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 Part of the Australian Broadcasting Corporation's coverage of the Sydney 2000 Paralympic Games		<b>PARALYMPIC</b>						
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## Surprise winners in goalball

### Twenty countries took part in the Paralympic goalball competition at Sydney.

Slovenia were the reigning world champions in the men's game, while Finland and the USA were favourites for the women's. But the two countries who left with gold were the Canadian women's team and the Danish men's side.



Early on in the men's tournament, Denmark left it's mark on the game. By day two (Tuesday 24 October) the European chair had beaten Slovenia, the world champions, in a striking 3-1 victory.

On the same day, the Swedish men's team consolidated their winning streak defeating America 3-0. Their good form came as a surprise in Sydney. Swe had finished fifth in the men's world championships, but they left the Paralympic Games with a double bronze, one from the women's game and one from the men's.

In Sunday's final, Denmark beat Lithuania 6-1 with three goals from Henry M and another three from Soren Jensen. Lithuania had defeated them 4-0 in the preliminary rounds, which made their victory all the sweeter. Jensen also had good reason to be pleased with his performance. He finished as the tournament top scorer, with a total of 18 goals.

In the women's game, Canada's gold medal win was even more remarkable they had finished outside of the top five in the World Championships. Their performance was boosted by Nancy Morin who scored a total of 10 goals, the highest number of the women's competition.

In Sunday's final though, it was Nathalie Chartrand who scored the only goal; their 1-0 victory was enough to secure their gold and put Spain into second position.

Although they didn't win, silver medallists Spain were involved in some of the most dramatic goalball of the competition. They beat Great Britain 2-1 and Sweden 3-2 with free-throw shoot outs.

Sweden finished third, mirroring the success of the men's team, and took home their country's second goalball bronze. They can be rightly pleased with the

performance on two counts. They beat Atlanta's silver medallists Finland 5 -  
a shoot -out and Malin Gustavsson was one of the tournament's top three sc

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