



Creation Matters

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Creation and Early Medicine



by Don B. DeYoung, Ph.D.

In past issues of *Creation Matters* we considered creationist mathematicians (1998), astronomers (1999), and naturalists (2000). This article continues with distinguished physicians from the past. Each clearly saw design evidence in the human body, and boldly shared a creation testimony with patients. The following names are in alphabetical order.

Jean Astruc (1684-1766) was the chief physician for several dukes and kings in eighteenth century France. Astruc was known widely as a master teacher. He was competent in many areas of medicine and his notes can still be found in modern medical libraries. Astruc was also an Old Testament scholar and readily accepted its inspired accuracy. One of his many publications was a detailed chronology of Jewish history. Unfortunately, Astruc promoted the questionable idea that Genesis had several authors besides Moses.



contemporary, Isaac Newton. Boerhaave was the first to isolate the organic compound urea, and he also founded the discipline of physical chemistry. His 1732 *Elements of Chemistry* was translated into many languages and became the standard chemistry text for a century. The son of a Dutch Reformed minister, Boerhaave held deep Christian convictions. He believed that God placed an "aura" in each person at

Hermann Boerhaave (1668-1738) is known as the founder of rational medicine and chemistry. During the early 1700s he was as well known as his

their creation, today called the soul.

George Cheyne (1671-1743) was a physician and member of the British Royal Society. At age 50 he experienced a spiritual conversion and renounced a rather wild lifestyle, to everyone's surprise. His subsequent series of written medical tracts promoting piety were widely read across England and Europe. Cheyne also wrote about gravity. He called this invisible attraction between all objects a testimony to the hand of God in maintaining stability in the universe. Cheyne's contemporary, Isaac Newton, totally agreed with this sentiment which is still valid today.

Albrecht von Haller (1708-1777) published many anatomical studies, especially concerning blood vessels. He initiated human anatomy as an experimental science. His copper-plate engravings are still

...continued on p. 2



CRS Board Meets at the CRS Van Andel Creation Research Center

The 37th annual meeting of the CRS Board of Directors, held May 31 through June 2, included committee meetings which were hosted at the Society's research center at Chino Valley, AZ. Pictured from left to right are: kneeling, Bob Gentet, Glen Wolfrom, Gene Chaffin, Don DeYoung, and Ted Aufdemberge; standing, John Meyer, Gary Locklair, Russ Humphreys, Mike Oard, George Howe, Wayne Frair, Ron Samec, and Lane Lester. Dr. Meyer is Director of the Center. Board members not available for the photo are Emmett Williams, Dave Kaufman, and John Reed. — photo by D. Dobberpuhl

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useful today in medicine. Haller also authored the first textbook on physiology in 1747. This outstanding German scientist is also

known as the poet of the Swiss Alps. Haller wrote about the Creator's work in nature:

Enough, there is a God, and nature is His script. The mighty world's whole structure shows his workmanship.

Haller saw God's handiwork everywhere, both in the Swiss countryside and also within the intricacies of the human body.

Friedrich Hoffmann (1660-1742) was an esteemed physician and teacher in Germany. His nine-volume series *Systematics of Rational Medicine* introduced the concept of muscle tone as an overall measure of health. Hoffman was one of the first physicians to correctly diagnose many common afflictions including appendicitis (1716), chlorosis (1730), and rubella (1740). He also was one of the first writers on medical ethics. Hoffmann believed, in agreement with Genesis, that God had made mankind distinct from the animal world. He taught that animals were material only, while people received a spirit or soul from their Creator.



Ambroise Paré (1509-1590)

was a leading French physician known today as the father of modern surgery. He served as chief surgeon for four

French monarchs during the sixteenth century. Paré replaced much of the radical, primitive medicine of his day with more

humane treatment. His efforts greatly increased the survival of patients, especially those with serious military wounds and amputations. For the latter, the usual treatment of cauterization with boiling oil was replaced with soothing ointments. Paré also introduced teeth fillings, dentures, artificial limbs, and artificial eyes. In maternity care he pioneered the shifting of difficult fetal positions by abdominal manipulation of the mother. This action has saved countless infant lives during delivery. Paré faithfully prayed for his patients as he treated them. On Paré's statue in Paris is his own motto regarding patients, "I treated him, God cured him."



Walter Reed (1851-1902)

was an outstanding medical officer in the U.S. Army. His bacteriological and viral research helped conquer typhoid and yellow fevers, saving untold thousands of lives. Dr. Reed never forgot the Christian upbringing by his Methodist minister father. While he was stationed in Havana, Cuba, his studies showed that mosquitoes were the cause of yellow fever. He wrote to his wife, "The prayer that has been mine for twenty years, that I might be permitted in some way or at some time to do something to alleviate human suffering, has been granted." The Walter Reed Army hospital in Washington, DC is named in honor of Dr. Walter Reed.



