

SOCIETY OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY NEWS BULLETIN

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— TABLE OF CONTENTS —

Official Business	2
New Members	5
News From Members	15
Calendar of Events	76
Positions Available	77
Obituaries	79
Statement of Ethics	85

THE CHANG YING-CHIEN PRIZE IN PALEONTOLOGY

It is a pleasure to announce the establishment of the Chang Ying-Chien Prize in Paleontology. The prize of \$10,000 is to be awarded annually with in the name of the donor for an established paleontologists representing any discipline who has demonstrated outstanding consistent and influential contributions to the field in ways that have opened up new directions in research or have yielded new and important discoveries. The prize is intended to be international in scope, recognizing the achievements of investigators in any region and country. In identifying the 2000 Chang Ying-Chien awardee, an international nominating and selection committee chose from an outstanding suite of candidates. Suggestions for nominations are invited from members of the international paleontological community for future awards. A process for nomination, with contact emails or addresses, will be provided shortly.

Chang Ying-Chien

This prize is presented by the American Museum of Natural History through the generosity of Chang Ying-Chien, who was born in China, raised and educated in Taiwan, and received a scholarship for study in solid state physics from the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. Later, Ms. Chang taught high-school mathematics, and recently has become both extremely active in and supportive of paleontology. She has traveled extensively to Mongolia, Venezuela, China, Argentina, and other destinations in her effort to explore and study the fossil record. Her current interests focus on the evolution and early life on Earth. Ms. Chang is also collaborating with Professor Dong Zhiming in a project that will include the establishment of a new museum, the Chang Ying-Chien Museum in Lufeng, Yunnan, China. She also makes donations for several scholarships, awards, and prizes to encourage paleontological research and the training and support of young scientists. Her interests include classical music composition, swimming, hiking, star-gazing, gardening, reading, and dreaming. All fossils she finds are given to the appropriate university or museum. She has two sons, Dennis

Wen, a physician and professor, and Andy Wen, a music professor, and three grandchildren.

Andrew H. Knoll, Recipient of the 2000 Chang Ying-Chien Prize

We are also pleased to announce that the recipient of the 2000 Chang Ying-Chien Prize is Dr. Andrew H. Knoll. Dr. Knoll is currently a professor of biology, curator of the botanical museum, and associate dean of arts and sciences at Harvard University. He is one of the world's leading paleontologists, specializing in Proterozoic paleontology, Precambrian ecosystems, and early eukaryotic and plant evolution. Dr. Knoll and his research team at his Harvard laboratory are broadly interested in the evolution of life, the evolution of Earth surface environments, and the relationships between the two. Through his own work and his collaborations, Dr. Knoll has, in over nearly three decades, made fundamental and highly influential contributions to our understanding of the paleontological and biogeochemical evidence of life's much deeper history. He has also elucidated the Neoproterozoic-Cambrian diversification of animals (the so-called "Cambrian Explosion") in terms of timing of events and the relationship of environmental conditions as ascertained from geochemical and sedimentological studies. His research has also brought new insights to characteristics of Proterozoic carbonates as records of evolving biology and ocean chemistry. He is also engaged in petrological and geochemical analyses capable of distinguishing among, and therefore testing, various hypotheses for end-Permian mass extinction.

Vascular plant evolution is a long-term interest in Dr. Knoll's paleobotany laboratory. Studies include early attempts to quantify patterns of plant diversity through time and character-based evolutionary studies of Devonian evolution. Current interest centers on the developmental basis for Paleozoic vascular plant diversification. These research efforts are also drawn from a global-scale field program involving expeditions to the Rocky Mountain region, Alaska, Australia, Sweden, Greenland, the Caribbean, China, West Africa, and many other localities.

For his outstanding and broad-ranging research contributions,

documented in over 134 scientific articles and five edited volumes, Dr. Knoll has been widely honored and recognized. He has received best-paper awards in the *Journal of Paleontology* and *Palaios*, the Charles Doolittle Walcott Medal of the National Academy of Sciences, and the Charles Schuchert Award of the Paleontological Society. He is also an elected member of the prestigious U.S. National Academy of Sciences and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and he holds two honorary doctoral degrees (Uppsala University, Lehigh University). Dr. Knoll is also active in many scientific societies and has served on editorial boards for more than ten scientific journals. In his role as an advisor to NASA, NRC, and other important agencies and organizations, Dr. Knoll has contributed his broad views on Earth ecosystem change and the evolution of early life to considerations of the future evolution of the Earth's biota, and the possibility of life on other planets.

Dr. Knoll was presented with the Chang Ying-Chien Prize on 26 February 2001 at the American Museum of Natural History. (Mark A. Norell)

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AUSTRALIA

Western Australian Museum, Perth

John Long continues his work researching the Late Devonian fishes from Gogo (*Onychodus* and *Bothriolepis*) as well as projects with coauthors on Iranian fossil fish and material from the Devonian of Antarctica. With John Talent and Ruth Mawson he recently edited a 420-page volume entitled “Mid-Palaeozoic Biota and Biogeography” (Supplement 58 of the *Records of the Western Australian Museum*)—the papers emanating from the 1998 Esfahan IGCP421 meeting. The volume is available from the Western Australian Museum’s publications department for \$45 Aus plus \$10 postage (for orders contact ouseya@museum.wa.gov.au). John continues working on his book on the fossils of Antarctica, and in February this year his book “Mountains of Madness—A Scientist’s Odyssey through Antarctica” was released in the USA/UK through Joseph Henry Press (see <http://books.nap.edu/catalog/9848.html>). The book details the trials and tribulations of searching for fossils in a remote part of the Transantarctic Mountains. John was awarded the 2001 Eureka Prize for the Promotion of Science (see <http://www.austmus.gov.au/eureka/2001/promotion.htm>) for his efforts at taking science into the public arena, largely based on his popular books for children and adults.

Alex Baynes’ work came to the public light recently as he is a coauthor on the paper by Roberts et al. (2001) in *Science* (292:1888) about megafaunal extinctions in Australia. This paper gives the first comprehensive series of corroborated dates tying down megafaunal extinctions in Australia, and suggests that human arrival on the continent was the most likely cause for megafaunal extinctions.

Ken McNamara, although mostly preoccupied with nonback-boned fossils, has recently coedited a new book containing a collection of papers about the role of heterochrony in human evolution. It will be published later this year through Johns Hopkins University Press.

Last but not least, our Department of Earth and Planetary

Sciences here at the Western Australian Museum has its own official Web site. We aim to develop it more as a resource as time goes on, but it's a good start. You can check it out on <http://www.museum.wa.gov.au/collections/eps/index.htm>. (John Long)

BRAZIL

Paleovertebrate Sector, Museu Nacional/UFRJ, Rio de Janeiro

Maurilio Silva de Oliveira (paleoartist of our sector) was the great winner of the year—he received an honorary mention at the “Dinosaur Illustration” contest that was organized by the Museu de Lourinhã, Portugal, with his black-and-white drawing, “One Day in the Triassic.” Maurilio drew a pack of the theropod *Staurikosaurus* feeding on a rhynchosaur, being observed in the background by a couple of cynodonts. This was really outstanding since Brazil has no tradition in fossil illustrations and, to our knowledge, Maurilio is the first one to receive an international recognition in such a contest.

Helder de Paula Silva (preparator at the MN/UFRJ) spent four weeks (July/August) at the Peabody Museum (Yale University) where he was trained by Marilyn Fox. Helder came back with great (and expensive!) ideas on how we could change our lab to improve the preparation of fossil vertebrates in our museum. He spent the second half of the year putting in practice what he had learned, showing some students and other technicians some of the methods that are used for small vertebrate prep. This project was made possible through the Joseph F. Chance Preparator's Award, for which we all are very grateful.

Our students continued doing very well. Alberto Barbosa de Carvalho is finishing his Master's dissertation on fossil squamates from the Itaboraí Basin. We hope to hear very soon some new information about the lizards from the Paleocene Itaboraí Basin (Rio de Janeiro). Juliana Manso Sayão concluded her undergraduate studies at the University of Santa Ursula and could not stay away from paleontology (and pterosaurs!)—she was accepted in the M.Sc. program of our museum where she will work on pterosaur histology. Some preliminary results were presented by her at the SVP meeting in Mexico. Luciano Artêmio Leal worked very hard

on a prosauropod found in the Triassic Santa Maria Formation. He will present some of the taphonomic aspects of this finding at the SVP meeting in Montana. Marcelo Newton Ferreira Trotta concluded an almost three-week-long trip to Argentina, examining Argentinean titanosaurid postcranials. Lots of weight in his way! Luciana Barbosa de Carvalho (PhD student at USP, São Paulo) worked hard on her studies of microstructure of reptilian teeth, besides organizing with S. A. K. de Azevedo the project “Looking for Dinosaurs” (see below). Mauro J. Cavalcanti developed studies in quantitative paleontology with Valéria Gallo da Silva (UERJ) and S. A. K. de Azevedo. Deise Dias Rêgo Henriques divided her time in curatorial work and her studies on vertebrate taphonomy—all this beside being a mother of four very nice (and still young) children.

Sergio Alex Kugland de Azevedo had an extremely busy year organizing the project “Looking for Dinosaurs.” The main goal of this project is to make a documentary about the work of Brazilian paleontologists.

Alexander Wilhelm Armin Kellner also had a hectic year: he was one of the organizers (Scientific Program Committee) of the 31st International Geological Congress that was held in Rio last August. Alex was responsible for the General Symposia that dealt with over 5,800(!) abstracts; and this besides having to deal with the administrative work of the Geology and Paleontology Department of which he is the chairman, and his regular research activities.

Besides the above, the team of the Museu Nacional did a number of field trips. Among the most interesting was the opening of a quarry at the region called Prata in Minas Gerais State that yielded so far about four tons of material—this work was partially supported by the Jurassic Foundation—and will continue this year. The sector was also involved in the organization of the Second Brazilian Symposium of Vertebrate Paleontology, which was well attended—a volume of short papers with the proceedings of this meeting is in organization. The temporary exhibit “At the Time of the Dinosaurs” closed with a record number of visitors: 220,000, making this the most-visited temporary exhibit ever organized in the country. A nice side product of all this activity was the renewal

of our lab, enabling us to make casts and replicas of our specimens. All funds gained by the selling of those casts are used in research activity; for more information contact us. (Alexander Wilhelm Armin Kellner)

BULGARIA

National Museum of Natural History, Sofia

The work on the Late Miocene vertebrate fauna of Bulgaria and the Balkans, which started in 1999, continued with high intensity during 2000. It is based mostly on the vast unpublished material in the Assenovgrad Paleontological Museum—division of NMNH, Sofia. As part of this research, Nikolai Spassov visited the Geological Department of the University of Thessaloniki, Greece, where he and George Koufos worked on the description of extremely rich *Mesopithecus* material from the Bulgarian localities of Kalimantsi and Hadjidimovo. This material permits a new analysis of the taxonomy of the genus and the ecofunctional skeletal morphology. The work and the comparison with the materials in the University of Thessaloniki also permitted the determination of the first remains of *Dinocrocota gigantea* and *Machairodus aphanistus* from Bulgaria (N. Spassov and G. Koufos, in press). This year, in the frame of a joint project between N. Spassov and D. Geraads, (CNRS, France), research on the Late Miocene bovids of Bulgaria was begun. The work took place in the collections of the Assenovgrad Museum and the Paris Museum of Natural History. In preparation are papers (D. Geraads, N. Spassov, D. Kovachev) on some very rich material of *Tragoportax* (skull and bone material from a minimum of 112 individuals and two different forms) and *Palaeoreas lindermayeri* (a minimum of 260 individuals) from the Turolian Hadjidimovo locality. N. Spassov also prepared a paper on the environment of the noted locality with an analysis of the landscapes typical for the so-called Pikermian biome. Together with Prof. Tz. Tzankov (Geological Institute, Bulgarian Academy of Sciences) he worked on problems of the stratigraphy of the main Miocene localities from the basins of the rivers Struma and Mesta—West Bulgaria. N. Spassov also continued his work on the Pliocene fauna and now is preparing a detailed paper on the MN17

and 18 carnivores of Bulgaria. At the congress in Avignon on the Holarctic ungulates of the Pliocene and Pleistocene he made a presentation on the Pliocene ungulates of Bulgaria.

During the year, two doctoral students supervised by Nikolai started working on Miocene large mammals. Latinka Ivanova is investigating the impressive collection of hipparions from Hadjidi-movo (thousands of fossil remains from at least 240 individuals). Georgi N. Markov started working on the Proboscidea from Bulgaria. Among the key problems to be investigated are the clarification of the cases of Late Miocene *Anancus* finds from Bulgaria (probably the earliest or among the earliest finds of the genus in Europe); the clarification of the taxonomic status of “*Mammot borsoni*” from the Final Miocene of Bulgaria; and a revision of Elephantidae remains. Together with N. Spassov and Velizar Simeonovski he is currently working on the food-catching apparatus and facial morphology of *Dinotherium*.

During the year, Dimitar Kovachev, with his typical energy, excavated and prepared for the exposition of the Assenovgrad Museum a precious find—a skull of *Tetralophodon longirostris* from Late Miocene layers in the mine “Maritza-Iztok.” He is currently preparing a paper on this.

Although retired, Dr. Nikolai Iliev continues his active cooperation with the NMNH. During this year he worked on the mammals from two Holocene prehistoric localities.

The work of Zlatozar Boev (Curator of Birds) during 2000 was intensive. A Late Miocene (MN zone 11–12) gull (Larinae gen. indet.) from Hrabarsko was submitted for publication. Descriptions of three new species were published in 2000: *Cygnus verae* Boev (2000) from Sofia (cf. MN 14), *Gallinula balcanica* Boev (1999) and *Loxia patevi* Boev (1999) from Varshets (MNQ 17, Middle Villafranchian). Three fossil avian species, known from other countries were established by Z. Boev for the first time in Bulgaria: *Pavo bravardi* from Musselievo (MNQ 15), *Tetrao partium* and *Otis* aff. *khosatzkii* from Varshets. A find of *P. bravardi* was described also (in collaboration with G. Koufos, University of Tessaloniki) from Megalo Emvolon, Greece (Late Ruscinian). A new (the second) find of *Geronticus balcanicus* Boev (1998)

(Ciconiiformes) from the locality of Slivnitsa (beginning of the Late Villafranchian) was submitted for publication. The Early Pleistocene avifauna of the Razhishkata cave was studied. Nine of the identified species are established for the first time for the Bulgarian Pleistocene. The Early Pleistocene and Early Holocene fossil avifauna of the Cherdzhenitsa Cave as well as the Pleistocene–Holocene bird fauna of three caves in the vicinities of the town of Tran (northwestern Bulgaria) was also studied by Z. Boev. Sixteen Recent bird species are identified in Cherdzhenitsa. The finds of *Carduelis cannabina* and *Phylloscopus sibilatrix* mark the earliest appearance of these species in Europe. Six of the species determined from the Tran caves are established for the first time for the Bulgarian Pleistocene. Four species established from the Late Pleistocene of the Filipovska cave are now absent from the avifauna of Bulgaria. The 43 species from the Paleolithic (80,000–16,000 B.P.) deposits of the Kozarnika cave indicate a mosaic forest-steppe landscape in the region. Late Pleistocene and Holocene avian finds from the vicinity of Lakatnik (western Bulgaria) were also examined by Boev. The find of *Turdus iliacus* from the site is the first Pleistocene record from Bulgaria. From the Late Eneolithic (the locality of Dolnoslav: 5,530–5,480 ± 60 B.P.) the first Bulgarian finds of *Tetrao urogallus*, *Phasianus colchicus*, and *Ciconia ciconia* were reported.

