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VOLUME 6 EDITION 8 THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 21, 2019

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY MATTHIEU MEIER

Keith Muzychka, left, and Jaxsen Dery of Spruce Sands were enjoying the beautiful temperatures and great snow conditions over the weekend.

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THERE'S A NEW BOSS IN TOWN



Learning how to card wool the old-time way

By Teresa Carey

People can take a step back in time this month at the Arborg & District Heritage Village and learn a once-vital skill — that of wool carding.

Jeannine Martens, who lives north of Arborg, is facilitating the three-evening series "Wool Carding the Old Time Way." A half-dozen people attended the first session, held on Feb. 12.

"Your shoulders will get sore tonight, but a hot shower and some A535 will help," Martens warned at the beginning of the class.

Participants were each given a pile of cleaned sheep wool and a set of special wool carding brushes. They were quickly put to work after being shown the basics.

The evening was spent carding the bits of wool into small flat squares, which were then carefully removed from the hand carding brushes and placed onto the large roller brush on the electric carding machine. Once smoothed out over the big brush, large bats, which measure approximately two feet by two feet, were removed and layered between newspaper and set aside on a pile.

The long process of carding took all of the first class and part of the second. The group carded enough wool to make a queen-size comforter. The next step for participants will be to assemble the bats of wool onto cotton or linen fabric. Participants will get to sit around a quilting frame and test their skills in hand-quilting during the next classes. Martens will later do the finishing touches by making an outer cover of cotton.

The completed comforter is to be raffled off, with proceeds going toward the Arborg & District Heritage Village. Tickets will be available at the Arborg Pharmacy, the Heritage Village hall and the Interlake Co-op.

The cost of this workshop is \$10 per person. It is being held over three Tuesdays, on Feb. 12, 19 and 26 from 7 to 9 p.m. and may be offered again at a later date. Anyone can drop in on any session.

Other workshops on the horizon include those on spinning and weaving. Contact the Arborg & District Heritage Village for more information.

Interesting facts about wool:

- Even when wool is wet, it is able to keep an even heat.
- Wool can be carded and re-carded for hundreds of years, and once it can no longer be carded, it can be felted by washing it in hot water, followed by drying it in a hot dryer and repeating until it is densely matted.
- Felted wool has been used for many things: shoes, to insulate equipment, and even as pacifiers for infants.
- Felted wool is extremely strong and does not pull apart.
- The longest strands of wool are considered to be of better quality and are used for spinning.



EXPRESS PHOTOS BY TERESA CAREY

Participants were each given a pile of cleaned sheep wool for carding.

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Bezan pleased with funding for local municipalities

Submitted

James Bezan, Member of Parliament for Selkirk-Interlake-Eastman, was pleased by new funding announced for the communities of Pinawa, Gimli and Alexander. Over \$100,000 in funding went to keep our local municipalities thriving.

"I wish to congratulate the Pinawa, Gimli and Alexander on securing funding from the Government of Canada and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities. The Green Mu-

nicipal Fund and Municipal Asset Management Program continue to provide excellent support to our local towns and rural municipalities.

"The Local Government District of Pinawa and the Rural Municipality (RM) of Gimli each received \$50,000 for the purchase of their asset management programs. These systems will be used to further develop the inventory of local assets and plan for future maintenance and upgrades in a more efficient manner.

"The RM of Alexander also received \$28,000 to enable great improvements to be made to their asset management system that is already in progress.

"I am happy to see the ongoing support from the Federation of Canadian Municipalities for our local communities. Their partnerships help keep rural Manitoba infrastructure maintained and our small towns and rural municipalities thriving."



James Bezan

Vikings edged in own tourney



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ROGER NEWMAN

The Niverville Clippers turned out to be the nemesis for the Gimli Viking midget team in their own eight-team weekend tournament this past weekend. The Vikings won three of four games in the round robin with a single loss to Niverville before the Clippers beat them 4-3 in a hard fought final. Gimli, however, had a winning team of volunteers in the public address and sound booth. They were, left to right, Alison Price, Tyler Olivier, Caylin Riddle and a young helper.

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Teachers recognized during Teacher Appreciation Week



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED
Arborg's Krista Borgfjord

By Ty Dilello

Teacher Appreciation Week in Manitoba was celebrated Feb. 12-18.

It's a time to highlight and celebrate the wonderful influence that Manitoba teachers have on school children's lives. Everyone remembers those certain teachers that played a

vital role in their life, helping them choose a career or discover a passion. Those teachers are still in classrooms doing the same for your children or grandchildren. And Teacher Appreciation Week is just the kind of thing our province needs to celebrate these awesome teachers and staff.

"Next to parents and guardians, teachers have a tremendous influence on children's lives," says Manitoba Teachers' Society president Norm Gould.

"Think about it: the relationship between parents and teachers is what drives the success of public schools in Manitoba. I'd like to thank the parents of public-school children across the province for trusting us to educate their children. And I'm so very proud of our over 15,000 MTS members who teach, guide and inspire those students every day."

Going across the Interlake, looking for teachers that best exemplify what it means to have a wonderful influence, Laura Perrella, principal of Warren Collegiate, says that, "Honestly, you could walk down the hall and choose any one of our staff members. In a small school, so many people go above and beyond. You have to, to make it work. Lee Stewart is a great choice. She started our bike repair

course and coaches track, curling and cross-country. She started the ice fishing trip and is a great role model with all of her personal health choices. My first year here, she volunteered many preps to join a gym class to encourage the females to participate. She has some really great conversations with students about how to be the best person they can be."

Stewart loves teaching in Warren and it's been a lifelong passion for her.

She says, "Teaching in a small rural high school has its challenges. You always worry that students will feel limited with fewer programs and choose to leave. One of the great things about the school I work in is how hard the staff works to make sure our students are successful. We have students who have gone on to accomplish some pretty great things."

Stewart goes on to say, "When you work with young people, it's all about creating productive and healthy relationships. Parents need to know that the job of a teacher does not end at 3:30 p.m. every day. It's hours of preparation and marking. It's time away from our own families to coach, to put on drama productions, and to make possible so many co-curricular activities that enhance the school climate. Good teachers know the benefits

of connecting with kids outside the classroom and they volunteer hours of extra time."

At Arborg Collegiate, Krista Borgfjord teaches math, ELA and is a resource teacher. She coaches the school's curling team and recently co-ordinated the boys curling zones. She's also the assistant principal, heads up the social justice group and is one of the school's grad leaders.

"In a small school, we need staff that wear many hats and are giving of their own time to be able to offer the number and quality of curricular and extra-curricular programs that we do. Krista Borgfjord exemplifies a teacher that goes above and beyond to ensure our students have as many opportunities as possible," says Randy Semenek, principal of Arborg Collegiate.

"To celebrate teacher appreciation week, we will be bringing in some treats to show our staff how much we care about them and how much we appreciate everything they do."

Teacher Appreciation Week may be over now, but it doesn't mean that the appreciation has to stop. The next time you're in contact with a school staffer, thank them for their services. It's a great gesture and one that goes a long way.

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EXPRESS PHOTO BY JO-ANNE PROCTER

Red squirrels do not hibernate. They grow a thicker coat of fur and construct well-insulated nests in tree cavities (or in homes or buildings). When a squirrel comes out in winter, it's only to grab a meal from its cache of nuts or seeds, buried close at hand. In nice weather they might come out to bask in the sun a bit and perhaps forage in the tree tops for buds, but they only come out during the warmest part of the day and they keep their activity to a minimum. Through a combination of preparation (food caching, fat storage, and nest construction) and conservation (reducing activity and avoiding bad weather), red squirrels can survive our long, cold winters.

Gimli MLA venturing into new political territory

By Roger Newman

Jeff Wharton is leaving but he's staying too.

Wharton, the Gimli MLA and also Manitoba's Municipal Relations minister, has been selected by the Progressive Conservatives to run in the new Red River North Constituency in the 2020 provincial election.

He'll be moving politically across Lake Winnipeg because the Manitoba Electoral Boundaries Commission has re-carved the names and boundaries of more than a dozen of the province's 57 constituencies. But he'll continue living in his adopted home town of Winnipeg Beach, where four generations of the Wharton family have had a presence since the late 1920s.

While he could be excused for having mixed emotions, Wharton is greeting the new electoral opportunity to serve the voters of Red River North on the east side of the lake. The new constituency starts in East St. Paul and follows the eastern shoreline through East Selkirk and St. Clements municipality to Grand Beach.

The former Gimli constituency, meanwhile, has been re-named Interlake Gimli and adds area to the west now served by Interlake Conservative MLA Derek Johnson who will run in this revamped constituency in 2020.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Gimli MLA Jeff Wharton has been selected by the Progressive Conservatives to run in the new Red River North Constituency in the 2020 provincial election. Jeff and his wife Mickey Wharton have been long-time volunteers in the Winnipeg Beach community.

