

Makin' a monkey outta me

Evolution's flawed, one-sided argument has no place at Texas A&M

Over the summer, I randomly threw tennis balls at the keyboard of my computer. The result was this coherent essay on evolution and integrity.

Also enclosed is a brochure on Arizona's ocean front property.

Evolution should not be taught as fact in public institutions, considering the shaky ground that serves as its foundation.

Anyone listening in on a Texas A&M geology, biology, or any other -ology class would have no choice but to think the controversy of origins settled.

Most of Academia separates "special creation" from science as well as evolution from religion.

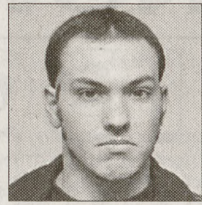
Unfortunately, these false distinctions are propagated by almost all public school systems, indoctrinating whole generations of students in the unproven, and often unscientific, theory of evolution.

There are two basic ways of looking at the question of origins.

In one corner is evolution. According to A&M professor of biology, David Hale, the basic definition of evolution is change over time. Evolution uses the process of natural selection to exalt life from the simple to the complex over long periods of time.

In the other corner is intelligent design. The March issue of WORLD magazine said, this movement "combines classic critiques of evolutionary theory with a fresh, innovative approach."

Columnist



Joshua Hill
Sophomore
English major

ing more and more vague.

"We have even fewer examples of evolutionary transition than we had in Darwin's time," he said.

The fossil record clearly shows the past to be full of cats and dogs, with nothing in-between. Sadly, textbooks still teach many outdated and debunked "proofs."

Perhaps the most embarrassing problem for evolution is the Second Law of Thermodynamics, which basically states the universe is in a constant state of losing energy.

This principle is opposite to the big picture of evolution, which states that all the incredible complexity of the natural world came about from the affects of time and chance enacted on a wad of primordial goo.

A comprehensive discussion of the holes in the evolutionary theory would fill, and has filled, many books.

L. Harrison Matthews, in his 1971 introduction to Darwin's *The Origin of the Species*, said Darwinism is no more true than any other theory, due to lack of proof.

"Belief in the theory of evolution is thus exactly parallel to belief in special creation," he said. "Both are concepts which believers know to be true but neither, up to the present, has been capable of proof."

Secondly, the social repercussions of widespread indoctrination in evolution are ugly at best.

Karl Marx, founder of the communistic theory, was originally going to dedicate his great work *Das Kapital* to Darwin because evolution finally gave his social theories a "scientific" base.

The theory of evolution has been used as a scientific justification for racism and genocide.

Darwin himself developed the theory as an attempt to explain the world without a God — a direct contradiction to the first chapter of Romans which said the creation is enough to prove the existence of a creator.

The philosophical fruits of evolution are apparent today. People in the natural state have no inherent self-worth, no purpose but survival, and no way to justify the selfless love that is the ideal of a Christian heritage.

Not everyone is taking such an insult lying down. Joshua Cuozzo has formed an origins club at Penn State University to inform his fellow students of the controversy behind the curtain of pseudo-science.

Scientifically, intelligent design fits within the boundary of fact better than evolution. Socially, evolution denies God, purpose, and the worth of the human being. To allow such a dangerous and insubstantial doctrine to dominate science and education is a fallacy unequalled in modern history.



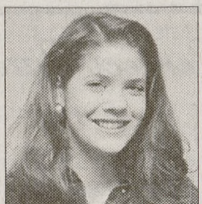
Those who stand up for beliefs deserve praise, respect

Texas A&M University is a public institution where many different beliefs and philosophies thrive. There is no reason why adherents of different philosophies cannot live in a climate of courtesy or at least have enough personal humility to have regard for others on the same human boat.

Yet when people speak out for their beliefs, they are often accused of being narrow-minded. Many students do not recognize expressing a belief and forcing it on others are two different things.

Everyone wants free thought and free speech until they disagree with what is being said. People then resort to name-calling and bitterness. But bitterness does not aid anyone in the search for truth.

Columnist



Courtney Phillips
Junior
Psychology major

There are going to be discrepancies concerning the meaning of truth, but this does not mean people who believe they have found it should not express it. In fact, they have an obligation to share.

