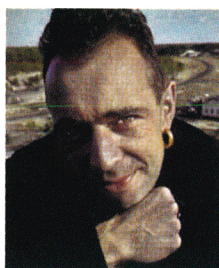


high-energy collisions, including the parton cascade model, in connection with the lab's Relativistic Heavy Ion Collider. On 2 September, he had been on his way to give a talk at the European Centre for Theoretical Studies in Trento, Italy.



K. KINDER-GEIGER

"He was clearly one of the dominant young people in his field," says Rob Pisarski, the head of Brookhaven's nuclear theory group.

"It's a devastating loss." Kinder-Geiger was "someone who could do abstract calculations and also talk to experimentalists about real measurements," Pisarski adds. "It's his breadth in particular that will be sorely missed."

Kinder-Geiger, who sported a crew-cut and an earring and usually wore all black, was known for his high-spirited style, says Berndt Mueller, head of the physics department at Duke University, who served as his thesis adviser and later as a collaborator. "He motivated a number of young people to enter the field, by showing them that scientists can also be unusual and creative people." On 23 October,

Brookhaven will hold a memorial workshop in Kinder-Geiger's honor.

JEAN KUMAGAI

IN BRIEF

On 31 October, the 323-year-old Royal Greenwich Observatory will close its doors for good—the recent hike in the UK's science budget having come too late to save the historic facility. (See PHYSICS TODAY, September 1998, page 50, and September 1997, page 60.) The RGO's activities, as well as its scientific and technical staff, are being disbanded: Ground-based instrument support will be transferred to the UK Astronomy Technology Centre in Edinburgh; the Nautical Almanac Office will be moved to Rutherford Appleton Laboratory; some staff members will join Telescopes Technologies Ltd, a telescope manufacturing business in Liverpool; others will do contract work at the University of Cambridge, where the RGO has been located for the past eight years; and most of the technical staff will be laid off or forced to retire. Some of the RGO's historical artifacts will go to the National Maritime Museum, which is run by the Old Royal Observatory at Greenwich. The ORO will also take over the RGO's educational and informational services, and hopes to be rechristened the Royal Observatory at Greenwich. ■



Web Watch

<http://www.mhs.ox.ac.uk/geometry/content.htm>

The Geometry of War, 1500-1750. Currently on display electronically at the University of Oxford's Museum of the History of Science is *The Geometry of War, 1500-1750*, an exhibition that describes how mathematical science was used on the battlefields of early modern Europe. The essay that accompanies the exhibition's 81 illustrations explores the historical and philosophical contexts in which kinematics was developed for warfare.



<http://www.lhl.lib.mo.us/pubserv/hos/stars/welcome.htm>

Art, history and science are all on display in the Linda Hall Library's on-line exhibition of celestial atlases. Entitled *Out of This World*, the exhibition contains 43 star atlases dating from between 1482 and 1851, including Johann Bayer's monumental *Uranometria* of 1603. The Linda Hall Library, located in Kansas City, Missouri, is an independent research library specializing in science, engineering and technology.



<http://www.aip.org/history/esva/>

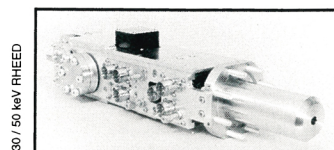
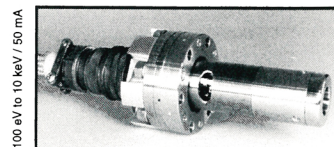
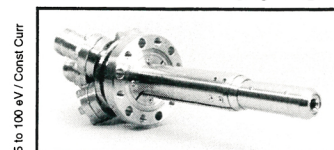
A new search engine gives quick access to the best of the historical photographs of physicists and astronomers in the Emilio Segrè Visual Archives of the American Institute of Physics' Center for History of Physics. There are now 1028 images available on-line, with more being added each month. Various types of searches can be performed, and copies of the photos can be ordered through a secure connection.



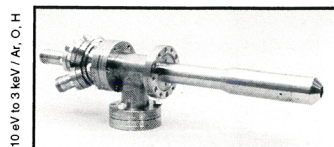
To suggest topics or sites for Web Watch, please contact ptwww@aip.org by e-mail.

Compiled by CHARLES DAY

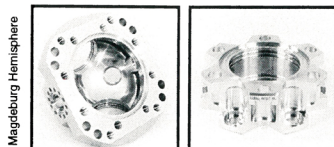
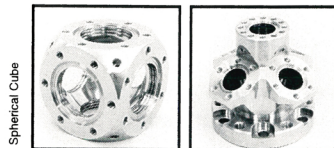
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