Ronald Ross (1857-1932)

was the first researcher to locate the malarial parasite in the Anopheles mosquito, in 1897. This discovery showed how

malaria was transmitted, and it quickly led to widespread control of the disease. English physician Ross was also a Christian and a poet. One of his poems commemorates the finding of the source of malaria:

This day relenting God
Hath placed within my hand
A wondrous thing; and God be
praised.

Sir Ronald Ross was awarded the 1902 Nobel Prize for Medicine for his work on malaria infections.



Benjamin Rush (1745-1813)

pioneered chemistry and medical studies in early America. In 1769 he was appointed to the school

known today as the University of Pennsylvania Medical College. He specialized in diseases of the arterial system, and also was a pioneer in explaining mental disorders. While training some 3,000 medical students during a 44-year career, Rush was known as the leading physician in the United States. With the encouragement of his godly mother, Rush had been converted to Christianity at age eight during the "Great Awakening" revivals which swept the colonies. He remained a devout believer the rest of his life. Rush viewed each person as uniquely valuable, existing for a special purpose planned by God.

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Rush was also one of the signers of the Declaration of Independence.



James Young Simpson (1811-1870) was a Scottish physician and medical researcher. He was the first to introduce chloroform, in 1848, as an anesthetic during child-

birth, greatly relieving the mother's pain. At the close of his life Simpson was asked about his scientific discoveries. His reply, "The greatest discovery I ever made was that I was a lost, guilty sinner, and that Jesus Christ [is] the Savior of sinners."

George Ernst Stahl (1660-1734)

greatly influenced eighteenth-century medicine. He correctly taught that many ailments were being attributed to wrong



causes. Stahl stated that normal blood circulation was essential to maintaining good health. Today it is difficult to realize how revolutionary this idea was. The son of a minister, Stahl was a devout Pietist who lived in Europe. He taught that no one could fully explain such details as the extent of the heavens, or why so many different animal species exist. In his view these answers existed only in the mind and will of God.

Nicolaus Steno (1638-1686) distinguished himself in many fields, ranging from anatomy to geology. He made pioneer studies of the glands and lymph vessels of the human body. Steno also prepared very accurate and useful drawings of the brain, heart, and muscles. A Christian believer all his life, Steno was not impressed with the skeptics of his day. He noticed the scientific errors of philosophers such as Spinoza and once told his friend Gottfried Leibniz, "If these gentlemen have been so mistaken with material things which are accessible to the senses, what warranty can

they offer that they are not mistaken when they talk [negatively] about God and the soul?" Steno placed all of geologic history within a 6,000 year time span. He retired from scientific research in his later years to become an evangelist and missionary.



Thomas Sydenham (1624-1689)

is known as the English Hippocrates. He was an early founder of clinical medicine and epidemiology.

Sydenham's book on fevers

and epidemics, *Observationes Medicae* (1676) became a standard medical text for two centuries. He was the first physician to study and name scarlet fever and the measles. He also led in the use of quinine to treat malaria. This particular drug has given relief and life itself to millions of malaria patients. Thomas Sydenham came from an English Puritan family. He trusted in God and believed the human body had been carefully designed to fight disease. Sydenham was a close friend of Robert Boyle, another strong believer in the Creator.

Alexei Alexeivich Ukhtomsky (1875-1942) was named after a river in his Russian province. He studied medicine and became an outstanding lecturer on physiology in St. Petersburg. In his day Alexei was a world leader in understanding the functions of the central nervous system. He belonged to a religious group called the Old Believers, a conservative part of the Russian Orthodox Church. Alexei openly challenged his students to accept the Christian faith. A man with wide interests, Alexei once gave a talk on "The Splendor of Church Singing" at a 1912 Old Believers Congress. He died of starvation during the siege of Leningrad during World War II, at age 67.

Andreas Vesalius (1514-1564) studied early medicine in Europe. He produced several helpful books on human anatomy, including *Fabrica* (1543). Vesalius began the use of other languages for medical terminology, especially Latin terms. Many of his choices continue today, such as the names of the three small bones of the



mammalian middle ear, the hammer (maleus), anvil (incus), and stirrup (stapes). Vesalius inserted his Christian worldview into *Fabrica* where he wrote,

By not first explaining

the bones, anatomists ... deter [the student] from a worthy examination of the works of God.



Selman Abraham Waksman (1888-1973)

won the 1952 Nobel Prize in medicine. Born in Russia, Waksman came to the United States and worked at Rutgers College in

New Jersey and also Woods Hole laboratories in Massachusetts. His research with antibiotics, a word which he coined, greatly relieved human suffering. Waksman wrote over 400 scientific papers and 28 books. His parents grounded Waksman in an understanding of the Bible and Talmud; he held a lifelong Jewish faith. On his grave in a churchyard in Woods Hole is one of Waksman's quotes,

Out of the earth shall come thy salvation.