If someone believes in an idea as the key to truth and goodness, not sharing it with others brings into question how strongly the idea is believed.

If one is a Jew, Muslim, atheist, or Taoist, one should be such with every fiber of their being. That is more respectable than being a fence rider who stands for nothing. If one doesn't agree with what others are saying, they should quit whining and present what they believe to be true.

The truth will eventually speak for itself. Avoiding stepping on people's toes or being politically correct should not

be even a consideration. If someone believes murder to be wrong, they should proclaim it loudly and clearly regardless of who it offends. That person will disagree with everyone who says otherwise and not keep quiet because of the gravity of what's at stake. Likewise, our personal beliefs — the things we live by — should be defended just as vehemently.

If students want to create a truth-seeking environment, they can't label people who proclaim their beliefs as "bangers" or "thumpers." If someone is an existentialist or a Jew or a gnostic, then ideally, everything they express will filter through that view. One should expect no less.

But no one ever calls anyone a Koran-banger or a gnostic gospel-thumper. Such labels would be considered offensive and inappropriate. But if the belief is a less politically correct one,

people feel entitled to attach to it as many derogatory labels as they see fit.

People in positions to disseminate or present information want what they believe to be expressed. If people don't agree with what is being said, they should put themselves in positions where they can express their own views. Accusing people of being biased because they express what they believe is ridiculous. Anyone in the same place would use the power of their position to advance what they believe to be true. One would have to compromise their beliefs not to.

This does not mean people in positions like these don't have a responsibility to be well-informed.

However, most students in a university setting have had enough life experience to know what mommy and daddy told them may not be true "just because." By the time a student reaches

college, a crisis of belief followed by reaffirmation, rejection or revision usually has occurred.

People are more complex than meets the eye, and it is safe to assume most students have been exposed to more than they are given credit for. Not every conservative on this campus sucks ideology from a daily dose of Rush Limbaugh. Likewise, not every liberal is a Marxist who believes trees are people too. Most people in these positions have taken the time to learn about what they believe.

This campus will suffer if it compromises truth in the interest of diversity. Besides, diversity is inherent if everyone is committed to what they believe. If all students would seek and proclaim truth and treat one another with courtesy, the intellectual experience of attending A&M would be enhanced and name-calling would cease.

Either way real truth will be revealed in the end.



MAIL CALL

Aggie hospitality wasted on t-sip

In regards to Pete Schloss' letter concerning his trip to Aggieland.

Schloss pointed out three areas where he felt that Aggie hospitality was lacking.

Schloss complained that he did not get floor level seating at G. Rollie White even though floor level seating is available to us at the Irwin Center. First of all, the Irwin Center is about ten thousand times larger than G. Rollie. Secondly, Aggies have to get to the game at least 30-45 minutes early in order to get seats on the floor. However, if you're forced to breathe with oxygen masks, suck it up.

Schloss blames our concessions workers for favorable treatment towards Aggies. This could not possibly be true, but if it is please refer to the advice given above.

And, as Schloss may or may not know, Collies fall into the category of working dogs. Collies have long been used to herd animals such as sheep and cattle. Therefore, Reveille's actions were merely a result of instinct rather than malice. What else is she supposed to do when she sees a big cow running apart from the herd? As a matter of fact I think Reveille ought to be checked for mad cow disease.

Mark Eslick
Class of '97

Accompanied by 10 signatures

Yell leaders reflect entire Aggie family

I am stressed about the controversy concerning yell leader runoff. The purpose of the referendum was to allow candidates to run for yell leader, not to separate this campus into Corps vs. Non-Regs yell leaders represent all Aggies.

The controversy of Corps vs. Non-Regs is irrelevant to the person who is best for A&M. It does not matter what organizations you are affiliated with, simply that you are a part of the Aggie family.

Amy Vandaveer
Class of '96

The Battalion encourages letters to the editor. Letters must be 300 words or fewer and include the author's name, class, and phone number. The opinion editor reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, and accuracy. Letters may be submitted in person at 013 Reed McDonald with a valid student ID. Letters may also be mailed to:

The Battalion - Mail Call
013 Reed McDonald
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX
77843-1111

Campus Mail: 1111
Fax: (409) 845-2647
E-mail: Batt@tamvm1.tamu.edu

