



Eötvös Loránd Tudományegyetem  
Természettudományi Kar  
Fizikai Intézet  
Atomfizikai Tanszék

Dear Wit,

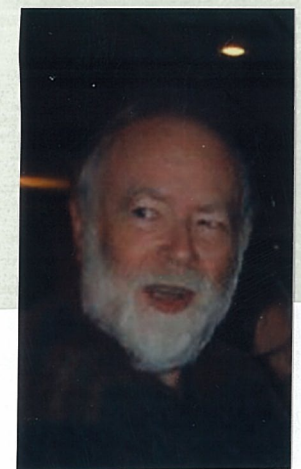
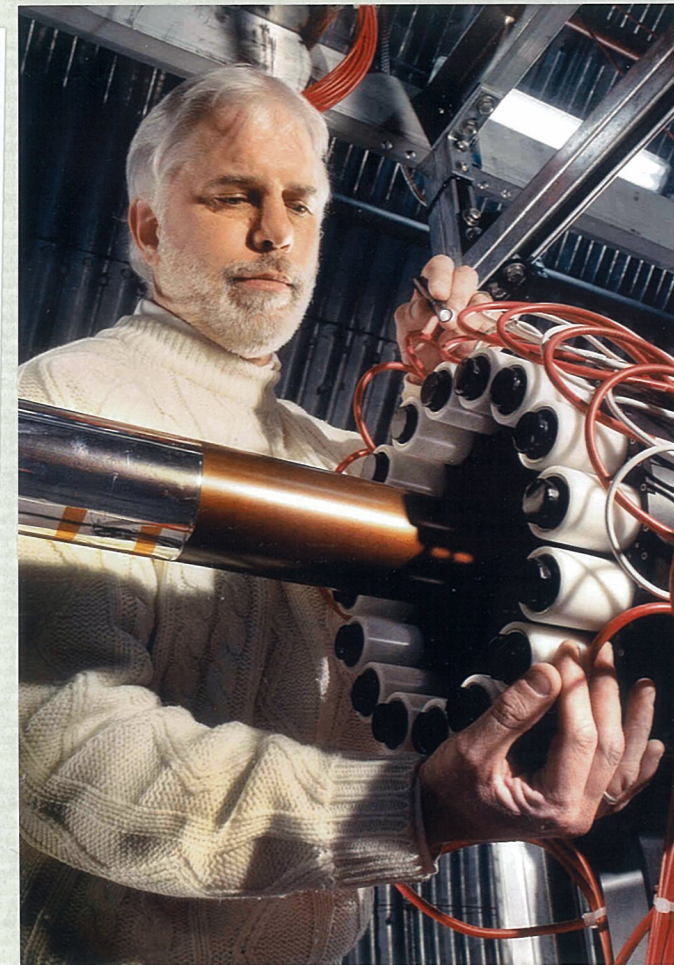
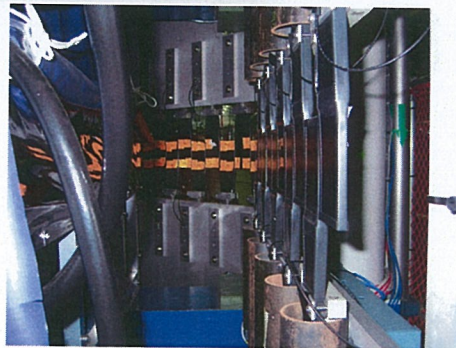
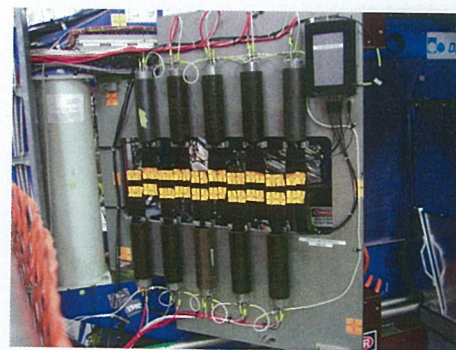
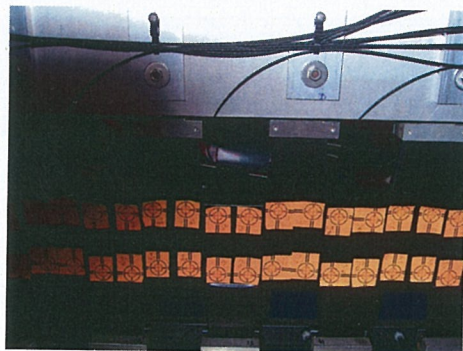
I am very glad that I had a chance to be part of the PHOBOS challenge.