This is an abbreviated form of a verse from the Apocrypha, "The Lord created medicines out of the earth, and he that is wise shall not abhor them.

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Don B. DeYoung is President of the Creation Research Society, and is Professor of Physics at Grace College in Winona Lake, Indiana.

Inherit the Wind

by
Paul Greenberg

You know the story, the play, the movie—all based on a piece of American history. It starts when a high school biology teacher in a small, rural American community begins teaching his classes about a theory of man's origins that defies conventional beliefs.

The teacher asks his students to examine the fossil record and draw their own conclusions. He traces the development of the human embryo, he lectures on the structure of bacteria and their flagella, he probes and questions—all to illustrate this shocking new theory.

The teacher presents ideas seldom heard in the confines of an ordinary classroom. Soon word gets out, and our teacher becomes a focus of controversy—even the target of a legal complaint that attracts national attention.

No, I'm not talking about the Scopes Trial in 1925, when William Jennings Bryan and Clarence Darrow faced off in Dayton, Tennessee. The issue: Could a state properly forbid the teaching of evolution?

That confrontation took place long before Darwin's theory had become the established church of the biological sciences. But now any explanation of life's origins other than Darwin's is considered less than respectable—not science at all, but religion. And there's a law against pushing religion in the public schools, isn't there?

Back in 1925, evolution was the heresy. It was the fighting faith striving to gain a foothold in American classrooms; now it is more like a divine revelation that may not be questioned.

And a high-school biology teacher who introduces his students to a different point of view may find himself in trouble. At least in Burlington, Washington.

That's where Roger DeHart started asking his students to look at the evidence and consider whether life just happened or is the product of deliberate design. He should have known you can't do that; not in America, or at least not in Burlington, Wash. Any more than John T. Scopes could discuss evolution in Dayton, Tenn., back in 1925.

I can still remember the definition of life in the back of my college biology textbook: "*Life — a complex series of chemical reactions.*" Somehow it seemed to miss the point. But that was the answer one was expected to give.

Mr. DeHart was asking his students to go beyond Darwinism (as Darwin himself had in his loftier moments) and wonder if there were a reason for it all, an intelligent design. That's the new, more scientific, more subtle way of saying creation science—a term that's passé—if it was ever in at all.

Naturally, somebody complained. A student said Mr. DeHart was preaching religion. Well, it is an awe-inspiring theory he was presenting to his students. But then again, so is evolution.

And naturally enough the American Civil Liberties Union, guardian of the new orthodoxy, filed a complaint.

Soon the school told Mr. DeHart to drop any references to intelligent design and stick to the textbook. And respectable textbooks were cleansed long ago of any dangerous heresies like intelligent design. They stick to Darwinian orthodoxy.

I can remember being taught that Ontology Recapitulates Phylogeny—which actually makes better poetry than science.

Nevertheless, some textbooks still use oversimplified drawings from the 19th Century to demonstrate that the development of the human embryo mirrors evolution as a whole. Take a look at a standard text like *Molecular Biology of the Cell*, and wince.

Even back in the ancient 1950s, at Centenary College of Louisiana, Dr. Mary Warters was planting seeds of doubt in young minds about this particular article of evolutionary faith. I can see her eyebrows go up even now at that theory. Dr. Warters had studied too many generations of fruit flies—she was an international expert on the genus *Drosophila*—to swallow glib metaphors about evolution, even before

DNA had come on the scene. She was a scientist, not an ideologue.

She was probably the finest teacher I ever had—and I had a number of fine teachers till I got to graduate school at an Ivy League university and found that ideology trumped scholarship.

It still does in Burlington, Washington, where Roger DeHart was told not to use any materials in his class that might cast doubt on Darwinian theory. Especially anything that indicated life was the product of an Intelligent Designer.

It figures. At least since Socrates was accused of corrupting the young, punishing teachers who dare to make students think has been one of the more honored traditions of Western civilization. If a gods-fearing pagan like Plato were to come back, he doubtless wouldn't be allowed to teach in Burlington, Wash.

The repression of academic freedom in our own time—aka political correctness—is alone enough to raise questions about the evolution of man. Where the spirit of intellectual inquiry is concerned, we seem to be regressing—not evolving.

Here in Arkansas, this session of the Legislature mercifully spared the state a law that would have censored arguments in favor of evolution.

It's just as wrong, and just as embarrassing, to gag teachers who question the Darwinian line. And yet they're treated as academic heretics. A professor of ecology and evolution at the University of Chicago is quoted in the *New York Times*, our most orthodox journal, as describing the theory of intelligent design as "devilishly clever." Just another satanic plot.

Why not just let teachers teach—without denouncing them as demonic and demanding that the state shut them up? What could be more educational than allowing different ideas to compete in a good teacher's classroom?

Besides, there is something inherently suspect about a scientific theory no one is allowed to question. It asks us to take too much on faith.