Victoria Beach is now part of the Lac Du Bonnet constituency.

Wharton, for his part, says he welcomes the challenge of running in

Red River North.

"Red River and Gimli are very similar constituencies in many ways," the minister said while noting that all 57

Manitoba constituencies now have been equalized at between 21,000 and 22,000 voters.

"The two constituencies have a lot in common because they are both in cottage country running along the side of the lake."

Still, there must be some tugs at the heartstring because Wharton and his wife Mickey have been dedicated community volunteers since they settled in Winnipeg Beach. The current municipal relations minister grew up in Winnipeg and he and Mickey owned and operated Globe Moving and Storage Ltd. in the big city from 1989 until they sold it in 2010.

Jeff Wharton then became a management consultant and entered provincial politics to expand a career in public office that started when he served as a Winnipeg Beach Town councillor and deputy mayor. He was elected as an MLA in 2016 and became a cabinet minister a year later.

He and Mickey have been enthusiastic community volunteers, working for such organizations as the Lakeside Lions Club and Evergreen Basic Needs. So it's almost certain they'll remain deeply involved in Winnipeg Beach and nearby family, which includes two daughters and three grandchildren.

The World Day of Prayer: a long-standing tradition continues

Submitted by Ingrid Roed

The World Day of Prayer is celebrated annually around the world on the first Friday in March.

This practice grew out of a movement that began in the United States and Canada in the 19th century. Christian women from various denominations were concerned about issues affecting the well-being of women and children, and they set up mission boards to address these concerns. They also prayed for the work of these missions, designating special days or even weeks to do so. In the 1920s, these efforts led to the creation of an inter-denominational worship service. A specific day was designated for this service and called "The World Day of Prayer."

Each year the service features a different country and is prepared by a committee of women from that country. This year's featured country is Slovenia, a small nation of

only two million people. Formerly a part of communist Yugoslavia, Slovenia declared its independence in 1991.

In Canada, the World Day of Prayer is organized and co-ordinated by the Women's Inter-Church Council of Canada (WICC.org). Offerings collected from services across the country go to support various social justice projects both at home and abroad, such as a maternal and child health project in Guatemala, a support program for families dealing with AIDS in Kenya, and many others.

Gimli has six churches that work together to organize the

annual service, rotating the location each year. This year, the service will be held at Gimli Lutheran Church, on Friday, March 1 at 11:30 a.m. All are welcome.

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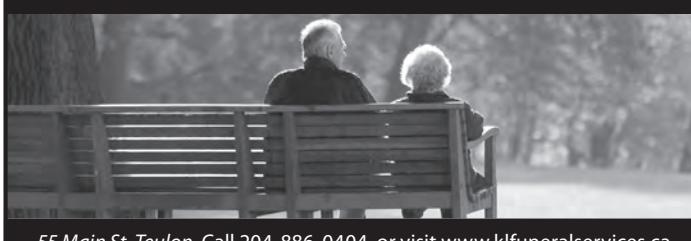
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Metis First Time Home Purchase Program announced

Submitted by MMF

The Manitoba Metis Federation (MMF) is pleased to announce the launch of the Metis First Time Home Purchase Program this spring.

This program gives Métis citizens living in Manitoba an opportunity at homeownership. Pride of ownership means that the hardworking Métis citizens who cannot afford to save a down payment can now reclaim their rightful place in this province as land owners.

A head start was included in the Manitoba Act, 1870, which promised "a portion of such ungranted lands, to the extent of one million four hundred thousand acres." This promise was broken and left unfulfilled for generations.

"Today many of our hardworking Métis families, who descend from the would-be beneficiaries of the broken promise, can't even afford the down

payment on their home," said MMF president David Chartrand. "Often times they pay more for rent than the cost of a mortgage, but they don't have the ability to save for a down payment. They work hard with little hope of home ownership."

The program will officially roll out this spring under the management and administration of the Louis Riel Capital Corporation. The program provides funding for down payments for Métis citizens on their first home purchase to a maximum of or \$15,000 plus closing costs up to \$2,500.

The program will assist approximately 400 Métis families this year.

"This program is only going to grow. This investment represents a small percentage of the Manitoba Métis community's total contribution to the provincial economy," said Chartrand.

This program means an estimated \$80 million in mortgages and an ad-

ditional \$9 million added to the local economy through closing costs and maintenance: \$7 million comes from the one-time costs of CMHC insurance, home inspections, land transfer taxes and realtor commissions. An additional \$2 million includes ongoing annual costs such as insurance premiums, annual property taxes and maintenance of the home.

"The Métis were promised land. Instead, our ancestors were dispossessed of their land. We are righting that wrong and giving our citizens an opportunity at home ownership in the province that the Manitoba Métis created. Through the Metis First Time Home Purchase Program, the MMF has revived that head start for our citizens. Home ownership is more than a purchase; it is a promise of security for today and for our future."

letter to the editor

Local voices, local choices campaign

It all comes down to what is best for students, families and communities. This is the important focus that mustn't be lost in the coming weeks and months as the recently appointed commissioners prepare to start the long-awaited provincial review on K-12 education in Manitoba. As the only level of government that has been elected with the singular mandate of ensuring that community perspective and the voices of individual Manitobans are reflected in the delivery of public education in our province, locally elected school

boards stand ready to work with the government to ensure that this review maintains that focus.

Whether you look at the public schools located in the core of our most densely populated urban centres or those found in our smallest rural and remote communities, there is one constant: schools are at the heart of communities, and are direct reflections of the people they serve. Schools meet community needs not because of centralized decision-making that paints entire populations or regions with

the same brush, but because of programs that are tailored to respond to those specific needs. And school boards are the vehicle that allows this to happen.

Manitoba's public school boards are confident that the provincial review on K-12 education will be successful as long as these important facts are respected.

However, the success of the review on K-12 education depends entirely on the extent to which Manitobans engage in the process and under-

Continued on page 7

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Fishing trips lead to all kinds of mishaps

Good day my friends, I hope all your fishing exploits lately have been enjoyable.

For some of our angling brothers who are about to share their fishing stories with us, perhaps "ouch," "water logged" and "what else can go wrong" begins to describe their experiences.

It was a cold overcast day early last week when I visited Jason Werechuk and his dad Paul from Winnipeg in their portable ice shack on the Red River ice at Breezy Point. Jason, who was of average build with bushy grey hair and a constant well meaning half smile, was the more talkative and soon after introductions imparted a shocking incident when they were setting up to fish not long ago. Jason was anxious to get on with it and had one short rod wedged between his hip and the arm of his chair with its end high by his face. Turning to get bait for his second rod, his first rod was disturbed and its hook flew up through his nostril piercing down to the inside of his lip! Purely by instinct Jason grabbed and twisted the barb less hook from his face! Stalwart fisher that he was, he wiped the blood away, got his baited hooks in the water and preceded to fish!

A few days later off Warner Road by Chalet Beach I met Greg Agnew of Oak Bank, a stocky guy with a white goatee who punctuated every story he told with raucous laughter. While

his partner Stefan Hammerback, a tall athletic guy with chiseled facial features checked their sleds, Greg told of a time some summers ago he and a friend went fishing just east of the Manitoba border in Deception Lake. His buddy had a tiny boat spotted at the lake. To get there however they had to walk in a couple of kilometers from the road carrying an old small two horse motor and all their gear. When they got to the beached boat they had to whittle a water plug for the boat from a soft green willow branch. With the bright sun high in the sky on a wonderful afternoon Greg and his friend loaded the little boat and shoved off for some fishing. Almost instantly Greg felt a hard pull on his line. He tightened his reel to no drag as the fish began to slowly tow the boat from shore. The guys kind of lost it and put the tiny motor in reverse to beach the dingy. It worked long enough for them to make shallow water. They jumped overboard just as the underside of the boat hit a huge rock tipping it and popping their makeshift boat water plug out. The fish tore Greg's rod from his hands! Water bubbled up into the little craft from the boat drain and cascaded over one side into the boat hung up and listing sideways on the rock. Meanwhile the little motor kept on idling in reverse kicking up a lovely spray causing the boat to side off the rock as their fishing gear floated out of the half sub-

merged dingy. It took the rest of the day to beach and drain the boat, wade about collecting their gear, drying themselves and make camp for the night. Almost at sunset they climbed back in the dingy and went searching for Greg's rod. They found it lodged in a fallen tree in the water with a giant jackfish still hooked on. The guys slipped into the water getting wet yet again to release it whereupon the fish gave them a good farewell splashing before it slowly swam away.

