



GOOD NEWS as we post stage one of our Web Museum on line and what great evidence has come to light since our last ENEWS. Enjoy both as we bring you Evidence News 6/07 with EDitorial COMment, and a big G'DAY from John Mackay and the Creation Research Team worldwide.
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INDEX

1. WEB MUSEUM STAGE 1 ONLINE
2. WARM WATER FOSSILS IN ANTARCTICA
3. SALES SOAR CLIMATE CHANGE DVD
4. FEATHEROSAURUS FLOPS
5. SHARKY GENES
6. FLIES PRE-PROGRAMMED FOR FRUIT
7. UNDERWATER DINO TRACKS FOUND
8. WALKING WITH ORANGUTANS
9. ADOPT AN APE AS A CHILD CLAIMS U.N. GROUP
10. HOT LINKS TO NEW Canadian Creation Museum
11. CHEMISTRY PROF WRITES
12. HAM ATTRACTS FLIES
13. MORE PICS ON KEN HAM'S CREATION MUSEUM
14. TENNESSEE GIANTS MUSEUM TO OPEN
15. WOLLEMI PINES UNIQUE PLUMBING
16. PRIMEVAL SOUP RE-BREWED
17. SEAHORSES
18. DONATIONS

1. WEB MUSEUM STAGE 1 ONLINE - go to www.evidencweb.net click on FOSSILS, or MULTIMEDIA for slide shows and much more. This is a continuing project so look forward to stage 2 with our great Dinosaur section and online creation classes (a few months away yet) and yes, we have used all the \$20,000 gift given to kick start this project so if you'd like to get on board and help us with this material for students around the globe go to <http://www.creationresearch.net/secure/donations/Donations.htm> . GIFTS TAX DEDUCTIBLE in USA and UK.

2. WARM WATER FOSSILS IN ANTARCTICA, according to a report in BBC News Online, 19 April 2007. Researchers in the Antarctic Drilling (Andrill) Program have extracted a 1,285 metre (4,215ft) long core of rock and sediment from the Ross Ice Shelf. The core indicates that the ice shelf has fluctuated in size about 60 times as climate varied in the past. The researchers found several layers of diatoms – microscopic plants with distinctive silica shells. Some are previously unknown to science, but others are known species that live in much warmer waters well to the present north of Antarctica. Ross Powell, from Northern Illinois University commented, "Our initial interpretations tell us that there were times when it was very cold and the ice was very big - and those conditions were in the youngest and the oldest part of the core, and then in between - over the period of Earth history we call the Pliocene - we are looking at something that was much warmer, when the ice was much more dynamic, going backwards and forwards; and in between the ice being there, there was open water with the diatoms coming in." The Andrill project plans to drill another core that goes to the Miocene era, which was even warmer than the Pliocene.

ED. COM. These findings fit with lots of other evidences that Antarctica's climate (and planet earths) has gone up and down through the ages e.g. red soil, dinosaur fossils and coal etc. This fits with the Biblical history of the world, which tells us that the world started out very good, with a mild moist climate. Extremes of temperature are not mentioned until after Noah's flood and earth's climate has yo-yo'd since. (Ref. global warming, microbes, polar)

3. SALES SOAR CLIMATE CHANGE DVD – now our fastest seller. Don't miss THE REALLY INCONVENIENT TRUTH about Global Warming with the Big Aussie from Down Under, International Director of Creation Research John Mackay, as he brings you CLIMATE CHANGE AND CREATION. It's a real Biblical perspective. Answers In Genesis DR MONTY WHITE (PhD Gas Kinetics) writes: "My wife and I

watched it last night - it is excellent. We ordered 20 copies today. This needs to be shown to every Government minister, never mind about Christians. I love the way it is so Biblically based."

Many people are getting a copy, then phoning back for 5 or 10 more to give to friends. Don't miss out. This is definitely becoming labelled as one of our best teaching DVDs ever. Available now in all countries. Web order on www.creationresearch.net click PRODUCT then NEW PRODUCTS then scroll to your country.

