

Manley, Elizabeth

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# Manley steals show wins Olympic silver

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CALGARY (CP) — Elizabeth Manley's silver medal in women's figure skating was Canada's most cherished prize of the 15th Winter Olympics.

Her inspired free skate in the long program Saturday night topped the performances of both East German

Katarina Witt and American Debi Thomas.

The dynamo from Ottawa brought 20,000 cheering, crying spectators in the Saddledome to their feet in a roar of patriotism moments before her program finished.

Witt hung on with her artistic talent to come in second in the free skate — worth 50 per cent of the mark — and win the gold. Thomas, who flubbed several moves, took the bronze.

Manley stole the show with her spunky interpretation of music from Canadian Concerto and Irma La Douce.

Manley, 22, has ties to the Quinte region.

Born at Belleville General Hospital, she lived and trained in Trenton. The daughter of a member of the Canadian Armed Forces, she was under the guidance of Beth Davies of Trenton before moving to Ottawa.

The fight for the gold and silver had been touted all week as the battle of the Carmens. Both the graceful Witt and the athletic Thomas chose Bizet's music in their quest for Olympic gold.

Manley was given an outside shot at the bronze — if she kept her cool. She was known as a brilliant skater, but one who always blew one of the three skating disciplines to come up just short of a medal.

But there was no joy for the national hockey team. Canada's slim hope for a bronze evaporated in the final minutes of Sunday's game between Sweden and West Germany. With just over six minutes left, the Swedes scored to give them a 3-2 victory.

Canada came into the Games with golden hopes after winning the Izvestia Cup in Moscow last fall. But a lacklustre offence left the team in next-to-last place going into the finals. Canada needed West Germany to win Sunday in order to get a bronze.

The Soviets took the gold. Canada ended the Games with five medals — two silver and three bronze.



Belleville-born Elizabeth Manley became Canada's newest sweetheart winning a silver medal Saturday.