

Camaraderie and
Competition—On Ice

Curling

By M. Stannard Doyle

A kilted piper leads tartan-clad curling contestants down the ice, heralding the final events of the Third Annual New York International Bonspiel. The four-day weekend was hosted jointly by the Ardsley, Mahopac and New York Caledonian Curling Clubs at the Ardsley Country Club and St. Andrews Golf Club in Westchester County. Playing under rules codified in 1838 by the Scottish Royal Caledonian Club, 21 "rinks" (4 man teams) from the United States and Canada competed in a strenuous, nonstop schedule of matches.

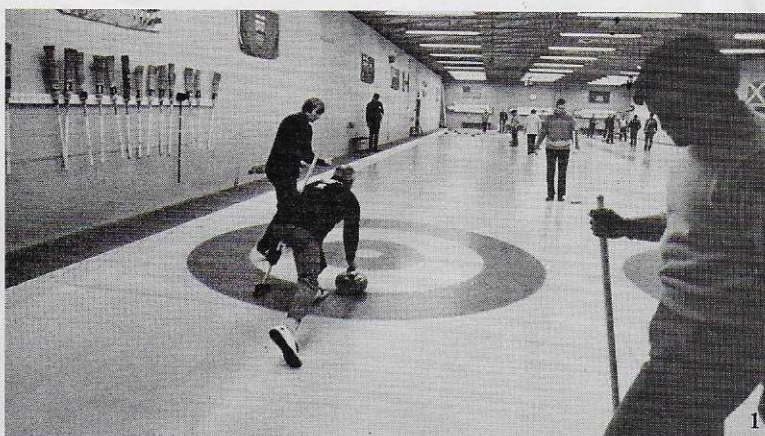
From November through March, the 34 clubs in the Northeast affiliated with the Grand National Curling Club gather for invitational interclub contests known as "bonspiels." Founded in 1867, the Grand National members are men, women and juniors numbering nearly 3,500. This winter way of life for many families requires minimal equipment—warm clothes, rubber-soled shoes, a broom and a 42-pound gray granite spheroid stone with handle. In the United States, separate structures have been built on the grounds of country clubs to house the 138-foot-long, 14-foot-wide sheets of ice, specially pebbled and groomed, used exclusively for curling.

Time-honored traditions prevail for this ancient and totally amateur sport. Every game begins and ends with a handclasp, and the raised broom signals a good shot. Age—on either end of the scale—is no barrier to participation in this unique game.

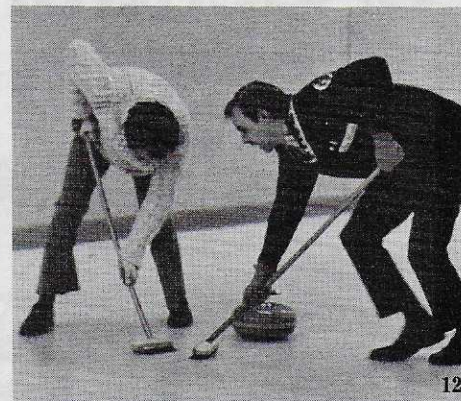
Believed to have begun on the frozen ponds of Scotland in the 16th century, the sport has been played in the United States since 1831. According to Donald G. McKay, past president of the United States Curling Association, there are an estimated 20,000 active enthusiasts across this country. In spite of the fact that curling is one of Canada's most widely played sports (with 750,000 players), the United States team won the World Curling Championship in Winnipeg in 1978. This year's Silver Broom World Championship will be held March 26 to April 1 in Bern, Switzerland.

For the devoted cult of congenial curlers, winter weekends are warm indeed. □

(For a list of curling clubs in the Northeast see page 24)