Institute of Zoology, the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences

Vassil Popov continued his work on micromammals from the archaeological site of Kozarnika. The species identified by him from the last excavations confirm that the layer reached dates from the beginning of Middle Pleistocene (probably about 1 Ma). Vassil finished his work on his part of the volume “Fauna of Recent Mammals of Bulgaria.” In this work he added a chapter on the evolution of the mammal fauna of Bulgaria. At the end of the year V. Popov started working on the insectivores from the Pliocene of Dorkovo, Bulgaria, collected more than a decade ago by a Bulgarian-French expedition and delivered to him by S. Sen (Paris Museum). At the end of the year a large work by V. Popov and M. Marinska on the Late Pleistocene micromammals from Temnata

cave was published as a chapter of a monograph published in Warsaw. (Nikolai Spassov)

CANADA

Canadian Museum of Nature, Ottawa, Ontario

Don Stoffregen is our most recent CMN paleo recruit. Don started in June and will be with us for at least a year, during which he will be spending most of his time preparing the postcranial skeleton of a new species of chasmosaur. This chasmosaur should be named in print (article by Holmes, Forster, Ryan, and Shepherd, *Canadian Journal of Earth Sciences*) before the end of 2001. Rob Holmes looks forward to getting his hands on the postcranial material as it is freed from the matrix.

J. D. Stewart (LACM) came north to visit on a six-day fossil-fish blitz, working with Steve Cumbaa on a joint research project on Late Cretaceous (Cenomanian) fishes of Kansas and Saskatchewan. Although they have identified about 25 chondrichthyan taxa from their four localities, bony fishes dominate the assemblage. J. D. also took the time to work with Steve and with Rob Holmes in identifying several drawers of Kansas Chalk fossils purchased by the museum from the Sternbergs in 1912.

Alison Murray successfully defended her PhD thesis (supervised by R. L. Carroll, Redpath Museum, McGill University), on African fossil cichlid fishes, in February. She is now concentrating on other fish material from the Eocene cichlid site, as well as material lent by Elwyn Simons (Duke University) from slightly younger deposits in the Fayum, Egypt.

Jaelyn Eberle joined the Denver Museum of Nature and Science team for very successful early summer fieldwork in Late Cretaceous and Paleocene deposits in the Denver Basin. In July, the fossil mammal team of Jaelyn, Mary Dawson, and Malcolm McKenna focused their attention on Paleogene rocks of the Eureka Sound Group on Ellesmere Island in the High Arctic. Jim Basinger (paleobotany) and Louie Marinovich (fossil molluscs) joined them for fieldwork at sites discovered by Mary, Malcolm, Howard Hutchison, and others in the 1970s and 1980s.

Xiao-Chun Wu worked on a number of field and laboratory

projects in China in spring and early summer, in collaboration with Betsy Nicholls of the Royal Tyrrell Museum (plesiosaurs) and later, colleagues from Northwest University in Xi'an (Late Cretaceous dinosaurs) and the IVPP (primitive archosaurs and a feathered therizinosaur). In July and August he heads west to work with Michael Ryan and Phil Currie of the Tyrrell on hadrosaurs from Dry Island, Alberta. (Alison Murray)

Fundy Geological Museum, Parrsboro, Nova Scotia

Last summer a nearly complete prosauropod dinosaur was collected by Tim Fedak (lab manager) with assistance from museum summer staff and dig volunteers. In May, the preparation of the specimen was started. An improved museum Web site allows museum visitors and the public to watch as the work proceeds with weekly page updates that include photos and text describing the latest discoveries. The prosauropod specimen is in good condition, and includes a slightly disarticulated skull—the first ever found from the Early Jurassic McCoy Brook Formation.

In September, Tim Fedak will be starting a Master's degree (biology) with Dr. Brian Hall, Dalhousie University. Tim's thesis will focus on the description of the prosauropod material collected from the McCoy Brook Formation. (Tim Fedak)

Provincial Museum of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta

Technician Peter Milot has been busy molding and casting some footprints from an important early postglacial site in southern Alberta near Cardston. Excavated by a team from the University of Calgary over the last several years, the site produced footprints of nonhuman Pleistocene extincta which we were invited to mold and cast for display. It has been a big, BIG job!

Jim Burns has been working on the biogeography of wapiti (*Cervus canadensis*) in Alberta. He would like to have someone prove him wrong but so far it seems that the oldest postglacial elk/wapiti in North America south of 60EN latitude (i.e., south of Beringia) is the Watino wapiti reported by Jim in 1986. A second date (after that publication) puts the age more realistically at a hair under 10 ka. Still to come, more records of lemmings (*Lemmus* and

Dicrostonyx) from Alberta, and one paper on the occurrence of Proboscidea in Alberta. A paper has been accepted by the Dutch journal *Deinsea* (for 2002), a volume dedicated to the mammoth proceedings of the Second World Conference on Mammoths in Amsterdam. The paper, coauthored by Dick Mol and Charles Baker, deals with an extraordinary pair of woolly mammoth molars from Alberta. Published in 1999 (I just got wind of it this past May—the telegraph wires must have been down!), a paper by Michael C. Wilson and James A. Burns titled “Searching for the first Canadians” appeared in “Ice Age Peoples of North America,” a Bonnichsen and Turnmire edition from the Center for the Study of the First Americans, University of Oregon, Corvallis. Do read it, U.S. friends. We find that U.S. archaeology and paleontology have taken too little notice of the (horridly named) “ice-free corridor” controversy which has been waged here in Canada for more than a century. (Jim Burns)

Redpath Museum, McGill University, Montréal, Québec.

Jason Anderson and Alison Murray have both successfully defended and received their PhDs from McGill. Jason is working with Robert Reisz at the University of Toronto. Alison is a member of the Palaeobiology group at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa.

Remaining graduate students: Catherine Boisvert is now firmly and enthusiastically entrenched within her PhD research on development of the vertebral column in salamanders. She has begun investigating developmental patterns in modern salamanders and will be comparing this with their possible ancestors among the Paleozoic tetrapods. Catherine plans to visit Harvard and the Canadian Museum of Nature in the coming year to raid their herpetology collections. Tamsin Rothery continues her PhD on Jurassic pleurosaurs (aquatic sphenodontids), analyzing data collected during fieldwork in Europe last summer and would like to thank the institutions involved for their hospitality. She is currently focusing on juvenile specimens, possible sexual dimorphism among the adults and making tentative investigations into the biomechanics of anguilliform swimming.

Last semester's undergraduate students, Aurelie Pohl and Benjamin Escott, have now completed their honors projects on modern frog postcranial skeletal development and likely implications for anuran relationships with branchiosaurs.

Robert Carroll will be spending the summer in Europe. He will be speaking at the Sixth International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology conference in Jena about clues to the Paleozoic origins of salamanders and in Johannes Gutenberg Universität, Mainz, about "The Evolution of Amphibians, from Sarcopterygians to Salamanders." He will spend most of his time studying Jürgen Boy's extensive collection of branchiosaurs, for comparison with larval salamanders.

The Redpath Museum is being renovated over the summer. Prof. Carroll is working closely with other museum staff in updating and redesigning the exhibits. The new layout provides us with the opportunity to display the large collection of Early Devonian vascular plants and Devonian vertebrates collected by the museum's founder and first curator, Sir William Dawson. (Tamsin Rothery)

Royal Ontario Museum, Toronto, Ontario

Hans Sues is currently working on two papers on basal crocodylomorphs. Together with Joe Carter and Paul Olsen, he is describing a new sphenosuchian from the Upper Triassic of North Carolina, based on a nearly complete skeleton. Jim Clark and Hans are finishing an account on two new Early Jurassic sphenosuchians for a forthcoming memorial volume for Alick D. Walker. The detailed study of the skull of the spinosaurid theropod *Irritator* by Hans, Dino Frey, Dave Martill, and Diane Scott is now in review—just in time for "Jurassic Park III" where spinosaurs rule!

Chris McGowan and Ryosuke Motani are still working on the last-minute changes of their manuscript on ichthyosaurs for the *Handbuch der Paläoherpetologie* series. Chris is also studying a new and complete skeleton of *Excalibosaurus*. Ryosuke has several projects underway, mostly looking at physical constraints on the macroevolution of vertebrate shapes (and ichthyosaurian phylogeny).

Kevin Seymour has been heavily involved with the inventory

and computerization of records for the ROM's fossil vertebrate collections. This project started 20 years ago! The dinosaurs are now done and the mammals are just about completed. Next: everything else (but we'll start with the ichthyosaurs)!

In April, Thomas Carr passed his grueling dissertation appraisal. He continues his work on the systematics, relationships, and historical biogeography of Tyrannosauroida. He is currently writing up new tyrannosaurid specimens from the southern U.S. He has enlisted Dino Pulerà again to produce carbon-dust renderings of the skulls for publication.

Postdoc Axel Hungerbühler has moved on to UCMP Berkeley; we wish him the best! (Kevin Seymour)

Royal Tyrrell Museum of Palaeontology, Drumheller, Alberta

Phil and Eva Currie, Dave Eberth, Michael Ryan, and Wendy Sloboda returned in early March from reconnaissance work with Rodolfo Coria at Sierra Barrosa near Plaza Huincul, Argentina. Prospecting resulted in the discovery of an exceptional theropod postcranium, bird tracks and trackways, a mammal dentary, and spectacular invertebrate trace-fossil assemblages. In May, Dave was in Utah where he, Brooks Britt, Rod Scheetz, and Ken Stadtman were finishing up a project on the Dalton Wells bonebed and the geology of the lower portion of the Cedar Mountain Formation. Michael Ryan also found time for a trip to Utah to work with Scott Sampson and Mike Getty on all things ceratopsian. Phil and Eva were in Denmark, Sweden, and Japan giving talks and working with colleagues on numerous theropod projects.

This spring and summer the museum has been heavily involved with providing and installing dinosaurs for the Fukui Prefectural Museum's summer exhibit, "The Dinosaurs of the Royal Tyrrell Museum." Andy Neuman, Jim McCabe, Marilyn Laframboise, and Jim Gardner are in Japan until mid-July working on the final stages. Planning also proceeds on the renovation of the Tyrrell's introductory gallery, spearheaded by Bruce Naylor and the Tyrrell exhibits team.

After 18 years at the RTMP, technician Ken Kucher has moved to Washington State where he will open up his new casting

company, Reprodactyl Inc. Darren Tanke returned from Grande Prairie in early June with a new partial skull of *Pachyrhinosaurus* and continues work for Phil Currie preparing a Dinosaur Park gorgosaur collected in 1999, and coordinating the “and found quarries” project with the assistance of BP Amoco, Canada.

Don Brinkman and Michael Ryan are once again coordinating the Tyrrell’s summer excavation programs. During June and July the research team is working mid-Campanian horizons along the Milk River in southeastern Alberta. So far Don has found an articulated shell of a marine turtle in the lower horizons of the Bearpaw Formation. He anticipates that the specimen will help resolve some outstanding phylogenetic questions. Michael Ryan has his hands full with new ceratopsian discoveries, including the skull of a possibly new taxon and large amounts of data for his PhD thesis.

Kevin Aulenback replaces Ken Kucher as the Tyrrell’s head technician and, along with Wendy Sloboda, Kevin Kruger, and Field Experience participants, is working with Phil and Eva Currie excavating an articulated-to-associated daspletosaur in uppermost strata of the Oldman Formation. Phil reports that the specimen represents an 8-m-long subadult! Come August, Phil and Eva will be setting up camp at Dry Island Buffalo Jump, north of Drumheller, to continue work on the *Albertosaurus* bonebed. A manuscript coordinated by Dave Eberth is nearing completion comparing this site with another in Neuquen, Argentina, that yields a new, giant theropod. As an offshoot to this project, Dave will initiate a survey of the upper Horseshoe Canyon and lower Scollard formations in August to quantify the relative abundance and diversity of Maastrichtian dinosaur resources preserved in southern Alberta.

Betsy Nicholls returned in May from a museum/specimen tour in China and now, with members of the Society for Western Interior Marine Reptile Research (SWIMRR), including Pat Druckenmiller and Tamaki Sato, continues work on the giant ichthyosaur from the Pardonet Formation, British Columbia, new material from China, and plesiosaurs from the Bearpaw Formation and Mannville Group, in Alberta.

Plans are now being finalized for the postconference SVP field

trip to dinosaur localities in southern Alberta and the Royal Tyrrell Museum. Check out the second circular on the SVP Web site: www.vertpaleo.org/meetings/index.html. (Dave Eberth)

FRANCE

Musée des Dinosaurés, Espéraza

Jean Le Loeuff joined the Thai-French dinosaur team in February 2001 in northeastern Thailand. A cooperative program in paleontological museology has been started with the new Phu Kum Kao Dinosaur Museum. This will include exchanges of casts as well as training for technicians in France and Thailand. During the summer of 2000 and the spring of 2001, fieldwork at the Late Cretaceous bone bed of Bellevue in southern France yielded several very interesting specimens, including a partial *Ampelosaurus* skull and well-preserved turtle and crocodile skulls.

The opening of our new museum in Espéraza is now planned for 2003, and we look for exchanges with other museums for our new exhibition halls. We have many fossil vertebrate casts (mainly dinosaurs), dinosaur eggs, etc., available on an exchange basis, and we are interested in many things, including Paleozoic/Cenozoic invertebrates and vertebrates. Curators interested in possible exchanges of casts can contact us at jean.leloeuff@dinosauria.org.

Sylvain Duffaud has finally defended his doctoral thesis on Late Cretaceous to Early Oligocene European amphibians. He is now working on a traveling exhibition on French Late Cretaceous continental vertebrates (including, of course, amphibians).

As every year, Yves Laurent spent the summer of 2000 excavating Late Cretaceous vertebrate localities. In June 2000, Yves excavated a new Late Maastrichtian locality (the Ausseing site) in the Garonne Valley, south of Toulouse, where hadrosaur remains had been fortuitously discovered during the digging of a well. The Ausseing site has yielded a very rich fauna comprising many remains of microvertebrates (Osteichthyes, Amphibia, Squamata) and macrovertebrates (Chelonia, Crocodylia, Dinosauria). The study of this new material is in progress. In July and August he supervised (with Alayn and Jean Le Loeuff) the usual excavations of the Bellevue site at Campagne-sur-Aude (which yielded new

titanosaur and ornithopod material). In the meantime, Yves continues his thesis in the University of Toulouse (on the Late Maastrichtian continental faunas of Europe), which he will submit in 2001. Yves also was the senior author of a multi-authored paper on “The Campanian-Maastrichtian continental connection in the Aquitaine-Pyrénées-Provence area (southern France)” which has just appeared in a volume entitled “The Campanian-Maastrichtian Stage Boundary: Characterisation at Tercis les Bains (France): Correlation with Europe and Other Continents” (edited by G. S. Odin, Elsevier, Amsterdam, 2001). In addition, Yves published a paper on a Maastrichtian thoracosaurine skull in the third volume of *Oryctos* (2000), and he is also describing (with Haiyan Tong and Julien Claude) a new bothremydid turtle from the Late Maastrichtian locality of Marignac-Laspeyres (Cassagnau site, Garonne Valley, France).

Lionel Cavin continues his study of actinopterygians from the Cretaceous of Morocco. He described new forms of bony fishes discovered in the Cenomanian Kem Kem beds (Lepisosteidae, Bananogmiidae?, ...), and takes an interest in the phylogenetic interrelationships of others (coelacanth, Notopteridae, ...). He finished an osteological description of *Goulmimichthys*, a pachyrhizodontid from the Turonian Goulmima locality, and performed a cladistic analysis of various basal clupeocephalans (pachyrhizodontoids, protobramoids, tselfatiiforms, ...). Lionel is taking part in the study of gar remains recently found in the Late Cretaceous of southern France, and of tselfatiiform specimens from the Turonian of Mexico (in collaboration with Alberto Blanco). He just started the study of a new semionotid species recently discovered by the Thai-French paleontological research group (led by Eric Buffetaut and Varavudh Suteethorn) in the Late Jurassic-Early Cretaceous Phu Kradung Formation of Thailand.

