First Canadian in space



Canada's first man in space Marc Garneau (right) with backup Robert Thirsk.

Marc Garneau, 35, a career naval officer from Quebec, will be Canada's first man in space. He will fly aboard the October 24 mission of the US space shuttle Discovery.

While the shuttle is orbiting the earth, he will conduct a number of physics and medical experiments, including trying to get sick in space.

Robert Thirsk, 30, will train with Commander Garneau and serve as backup for the mission.

Commander Garneau said that in addition to the challenge of running a number of scientific experiments on the space flight, he is looking forward to the experience of travelling in space.

"The most fun things for me will be moving around in weightlessness and seeing the earth from space."

At the end of this month, Commander Garneau and the other astronauts will get an orientation tour of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration training school in Houston. He and Mr. Thirsk will take a concentrated training course at the astronaut school this summer.

There are three different sets of Canadian experiments on the shuttle scheduled for launch on October 24. In life sciences, Commander Garneau will test human reflexes and loss of orientation in the weightlessness of space. An important part of the work will be studies of space motion sickness in which Commander Garneau will deliberately try to make himself nauseous. Another set of experiments will use monitoring instruments to measure the electrical fields around the space shuttle as it flies about 300 kilometres above the earth.

A third set of experiments will use television cameras to help the Canadiandesigned cargo-handling arm (Canadarm) line up with targets in the shuttle's hold. These findings will be used to develop scientific experiments to be performed on future shuttle missions.

A fourth experiment will measure the state of the El Chicon volcanic cloud in the earth's upper atmosphere.

Canada's largest radio news service is moving into the satellite era. Broadcast News Ltd. will offer its clients satellite delivery of audio services - packaged newscasts, voice features, voice accounts from reporters and subjects at the scene of stories - by year-end. To listeners, the move will mean an improvement in the quality of out-of-town radio news accounts, now delivered to stations over land-based transmission lines.

Speed skater Gaetan Boucher, whose three-medal performance at the Winter Olympics in Sarajevo made him a Canar dian sports hero, has been selected athlete of the month for February by the Sports Federation of Canada. It was Boucher's second consecutive athlete-of-the-month award and his fourth monthly honoul, both accomplishments never achieved by a Canadian. Boucher of St-Hubert, Quebec, won gold medals in the 1 000- and 1 500-metre speed-skating events and a bronze in the 500. He also won the over-all title at the world speed. skating championships in Norway.

Cal

Mu

Ca

ex

Co

Ele

rac

Ne

If waiting on tables for three shifts a day is not enough for Eileen Munn, she can often be found dancing in a Toronto discotheque. Munn, who works as a waitress in the banquet department of the Sheraton Centre hotel, says she enjoys going to discos and "having couple of drinks and dancing". And why not? After all, she is only 83. "I love it," she says. "I always dance any place, As soon as the music starts, I just get going. I've always been like that. Maybe that's what keeps me going." Munn, who sometimes does three three-hour shifts a day, admits that is a heavy day for some one half her age, but "that's all right, don't mind my work. I have no intention of quitting until I die."

News briefs

Pope John Paul II will be presented with the 1984 Research Foundation Award given out by Winnipeg's St. Boniface Hospital when he visits the city this fall. The award, established in 1971, is given annually to individuals judged to have made outstanding contributions in health care or humanitarian pursuits. Previous recipients include Mother Teresa, Prince Philip, Dr. Jonas Salk and entertainer Danny Thomas.

A new communications house recently opened in Toronto, Alpha Communications International, offers specialized bridging services between the Chinese Canadian business community, business at large and overseas Chinese business communities such as Hong Kong. Alawn

Lai, director of creative services, said new markets were being fashioned out of China's interest in attracting international trade and through many wealthy Chinese who want to divert their capital to politically stable countries.

> Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) has awarded a contract amendment valued at \$7.3 million (Cdn.) to Montreal's CAE Electronics Ltd. on behalf of the Federal Republic of Germany for a Tornado operational flight and tactical simulator. Since the early 1950s, Germany has purchased simulators from CAE for UHID, CH-53 and Sea King helicopters and for the F-104 Starfighter and Alpha Jet trainer/support aircraft. This particular sale represents the seventh Tornado aircraft simulator to be supplied by CAE for the German forces.

Canada Weekly is published by the Published Affairs Branch, Department of External Affairs Ottawa K1A 0G2.

Material may be freely reprinted. A credit would be appreciated. Photo sources, if not shown, will be provided on request to editor, Deborah Cowley.

Cette publication existe également en frances çais sous le titre Hebdo Canada.

Algunos números de esta publicación aparecen también en español bajo el titulo Noticiario de Canadá.

Alguns artigos desta publicação são tambén editados em português sob o título Notíció do Canadá.

