

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

# Creationism column 'is more than a little disturbing'

To the editor:  
David Warshauer's article, "Creationism is not a science," (*DTH*, Nov. 29) is more than a little disturbing. Warshauer quotes Judge William Overton's statement, "While anybody is free to approach a scientific inquiry in any fashion he chooses, he cannot properly describe the methodology used as scientific if he starts with a conclusion and refuses to change it regardless of the evidence."

What an incredibly apt summation this is of modern evolutionary thought, which begins with conclusions and then fills in the data as they seem to fit best. Is a theory that exists in direct contradiction to proven laws of physics (namely, the second law of thermodynamics) and without a single fossil of a major change between species really all that scientific?

Moreover, how in the world does throwing out all but one possible explanation for life's origin suddenly make us open-minded and champions of free thought? Quite to the contrary, this is the very attitude of intolerance Warshauer professes to detest. What Warshauer fears is actually happening at the moment and the ignorant, close-minded attitude typified by Judge Overton is the real threat to our intellectual freedom, not a two-model approach to the study of life's origins.

In the final analysis, neither "creation science" nor the "theory of evolution" can qualify as true science; they both begin with massive assumptions: "Creation science" with the assumption that some supernatural power exists and has created the world, and the "theory of evolution" with the assumption that the evolutionary mechanism's making changes between species is a proven fact. It is indeed, a matter of where we choose to put our faith.

Glenn A. Roark  
08 Old West

### Column unappreciated

To the editor:  
I was greatly intrigued by David Warshauer's column "Creationism is not a science" (*DTH*, Nov. 29). Being a biology major at UNC, I frequently search for more information concerning the dilemma of creationism vs. evolution. In this letter I am not trying to debate either side. I wish to express that Warshauer's article went unappreciated.

First, a creationist could not begin to discuss the issue with Warshauer. Contrary to Warshauer's belief, this is not due to a security in "anti-intellectual... fundamentalist doctrine," but rather the fact that Warshauer has already condemned the inerrancy of the creationists authority before the discussion begins.

Do creationists deny Darwin's *The Origin of Species*? Most knowledgeable creationists (there are a few, Warshauer) cannot disregard the entire theory of evolution. Individual variations can be observed in the simple differences between a brother and sister.

Microevolution, change resulting from minute variation, is illustrated in one way by animal and plant adaptation to extreme temperatures in their environment. Macroevolution, large change from species to species, is where the problem begins.

Due to limited space, the latter will not be discussed in this letter.

Second, the dogma with which Warshauer refers to creationism is mild compared to the dramatic taste of doctrine expressed throughout his article. Do not cement the "six days" idea. There are some creationists who believe that the six days is a relative time period used by the early writers of the Bible as an easily grasped tool for the description of the beginning of the world.

Time is not important. Science is the possession of knowledge, as distinguished from ignorance and misunderstanding, attained by systematic observation and study of the object. The beginning of time can never be recreated. No matter how hard people try to fit the conclusion to the point in question, neither man nor science can prove creation, not by science's definition.

Lastly, here comes the good part. If you and I both believe "our country was founded by people escaping the strait-jacket of religious dogmatism," do not snuff out half of the inquiries by creating your own dogma. Galileo was right. God has endowed us with sense, reason and intellect. And He wants us to use them wisely and exploratively. Warshauer, let people question. Let them explore. Let them use their minds. Let the "free thinkers" of the world decide for themselves.

I have one question. How has creationism grown, Warshauer?

Mary Wensil  
Chapel Hill

### Evolutionism addressed

To the editor:  
I do not wish to start a war between creationists and evolutionists on the editorial page of *The Daily Tar Heel*, but I think some aspects of David Warshauer's article, "Creationism is not a science" (*DTH*, Nov. 29), need to be addressed.

In the article, Warshauer assimilated the belief in creation with a list of other beliefs. This is an incorrect assertion. I agree that the beliefs listed "are all wrong," but this cannot be inferred of the belief of creation if we merely look at the origins of these beliefs.

The comet being a sign of God's wrath, witches causing storms and diseases, the earth being flat and the sun revolving around the earth, are all beliefs that come from man in all his glory ("sense, reason and intellect," too).