Paul Greenberg is the Pulitzer Prize-winning editorial page editor of the Arkansas Democrat-Gazette. This editorial originally appeared on 4/22/2001.

Speaking of Education

...continued from page 7

race could be inherently superior to another. House Concurrent Resolution 74 also retains a reference to Adolf Hitler and others who have used racist philosophies to justify genocide. ... The House passed the resolution unani- mously.”

— *The Times-Picayune* (New Orleans),
May 9, 2001, p. 2

High School Teacher “Reassigned”

Rodney LeVake, a high school biology teacher in Minnesota, was reassigned out

of teaching biology and into a ninth grade science course when he voiced the opinion that evolution was not a theory that could hold up under scientific scrutiny. He filed a lawsuit regarding freedom of religion, free speech, and due process rights. The courts found that none of these was violated with the decision of the authorities to remove him from teaching biology. The decision reads, in part:

“Because LeVake’s position paper and his statement to Hubert make it clear that LeVake would not teach the required course curriculum in the manner established by the school board, LeVake has not presented any genuine issue of material fact re-

garding his free exercise, free speech, and due process claims. Thus, the district court did not err in granting respondents’ motion for summary judgment.”

— <http://www.finance-commerce.com/court/opinions/010514/c8001613.htm>

A formal legal opinion from John Calvert Esq. regarding teaching intelligent design and censoring evolution in schools may be read at the following website:

<http://www.intelligentdesignnetwork.org/legalopinion.htm>

Editor’s note: All S.O.E. (Speaking of Education) items in this issue are kindly provided by Penny Fryman.

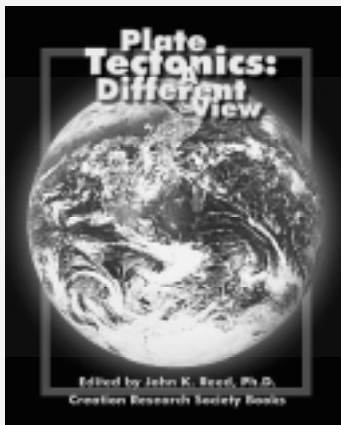


Plate Tectonics: A Different View

For many years, creationists have debated the role of plate tectonics in Earth history. Some creationists accept plate tectonics in a catastrophic form, and believe that those events were a part of the Genesis Flood.

However, others remain skeptical, and a new CRS technical monograph, *Plate Tectonics: A Different View*, presents their position. Contributing authors include Michael Oard, John Woodmorappe, Carl Froede, and John Reed.

The initial chapters provide an introduction to the issue and a compendium of published criticisms of plate tectonics. Other chapters

discuss ongoing problems with subduction, the Wilson Cycle, continental fit, the African Plate, and the inability of plate tectonics to contribute to field interpretation at the Midcontinent Rift.

This book offers a compelling argument that neither uniformitarian nor catastrophic plate tectonics has the evidence needed to support the broad explanatory power that makes them so popular. As the book says, “A theory that purports to explain everything, must.” For anyone with questions about this issue, this book provides many answers and a coherent opposition to plate tectonics.

191 pages (8.5 x 11)
\$20 plus \$4 for postage and handling

Order from:

CRS Books • P.O. Box 8263St. • Joseph, MO 64508-8263

Letters

Is Radioactive Decay Constant? Apology and Erratum

In a recent issue of *Creation Matters* (Vol. 6, No. 2), I cited several sources of information on the changes in radioactive decay rates in the plasma state of several isotopes. I did not, however, give credit to the source of these citations. That source is the following article by John Woodmorappe. It is excellent, and I highly recommend reading it in its entirety. My apologies to Mr. Woodmorappe.

— Glenn Jackson, Ed.D.

Woodmorappe J., March 21, 2001. *Billionfold Acceleration of Radioactivity Demonstrated in Laboratory.*
http://www.answersingenesis.org/docs2001/0321acc_beta_decay.asp

Editor’s note: In Dr. Jackson’s article there was an incorrect reference. The correct journal for the 1987 Takahashi article is *Physical Review C* (Vol. 26, p. 1522), not *Physical Review*

Letters. The other two references are to *Physical Review Letters*, as indicated. Thanks to Dr. Jerry N. McKamy for pointing this out to us. The citation is correct in J. Woodmorappe’s article.

Do Creationists Publish?

Although his last secular research papers in parasitology were published in the 1980’s, our late friend and compatriot in the creation/evolution struggle, Dr. Richard Lumsden, continues to be cited in the current literature. The latest issue of *The Journal of Parasitology* [87(3), June 2001], features a study by a group of workers at UCLA on human brain tapeworm parasites (pages 510-521), and it references work by Dr. Lumsden done over 20 years ago on electron microscopy of the tapeworm. Creationists not only publish, but their published works continue to be recognized by the world’s top scientists.

— Mark Armitage, M.S.