4. FEATHEROSAURUS FLOPS, according to reports in Proceedings of the Royal Society B doi:10.1098.rspb.2007.0352, ABC (Australia) News in Science and news@nature 23 May 2007. A team of researchers including Theagarten Lingham-Soliar of University of KwaZulu-Natal and Alan Feduccia of University of North Carolina have closely examined a fossil named Sinosauroptryx, a fossil found in Liaoning province, northeastern China in 1994. The turkey sized long-tailed dinosaur was covered with a down of fibres originally claimed by Chinese researchers to be primitive feathers, but this new study has swept away the proto-feathers claim. The 'feathers' have turned out to be the remains of a frill of collagen fibres that ran down the dinosaur's back. The report states: "The fibres show a striking similarity to the structure and levels of organisation of dermal collagen," the kind of tough elastic strands found on the skin of sharks and reptiles today, the investigators say. The fibres have an unusual "beaded" structure, but this most likely was caused by a natural twisting of the strands, and a clumping together caused by dehydration, when the dinosaur died and its tissues dried. The tough fibres could have been a form of armour to protect the small dinosaur from predators, or perhaps had a structural use, by stiffening its tail. These findings are confirmed in the holotype Sinosauroptryx and NIGP 127587. The proposal that these fibres are protofeathers is dismissed." ABC article: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/2007/1930802.htm>

Professor Lingham-Soliar's team does not take issue with the theory birds are descended from dinosaurs, but is dismayed by the reckless leap to the conclusion that Sinosauroptryx had the all-important "protofeathers", even though the dinosaur was phylogenetically far removed from Archaeopteryx. "There is not a single close-up representation of the integumental structure alleged to be a proto feather," Professor Lingham-Soliar says, given that the evolution of the feather is pivotal in the evolutionary history of life.

ED. COM. In 2001 Creation Research wrote: "Other reptile fossils have been previously found with fibrous structures projecting from them and if it wasn't for the current obsession to link dinosaurs and birds, no-one who'd ever seen a bird would ever claim these are feathers." Seems we were right and we haven't changed our minds, but the evolutionists may have to. (Ref. prediction, feather, birds)

5. SHARKY GENES reported in ABC News in Science 30 May 2007. Researchers at the Institute of Molecular and Cell Biology, Singapore, have studied gene sequences in the elephant sharks, bony fish, chickens, mice, dogs and humans. They found 154 genes in humans that could be matched to genes in sharks, mice and dogs. The researchers expected to find similarities between humans, mice and dogs because they are all mammals, but elephant sharks are a long way from people on the evolutionary tree. Furthermore, humans and sharks had more in common than humans and bony fish. "Byrappa Venkat, who led the study commented, "This was a surprising finding, since teleost (bony) fish and humans are more closely related than the elephant shark is to humans." However, experts in shark biology are not so surprised because humans and sharks have some physiological processes in common that are not found in bony fish. For example, sharks have internal fertilisation so their sperm have a receptor in the tip that enables them to combine with the female egg cell. Bony fish sperm don't have these receptors because they enter egg through a pore that humans and sharks don't have. Sean Van Sommeran, executive director of the Pelagic Shark Research Foundation in California, says that he was not entirely surprised to learn about the shark-human similarities. He commented, "Sharks copulate like mammals and females give birth to live young, so sharks do have features in common with mammals. It makes sense that these would show up in the genome."