Last weekend I ran into a chap by the name of Warner Dueck from Kleefeld on the ice off Balsam Bay who had an even more trying fishing experience. A few weeks ago Warner and a friend headed out from Balsam Bay to his ice shack a mile or so out. It didn't take long for the guys to realize the snow was too deep and they were going to get stuck. They turned around and went home for their sleds. With the sleds loaded, they were about to pull out of Warners' yard and were upset to see the trailer lights weren't working. It was mid-morning so off they went back to Balsam. In Balsam Bay's ice parking lot they climbed onto their sleds to unload them only to discover the starter pull rope on his friend's sled was broken. What to do! They "Googled" it! Fueled with new knowledge given, they wrapped a rope around the sleds clutch and started the machine. They made for Warners' shack and were dismayed



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Warner Dueck with one of his catches off Balsam Bay.

to see three foot snowdrifts around it when they got there. They pounded for an hour with crowbars to free the shack skids from the ice and another hour to tow it from the snowdrifts. Triumphant, they opened the shack door only to discover that the towing had dislodged the roof from the walls! They spent the rest of the day fixing the shack, never mind getting in any fishing! Oh, the joys of angling!

Till next week, bye for now. Till next week. Bye for now.

> LETTER, FROM PG. 6

stand the potential impacts of the "everything is on the table" approach endorsed by Minister Goertzen. It is difficult to understand why school board amalgamation is being considered in this environment of fiscal austerity. The Frontier Centre for Public Policy, a conservative think tank based in Western Canada, reported that the last round of forced school board amalgamations in the early 2000s not only failed to save money as promised by the government of the day but actually cost taxpayers money, while at the same time eroding community voice.

Manitoba's school boards are integral to the grassroots, day-to-day delivery of public education in this province. They are advocates working

on Manitobans' behalf to respond to the extraordinary challenges faced by students and staff in their own communities. Mental health supports, resources to combat substance abuse, and breakfast programs to ensure children can start their school day ready to learn may not be traditional school responsibilities, but they are critical to student success and well-being. Alternative language studies preserve the culture and traditions of local school communities. Community partnerships in fine arts enrich students' educational experiences, while athletic programs thrive as a result of partnerships between school boards and municipalities in the form of Joint Use and Community Use of Schools agreements. These are just some of the ways school boards work to serve their communities, and they do it all

for about a half-cent of every dollar spent on public education in Manitoba.

By building on existing solid relationships with our provincial government, municipal and education partners, the Manitoba School Boards Association looks forward to the dialogue that will undoubtedly take place both at the provincial and local levels throughout the review, about how important the voices of individual Manitobans are in the delivery of public education in our province.

We have seen countless examples of Manitobans engaging with their local school boards in the context of our Local Voices, Local Choices campaign. The response has been very encouraging as we continue to push forward with our message on protecting the foundations of our democracy, pro-

viding fiscally responsible leadership of our \$2.5 billion education system, and ensuring that we as Manitobans never lose sight of the fact that schools belong to communities.

As we approach the school division budget development period in February, many Manitobans will have already received or can expect an invitation from their local school board to engage with them in the annual process of in-depth budget consultation. It is imperative that Manitobans talk to their local school boards on the future of public education in their communities.

Visit www.mbschoolboards.ca to learn more.

Alan M. Campbell, President
Manitoba School Boards
Association

Gimli Ice Festival honours Canada's Indigenous people

By Roger Newman

Peter and Susan Holfeuer love winter.

That's why the Aspen Park husband and wife team are co-chairs for the eighth annual Gimli Ice Festival which runs the weekend of March 2 and 3 on the Lake Winnipeg ice and venues throughout the downtown district.

The Holfeuers, major festival players since the beginning, have assembled a team of more than 150 volunteers to run this year's ever-growing festival. There's a theme each time and this year the festival has chosen "Celebrating Indigenous culture" to be emphasized during the two-day program.

"We've been able to develop the theme with the help of the Riverton and District Friendship Centre and its executive director, Tanis Grimolfson," said Susan Holfeuer.

The tribute to Indigenous culture will be reflected in one of the festival's major events — the Saturday variety entertainment night, which runs from 7:30 to 11 p.m. in the Lakeview Resort. The entertainers will include the Ivan Flett dance group, shawl dancer Kelly Chirchilke, hoop dancer Rylee Sandberg and Inuit throat singer Nikki Komaksiutiksak.



This year's festival honours Canada's indigenous people.

There will also be children's story telling by elder Ruth Christie Saturday at 11 a.m. at the New Iceland Heritage Museum (NIHM) followed by more story telling and a dream catcher workshop Sunday at 10:15 a.m. also at the museum. NIHM will be a busy place all weekend as there will be both Saturday and Sunday screenings of *A Song for John Ramsay*, a film about



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

The construction crew for the igloo honouring Canada's indigenous people was constructed by, left to right, Don Bilinski, Dylan Furgala, Clint Kennedy, Stan Bilinski and Halli Jonasson.

the Riverton-Sandy Bar Indigenous hero who was of great assistance to the Icelandic settlers.

Another film to be shown at the festival is *Run As One* to be screened Saturday at 2:45 p.m. at the A-Spire Theatre on 2nd Avenue. Directed by Erika Daniels, it tells the story of 10 young Manitoba Indigenous athletes

who ran the 1967 Pan-Am Games torch from Minneapolis to the opening ceremonies at Winnipeg stadium. On arrival, they were sent across the street to watch the ceremonies on TV in a diner and in the film they meet 50 years later to discuss the disappoint-

Continued on page 9

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> GIMLI ICE FESTIVAL, FROM PG. 8

ment and injustice they faced at the end of their journey.

Bannock and tea on an open fire will be a happier occasion on both days near the harbour bandstand and festival-goers can inspect a nearby igloo. It was built for the festival by a crew composed of Don Bilinski, Dylan Fur-gala, Clint Kennedy, Stan Bilinski and Halli Jonasson.

Upbeat too will be The Freeze Outdoor Art Exhibit featuring the Northern Lights. Its assembly was led by Gimli High School art teacher, festival volunteer Kristine Dubois, and will be found near the visitor centre by the harbour. Not far away will be Gimli icemaker Travis Toomey's "Inuksiuk" exhibit, a beacon that guides Inuit people to their destinations.

That's just a start because roughly 4,000 spectators will be able to sample several new festival events plus a variety of tried and true attractions. For example, Fire on Ice car racing Saturday and Sunday will be combined on both days this year with Ice Man motorcycle racing demonstrations. For people who like to go a little slower, there will be sno-bear vehicle rides too.

"Our festival is also spreading further into Gimli's downtown area instead of mainly being a harbour-front attraction," Susan Holfeuer said.

An example of this is Sons of Lugh

Live Viking combat which will be featured in early afternoon both days on 2nd Avenue near the Gimli Theatre. The Viking re-enactors will also portray village life at the same location Sunday at 10 a.m. and there will be a pancake breakfast on the same morning at the Gimli Rec Centre.

Among tried and true events will be the Frozen T-shirt competition Sunday at 2 p.m. near the harbour. There's always a big crowd to see the contestants bash the ice from their T-shirts and see who will be first to get one of the shirts over their shoulders. Other novel events will include a polar games team competition with four different events and the frozen fish toss on Saturday and Sunday mornings near the Gimli Theatre.

Children, meanwhile, will be entertained by several events in a program that has something for everybody. Besides the story telling, there will be kids' fun time ice fishing and family fun activities at the Gimli Art Club on both days plus Cooley's indoor playground at the Waterfront Centre from 11:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Sunday.

RM of Gimli Coun. Peter Holfeuer said the festival owes a debt of gratitude to its volunteers and a long list of generous sponsors.

"Without them, there would be no festival," Susan Holfeuer said.



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Gimli blood clinic enjoys strong local support

By Roger Newman

Gimli donors have more than met expectations of the Canadian Blood Services, which held a collection clinic

on Feb. 12 at the Lakeview Resort hotel on First Avenue.

"We had a strong turnout collecting 77 donations compared to the 72 we



EXPRESS PHOTO BY ROGER NEWMAN

Supporting Gimli's Canadian Blood Services donation clinic on Feb. 12 were, left to right, Gimli Coun. Richard Petrowski, Noventis Credit Union executive Nic Mundey, Gimli recreation director Tyler Yellowega, East Interlake Community Futures economic development analyst Eugene Zalevich and Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg. Their presence was appreciated by blood services Manitoba manager Steve Raizen (third from right).

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project for our Gimli visits," said Steve Raizen, Manitoba territory manager for the non-profit national service that distributes blood to hospitals in every province except Quebec, which has its own blood collection agency.

The Winnipeg-based Raizen rolled into Gimli with the service's mobile donation centre and 13 staff who extract blood from volunteer donors. Gimli is visited four times a year as one of the service's regular stops in 29 of Manitoba's rural communities.

