

fects the specialized habitat for snow geese and other migrating birds. Ornithologists were on hand at the different observation posts to assist the visitors and to enhance their enjoyment of the bird sanctuary.

At Sherbrooke University's Faculty of Physical Education, the theme was "Healthier Living through Physical Fitness". Visitors were given straightforward answers to questions on cardiovascular endurance, strength, flexibility and what constitutes a healthy percentage of fat.

The Complexe Desjardins in Montreal was host to many activities. One of the main attractions was the Foucault pendulum — a metal ball hanging from a long line attached to the ceiling of the hall. With this device, the French physicist Jean Foucault demonstrated in the 1800s the rotational movement of the Earth. When the ball is swung from its equilibrium position, it always oscillates in the same plane, when it is observed long enough, however, the plane of oscillation seems to rotate. In reality, the movement of the pendulum's swing path from its point of attachment at the ceiling is independent from the rotational movement of the Earth. So, in fact it is not the pendulum that rotates but the Earth.

In that same hall, alongside IMRI, were exhibits by Pratt and Whitney, IREQ, CRIQ, and the Institut Armand-Frappier, an industrial research laboratory oriented towards the production of substances that prevent infectious diseases. Nearby, there were fragments of meteorites to see and touch and a piece of a lunar stone collected by the Apollo XV mission.

McGill University inaugurated their Science Week activities with a 10 km run around the downtown Montreal campus with 700 runners participating. The \$3.00 registration fee went towards respiratory research in the pathology pavilion of the University. McGill also organized visits to the obstetrics and gynecology sections of the Royal Victoria Hospital to see demonstrations of the uses of ultrasound and fetoscopy in monitoring pregnancy.

The list of topics on display across the province goes on and on: holography, electronic music, hydrogen research, robotics, new energy sources, new computers, new problems — new solutions.

The success of this Science Week in bringing together such a large number of organizations and in stirring interest among the non-scientific population

has prompted the organizers to start thinking about a repeat performance, perhaps in the spring of 1982.

Today, only the science community with its obvious special interests is truly well informed about the implications of scientific research. However, it is the average citizen without an intimate understanding of the scientific process, who is increasingly required to make judgments on matters like nuclear power stations or recombinant DNA. Last October's Science Week succeeded to a large degree in "breaking the ice"

between scientist and layman, and indicated a willingness on both sides to attempt a bridging of the knowledge gap. **Patricia Montreuil**

Relatively empty in the early morning hours, the main hall at the complexe Desjardins later filled up, as it was the scene of most Science Week activities in the Montreal region. (Photo: Patricia Montreuil)

De nombreux laboratoires de recherche ont participé à cette Semaine des sciences. Dans le hall du complexe Desjardins, on voit ici au premier plan, le kiosque de l'IREQ (Institut de recherche d'Hydro-Québec). (Photo: Patricia Montreuil)

