as Treasurer. We are all grateful to Brian Kenny for the outstanding job he did as President. The many hours that both he and Heather devoted to the curling club are much appreciated. We also thank Bob Hill for the superior work he did as Treasurer for these past years. Paul Mort and Jerry McCarty will be continuing the excellent jobs they have done as Vice President and Secretary, respectively.

We hope you have enjoyed *House Calls* and look forward to seeing you this summer at Steve Smith's.

# Pulling the Plug on the Season

On Saturday, March 27, we all bade a fond farewell to the 1992-1993 curling season. The Pull The Plug party, hosted by Isa and Suad Barghout and Mike and Linda Foster, was an elegant affair, as curlers observed the rags-to-riches theme.

The evening got off to a rollicking start with a novel mini bonspiel. Steve Smith had obviously spent hours pebbling the center of each sheet of ice: the twist to this game was learning new weight to throw. It had to be heavy enough to get past the twelve foot square "sandpaper" finish!

The meal was savory and immensely satisfying. Shirley Bruce and Ann Elliott were responsible for the many varied appetizers; Suad cooked up a storm in the kitchen below. The chicken and beef bourgeonon were easily some of the best dishes ever served at the curling club. Jean MacIntosh and Linda Foster provided delicious desserts.

(continued on p.3)

# The New(er) Kids on the Block

#### The Kayser

On March 4–7 Nashua Curling Club hosted the tenth annual Kayser bonspiel. The Kayser, founded in memory of our own Raymond Kayser, is a mixed teams competition organized for curlers with experience of five or fewer years. Competition is pretty stiff: these curlers, now considered "new", will meet for further heated challenges in the future. It seemed that a great deal of time was spent watching each other's play, sizing up the new competition; they cannot simply say, for example, "We play Gert Messing's Ardsley team in the semis—we'd better get to bed!"

Two rinks represented the curlers of Westchester at the 1993 Kayser. Ardsley I was skipped by Kevin Clancy and included Nancy Clancy at vice, Owen Jones at second and Helen Siebert at lead. Last year's Kayser victor, Doug Buchanan, returned to skip the Ardsley II rink of Betsy Sugahara at vice, Todd Clough at second and Katy Clough at lead.

The weekend got off to a very stormy start, as we all forged our way northward through what we thought was a storm (c.f. Women's Challenge article). Ardsley II had a Thursday 9:20 PM first draw; the Buchanans worried when the rest of the rink was still missing at 9. Ardsley I's first draw was Friday morning;

quite fortunate, actually, as events prevented them from arriving in New Hampshire before 2 AM!

Each team played four games. In their first draw, Ardsley II met Mike Swiercz (of the Utica Mikes) and his rink. The game came down to skip's rocks; in the end, the opponents triumphed, and went on to be runners up in the (all Utica) First Event finals. Highlights of Ardsley II's next three games included a shut-out and a seven ender. They were knocked out in the semi finals of the Second Event. Ardsley I hung in the First Event longer, as they won their first game — but they, too, were eventually eliminated in the semis of the Third Event.

#### Saving Grace (or Face?)

More noteworthy was the partying between games, as we were introduced to a harrowingly potent Utica potion, the Sleigh Ride. Nashua served up a feast at the traditional dinner dance, then we all kicked up our heels (some higher than others; Katy's dress will never recover). All Kayser alumni raved about last year's bonspiel at Ardsley, particularly about the karaoke party.

The Kayser is a wonderful, warm introduction to bonspieling for new curlers. It is easy to understand why five year curlers lament the loss of their eligibility!

#### Besom 'n Stane



Chip suddenly realized that his intense concentration on the game had made him forget which was his drink.

#### The Women's Challenge

Almost two teams represented Ardsley at the Women's Challenge, held at the Utica Curling Club the weekend of March 12–14 (a.k.a. Blizzard of '93). The Women's Challenge is a bonspiel open to women curlers with experience of five or fewer years. There were big St. Patrick's Day festivities planned — but Jack Frost called a snow day.

Ardsley I, skipped by Nancy Clancy, included Gloria Hortensius at vice, Helen Siebert at second and Katy Clough at lead. Marlene Verdes led the Ardsley II team of Betsy Sugahara at vice and Mieko Takiguchi at lead. Utica was generous enough to lend us a couple of substitutes to fill in at second.

Both Ardsley teams won their first two games and thus met for the big showdown in the First



(continued on p.3)





#### The Women's Challenge

(continued from p.2)

Event semis. It was a heated match, as the blizzard raged outside. Nancy scored 6 in the seventh end to tie up the game and stole 1 in the eighth to win and advance to the First Event finals. Marlene and co. wenton to the Fourth Event. Unfortunately, both were runners-up in their respective finals; even more unfortunately, the finals were played simultaneously so we all lacked home team fans. (Except for Todd Clough, who made the incredible journey to the hinterland to root us on!)