Eric Buffetaut has recently been much involved in pterosaur studies. A visit to Bucharest in December 2000 enabled him to work with Dan Grigorescu and Zoltan Csiki (University of Bucharest) on remains of a very large pterosaur from the Maastrichtian of Transylvania. The animal, which will be described as a new taxon, is remarkable not only for its huge size (probably exceeding that of

Quetzalcoatlus northropi), but also for its very robustly built skull. Eric has also been working on a wing metacarpal from the Oxfordian of Normandy, which is among the earliest known pterodactyloid pterosaurs, and an azhdarchid vertebra from the Upper Cretaceous of Cruzy in southern France.

Eric has officially been invited by the Italian Ministry of Cultural Goods to take part in the study of the vertebrates from a recently excavated Santonian locality near the city of Trieste. He is working with Giovanni Pinna (Milan) on the dinosaurs and pterosaurs, and with Massimo Delfino (Florence) on the crocodylians. The most spectacular specimens belong to hadrosaurs, including a complete skeleton indicating a new taxon, which is both primitive and curiously specialized. The pterosaurs are only represented by a wing metacarpal, but there is good material of a small short-snouted crocodylian.

As usual, Eric visited Thailand during the winter, together with Haiyan Tong, Jean Le Loeuff, and Gilles Cuny, to work in the field with Varavudh Suteethorn and his team. A new dinosaur locality in the Early Cretaceous Sao Khua Formation, containing remains of both juvenile and adult *Phuwiangosaurus*, was discovered and partly excavated, and more iguanodontid remains from the Khok Kruat Formation were found. A first description of the Triassic sauropod *Isanosaurus attavipachi* was published in *Nature* in September 2000, and the first stegosaur from Southeast Asia (a vertebra from the Phu Kradung Formation) was reported in the *Neues Jahrbuch* in February 2001. Work is currently in progress on various specimens of the now very extensive dinosaur collection kept at the research center at Wat Sakawan in northeastern Thailand.

Eric was in southern Tunisia again in November 2000, with Haiyan Tong and Gilles Cuny, to work with the Tunisian Geological Survey on the Early Cretaceous vertebrate-bearing beds. Various localities were visited, including a new Albian site yielding large numbers of theropod teeth and bones. Several papers are in press or in progress about new Tunisian finds.

Eric's fieldwork on the Late Cretaceous vertebrates of southern France has focused again on the localities around the villages of

Cruzy and Montouliers, where a large amount of material (including titanosaurs, ornithopods, theropods, crocodiles, turtles, and fishes) has been found in the course of several excavation campaigns and is currently being prepared.

Haiyan Tong is going on with the study of the turtle faunas from the Late Maastrichtian to Early Tertiary Moroccan phosphates, and from the Cenomanian of southern Morocco (as part of a joint project on the *Pleurodira* with Eugene Gaffney, Peter Meylan, and Roger Wood). The studies on the Moroccan phosphates have resulted in two papers in press, one on a new bothremydid (with E. Gaffney, New York) and another one on a new cheloniid sea turtle (with R. Hirayama, Japan). Haiyan spent two weeks at the AMNH in December 2000, working on these Moroccan turtle faunas and on the *Pleurodira* project with Gene Gaffney. In November 2000, Haiyan went to southern Tunisia with Eric Buffetaut, Gilles Cuny, and Tunisian colleagues, to collect vertebrate remains in the Mesozoic continental deposits. In January 2001, Haiyan spent two weeks in the field in the Kem Kem region of southern Morocco, with Lionel Cavin and Sylvain Duffaud, in collaboration with the University of Errachidia, Morocco, to collect new vertebrate remains from the Cenomanian and Turonian deposits. In February 2001, Haiyan joined the French-Thai expedition in Thailand where new vertebrate remains, including turtles, were collected from the Jurassic and Cretaceous deposits of the Khorat Group. Studies on Thai fossil turtles are in progress. Haiyan is also going on with the study of the Late Cretaceous turtle fauna from southern France and took part in the excavations in the Upper Campanian-Lower Maastrichtian localities at Cruzy and Montouliers (Hérault, southern France), which yielded new turtle remains. The paper on the skull of *Polysternon provinciale*, with Gene Gaffney, has appeared in *Oryctos* (vol. 3, 2000) and another one on a new bothremydid from the Upper Maastrichtian of southern France, with Yves Laurent and Julien Claude, is in progress. The study of the turtle fauna from the Early Cretaceous of Liaoning, China, in collaboration with E. Gaffney and S.-A. Ji (China), is going on.

Marie Pincemaille-Quillevere is going on with her PhD on the Late Cretaceous ornithopod *Rhabdodon*, and is currently describing

braincases of that dinosaur recently discovered in the course of excavations at Cruzy (southern France). A long visit to the United States enabled her to make useful comparisons between *Rhabdodon* and *Tenontosaurus*. (Eric Buffetaut and Jean Le Loeuff)

POLAND

Department of Vertebrate Paleontology, Institute of Paleobiology, Polish Academy of Sciences

Magdalena Borsuk-Białynicka continues her studies of early Triassic small tetrapods from Czatkowice, southern Poland. With Susan Evans she has a joint paper in press in *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*. The paper deals with the scapulocoracoid of the Czatkowice stem-frog *Czatkobatrachus polonicus*. This bone is morphologically intermediate compared with those of early tetrapods and anurans, allowing the authors to homologize the supraglenoid foramen of the former with the scapular cleft of the latter. The form and position of the glenoid, the slender blade of the scapula, and the well-ossified joint surfaces on the humerus and ulna of *C. polonicus* indicate a largely terrestrial, rather than aquatic, mode of life.

Lucja Fostowicz-Frelik is in the early phase of work on her PhD dissertation on the fossil lagomorphs of Poland. She has spent two weeks in Russia and a week in Hungary investigating the Saint Petersburg and Budapest collections of fossil and extant leporids. In May Lucja participated in the conference “Distribution and Migration of Tertiary Mammals in Eurasia” (held in honor of Hans de Bruijn) at Utrecht, the Netherlands, presenting a poster on the species distribution and differentiation in the Miocene–Pleistocene leporid genus *Hypolagus* in Eurasia. The manuscript has been submitted to the conference proceedings, which are to be published in *Deinsea*. Another poster (entitled “Limb biomechanics of the Plio-Pleistocene lagomorph *Hypolagus beremendensis* and its behavioral implications”) was presented by her in July at the Sixth International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology at Jena, Germany. A further poster (on the origin and phylogenetic relationships of Lagomorpha) was presented at the Eighth Pan-Polish Mammalogical Conference.

Zofia Kielan-Jaworowska is hard at work writing the book “Mammals from the Age of Dinosaurs: Origins, Evolution, and Structure” (coauthored by Rich Cifelli and Zhe-Xi Luo), to be published by Columbia University Press. While writing the book, it became clear that the systematics of several groups of Mesozoic mammals could not be completed without additional study; the same is true of the interrelationships of Mesozoic mammals. Thus, as a by-product of the work on the book, a few papers have been either published or submitted for publication. It is well known that the remains of mammals with tribosphenic molars have recently been discovered on Gondwanan landmasses, in rocks older than the oldest known Laurasian tribosphenic mammal, and that some of these remains were classified as being those of placentals. The great age and advanced morphology of these new tribosphenic mammals have led to the suggestion of a Gondwanan origin for the group. In their article (published in a January issue of *Nature*) Zhe-Xi, Rich, and Zofia argue that tribosphenic molars evolved independently in two holotherian groups with different geographic distributions during the Jurassic to early Cretaceous: a Gondwanan-endemic australosphenidan clade (which is survived by the living monotremes), and a Laurasian boreosphenidan clade that includes the remaining extant mammals. A continuation of this study is a comprehensive paper by Zhe-Xi, Zofia, and Rich, which has recently been submitted to *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*. Here the authors discuss the interrelationships of the Mesozoic mammals, including the controversial issues of the position of Multituberculata and Docodonta. Another paper that arose from the book on Mesozoic mammals is “Phylogeny and systematics of multituberculate mammals” by Zofia and Jørn Hurum, which appeared in the May issue of *Palaeontology*. In addition, Zofia and Rich have a paper in press in *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*, reporting on teeth of a primitive boreosphenidan (?Deltatheroidea) from the lower Cretaceous Antlers Formation of Oklahoma. Rich has collected a large sample of isolated multituberculate teeth from this formation, and these are being studied by him, Cindy Gordon, and Zofia. Finally, Zofia announces that *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*, which she edits, will be published in a larger (letter)

format beginning next year.

Halszka Osmólska and Teresa Maryańska are working hard on the late Cretaceous Mongolian oviraptorosaurs. They spent three weeks in Mongolia last October, and Halszka is going to visit China this year. Along with Rinchen Barsbold, Mahito Watabe, Philip Currie, and Khishigjaw Tsogtbaatar, Halszka published in *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica* a description of the first oviraptorosaur with a pygostyle, *Nomingia gobiensis*. She has also submitted (to the same journal) a joint paper with Teresa and Mieczysław Wolsan on the phylogenetic status of Oviraptorosauria. Halszka participated in the European Science Foundation's Exploratory Workshop on the Origin and Early Evolution of Birds in Strasbourg, France, giving a talk (coauthored with Teresa) on oviraptorosaur relationships.

Karol Sabath moved to the Polish Geological Institute, Warsaw. He has left our department, but not the Institute of Paleobiology, and is still active in our Museum of Evolution and as an assistant editor of *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica*.

Tomasz Sulej is continuing work on late Triassic metoposaurid labyrinthodonts. This project took him to the Paris and Moscow collections last year. He submitted to *Acta Palaeontologica Polonica* a manuscript on *Metoposaurus diagnosticus* and presented a poster entitled "Metoposaurus-dominated fossil assemblages of the late Triassic" at the Sixth International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology. Last and this year Tomasz has spent more than two months conducting excavations at Krasiejów, southern Poland. This locality has yielded a rich fauna of late Triassic (late Carnian) terrestrial vertebrates. Among numerous specimens collected are complete skeletons and perfectly preserved skulls. The assemblage is dominated by *Metoposaurus diagnosticus* and also includes remains of the phytosaur *Paleorhinus*, an aetosaur, a capitosaur, and a possible primitive dinosaur. A preliminary article on this assemblage, authored by Jerzy Dzik, Tomasz, Andrzej Kaim, and Robert Niedźwiedzki, appeared in vol. 48 of *Przegląd Geologiczny*.

Mieczysław Wolsan reports that his several ongoing projects related to various musteloid carnivorans have made gradual progress. Mieczysław paid short visits to the Budapest, Leiden, and Utrecht collections, and spent a month in South China. When in

Utrecht, he attended the conference held in honor of Hans de Bruijn, giving a talk entitled “Climatic cooling and increased aridity at the Eocene-Oligocene transition in Asia and North America and the major radiation of modern Carnivora.” This subject was also presented by him as a talk at the Sixth International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology. (Mieczysław Wolsan)

SLOVAKIA

Department of Geology and Paleontology, Comenius University, Bratislava

We are here again with some news of our Department after more than two years. The establishment of an independent educational specialization in paleontology in the framework of the educational field of geology in our faculty is probably the greatest news of all. It was a hard fight, but now, our specialization is in the second year of its independent existence. Now, approximately 16 students of the second and third class are studying it. Four of them are interested in paleovertebratology—Anna Izoldova (bats), Martina Abelova (proboscidiens), Kamila Prihelova (amphibians and reptiles), and Peter Klebsatel (insectivores). However, there are two students in the older class who are interested in fossil vertebrates as well. The first of them, Slavka Hutyrova, is studying the otoliths of deep-marine fishes from the Middle Miocene sediments of the Devinska Nova Ves clay pit (near Bratislava), and the second older student, Robert Petras, is interested in autopodiums of cave bears from the morphological and metric points of view. They both are slowly finishing their diploma work, and we are looking forward to their results. All of these students are hopeful paleovertebratologists and the new future of Slovak paleontology is dependent on this young generation.

As was written formerly, we are only two paleovertebratologists in our department. The older of us, Peter Holec, elaborated some findings of large mammals (especially elephants and woolly rhinos) from the Pleistocene sediments of our country for the last two years. He also published the results of his study of the Miocene sharks and fishes from the Vienna Basin near Bratislava in *Mineralia Slovaca*, and, together with Martin Sabol, finished their paper on “Time

distribution of mammals in the Miocene of Slovakia (in the framework of the European project EEDEN).” Now, we only hope that it will be published soon after some minor corrections.

The younger of us, Martin Sabol, took part in the Sixth Cave Bear Symposium in Bad Mitterndorf, Austria, in 1999. He presented partial results of his study on the geographical distribution of cave bears in the Slovak territory during the Late Pleistocene. Many, many thanks go to all organizers for a pleasant atmosphere at the symposium in the beautiful surroundings of the Alps.

Also, the fieldwork part of new research of the Late Pliocene site of Hajnacka I was finished after five years in the summer of 2000. The research yielded numerous fossil remains of vertebrates (fishes, frogs, turtles, serpents, insectivores, carnivores, rodents, tapirs, rhinos, proboscideans, cervids, etc.). Now, they are gradually determined and next elaborated together with the geological data, which were also ascertained during the research. Martin assumes that final results of all research will be published in 2003. We would also like to heartily thank the Gemer-Malohont Museum and Tauris Co. in Rimavska Sobota for their assistance in helping us realize this research through their material and financial support! In the connection with this research, Martin collaborated with Prof. Fejfar from Charles University in Prague, Czech Republic. This collaboration deals with the findings of rodents and other small mammals. Together, they prepared a paper on the fossil remains of carnivores from this site. The scientific help and cooperation of Prof. Fejfar is invaluable, and we hope that Martin will learn as much as possible.

In December 2000, Martin finished his PhD study by defending his thesis, “Fossil and Subfossil Ursids of Slovakia” (in Slovak). Now, he is studying part of a new mammalian find from the Hajnacka I, and the fossil remains of micromammals from the Miocene sediments of the Devinska Nova Ves–Bonanza locality near Bratislava. In conclusion, some other data are available on the Web site <http://www.fns.uniba.sk/~kgp>, which will soon be updated. (Martin Sabol)

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Northeast Region

Johns Hopkins University

It's been a couple of years since there has been a substantial contribution from the Functional Anatomy and Evolution (FAE) group at Johns Hopkins, so this will hopefully summarize relatively recent developments.

Dave Weishampel has long since forgotten what he last sent in to the *News Bulletin*. As for now, he's busy with several books. He and Cora Jianu (Muzeul Civilizatiei Dacice si Romane Deva, Romania) will soon be finishing up their book on Transylvanian dinosaurs (Harvard University Press). The new revision of "The Dinosauria" (to be published again by the University of California Press) is now going through review and editorial stages; thanks go to all the authors for getting their contributions in. Dave and Nadine White (science writer from northern Virginia) are also compiling historically significant papers on dinosaurs (up to the early part of the 20th century), with non-English publications translated into English and brief commentaries on each, for a book to be published by the Smithsonian Institution Press. The last of these book projects (for the moment?) is a revision, with Dave Fastovsky, of "The Evolution and Extinction of the Dinosaurs" (again to be published by Cambridge University Press).

Dave is also working on a number of other projects, among them a monograph with Cora Jianu, Zoli Csiki, Dave Norman, and Dan Grigorescu on a new genus and species of ornithopod from the Hateg Basin of Romania. In addition, Don Henderson and Dave have produced a study of theropod jaw mechanics for the upcoming *Senckenberg Lethaea* volume on biomechanics and fossil vertebrates. Also submitted to this volume is a study of hadrosaurid forelimb biomechanics by Naoko Egi and Dave. Finally, Dave is working with Dave Fastovsky, Mahito Watabe, Ken Ishiii, Yukihide Matsumoto, Shigeru Suzuki, Shinobu Ishigaki, Rinchen Barsbold, Khishigjav Tsogtbaatar, Pagam Narmandakh, Mark Norell, and Pete Makovicky on a spectacular nest of 15 nearly complete, articulated neonatal *Protoceratops* from Tugreekin Shireh and on three oviraptorid embryos from Bugin Tsav also with Fastovsky, Watabe, Barsbold, and Tsogtbaatar.