The territory manager encountered familiar faces on his latest Gimli visit. One belonged to Gimli resident Eugene Zalevich, the Community Futures East Interlake economic development analyst, who has donated blood more than 40 times. Others on hand to donate blood or support the mobile clinic were Gimli Coun. Richard Petrowski, Gimli parks and rec-

reation manager Tyler Yellowega, and Noventis Credit Union's Nic Mundey.

Gimli Mayor Lynn Greenberg, who was also on hand, has agreed to adopt the local mobile donor centre and encourage his citizens to make appointments to give blood.

"By adopting a donor centre, mayors like Lynn Greenberg can make a difference in the lives of patients in need," Raizen said.

The blood services manager appreciates the RM of Gimli's support and is looking forward to the mobile clinic's next Gimli visit scheduled for Tuesday, May 14 from 3 to 7 p.m. at the Lakeview Resort.

"Gimli has a very dedicated donor base," said Raizen, adding that more information can be obtained at www.blood.ca and donation appointments can be booked at 1-888-2-Donate.

Plight of butterflies portrayed in NIHM exhibit

By Roger Newman

The colourful and somewhat perilous life of the monarch butterfly is depicted in a new exhibition at Gimli's New Iceland Heritage Museum and will be on display from Feb. 15 to May 1.

The exhibit *On the Trail of the Monarch Butterfly* is composed of material assembled by Mexican pilot and filmmaker Francisco Gutierrez, whose goal is to raise awareness of the importance of preserving the butterflies' habitat. Gutierrez took off from Montreal in his ultralight aircraft and

followed monarch butterflies on their 6,000-kilometre migration from Canada to the central Mexico mountains. He took breathtaking photographs for the exhibition produced by the Canadian Aviation and Space Museum and the Mexican Embassy. The exhibit also includes a 60-minute movie documentary *Papalotzin*, which means small butterfly in the Aztec language and is the nickname of the Gutierrez plane. There are also educational and crafts activities that draw attention to the threat to monarch butterflies.



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

On the Trail of the Monarch Butterfly exhibition from the Canada Aviation and Space Museum will be on display at the New Iceland Heritage Museum from Feb. 15 to May 1.

Tasteful inspiration for homes and gardens

By Jennifer McFee

If you're trying to create a beautiful space in your home or garden, the endeavour doesn't have to be complicated or costly.

This is the sage advice of interior designer Cecilia Turner, who recently launched a website called My Tasteful Space to share ideas and tips for easy-to-achieve home décor.

"I want to create an online community that helps everybody who follows me. I want to help them to find beauty in every corner of their home or garden," said Turner, a Stonewall resident.

"You don't have to break the bank to have a beautiful space around you. It's just whatever makes you happy. You can take the things you have in your home and put them together and repurpose them in a different way, finding a more creative way to display your things."

Turner is writing weekly blog posts, and she is also sharing ideas through daily posts to Facebook, Instagram and other social media sites.

"The blogs are more on the practical side because everywhere you look, there's always that image of a perfect beautiful home. They're everywhere, and they create a feeling of 'Where do I start? Where do I get the money to do that? Where do I get the time?' I'm an interior designer and I can't even fathom having a house like that," she said.

"It's unrealistic and it's eye candy that very few people can achieve or look after. I don't want to give the eye candy. I just want to give a practical approach to your home. That's the biggest difference with My Tasteful Space — I just really want to keep it very real."

For 13 years, Turner worked as a professional interior designer at two different architectural firms in the city. She quit her job a year and a half ago



Compositions can be made with items collected during travels.



Cecilia Turner shares easy steps to make a terrarium.



Floating bookshelves add a splash of colour to brighten up walls.



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

My Tasteful Space provides tips on how to decorate your environment with things you already have — without breaking the bank.

to focus more on her family. She and her husband have two children, nine-year-old Nicholas and six-year-old Gaia, as well as a puppy named Rufus.

"I took a year to decompress and then I started thinking about other venues for interior design because it's always stayed with me," she said.

"I just changed what I was doing before in commercial interiors and construction work to take a more residential approach with My Tasteful Space."

Some people have asked Turner if she'd be willing to be a consultant for their projects, but she's not currently interested in going that route.

"Right now, I'm really working on

developing the brand and growing the followers. Then eventually I'd like to collaborate and partner up with existing businesses to support them in their sales and work as an affiliate," she said.

"Basically, I'm hoping to inspire people with new ideas and tips with a practical component of home décor and interior design."

To get a taste of the tips, visit My Tasteful Space at www.mytastefulspace.com or search for My Tasteful Space on Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest and Instagram.

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Checking in on Paul Meger

By Ty Dilello

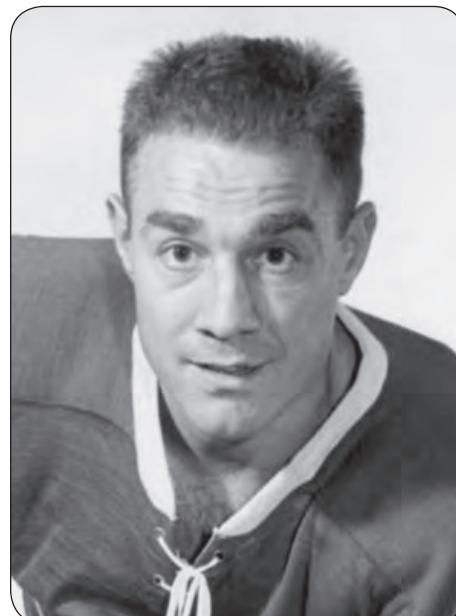
Just two members of the 1952-53 Stanley Cup champion Montreal Canadiens are still with us today. On a fabled team riddled with Hockey Hall of Famers such as Maurice Richard, Jacques Plante, Elmer Lach, Doug Harvey, Dickie Moore, Bernie Geoffrion, Tom Johnson, Butch Bouchard and Bert Olmstead, we are left with only Paul Masnick and Selkirk-raised Paul Meger.

Paul Meger was born in Watrous, Sask., on Feb. 17, 1929. When he was seven years old, his family packed up and moved to an area just north of Selkirk called St. Peters in 1937. It was here that Meger began skating and playing hockey on the Red River while attending Hoey East School. His mother later recalled that he made his own hockey sticks at that time from branches he cut in the bush. After a few years in St. Peters, his family moved into the town of Selkirk in a house at 310 Dufferin Ave.

Older folks that can remember those days might recall "The Selkirk Comet," Paul Meger playing left-wing for the Selkirk Fishermen intermediate team that won the Manitoba provincial championship in 1944-45. It was while playing for Selkirk that Meger was scouted by legendary junior coach Hap Emms who coaxed him into joining a powerhouse Barrie Flyers club in Ontario.

While playing three seasons for Barrie, Meger matured as a hockey player enough that the Montreal Canadiens were liking what they saw and bought his rights. Meger turned pro with the AHL's Buffalo Bisons for the 1949-50 season and won the Dudley Garrett Memorial Trophy as the AHL's outstanding rookie. Meger made his debut for Montreal during the 1950 Stanley Cup playoffs. Joining the Montreal Canadiens, Meger became the first Selkirk hockey player to play regularly in the National Hockey League since the days of Paul Goodman tending goal for the Chicago Blackhawks in 1939.

In a letter Meger penned back to



Paul Meger

a friend in Selkirk when he made the NHL, he wrote, "I've met a lot of people since I left Selkirk but my best friends are the boys with whom I started my career and the fans at Selkirk. I'm very lucky to be playing with the Canadiens."

Paul had a younger brother that kept playing in Selkirk after he left town and he still has family in the area today.