This bonspiel will not be forgotten—especiallysinceittook place amidst the Blizzard of '93. The Saturday night dinner was cut short when nearly everyone (including the DJ, who failed to put in an appearance) got nervous about the snow and drove home. Ardsley members made a good showing, however, closing the bar at 9:00. The New York State Thruway was closed throughout the day on Sunday, so the country line dancing scheduled for Saturday took place on Sunday afternoon. Weroundedout the evening with a Fraelic draw (and here we taught Utica a new game) and dinner at Zebb's Bar and Grill, which is owned by one of the members of the Utica Curling Club.



Note: The Women's Challenge committee is looking for a club to host the bonspiel next year. Are we interested?

#### Pull The Plug (continued from p.1)

After dinner came the awards. Peter and Jean Murphy, dressed as the Great Karmak and assistant in giant turbans and capes, handed out prizes for costumes. Most beautiful costume went to Kitty Davey—stunning in a sexy fur-trimmed ivory strapless gown—and to Helen Siebert, as Miss America. Doug and Sandi Buchanan and Sandi's parents, all decked out in identical tuxedo jackets and top hats, trimmed with gold sequins, won prizes for most elegant. Mike Murphy and his friend won the prize for best compliance with the rags-to-riches (or quarter formal) theme: they each wore outfits that were half ripped jeans and sweatshirts, and half black tie.

#### Guts!

Katy and Todd Clough deserve their own paragraph. Another possible interpretation of the party theme was to dress as someone else would, if they were going to a black tie formal. Katy and Todd selected Adam and Eve. Each wore peach leggings and turtlenecks. Each wore felt fig leaves in strategic spots. Todd wore a bow tie, loafers and socks; Katy wore a "diamond" necklace and high heels. Gutsy, gutsy, gutsy! Photographs are floating around everywhere. And the awards committee called the costumes "most original", I believe. They were definitely the hit of the party.

Mike Foster announced the awards for mixed curling. Betsy Sugahara won the "Hot Stick Award" for the curler named Rookie of the Year.

After the ceremony, it was time to go back onto the ice. Steve organized a "half" game, with interesting rules. Each team of five sent two players to each hack, with two stones apiece. The skip stood in the house, which was painted into the center of the ice (hence the aforementioned heavy pebbling — to set the dye!). Skips alternated turns — but could choose to have a stone delivered from either end. Pretty interesting! Afterwards, a whole slew of curlers participated in a diagonal game (which, please note, is something not possible at every club, like the ones with the fancy runners between sheets). Some curlers — namely Adam Chebetar, Ed Godbold, Isa Barghout and Betsy Sugahara in the diagonal game and Doug Buchanan and Todd Clough in the half ice game — were so engrossed that they kept at it until all the skaters had given up and gone.

In all, the party was a success. The Fosters and Barghouts deserve multiple thanks for their organizational and culinary efforts. Steve Smith developed some great new curling gimmicks. Helen Siebert pulled together the decorations; Jeff Hughes and Neil Pilzer were responsible for music. Harry Harper and Thanos Dousmanis organized the raffle, while Carol Meszaros coordinated the auction. Lastly, Peter and Jean Murphy performed a wonderfully comic routine as costume judges. Thanks to all once more, as we bid another curling season farewell and drink a tomat to Auld Lang Syne.

# Combined Closing Dinner A Huge Success

#### Tracy Kayser-Messing Winningmost Sub at "Men's" Closing Dinner

by Kim Freeman

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It was only a matter of time before the annual closing dinner, once the bastion of the Ardsley men curlers, would throw open its doors (and its podium) to the ladies and mixed members. And what a night it was! With one of the most successful turnouts in many seasons, the May 14 dinner boasted a wide representation of members from the Ardsley, St. Andrews Golf Club, St. Andrews Curling, New York Caledonian and Ardwick clubs.

One of the highlights of the evening was the awarding of medals in the men's curling competitions. Dennis Nagami made no fewer than three trips to the podium to pick up his winnings, while Tracy Kayser–Messing, subbing for Derek, went twice. Those of us out of the know discovered why the so–called "fur–lined" trophy is not so coveted, even though it gets the winner's name engraved in a plaque: it designates the Wells skip who finishes in last place, thus relegated once more to the ranks of the Blanton skips. Medal winners are mentioned below.

Archie Bruce, as always, made his presence known, as he experimented with a new, digital entertainment format ("Designed so as not to offend the sensitivities of the ladies present"). Joke #43 brought down the house, as expected. Archie treated the guests to a few plaintive melodies on the harmonica. The dinner ended with the traditional linking of arms for "Auld Lang Syne".

