

Brian Orser brings home Gold

Before coming home with the gold, Worlds' Figure Skating champion Brian Orser will complete an exhibition tour of North America. Then it's home to a hero's welcome.

"I guess the town will be putting something on for him a little later on," says Penetanguishene Reeve Art Stewart. "I was quite happy to see him finally get it, but if you watched the performance, I don't think there was any doubt."

Orser won the title Thursday evening in Cincinnati. Besides completing a flawless program, Orser became the first man in skating history to land two triple axles in Worlds' competition.

Elmvale's Luella Simpson, a family friend of the Orsers, watched the competition with the champ's family and then greeted him at ice level when he was declared winner.

"He was very calm," says Simpson of Orser's reaction to winning. "Brian handled his world title with class, and to really top it off, Brian is still Brian. He still stops and signs autographs."

Simpson says attending the competition was a very emotional experience.

"When he did the triple flip we knew it was all his," she says. "The triple flip was the jump he broke his leg on many years ago."

Orser has been runner up in the last three Worlds' championships and won a silver medal at the 1984 Olympics. Going into the final competition of the Worlds',

Orser's biggest rival was the United State's Brian Boitano. When Boitano failed to land what would have been the first ever quadruple jump in skating competition, Orser was assured of his victory.

Alexander Fadeev of the Soviet Union was in first place heading into the free skate portion of the competition. He won

the compulsories and placed third in the short program behind Boitano and Orser. Fadeev fell on a triple axle in his long program.

Orser, who skated first, received two 5.9s for technical merit and seven 5.9s for artistic impression from the judges.

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FLEC elects new chairman

The French Language Education Council (FLEC) of the Simcoe County Board of Education (SCBE) held a special meeting last Tuesday evening to elect a new chairman.

More than 10 delegations were slated to appear at the scheduled Wednesday meeting. The special meeting was called to allow FLEC to attend to its regular business.

Basile Dorion was acclaimed chairman by FLEC members Alvin Gravelle and Genevieve Roy. Dorion was elected acting chairman of the three member council after Gravelle stepped down following FLEC's controversial decision to phase out French instruction at Ecole Secondaire Penetanguishene Secondary School (ESPSS).

FLEC came into existence last October following the implementation of Bill 75 proclaimed to give francophones jurisdiction over French education.

Dorion was quoted as saying he would not support the withdrawal of French instruction at ESPSS, a bilingual high school, unless numbers warranted it.

FLEC made its decision to axe French at ESPSS last month.

Gravelle indicated that FLEC's move was premature by saying it should not have made such a major decision before it knew more about its grants and relationship to the full board.



Championship form

Brian Orser became the third Canadian to win the Men's World Figure Skating Championship when he skated away

with the gold last Thursday in Cincinnati.



Moment of victory

Ontario curlers Kent Carstairs, Tim Belcourt and Glenn Howard could not hold back their emotions Sunday afternoon as they watched the final stone of the championship match in

the Labatt Brier in Edmonton, Alberta. The last rock of the match, by Ontario Skip Russ Howard, clinched the game for the

Penetanguishene rink as they counted five points to defeat the British Columbia rink of Bernie Sparkes 11-7.

Howard rink off to worlds

by David Gravelle

Ontario's Russ Howard from the Penetanguishene Curling Club came back from being a bridesmaid at last year's Brier in Kitchener to the altar in Edmonton on Sunday. And, by the look of the ring on his finger, you can tell the team didn't get cold feet in it's goal to become the 1987 Canadian Curling Champions.

The final game between Ontario and British Columbia's Bernie Sparkes was a 'topsy turvy affair' that could have gone either way, according to skip Russ Howard.

Last rock advantage was awarded to Ontario thanks to their 9-2 record and first place in the round-robin portion of the Brier. But, the hammer in the first end did not prove to be a key in the match.

Russ admittedly curled under 50 per cent in the first three ends as he missed an open takeout in the first allowing veteran skip Bernie Sparkes to split the house and force Howard to hit for a single point.

The Howard strategy of giving up one and taking two didn't pan out in the second end as Russ missed again on his final

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