

## Cornell University hosts eight-month celebration of Canada

Three years in preparation and at a cost of almost \$45 000 (US), the Ivy League is about to glimpse examples of the best of Canadian culture in an eight-month festival hosted by Cornell University, Ithaca, New York.

Beginning last month and running until May 1984, Cornell will be visited by a steady stream of Canadian writers, filmmakers, dancers, musicians and artists, including Robertson Davies, Veronica Tennant, Frank Augustyn, Michael Snow and the Orford String Quartet.

Organized and financed by Cornell's Council of the Creative and Performing Arts, various university departments, the Canada Council and the Canadian Consulate General in Buffalo, the festival features 26 separate events in 14 different areas of the arts, from poetry to cultural policy.

The festival opened with the US *première* of *Better Living*, a play by George Walker, and continued with a performance by stars of both the National Ballet and the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

November features screenings of the work of the National Film Board; a lecture by composer R. Murray Schafer, and a performance of his work by the Orford String Quartet; a reading from his novel, *The Rebel Angels*, by Robertson Davies; a lecture by artist Michael Snow and an exhibition of his work.

A reading by a French-Canadian author is slated for December.

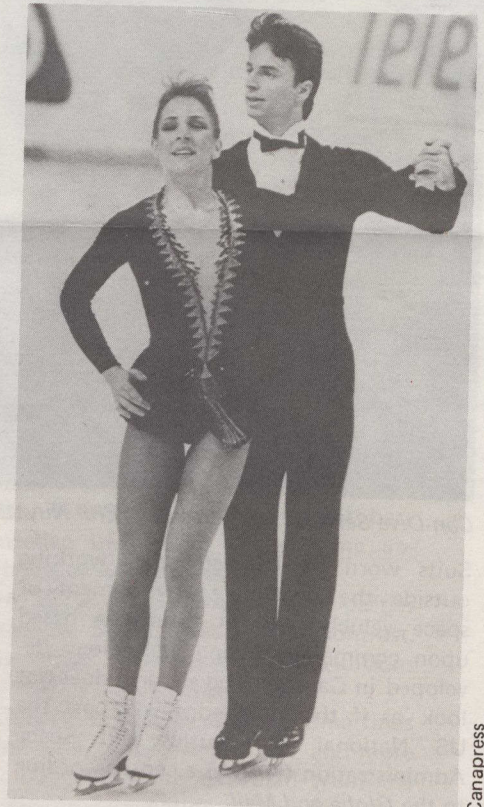
Events scheduled for 1984 include readings by the poets Dennis Lee and George Bowering; exhibitions by artists Irene Whittome and David Milne; a performance by the flutist Robert Aitken; and lectures by architect Eberhard Zeidler and designer Anne Kermalegou.

In addition, the spring 1984 issue of the *Epoch*, the Cornell literary magazine, will be devoted to the work of Canadian authors.

"We thought it was time to do something with our neighbours," Anne Geske, festival organizer, said, "and it became more intriguing as time went on because of its diversity."

## Canadians win first Skate Canada

Canadians skated to two gold medals and a silver at the recent Skate Canada championship, winning the Nova Trophy for the first time since the bronze statue was first awarded at the international figure skating competition in 1979. The US has won the Nova trophy three times.



Dance champions Tracy Wilson and Robert McCall capture Canada's first dance gold medal in ten years.

Tracy Wilson of Port Moody, British Columbia and Robert McCall of Dartmouth, Nova Scotia won the judge's support and crowd's enthusiasm with an ambitious four-minute routine in the free skate event to clinch Canada's first dance gold in Skate Canada's ten-year history.

Brian Orser followed with an energetic free skate routine to capture the men's singles gold medal and Canada's second of the night. For Mr. Orser, it marked the first time the 21-year-old native of Penetanguishene, Ontario led an international event from the opening compulsory figures.

Kay Thomson of Toronto led the women's singles until the final free skate event when Katarina Witt of East Germany dazzled the judges with a graceful routine to win the gold. Miss Thomson hung on to win the silver medal.

## Pearson Peace Medal awarded to Reverend Lévesque

Reverend Georges-Henri Lévesque, a Roman Catholic priest, social scientist and teacher who has been involved in volunteer activities in Canada and abroad has been awarded the 1983 Pearson Peace Medal. The medal was established five years ago to recognize Canadians who have made outstanding contributions to international understanding and co-operation.

Reverend Lévesque, 80, the founder and first president of the National University of Rwanda, Africa, has worked in many volunteer organizations throughout the world. After being ordained in 1928, he taught social philosophy first at the Dominion College in Ottawa and later at the University of Montreal and Laval University in Quebec.

He later became dean of Laval's social sciences faculty and in 1955, was appointed rector of a new Dominion College established at Montmorency Falls, Quebec.

The former vice-chairman of the Canada Council also served as co-chairman of the royal commission on national development in the arts, letters and sciences between 1949 and 1951.



Reverend Georges-Henri Lévesque (left) receives the 1983 Pearson Peace Medal from Governor General Edward Schreyer at a ceremony in Ottawa.