#### The Blanton Medal

#### Gold

Doug Buchanan Ashley Griggs Bill Switzer Matt Watson Dennis Nagami

#### Silver

Don Boss Gerry Scherocman Bob-Baensch Peter Hortensius Carl Honzak

#### The Wilds Medal

Adam Chebetar/Kevin Clancy
Burns Patterson
John Keenan
Herb MacIntosh
Bill Versfelt
Ken Yoshida
Kiyoshi Matsuo

#### The Wells Medal

#### Gold

Gert Messing Steve Smith Bob Baensch Brian Kenny Ken Kanaya

#### Silver

Doug Buchanan David Horton Bill Switzer Dennis Nagami Herb MacIntosh

#### The Thorndike Medal

Derek Kayser/David Horton Gert Messing Bill Versfelt Bill Havens

#### The "Furlined" Trophy

Don Boss Derek Kayser Peter Hortensius Tony Vanderburg

#### Linc Seibert Medal

#### Winner

Victor Huebner/Bill Switzer Steve Smith George Austin Bob Baensch Tony Vanderburg

#### Runner Up

Burns Patterson/Jerry McCarty Adam Chebetar John Keenan Bill Havens Dennis Nagami Ken Kanaya

#### The Jug Ogden Medal

Isa Barghout
David Horton
George Austin
Mike Murphy
Ken Yoshida
John Keenan







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Ed Godbold has sent the final standings in last sessions of the mens' league competitions.

#### Weekend Warriors

#### Linc Seibert

There was a playoff to determine second place medals for the LincSeibert competition. The Patterson/McCarty rink defeated Broadhurst/Harmon to win the medal.

#### Jug Ogden

The Jug Ogden competition, held on Saturdays, is a junior skip competition. Final standings were as follows:

			Won	Lost
J3	Barghout		5	0
J2	Honzak		2	3
J4	Versfelt	5.	2	3
J1	Baensch		1	4



#### Thorndike

The Sunday Thorndike competition is for senior skips. Final standings were as follows:

		Won	Lost
W1	Kayser/Horton	4	1
A2	Griggs/Harmon	3	2
C1	Smith/Austin	2	3
A1	Chebetar/Ficalora	1	4

#### Men of the Week

Final standings in the Wells weeknight competition are:

		Won	Lost
W3	Messing	9	2
W7	Buchanan	9	. 2
W1	Chebetar	7	4
W2	Griggs	6	5
W6	Scherocman ·	6	5
W4	Godbold	4	7
W5	Whitman	2	9
W8	Boss	1	10



Gert Messing's rink triumphed over Doug Buchanan's in a playoff for first place.

# Important information you need to know...

Recently, we came across A Hog
On Ice by Charles Earle Funk.
This book delves into the "Origin and Development of Pungent and Colorful Phrases We
AllUse". Wemeet Funk's mother,
who called people "as independent as a hog on ice", meaning
"cockily independent, supremely confident, beholden to
no one." Funk eventually found
the roots of the phrase in curling!

Funk read that in curling, stones not reaching the hog line might be called "hogs", described by some as "laggard stones that manifest a pig-like indolence..."

At first, he thought this "hog" explained the phrase, as it "was free and independent, by its immobile state blocking the way of subsequents to nest obe played, forming a hazard." After reading the rules he learned that hogged stones are immediately removed from play. He concludes that rules probably varied, since the earliest 16th century games were played on rivers or ponds with rough stones. Perhaps the hog was once allowed to remain in play, thus giving rise to "as independent as a hog on ice."

Which, we might add, we've never heard. However, it is refreshing to see a reference to curling!

Funk, Charles Earle. A Hog on Ice and Other Curious Expressions (New York: Harper & Row, 1985), pp.7-14.

# **Ladies Curling**

At the Ladies' closing luncheon, Carol Meszaros and Chris Bertchie reported the results of the year's in-house bonspiels.

#### **Ardwicks**

#### The Icebreaker

Held 11/10-12/15, the competition included 4 teams of 5 apiece. The team of Jinny Hill (skip), Jan Connor, Carol Gutekunst, Ritsuko Sakurai and Suad Barghout won the event, with a record of 4 wins and 2 losses. The teams of Shirley Bruce and Mary Jean Keenan were tied; the runners-up were thus determined by points scored. Keenan's team—which included Vanda Ficalora, Marion Cowles, Anne Dudley and Shigeko Yoshida — won.

#### The All American

The All American is a yearly event sponsored by the United States Women's Curling Association, held as an intra-club event at a time chosen by each member club across the country. To participate, the club must be a USWCA member and have a minimum of three teams enter the event. To be open to both day and evening curlers, both leagues must enter a minimum of three teams.

The All American is independent of all other club competition. The USWCA provides award pins for up to five members of the winning team in day and/or evening events.

This year's winners of this prestigious event, held 1/5-2/9, were Carol Meszaros (skip), Vanda Ficalora, Heather Kenny and Ann Elliott.

#### The Wells Wicks

The Wells Wicks took place on 3/2-3/23 and was handily won by the team of Shirley Bruce, with 4 wins and no losses. Shirley's team included Vanda Ficalora, Betty Steinemann, Ritsuko Sakurai and Akiko Yatagai. The runners-up were Mary Jean Keenan and Jean MacIntosh (co-skips), with Nadja McKay, Heather Kenny, Jean Glus and Suad Barghout.

The honor of most improved player for the Ardwicks went to Shigeko Yoshida.

#### Candlewicks

This year, reduced numbers forced the Ardwicks to eliminate one of their two weekday draws. Therefore, the day and night divisions joined in open substitution, as well as in scheduled participation.

Since availability was sporadic, to say the least, Chris designed a new format of competition dubbed *The Flame*.