I enjoyed the atmosphere, and the support of my PHOBOS friends all the time, and I am proud of the achievements of the Collaboration. I especially remember two sentences from You: „If you have never done such a thing, this is the best time to try now!” when I arrived, and „you have a nice piece of work here!” 8 months later (see pictures below). All this gave me the sense of how important it was that You could hold all our efforts together with Your famous *words of wisdom*. Thank you for this experience - with all my best wishes:

Budapest, Oct. 9th, 2008.

Gábor Veres

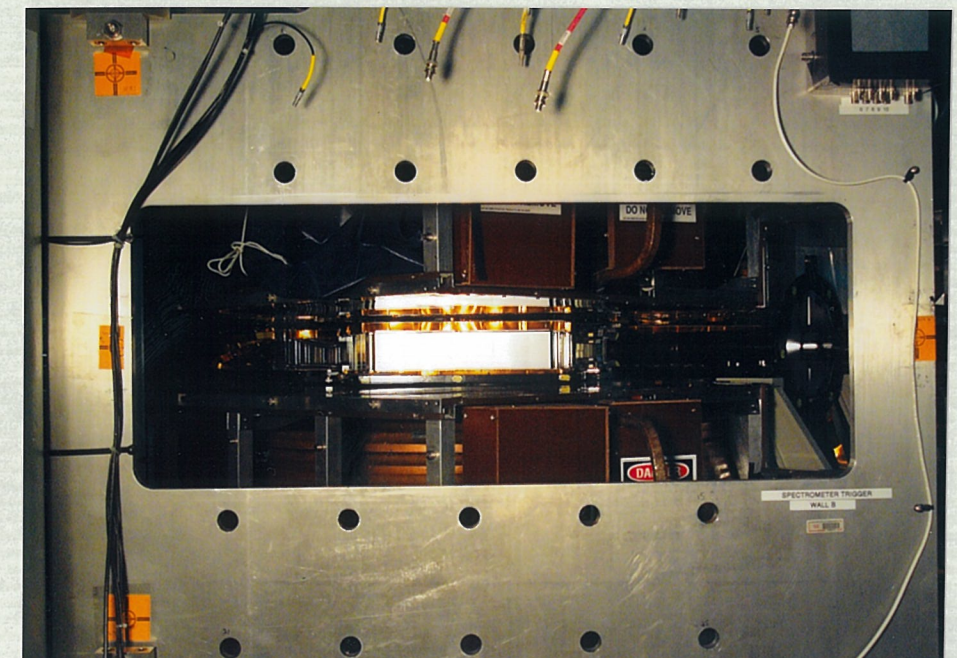
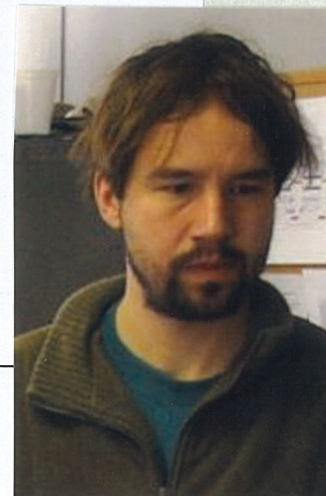
assistant prof., Eötvös Loránd University, Budapest  
former postdoctoral fellow, MIT LNS, PHOBOS



CONGRATULATIONS TO PHOBOS AND TO WIT!  
A MAGNIFICENT JOB!

From Don McLeod

I truly regret not being able to participate in PHOBOS past its construction and the very beginning of commissioning, because it was already the most effective and able collaboration I had worked in including long experience at Fermilab. It was a joy to work with you, even through some tense moments and major changes of plans. I'm also sorry I couldn't participate effectively in my last year (just a few distractions!) or even in a small way from Colorado (bandwidth!). I've followed your progress from afar with keen interest. Best wishes for the future! It's going to be hard to top PHOBOS.



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Dear Wit

I am truly sorry not to be able to make it to the Maryland meeting this weekend. My brother will be visiting for a few days from Australia.

I did want to share a few thoughts regarding PHOBOS and the collaboration that, without doubt, has been the most interesting, successful and enjoyable of my, by now quite long !!, career.

Under your skilful, steady and consistent leadership the PHOBOS collaboration worked fantastically well through all the challenges that faced us. The political climate of a "small" experiment, the funding profile, the ups and downs of designing and constructing the experiment, the difficult issues laid out on the table and hard decisions made, the struggles with RHIC etc etc. All this to produce a – pun intended – smashing success. Pound for pound, the best at RHIC and in many ways also the best in absolute terms.

It has been a pleasure to work with you and with all our collaborators – no not just collaborators - friends!!

Enjoy the meeting – raise a glass for me

Cheers

Russell

Russell Betts