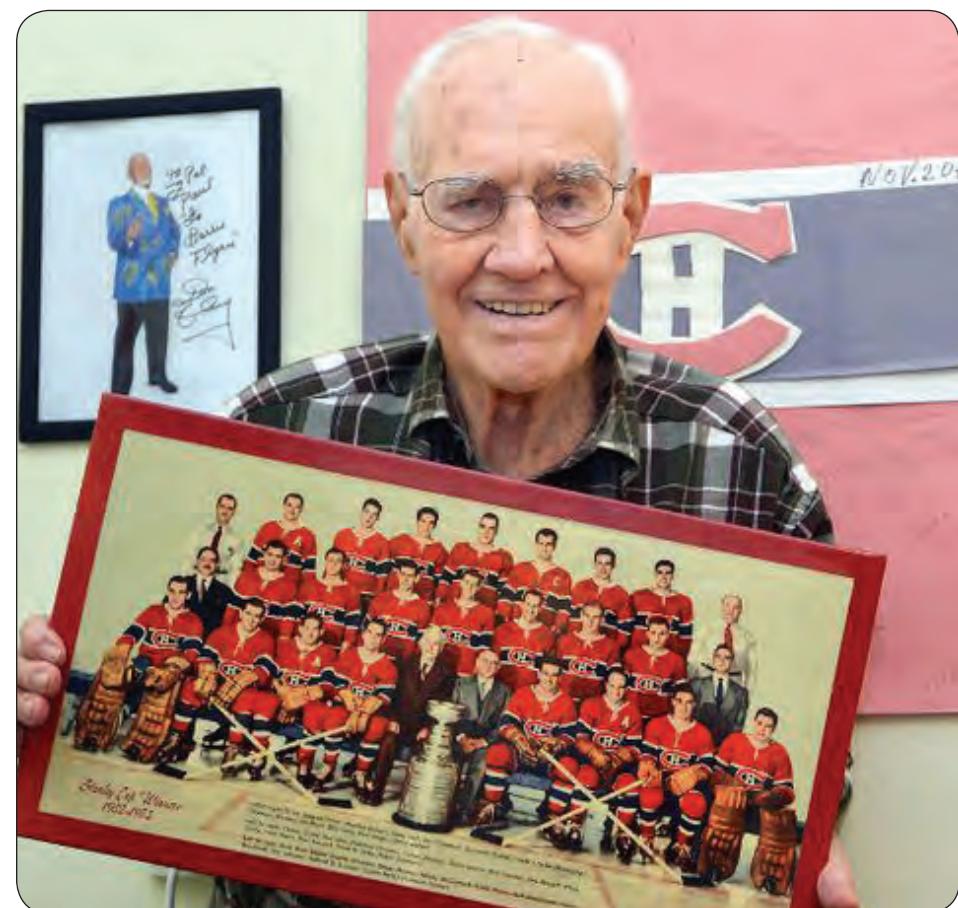
Meger's NHL career was highlighted by winning the 1953 Stanley Cup with the Canadiens.

"That was my highlight above everything else," Meger says, "I still have my Stanley Cup ring and I'll cherish that forever."

Over a six-season career with the Montreal Canadiens from 1949 to 1955, Meger played in 247 games and scored 102 points.

Meger's career and almost life was ended as a result of a tragic accident on the ice when his brain was torn open by Leo Labine's skate in Boston on Nov. 7, 1954.

"I remember it as if it happened yesterday," Meger recalls. "Labine was coming out of his own end and I started to check him between his blueline and centre ice. He fell on my stick and pulled me down. His skate pierced my skull above my right ear. I had



EXPRESS PHOTOS SUBMITTED

Meger's NHL career was highlighted by winning the 1953 Stanley Cup with the Montreal Canadiens.

always been taught to hold onto my stick. Maybe if I had let it go that time, nothing would have happened. Anyway, I got a penalty on the play, and when I felt the blood gushing, I went to the Boston dressing room where I was stitched. We went back to Montreal that night. My head was swollen in the morning, and the pain was really intense. Later in the day I was admitted to the hospital, and it was exactly one day short of a year before I got out."

After his second operation, Paul's wife, Betty, was told he wouldn't live more than a year, if that long. But Meger pulled through and at 89 years old he is still around telling stories from the glory days of the Montreal Canadiens.

After he hung up his skates, Meger became an electrician in Barrie and has been there ever since. Much of his family stayed in Selkirk and he would make an effort to come home every now and then to visit with his family and old friends. He would still go skating occasionally in the winter

months and got into becoming an avid golfer during the summertime.

How was Meger treated by the Canadiens after his accident?

"Let me put it this way. When I played for Montreal, Dick Irvin, our coach, asked us to give 100 per cent during the regular season and 110 per cent in the playoffs," said Meger.

"The Canadiens treated me 110 per cent all the way. They paid all of my hospital bills and my wife's travelling expenses. In addition to fulfilling my contract and giving me a playoff split the season I was hurt, the Canadiens sent me a weekly check for a year after I got out of the hospital."

When the season ended, the team voted on giving him a full split of the playoff bonus money. Meger has always cherished his teammates for that and is proud that he holds the Canadiens flag as one of the last living-members of that historic 1953 Stanley Cup team.

get inspired

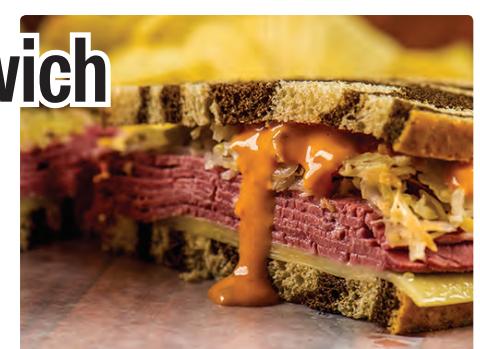
> MEAL IDEA

Makes 4 sandwiches
1 pound Boar's Head
Sauerkraut
2 tablespoons thousand
island dressing

8 slices of pumpernickel or dark rye bread
1 pound Boar's Head Corned Beef, sliced thin
4 slices Boar's Head Premium Swiss Cheese
Softened butter
Drain, but do not rinse, the sauerkraut and
combine with thousand island dressing. Top
four halves of the bread with the sauerkraut

Classic Reuben Sandwich

mixture, then 4 ounces of corned beef, followed by 4 ounces of Swiss cheese. Close with a second slice of bread. Spread the top and bottom of the sandwich with soft butter. Grill on both sides until warmed through and the cheese melts. Serve hot.



sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Steelers strong on 'D' in recent games

By Brian Bowman

The Selkirk Steelers have played some real good defensive hockey in recent games.

And they have been rewarded for their efforts.

Selkirk has earned five out of a possible six points in its past three games after defeating the Neepawa Natives 2-0 in front of a good-sized crowd of 627 on Louis Riel Day at the Rec Complex.

Nate Halvorsen opened the game's scoring with his team-leading 31st goal of the season on the power play at 9:06 of the first period.

Blake Burr then made it 2-0 with his eighth of the campaign at 9:32 of the third. The goal came just after Selkirk killed off a partial 5-on-3 power play by Neepawa.

Zachary Bennett made 23 saves for the shutout. At the other end, Neepawa goalie Kolby Thornton faced 53 Selkirk shots.

Selkirk has now allowed just five goals in its past four games.

Winning in Winkler

On Friday, Selkirk defeated the Winkler Flyers 3-1 as Bennett made 25 saves for the victory.

Connor Barley gave Selkirk a 1-0 first-period lead and then Steelers' defenceman Colby Jaquet made it 2-0 with a power-play goal at 3:30 of the second.

Winkler's Jesse Korytko cut that lead in half late

in the middle frame but Selkirk's Wayde Johannesson added an empty-net goal with 1:28 remaining in regulation time to seal the victory.

Nipped by Pistons

On Feb. 12, the Steelers were nipped 3-2 in overtime by the Steinbach Pistons.

The Pistons' Troy Williams tied the score at 2-2 with just 21 seconds remaining in the third period and then Tanner Mole netted the game-winner in OT.

Selkirk's Noah Basarab and Steinbach's Max Neill traded first-period goals and then Jaquet scored the lone goal in the second.

Levi Mitchell made 25 saves in the loss.

The Steelers now have a 30-18-3 record and 66 points to sit in fifth place in the 11-team league. Selkirk, just two points behind the fourth-place Virden Oil Capitals with two games in hand, has already clinched a playoff spot.

Selkirk hosted the Winnipeg Blues this past Tuesday but no score was available at press time.

The Steelers will play the Pistons on Friday (7:30 p.m.) and then will resume a game against the Swan Valley Stampeders on Sunday (3 p.m.) that was suspended earlier this season.

The game is tied at 3-3 with 1:20 remaining in the second period.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY BRETT MITCHELL

Selkirk Steelers' defenceman Wayde Johannesson of Arnes flies past a Neepawa player during MJHL action this past Monday at the Rec Complex. Selkirk won the game 2-0.

Selkirk will then host Winkler next Tuesday (7:30 p.m.).

All of those games will be played at the Rec Complex.

Bantam Lightning zapped by Caps in OT

Staff

The Interlake Lightning Bantam "AAA" hockey team wrapped up their regular season with a tough 4-3 overtime loss to the Central Plains Capitals last Saturday in Stonewall.

Carson Buyden scored the game winner in OT.

The Capitals' Asher Moorhouse had tied the score at 3-3 at 12:11 of the third period.

Interlake took a well-deserved 2-0 first-period lead with goals from Peyton Bateman and Aiden Miller. The Lightning outshot the Capitals 15-2 in the opening period.

Central Plains came out flying in the second, though, as Buyden and Carson Dubois (on the power play) tied the score at 2-2 just 3:43 into the

period.

The Lightning regained the lead when Hayden Wheddon tallied at 18:25 of the middle frame.