#### The Flame

Each player was assigned a position for the majority of the 4scheduled games. Rinks were reassigned each week. Points were awarded individually: 5

points per win, 1 per end, 1/4 per stone. Players participating in at least 2 games were eligible. At the end of the 4 games, individual scores were totaled and divided by number of games played. A point was deducted for each game missed. The winners were:

. . . . .

Lead: Lillie Shortridge Second: Terry Crandall Vice: Ann MacMillan Skip: Carol Meszaros

Lacking in skips, the Candlewicks have been bringing leads and seconds up to vice and skip positions for the experience—and will continue to do so until more experienced curlers are readily available. In the meantime, learning the game and other player's styles—and above all, having fun—remain key goals.

We are all very proud of Nancy Clancy, who skipped her team of Gloria Hortensius, Helen Siebert and Katy Clough to become runners up in the First Event of the Women's Challenge. See page 2 of this issue for further details on this event.

#### Times a'Changin'

The closing Ardwicks Board Meeting yielded a decision to take steps to involve more evening curlers in running Women's Curling. Nancy Clancy and Elaine Scherocman (Candlewicks) and Shirley Bruce and Molly Babcock (Ardwicks) will join Chair Betty

(continued on p.13)

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#### The Headless Horseman

The annual Headless Horseman bonspiel, held on February 19-21, was a resounding success. Everyone agreed that the committee — Doug and Sandi Buchanan and Todd and Katy Clough — did a terrific job in organizing the event.

On Friday night, everyone got in the mood for fun immediately with the festive decorations and attractive bonspiel brochures. The wooden cutout of the headless horseman was a big hit, as curlers enjoyed a wide range of hors d'oevresprepared by many chefs.

Participants all curled two games on Saturday. At night was the Silent Auction, which garnered over \$1000 for the club. The hot items were a glass curling stone and a pink TV" — both taken home by Steve Smith — and a Garmisch—Partenkirchen World Curling Championship sweater. Doug Buchanan outlasted Trevor Davey and Archie Bruce for that last item (and seems to wear it often when he plays against Trevor. Hmmm.)

#### The Final Four

Sunday were the big finals, played as ten end games. Some exciting action took place!

#### Fourth Event: "The Graveyard"

In the Fourth Event, competition was heated as the game was tied after seven ends. Davis Yetman skipped the team of Marlene Verdes, Mike Foster and Elenor Stang against Jerry McCarty (skip) with Gloria and Peter

Hortensius and Anne Carret. Yetman scored 4 in the eighth; McCarty one in the ninth. Down 4 in the tenth, coming home without the hammer, McCarty had a chance to draw and lie 4 with his last shot; he came up just a little short. Yetman won by a nose, 8-7.

#### Third Event: "The Katrina"

The Third Event pitted Burns Patterson against Adam Chebetar. Burns played head of the house, as he skipped a familial team of Barrie McKernan, "young" Burns Patterson and Ruth Patterson, Adam's team included Helen Siebert, Thanos Dousmanis and Alice Kenny. The Pattersons had a rocky road to the finals, as they played five games to get there. And down by 7 after eight ends, it looked like they were ready to take a breather. They rallied forces, though, and scored 4 in the ninth and 3 in the tenth to tie! But in the extra end, Chebetar came back with a fantastic final shot, a hit and roll.

The Third Event took the award for points scored. To win, Adam had to score 13 points over the Patterson's 12.

#### Second Event: "The Irving"

In this final, Steve Smith (skip), Tony and Vanda Ficalora and John Keenan met Trevor Davey (skip), Kitty, Harry Harper and Ellie Hollander. Early on, it looked as though Trevor would walk away with the game, as he was up 9–0 after the fourth. But Steve started to come back in his

usual fashion. After nine ends, the score was 10–6. Lying two, Steve tried to squeeze by a guard for a takeout, but missed. Trevor squeezed by instead, winning 10–8.

#### First Event: "The Washingtonian"

In the First Event, Bob Whitman skipped the team of Allen Merry and Pam and Ed Siebert against Gerry Scherocman (skip) with Elaine, Bill Havens and Lillie Shortridge. The game went back and forth throughout; in the tenth, Whitman had a chance to draw for 2 for the win. However, he came up short, and the game went to extra ends.

At the awards ceremony, Gerry remarked that this was the turning point. Bill Havens had to depart; super sub Todd Clough stepped in. His first shot, cold, was a perfect double takeout. Scherocman won in the eleventh, 11–8. Doug Buchanan, acting as emcee at the ceremony, said, "Super sub Todd Clough stepped in for two rinks, both of which came away with hardware!" Gerry complimented Whitman on the hard-wongame, saying, "Theicefoxisstill around and nasty — he makes you fight for every little thing."

Everyone thanked the Buchanans and the Cloughs for the smoothly run bonspiel. Perhaps the one most thankful for making it to the finals and therefore being in attendance was Marlene Verdes, who won the 50/50 draw!

### Between the Sheets

believe this, Derek has decided to become a chef and his first effort, after slaving over a hot stove all day, turned out to be an excellent (read "not too spicy") chili. The only problem with this career is that there is no second dishin his repertoire. How many days in a row can you eat even great chili anyway?