The belief in creation, however, comes from another source — The Holy Bible. There are no false teachings about nature in the Bible (for example, the sun revolving around the earth) as there are in other ancient literature of that time (Egyptian and Babylonian writings, for example).

I might add that the theory of evolution came from the same source as those false beliefs — the human mind. That is — "ideas."

Another aspect of Warshauer's article that needs to be addressed is his attack against fundamentalist churches. The list of members of my church includes physicians, psychologists, physicists, computer analysts, lawyers and businessmen.

We are not distracted "from important issues." In fact, we are very much con-

cerned with the present state of human beings. In "an open and reasoning climate," we discuss topics like man's free will and man's attitudes toward religious and political laws.

After examining the evidence and problems of each side in our "unfettered pursuit of truth and knowledge," we have accepted the belief that God created this world over the belief in a mere chance of proteins and nucleic acid.

In fact, it seems to take more faith to believe in the astronomical odds which would start evolution than the existence of a divine designer. Perhaps that is why 75 percent of North Carolina adults think the way they do.

Alec Pratto  
222 Ehringhaus

### UNC hiring unfair

To the editor:

University officials tend (or pretend) to cite numbers to justify the University's failure or refusal to employ more women and blacks in tenure-track faculty positions. No doubt one has heard their arguments: the pool of women and blacks is too small; women and blacks are unavailable for faculty positions here.

As of September 1982, there were 267 women and 44 blacks employed in tenure-track faculty positions at UNC. Does anyone actually believe that only 267 women (some of whom are black) and only 44 blacks (some of whom are women) have the requisite professional credentials to be employed as faculty here?

For years now University spokespersons have attempted to justify the University's record by citing how few women and how few blacks received the doctorate in the previous year, as if UNC hires only the

most recent recipients of the Ph.D. But even if UNC did hire only from the pool of the most recent Ph.D.s, how could it possibly explain its poor record for 1982? In 1982, the University's tenure-track faculty totaled 1,652 — only 548 more persons than the total number of blacks who earned doctorates in 1981.

In 1981, U.S. universities awarded at least 9,872 doctorates to women and at least 1,104 doctorates to blacks. For 1982, UNC hired only two blacks. Of the various disciplines represented by a department of a curriculum at UNC, blacks in 1981 earned doctorates in all of these except pathology, statistics, archeology, German, Russian, Italian, classical languages and journalism.

Obviously, though, the University does not limit its hiring of faculty only to the pool of persons who received the doctorate in the previous year. A total of 1,104 persons were added to the pool of blacks holding the Ph.D. in 1981. Consider that persons who have held the doctorate for 15 years are still relatively young in the profession. Assume that 1,104 is a representative number for each of the past 15 years. The pool would swell to at least 16,560. Accept counter arguments and assume that 1,104 is not a representative number for each of the past 15 years. Be conservative; but 8,280 blacks in the pool — and this does not include those who have held the Ph.D. for more than 15 years.

The primary reason the University has so few women and blacks in tenure-track faculty positions should be obvious. What is particularly disturbing, however, is that those persons who most frequently defend UNC's record in public are themselves members of the very groups which are victims of this system of exclusion.

Lee Greene  
Associate Professor of English

### Help, it's the police

To the editor:  
I am writing to warn other students about a phone call I received recently from a University police officer, Sergeant Robert L. Porreca. Porreca apparently is investigating the alleged disappearance of a National Board of Medical Examiners' test from the medical school.

He did not, however, inform me of that fact when he called me. He only allowed that he was conducting "a criminal investigation" and was rather insistent that I cooperate with him. He refused to name any person authorizing him to conduct the investigation. He bragged that he could investigate anything inside Chapel Hill that he desired.

He threatened to subpoena me if I did not cooperate. He told me that he did not try to tell doctors how to do their job, and therefore I should not tell him how to do his (implying I should passively cooperate with him). After further questioning, he finally told me that the medical school had requested the investigation.

In sum, he seemed unprofessional, impolite, pushy and suspicious. At the time, I questioned his authenticity. I verified that he was legitimate by calling the medical school's associate dean of student affairs, who also told me what the investigation was about.

The alleged disappearance of an examination is a serious matter. I hope the University Police solve the crime and bring anyone responsible to justice. The means by which such investigations are conducted and the way that students are questioned by police also is a serious matter.

