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CALLEBAUT-JACQUES

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DOSSIER



A young Flemish patissier working for Docubu in Waterloo has just won the title of "Belgian Chocolate Master 2007".

"The World Chocolate Masters" is an international competition for *chocolatiers* and patissiers held every two years by the chocolate makers Barry Callebaut. This year the competition to find the Belgian entrant for the Masters took place during the chocolate festival in Bruges. The participants had to pass three tests based around the theme of 'national myths and legends'. For the middle round the participants were given a 'mystery box' and worked against the clock to create a dessert based on the ingredients within it.

Marijn Coertjens, who has been training under the watchful eye of master patissier Marc Docubu, is only 25 years old, but he was judged to have talents well beyond his years. For his Belgian legend, he chose to create a dessert inspired by comic book hero Tintin. "I put a great deal of time into preparing for this competition and it has really paid off. Now I am focused on the next stage: the finals in Paris where I will try to follow Pol De Schepper to become the World Chocolate Master," he said of the award.

*Chocolatiers* from 22 countries will converge on Paris in October to compete for the prestigious title. Should Coertjens succeed, he will be the third Belgian to win the competition.

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