Mike Foster felt he had a good excuse the other day when he came late to the Pull the Plug party, which the Fosters and Barghouts were co-hosting. He breathlessly came downstairs to the kitchen and said loudly to Isa that he was very sorry he was late but "we took an hour today to do something that normally only takes five minutes." Hey Mike, you braggin' or apologizin'?

Linda Foster was not to be outdone at the Pull the Plug. She and Pippa Broadhurst expressed their approval of the organized activities, saying, "We liked the cause we're all half-crocked, half-cause we're all half-crocked, half-caused curlers!"

- - -

The Hills are alive...with the sound of Briarcliff. Bob and Jinny Hill have moved to a new house. Jinny has passed along their new address:

Bob & Jinny Hill 9 Elizabeth Court Briarcliff Manor, NY 10510 (914) 944-7009

Gerry: Todd made a great shot in the eleventh...

Trevor: Which Steve [Smith] said couldn't be made.

Steve: That's why I'm runner up!

Melissa McKernan is already causing the gossips' tongues to wag. She spent a good portion of her time at the Headless chasing saked, "Who's your favorite curler, Melissa?" We all thought that Melissa, who does not talk much, would simply point to brian. Instead, she laughed and, pointing at Steve Smith said, "Curling Steve!"

Guess you're not a runner up in her mind, Steve.

эсрегостап. bucks, especially from Gerry the club to make a few more popcorn consumption, allowing side effect of increasing the downstairs. This gift also has the rather than doing it furtively has to burn the popoorn in public oven, so that now Peter Murphy the club: a second microwave important piece of equipment to and Karen donated a very in the competitive league. He to play his usual second position even though he has been unable involved with the club recently Derek Kayser has been very

Derek has also renovated the stairs to union standards — so if you fall through, sue the union, not the club. Lastly, if you can

Trading cards... yeah, but of curlers?

Ted Bundy and others of that ilk. frey Dahlmer, David Berkowitz, Popular new series featuring Jefcertainly in better taste than) the not sell as well as (though they're in the New York area. They may uncertain how hot they'll be here ber pack of 10 — though it's and present. The cards sell for \$2 includes curling greats both past cards in the first series which (Pat, not Nolan) is among the 66 things, curlers! Naturally, Ryan trading cards featuring, of all Labatt Brier — a new series of ships—otherwise known as the Canadian Curling Championchampion, has introduced at the Pat Ryan, a former Canadian

At the Headless Horseman bonspiel, TrevorDavey could not resistribbing Adam Chebetarone mo' time about beating him (for the very first time) in the Turkey Trot. During the awards ceremony, as Trevor was accepting his medal for winning the Second Event (after Adam had just finished accepting the Third finished accepting the Third Adam —I didn't get a chance to humble you again!" Hope you petanotherstabnextyear, Trevorl getanotherstabnextyear, Trevorl

Also heard at the Headless ceremony (is Ardsley a.k.a. The New Bastille?), as Gerry Scherocman collected his First Event medal—

# 8

# Serious Competition.

The Monday Night competitive league finished its third session with a mini-spiel. The format was a double loss elimination that included unique scheduling situations. Competitive Chairman Peter Murphy commented, 'I believe this format is a great way to end the season. We plan on using it next year — with some minor changes."

The First Event final was won by Gert Messing's team, with a 5–1 record, which included Davis Yetman, Ashley Griggs and Alan Merry. The awards were presented on March 22 at the first ever Monday Night "Cash 'spiel" (more on that later). The winners were awarded Rolex watches for their excellent performance. The watches—provided at cost by a discount representative peddling his wares out of a briefcase on Fifth Avenue—area small symbol representing the importance placed on this new championship.

#### Cash Spiel

The "Cash 'Spiel", a first ever at Ardsley, involved 20 of the Monday Night curlers. Allen Merry skipped the team of Steve Smith and Isa Barghout to win, scoring 10 points in 6 ends. A team skipped by Danni

Stetski, with Chris Bertchie and Barrie McKernan, came in second with 9 points.

Danni Stetski won "Shot of the Year" honors with his last delivery of the season—a raise double takeout of a nearly hidden stone and an exposed rock. Surprisingly, Danni had called for this result—before delivering his stone.

Monday night continues to result in good curling for all. The league had 8 teams. During the Monday night finals, more than one team was heard to mutter, "Next year, things sure are going to be different."



# Canada Sweeps World Curling Championships

The Maple Leaf Flag was honored twice on April 4th during the closing ceremonies of the 1993 World Curling Championships in Geneva, Switzerland. Canada's men's team, skipped by Russ Howard, bested Scotland's 1991 World Champions with David Smith at the helm, 8-4; Sandra Peterson's team iced the German frauleins, 5-3.

The United States men, led by Minnesota's Scott Baird, fought their way through a tie-breaker into the semi-finals but were beaten by Howard after tying the score 2-2 in the 6th end. The very consistent Canadians, from the unpronounceable town of Penetanguishene, Ontario, just outlasted the Americans and won when Baird barely ticked a guard in the seventh.