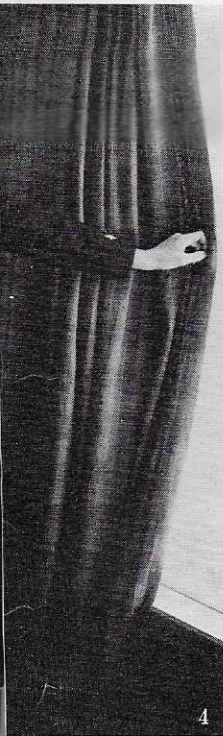
Photographs by
Barbara Campbell



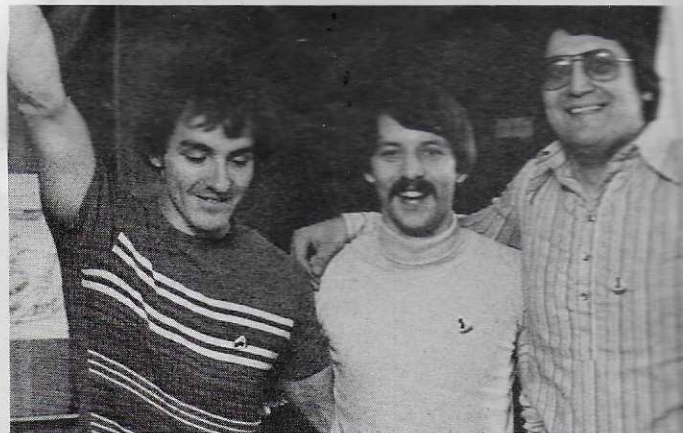
1. "Skip" (strategist) delivers last stone of the "end" (inning) toward target 138 feet forward
2. William Switzer and Mark Stuart vigorously sweep with straw brooms, moving stone further toward bullseye.
3. Donald McKay, past president of the United States Curling Association, and Per Hedley, congenial opponents.
4. In traditional dress tartan, John Chalmers of the Stamford Kiltie Band awaits opening ceremonies of final events.
5. Per Hedley of the Nutmeg Curling Club displays expert form preparing to release stone.
6. Big Apple event winners, the Montreal Caledonians: Andre Marchand, Denis Marchand (skip), Michel Villeneuve and Richard Leonard. Prizes are of great importance and little intrinsic value.
7. Edward C. Childs, Norfolk, Connecticut Curling Club, relaxes at the fireplace of the Ardsley Curling Club "warm room."
8. Scottish origins are evoked as piper leads six finalist "rinks" down the ice to ceremonially open the final day of competition.
9. Martin Connell of St. Andrews awaits his turn.
10. Young Tim Kelley of the Hudson Valley Junior Curlers.
11. Skip Edward C. Childs watches the slide of his stone.
12. John Timm and Steve Hunter of Mahopac sweep with push brooms to speed delivery of stone.
13. Raccoon-clad Philip Trenbath of St. Andrews; Ann Trenbath, Donald Dunn, St. Andrews; Jacques Artel and Tod Duncanson, New York Caledonian, exemplify the customary conviviality.
14. Skip Alex Reddin holds broom to indicate position for teammate.
15. Edward Doonan, president of the Ardsley Curling Club, Maitland Griggs, Anthony Caputo, general bonspiel chairman, and William Switzer celebrate the conclusion of a winning weekend.



