

PREFACE

The 1987 Topical Seminar on Heavy Flavours took place at San Miniato in Tuscany from 24 to 28 May. The Seminar focussed on the discussion of the latest theoretical and experimental results in the field of heavy flavours, covering D and B physics, CP violation, heavy quarkonia and the search for new heavy quarks and leptons. Special sessions were devoted to future machines, some dedicated to a particular flavour, namely beauty, and to future detectors. The *wyrd*, though not going as far as producing an additional Supernova 1987A event, was favourable to the organizers, providing several novelties close enough to the time of the meeting to render it exciting. For example, the evidence for $B^0-\bar{B}^0$ oscillations by the Argus collaboration at DESY and the improved lower limit on the top mass from the UA1 data at CERN were among the highlights of the meeting. It was perhaps also the quiet beauty of the surroundings, the nearby towers of San Miniato dating from the middle ages, and finally the mild season, which all together contributed to a pleasant physics event.

The meeting was held in the Conference Centre 'I Cappuccini' of the Cassa di Risparmio di San Miniato and was attended by 85 physicists, representing 39 laboratories and 10 different countries. The meeting was sponsored and supported by the Italian Institute for Nuclear Physics (INFN) together with the Universities of Bologna and Florence and by the Regione Toscana. We would like to thank all the sponsoring institutions who rendered the meeting possible and in particular: Professor N. Cabibbo, President of the INFN; Professor G. Giacomelli, Director of the Physics Department of the University of Bologna; Professor P. Blasi, Director of the Physics Department of the University of Florence; Mr. G. Bartolini, President of the Regione Toscana, and Comm. L. Catastini, President of the Cassa di Risparmio di S. Miniato.

We would like to thank most warmly the secretaries of the meeting, Ms. Enrica Belardini and Ms. Jacqueline Ruiz, for their key role and the invaluable help with the organization of the Seminar. We would also like to thank Ms. M. Boldini, Ms. S. Cappelli, Ms. L. Maselli and Mr. S. Zagato for their efficient contribution at different stages of preparation of the Seminar.

Finally our thanks go to all the speakers and participants for their enthusiasm which was determinant for the succes of the meeting.

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Editor