The women's competition found the United States less successful, winning only two games. This was not good enough to avoid the ignominy of having to play down against England to avoid relegation into the B Pool. Happily, the US won the playoff to force England to join Finland at the bottom of the rankings. However, there was a reason for this modest showing. The winner at the US Championships was the team from the Denver Curling Club originally skipped by Bev Behnke, with Dawna Bennett, Susan Anschultz and Pam Finch. Unfortunately, Behnke injured her back before going to Geneva and had to be replaced at the last minute by Sharon O'Brien, the third from the Michigan team, and the girls never got into sync.



Three curlers who formerly played at Ardsley — Margaret and Archie Smith and Takane Aizeki — now curl at Denver. Takane was previously editor of *Duck Soup*, the predecessor to *House Calls*.

# Sweeping Up

#### President's News

#### Thanks, Derek!

Derek Kayser took the time to repair the wooden staircase leading from the parking lot to the curling club. Thank you from all of us.

#### **Old Friends Friendly**

Bob Whitman organized a terrific "Associates Friendly" which took place on March 6. A group of former curlers still in the area — Charlie Marks, Bob Citarel, Ian Fagerberg, Dave Marr and Doug Griffin—were invited back for a bit of the "roaring game". It was wonderful to see them and they still curl like champions. We hope that this effort will help attract them back into the fold.

#### Think Tank

The Board will be sending a survey to all members sometime in the next month. It will address a wide range of club activities; the results will be used to plan next year's program. We are contemplating some major changes — such as mid-week mixed curling, women's curling on weekend mornings and major revisions to the dues structure. We hope for a high response rate and lots of comments and ideas.

#### Mark your calendars...

The annual St. Andrews picnic has been scheduled for Saturday, July 31. It will be held at Steve Smith's lakeside summer home. Watch your mail for details — and mark your calendars now!

The GNCC annual meeting and Iceless Bonspiel is scheduled for September 17-18, to be held at the Jumping Brook Golf & Country Club in Neptune, NJ.

#### The Annual Green Bonspiel

Enclosed with this newsletter is a registration form for the Green Bonspiel golf outing to be held at Ardsley on July 22. All golfer-curlers are encouraged to participate. Call Tony Ficalora at (914)591–7344 with questions.

#### Ardsley Country Club Golf and House Privileges for Curlers

At the start of the curling season, we sent a letter to all curlers describing the terms of the new lease with the Country Club. By now, we are all aware of the aspects of the lease affecting us during the curling season, but two features pertaining to spring and summer should interest many curlers. Specifically, from April through October all curlers in good standing may:

- Use the Clubhouse facility (dining rooms, bar, etc.) up to twice per month with no restaurant minimums
- ☐ Play golf on the Ardsley CountryClubcourseonceper month, upon payment of greens and cart (or caddie) fees.

#### Club Facilities

Curlers may use the Clubhouse any day of the week it is open. It

is normally closed on Mondays. Consult the monthly mailing for the Clubhouse schedule, or call the club (914/591-8150) for information. The normal dress code applies. The Club would appreciate your calling ahead for dinner reservations.

#### Golf

Curlers may play golf any day of the week, except when the course is closed for maintenance (normally Mondays) or outings. No jeans (including designed jeans) or tank tops are allowed. Green fees are \$30 Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday; \$40 Friday, and \$50 weekends and holidays. Curlers do not have guest privileges. Carts are \$14.50 per person for 18 holes; caddie fee is \$20 per bag, plus tip. Please call the pro shop (914/591-8403) to arrange a tee time. Introduce yourself as a curler; the staff will be happy to assist you.

These privileges pertain to all curlers at Ardsley, including St. Andrews, NY Caledonians and Ardwicks. If you have paid your dues for the 1992–1993 curling season, you can enjoy these privileges through October without additional dues. These do not extend to Associate members.

For questions or assistance in dealing with the Country Club, call Brian Kennyat 914/591-6906. We hope you will make use of these privileges during the spring and summer to become better acquainted with the Country Club's members and facilities.



\* Maria 1





- July 2

#### Between A Rock And A Hard Place

The Declaration

No team with four skips will ever be totally successful since there will be too much dissension among the team members due to differing philosophies as to strategy and reading the ice.

The Adversaries:

The old rock PRO and the hard, ex-CON

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but in my long experience, no statement ever rang truer. You cannot have a strong army composed entirely of generals; you cannot have a great football team composed only of quarterbacks; you cannot have a grand opera with a cast of only divas, and you most certainly cannot have an unbeatable curling team composed of four skips. God put privates, linemen, spear carriers and front ends on this earth for a purpose!

#### hard, ex-CON:

Hey Pops, did I hear right? You comparing curling with armies, football and operas? You can't have an army of generals because they all got fat and old sitting behind a desk but they woulda been OK when they were younger and fitter. Football needs all kinds of shapes and sizes from big and strong to small and fast and quarterbacks don't fill all the slots. I don't go to hear all that screeching opera so I ain't sure, but if all they had were stars, who'd stand in the back to make'em look good. Curling, man, is another story. Everybody gotta sweep, everybody gotta throw and everybody gotta know the

strategy! No generals, no quarterbacks, no stars, everybody's gotta do everything.