Interlake hosted an RCMP travelling team this past Monday in Stonewall. The game was in support of the Kinsmen Splash Pad.

The Lightning compiled a 13-18-0-5 regular-season record which was good for fourth place in the five-team league.

In Midget U17 Prep action, Interlake finished its regular season with a road game this past Tuesday against the Winnipeg Hawks at the Maples Multiplex.

The Lightning placed sixth in their seventh-team league.

Provincial Midget Lightning lose pair of weekend games

By Brian Bowman

It was a rough weekend for the Interlake Lightning Midget Provincial hockey team.

Interlake lost both Manitoba AAA Midget Hockey League games while getting outscored 12-1.

The Lightning was blanked 8-0 by the Southwest Cougars on Sunday in Teulon.

Southwest scored four goals in the first period, added another in the second, and then chipped in three more in the third.

Cody Gudnason (two), Callum Fortin (two), Landon Roberts, Cory King, Matthew Ramsey and Tyson Pringle scored for Southwest.

Interlake goaltender Josh Bond was peppered with 64 shots, including a whopping 28 in the first period.

At the other end, Cougars' goalie Randy Cooke made 23 saves for the shutout.

On Saturday evening, Interlake was defeated 4-1 at home by the Parkland Rangers.

Parkland's first three goals of the game were scored on the power play by Jayden Jubenvill, Warren Jubenvill and Frederick Ledoux.

DJ Taylor-Luke made it 4-0 at 17:56 of the third but Interlake's Greg Paseschnikoff answered with a goal just eight seconds later. Cadrick Dueck assisted on Paseschnikoff's goal.

Parkland was 3-for-9 with the man advantage while the Interlake was blanked in seven opportunities.

Interlake will host the first-place Winnipeg Wild this Wednesday at 7:45 p.m. and then will wrap up its season with a pair of road games this weekend against the last-place Norman Northstars in Thompson.

Those games will be played Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and Sunday (1:30 p.m.).

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

Wildcats oust Lightning from MFMHL playoffs

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning gave the Westman Wildcats a bit of a scare in their Manitoba Female Midget Hockey League playoff series.

Interlake pushed Westman to four games in their opening-round, best-of-five series before losing 4-0 on Monday in Stonewall.

"They seemed to have more legs than we did (on Monday)," said Lightning head coach Dean Rebeck. "We were down to four 'D', which didn't help. I know we were a little exhausted and didn't have much gas left in the tank."

"It was a combination of things but the girls gave everything that they had."

Interlake forced a Game 4 after a very good effort in a solid 2-1 road win over Westman in Hartney on Sunday.

The Wildcats are a tough team to beat on home ice.

"I think the girls really came together and rallied the past two weeks in terms of coming together as a team," Rebeck said. "Hats off to them for the intensity and discipline and ef-

fort they gave to defeat the first-place team in their own building."

Erin York and Ally Rakowski scored for the Lightning while Jori Hansen-Young replied with a second-period goal for the Wildcats.

Rylyn Loepky earned the win in goal for the Lightning.

Game 2 of the series saw Westman edge the Interlake 2-1 in Stonewall.

"The second game could have gone either way," Rebeck said. "The second game is probably the turning point (in the series)."

Taylor Kristjanson scored a first-period goal for the Lightning. Gillian Gervin and Ali O'Hara replied with second-period markers for the Wildcats.

Westman started the series with a 6-2 home win over the Interlake on Feb. 12.

The Wildcats, which held period leads of 2-1 and 3-2, received a four-goal effort from Paige Hubbard and singles by Charly Lindberg and O'Hara.

Rakowski and Brenna Barylski scored for the Lightning.



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Lightning's Brenna Barylski, second from right, scored in Game 1 of the playoffs against the Westman Wildcats. Interlake pushed Westman to four games in their opening-round, best-of-five series before losing 4-0 on Monday in Stonewall.

West St. Paul's Derek Samagalski drops mixed doubles final

By Ty Dilello

A great run to the final of the 2019 CurlManitoba Mixed Doubles Provincials for West St. Paul's Derek Samagalski and Kate Cameron fell just short as they lost in an extra end to the Kyle Kurz/Melissa Gordon pairing of the Assiniboine Memorial 9-6 in an extra-end.

Just a week removed from winning his fourth Viterra Championship, Samagalski paired up with Kate Cameron and had a great week before losing the final. Both teams will advance to the Canadian championship next month in Fredericton, N.B., as Kurz/Gordon will wear the Manitoba jackets while Samagalski/Cameron will get in based on their high CTRS ranking. Before he heads to the Mixed Doubles nationals, Samagalski will be throwing second stones for the Mike McEwen as Team Manitoba at the 2019 Tim Hortons Brier in Brandon

this March.

The provincial final at the Deer Lodge Curling Club in Winnipeg saw the Samagalski/Cameron tandem go up against Gordon/Kurz of the Assiniboine Memorial in a back-and-forth affair. Holding the last-rock advantage to start, Samagalski/Cameron opened with a first-end deuce. Kurz/Gordon replied with a deuce of their own, followed by a steal to take 3-2 lead. Samagalski/Cameron answered with a deuce, followed by a steal of their own to take a 5-3 lead. Not to be outdone, Kurz/Gordon scored a deuce in six, followed by a steal in seven to take a 6-5 advantage headed to the last end. In the final end, Samagalski/Cameron could only muster a single point to force an extra end, but Kurz/Gordon would score three in the extra end to win the title.

The Samagalski/Cameron tandem came into the final undefeated, win-

ning five straight games, including a decisive 7-6 extra end win over Morgan Reimer and Brendan Bilawka of East St. Paul. Kyle Kurz and Melissa Gordon of the Assiniboine Memorial reached the final by defeating siblings Brett and Meghan Walter 6-4 in the semi-final.

East St. Paul's Kyle Doering and Ashley Groff were the top seed coming in to the event but fell Monday morning in the quarterfinals to the Walter siblings 7-5, giving up consecutive steals to lose.

"Curling's a game of inches and we just fell a little short in the end," says Doering.

"The ice was a struggle to say the least but you can't win them all. We tried to give up a steal in seven so they couldn't use their powerplay in eight, but it didn't work out in the end. We had a shot to win, but unfortunately knocked them in for the steal."

It was a difficult weekend for the Winnipeg Beach pairing of Josh Maisey and Cassidy Otto as they dropped all three of their games in disappointing fashion. Gimli's Rebecca Lamb and Lyndon Walker were also in tough as they too lost all three games during the event. Stonewall's Kennedy Bird and Lisa McLeod had a solid tournament winning four games and losing three, with their last loss being a C-Qualifier that would have put them in the playoffs.

The 2019 Mixed Doubles Manitoba Provincials saw a record 30 teams entered. The game is quickly taking off in popularity, with mixed doubles leagues operating at most curling clubs now across the province as it is now an Olympic sport. Expect the mixed doubles game to continue to take off in the coming years to come as we carry on towards the next Olympic cycle.

sports & recreation

INSIDE > OUTSIDE > UPSIDE DOWN

First-place Fishermen run over local teams in CRJHL

By Brian Bowman

The Capital Region Junior Hockey League has boasted all season long about the parity in its first-year league. And that's true — for the most part.

Four of the five teams in the league are separated by just five points, with three of them in a logjam for second place with 40 points apiece.

But that's where the parity ends.

The Selkirk Fishermen continue to run away with top spot in the CRJHL after a convincing 9-3 win over the Lundar Falcons on Sunday afternoon at the Rec Complex.

Selkirk's Reece Tessier had a great game with two goals and three assists while Travis Spratt also scored twice and had two assists.

Fishermen forward Juliano Garcea finished the game with a goal and two assists while Chad King and Dawson Courchene each chipped in with a goal and a helper.

Kaden Kotowich and Thomas Mironuk also scored for Selkirk. Nico Morrow-Litke and Kyle Melo had two assists apiece.

Three of Selkirk's goals came via the power play in seven chances.

Jayden Allary, Drake Zimmerman and Brandon Abraham scored third-period goals for Lundar. Braden Paulic continued his recent strong play for the Falcons with two assists.

On Saturday, Lundar lost 5-3 to the

Ice Dawgs in Arborg.

Arborg trailed 3-2 midway in the third but scored three unanswered goals in a 6:03 span for the comeback win.

Colton Davies led Arborg with two goals and two assists while Bryce Good also tallied twice.

Karson Collins scored Arborg's other goal.

Allary, Eric Miller and Riley Wirgau replied for Lundar.

Paulic finished the game with two assists and now has seven goals and 20 points in 21 games this season.

Tre Strachan made 39 saves for the win.

Lundar will visit Selkirk again this Saturday (7:30 p.m.) and then will host the St. Malo Warriors on Sunday (6 p.m.).

