



## Catwalk king

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### Dyer man named winner of Chicago modeling contest

Dyer resident Brian Kerwin proved he's model material indeed last week during Fashion Focus Chicago at Millennium Park.

Kerwin was named the first male winner in the Mario, Make Me a Model contest presented by Mario Tricoci Hair Salons & Day Spas. The crowning of the winner of the contest was presented in conjunction with Macy's Presents the Designers of Chicago fashion show.

Famed hairstylist Mario Tricoci was on hand to announce the winner.

"He stood out but what really impressed me was his personality on the runway," Tricoci said.

Tricoci also noted Kerwin's "beautiful eyes and great hair" as attributes for his modeling future.

**"I'm shocked," Kerwin said, after being chosen. "I never thought I'd make it to the finals."**

Kerwin's mother Laine and girlfriend, Tiffany Skorupa, of Cedar Lake, were there to cheer him on.

"I am just so happy for him," said Laine, who, with his aunt, almost forced him to enter the competition. "It's been so much fun for all of us."

Kerwin was chosen from six finalists. The finalists were picked from 45 semifinalists. More than 700 people initially vied for the honor.

"I'm so excited," Skorupa said. "I hope he goes on to be a supermodel."

As grand prize winner, Kerwin will win a trip for two to Punta Cana in the Dominican Republic, prizes from Mario Tricoci and Equinox and a chance to be considered for a modeling contract with Ford Models.

Kerwin said he's looking forward to what lies ahead.

"I'll take this wherever it leads me," he said.



Dyer resident Brian Kerwin is professionally photographed for a possible upcoming feature in *Chicago* magazine. (Photograph courtesy of Matt Ferguson Photography.)