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letters

which are simple to the human mind.

JAMES M. DANIELS

University of Toronto

5/83

Toronto, Ontario, Canada

Boltzmann's tomb misplaced

The April issue (page 55) shows a photograph of Boltzmann's tomb. The caption reads that the tomb is in front of the University of Vienna.

I would like to point out that the photograph is that of Boltzmann's tomb in the Central Cemetery of Vienna at the second gate section. I visited the site on 26 June 1982. The structure in the background of the photograph is a church and not the University of Vienna. Note the inscription at the top of the tombstone (which is faint in the photograph) $S = k \log W$.

IBRAHIM ADAWI

University of Missouri

4/83

Rolla, Missouri

... the building ... looks to me like the chapel at the "Second Gate" of the Vienna Zentral-Friedhof (Central Cemetery), where Boltzmann is buried in the *Ehrengrab* (honor's tomb) section, close to Schubert, Beethoven and others of equal fame. Anyone liking Boltzmann to someone with "a plodding and unoriginal intellect" needs to restudy the history of physics. If the anti-hero of McCormack's novel was anything like the character described in the review, there are few parallels between his life and that of Boltzmann that a well-informed historian of physics would draw. Boltzmann did not live long enough to digest relativity and hardly long enough to take note of quantum theory. Frankly, to draw parallels between him and the fictitious Victor Jacob is an exercise in ignorance and poor taste.

HEINRICH K. EICHORN

University of Florida

5/83

Gainesville, Florida

Physics in Texas

Recalling a tradition of the union of mind and body that signals a resurgence of a classical ideal—a return to the greco-roman principle hitherto honored largely in the breach by such symbols as *Mens et Manus* of MIT—we noted recently with pleasure, in your list of most improved physics departments, the University of Houston and North Carolina State (recent rivals in the NCAA finals for those who, sadly, have never witnessed the non-Newtonian glide of Clyde Drexler).

We would only point out additionally