Ken Rose continues working on Wasatchian rodent postcrania with FAE student Brenda Chinnery (reported in Mexico City), and a manuscript is finally nearing completion. Other ongoing projects involve postcrania of the tillodont *Esthonyx* (with FAE student Jay Mussell) and of Wind River Basin mesonychids (with Chris Beard and Alan Tabrum, CM). Since our last report, several articles have appeared, including a comparison of *Eurotamandua* and palaeoanodonts (*Paläont. Zeitschrift* 73), description of the first early Eocene mammals from Virginia (Fisher/Sullivan Site volume, edited by Weems and Grimsley), a report of the first Paleocene mammals from Maryland (Aquia Formation, *Proc. Biol. Soc. Washington*, 113(4)), a review of early primates in "Palaeobiology II" (edited by Briggs and Crowther), an article on Bighorn Basin Eocene mammals in *Natural History* (April), and a review of Bighorn Basin mammal postcrania for the symposium on "Climate and biota of the early Paleogene," held in Powell, Wyoming, in July (*Univ. Michigan Papers on Paleontology* 33), as well as *JVP* articles on leptictid postcranial skeletons, an early Paleocene palaeoanodont from New Mexico (with Spencer Lucas), carpolestids (with Jon Bloch, Dan Fisher, and Philip Gingerich), and a second triconodont specimen from the Early Cretaceous Arundel Formation of Maryland (with Rich Cifelli and Tom Lipka, *JVP* 21(3)).

In February Ken and Jay Mussell joined Indian colleagues Ashok Sahni, Shiva Kulshreshtha, and Raminder Loyal of Panjab University (Chandigarh) and Rajendra Rana of Garhwal University (Srinigar) to search for terrestrial mammals in early Tertiary sediments in Rajasthan. Fish and reptile remains were recovered at a lignite mine near the city of Barmer, and we are hopeful that continued screen washing of matrix from the site will eventually yield Paleocene mammals.

In addition to his paper with Dave, Don Henderson has been slaving away constantly with far too many irons in the fire. In January he submitted a paper to *JVP* that uses his "Robosaur" computer models (as seen at the Mexico City meeting last year) to test the hip-height predictions based on preserved trackways. In June, two papers, one on the mathematical/computational pterosaur walking model ("Robodactylus"), coauthored with David Unwin,

was submitted to *ZJLS*, and another on aspects of skull strength and biting in theropods went to *JVP* again. In May Don was awarded a Jurassic Foundation grant to study the biomechanical properties of the axial skeleton of sauropods. In June he was at the Carnegie Museum in Pittsburgh for a week measuring the axial skeletons of *Apatosaurus* and *Diplodocus*, and several days in June and July were spent measuring the juvenile *Camarasaurus* on display at the USNM. Don was also interviewed in June as part of a Discovery Channel news story on the cursorial abilities of *Tyrannosaurus rex* as portrayed in the film “Jurassic Park,” and what his “Robosaur” models can contribute to the study of theropod locomotion.

After surviving (literally!) two months in Romania during 2000, François Therrien came back from the field with a ton of rock samples and stories. His study of biodiversity and paleoenvironmental changes in the latest Cretaceous deposits of Transylvania is going well and gives insights into the paleoecology of dinosaurs and other contemporaneous inhabitants of Dracula’s homeland at the end of the Mesozoic. During the past year, François has also explored the field of biomechanics and how it can be used to infer behavior in extinct animals. Using beam theory, he was able to investigate and document feeding behaviors among a diverse array of extinct taxa, more specifically among crocodylians, phytosaurs, theropods, and saber-toothed mammals. Extremely interesting and encouraging results were obtained and further work is underway to gain a better understanding of the patterns observed. At the moment these lines are being written, François is getting ready to go back to Romania for another eight weeks, hoping to unveil many more secrets of the ancient ecosystems preserved there.

First-year graduate students Shawn Zack and Tonya Penkrot managed to find some time to do research in between coursework, TA duties, and the field season. Shawn finished up his first-year research rotation on Bighorn Basin hyaenodontid systematics and is launching into a comparative study of early hyaenodontid postcrania. Working with hyaenodontids also piqued his interest in early carnivorous mammals as a whole. Tonya has started a reevaluation of various ecological aspects of the Chiroptera of the Grube Messel and hopes to make a visit to Germany in the not-too-

distant future and also plans to expand her research to include other early microbats.

Several FAE students reached milestones this year. Amy Chew and François Therrien successfully completed their comprehensive exams and are now working on dissertation proposals. Mary Silcox admirably defended her dissertation on relationships of Plesiadapiformes in March. We wish her continued success in her postdoctoral fellowship with Alan Walker at Penn State, and in the position she has accepted for next year at the University of Winnipeg. (Shawn Zack)

Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, Columbia University, New York

Footprints are falling out of the Late Triassic of eastern Pennsylvania. Several new tracksites have been discovered during the course of construction projects, and our partners in crime on the scene (Mike Szajna and Brian Hartline) have been keeping up with the earth-movers. There are many exquisitely preserved footprints, but most exciting of all, many of these new sites are very close (<20 ky) to the Triassic-Jurassic boundary. In northern New Jersey, amateur collectors continue to find footprints as well as deep dinosaurian tail tracks in the very earliest Jurassic (<20 ky after the T-J boundary).

Emma Rainforth is trying to keep on top of these new finds in between her taxonomic work on the Newark Supergroup footprints. In the past spring, she visited Paul Ellenberger's collection of southern African footprints (at the Université de Montpellier II). Many of these tracks are very similar in morphology and stratigraphic range as the Newark tracks; however, there are also forms that are not represented in North America. She has also spent some time in Indiana picking Jim Farlow's brain, with many a discussion on the utility and limits of footprint studies, as well as examining ontogenetic variation in gators and *Coelophysis*.

Paul Olsen has been working up the cyclo- and magnetostratigraphy of the Jurassic of the Hartford Basin with paleomagnetist Dennis Kent (Rutgers, LDEO), placing all of the classic track and bone localities into a high-resolution (~20–100 ky) chronostratigraphic framework, keyed into published magnetostratigraphies of European marine sections. Paul has also been working with Dennis,

Peter LeTourneau (LDEO), Vince Schneider (NC Museum of Natural Sciences, Raleigh), and Hans Sues (ROM) on placing Ebenezer Emmons' classic localities and the new traversodont cynodont-dominated assemblages into a cyclo- and magnetostratigraphic framework. Finally, Paul continues work on his "Dino (and Other) Tracks of the Eastern USA" for CU Press. Although he is on his third editor at the CU Press, he insists that it will be done in the near future. (Actually, the fact is that previous work is so fouled up—stronger words expunged—that multiple separate papers on individual ichnogenera had to be written first, in order to make the book readable yet still reasonably accurate.)

The Triassic-Jurassic Working Group has a student visiting from Morocco for a year. Mohammed Et-Touhami is working on the cyclo-, magneto-, and palynostratigraphy of the Moroccan counterparts to the Newark rift system. This work will enable high-resolution correlation of the Moroccan vertebrate-bearing horizons to those in eastern North America. Of particular interest is the Triassic-Jurassic boundary interval, and its stratigraphic position relative to flood-basalt volcanism. Paul, Mohammed, and colleagues in Europe (Christian Koeberl, Heinz Huber, and Alessandro Montanari) are also searching for iridium and shocked minerals in the boundary layer, and indeed have found a modest Ir anomaly in the Newark basin exactly at the Triassic-Jurassic boundary as identified palynologically by Sarah Fowell (University of Alaska, Fairbanks). (Emma Rainforth and Paul Olsen)

National Museum of Natural History, Smithsonian Institution

On 24 May 2001, a new, more accurate, dynamic, cast skeleton of *Triceratops* was unveiled at the Smithsonian's National Museum of Natural History. It is based on the original 1905 mount that had deteriorated from years of exposure to heat, humidity, and vibration. The Smithsonian and its partners in the digital technology industry improved on the original mount by replacing bones that had been sculpted or were from mismatched animals by prototyping more appropriately sized and shaped bones from the surface-scanned data files of the original bones. Prototyping of large bones was done using a milling process. Prototyping of the miniature skeleton, done

to facilitate the analysis of the posture and to show a reconstruction of the 1905 mount in the exhibit, as well as a 15% enlarged head (done in more than 30 blocks that were fused together) was done by stereolithography.

The permanent exhibit includes the new cast skeleton, the original skull, the original left and right humerus, and the prototype replacement left humerus of *Triceratops*. Visitors can also see *Diceratops*, *Styracosaurus* (a full skeletal mount of a baby), *Centrosaurus*, cast skulls of *Protoceratops*, *Bagaceratops*, and *Psittacosaurus*, and for the first time ever at the Smithsonian, casts of four pachycephalosaurs. Touchable elements include a cast horn core of *Triceratops* and a 1/6-scale *Triceratops* skull in bronze. An interactive video shows the entire process of conserving, molding and casting, surface scanning, prototyping, researching the posture of *Triceratops*, and the real *Triceratops* bones walking.

SVP members from the Smithsonian Ralph Chapman, Linda Deck, Steve Jabo, Pete Kroehler, and Mike Brett-Surman were instrumental in this new exhibition, with significant support from non-SI SVP members Cathy Forster, Art Andersen, Kent Stevens, Rolf Johnson, Brenda Chinnery, Bob Walters, and Bruce Mohn. Additional research on *Triceratops* and related dinosaurs stemming from this work is ongoing.

Pete Kroehler and Steve Jabo from Paleobiology, along with Jennifer Young and Alison Olcott, molded most of the original bones using latex and silicone rubbers and cast them in surmat and hydrocal gypsum cement to make hollow casts. The cores were filled with expanding 8-lb foam to complete these incredibly strong replicas. We decided to use FGR-95 plaster because of the long-lasting qualities of plaster over epoxies and polyesters that degrade in UV light. Bill Keyser came to the project during the last six months to help build the internal steel armature, doing most of the welding for us. Some of the improvements of this mount over the old one are the replacement of the hadrosaur rear feet with *Triceratops* feet; the addition of sternal plates; the re-posing of the mount in a defensive standoff with the cast of Stan, the *Tyrannosaurus rex*; and updating the posture and correct proportions of the major appendicular elements and skull. The original *Triceratops* skull and

that of *Diceratops* were remounted on new bases and are on display in the exhibit in environmentally protected vitrines. Our heartfelt thanks go to the unsung heroes in Production and Fabrication (Department of Exhibits) for making it possible for the exhibit to open on time.

Michael Brett-Surman, Steve Jabo, Pete Kroehler, Jennifer Young, and Kimberly Moeller spent June digging a Morrison Formation eggshell site west of Shell, Wyoming. Bad weather caused some delays, but over seven blocks have been collected for CT scanning. Trying to jacket blocks of unconsolidated silty sand filled with eggshells has proven to be “interesting.” Regrettably, a Morrison Formation bone site near Hyattville had been plundered. Further exploration in all the local Jurassic formations will hopefully yield more undisturbed sites for future work.

Dan Chaney wants to know just how a Miocene vertebrate paleontologist turned Paleozoic paleobotanist reports a field trip to Barbados to collect Pleistocene corals in a news bulletin for vertebrate paleontologists? The supra-tidal vertebrate fauna observed on the island was interesting! Paleontologist Barbie partook in the operation but the pictures are not yet back from the developer. Initial stages for working on the Permian plants of New Mexico and the other Four Corner states are in the works.

The work in north-central Texas continues on a variety of fronts—paleomag, geochemical, paleosol, and some interesting work by colleagues John Nelson and Bob Hook on subsurface stratigraphic correlations. They are working on the problem of correlating the classic Wichita River Valley Clear Fork Group vertebrate-producing red beds with the formal formational subdivisions (Arroyo, Vale, and Choza) of type area 75 km to the south. Preliminary correlations are very interesting and when the work is completed will illuminate the stratigraphic position of the vertebrate as well as the plant remains collected in the classic area.

Bob Purdy reports that the third Lee Creek volume is almost out of print, but reprints of individual chapters are still available.

On Memorial Day weekend Bob Purdy, Fred Grady, and Dave Bohaska participated in the Aurora Fossil Festival; they used this opportunity to do also fieldwork at the Lee Creek Mine and two

Castle Hayne quarries. On the last day Dave found an archaeocete cervical vertebra in some dense limestone, but he had to leave it there because of an approaching bank of ominous thunderclouds. Since it rained hard the rest of the day, we could not retrieve the specimen. At Lee Creek they found more whale and seal specimens but not much in the way of lower vertebrates. This fall they plan to visit the new mining area that is to the east of the present pit, which will be flooded by this fall.

David Norman (Cambridge, U.K.) is spending a year on sabbatical in the Smithsonian (Natural History Building) as a Distinguished Research Fellow. He is keeping his head down and spending a lot of time drawing and inking-in illustrations for a series of monographic studies: the Transylvanian ornithopod formerly named “*Rhabdodon*,” the Asian ornithopod *Probactrosaurus*, the early armored ornithischian *Scelidosaurus*, and the early ornithischian *Heterodontosaurus*). He is also finding a bit of time to think (just imagine!) and is working on a number of other projects that have been to some extent mired by teaching, management, and administration back in Cambridge. The Smithsonian is being very accommodating, setting him up with excellent facilities and he is having a most enjoyable sojourn. The SVP in Bozeman this year will mark the end of his time in the U.S.—so if he looks a bit glum there then it’s because he knows he is going back to “reality” pretty soon...just buy him a beer!

Sally Shelton continues the work of managing NMNH permits and interagency issues. She presented talks at recent meetings of the American Association of Museums, the Natural Science Collections Alliance (formerly the Association of Systematics Collections), and the North America American Paleontological Convention. She is also working with Clare Flemming, AMNH, and Blair Van Valkenburgh in coordinating SVP archives, housed at the SI. Recent additions will be reported at the annual meeting.

Pennsylvania State University Paleoanthropology Lab

This has been a busy and productive year at the Penn State Paleoanthropology Lab. Alan C. Walker received funding (with co-PI Fred Spoor) for a project to study semicircular canal dimen-

sions in a variety of small modern mammals and a cross section of small to medium-sized fossil primates. This project is making use of the new high resolution micro-CT scanner at Penn State. This new facility provides another option for paleontologists looking for somewhere to do HrCT, and offers many benefits including the potential to scan quite large specimens at very high resolution. Lab newcomer, Mary Silcox, has also been involved in this project. Mary came to the lab as a research assistant from Johns Hopkins, where she was completing her PhD on plesiadapiform systematics with K. D. Rose. Mary defended her dissertation successfully in March, and graduated from Johns Hopkins in May. Mary is involved in a wide variety of research projects, including continuing work with K. D. Rose on quarry localities from the Bighorn Basin and collaborative projects with J. I. Bloch to describe new plesiadapiform specimens. Next year Mary will be returning to Penn State for a year as a postdoc. She has accepted a permanent position at the University of Winnipeg Department of Anthropology that will begin in July of 2002. This summer Mary will once again join K. D. Rose and the Hopkins field crew looking for mammals in the Bighorn Basin (Willwood Formation) of Wyoming.

Holly Dunsworth passed her candidacy exams with flying colors in March, and is continuing work on the functional anatomy of throwing in humans. This summer she participated in a course on forensic anthropology in Erie, Pennsylvania, and will be a participant in the 2001 Berlin Summer Academy at the Max-Planck-Institute for the History of Science.