Speaking of Science

Commentaries on recent news from science

Cell Nucleus Surface More Complicated than Expected

Researchers at North Carolina State University¹ made an unexpected discovery: cell nuclear membranes are groovy. The surfaces of some plant cells were found to contain tunnels and grooves with complex channels used by RNA, enzymes, and organelles to enter and exit the cell's master control center. They found that parts of the endoplasmic reticulum (a system of folded channels) pass right into the center of the nucleus, and they watched organelles moving along actin filaments in the grooves.

Dr. Nina Allen, botanist at the university, said, "The implication of this discovery is that we need to look more closely at communications between the nucleus and the cytoplasm, and we need to understand why these grooves and tunnels are there."

What they witnessed was a highly complex transportation system at work. Imagine a city with overlapping monorails shuttling cargo loads in all directions, with loading docks, signaling systems, and security checks: this is what goes on in miniature inside the cell. The picture of the cell that is being slowly revealed to our instruments is one of bewildering complexity. Every day, it becomes increasingly difficult to imagine Darwinism surviving the onslaught of such discoveries.

1 Anonymous. 2001. *Biologists Find Cells' Nuclear Surface More Complicated Than Expected*. News Release, NC State University News Services Office, June 7, 2001

Scientist Studies How Ants Stick to Glass Upside Down

A German researcher was intrigued by how insects can stick to smooth surfaces, even upside down, and yet not stick to their own feet, so he studied their tiny footpads under the microscope, according to *Science News*.² Dr. Holldobler found secrets that would make nano-robot designers envious: claws that engage retractable adhesive footpads under hydraulic pressure.

As reported in a *PNAS* article³, he found that the footpads that secrete a sticky

substance are only deployed on smooth surfaces, and that the fancy footwork doesn't require brain power, but activates even when the legs are separated from the body. Bees employ an additional mechanism similar to elastic springs. Some insects can hold objects 100 times heavier than they are when hanging upside down, and not be bowled over by a raindrop hitting them broadside.

How many times have you watched a little ant scurrying up a window and thought it a nuisance, rather than a marvel of nano-technology? Next time, look, wonder, and give God the glory.

2 *Science News*, 159(June 2, 2001):341.

3 Federle, W., ... and B. Holldobler. 2001. Biomechanics of the movable pretarsal adhesive organ in ants and bees. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences* 98:6215.

Tiny Mammal Ancestor Found

A fossil from China of a tiny mammaliaform, as small as a paper clip, has recently been all the rage on the science news wires. As published in *Science*,⁴ the fossil is alleged to be 195 million years old, 45 million years older than previous mammalian ancestors. But *Hadrosacodius wui* (its scientific name) has all the key features of true mammals, including larger brain and detached middle ear bones, despite its diminutive size.

Small size is not ancestral any more than a Palm Pilot is ancestral to mainframes; it could be looked at instead as a triumph of micro-engineering. All the features of mammals are present from the start in this cute little pet, if you accept their dates, so where is the evolution? We have seen similar stories recently with ticks and salamanders, to illustrate that this is not an isolated anomaly.

Evolutionists are surprised that brain size and detached middle ear bones apparently evolved together. So here you have two improbabilities occurring simultaneously, effectively multiplying the improbability. What's more, they occurred rapidly, much earlier than previously thought. Evolutionists cling to their phylogenetic trees and interpretations not because of the evidence, but in spite of it.

Lucy of *Peanuts* fame provides a fable on how a priori reasoning confronts anomalies. Pointing to an object on the sidewalk, she said, "Wow, look at the size of that butterfly, Charlie Brown! That must be one of those big tropical butterflies from Brazil." Upon closer inspection, Charlie Brown commented, "That's no butterfly; that's a potato chip." "Well, what do you know; you're right, Charlie Brown," Lucy replied. "I wonder how a potato chip got all the way up here from Brazil?"

4 Luo, Z., A.W. Crompton, and A. Sun. 2001. A new mammaliaform from the Early Jurassic and evolution of mammalian characteristics. *Science* 292:1535-1540.

Distributed Shipping Design Found in Nerve Cells

Researchers at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute have found that dendrites, the long stems on neurons, have the ability to manufacture their own proteins.⁵ Erin M. Schuman, Institute investigator from CalTech, remarked on the economy and efficiency of this design: "It's like the difference between centralized and distributed freight shipping," she said. "With central shipping, you need a huge number of trucks that drive all over town, moving freight from a central factory. But with distributed shipping, you have multiple distribution centers that serve local populations, with far less transport involved." This research appeared in the journal *Neuron*.⁶ There appears to be no end in sight for the design wonders we will find in living cells, and the frayed nerves these will cause for evolutionists.

5 Anonymous. 2001. *Visualizing Protein Synthesis in Living Neurons*. Howard Hughes Medical Institute, Research News, 25 May 2001.