Last Friday, the Ice Dawgs lost 9-4 to Selkirk as the Fishermen snapped a 4-4 third-period tie with five unanswered goals in a 15:14 span.

Ben Kelly led Selkirk with two goals and two assists while Dane Derewianchuk also scored twice and added an assist. Courchene also had a three-point game with a goal and two helpers.

Tessier, Josh Poponick, Garcea and Chase Barkley also scored for the Fishermen.

Karson Collins, Theoren Sumner, Carl Ingalls and Easton Donohoe re-



EXPRESS PHOTO BY LANA MEIER

The Ice Dawgs' Dylan Furgala had two assists against the Selkirk Fishermen last Friday. Selkirk won the game 9-4.

plied for the Ice Dawgs.

Arborg's Dylan Furgala, Brett Monroe and Ryan Hill each had two assists in the game.

The Ice Dawgs are currently in a three-way tie for second place with the North Winnipeg Satelites and St.

Malo Warriors. Lundar is close behind with 35 points heading into this week's action.

Arborg will host North Winnipeg on Friday and then will play the Warriors in St. Malo on Saturday.

Puck drop for both games is 7:30 p.m.

MJHL to host another U.S. player identification camp

From the MJHL website

The Manitoba Junior Hockey League and The Hockey Academy at Ralph Engelstad Arena have announced that the MJHL will once again hold a U.S. Player Identification Camp in Grand Forks, N.D., from April 5 to 7.

Representatives from the league office and all 11 MJHL franchises will be on site to scout United States' hockey players with birth dates in 2000, 2001 and 2002 that have the potential to play in the Canadian Junior Hockey League system.

"The 2019 MJHL Identification Camp at the Ralph Engelstad Arena will provide the next generation of American MJHL players with the

knowledge and resources to be successful both on, and off, the ice," said Kevin Saurette, the MJHL director of operations.

"(They will also get) an insight into what playing in the MJHL is all about and the platform to showcase themselves to coaches and scouts from all 11 MJHL organizations."

The on-ice program will consist of testing and competitive-game sessions. The off-ice portion will cover elements related to athleticism and mental skills, as well as identifying what is required to be a successful MJHL player.

The camp will begin Friday evening with a MJHL Prospects Information

Seminar and on-ice combine testing utilizing the SportTesting Inc. technology platform. Testing results will be made available to all the athletes so they can comparably see where they stand and to allow for further player development benefits.

The players will also participate in three full-game sessions scouted by MJHL coaches and scouts and an informative Hot Stove session.

"This is a great opportunity for American players to get exposure to a top Junior 'A' hockey league so they can continue their playing careers and, hopefully, make it to the next level," said Kyle Kosior, the director of hockey operations at The Hockey

Academy.

Many of the participants at the MJHL U.S. Player Identification Camp will come from North Dakota and Minnesota, but it is expected that players will also travel from other parts of the country.

The camp will be an invite-only event with registration opening last Friday.

For more information about the MJHL and/or participation at the 2019 MJHL U.S. Player Identification Camp, visit www.mjhlhockey.ca or email kylek@theralph.com.

Interlake Lightning impressive at Bantam 'AAA' Female Showcase

By Brian Bowman

The Interlake Lightning had a great weekend at Hockey Manitoba's Bantam "AAA" Female Showcase last weekend at the Bell MTS Iceplex.

Interlake finished with a 2-2 record and took home the Sami Jo Small Cup Champions Trophy.

"I'm very pleased with them," said Lightning head coach Charlene Bodnarchuk. "For the Interlake and my team with their record this year, I'm very proud of them."

Interlake wrapped up play Sunday with a solid 3-1 win over the Northeast Predators.

"It was a character win," Bodnarchuk said. "It wasn't the team that was firing against Westman but the girls did everything that we asked them to do when they're struggling. They

thought the game through smarter, they beared down, (got the puck) over the blueline and got it down deep."

The Lightning's Kenady Christensen scored a first-period goal and then she made it 2-0 in the second.

"She has definitely led the way and is our captain," Bodnarchuk said. "She puts the puck in the back of the net and she is a great captain. (Sunday), when we were struggling to score, she sort of took the scoring on her back and she did it herself, which was great when we're struggling to get pucks to the net."

Northeast's Glory Plett cut that lead in half early in the third but the Lightning Brooke Wedge replied with a goal just over four minutes later.

Katelyn Dorsch was very good in goal, making 26 saves.

"(She) played a fantastic game in net," Bodnarchuk praised. "She was lights out all weekend."

Interlake started action with a 9-2 loss to the Parkland Rangers. Parkland led 1-0 after the first period and 3-0 in the third before exploding for six goals in the final frame.

Interlake's Brooke Barylski and Christensen scored goals just 2:10 apart early in the third.

The Lightning rebounded nicely from that loss to shut out the Westman South Wildcats 2-0 on Saturday morning.

"That was, by far, the best game our team has played all year," Bodnarchuk said. "The backchecking alone, I've never seen a team work so hard on a backcheck. Any time Westman thought they had a breakaway ... there

was at least five Lightning players coming back."

Interlake's Emerson McAuley scored a second-period power-play goal and then Tessa Stuart tallied in the third.

Dorsch made 36 saves for the win.

Interlake was then defeated 5-1 by the St. Vital Victorias on Saturday evening.

St. Vital, which held period leads of 1-0 and 2-0, outscored the Interlake 3-1 in the third.

Daryn Bremnar scored the Lightning's lone goal at 17:46 of the third period.

Natasha Lative (two), Norah Collins (two) and Mika Morand replied for St. Vital.

Hitting a MJHL milestone



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

Winnipeg Blues' assistant captain Griffin Chwaliboga, far right, received recognition from his club for playing in his 250th regular-season game in the Manitoba Junior Hockey League.

The game took place in Winnipeg last Friday against Chwaliboga's previous team, the Neepawa Natives.

Also pictured, are Blues' head coach Billy Keane, far left, and Chwaliboga family members Cheryl, Ethan, Kiera, and Tom.

Riverton Eagles win Beausejour Atom 'C' Winter Challenge



EXPRESS PHOTO SUBMITTED

The Riverton Eagles won the 2019 Beausejour Atom 'C' Winter Challenge after defeating Lorette 8-3 in the gold-medal game. Pictured, back row: Jason Johannesson, Tyler Sigurdson, Mike Johnson and Lloyd Roche. Third row: Ashlynn Sigurdson, Simon Mitchell, Brycen Johannesson, Tavyn Sigurdson, Payton Mowatt, Madden Mowatt and Levi Johnson. Second row: Hudson Charrier, Jake Selkirk, Kristofer Asmundsson and Darren Mitchell. In the front is Tristan Klatt.

Staff

The Riverton Eagles won the 2019 Beausejour Atom "C" Winter Challenge after defeating Lorette 8-3 in the gold-medal game.

Madden Mowatt scored four goals for Riverton while Tavyn Sigurdson had a hat trick. Jake Selkirk scored the Eagles' other goal.

Rhett Huntley replied twice for Lo-

rette while Noah Cantin also tallied.

In the playoffs, Riverton defeated Morden 11-2 while Lorette edged Beausejour 5-4 to reach the final.

Riverton went undefeated in Pool "A" at the tournament, soundly defeating the Beausejour Blades 12-0, Lord Selkirk 9-0, and Springfield Grey 8-1.

Heartbreak for Einarson at the Scotties

By Ty Dilello

It was a long-trip to the east-coast for just one game for Gimli's Kerri Einarson and it ended in heartbreak.

After reaching the Scotties final just one year ago, Einarson fell Friday night in the Wild-Card game in Sydney, N.S., to Alberta's Casey Scheidegger 7-6.

It's quite the pressure-cooker for a one-game do-or-die playoff to see who earns the right into the Scotties Tournament of Hearts. For Alberta's Casey Scheidegger, it was a struggle just getting out of their province as they were having airline troubles for most of Tuesday and they only finally arrived in Sydney on Thursday with just less than a day to prepare for Friday night's encounter.

Both teams early on appeared to be struggling with the ice, but it was Einarson with the 3-1 advantage after four ends. Alberta's Scheidegger capitalized on a few mistakes and scored the game's first deuce in the fifth end, followed by consecutive steals in the next two ends. Einarson rallied to tie the game going into the last end and appeared to have a decent chance for a steal going in the tenth, but after rolling out on her final shot, Einarson left Scheidegger an open draw to the four-foot for the win. Scheidegger made no mistake and put it right on the tee-line, winning the Wild-Card

game and eliminating Einarson from the Scotties before the event even started.