ABC article: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/2007/1937469.htm>

ED. COM. It is good to see someone talking common sense about genome studies. If two living things have some similar structure, such as the sperm receptors they would be expected to both have the genes needed for making it. This does not prove one organism evolved into another, particularly when the supposed intermediate forms don't have the genes, but it does fit with the separate creation of things which have similar functions. If the creator wanted two living things to carry out some function in a similar way he would give them both the same genes, even if he gave them many other different functions. (Ref. vertebrates, genomics, information)

6. FLIES PRE-PROGRAMMED FOR FRUIT, reported by ABC News in Science, 24 April 2007. The Tahitian Noni shrub has a fruit that smells so bad it has been nicknamed "vomit fruit". The fruit produces both hexanoic and octanoic acids, which not only puts people off, but repels most insects. However, one species

of fruit fly, named "Drosophila sechellia," is attracted to the fruit, where it feeds and lays its eggs. Japanese scientists have studied the genes that determine the fly's sense of smell and found two genes that are different to corresponding genes in other fruit flies. To test the theory that these genes made the fruit attractive to such flies, they replaced the olfactory genes in a different species of fly with those "D. sechellia". The genetically modified flies were attracted to the fruit. Takashi Matsuo, one of the scientists involved in the study commented, "We found, for the first time, the genes that determine the insects' preference [for] their host plants."

ABC article: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/2007/1905522.htm>

ED. COM. These findings are a challenge to the theory that insects and plants co-evolved, particularly when we have just proved that insects will be attracted to whatever smell we have creatively implanted a smell gene for. Shades of designer gene creation don't you think? (ref. ecology, genetics, olfaction)

7. UNDERWATER DINO TRACKS FOUND, according to reports in ScienceNOW, BBC News Online, 24 May 2007, and ABC (Australia) News in Science and New Scientist News, 25 May 2007. A team of Spanish and French palaeontologists have found a series of dinosaur toe prints preserved in sandstone in the Cameros Basin in northern Spain. The track consists of twelve sets of imprints, each consisting of two or three S-shaped impressions consistent with the toes of a theropod dinosaur – two legged like T rex. The rock also has well preserved current ripple marks, which a sedimentologist on the team claimed were made by flowing water 3.2 metres deep. The toe marks were on average 15 cm wide and 50 cm long. The creature that made them had a stride of about 2.5 metres and had its legs spread about 44cm apart. These findings indicate the imprints were made by a large dinosaur battling its way against a strong current. Palaeontologist David Fastovsky of the University of Rhode Island commented the dinosaur was not swimming, since its toes were touching the ground, although he believes they could swim in deeper water if they had to.

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/6687129.stm>

ABC article: <http://www.abc.net.au/science/news/stories/2007/1933031.htm>

New Scientist article:

<http://www.newscientist.com/channel/life/dn11936-tracks-in-ancient-lake-show-dinosaurs-swam.html>

ED. COM. The fact that both the tracks and ripple marks were preserved means they were rapidly buried by another layer of sediment before they eroded. This combined with the picture of large dinosaur struggling against deep fast flowing water should make people think of a flood current, not slow gradual processes. (ref. catastrophism, deposition, fossilisation)

8. WALKING WITH ORANGUTANS described in news@nature, ScienceNOW, BBC News Online and New Scientist News, 31 May 2007. A group of British scientists have spent a year observing the way orangutans move around the trees of Gunung Leuser National Park in Sumatra, Indonesia. The researchers observed that orangutans walk on all fours when on large branches with a diameter of more than 20cm, but on thinner branches they walk upright using their arms to support their weight by grasping other branches. When moving about like this they straightened their legs at the knees and hips in a similar way to humans. The ability to move over thinner branches like this makes it easier to move from tree to tree and to find fruit, which is usually found on the ends of thinner branches. Robin Crompton of the University of Liverpool, UK who took part in the study commented, "Walking upright and balancing themselves by holding branches with their hands is an effective way of moving on smaller branches. It helps explain how early human ancestors learnt to walk upright while living in trees, and how they would have used this way of moving when they left the trees for a life on the ground." Orangutans are believed to be the most distant from humans on the Great Ape evolutionary tree, but apes that are closer to us, i.e. chimps and gorillas, cannot walk with their legs extended. The British researchers suggest that humans and orangutans inherited the ability to walk upright from a tree-dwelling common ancestor of all apes and humans, and chimps and gorillas lost it. Crompton said to New Scientist there is fossil evidence suggesting bipedalism (upright two legged walking) evolved earlier than previously believed and it would explain why "the orangutan is the only ape with a knee joint similar to that of humans." Not all scientists agree with this theory. Anthropologist Daniel Lieberman of Harvard University in Cambridge, Massachusetts commented to news@nature, "This is a good argument for why upright posture would be selected for in trees," but he goes on to say "Unless knuckle-walking evolved independently in both the chimpanzee and gorilla lineages, the evolution of bipedalism from an orang-like form of arboreal assisted bipedalism seems unlikely".

BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/science/nature/6709627.stm>

New Scientist article:

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/dn11965-our-upright-walking-started-in-the-trees.html>

ED. COM. The fact that orangutans can walk upright in trees means nothing more than they are well designed to live in forests, climb and walk in trees where their long arms prevent falling as they safely pluck fruit. Human beings are well designed to walk on the ground, having short arms so they easily fall out of

trees and therefore don't walk on thin branches to find food. Any who try are naturally selected against and eliminated from the population. The idea that humans inherited upright walking from a common ancestor to orangutans is blind faith as no-one has seen any other creature evolve to or from an organutan or a human being. (Ref. gait, anthropology, great-apes)

9. ADOPT AN APE AS A CHILD CLAIMS U.N. GROUP, according to an article BBC News Magazine Online, 29 Mar 2007 and news@nature 26 April 2007. An Austrian court has rejected a claim by British woman Paula Stibbe to be granted legal guardianship of a chimpanzee. She believes the chimp deserves the same protection as a human child. The outcome of the case depended on whether great apes deserved human rights, and was backed by a UN organisation named the "Great Ape Survival Project". Ian Redmond of this organisation claims, "Apes are special because they are so closely related to us. Chimpanzees and Bonobos are our joint closest living relatives, differing by only one per cent of DNA - so close we could accept a blood transfusion or a kidney. Gorillas are next, then Orang-utans." However, his strongest reason for giving apes such recognition is that they are capable of mirror self awareness, i.e. they recognise themselves in a mirror. Redmond commented, "This self-awareness surely suggests that they know they exist." Apes are also highly social and have similar lifespans.

Zoologist Charlotte Uhlenbroek, who also believed apes deserve special legal rights commented, "If I was an alien from Mars and looked at human society and a society of apes then in terms of the emotional life I would see no distinct difference, although we live very different lives because of language and technology." However, UK Biology Professor Steve Jones disagrees with the idea of human rights for any animals. He commented, "Where do you stop? It seems to be that being human is unique and nothing to do with biology. Say that apes share 98% of human DNA and therefore should have 98% of human rights. Well, mice share 90% of human DNA. Should they get 90% of human rights? And plants have more DNA than humans. Rights and responsibilities go together and I've yet to see a chimp imprisoned for stealing a banana because they don't have a moral sense of what's right and wrong." BBC article: <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/6505691.stm>

ED.COM. For once, Steve Jones has said something we agree with - being human is unique and not just in the biology of the body. But Steve Jones does not really understand why human beings are so unique. It is because we are made in the image of God, and that is where our sense of morality comes from. It is also the source of the language and technology that Charlotte Uhlenbroek admits is unique to humans. We speak and write because we are made in the image of the God who speaks. That's why He calls himself "The Word" (see John 1:1) and we are creative in our use of the resources of the earth because we are made in the image of the One who created all things. However, as long as the theory of evolution is used to deceive people into believing that human beings are just animals, there are certain to be more legal cases and constitutional challenges that try to promote animals to the levels of equality with humans. Elephants and dolphins also show evidence of mirror image awareness. Will the next step be gay rights for pink elephants? (Ref. laws, dominion)