<http://www.hhmi.org/news/schuman.html#TOP>

6 Aakalu, G., W.B. Smith, N. Nguyen, C. Jiang, and E.M. Schuman. 2001. Dynamic visualization of local protein synthesis in hippocampal neurons. *Neuron* 30:489-502.

Editor's note: All S.O.S. (Speaking of Science) items in this issue are kindly provided by David Coppedge. Additional commentaries and reviews of news items by David can be seen at: <http://creationsafaris.com/crevnews.htm>

Speaking of Education

Baylor and Harvard Collaboration?

Baylor University, which now teaches nothing but evolution in its subjects concerning life on earth, is in active dialogue with Harvard Divinity School. “While the talks are being called exploratory, Harvard and Baylor sources said they may lead to more collaboration down the road, possibly including exchanges of faculty and students.” Harvard has recently established a chair in evangelical studies and Baylor is seeking to distance itself from the right wing, conservative faction within its Baptist denomination. Robert Sloan, the president of Baylor, stated that he thought Baylor students could benefit from exposure to the value Harvard places on pluralism and social action in its ministerial training.

— *Boston Globe*, March 22, 2001, p. B4

‘RRR You Ready?’

“‘RRR You Ready?’ is the new waste-reduction manual, weighing five pounds and prepared at a cost of \$2 million, that has been distributed to public schools by the New York City Department of Sanitation.” “RRR” no longer means “reading, ’riting, and ’rithmetic.” It now stands for reduce, reuse, recycle. “The manual preaches reverence for handling waste. Students who can’t pass reading or mathematics tests are urged to spend classroom time building a museum of garbage, then go home and determine the weight of their family’s trash, all the while hectoring their parents to avoid ‘overpackaged’ takeout food in plastic containers.” Worship of God is out; worship of the earth is fast coming in.

— *The New York Times*, April 20, 2001, p. B1

Textbook Wars

India is involved in the textbook wars, too. The long-used standard history text, Romila Thapar’s “History of India” is being shelved by the National Council of Education and Research. Replacing it is a history text promoting “patriotism,” “values education,” and “India’s contribution to the world civilizations.”

There are more than one billion people in

India, 80% of whom are Hindu. 14% of the people are Muslim. There are many Christians, Sikhs, Buddhists, and Jains. There are 24 languages, each spoken by a million or more people and many lesser dialects. So the question is, “whose values will be taught?”

Meanwhile, “In Japan, nationalist politicians have attempted to rewrite history textbooks to downplay Japan’s role in World War II. And in South Africa, education ministers are trying to decide when African history begins: with the arrival of the Dutch, of the British, or with the ascendance of Nelson Mandela.”

— *The Christian Science Monitor*, April 25, 2001, p. 6

Critical Thinking Outlawed

As reported in First Things:

“Federal courts in Louisiana recently reached the conclusion that too much thinking about the difficult issues involved in evolution can be downright dangerous. The Tangipahoa Parish Board of Education required its teachers to read a statement before any classroom discussion dealing with evolution, urging the students ‘to exercise critical thinking and gather all information possible and closely examine each alternative toward forming an opinion’ regarding ‘the origin of life and matter.’ Some parents filed suit alleging that this violated the First Amendment religion clause, a federal trial court agreed, and a three-judge panel of the Fifth Circuit Court of Appeals affirmed. The U.S. Supreme Court declined to review the case... The judges made their own leap here, asserting that promoting critical thinking about the origins of the universe must be equated with advancing religion.”

— *First Things* 112 (April 2001): 20-22
<http://www.firstthings.com/ftissues/ft0104/opinion/gaffney.html>

From Pennsylvania

Pennridge High School senior Joe Baker

has been attending Pennridge School Board meetings for a number of months now, pointing out that some of the material in the biology texts is outdated and wrong. He is using Wells’ book *Icons of Evolution* as a reference. Baker has been taken seriously enough that both Eugenie Scott and Jonathan Wells have been involved in this one.

— *The Morning Call* (Allentown), May 7, 2001, p. B1

And more:

“In Pennsylvania, the state Board of Education gave preliminary approval this year to science and technology academic standards that require schools to set standards that make students think critically about the theory of evolution, said Beth Gaydos, a spokeswoman for the state Department of Education.”

The discussion, mostly negative, regarding the newly-phrased academic standards is raging in Pennsylvania. It is, predictably, being characterized by opponents as a religious issue — “creationism in the back door.” The controversy is over one sentence in the thirty-two page document, which reads (regarding tenth grade standards), “Analyze evidence of fossil records, similarities in body structures, embryological studies and DNA studies that support or do not support the theory of evolution.”

— *The Morning Call* (Allentown), May 20, 2001, p. A17

Louisiana Anti-racism Resolution

Rep. Sharon Weston Broome originally authored House Concurrent Resolution 74, which “denounced the use of evolutionary biology to bolster white supremacist ideologies such as Nazism and stated that Darwin’s books set forth the concept that a particular race could be superior to another.” The measure passed — but only when stripped of its original language and intent.