#### old rock PRO:

Excuse me, but why then have so many teams composed of four skips done so poorly aroundhere? In my many years of attending bonspiels, I find that long standing teams with only one or two skips and a good front end have, on the whole, done better than teams of four talented skips. We were sitting at the club the other evening discussing this very subject and most of the top skips were in agreement with me.

#### hard, ex-CON:

Yeah, yeah, I know — but if you listened to what you just said, you'd finger it out. The "meat" (what you call a front end) for stud teams together for a lotta years have learned how to play front end. The broom holders around here never learned what it takes to be "meat." We ain't got no guys who realize how important good "meat" is and wanna get good at it themselves.

One problem with the way we pick teams is that you're graded only on how well you throw. You could be the best sheet

slapper in the world and nobody cares. What happens here is that the newest players play lead and second but never learn what a front end needs to know like counting the number of stones going down each track in the early ends, timing a stone periodically to see if and how the ice is changing, knowing each shot called by both teams, watching the other team's releases for hog line violations, telling the skip the weight of a stone and mos, mos, most important, knowing when to sweep. There's lots of brawny broom pushers but a lot less brainy ones.

By the time a guy around here has learned something 'bout the game and is comfortable enough with his delivery to be able to start to think about the other elements of the game, he's promoted to third or skip and he's thinking about strategy and never learns to be good "meat." This leads to the other fundamental problem around here about four skips.

Among good curlers, there is unanimity (did I really say that?) about strategy. There can be more than one good shot and more than one way to play a game (offensively or

(continued on p.13)



# The Thinking Curier (or the Curling Thinker)

# A Few Tips for New Curlers

Most new curlers kind of ease into the game at the lead position, having received a little (usually very little) instruction on the basics of the throwing motion and something about turns and skip's signals. After playing a few games, you realize that it's not so easy to "hit the broom" and even more difficult to throw the right weight. It might be useful if you learn some of the tools developed over the years by generations of curlers.

#### Have One Thought

It's hard to remember everything you have to do to make a good shot — and doubly difficult when you're in the middle of your back swing. Generally, most of the steps you go through to deliver a stone become automatic. Therefore, what should you think about before you start your delivery motion?

There are two basic shots in the game of curling—takeouts and draws, and you must have a different check list for each of these shots. For a takeout, before throwing, you should think about (1) the stone the skip wants taken out, (2) the turn called, and (3) your "normal" takeout weight, which you should remember to use. Your "normal" take out weight should be that weight you are comfortable throwing for take

outs. Try to always throw the same take out weight so the skip can know what weight to expect and give you the right broom. Lastly, just before you start your delivery, think only about hitting the broom without worrying at all about weight. Just think BROOM!

For a draw, before throwing, you should think of (1) where the skip wants the stone to stop—in front of the house, in the rings in front of the teeline or in the rings behind the teeline, (2) the turn called, and (3) where the skip is holding the broom. The very last thing you should consider before starting the delivery motion is to throw the right weight without any further worry about broom or turn. Just think DISTANCE!

#### "Perfect Weight?" ... Not so easy

The most important thing about consistently throwing thesame weight is to have a consistent push off from the hack. If you push off hard one time, then easy the next, it is very hard to have consistent weight. Practice getting consistency in your push off. You will have to push off harder on slow ice than on fast — but always try to push off the same on any given speed of ice. This means that you will push off easier as the game goes on. You should have about four or five distinct push-off strengths, using the hardest if the ice has just been pebbled and on down to the next to

easiest for the ice at Ardsley. This means you will have one easier push-off force available if you go to another rink where the ice is faster.

\* · ·

The other thing you must do to have good weight is to RE-MEMBER how hard you throw each stone. After you have delivered a stone, think about how hard you pushed off, then watch where the stone ends up. Too many people see their stone go through the house but don't watch it to the end so they don't know if it barely went through or went full to the bumper. Watch your stone stop and ask your sweepers if you can't tell.

#### What About Release?

More good shots are ruined at the last instant of the delivery than most people believe. Often, stones are thrown wide or narrow because of a bad release. There are a lot of elements which go into a good release but the most common fault is putting the turn on too early. For an inturn, the handle should be pointed at 10 o'clock before starting the delivery, pointed at 10 o'clock during the back swing, pointed at 10 o'clock during the forward swing and ONLY at release should the turn be put on. The handle should then be released by pointing the handle to 12 o'clock at release, with the thumb of the hand pointing straight

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#### The Golden Handle

by Kim Freeman

After seven tries in as many years, the St. Andrew's team of Kim Freeman (skip), Davis Yetman and Barrie and Pete McKernan withstood a late-game press by perennial opponent Tony Steiert to do "one better" than last year and take home the Golden Handle in the eleventh end of Nutmeg's invitational mixed bonspiel.

The bonspiel was held March 18–21 and was a real triumph for the Freeman team. In this extra-end thriller, our team nearly gave it away to Philadelphia's Steiert in the tenth. Thankfully, we saved ourselves in the eleventh, with a cross center inturn takeout to leave Philly a freeze to the four foot. Steiert missed, and we didn't have to throw.