Erica Phillips published a paper (with A. C. Walker) naming a new species of fossil lorid, *Mioeuoticus shipmani*, from the Miocene of East Africa. Erica also completed a project using Euclidean distance matrix analysis to study the tightness of fit of the teeth in a variety of modern primates. This work was presented at the 2001 meeting of the Paleoanthropology Society, and has the potential to allow us to answer many interesting questions about mammalian occlusal patterns.

Alan C. Walker is busy, as always. In addition to the semicircular canal project he has been involved with continuing work describing the hypodigm of *Australopithecus anamensis* (with C.

Ward and M. Leakey), a collaboration with B. Hedges looking at great ape-human divergence dates, and a new project examining functional aspects of the mandible in hominids. This latter project involves working with the biomechanics lab at Penn State, and makes use of finite element analysis to examine the effect of stresses on a simplified mandibular model. (Mary T. Silcox)

Southeast Region

Columbus State University, Georgia

It has been a year since the last news update from CSU, and there's a lot to report. Most notably, David Schwimmer has completed the book manuscript on the Late Cretaceous crocodylian *Deinosuchus*, to be published by Indiana University Press. The three-year project benefiting tremendously from ideas and graphics provided by many colleagues, including Wann Langston, Jr., Greg Erickson, and Chris Brochu. David, Ed Hooks, and Brett Johnson have a note in press at *JVP* on age and range extension for the large Late Cretaceous lamnid *Cretodus semiplicatus*. The synonymy incorporated may be among the most tortuous examples known: maybe there should be a contest to see which are the most historically oversplit shark taxa.

Cait Kiernnan and David have submitted a brief note to the *Journal of Paleontology* reporting the occurrence of a tiny velociraptorine in the Mooreville Chalk (early Campanian) in western Alabama. David is also a junior author, along with Thomas Carr and Tom Williamson, of a substantial report on a basal tyrannosaurid from the Campanian of Alabama; the paper is in review at *JVP* at the time of this writing. Tracy Hall, an undergraduate geology student at CSU, is working on (and finding) Late Cretaceous mammal teeth in the Campanian Blufftown Formation in western Georgia. There are no prior reports of Mesozoic mammals in the region, but the occurrences were expected. To date, Tracy has found three waterworn specimens in a lag concentrate, one of which is obviously a multituberculate. The other two appear to be tribosphenic cheek teeth and may be didelphids; but the state of preservation is too poor to be certain. More teeth certainly are in the material collected. (David Schwimmer)

Florida Museum of Natural History

Dave Webb and Andy Hemmings continue their work on Late Pleistocene faunal and cultural material from the Aucilla River. We are reporting on our newly discovered tools made from *Equus* bones. It seems that the metatarsal was selected. That makes sense when one realizes that it is the longest straight bone in the body, exceeding the metacarpal by 20–30%. Determining the osteological identity is far easier than understanding the archaeological function. A general overview of the Aucilla River Prehistory Project can now be found in “Enduring Records: The Environmental and Cultural Heritage of Wetlands” from Oxbow Books in Oxford, U.K.

While Dave is working very hard to finish editing a multi-authored book on the Aucilla work to be titled “First Floridians and Last Mastodons,” Andy is doing a dissertation on a very rich assemblage specifically from Sloth Hole. Andy recently received a Dickinson Fellowship which will help him complete the dissertation unslotfully.

Two new, potentially major vertebrate fossil sites were discovered this spring in Florida. As is often the case in this region, they were found serendipitously on private property by the land-owners; fortunately in both instances they notified the museum, allowed us to excavate, and donated all specimens to the museum. The first new site was found during the deepening of a cattle well on a ranch in Hendry County in southwestern Florida. Excavations were undertaken by Richard Hulbert joined by Mason Meers of Florida Gulf Coast University and enthusiastic volunteers from the Lee County Paleontological Society. The most common vertebrates recovered were large mammals, notably *Mammuthus*, *Mammut*, *Paramylodon*, *Megalonyx*, *Tapirus*, and *Holmesina*, and tortoises. An early-to-middle Pleistocene age is suggested by the fauna; future work should help narrow that range. The second new site was found by a farmer plowing a field in western Alachua County in preparation for planting peanuts. The site is very near the McGehee Farm site we dug back in the early 1960s and appears to be of similar age (early Hemphillian). Test pits produced abundant material of the rhino *Aphelops*, as well as gomphothere, equids, *Synthetoceras*, *Thinobadistes*, and camelids. We plan to make this site the focus of

our fall field operations and also return to the Hendry County site in the winter or spring of 2002.

Bruce MacFadden reports that his study of *Anchitherium* from Thomas Farm is now available as an FLMNH bulletin. He is collaborating with Oscar Carranza on a description of a cranium of *Dinohippus mexicanus* from Rancho El Ocote; a study of the co-occurrence of *D. mexicanus* and primitive *Equus* in the Blancan of central Mexico; and analyses of stable isotopes of late Hemphillian horses from Mexico as compared to those from Florida. With Penny Higgins, he is finishing a study of stable isotopes of Florida Neogene sirenians. With new graduate student Joann Labs, Bruce has initiated a study of stable isotopes and incremental growth of fossil lamnoid sharks. Bruce has been coordinating the planning and implementation of a traveling exhibit "Tusks!: Ice Age Florida's Mammoths and Mastodons." This exhibit will include two articulated skeletons (one newly done) and feature the fossil proboscidean collections and research done here at the FLMNH. This exhibit will be featured at the FLMNH from June 2002 through January 2003 and thereafter be available for other venues.

Russ McCarty finished preparing a skull and mandible of the new sloth species *Eremotherium eomigrans*, which were collected in October 2000 at the Haile quarries west of Gainesville. Most of the labor was involved with separating the articulated mandible and skull which were cemented together with calcite. After separating the two elements, reconstruction proceeded fairly swiftly. No teeth were found with the mandible, and the skull had only three teeth, so casts of teeth from another eremothere were used instead. The zygomatics and jugals were complete enough to be fully reconstructed and clearly showed the very low position of the orbit which placed the eye at about the same level (or perhaps a bit lower) as the upper dentition. The skull is being shipped out to Matt Smith who is mounting a skeleton for the museum's new fossil hall.

Penny Higgins continues her postdoctoral research effort studying stable isotopes of carbon and oxygen from fossil horses and bison, under the guidance of Bruce MacFadden. Her next year will be occupied with gathering, preparing, and analyzing enamel samples for that study. She looks forward to having at least four

journal articles in review by the end of the summer, including published versions of her Master's thesis and PhD dissertation research.

Phil L. D'Amo is in the process of defending his thesis on the Cutler Hammock carnivore den fossil site. Using stable isotopes and other techniques, he has worked out the megafaunal paleodiet as well as the paleoenvironment and paleogeography of southern Florida in the terminal Pleistocene. Julie Meachan has now officially joined the Florida VP group as a Master's candidate in zoology. She plans to work with Dave Webb on the morphology and phylogeny of Late Cenozoic llamas.

Jay O'Sullivan has revised and resubmitted a chapter from his dissertation for publication in *JVP*. More stable isotope analyses are in the works. As a general note, Jay has observed that the dissertation process follows an Eldredge/Gould model of brief periods of change surrounded by lengthy periods of stasis. It is perhaps one of the few manifestations of this model of evolution with an empirical basis. (Jay O'Sullivan)

LSU Museum of Natural Science

A new report on the Fort Polk Miocene fauna has been completed: Schiebout, J. A. and S. Ting, Paleofaunal survey, collecting, processing, and documentation at locations in the Castor Creek Member, Miocene Fleming Formation, Fort Polk, Louisiana. Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District. Open-file report, 95 p. The Fort Polk Environmental Learning Center has a list of researchers likely to be interested, and they will be sent a copy. Let Judith Schiebout know if you want a copy and don't receive it by late August. Spring saw three visits to Fort Polk for fieldwork at TVOR SE site, a site yielding both marine and terrestrial Miocene vertebrates. We have begun to screen material from the site in addition to quarrying. Every trip yields some surprises from this site. Judith Schiebout was recently notified that she has received the 2001 Association for Women Geoscientists (AWG) Outstanding Educator Award. The award ceremony will be at AWG's annual breakfast meeting at the fall GSA meeting in Boston. Ray Wilhite is currently finishing up the portion of his dissertation on alligator limb musculature and

continues to work on his computer models of sauropod hindlimbs. He is also working on several publications including his Master's thesis work on sauropods. Schiebout, Suyin Ting, and Paul White will be in Powell, Wyoming, for the Climate and Biota of the Early Paleogene Meeting in early July. Ting will present results of her work in China and White and Schiebout will present results on Big Bend in west Texas. Mike Williams is employed on the Fort Polk project, planning to graduate in December 2001, and is in the process of applying to graduate programs. (Judith Schiebout)

Murray State University, Kentucky

The Netherlands, more specifically the University of Utrecht, played host in May to a conference honoring Hans de Bruijn. Bob Martin presented a paper there on the status of *Mimomys* in North America, which will be published in a volume of contributions from the meeting. Bob, Tom Goodwin, and Jim Farlow had a paper on rodents of the late Hemphillian Pipe Creek l.f., Indiana, accepted for publication in *JVP*, and Bob's short paper providing a preliminary species list of late Pleistocene mammals from the Peccary Room l.f. of Yarbrough Cave, Georgia, recently appeared in *Paludicola*. Other studies on Pleistocene bog lemmings from Florida and rodent faunas from sites in the Meade Basin of Kansas are in various stages of review or preparation.

Four students will be working in Bob's lab beginning this fall, all likely on aspects of the Meade Basin rodent faunal succession. Crystal Rose (MS student) will study pocket gopher replacement and microevolution, Chris Crockett (MS student) schmelzmuster variation in *Ogmodontomys*, and Melissa Engelman (BS student) a multivariate analysis of occlusal morphology in *Ogmodontomys*. Valorie Titus, an MS student joining us from Cazanovia College in New York, has not yet decided on a topic. Crystal, Melissa, and Valorie will join Bob, Jim Honey, and Pablo Pelaez-Campomanes for another month of fieldwork in Kansas this summer.

Jim Honey guided David Fox and colleagues around the Meade Basin in late May while they collected carbonate samples throughout the sequence. These studies continue the development, along with Barry Albright's paleomag data, of a more detailed record for

central Great Plains terrestrial communities over the past five million years. (Bob Martin)

Southwest Region

Corpus Christi Museum of Science and History, Corpus Christi, Texas

After approximately 30 years absence from SVP it is good to be back. I originally joined back in 1968 while with the paleontology division of the Field Museum of Natural History. Names like Orville Gilpin, Rainer Zangerl, and Dr. Richardson still may be remembered by some of you. A career with the military and federal government separated me from active paleo for some time and from SVP even longer, but not permanently. After retiring from military and government service, I managed to be in Corpus Christi, Texas, at the time the Museum of Science and History wanted to form a paleontology laboratory to conserve a mammoth that had been in their collection for a number of years. So some nine or so years ago the development of the lab began and I've been enjoying the return to the "bones" ever since. I resurrected my SVP membership about three months ago. This is our museum's first submission to the *News Bulletin*.

The main project of our lab is the preparation/conservation of the "Taylor Mammoth" collected from the late Pleistocene Beaumont Formation located on the Taylor Ranch in Kleberg County, Texas, back in 1976. Raymond Suhm talked about it in a report entitled "Geology of clay dunes, Baffin Bay and the South Texas sand sheet," Texas Academy of Science, 8 March 1980. This mammoth is also noted in an article by Raymond W. Neck entitled "Paleoenvironmental significance of a nonmarine Pleistocene molluscan fauna from South Texas," *Texas Journal of Science*, 35(2), 1983.

Other current projects include a small oreodont skull from the Late Oligocene and a small tortoise. It is sure good to be "digging in the dirt" again as one non-initiate commented while viewing me at work in our Living Exhibit Paleo Lab. (Gwen F. Hall)

Dallas Museum of Natural History, Dallas, Texas

First, the Dallas Museum of Natural History welcomes Heather Finlayson as the new preparator in the Department of Paleontology. Within her first two months of joining the staff she was able to participate in a new, major excavation of an adult *Alamosaurus* from Big Bend National Park. This was a collaborative effort between the Dallas Museum of Natural History, the University of Texas at Dallas, and Big Bend National Park. The May 2001 DMNH field party consisted of Tony Fiorillo (curator of earth sciences), Heather Finlayson (preparator), Derek Main (paleontology assistant), Angela Burcham (science educator), Juanita Buelow (long-time museum volunteer). We now have excavated nine cervical vertebrae, the last seven of which were airlifted by Bell Helicopter to a waiting flatbed truck that drove the specimens back to the museum. The specimen was originally discovered in 1997 by now SMU graduate student Dana Biasatti while we were excavating a juvenile *Alamosaurus* quarry not far from this site.

Derek Main, an incoming SMU graduate student, has been working on applications of Ground Penetrating Radar to paleontological excavations and his survey suggests that more of this specimen is still in the ground. In the upcoming months we expect to return to Big Bend and check for more bones.

Later in the summer, Tony joined Roland Gangloff (University of Alaska Museum) to continue their work on the dinosaurs of the North Slope. In addition, they will return to Katmai National Park, where they will be joined by Judy Parrish (University of Arizona), and Vince Santucci (National Park Service) for further excavation of a new Tertiary plant locality they discovered. This site was found in an area previously mapped as Early Jurassic. Finally they will continue their paleontological survey work of the Alaska Peninsula with a raft trip on the Aniakchak River, looking for Jurassic fossil vertebrates in Aniakchak National Monument. (Tony Fiorillo and Heather Finlayson)

Mesa Southwest Museum, Mesa, Arizona

Doug Wolfe and Jim Kirkland are dealing with the considerable amount of attention they are getting on the announcement of their discovery of a coelurosaur and a therizinosaur (*Nothronychus*) from

the middle Cretaceous Zuni Basin fauna. More discoveries remain to be described, and not all of them are dinosaurs! Heidi Marie Johnson continues the slow work of preparing her remarkably complete Devonian fish fossils. Brian Curtice still dabbles now and again on sauropods and we are counting on him to help in the study of our new sauropod from Arizona's middle Cretaceous Bisbee Group.

Bob McCord steals an occasional moment now and again to work on the Fort Crittenden fauna but, generally, he is immersed in a world of meetings, budget matters, and personnel issues as the acting administrator of the museum.

We wish to thank all of you who attended this spring's Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists meetings. It was a real pleasure hosting you all at the Museum. (Bob McCord)

Museum of Northern Arizona, Flagstaff, Arizona

Barry Albright and Dave Gillette, with the help of Merle Graffam from Big Water, Utah, headed back out to Grand Staircase/Glen Canyon country in southern Utah the first week of April to complete excavations started last year on a large pliosaur and a therizinosaur. The discovery of the therizinosaur (about 75% complete) was announced at the NACP meeting in Berkeley this June, and, together with another one from New Mexico recently reported by Wolfe and Kirkland, represent the first two specimens of this odd group ever found in the Western Hemisphere. A third excavation, this one conducted within the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument (GSENM), was also completed this spring with the help of monument paleontologist Alan Titus, resulting in a fully articulated hadrosaur tail with skin impressions. Currently (mid-June), Dave, Barry, and Merle, together with Northern Arizona University graduate student Margaret Imhoff and MNA summer field assistant Nikki Hemmesch, are wrapping up the excavation of a partial skeleton of a ceratopsian, also within the GSENM. The MNA Department of Geology was recently awarded funds for these projects through Federal Assistance Agreements with both GSENM and Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

Earlier this year Dave spent time with Ismael Ferrusquia

prospecting in Chiapas, Mexico, and Barry spent time in the Goler and Barstow formations of California with Lofgren, McKenna, Woodburne, Lindsay, Hutchison, Wyss, Honey, and crew.

