

No evidence of human evolution

"Maddening hoaxes confound scientific method" cited some good examples of hoaxes in the name of science, but the article inaccurately stated that at the turn of the century, there were significant fossil finds supporting the theory of human evolution [feature article, April 1].

The fact is there are no partially evolved species in the fossil record to support any form of evolution, human or otherwise. All of the species of plants and animals in the fossil record are fully formed or complete. In regard to the fossil evidence used to

support the theory of human evolution, there are diametrically different interpretations of the same evidence even among evolutionists.

The evidence used to support the theory of human evolution is much too scanty and can be interpreted by experts in many contradicting ways. Ape-resembling human creatures have been reconstructed mostly from anthropologists' imaginations rather than concrete, indisputable evidence.

~~Deliver to [redacted]~~

West Hartford

not by T. Mione

Where to write

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Evolution not caused by mutations

■ The Oct. 12 news article "Two win Nobel for DNA work" does not provide any information or research for support of the theory of evolution.

The article presumes that nonsense or gibberish segments of the genetic code were critical in a supposed process of evolution. That is simply an unproved assumption.

Although it is very possible, as the article claims, that the nonsense or gibberish segments of the genetic code act as a sort of buffer to absorb harmful mutations occurring in the genetic code of organisms, this does not, however, mean that positive mutation had occurred.

Mutations, by their nature, be-

cause they are accidents in the genetic code, can only be harmful. At the very best, mutations in organisms are neutral, neither good nor bad. And even if a supposed good mutation did occur, for every good one there would be hundreds and even thousands of bad (or harmful) ones so that the net result would always be harmful to the individual organism and the species as a whole.

Thus, mutations in the genetic code can never be a source for progressive evolutionary change, any more than earthquakes can be a source of progressive change for the structure of buildings.

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Scientists embrace evolution

■ In an Oct. 27 letter, the writer incorrectly stated that mutations are not the source of evolutionary change ["Evolution not caused by mutations"].

That evolution has occurred and is occurring (including human evolution) is no longer debated among scientists.

Tens of thousands of scientists all over the world embrace evolution as the cornerstone of biology. Evolution simply involves muta-

tions leading to variation among individuals, with some of the variants doing better than others at reproducing and surviving. There is nothing far-fetched about this. Evolution has been taking place for more than 3½ billion years.

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Editor's note: The writer is an assistant professor of biology at Central Connecticut State University.

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