1



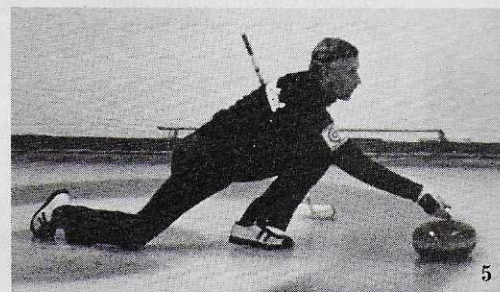
4



2



3



5



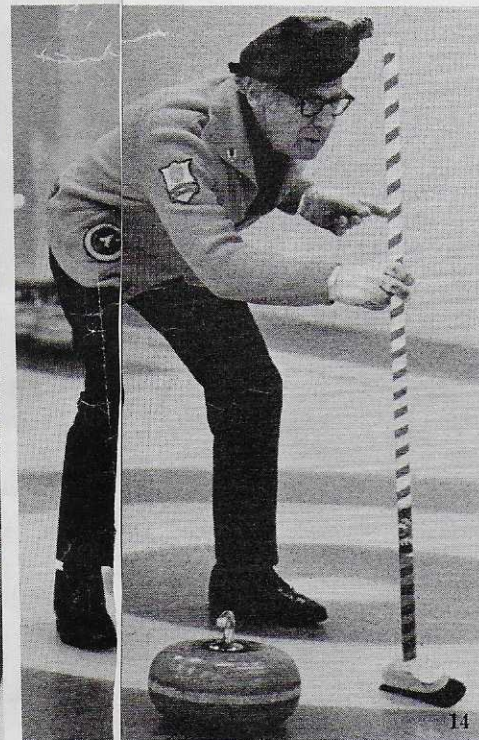
3 4



8



10



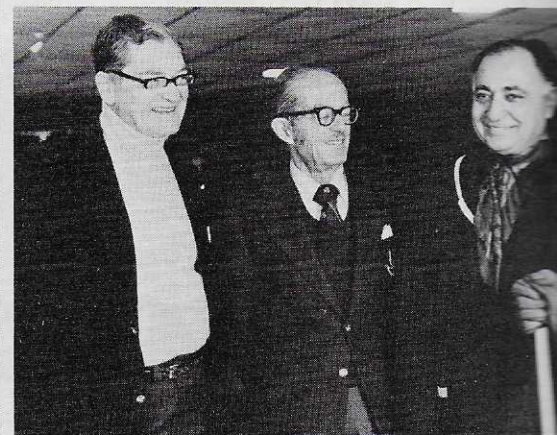
14



11



13



Incomparable.

The Breakers in Palm Beach.

Unmatched elegance. Superb dining. Impeccable service. Two challenging 18-hole golf courses. Twelve tennis courts. A private beach at your doorstep. The beauty of Palm Beach.

The Breakers is, indeed, incomparable.

The Breakers

Palm Beach, Florida 33480
305/655-6611



Mexico/Central & South America

See everything with Four Winds!

Trace the Maya through Guatemala into the Yucatan. See Acapulco's cliff divers. Machu Picchu—"lost city of the Incas," and the Caribbean's great Barrier Reef. Marvel at Tikal. Enjoy archaeology and ancient cultures in surroundings of tropical beauty. Visit Mexico City . . . Panama's San Blas Islands . . . mighty Iguassu Falls . . . Cozumel . . . Uxmal . . . Rio. Four Winds offers the best of all of them in six fabulous holidays, 15 to 23 days.

Deluxe travel all the way

Fully escorted. Inclusive price covers best hotels, meals, finest land arrangements and transportation, sightseeing, entertainment, tips and baggage handling. Limited-size groups. Money-saving group fares via Pan Am.

- Mexico Extravagante—15 days
- Yucatan Expedition—15 days
- Charms of Guatemala—10 days
- Central America—23 days
- Around South America—21 days



Four Winds®

175 Fifth Avenue, New York, N.Y. 10010
Phone: 212-777-0260 Dept. C305-L

Please send me your full-color Mexico/Central & South America brochure.

Name _____
Address _____
City _____ State _____ Zip _____

CURLING

(Continued from page 22)

Member Clubs of the Grand National Curling Club of America

- Albany Curling Club (N.Y.)
- Amherst Curling Club (Williamsville, N.Y.)
- Ardsey Curling Club (N.Y.)
- Beaver Dam Winter Sports Club (Locust Valley, N.Y.)
- Belfast Curling Club (Me.)
- Boston Curling Club (Mass.)
- BraeBurn Country Club (West Newton, Mass.)
- Canadian Club of Boston
- The Canadian Club of N.Y.
- Cape Cod Curling Club (Falmouth, Mass.)
- Glocester Curling Club (R.I.)
- Granite Curling Club (Hollis, N.H.)
- Heritage Curling Club (Southbury, Conn.)
- Hershey Country Club (Hershey, Pa.)
- Kenan Curlers (Lockport, N.Y.)
- Mahopac Curling Club (N.Y.)
- Nashua Country Club (N.H.)
- N.Y. Caledonian Curling Club (est. 1855 Hastings on Hudson, N.Y.)
- Norfolk Curling Club (Conn.)
- Nutmeg Curling Club (Darien, Conn.)
- Petersham Curling Club (Athol, Mass.)
- Philadelphia Curling Club (Wayne, Pa.)
- Plainfield Curling Club (N.J.)
- Potomac Curling Club (Alexandria, Va.)
- Rochester Curling Club (N.Y.)
- St. Andrews Golf Club (Hastings on Hudson, N.Y.)
- Schenectady Curling Club (N.Y.)
- The Country Club (Brookline, Mass.)
- Union College Curling Club (Schenectady, N.Y.)
- Utica Curling Club (N.Y.)
- Wellesley Curling Club (Wayland, Mass.)
- Westerly Curling Club (R.I.)
- Weston Curling Club (Wayland, Mass.)
- Winchester Curling Club (Mass.)

Reprinted with permission of President Arthur E. Hamm, Stone Haven Drive, Athol, Mass. 01331.



Hudson Valley Junior Curlers Kate Doyle and Julia Shirk enter Ardsley Curling Club.

BARBARA CAMPBELL