Janet Whitmore Gillette recently completed fieldwork and collection management for Triassic vertebrates recovered from abandoned uranium mines on the Navajo Reservation. She also launched the database collection management program that will eventually record all MNA paleo collections and localities. NAU graduate student Bill Parker continues his Master's studies on *Desmotosuchus* from the Chinle Formation, and MNA Research Associate Grace Irby is finalizing her study on a dinosaur trackway from northeastern Arizona.

The Department of Geology would like to announce the addition of Niko Herzog to our staff as preparator. Our past two years of fieldwork will provide Niko with plenty to do in the coming months and we welcome his expertise, enthusiasm, and his contributions to rounding out the team here.

Ned Colbert continues to visit his office a couple days a week and recently began assembling the thousands of images he has compiled over an exceptionally long and productive career to be archived at the American Museum of Natural History. Margaret Colbert recently celebrated her 90th birthday. (Barry Albright and Dave Gillette)

Texas Tech University, Lubbock, Texas

Thomas Lehman and his students continue work on the Late Cretaceous and Early Paleocene formations of Big Bend National Park. Tom recently completed a description of a juvenile specimen of the sauropod *Alamosaurus* with former student Alan Coulson. Tom's students Jeff Anglen and Jonathan R. Wagner both successfully defended their Master's theses this spring. Jeff's thesis is on the paleoecology of the gigantic crocodylian *Deinosuchus* from estuarine facies in the Aguja Formation. Jonathan's thesis covers Big Bend hadrosaur material from the Aguja and Javelina formations. Both provide discussion of the vertebrate biostratigraphy and paleoecology of the Upper Cretaceous deposits at Big Bend. Jonathan has moved on to UT Austin to continue his work under

Tim Rowe. Tom's other Master's students, Tim King and Richard Ashmore, are continuing work on their thesis projects. Tim is reviewing Big Bend's earliest Tertiary (Paleocene) mammals, and hopes to have his thesis finished next year. Richard is working on inoceramid bivalves from the marine formations of Big Bend.

Sankar Chatterjee is continuing his work on the origin of flight, and is also working on Asian sauropodomorphs. He is currently working with Peter Galton and T. S. Kutty on new Indian prosauropods, and completed a paper with former student Zhong Zheng on the Chinese sauropod *Shunosaurus* for the upcoming volume in honor of the late Alick Walker. Sankar's students are working on Upper Triassic material from the Dockum Group.

PhD candidate Momchil Atanassov successfully passed his comprehensive exams this spring. Momchil currently is pursuing several projects, including the description of a new tanystropheid from the Dockum, a phylogenetic analysis of Archosauromorpha, and several studies relating to vertebrate ontogeny. Master's students Jonathan Weinbaum and Jeffrey Martz are working on pseudosuchian material from the Upper Triassic Dockum Group. Jonathan is working on a comprehensive redescription of the *Postosuchus kirkpatricki* material from the Post Quarry, while Jeff is working on several projects involving aetosaurs with Brian Small of the Denver Museum of Nature and Science, and the Museum of Texas Tech photographer, Bill Mueller.

Sankar's team of preparators at the Museum of Texas Tech has been busy. Several new localities in the Dockum Group are being prospected and excavated, including both macrovertebrate and microvertebrate sites. Preparator Kyle McQuilkin has been exploring new preparation techniques, and is currently seeking a patent for a new sculpting compound. Bill Mueller is compiling information from one of the more productive microvertebrate sites in the Dockum, and also writing a paper on shark material from the Aguja Formation of Big Bend. Volunteers Doug Cunningham, Bill Howell, and Marianna Ivanova, and museum science students Chris Dyer, Andy Gedeon, Shane McFarlan, and Tanya So have been of invaluable assistance in both the field and the lab. Work continues for the museum's new paleontology exhibit, due to open next

summer. The exhibit will include mounts of the dinosaurs *Camarasaurus*, *Deinonychus*, *Tenontosaurus*, and the pseudosuchians *Desmotosuchus* and *Postosuchus*, as well as exhibits on the origin of flight in birds and pterosaurs and the dinosaurs of Gondwana. We are also preparing to move our entire collection to larger facilities. (Jeffrey W. Martz)

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Geological Sciences and Vertebrate Paleontology Laboratory

The University of Texas at Austin Department of Geological Sciences welcomes three new vertebrate paleontology graduate students. Holly Nance, Nina Stokes, and Jonathan Wagner will join our program in fall 2001. Holly is a continuing UT student who completed her BS degree in biological sciences in May; her senior research project centered on using CT technology to describe the cranial osteology of the rare African lizard *Angolosaurus skoogi*.

We are also pleased to announce that Julian Humphries joined us in the UT High Resolution X-ray Computed Tomography Facility in March. As part of our building renovation, the CT facility moved into a new and expanded space. We are also in the midst of a system upgrade that will improve resolution and scan speed for the high-resolution system. The lab is sponsoring a CT workshop at the International Congress of Vertebrate Morphology in Jena this summer. That workshop will explore principles and applications of CT technology to vertebrate morphology research. A CT symposium at the SVP meeting in Bozeman will focus on scientific results of CT applications to VP.

Ernie Lundelius and Chris Bell spent much of the last several months working on the revision of the 1987 Lundelius et al. chapter for the new edition of the "Cenozoic Mammals of North America" volume being edited by Mike Woodburne. Ernie also continues his work on Australian mammals with Bill Turnbull. Chris is finishing his manuscripts on Porcupine Cave; he will have a short field season in the summer and will return to Cathedral Cave in Nevada with Chris Jass, who is developing a PhD dissertation project around the site.

Tim Rowe was accompanied by Amy Balanoff, Matt Colbert,

Jackson Dodd, Liz Gordon, Jon Franzosa, Ted Macrini, and Farrah Welch on a five-week field season the Chinle Formation of Arizona. They were joined for part of the trip by Lyn Murray and a crew from the Peabody Museum at Yale University. It was a successful and productive season, with over 50 jackets thrown in 35 days. We are still preparing and sorting materials but the crew recovered beautiful phytosaur, poposaur, and microvertebrate material.

Ted Macrini worked as a research assistant maintaining the Digital Morphology Group Web site (<http://www.ctlab.geo.utexas.edu/dmg>). While trying to pin down a dissertation topic, he is also working on manuscripts from various research projects including his MS thesis. Dennis Ruez, Jr., spent most of the summer away from Austin. After serving as graduate student instructor for the department's field camp, he did fieldwork at Hagerman Fossil Beds National Monument, Idaho. Dennis is continuing to publish papers derived from his MS work in addition to diving into new projects.

The UT students are actively procreating. William Jass and Stephen Tykoski arrived in the world this spring and seemingly prevented Chris and Ron from contributing any news to this bulletin; our other students also seem to be so busy that they could not break away to share any news. (Dennis Ruez, Jr. and Chris Bell)

Rocky Mountain Region

Brigham Young University

Work here continues on several fronts. Wade Miller and Oscar Carranza have been proceeding with their work on the Late Cenozoic biostratigraphy of Central Mexico, this with the aid of Gerardo Alvarez, Harley Garbani, Bart Kowallis, Bruce MacFadden, Earthwatch volunteers, and others. A number of new Hemphillian- and Blancan-age fossil sites have been discovered and will be reported upon later. More than one site is now known that shows both *Dinohippus* and *Equus* in association.

Wade has also been working on a Late Pleistocene fauna from Parras, Coahuila, Mexico, with the help of Rosario Gomez, Rene Delgado, Ignacio (Nacho) Vallejo, and Jose (Pato) Lopez. This appears to be the only Pleistocene vertebrate fauna known from the state—although several other isolated finds have been made but are

so far unreported. Most of these are of mammoth and mastodon. An age of 11,740 YBP has been determined on wood associated with the bones at the Parras site. These come from a depth of 7.8 m in an abandoned well.

Preparation of BYU's dinosaur collection is continuing at a good pace. This is a broad effort which includes specimens collected many years ago and from a number of different sites. Student preparators will be working full time through the summer on this project.

Allen Shaw has nearly completed his Masters' thesis on the study of the taphonomy, stratigraphy, and sedimentology of an ankylosaur bonebed in the lower Cretaceous Cedar Mountain Formation of Grand County, Utah. He will wind up fieldwork sometime next month. David Smith (research associate) continues to work on a project with Art Andersen wherein they are researching the braincase structure of *Allosaurus* using C-T scans. Detailed study of the Dalton Well dinosaur quarry continues with Brooks Britt, Ken Stadtman, Rod Sheetz, and others. Dave Eberth has helped in determining details of the geology of this site as well as in a broader, regional view, and the relationships with the Morrison Formation. (Wade Miller and Ken Stadtman)

Bureau of Land Management - Wyoming

Laurie Bryant, the previous Wyoming regional paleontologist, moved to Salt Lake City to take the Utah regional paleontology position in September 2000. A new regional paleontologist, Dale Hanson, replaced Laurie in Wyoming last March. Dale moved to Cheyenne from Eugene, Oregon, where he was a GIS specialist for the Eugene District, BLM. Prior to that, Dale spent about ten years handling paleontology concerns for the BLM in eastern Montana. While in Eugene, Dale completed his Master's degree in geology with a vertebrate paleontology emphasis at the University of Oregon in the spring of 2000. His thesis was a biostratigraphic overview of part of the John Day Formation centered on Logan Butte and Camp Creek in what is commonly called the southern facies of the John Day, now more properly termed the southern basin. He showed a significant difference between the two faunas

collected from below and above the “Picture Gorge Ignimbrite” in this area. Although similar to the “classic” eastern basin faunas, these two faunas indicated some significant differences, probably due to different depositional environments. Dale presented a summary of his findings at the NAPC meeting in Berkeley last June.

The BLM in Wyoming issued, extended, or amended about 25 paleontological use permits for the 2001 field season. This is in addition to the 20 or so continuing permits, making Wyoming the hands-down hot spot for research on public lands. Most research was based on Jurassic and Eocene materials, with Morrison and Sundance formations being hit by the Mesozoic folks and the usual crowds pounding the Big Horn and Green River basins for early Tertiary mammals.

Work continued at the Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite near Shell, with a visitor boardwalk and signage completed early in the summer. This site is being developed to allow visitors to walk on the trackway surface to see the tracks close up. Research is continuing with several specialty teams, including ichnology and geology.

A unique situation was discovered last spring by BLM cadastral surveyors who were researching some of the original land surveys. In 1881, a team of land surveyors were working in the area north of Como Bluff. That area is nearly devoid of rocks or wood, the usual materials surveyors use to monument the section corners. After some scouting, they found a suitable, if somewhat unusual, substitute. They picked up numerous large fragments of dinosaur bones from a location later to be dubbed the Bone Cabin Quarry. After duly setting in the corners, including scribing some with the appropriate survey markings, they recorded the use of this material as “Mastodon” bones in their field notes and eventually noted their use on the official survey plat. Last spring, a group from BLM and the University of Wyoming Geological Museum relocated some of these corners, remonumented a couple corners, and retrieved a sauropod vertebral centrum with the “1/4” etching, indicating a quarter corner, for eventual display in the BLM’s Wyoming State Office lobby. Brent Breithaupt and Beth Southwell (UW Geological

Museum) are working with the BLM to write up this story, the first documented account of fossils from the Bone Cabin Quarry, some 17 years earlier than its work by the American Museum of Natural History.

The BLM had a paleontology display tent at the Boy Scouts of America's National Jamboree held at Fort A. P. Hill in Virginia last July. BLM paleontologists Mike O'Neill and Dale Hanson were scheduled to attend (as of this writing), along with other BLM employees.

Visit us at www.blm.gov/heritage/ to see some of our paleontology activities. Please contact Dale Hanson at (307) 775-6052 or Dale_Hanson@blm.gov, or any of the other BLM paleontologists, for any assistance or information. (Dale Hanson)

Denver Museum of Nature and Science

Jaelyn Eberle visited the DMNS collections and did fieldwork for three weeks in May. She is adding her expertise to the Denver Basin Project, a three-year study of the paleontology, paleobotany, and geology of the basin. She is a specialist in mammals and particularly those occurring in the first million years of Tertiary Period. Her work will add to the goals of the Denver Basin Project by establishing mammal fossil information to help identify the strata researchers are seeking and studying. Jaelyn is from the Canadian Museum of Natural History in Ottawa.

Virginia Tidwell has written a paper with Ken Carpenter describing a second new Early Cretaceous sauropod from Utah. The paper is due to be published in June. Virginia has also just finished articulating a Pleistocene horse to go with the Dire Wolves and *Smilodon* that Ken Carpenter and Bryan Small have recently rearticulated. These specimens are to be featured in the Museum's Ice Age Mammals exhibit this summer. Sandy Swift (NAU) and Virginia will visit Argentina for three weeks in July. Their search for those elusive Cretaceous sauropods will take them to several museums to study 13 type specimens and also talk with colleagues about titanosaurs. They are grateful to all the curators who are providing access to their collections (Leonardo Salgado, Rodolpho Coria, Ruben Martinez, Jose Bonaparte). In September Virginia will

present a paper at SVPCA (Society of Vertebrate Paleontology and Comparative Anatomy) in York, England. The paper compares the Early Cretaceous sauropods of North America with those of England.

Ken Carpenter plans three weeks at Lorrie's Site, an ankylosaur bone bed near Moab, Utah, in late August and September. The site is in the Cedar Mountain Formation. This dig is part of a ten-year study of the Cedar Mountain dinosaur fauna. Volunteers and/or Ken have named five new dinosaurs thus far and more are to come. Ken and volunteer crew also spent a week surveying in late May at the Moab site.

Russ Graham and Alan Keimig (DMNS volunteer) visited the 1931 CMNH Torrington Quarry, a Chadronian site in Wyoming. Alan has been working on relocating this famous site for years. During their visit, Russ and Alan were able to confirm the precise location of a second pit with recently discovered black-and-white motion-picture stills from the DMNS archives. Russ plans to work with Emmett Evanoff (University of Colorado) to develop a detailed measured section for the site, as has been done for the old Trigonias Quarry (CMNH, 1920s) in Colorado. Russ would also like to conduct limited excavations at both of these localities to provide more details about their taphonomy.

This summer Russ will be returning to Bones Galore, a Chadronian site in eastern Colorado, and Porcupine Cave, a Plio-Pleistocene site in the mountains of Colorado. Russ has also been working on several manuscripts that he hopes to complete by the end of the year. Russ and Bart Weis (research assistant) hit a gold mine in Canada with regards to data for FAUNMAP II. Previous compilations of faunal data by Richard Morlan (Canadian Museum of Civilization) and Dick Harington (Canadian Museum of Nature) really made life easier for Russ and Bart. They are currently entering data for Alaska.

Donna Braginetz reports that the first few of her paintings "Ancient Denver's Landscapes" are now up on the DMNS Web site. Five of the expected 15 paintings have been completed. Although they are posted on the Web site, Donna plans some changes in the "Pierre Seaway" painting. Also in preparation is

Donna's painting for the National Science Museum in Tokyo entitled "Sandy Site."

Wayne Itano is working on describing a collection of chondrichthyan teeth and spines from the Minturn Formation (Pennsylvanian) of Colorado, in cooperation with Martin Lockley (University of Colorado at Denver) and Karen Houck (Eastern Kentucky University). He gave a preliminary report at the Early Vertebrates Meeting in Flagstaff, Arizona, in May 2000. With William Bateman (DMNS Associate), he published a description of a new species of crinoid from the Minturn Formation in the *Mountain Geologist*.