“Instead, the resolution condemns racism and the notion that one

...continued on p. 5

Gish-Shermer Debate Heats Up Phoenix

by David Oberpriller

Dr. Michael Shermer, founder of the Skeptics Society and *Skeptic* magazine, was Dr. Duane Gish's opponent in the debate held in the auditorium of Calvary Community Church in Phoenix, Arizona on June 1, 2001. On a hot Phoenix evening, over 900 people packed the auditorium to overflowing.

Both Dr. Shermer and Dr. Gish were energetic and enthusiastic and the exchange was lively, as was the audience. The debate, sponsored by the Creation Research Society and the Arizona Origin Science Association, was audio-broadcast live on both KFLR 90.3 Christian radio and through Calvary Community Church's Web site.

A former creationist

Dr. Shermer claimed that he was formerly a creationist and had been "born again" while in high school, though he later gave up on both creation and Christianity. Throughout the debate, he insisted that there are many different positions within creation and evolution and that the issues are not just "black and white."

He stated that creation is not science but religion, and that creationists do not do scientific research. He discussed the results of a Y-chromosome study published in the current issue of *Science* magazine, and claimed that the human eye was designed wrongly. He cited as evidence for evolution the inability of introduced rock wallabies on the island of Oahu to breed with original populations in Australia.

Only two possible positions

Gish began by asserting that there are only two possible positions — creation or evolution. Evidence against one is evidence for the other. He stated that neither creation nor evolution is a scientific theory, but both deal with history. While pointing out that evolutionists do not own the public schools, Dr. Gish asserted that evolution is taught in the public schools as scientific fact.



photo by Gary Locklair

He presented the Cambrian explosion and the lack of ancestors or intermediate forms of fishes in the fossil record as evidence that the created kinds appeared fully formed — evidence for creation and against evolution — evidence which must be answered. Dr. Gish ended by addressing the various hominid fossils that have been touted as ancestors of man, such as Pilt-down man, Nebraska man, Neanderthals, and the Australopithicine "Lucy."

Which creation "myth"

Dr. Shermer, in his first rebuttal, attempted to survey the audience as to which of many creation myths of different cultures they were willing to teach in the schools alongside the Bible creation story — insisting that if they were to teach Biblical creation they would have to provide equal time to the others. He presented examples of how scientists can be wrong and can even admit it.

In Dr. Gish's first rebuttal, he reiterated his challenge of the Cambrian explosion and fish origins, and stated that Dr. Shermer had failed to address those issues. He discussed the monarch butterfly life cycle as evidence for design, and explained how the second law of thermodynamics make evolution impossible.

Gaps and transitional forms

In Dr. Shermer's second rebuttal, he discussed gaps in the fossil record and transitional forms, stating that it was not nec-

essary for features to serve the same function while they were forming as when they were fully formed.

In Dr. Gish's second rebuttal, he again challenged Dr. Shermer to respond to the Cambrian explosion and fish origins. He also briefly responded to a number of Dr. Shermer's points including the design of the human eye, the Oahu wallabies, and vestigial organs.

During his closing statement, Dr. Shermer stated that the earth is an open system with the sun as energy source — thus the 2nd Law of Thermodynamics does not apply to evolution. He also read his own parody version of the Genesis creation account.

Energy alone not sufficient

In Dr. Gish's closing statement, he asserted that energy is not sufficient to cause increasing complexity in an open system, but that design and control is also necessary. He also pointed out that it is not just Christians that accept the truth of creation, but cited his several invitations to speak on creation to Muslims in Turkey and to Jews in Jerusalem.

The debate closed with questions from the audience directed alternately to each debater, allowing further lively exchange. At one point, there was a flurry of questions from Dr. Shermer of the form "Why would a good God ..." allow bad things to happen.

Dr. Gish responded by stating that Dr. Shermer had stopped asking scientific questions and was now asking theological questions — and he would respond in kind. This allowed Dr. Gish to briefly present the gospel message, starting at the perfect creation and the fall of Adam as the real reason for the bad things happening, and then to describe the solution as presented in Scripture.

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For more information, contact:

Dave Endy, Pilgrim Tours

800-322-0788

Western Canyons Creation Tour

Tour highlights:

- Day 1 — Oak Creek Canyon
- Day 2 — Sunset Crater, Volcano National Monument
- Day 3 — Grand Canyon, South Rim
- Day 4 — Grand Canyon, North Rim
- Day 5 — Bryce Canyon and Zion National Park
- Day 6 — Lake Powell, Rainbow Bridge National Monument
- Day 7 — Return to Phoenix

This seven-day tour will be led by Dr. John Meyer, internationally-known research scientist and director of the CRS Van Andel Creation Research Center.

The tour of natural formations and wondrous scenery will provide an understanding of natural history within a Biblical perspective and creationist framework.

