

Sports & Leisure

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Marshall, black ice teammates claim world synchro bronze

Bronwyn Marshall may not have set off the metal detectors on her way to Finland but she certainly would have on the way back.

Marshall returned from the World Synchronized Skating Championships Sunday with three medals, including the world bronze. She and her Scarborough black ice teammates also earned a silver medal for their short program and a bronze for their long program.

"I've been glowing since I got back," Marshall said. "It's going to be pretty difficult to get me off cloud nine."

Sweden won its fourth straight gold. Marshall and her teammates just missed out on a second-place standing when they were edged by the home Finnish team in the long program. Finland received five first-place ordinals to black ice's four.

"Our short program was awesome," Marshall said. "We had one little stumble in the long pro-

gram but I don't think it would have cost us a medal. I think a bit of politics came into play."

No matter what colour the medal was, Marshall was thrilled after being shut out of the medals in her first two trips to worlds.

"After 13 years of skating to get to a recognizable position like worlds and win a medal was great," the Acton skater said.

Marshall said those previous two trips helped her in knowing what to expect at an international competition, which made this experience more relaxing and enjoyable.

And even though the season is over, there's not much time to rest. The team has been invited to participate in Elvis Stojko's skating showcase in Richmond Hill the first weekend in May. Among the others skaters performing there are Stojko, Joséé Chouinard and Isabelle Brasseur and Lloyd Eisler.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



Bronwyn Marshall brought home a trio of medals from the World Synchronized Skating Championships in Helsinki, Finland as a member of Scarborough's black ice.
 Photo by Herb Garbutt

Wins men's freeskate Pursoo's effort is pure gold

Dan Pursoo is an Ontario champion again. Pursoo won the gold men's freeskate at the Ontario Interclub Championships in Fort Erie.

The 16-year-old said his previous experience at the provincials, which included a victory in the bronze men's freeskate in 1998, helped him in claiming top honours this year.

"It gave me a little bit of knowledge of what I had to do and what to expect," said the Grade 11 student at Acton High School.

He was also encouraged by the competitions leading up to provincials. With many of the same skaters competing, Pursoo knew he would be in contention for a medal with a good skate.

The toughest part of Pursoo's program was a triple Salchow. Although he land-

ed it in the warmup he came up a bit short on his landing in the competition. He didn't let it affect the rest of his performance, though.

"I just looked on to what was coming next," he said. "I didn't want to give myself any negative thoughts."

It worked as he went on to land two double axels and the marks needed for first place.

Pursoo has been skating for 10 years—the last five at the Oakville Skating Club—and hopes to coach after he finishes his competitive career. Having won the highest level at Interclub, he is hoping to make his mark at sectionals next year.

—By Herb Garbutt, staff writer



DAN PURSOO

Pigwear earns title hat-trick at annual oldtimers tourney

Marcel Flammini scored twice and set up another as Pigwear captured its third straight over-35 title at the 13th Annual Georgetown Sports Unlimited Beavers Oldtimers Tournament on Sunday at Acton Arena.

Leading 2-1, Pigwear scored four unanswered goals to secure the Ken Smith Division championship.

Ken Strong, Dale Decaire, Joe Paniccia and Brian Cotchison also scored for Pigwear while Mike Hannah had two assists. Flammini earned MVP honors while Steve Lowe was named top defenceman in the final.

Pigwear was undefeated in the tournament, winning three straight to make the final.

Flammini and Mike Drew each had a goal and an assist as Pigwear doubled the Old Gems 4-2. Doug Fry set up both Gems' goals. Bill Bonar blanked the Eagles 5-0. James Richmond scored twice and Hannah set up three goals. Ken Strong's hat-

trick and a pair of goals by Jim Crilly paced a 5-3 victory over the Bulldogs.