10. HOT LINKS TO NEW Canadian Creation Museum see www.creationresearch.net HOME PAGE left

11. CHEMISTRY PROF WRITES: Re cockroach design article in your ENEWS (ref) I have noticed that you have a good answer to scientists designing robotic mimics for natural organisms which usually goes along the lines of "if it takes an intelligent engineer to design a robot then we can conclude that it took an even more intelligent supernatural engineer to make the real thing. But have you made the connection that scientists can only MIMIC (poorly I might add) the real thing with mechanical robots and NOT MAKE THE REAL THING!! This is an important point wouldn't you say? And I am a synthetic organic chemist so I should know a little about the topic." Dr. Ed Neeland, Assoc. Prof. Chemistry Barber School of Arts and Sciences Unit 3 University of British Columbia

ED.COM. Good thought Ed.

12. HAM ATTRACTS FLIES as anti creation Museum warning is sent out from a USA anti creation group, which reads: SPECIAL ALERT: "On May 28, the young-Earth creationist ministry, Answers in Genesis, will open a new creationism museum in Petersburg, Kentucky, just south of Cincinnati, Ohio. The National Center for Science Education is asking scientists in Ohio, Indiana, and Kentucky to visit <http://sciohost.org/states> to see ways they might become involved locally in efforts to protect the integrity of science education

13. MORE PICS ON KEN HAM'S CREATION MUSEUM see <http://www.creationresearch.net/projects/Ken-Ham.htm>

14. TENNESSEE GIANTS MUSEUM TO OPEN with fossils from the "Gray" site, including giant beaver, red panda, giant sloth, rhinoceros, bear, elephant, sabre tooth cat, alligator and tapirs. Since almost none of these live in Tennessee today, and any that do are tiny by comparison - it is another hint about both ecological decline and climate change not being a new phenomenon on planet earth. The new museum is administered by the East Tennessee State University.

15. WOLLEMI PINES UNIQUE PLUMBING reported in Annals of Botany, vol 99, p609, April 2007 and Charles Sturt University News, 1 Feb 2007. The Wollemi pine tree has a distinctive umbrella shape because the branches from the trunk do not form secondary branches. Its leaves grow directly out of the main branches and the tree regularly sheds whole branches rather than dropping individual leaves. Scientists at Charles Sturt University have studied the microscopic structure of the tree and found that a unique structure in its water conveying system gives it the distinctive shape and explains why the tree cleanly drops whole branches. At the base of each branch there is a tight constriction in the water channels going into the branches. This makes the branches much easier to shed. Scientists argue this may appear to be a disadvantage as it limits the amount of water flowing into a branch, but it would not have been a problem in a warm moist environment with higher carbon dioxide levels. The scientists suggest that the constriction could explain why the tree has almost died out as Australia has become hotter and drier.

ED. COM. The Wollemi pine is proving very useful as evidence for the truth that God created plants "after their own kind (Gen 1:11). When first found it was proclaimed a living fossil, i.e. its fossils are the same as its living specimens and are therefore evidence it has reproduced after its kind. The fact that the tree has a unique plumbing system and branch structure reinforces the evidence that the wollemi was created as a separate kind of tree. Finally, the suggestion that the tree is suited for warm, moist environment with more carbon dioxide fits with the Biblical description of the world being "very good, with an atmosphere that had just the right amount of water and carbon dioxide in it to promote good tree growth. Experiments with plants tell us that a higher moisture and carbon dioxide levels suits plants better than our current atmosphere." (Ref. xylem, wood, Araucaria,)

SEE WOLLEMI PICS <http://www.creationresearch.net/products/Wollemi-Fossil-Closeups.htm>

16. PRIMEVAL SOUP RE-BREWED, as reported in Scientific American, 28 March 2007. Jeffrey Bada of Scripps Institute of Oceanography, California, has revisited the famous "origin of life" experiment made famous by Stanley Miller 1953. Miller's experiment produced amino acids, which are essential building blocks for living cells, by exposing a mixture of methane and ammonia to a regular source of electric sparks. This was meant to be a simulation of earth's primitive atmosphere in order to test the theory that organic molecules can arise spontaneously from chemical reactions produced by lightning strikes through an atmosphere of simple molecules.

