

Canada Olympic Park, the site of ski jumping, bobsleigh, luge, nordic combined (jumping) and demonstrations of freestyle skiing (ballet and aerials) and skiing for the disabled. This project represents a number of



*Gaëtan Boucher, Olympic gold medallist speed skater.*

firsts: Western Canada's first Olympic ski jumps, Canada's first Olympic bobsleigh and luge runs, and also the country's first Olympic training-centre residence for these sports.

Experts classify the bobsleigh and luge track, with its 14 skill-testing curves, as superior to all others. Gion Caviezal of the Technical Committee of the International Bobsleigh and Tobogganing Federation says, "Canada's first bobsleigh and luge track is the best refrigerated track in the world," and adds that the track meets the three key elements for Olympic and World Cup competitions: "It is fast, demanding and safe."

The ski jumping facility was completed in time for the World Cup competitions in the winter of 1986-87. It features a common landing area for the 70-metre and 90-metre jumps and an earth bowl capable of accommodating 50 000 spectators. Concerts and shows will be staged in this facility in the summer.

The recently finished residential centre for athletes, the Olympic Training Centre at Canada Olympic Park has a gymnasium and whirlpool



Photo: Olympic Winter Games

baths, facilities for exercise, weight training and basic physiotherapy, as well as audio-visual rooms.

One section of the Olympic Visitor Centre/Olympic Hall of Fame will provide information and food services; the other section will commemorate Canadian athletes and the Olympics and will simulate for the public the sensation of ski-jumping.

The world's largest enclosed 400-metre speed-skating oval, the Olympic Oval, should be finished in April 1987. Within the perimeter of the speed-skating track will be two international-sized rinks that meet the standards for training and competitions in hockey, figure skating, and short-track speed skating.

The world's largest cable-suspended roof covers the Olympic Saddledome, so named because of its

unusual saddle-shaped structure. Opened in 1983, this multi-use building will serve as the site of figure skating and ice hockey during the Olympics.

McMahon Stadium, located on the University of Calgary campus, will host the opening and closing ceremonies for the XV Olympic Games. Built in 1960, the stadium is currently undergoing expansion to accommodate 50 000 spectators during the ceremonies.

Alpine skiing events and the demonstration event of freestyle skiing (moguls) will take place on Nakiska at Mt. Allan, 50 minutes west of Calgary. This site offers 30 ski runs, a training run and 40 kilometres of cross-country trails.

The Canmore Nordic Centre, 55 minutes west of Calgary near Banff, will be the site for cross-country skiing, nordic combined (skiing) and the biathlon events. The centre operates 56 kilometres of competition, training and recreational trails with links to Canmore and Banff and also includes stadium facilities and a 32-target biathlon shooting range.



Photos: Athlete Information Bureau

*Figure skaters Cynthia Coulle and Mark Rowsom.*