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Last update: June 3, 2005 at 1:24 AM

Chaska man tops Mount Everest

State Wire

June 3, 2005 0603BC-MN--MOUNTEVER

MINNEAPOLIS (AP) - In a true test of endurance, a Chaska man has climbed Mount Everest.

Neal Mueller and two sherpas reached the summit of Mount Everest in Nepal on Thursday morning, after weeks of delays, howling winds and one avalanche.

Mueller began the last trek to the summit on Wednesday.

His mother, sister and grandmother in Minnesota monitored updates on the Internet, posted by expedition leader Jim Williams.

"They reported that the first part of the expedition had summited last night, then there was a six-hour gap," said Laura Mueller, his mother.

"We were sure something was wrong. We were going out of our minds. We're so happy to know he made it."

On the Net: For updates: <http://www.exploradus.com>

Information from: Star Tribune, <http://www.startribune.com>

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