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## **A trip of a lifetime**

SIAST nursing student Natalie Yanko will compete in the World Junior Curling Championship in Scotland this March.

A lead on Team Saskatchewan, Natalie helped her team win the Canadian Juniors in a 6-4 victory over Alberta.

“Going into nationals we were confident,” said Natalie, who is in the Nursing Education Program of Saskatchewan (NEPS). “We worked so hard.”

Natalie’s team started the season last August with a hope of getting through provincials undefeated, which they did.

The girls worked with a nutritionist and stayed active at the gym, when not on the ice, to be in their best shape for nationals, which they also hoped to get through undefeated.

“But it didn’t work out that way,” said Natalie, whose team was 9-3 at the televised national championship, which put them into second place and into the semi-final.

They won, moving them to the final.

Now going into Worlds, Natalie said, no matter how her team does, competing in Scotland will be a trip of a lifetime.

The girls’ families will be going to show their support and will be wearing red and white in the crowd.

Natalie has been curling since she was a small child and her long-term goal is to play in the Scott Tournament of Hearts.

*Story written by Kelly-Anne Riess, mySIAST editor*