I encourage Porreca to be more civil and straightforward when he requests the participation of students in an investigation. I encourage medical students and others who are contacted by him to insist that he treat them politely, that he not threaten

them and that he offer reasonable evidence of his legitimate authority to conduct any specific investigation.

Thomas Somjen Frazer  
Carrboro

### Equal treatment?

To the editor:

In reference to the national championship win by the UNC women's soccer team, you stated in an editor's note that "because of financial limitations the *DTH* was unable to send a reporter to the championship tournament in Orlando."

Let me pose a question: If it had been the UNC men's soccer team playing in the championship, would financial limitations have prohibited you from sending a reporter to cover the event?

If you honestly can answer "yes" to this question, bravo! If not, think about it.

Neva Dail Bridges  
Raleigh

Editor's note: Yes.

### Letters?

The *Daily Tar Heel* welcomes letters to the editor and contributions of columns for the editorial page.

Such contributions should be typed, triple-spaced, on a 60-space line, and are subject to editing.

Column writers should include their majors and hometowns; each letter should include the writer's name, address and telephone number.

## INTRAMURAL BULLETIN BOARD

sponsored each week during the fall and spring semesters by the UNC Student Stores

Thursday, December 2, 1982 Ron Ricci, IM Publicity, 962-1153 Volume 3, Number 12 Chapel Hill, North Carolina



Typical Turkey Trotters

### 4 Soccer championships also decided

## 10 IMers gobble up prizes in Turkey Trot

More than 40 runners participated in the popular Turkey Trot late last month, and 10 of them came away with prizes of some sort. Associate IM Director Marty Pomerantz led the group as Miles Standish through a 1.9 mile course across campus.

Turkeys were awarded to the top finishers in five categories: first male, first female, first team of three males, first team of three females, and the first runner over 40-years of age. Doug Dickema took the men's crown with a time of 9:13 minutes, while Marie Sheehan repeated from last year as the women's champion with a time of 11:35 minutes.

Sheehan also combined with Diane Guinan and Laurie Koolima to take the women's team crown, and Thad Perkins, Dave Smith and Rick Whaley put together a class act to win the turkey in the men's team division.

With a pumpkin pie at stake, Greg McCallum turned on the speed to finish as the race's youngest finisher. His counterpart, Arlan East—the oldest finisher in the race—finished in 11:34 minutes. Pulling up the rear was the goose egg recipient, Clare (she did not divulge her last name), who picked up an IM T-shirt for finishing last in the race.

While UNC students were racing across campus in the Turkey Trot, a different kind of race was brewing on the Carmichael fields—the quest for the IM-Rec soccer championships.

As of printing, four of the six soccer divisions were decided. In the independent class, the Townhouse Terrors from Townhouse Apartments took the championship with a 1-0 victory over the Shrooms. Leading the Terrors was Manager Craig Fales, and Brad Sherrill, Steve Adrian, Chris Braswell, Bill Watson, Jay Jackson, Rainey Sellers, David Fal, Bill Smith and John Vestal.

The exciting men's recreation division also came to an end as the "S" Express from Old West Dorm in Stow Residence College defeated the Manly Mighty Mice, 4-0. The "S" Express scored two goals in each period to claim the crown. Members of the winning squad included: Captains Mike Loudon and Scott McGregor, David Masilla, Mark Goroon, Sonny Allen, Vance

Young, Chip Higgins, Donnie Barnes, Ben Marsh, Laurin Graham, Ron Swaisgood, Mark Harper, Pete Cashwell, Dan Zachery and Riz Jurney.

In the women's division, Pi Phi used two first half goals to defeat the Theta Lightning, 2-0. The Pi Phi's included: Churchill Bird, Carine Ciker, Karen Smith, Kelly Lewis, Sherill Lybrook, Laura Enright, Jane Sommers, Kathryn Snarely, Harriet Ashby, "Cash" Ward, Katherine Norris, Chris Cavalariis, Margaret Woodbury, Aurelia Stafford, Kelley Haines, France Chapman, Jane Bowen, and Gina Upchurch.