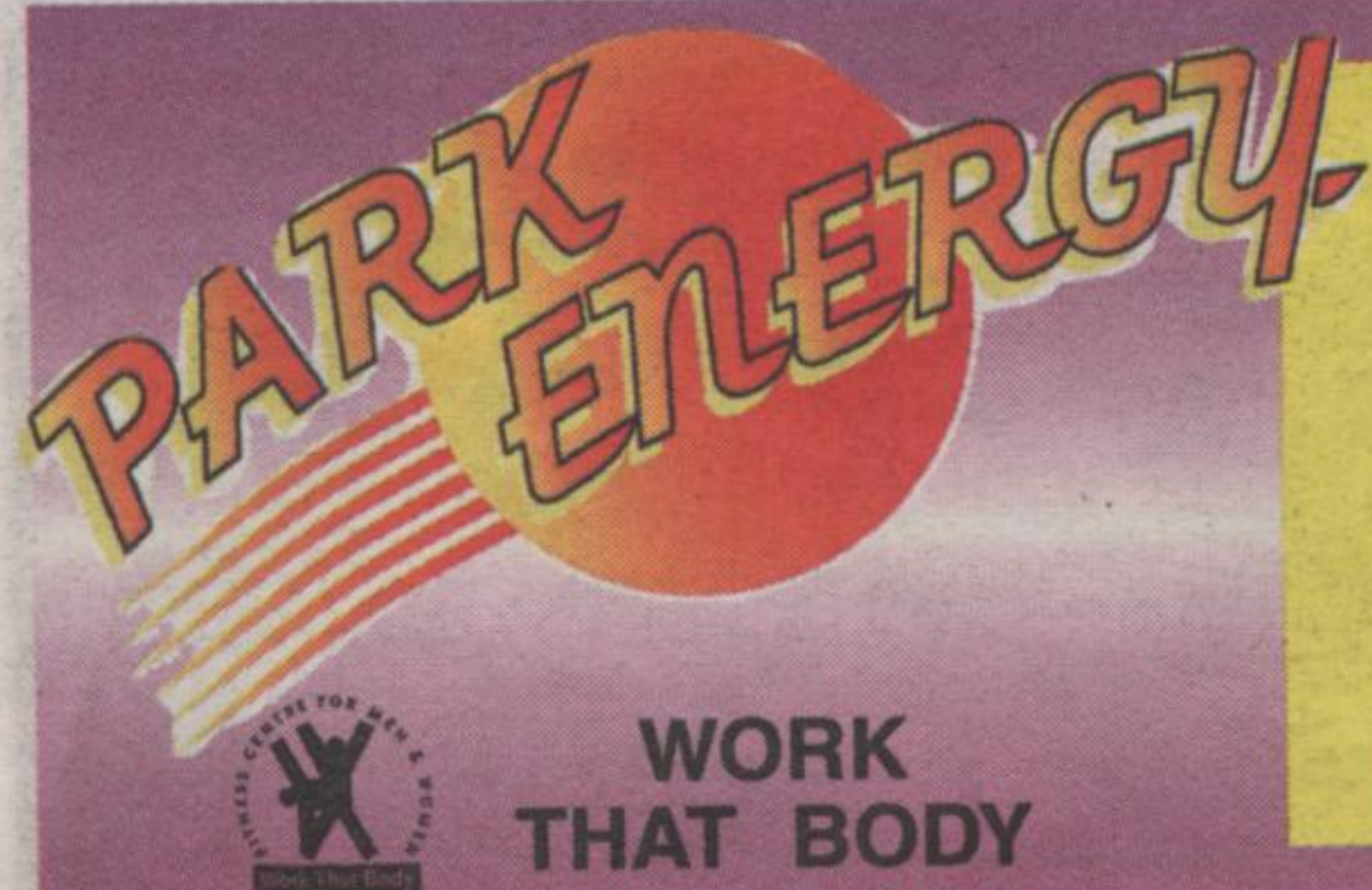
The Old Gems doubled the Eagles 4-2 behind a three-point performance by Bill Taylor. The Gems then fell to Pigwear and were blanked 4-0 by the Bulldogs.

Jim Meunch scored twice as the Old Bucks claimed the Dave Mantell (40+A) Division title with a 4-1 win over Dadco. Dave Uyeno had three assists and was named MVP. Len McMurray was named best defenceman.

The Stingers were shut out by the finalists, 3-0 by Dadco and 9-0 by the Old Bucks. They also dropped a 7-2 decision to Lindsay. Scott Lindsay scored both Stinger goals.

Clayton Callaway earned MVP honors by scoring twice in the Goodtimers 3-2 victory over Orangeville in the Tom Gilbert Division (40+B) championship. Dennis Aloerman was named top defenceman.

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