Peter and Jean Murphy and Mike and Linda Foster made a good showing as well, going on to become runners up in the second event.

Kay Sugahara and Herb MacIntosh offered Warm Room playby-play commentary for the finals.



The First Event win was Kim's first ever as a skip, and Davis' first ever-ever. This was also the first time a St. Andrew's team has won the Golden Handle in the tournament's 27 year history.

#### Between A Rock And A Hard Place

(continued from page 4)

defensively and deciding when to change from one to the other), but, after you have picked your poison, there is usually only one best shot. Since most strategy at Ardsley is learned though experience, each skip has his own idea of what's "best". The problem is that your opponents don't know strategy any better than you so following them ain't going to teach you nothing. It's the blind leading the blind. That's why, four broom grabbers around here got four opinions as to best shot. Only by careful study can you learn good strategy.

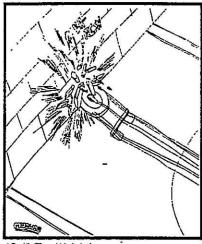


Excuse me, but are you quite finished? I did not know you would monopolize the rest of the article but as you seemed to have a germ of an idea in that foggy mind behind that shaggy beard, Iletyougo. Your statement about the best curlers not having practiced much at front end is probably true and has a bearing on one weakness of a four skip team — but your strategy argument seems a bit flawed.

hard, ex-CON (mumbling to himself):

Guess that proves my point.

Besom 'n Stane



(Golf) Tee Weight!

#### Ladies Curling

(continued from p.6)

Steinemann in the search for a new President, Vice President and Second Vice President in 1993–1994. They will consider Thursday Night ladies as well as Ardwicks.

Current President Nadja McKay has a year left on her term. VP Heather Kenny will not be able to continue, due to outside responsibilities; 2nd VP and Games Chairman Carol Meszaros is moving to North Carolina as soon as she can sell her house. Jean Glus and Marion Cowles are willing to remain in their current positions as Treasurer and Secretary, respectively.

#### And speaking of women curling...

Did anyone other than Kim Freeman notice that Chris Bertchie—as either skip or coskip of a team of three men each year in the open format competitive league—has been in the finals of the First Event each of the last three years? She didn't!



# United States Senior Men's Bonspiel

The Ardsley Curling Club was represented, sort of, at the United States Senior Men's Bonspiel, held February 18-21 on 11 sheets at the Wausau (not Warsaw), Medford and Stevens Point, WI Curling Clubs. Kay Sugahara played vice on the team representing the Houston, TX Curling Club, where he is also is a member. The Houston skip was Al Gemmell — the father of Dean Gemmell who curled here last year with his then fiancee (now wife), Dorothy Kelly - with George Dallen at second and Garth Phillips at lead.

Even though seventy-two teams were entered, the stalwarts from down South claim they could have won the championship. Unfortunately, this became rather difficult after they lost their first game in the single elimination tournament to the 1991 Champion on a great outside hit and roll into the four-foot. Houston won their next four games but lost in the semis - after being two up coming home - to the eventual winner of the second event, the Gene Johnson quartet from someplace called Virginia-Lenont, MN. The Second Event was tough in that each game was played against a team which had just lost its first game somewhere along in the First Event.

The winner of the Championship was the Milt Zastrow team from Madison, WI which edged

Elgie Noble of Poynette, WI after Noble jammed his last takeout onto another stone. A clean takeout would have given the crown to the Poynette team.

Ardsley's previous representatives from two years ago were well remembered and were encouraged to have another go at the title. This bonspiel, although a large one, can be won by almost anyone who gets hot at the right time and — with ten events—there is a good chance to win something. So, if you have the time, try to go. It's nice to play against guys who get as tired as you do during the game and go to bed as early as you do at night—and want to!

House Calls is published monthly by the Curling Clubs of Westchester

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All questions or comments should be addressed to the editor at (212)243-5914

or placed in an envelope marked House Calls on the bulletin board in the Warm Room.

#### The Thinking Curler

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The same is true for the outturn except that the handle is held steady at 2 o'clock until the release. If the turn is put on during the forward swing, at the time of release, the tendency is to "flip it" (pushing wide with the fingers) on the inturn or "backhand it" wide on the outturn. If the final release is past 12 o'clock for either turn, the result is "turning it over" with the shot ending up narrow.

Small things to think about but hopefully they will help some new curlers hit the broom more often and throw the right weight consistently.

#### Canada Sweeps Worlds

(continued from p.9)

Incidentally, Behnke is the cousin of Warren Brooke, who taught many of us when he came down here as part of the T-U Curling School team.

A curler who learned all he knows — well, some of what he knows — well, at least he curled with us - at Ardsley threw third rocks for the 3-6 Germans. Bernhard Mayr, of Ardsley and Stuttgart, played vice for the German men's team skipped by Wolfgang Burba, and curled 62 percent. The scoring at Geneva was, however, notoriously bad and some excellent performances were rewarded with low marks — so maybe our Bernie didn't do so badly.