For Einarson, the outcome could have been a little different perhaps if she had her draw-weight, but the Wild-Card game was a rare struggle for her as she curled only 56 per cent on the evening. "I feel like I let my team down — it happens," said Einarson. "The ice was much straighter than we had in practice yesterday but it was great, good speed. I just didn't catch up to it."

East St. Paul's Tracy Fleury is carrying the flag for Team Manitoba this week. Fleury, originally from Sudbury is skipping Einarson's old team of Selena Njegovan, Liz Fyfe and Kristin MacCuish. St. Vital's Jennifer Jones is also at the Scotties representing Team Canada as they are the event's defending champions.

FAVOURITES:

Canada (Jennifer Jones) — The defending champs and one of the more successful teams.

Ontario (Rachel Homan) — Three-time Scotties champs are a favourite in every event they play in and this should be no different.

CONTENDERS:

Alberta (Chelsea Carey) — Carey has had a hot-and-cold year so far, but after winning the Alberta Scotties in convincing fashion, they appear to be

peaking at the right time and could make a run here.

Manitoba (Tracy Fleury) — Three members of this team appeared in last year's Scotties final, so it would not be a surprise at all to see Manitoba in the playoffs.

Wildcard (Casey Scheidegger) — After winning the wildcard game in thrilling fashion over Gimli's Kerri Einarson, Scheidegger's rink.

DARK HORSE:

Northern Ontario (Krista McCarville) — McCarville's rink doesn't play a full schedule throughout the year like the other top teams, but don't be fooled, Krista is a top-class shooter and can carry her team to the final weekend if need be.

Saskatchewan (Robyn Silvernagle) — After a strong year on the WCT circuit, Silvernagle won her first Saskatchewan Scotties in January. With veteran Stefanie Lawton at third, expect this team to be in playoff contention.

THE FIELD:

British Columbia (Sarah Wark) — The 33-year-old native of Winnipeg, Sarah Wark is now living in British Columbia and is playing in her maiden Scotties.

Prince Edward Island (Suzanne Birt) — A team with lots of Nationals experience, this is Birt's 10th Scotties, but with just two playoff appearances along the way, don't expect the P.E.I.

rink to be making a deep-run this year.

New Brunswick (Andrea Crawford) — This is Crawford's eighth appearance at the Scotties. She is a skip that can make the big shots and can carry her less experienced squad if need be.

Nova Scotia (Jill Brothers) — With former Scotties finalist Erin Carmody at third, this is another potential dark-horse if they can get hot. If not, it will likely be an early exit to the event.

Quebec (Gabrielle Lavoie) — Lavoie is a junior team that is making their Scotties debut so there may be some early jitters, but this is a rink that you should see plenty of in the future.

Northwest Territories (Kerry Galusha) — The younger sister of Kevin Koe, 2019 marks Galusha's sixteenth Scotties appearance.

Newfoundland and Labrador (Kelli Sharpe) — A first-timer skip at this Scotties, Sharpe is just looking to enjoy the ride and get some close games in.

Yukon (Nicole Baldwin) — Another rink that is just in Sydney for the experience. This is Baldwin's third appearance at the Scotties.

Nunavut (Jenine Bodner) — A wonderful experience getting to play in a Scotties for this rink out of Iqaluit as they hope to grow the sport in their territory.

Arborg hosts 18 ladies teams for annual 'spiel



The Arborg Curling Club held their annual ladies bonspiel this past weekend with 18 teams enjoying a great weekend of fun, curling and camaraderie. A delicious supper was enjoyed by all. First-event winners, from right to left: skip Agnes Furgala, third Nadia Zagozewski, second April Wilson and lead Anna Lea. Their rink defeated Shelly Batenchuk in the final. The second-event winners, from right to left: include skip Jackie Dudar, third Krista Borgfjord, second Corinne Zagozewski and lead Deanna Sewell. They played Cara Peiluck in the final. The third-event winners, from right to left, were skip Tracy Benson, third Bev Barylki and lead Cheryl Johnston. Missing from the photo is Kim Masiak. Their rink beat Taylor Kiesman in the final.

EXPRESS PHOTOS BY DONNA GISLASON

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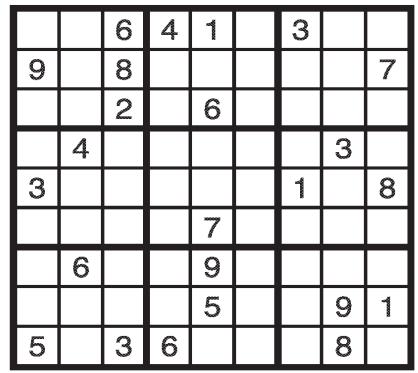
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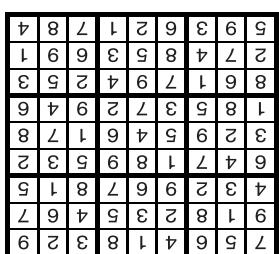


Fun By The Numbers

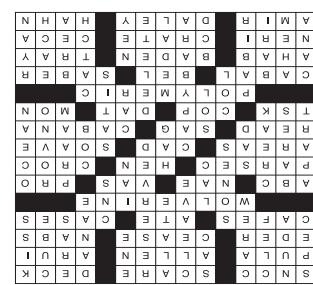
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Sudoku Answer



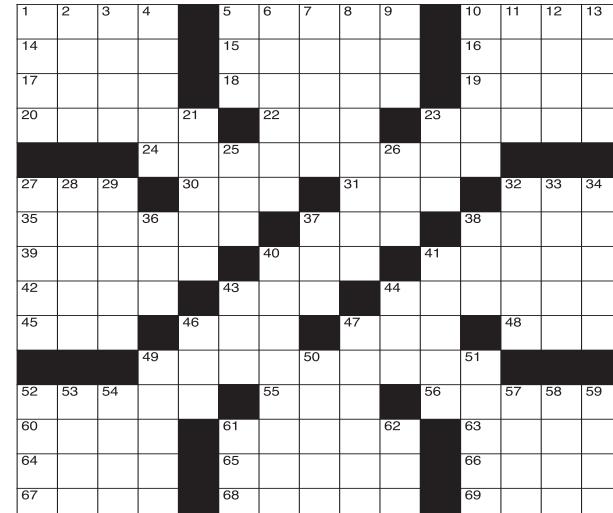
Crossword Answer



CROSSWORD

CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Civil rights organization
- 5. Cause to lose courage
- 10. Outside entertaining area
- 14. Botswana currency
- 15. Comedic Actor Tim
- 16. Barbary sheep
- 17. German river
- 18. Take
- 19. Catches
- 20. Eating houses
- 22. Consumed
- 23. Lawyers try them
- 24. Hugh Jackman character
- 27. Basics
- 30. No (Scottish)
- 31. Duct
- 32. Athlete who plays for pay
- 35. Unit of distance
- 37. Female bird
- 38. Predatory reptile
- 39. Regions
- 40. Dishonorable man
- 41. Dry white Italian wine
- 42. A way to understand
- 43. Actors' organization
- 44. Beach hut
- 45. Disappointment
- 46. Police officer
- 47. Digital audiotape
- 48. Western Thai people
- 49. Of a polymer
- 52. Secret political clique
- 55. Sound unit
- 56. Cavalry sword
- 60. Whale ship captain
- 61. Eastern Austria spa town
- 63. Holds food
- 64. Filippo ___, Saint
- 65. Holds bottles of milk
- 66. Intestinal pouches
- 67. Arab ruler
- 68. Chicago political family
- 69. "Transparent" actress Kathryn
- CLUES DOWN
- 1. Detailed drawing
- 2. Class of comb jellies
- 3. Musical symbol
- 4. Hall of Fame ballplayer Rod
- 5. Pouch
- 6. Split
- 7. Having wings
- 8. Set aside
- 9. Midway between northeast and east
- 10. Daughter of Acrisius
- 11. Periods of time
- 12. Rapper Ice __
- 13. Any of several candies
- 21. Units of loudness
- 23. Central nervous system
- 25. Resinous secretion of insects
- 26. 007's creator
- 27. Separate from
- 28. Exposes to view
- 29. Harsh squeaking sound
- 32. Fishing vessel (Naut.)
- 33. Western Ukrainian city
- 34. The sea
- 36. Unhappy
- 37. Old miserable woman
- 38. Corn comes on it
- 40. Guinea pig-like mammal
- 41. Self-immolation by fire rituals
- 43. Fifth note of a major scale
- 44. Automobile
- 46. Military title (abbr.)
- 47. Expunge
- 49. Chadic language Bura__
- 50. Something you win
- 51. Grab
- 52. Town in Galilee
- 53. Polite interruption sound
- 54. Italian Seaport
- 57. La __ Tar Pits
- 58. "To ___, his own"
- 59. Tom Clancy hero Jack
- 61. These three follow A
- 62. One of Napoleon's generals



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