

Scott settles for 4th at Scotties

O'Rourke sends P.E.I. to first-ever final with win over Ontario

SAULT STE. MARIE, Ont. (CP)—Kathy O'Rourke is taking Prince Edward Island to the final of the Scotties Tournament of Hearts for the first time.

After dropping their page playoff game to Jennifer Jones on Friday, P.E.I. will get another shot at Team Canada today in the championship after defeating Ontario's Krista McCarville 10-6 in Saturday night's semifinal.

In their round robin meeting, O'Rourke defeated Jones 9-5 but lost 8-5 in the page playoff.

"We have a score to settle with (Team Canada) I hope," said O'Rourke. "Hopefully we'll have a good game with them."

O'Rourke called the feeling of moving on amazing and noted that the philosophy all along has been to take things one step at a time.

"We tried to think about throwing one shot at a time out there the whole time," said O'Rourke. "When it was over I think we were in a little bit of shock. We're just happy that P.E.I. is in the final because that's what we were fighting for all week and now we're there."

The Jones rink will be gunning for its third straight title.

The loss left the McCarville rink in third, their second third-place finish this year.

"This year is the year of being third," said McCarville. "It's not fun."

She added that despite the third-place finish it's a learning experience.

"You gain lots of experience," said McCarville. "Playing on arena ice is really good. Hopefully it will give us some good experience, hopefully for next year (at the Scotties)."

In earlier playoff action Saturday, McCarville booked her ticket to the semifinal with a 6-4 win over B.C.'s Kelly Scott rink. The quartet plays out of the Kelowna Curling Club.

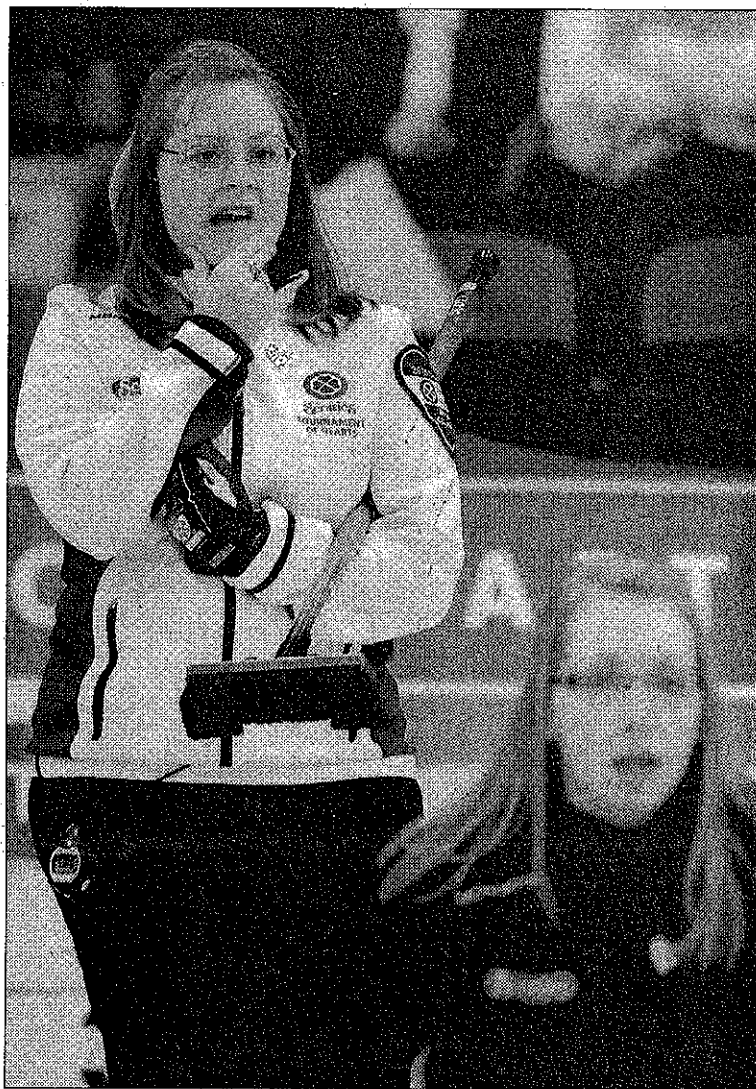
"I think the key draw in that game was our draw in nine to score," said McCarville. "We were facing two. It's not easy when it's starting to come down and you know it's getting a little quicker."

"You don't know how much quicker until it gets to the centre. I was really happy to make that one in nine."

The two teams traded scoring throughout the game, with the lone blank end coming in the sixth.

B.C. finished Scotties play with a fourth-place finish.

"It wasn't our sharpest today," said Scott, a former world champion and two-time Scotties winner. "Both our team and their team made drawing look a little difficult. It was a little tricky and patchy. There just wasn't that confidence in what the paths were doing for us."



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Team B.C. skip Kelly Scott, left, reacts while Team Ontario skip Kris McCarville lines up a shot during Scotties Tournament of Hearts action in Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., on Saturday. McCarville defeated Scott 6-4.