Lou Taylor began a search for potential screen-wash sites near the K/T boundary in southern China. Lou spent most of April in the Nanxiong Basin, where small mammals have not been recovered from the Late Cretaceous and Paleocene strata, and the exact location of the K/T boundary is in question. Lou spent most of April prospecting for potential wash sites and collecting samples for palynological and iridium analysis. He is working with Will Downs from the Bilby Research Center at Northern Arizona University, and Professor Zhao Zikui and Dr. Ye Jie of the Institute of Vertebrate Paleontology and Paleoanthropology, Chinese Academy of Sciences, in Beijing. The location of the K/T boundary in the Nanxiong Basin is questionable because the Chinese have found iridium anomalies in six different stratigraphic horizons, and recognize two possible boundaries. The "chemical K/T boundary" consists of iridium, oxygen isotopes, carbon isotopes, and trace-element anomalies at a level of ca. 50 m below the "biochronological K/T boundary," the last occurrence of dinosaur eggshell. The chemical boundary and iridium anomalies are based entirely on eggshell or turtle bone. The samples now being analyzed are siltstones and clays. The location of the boundary is important because it has direct bearing on the possibility of the dinosaur eggshells between the two possible boundaries being of Paleocene age. Lou expects to have data in time for Dr. Ye to present them at a meeting of the Chinese Society of Vertebrate Paleontology in November. He also plans to make a return trip to continue prospecting and conduct more extensive screen-washing activities.

DMNS volunteers are enhancing their skills for the benefit of DMNS and SVP by receiving training in related fields. Bob Rushforth earned the Surveyor I certification (archaeology) in October. It is part of the Program for Avocational Archaeological Certification (PAAC) by the State Archaeologist's Office of Colorado and is roughly equivalent to the DMNS paleontology certification, but for archaeology. Now Bob holds avocational certifications in paleontology and archaeology.

Virginia Tidwell, Dave Trexler, and Malcolm Bidell spoke at a Casper College conference in Wyoming on June 9–12, about the various research activities ongoing and accomplished at the Wyoming Dinosaur Center/Big Horn Basin Association. Virginia and Malcolm spoke on the same subject at the Federal Lands Conference in Grand Junction. (Alan A Keimig)

Fossil Butte National Monument, Wyoming

The past year at Fossil Butte National Monument has been busy. Last fall, a replica of the lemurlike *Notharctus tenebrosus*, donated by the American Museum of Natural History, was assembled and put on display in the Visitor Center by Arvid Aase and Tim Rein.

Vince Santucci is continuing work on paleontological resource inventories for Arches and Zion national parks. Vince traveled to Alaska's Katmai and Aniakchak national parks with Tony Fiorillo (Dallas Museum of Natural History) as part of an inventory of paleontological resources within National Park Service units in Alaska. He is also editing the Proceedings Volume for the Sixth Fossil Conference, containing 23 original peer-reviewed manuscripts. Congratulations to Vince who received the 2001 George Wright Society Natural Resource Management Award for "leadership in identifying, managing, protecting, and building public appreciation for the paleontological resources of the U.S. National Park System."

Arvid Aase has continued extensive curatorial work with the Park's museum collections as well as received a number of park specimens from Loma Linda University. Arvid has also taken delivery of a new portable X-ray machine to assist in the identification of fossils covered in matrix.

A three-year National Park Service-funded research project, spearheaded by Paul Buchheim (Loma Linda University), has entered its second year. The project's focus is to understand recently discovered fossiliferous layers in the hypersaline late stage of Fossil Lake, Green River Formation. The layer has produced numerous insect, leaf, and fish fossils. Feathers are also common.

Two paleontology interns, Peter Rose (GSA Geocorps) and Jason Kenworthy (Student Conservation Association), have undertaken research projects at Fossil Butte. In addition to assisting in the operation of the Park's scientific research/interpretive quarry, Pete is working on a paleontological resource inventory for Fossil Butte. Jason has been working with Vince Santucci and NPS Cave Specialist Ron Kerbo on a manuscript inventorying paleontological resources associated with caves found in the National Park Service. During the summer, Jason will be working at the National Museum of Natural History in Washington, D.C., inventorying Park Service specimens housed in the museum. (Jason Kenworthy)

Garden Park Paleontology Society dba Dinosaur Depot

Cañon City, Colorado, has welcomed home some very old residents—from our Jurassic. Dinosaur Depot received this spring a delivery from the Smithsonian Institution some of the blocks of matrix from the Marsh/Felch Quarry dug in the 1880s by Marshall Felch for Othniel Marsh. As a result of a long-term loan between these institutions our viewable laboratory will be home to newly revealed dinosaur fossils from the Jurassic Morrison north of town in the Garden Park Fossil Area for some time to come. This is only the beginning, as there is the potential for many more such blocks. Some of the material has yet to be identified, especially the bones from the “Mystery Dinosaur” block as it has been known. As specimens are removed from matrix and identified, you will be among the first to know! Our volunteers are eagerly digging in to complete the work that was begun in the 1880s. You may contact us by phone at 1-800-987-6379 or at www.dinosaurdepot.com. (Pat Monaco)

Museum of Western Colorado

This summer marks the 20th year since its discovery for the Mygatt-Moore Quarry in the Morrison Formation of western Colorado. Crews from the museum will work there once again from June through August, concentrating on the northern and northeastern parts of the quarry. Josh Smith will be joining us as part of the crew, on a break from his assignments at the Utah Museum of Natural History. During breaks from the quarrying operation we will be working in local outcrops of the Chinle, Wingate, and Morrison formations and will also be working on getting the exhibits and collections back up at our new facility in Fruita. In September, the Sixth Conference on Fossil Resources will be held in Grand Junction, with a number of field trips heading out to sites in the region. (John Foster)

University of Colorado at Denver

Ceratopsian enthusiasts will be interested to learn that the track-rich Maastrichtian Laramie Formation outcrops of the Golden area, near Denver, Colorado, are being landscaped into a golf course. They are presently a land fill, so golf terrain may be an improvement. The City of Golden is funding this rescue effort and plans to put some of the track replicas on display in an exhibit in the club house. Some tracks may remain in situ at the site with appropriate signs—Ceratopsian Fairway, Triceratops Green, or whatever. Many ceratopsian tracks have been discovered here including the type ichnogenus *Ceratopsipes* (1995. *JVP*, 15:592). The site also reveals tracks of hadrosaurs, theropods, and champsosaurs, and is rich in plant remains that range from large log impressions to palm fronds and leaves of small, deciduous species. The University of Colorado at Denver Dinosaur Trackers research group has recently uncovered more tracks and is in the process of casting and preserving those specimens that are likely to be buried. We are learning a lot about size and shape variation in ceratopsian feet. Complete trackways remain elusive. The site is only a few miles from the famous mid-Cretaceous tracks at Dinosaur Ridge. Colorado keeps on trackin'!

The Rocky Mountain Association of Geologists (RMAG) published a special issue of the *Mountain Geologist* (38[3]) dedicated to Dinosaur Ridge. Edited by Martin Lockley and

Andrew Taylor, the volume is entitled "Dinosaur Ridge: Celebrating a Decade of Discovery." Contents include: A Brief History of Paleontological Research and Public Education on Dinosaur Ridge by M. G. Lockley, N. Hook, and A. Taylor; Sedimentology and Stratigraphy of the Morrison Formation in the Dinosaur Ridge Area near Morrison, Colorado by K. J. Houck; Geochemical and Mineralogical Studies of Dinosaur Bone from the Morrison Formation at Dinosaur Ridge by P. J. Modreski; A Decade of Dinosaur Tracking at Dinosaur Ridge by M. G. Lockley; A New Look at *Magnoavipes* and So-Called Big Bird Tracks from Dinosaur Ridge (Cretaceous, Colorado) by M. G. Lockley, J. L. Wright, and M. Matsukawa; Close-Range Photogrammetric Experiments at Dinosaur Ridge by N. A. Matthews and B. H. Breithaupt; and Dinosaur Tracks in the Plainview Formation, Dakota Group (Cretaceous, Albian) near Cañon City, Colorado: A Preliminary Report on Another "Dinosaur Ridge" by W. J. Kurtz, M. G. Lockley, and D. J. Engard. (Martin Lockley and Joanna Wright)

University of Colorado Museum, Boulder

With only a few months to go until we move into our new collections building, the paleontology collections and administrative/lab areas are finally packed, which gives us a nice window of opportunity to get some fieldwork done this summer before we move. The construction of the new building is coming along, and museum faculty, staff, and students are eager to move in (although unfortunately, the move will be happening while all of you are having fun at SVP!). Although we will immediately begin the process of unpacking our collections after the move, we anticipate that this will be a lengthy process. Therefore, any potential users of the collections are encouraged to build in an extra day to their visit in order to help us unpack the portion of the collections they need to see (Check with us first, they may already be unpacked.). We hope to have the collections completely unpacked by Christmas 2001. The University of Colorado Museum of Natural History will be celebrate its centennial year in 2002, and a wide range of events, including a special exhibition and gala opening of our new building, are planned.

This summer, Peter Robinson has collecting plans in the Green River, Powder River, and Uinta basins, and is also working on a chapter for M. Woodburne's upcoming volume on mammalian biostratigraphy. Emmett Evanoff has a variety of field projects going this summer, including an ongoing project in the White River Formation at Badlands National Park, South Dakota, and in northeastern Colorado. Bert Covert is continuing his field project in Viet Nam. Emily Bray is busily working on a variety of projects, and will be working in the Kaiparowitz Formation in Utah this summer. Judith Harris continues writing her paleoecology book, and is really enjoying the retired life in Chama, New Mexico. David Daitch finished his Master's degree in May, and will be participating in this summer's Bridger field projects before entering the doctoral program in biology at the University of Colorado this fall.

Our new curator of invertebrate paleontology, Dena Smith, had a busy first year, and has several field trips planned for the summer in addition to continued work on plant-insect interactions and the taphonomy of insects in lacustrine environments. Her trips include a visit to the Clarkia site in Idaho and prospecting for Eocene-Oligocene fossil insect localities in central Colorado. After a much anticipated month-long vacation in Australia, Paul Murphey is beginning several new projects in the upper Bridger Formation this summer, including a taphonomic and geologic analysis of Bridger floodplain environments for comparison with now well-documented lacustrine environments, further studies of repetitive lithologic sequences which may represent cyclic deposition, and adding data to a now six-year-old observational study on rates of exposure of fossils by modern erosion. This fall, we are excited to welcome our new curator of paleontology, Karen Chin, and incoming graduate students Joe Daniel, Amanda Cook, and April Kinchloe. (Paul Murphey)

University of Wyoming

Now that Mike Cassiliano has finished the collection improvement grant, he is concentrating on writing four book chapters. Three are for the new VP text being edited by Bill Clemens and Jay Lillegraven. The fourth is a chapter on biostratigraphy and NALMAs in

the Anza-Borrego Desert for a book being edited by George Jefferson. Mike's paper revising the stratigraphic nomenclature of the Plio-Pleistocene rocks in the Fish Creek-Vallecito Creek area of the Anza-Borrego Desert is now in the galley-proof stage. Mike would like to remind all VPer who have overdue loans (more than two years) from UW that they can return the specimens to him at this year's SVP meeting in Bozeman.

At the University of Wyoming Geological Museum, Brent Breithaupt, Thomas Adams, Beth Southwell, and Neffra Matthews (National Science and Technology Center, Denver) continue their work at the Red Gulch Dinosaur Tracksite and adjacent areas in northern Wyoming. Many exciting discoveries from these important Middle Jurassic sites will be reported later this year. Papers and presentations are in the mill for the Fall Fossil Resources Conference in Grand Junction, as well as the SVP and GSA meetings. In addition, Brent and Neffra gave a presentation entitled "Preserving paleontological resources using photogrammetry and Geographic Information Systems" at the George Wright Society meeting in Denver and provided a paper entitled "Close-range photogrammetric experiments at Dinosaur Ridge" for a RMAG special issue of the *Mountain Geologist*.

In the museum, development of the exhibit on "Big Al" the *Allosaurus* (star of the BBC's "Walking with Dinosaurs" April program) continues, with plans of completion for later this year. In addition to the ten-year anniversary of the discovery of Big Al, this fall the museum will also celebrate the 100-year anniversary of the discovery of our *Apatosaurus* by Charles W. Gilmore in 1901. A variety of displays and activities associated with this event are planned. The UW *Apatosaurus* is one of only five in the world on display and the only one on exhibit west of the Mississippi River. For more information on these and other activities at the UW Geological Museum, please contact www.uwyo.edu/GeoMuseum/. Finally, in his copious free time, Brent continues to work on a variety of projects dealing with the history of vertebrate paleontology in the West, as well as travel around the state speaking on Wyoming's dinosaurs. (Brent Breithaupt)

Utah Geological Survey, Office of the State Paleontologist

Jim Kirkland is settled in and finding his place in Utah's paleoecosystem. After many years working in the Lower Cretaceous of Utah, Kirkland is eating dust as exciting projects continue by the College of Eastern Utah Prehistoric Museum, Oklahoma Museum of Natural History, and the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Although continuing to work enthusiastically with these groups, Kirkland hopes to find a spot in the Cedar Mountain Formation that he can call his own. Along those lines, Kirkland is working with Greg Ludvigson, Iowa Geological Survey, Matt Joeckel, University of Nebraska, and Scott Madsen, Dinosaur National Monument to examine stable carbon isotopes in the pedogenic carbonates in the Cedar Mountain Formation as a possible tool in correlating Aptian-Albian dinosaur sites with global shifts in carbon isotope ratios. Anyone, who has worked in this time interval, knows how difficult it is to correlate these strata in the absence of radiometric dates and paleomagnetic reversal data.

Work continues with Martin Lockley on the St. George trackway sites. The Johnson Tracksite was found along a major road in town and is right next door to an alternative high school. Thanks to support from the City of St. George, Washington County, and the Utah State legislature, funding is in place to protect the site and insure that it is available in perpetuity for the public to see and learn from. Kirkland plans on spending some time prospecting for Lower Jurassic vertebrate localities in this region. Speaking of track sites, the UGS team and Utah Friends of Paleontology assisted a team put together by Vince Santucci to survey Arches National Park and found an interesting horizon of vertebrate tracks in the Cedar Mountain Formation that included some new track occurrences for this formation including some feeding traces that might represent pterosaurs. Kirkland interprets the site to represent a margin of a small lake and hopes to continue to work with Martin Lockley and others.

UGS was awarded a five-year grant to investigate the paleontological resources in the lower Wahweap Formation (Lower Campanian) in the southern Kaiparowits Plateau area of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument. Although the extensive

microvertebrate fauna from these rocks have been well documented by the work of Rich Cifelli and Jeff Eaton, almost nothing has been done toward developing sites that will produce larger skeletal remains. The region appears to be rich in such vertebrate sites as documented by the small ceratopsian skull we recovered last summer and the hadrosaurid bone bed we recently began excavating. A short note on the recovery of the ceratopsian skull appears in the January 2001 issue of *Survey Notes* available on our Web site at <http://www.ugs.state.ut.us/surveynotes/snt33-1.pdf>. The recovery of this skull would not have been possible without the help of the University of Utah.

Kirkland has been busy writing descriptions of new middle Turonian theropods from the Moreno Hill Formation of west-central New Mexico with Doug Wolfe of the Mesa Southwest Museum. The description of the most surprising of these new beasts (a therizinosaurid) will be published later this summer in *JVP*, with the other (a new coelurosaurian theropod) undergoing a rigorous phylogenetic analysis with the help of Tom Holtz. The fauna is really beginning to fill out. We also have started to build up the rest of the herp fauna with the addition of a partial large polyglyphanodontid skull identified with the help of Bill Clemens, Howard Hutchison, and Bob McCord during the WAVP meeting down in Mesa, Arizona. These beasts from what we are calling the Zuni fauna, together with *Zuniceratops*, will be featured in the Discovery Channel's new dinosaur extravaganza, "When Dinosaurs Roamed America," airing on 15 July 2001.

