



SIZZLING SITE ... Martin Landy, GlobalFest's Competition Director, left, gives Alain Carbonneau of Parente Fireworks a tour of Elliston Park yesterday.

GlobalFest promises bigger blast

By **BILL KAUFMANN**
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GlobalFest enthusiasts are being promised a bigger bang for their bucks this summer with a quartet of international fireworks manufacturers blasting city skies.

Fireworks producers representing the U.K., Spain, Italy and Hong Kong will face off at Elliston Park in what organizers are calling a coming-of-age in the bash's third year.

"This event is known interna-

tionally now and what we'll see are classic pyro-musicals," said Martin Landy, director of the International Fireworks Competition.

Pyrotechnics straight from the factory floor will serve up explosive spectaculars kept under wraps until the Aug. 24-Sept. 1 competition, said Landy.

"The companies we hired build their own shells and there's a huge difference in the variety, styles and intensity," he said.

"These are fireworks never seen in the world before."

A representative from one of the competitors, Italy's Parente

Fireworks, said he was impressed with the Elliston Park venue.

"It looks very promising because it's a natural amphitheatre — it gives us great liberty to do stuff that in a smaller area's not possible," said Alain Carbonneau.

He said the young competition is already "at the top of the list" internationally because of its excellent organization.

Parante will supply a European-flavoured display with the use of numerous multi-effect shells, said Carbonneau.

"People can expect a very big

show, a large-scale show with an Italian finale which I think is the greatest — the last five minutes are very breathtaking," he said.

Parante will be employing a wireless ignition system which "will allow us to put stuff everywhere," said Carbonneau.

Out of a sense of fairness, Canada won't be competing this 2005 because it won the contest in the last two years.

A finale show will highlight Alberta's centennial year.

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