Over the years scientists changed their minds about the composition of earth's early atmosphere and by 1983 had decided that it was a mix of carbon dioxide and nitrogen, rather than methane and ammonia. Miller did the experiment again in 1983 using this combination of gases, but produced hardly any amino acids. Bada has found this version of the experiment produced nitrites, chemicals that destroy amino acids as soon as they form and turn the water acidic, further inhibiting the formation of amino acids. Bada proposed that the primeval earth would have contained iron and carbonate minerals, which would have neutralised the nitrites. He has now carried out the experiment again with chemicals that neutralise nitrites and produced amino acids. Bada's results have added to an ongoing debate over whether life arose from chemicals that arose on earth alone or were chemicals from meteors and comets necessary to get life started. Christopher Chyba, an astrobiologist at Princeton University commented, "That would be a terrific result for understanding the origin of life, and for understanding the prospects for life elsewhere."

ED. COM. It is interesting that school textbooks always describe the 1953 version of Miller's experiment, even though scientists have long ceased believing in Miller's original ingredients as a model of the original earth atmosphere. Bada may have produced amino acids with his new brew, but he has the same problem that Miller had with the original brew. Each amino acid comes in two shapes that are chemically the same but different in structure, in the same way right and left hands are mirror images of one another. The amino acids in living cells are all left handed. Chance random chemical processes, such as occur in primeval soup experiments, always produce a mixture of right and left handed amino acids. The only known ways of producing pure left handed amino acids involve creative manipulation of the system, i.e. intelligent design. Furthermore, if you leave a solution of pure amino acids to chance random processes it will slowly but surely change into a mixture of right and left handed molecules. This process is called amino acid racemisation and occurs after living things die. Miller and Bada have only produced the molecules of death and have done nothing to explain the origin of life. (Ref. chirality, abiogenesis, primordial)

HIGH SCHOOL CREATION COURSE TEXT on origin of life see
<http://evidencweb.net/index.php?pr=StudentOriginOfLife>

17. SEAHORSES are normally found in marine environments but are they capable, or have they ever been capable of living in freshwater? A number of species are found in estuaries and can tolerate wide fluctuations in salinity, at least for short periods of time. In Tasmania, the Potbelly Seahorse inhabits the Tamar River estuary which, during flooding, can drop in salinity from normal seawater at 34ppt down to 18ppt. Seahorses are similar to and believed to be closely related to pipefishes of which there are a number of species that live completely in freshwater rivers around the world. Seahorse expert and evolutionist, Rudie Kuiter said: "The presently suggested relationships with the other families [pipefishes, seahorses, seadragons and pipehorses] may seem questionable when only looking at recent species. Such relationships become clearer when fossils are included in the studies of the families, as these are more primitive and less modified than recent species.....Some extinct forms represented links between different living groups."(Ref Kuiter R (2003) Seahorses, Pipefishes and their relatives p5. TMC Publishing)

ED.COM. From a creationist point of view, it is clear that the original created seahorse/pipefish kind had the genetic capacity to handle a range of salinities. After the flood, seahorses/pipefish continued to reproduce after their own kind, just as God made them to. They diversified and specialised into different environments, some in freshwater and others in marine environments as the oceans increased in salinity. It seems the seahorse LOST the capacity to live in freshwater like its ancestors though several species, like the Tasmanian one, maintain a partial tolerance.

18. DONATIONS TO HELP CREATION RESEARCH WORLDWIDE can be sent to the following addresses or use our secure Web site: www.creationresearch.net and click DONATIONS.

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