

STREET SCENE

Inside **S²**

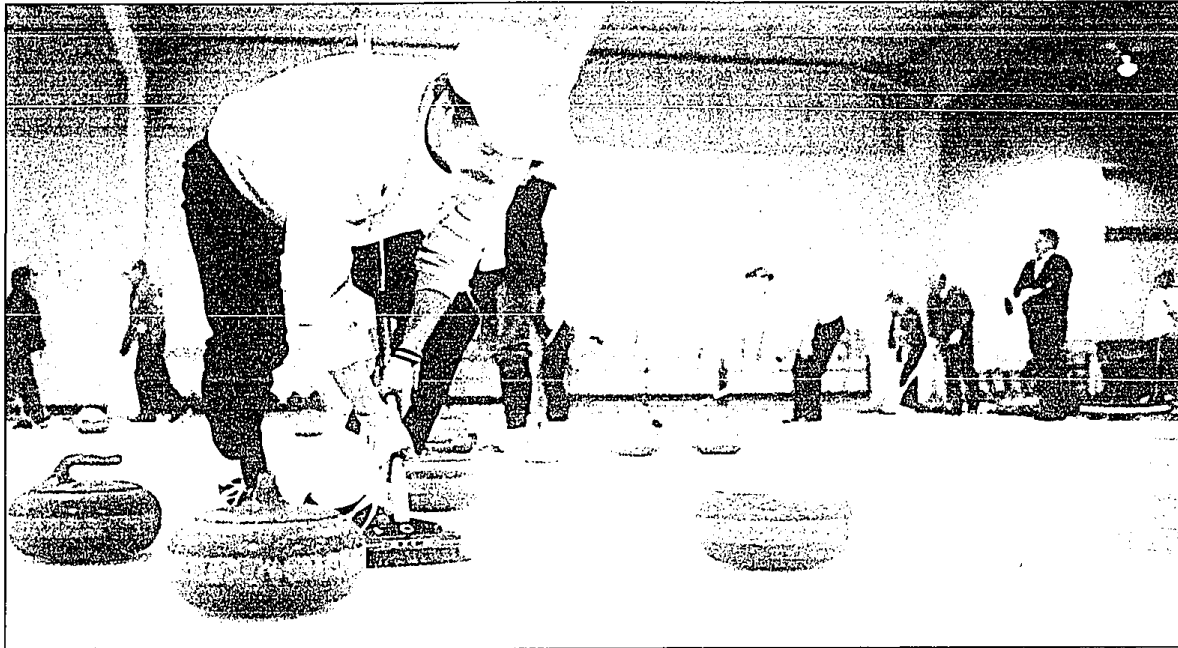
Baby boomer chic

There's no need to be out of sorts because you look frumpy. Forget those stretch pants on pants and skirts and voluminous tops. Today's mother-to-be feels chic and looks chic whether at work, at play or out for the evening. We like to call it Baby Boomer Chic, and it's on Page 6D.

The Observer & Eccentric Newspapers

Monday, October 30, 1989 O&E

★ 1D



Curler Craig Koss of South Lyon brushes the ice with his broom in an effort to position the stone better.

Photos by JOHN STORMZAND/staff photographer

Curling: A cut above the average sport



Peggy Hawke of West Bloomfield shows her curling style as she sends the stone sliding down the icy lane.

By Janice Brunson
staff writer

Members of the Detroit Curling Club are gearing up for a new season beginning Nov. 1 and, based on last year's activity, the arena in West Bloomfield is expected to hum.

Not ho-hum, as in a sport that purportedly puts observers to sleep with its exacting precision and slow, methodical play.

But hum, as in more members than ever before who enjoy the fitness and finesse of curling and the camaraderie it affords.

"We got more new members last season than in the entire history of the club," said arena manager Pam Bonfoey of the 30 new members who joined in 1988-89, upping club membership to some 230.

Founded in 1885, membership in the Detroit Curling Club remained exclusive and by invitation only for many years. But when the club moved into its new suburban arena in 1979, one of the first goals was an expanded membership. Efforts received a substantial boost during the 1988 winter Olympics when curling received worldwide attention as a demonstration sport.

New members are also younger than in years past, according to Bonfoey.

"I needed a new winter sport," said Mike Psarouthakis, 28, in explaining why he took up curling at the West Bloomfield arena last winter.

Psarouthakis, a proficient luge slider, was headed for Olympic competition in the 1988 winter games when an injury prematurely ended his sledding career.

NOW HE'S AN avid curler. Like the Scots who are credited with inventing the game during the 1500s, Psarouthakis wanted a physical activity during the long months of winter.

Craig Koss and wife Autumn, both in their 20s, also enjoy the sport of curling. In addition, they enjoy the socializing it provides.

"Curlers are unbelievably friendly and cordial; they take strangers in," said Craig who, after watching curling for years on WBET-Channel 9, broadcast by Canadian TV, decided three years ago to try it himself.

Autumn, a dance instructor at the American Dance Academy in Garden City, joined him, acquiring game technique more easily than Craig. Dancing requires similar agility, balance and endurance necessary in curling, according to Autumn, who said the sport requires "tremendous physical flexibility."

Curling is played by shooting a granite stone over a 146-foot ice field into a round target. The shot is delivered by a graceful, elongated stretch that demands a partial leg split of the player.

Sweepers, balanced precariously on a single foot encased in a special "slide" shoe, guide the stone along its icy course. A game typically lasts 2-1/4 hours, a "bonspiel" or tournament anywhere from 1 to 3 days.

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Warp Factor

Karlos Barney



"This joint serves the best grub in town."

Christmas shopping on the road

By By Iris Sanderson Jones
contributing travel editor

Q: I will be traveling a lot for the next two months, either on business or on vacation. I won't have much time to buy Christmas gifts at home, very little time to do it on the road and no inclination at all to drag big boxes home on the plane. What's the best way to shop for gifts when you travel?

A: I have a laundry basket full of gifts I have collected on various trips during the year — a tea cozy from Ireland, several charms, a bottle of special mustard from an inn in Ontario, a few hand-made Christmas tree ornaments, a small, soft toy.

All of these gifts are small and lightweight, so they pack easily in my suitcase. Occasionally, I buy an awkward piece of cut glass, but it has to be very good to be worth the trouble.

My rules are:
• I buy only what I can carry in my purse or suitcase.
• I buy something I can't buy at home.



MICKY JONES

Gift shops like the one in the Wayside Inn in Middletown, Va., can offer a selection of quality items perfect for Christmas giving and portable enough to fit into a traveler's suitcase.

• I never stoop to buying souvenir ash trays, except for one specific friend — we compete for the ugliest trash gifts available.

The first step in your shopping spree is to ask the flight attendant for a drink and make a list of your victims. Beside each name list hobbies and special interests. If you can't be specific, close your eyes and think of your friend or relative in a home setting, so that you can add words like art, books, cooking, liquor.

I ONCE carried dozens of trinkets home from India, put them in a basket and invited friends for Sunday lunch. I asked them to choose one trinket they liked. Almost every hand went past the small carved elephant to the first-edition Gandhi stamp. I should have remembered that stamp lovers would rather have a first-edition stamp than a live Tahitian dancing girl. Every country has special stamps and they are very easy to carry.

Apply this logic to other tiny gifts — coins, small bottles of local liquor, recipe books. Don't forget rocks. I have a relative, a rock collector, who would walk, head down past Mount Fuji, if she thought there was a collectible rock at her feet. Kids love shells. Not expensive enough? Wrap it in a \$3 bill.

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