This tour will be distinctively Christian, with daily natural history talks, Bible studies, Christian fellowship and encouragement.

Date: September 10-16, 2001

Price: \$867 / person, double occupancy

Origin and Finish: Phoenix, AZ

Price includes: First-class lodging, some continental breakfasts, four dinners, park admissions, deluxe motorcoach transportation, baggage handling, taxes, and meal gratuities.

Not included in price: Transportation to Phoenix, gratuities to tour guide and bus driver.

Notices

CRS Membership Renewals

With the mailing of the March issue of the *Creation Research Society Quarterly*, the 2000 / 2001 membership / subscription year has come to a close.

Renewal notices have been sent to all members and subscribers. If you have misplaced your notice, you can use the renewal application form in your last issue of the CRSQ.

Renewing promptly will save the CRS additional postage and personnel expenses, and will assure that you receive your next issue on time.

Life Member Special

From now until September 1, 2001, you can **become a card-carrying creationist at \$50 off the regular rate**. You can become a life member of the Creation Research Society (and never have to worry about renewals again) for the low price of \$300. You will receive a membership card.

Become a life member of the CRS, receive the *CRS Quarterly* and *Creation Matters* for the rest of your life ... this is surely the best value in all creation.

Creation Calendar

Note: Items in "Creation Calendar" are for information only; the listing of an event does not necessarily imply endorsement by the Creation Research Society.

July 21

Hear God's Side: Visit to Kansas Univ. Natural History Museum
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

July 28

The Creation Model in Chinese Writing
by Mr. & Mrs. Mason Williams, former missionaries to Japan
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 pm, Cornerstone Community Church, Torrance, CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

July 28 - August 11

Rocky Mountain Safari - SW Colorado — Field trip sponsored
by Creation Safaris and BSA of San Fernando Valley, CA
Contact: David Coppedge (661)298-3685, bwana@creationsafaris.com

August 12-17

Redcloud Family Adventure #2 — Fun-filled vacation for families with
children of any age
Alpha Omega Institute, Grand Junction, CO
Contact: Andrea Korow (970)523-9943, www.discovercreation.org

August 15-17

Discontinuity — Understanding Biology in the Light of Creation
Conference sponsored by Baraminology Study Group, Center for Origins
Research and Education (Bryan College), and Cedarville University
To be held at Cedarville University
Contact: Dr. Todd Wood, Box 7731, Bryan College, Dayton, TN 37321
(423)775-7277, info@bryancore.org

August 18

Fossils and Geology of Kansas City
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 4:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

August 25

Information Theory and the Creator and Dinosaur Graveyards
by Pat Roy
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 pm, Cornerstone Community Church, Torrance, CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

Aug. 31 - Sept. 3

*Geologic Formations of Southeast Missouri: Johnson's Shut-ins, Taum
Sauk Mountain, Elephant Rocks, Cave*
Family Creation Safari
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

September 10-16

Western Canyons Bus Tour — Creation Tours led by
Dr. John Meyer, Dir. CRS' Van Andel Creation Research Center
Origin Phoenix, AZ. Paid registration required.
Contact: Dave Endy, Pilgrim Tours (800)322-0788

September 23

The True History of the World
by Brand Adams
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 pm, Cornerstone Community Church, Torrance, CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

September 27

Design in Human Physiology by Dr. Joseph Mastropaolo
12:00 noon (OK to bring sack lunch)
Azusa Pacific University, Mary Hill Center #130
Contact: Mark Armitage (626)815-6000 x5519

October 7-13

Utah Photo Tour — Field trip sponsored
by Creation Safaris and BSA of San Fernando Valley, CA
Contact: David Coppedge (661)298-3685, bwana@creationsafaris.com

October 18

Dinosaurs and the Bible by Dave Phillipps, M.S.
12:00 noon (OK to bring sack lunch)
Azusa Pacific University, Mary Hill Center #130
Contact: Mark Armitage (626)815-6000 x5519

October 27

Evolution Violates the Constitution and Promotes Extinction of All Life
by Dr. Joseph Mastropaolo
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 pm, Cornerstone Community Church, Torrance, CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

October 27

KATY Bike Trail: Bicycle along the beautiful Missouri River Bluffs
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 6:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

November 15

Halos, Half-lives, and Heresy by Mark Armitage, M.S.
12:00 noon (OK to bring sack lunch)
Azusa Pacific University, Mary Hill Center #130
Contact: Mark Armitage (626)815-6000 x5519

November 24

Squaw Creek Wildlife Refuge: Migration and other marvels of God
Family Creation Safari, 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
CSA for Mid-America (Kansas City Area)
Contact: Tom Willis (816)618-3610, csahq@juno.com

2002

February 23

Critical Thinking to Detect Flaws in Evolution Arguments
by David Coppedge
South Bay Creation Science Association
7:00 pm, Cornerstone Community Church, Torrance, CA
Contact: Garth Guessman (310)952-0424

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