The final soccer division to finish up before the Thanksgiving break was the fraternity division. The Crimson Tide from Sigma Phi Epsilon battled a tough PDT Blue team to capture the championship. The Tide needed a second half goal to win the game, 1-0. The members of the rolling Tide were Ray Coppedge, Joey Robertson, Alan Kenny, Bill McLean, Ralph Meekins, Tom Odum, Doug Scott, Ben Olinger, Bill Halliday, Kelley Walker and David Berry.

The IM-Rec program congratulates all the winners. Since this is the last *IM Bulletin Board* of the fall semester, many of the other fall activities, such as Graal Basketball, will be reported next semester. Good luck on finals!!

### Important Dates

Thursday, Dec. 2—Watch the finals of the Sports Trivia Bowl TONIGHT in 109 Fetzer. If you thought UNC students were great in the College Bowl, you haven't seen anything until you check this out. Today is also Picture Day for IM champions. Wear your T-shirts for the photos. Contact the IM office for more details at 962-1006.

Friday, Dec. 3—Last day of classes. *Awe shucks!*

Monday, Dec. 6—If studying for finals is already getting to you, then take a break with the Pre-Exam Run at 1:00 p.m., beginning on the front steps of Woollen. All that test anxiety will disappear during the hearty 2.3 mile run around campus. Contact Marty Pomerantz in the IM office for more details or if you have any questions.

Tuesday, Dec. 7—The IM-Rec office hates to announce the beginning of finals, but we have to. Go out and get those exams—don't forget that the Woollen/Fetzer Gym complex is open throughout finals if you need a break. Friday, Dec. 10—Entry deadline for the IM skiing extravaganza to Beech and Sugar Mountains, don't miss this chance for some great fun and skiing. Contact Marty Pomerantz for more info.

Saturday, Dec. 11—A team from Santa Clara will be shooting it out with the B-ball Tar Heels in Carmichael, catch the action. *Happy Hanukkah.*

Saturday, Dec. 25—Right after you open all

those Christmas presents, stuff yourself on some good food and kiss grandma good night, think about the football Tar Heels whipping those Longhorns from Texas in the Sun Bowl.

Sunday, Jan. 2—The fun starts in western Carolina with the IM Ski Trip. Make sure you know all the details before you take off for the mountains.

Wednesday, Jan. 12—Classes start for the spring semester. MANDATORY organizational meeting for all basketball captains at 5:00 p.m. in 304 Woollen.

### HOLIDAY ANNOUNCEMENTS

The IM office is taking registration forms for spring Aerobics classes. There will be two classes: one on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5:00-6:00 p.m., and another on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7:00-8:00 p.m. The classes are limited in size, so sign up pronto.

The facility hours will vary almost day-to-day over the X-mas holidays. If you're going to be in the area over the break, stop by the IM office and pick up a copy of the hours; it will make things much easier to understand during the break.

Special Christmas greetings go out to all the campus editors who were kind enough to print IM stories this semester. Best holiday wishes also go out to the entire IM-Rec staff, the special folks at Craige who were so supportive of the IM publicity coordinator, and the entire UNC campus and their families.



### The 2nd Annual VIDEO EXAM BREAKS

Take a break with

- Rocky & Bull Winkle Dec. 6
- SCTV Dec. 7
- Popeye Dec. 8

All 9:00 pm in Union Video Lounge

Refreshments will be served.



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### BARGAIN SUPPER

Eat Cheaply and Shop for Christmas

### Christmas Bazaar and Supper

University United Methodist Church—Near Hill Hall

Thursday, Dec. 2, 3-8 p.m.  
Supper from 3 pm-on

Chili with slaw and crackers — \$1.00  
Hot Dog All The Way with chips and baked beans \$1.25  
Homemade Desserts 15¢-40¢ — Drinks 40¢

## Show Your Team Spirit! With Carolina Clothing at Affordable Prices

Featured this week:

- Trimmed T-Shirt . . . . . \$5.95  
White with Carolina Blue collar and sleeve trim. 50% cotton-50% polyester. Adult sizes S, M, L, XL. (Available in Juvenile sizes 6-8, 10-12, 14-16 at \$5.50)
- Twill Athletic Shorts . . . . . \$4.25  
White with Carolina Blue trim. 50% cotton-50% polyester. Adult sizes XS, S, M, L, XL. (Available in Juvenile sizes S, M, L at \$4.25)

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## STUDENT STORES