An organization of paleontologists called the Utah Professional Paleontological Council is being formed that will include everyone with a significant interest in the paleontological resources of Utah. This is an inclusive group that will stay on top of all the issues of concern regarding Utah paleontology and oversee the Utah Friends of Paleontology. It is impressive to see how many paleontologists are involved in our science in Utah. If you would like more information, contact Scott Sampson or Martha Hayden. Martha has been hard at work revising our state-wide Paleontological Locality Database. It features a wonderful user interface that our own Sharon Wakefield modified from an interface developed by David Hays

and kindly provided to us by our friends at Dinosaur National Monument. Finally, we would like to welcome Laurie Bryant to Utah as the BLM state paleontologist. She is joining Utah at a very important and dynamic time and we all look forward to her playing an important role in the future of paleontology in our state. (Jim Kirkland)

West Coast Region

Colorado Desert District Stout Research Center

This season's field survey in the 1-Ma-BP "Mammoth Cove" area of the western Borrego Badlands (identified using GIS-based data, see *SVP News Bulletin* 180), was very productive. The number of localities recorded and specimens recovered was about double the average for the lower part of the Ocotillo Conglomerate, and included a partial upper dentition of *Equus*.

Harley Garbani strikes again with the discovery of a nearly complete upper dentition of *Paleolama* from Arroyo Tapiado, in the late Blancan/early Irvingtonian part of the section. Although the taxon occurs in the Irvingtonian at El Golfo, Mexico, the genus was not previously known from southeastern California. The specimen is unusually large and may represent a form different from *P. mirifica*.

Phil Gensler of Northern Arizona University continued his fieldwork in Ash Wash and recently added *Heloderma* (gila monster) to the microfossil assemblage. This is a new record for the Irvingtonian and for California. Phil announced the find at the California State University Desert Symposium. Kessler Randall of California State University San Diego also presented a paper on the stratigraphy of the Irvingtonian Ocotillo and Bautista formations. George McDaniel described a *Mammuthus meridionalis* jaw from the Irvingtonian of Tecopa Basin, south of Death Valley. The specimen is very similar to those previously found in Victorville and the Borrego Badlands.

Visiting researchers included Derek Rytter of the University of Oregon who spent another several weeks trying to unravel the late Pleistocene history and related stratigraphy along the San Jacinto Fault.

It seems that George Jefferson just can't stay away from Lake Manix. While at the interagency Millennium Conference in Barstow, he, Eric Scott, and others from Anza-Borrego and San Bernardino County Museum spent a day collecting vertebrate remains along a ca. 290 kyr shoreline. George also presented a paper on the chronology and climatic history of Lake Manix at the Cordilleran GSA meetings in Los Angeles.

The University of California Riverside, Department of Geology, will soon start a three-year project to GPS map the extensive fossil wood deposits in the ancestral Colorado River deltaic sediments. While visiting some of the occurrences, the UCR/State Park team recovered the first *Gomphotherium* material from the park. The 3.6 Ma specimen includes parts of both dentaries and premaxillae but no teeth. (G. T. Jefferson)

The Keith Companies, Inc., Costa Mesa, California

The Keith Companies have a paleontology branch that conducts fossil collecting as part of environmental mitigation programs that are mandated by various permitting agencies. Most of our work is in the southern California area. To carry out such work, the company currently employs Marian Kearin and Carlos Angulo. In addition to collecting hundreds of other vertebrate fossils, this spring and summer we have recovered two exceptionally noteworthy cetacean specimens. One is a nearly complete skull, jaws, and skeleton of a new species of the kentriodontid dolphin genus *Atocetus*. Found in the latest Miocene part of the Puente Formation in the Chino Hills area of San Bernardino County, this specimen is possibly the most complete fossil dolphin skeleton yet discovered in the North Pacific region. The genus *Atocetus*, characterized by right-skewed cranial asymmetry (the opposite direction of all other asymmetrical-skulled odontocetes) has been previously reported only from older deposits in southern California and Peru. The other is a partial associated skeleton of a very primitive heterodont odontocete from the Oligo-Miocene Vaqueros Formation in coastal Orange County. This is the first such primitive echolocating toothed whale discovered in California. In May, M. Kearin reported on Oligocene marine vertebrates from the El Cien Formation in Baja

California at the annual meeting of the Sociedad Mexicana de Mastozoología Marina in Ensenada, Mexico. (Marian L. Kearin)

Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County

At the annual meeting of the Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists (Mesa Southwest Museum, Arizona), Howell Thomas, Larry Barnes, and Rod Raschke discussed the extreme pathologies in the holotype male skeleton of the latest Miocene “six-tusked pseudo-walrus,” *Gomphotaria pugnax*, from southern California. These apparently did not impede the unique foraging behavior that Barnes and Raschke (1991) postulated for this species: dislodging and crushing hard-shelled, rock-dwelling, intertidal invertebrates. James Goedert and Larry Barnes reported two new species of Early Oligocene archaic toothed whales from Washington. These extend the record of the Odontoceti, and echolocation, approximately 10 Ma earlier than previously known. The resulting papers are in press in the *Bulletin of the Southwest Museum*.

Larry Barnes led a cruise in the southern Gulf of California from 8–14 April for our museum’s Membership Travel Program. Barnes and Prof. Gustavo A. Gascon-Romero (Universidad Autónoma de Baja California, Ensenada), Brian L. Beatty (Howard University), and Marian L. Kearin relocated the enigmatic site known as Punta San Telmo, where Late Oligocene rocks yielded the southernmost known desmostylian. V. L. Vanderhoof and J. Wyatt Durham previously reported parts of molars of *Cornwallius sookensis* in the 1940s and 1950s. This trip we found various limb bones apparently belonging to the same type of animal. These were reported at the annual meeting of the Sociedad Mexicana de Mastozoología Marina (SOMEMMA), in Ensenada, Mexico, 7–10 May, and we plan to return to the site in the spring of 2002. At the same SOMEMMA meeting, Larry Barnes was voted North American representative to this Mexican society. He and James Goedert (University of Washington Burke Museum) also presented a review of the Desmostylia of Washington State, including the world’s oldest known desmostylian, an atlas vertebra from the Early Oligocene Lincoln Creek Formation. Jim and Larry’s work on

Washington Desmostyilia was published in Volume 2 of the *Bulletin of the Ashoro Museum of Paleontology* (Hokkaido, Japan).

Also at the SOMEMMA meeting, Hitoshi Furusawa (Sapporo Museum Project, Hokkaido) and Larry Barnes reported discovery of a skull and partial skeleton of a new Middle Miocene delphinoid dolphin of the family Albireonidae from Hokkaido. Discovery of this wonderfully preserved specimen adds taxonomic and chronological breadth to the somewhat enigmatic family Albireonidae, previously known primarily by *Albireo whistleri* from Cedros Island in Baja California.

David P. Whistler retired in March, after serving at the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County for 31 years (Having grown up in the Los Angeles area, Dave, like many other professional paleontologists, really got his start at the LACM as a kid in some of the student programs.) Dave's career focused on fieldwork and research with Tertiary faunas, primarily herps and small mammals, from southern California's vast Mojave Desert. Dave nurtured a remarkable and mutually beneficial program with Red Rock Canyon State Park, where there are major outcrops of Dave's beloved (Clarendonian to Hemphillian) Dove Spring Formation.

Before he came to the Natural History Museum, Dave had got his Master's from U.C. Riverside and his PhD from U.C. Berkeley, and had worked for the U.S. Geological Survey and for Texas Tech University. Dave enhanced the collections, planned and installed exhibits, obtained grants for the care of collections, and participated in educational activities and family travel programs. Among the SVP membership, Dave is well known for his diligent work as past treasurer, and on several committees, including the Endowment Committee. Dave retains an office at the museum, and he can still be reached at all of his usual contacts (at least until he really retires to Oregon). We all wish Dave well, and we thank him heartily for his many contributions to our museum and to our profession. (Lawrence G. Barnes)

Occidental College, Los Angeles

Don Prothero has been taping with a BBC film crew interested in indricotheres for the upcoming BBC production "Walking with

Beasts” (successor to the heavily computer-animated “Walking with Dinosaurs”). Since there are no standing indricothere skeletons outside Russia, they made do with the *Hyracodon* skeleton at the Los Angeles County Museum of Natural History. Apparently, this will be in interactive TV format, so there will be a menu of questions the viewer can click on that are answered by one-minute sound bites (so Don had to answer the same questions over and over again on camera).

For the past month, Don and the SVP Program Committee have been reviewing the abstracts and getting the meeting program ready for Bozeman. In July the abstract volume went to Allen Press camera-ready. In addition, the Pacific Section SEPM symposium volume, “Magnetic Stratigraphy of the Pacific Coast Cenozoic,” went to the printers, and the hoofed mammal trade book and the second edition of the paleo textbook are next. In August, Don and his field crew were sampling up in Oregon and Washington again, concentrating on the Eocene-Oligocene marine section not previously studied.

The sixth edition of “Evolution of the Earth” (Prothero and Dott, WCB/McGraw-Hill) for historical geology classes, and the first edition of “Earth: Portrait of a Planet” (Marshak and Prothero, W. W. Norton) for physical geology classes are now both available. (Don Prothero)

The Raymond M. Alf Museum of Paleontology

The Alf Museum will be hosting the next Western Association of Vertebrate Paleontologists (WAVP) meeting 15–17 February 2002. The Alf Museum, accredited by the AAM in 1998, is unique; it’s the only paleontology museum located on a secondary high-school campus (The Webb Schools) in North America. The museum houses an important regional collection of over 60,000 specimens, 65% of which are vertebrates. We’re looking forward to welcoming many new, and returning, visitors to the museum for WAVP in 2002.

Also planned for 2002 is the renovation of the museum’s Hall of Footprints exhibit hall, a 4,000 ft² space that features tracks and trackways gathered by Ray Alf and students from sites in Arizona,

California, Nevada, and Wyoming. The Hall of Footprints is the largest collection, in terms of both diversity and numbers, of fossil tracks on display in the United States. The renovation is budgeted at \$650,000 with construction scheduled to begin in March of 2002.

The museum's staff continues to grow with the recent additions of Curt Burbach and Heather Moffat. Curt has been preparing the backlog of specimens every museum has that are difficult to finish and is doing great work. Heather will be the museum's new Paleontology Outreach Education Specialist and we look forward to having her here in the fall.

Recently, our educational and research programs got a huge boost as the museum received a \$1.5 million endowment gift from the Mary Stuart Rogers Foundation to create the Raymond M. Alf Peccary Society Chair and the Rogers Peccary Scholars Program. Specifically, the grant will be used to support the museum staff's work with Webb students in the field, the lab, and the classroom. Thus, Don Lofgren has been involved in many different projects. He is continuing his work on the nearby Barstow Formation (Miocene) by taking Webb students and alumni out on collecting trips many times a year. These trips have both a research and an educational focus. The high-school students learn field techniques and that they have a responsibility to preserve fossils for future generations by seeing that they are accessioned into the collections of accredited museums. Students also make good fossil finders and have recently collected two nearly complete tortoise shells, a few proboscidean teeth, a new microsite that is yielding many bird bones, and the usual assortment of camel and horse material. Don is also continuing work in the Goler Formation (Paleocene) with Malcolm McKenna and Steve Walsh, supported by the National Geographic Society. They have been screenwashing tons of sediment and these efforts have yielded plesiadapid primates, *Phenacodus*, and other specimens indicating that the upper part of the Goler Formation is probably Tiffanian in age. A new site, Land of Oz, has produced a few jaws and isolated teeth from surface collecting and they hope to begin screenwashing it soon. Don has also started a long-term project on the study of Puercan and Torrejonian mammals from the North Horn Formation of Utah. The

2000 field season yielded 90 identifiable specimens with more to come in 2001. As stipulated in the permit issued to the Alf Museum for vertebrates from the North Horn Formation in the Manti-La Sal National Forest, all specimens will be curated into the CEUM collections in Price.

Along with Don, assistant curator Natalia Wideman is studying and describing the partially articulated hadrosaur hind leg and tail with skin impression from the Hell Creek Formation of Montana collected by staff and students from 1997–2000. She is also analyzing pathologies evident in some of the caudal vertebrae with Elizabeth Rega of Western University. Along with her duties at the Alf Museum, Natalia attends California State University, San Bernardino, as a full-time graduate student. She is working on her Master's thesis with Stuart Sumida on the taxonomy and postcranial structure of Late Paleozoic limnoscelids. (Natalia Wideman and Don Lofgren)

— CALENDAR OF EVENTS —

VIII International Symposium on Mesozoic Terrestrial Ecosystems

This conference, held every four years, aims to stimulate and facilitate the exchange of ideas between geologists and biologists with a common interest in understanding the terrestrial ecosystems of the Mesozoic era. The scope of the meeting will include all aspects of terrestrial palaeoecology from sedimentology to systematics, climate modelling to biomechanics, palaeobiology, vertebrate, invertebrate and plant taphonomy, ichnology and much more. Technical sessions will run over four days and one day, Wednesday, 24 July, will be devoted to local excursions and visits to the South African Museum collections.

DATES: from the evening of Sunday 21 to 16h00 on Friday 26 July 2002.

SYMPOSIUM VENUE: Breakwater Lodge, ideally situated in Cape Town's popular V & A Waterfront.

FIELD TRIPS: Pre-Symposium—Field trip to the Early

Cretaceous (135 million years) Algoa Basin and possibly Gamtoos Basin in the Port Elizabeth area of Southern Africa. Post-Symposium—Mesozoic ecosystems of the main Karoo Basin: from humid braidplains to arid sand sea, Triassic plants of the Molteno: A paleobotanical extravaganza.

GENERAL INFORMATION: Block bookings have been made at various hotels within walking distance of the Symposium venue. Exciting tours and day excursions will also be offered.

FURTHER INFORMATION & QUERIES: Please contact Mrs Sally Elliott, Conference Management Centre, Barnard Fuller Building, UCT Medical School, Anzio Road, Observatory 7925, Cape Town, South Africa; Tel: +27-21-406 6381; Fax: +27-21-448 6263; e-mail: selliot@curie.uct.ac.za; Web: www.uct.ac.za/depts/pgc/mte.html.

Smith Symposium II

The Hiscock Site: Late Pleistocene and Holocene Paleoecology and Archaeology of Western New York State, 14–15 October 2001, Buffalo Museum of Science, Buffalo, New York

Excavation and research of the Hiscock Site (Genesee County, New York) has been ongoing since 1983. A symposium was held in 1986 to discuss results of the first four field seasons. The subsequent years have produced an enormous assemblage of paleontological and archaeological specimens, and data documenting biological, cultural, and environmental changes in the Northeast over the past 13,000 years.

In Smith Symposium II, more than 40 scientists will present 24 papers, offering for discussion the results of their research on a host of Hiscock topics. These will cover Quaternary geology, stratigraphy, sedimentology, paleoclimatology, paleontology, and paleoecology of multiple vertebrate groups, taphonomy, paleopathology, paleobotany, archaeological typology and use-wear analysis, and regional archaeology. Discussion panels will seek to integrate and analyze the research findings for each of the four sessions.

The registration fee is \$65 (or \$75 postmarked after 30 September). Seating is limited. For registration materials and further information, please contact Michelle Rudnicki, (716) 896-5200, ext.

— POSITIONS AVAILABLE —

Paleontology/Biogeoscience

The Department of Geological Sciences of the University of Oregon invites applications for an entry-level, tenure-track position to begin in the fall 2002. We seek a researcher with interests in fundamental problems of paleontology and biogeosciences, including the origin and evolution of life, evolutionary radiations, mass extinctions, and relationships between organisms, geochemical cycles, and environmental change. Our interests are broad and range from microbial biogeology to vertebrate paleontology. The successful applicant will be expected to develop an academically oriented, externally funded research program, and to contribute to the teaching of undergraduate paleontology and advanced courses in his/her research specialty. Completion of the PhD is required. Applicants should send a curriculum vitae, statement of teaching and research interests, and the names, postal and e-mail addresses, and telephone numbers of at least three referees to: Paleontology/Biogeoscience Search Committee, Department of Geological Sciences, 1271 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-1272. We will begin reviewing applications 1 November 2001, and will continue until the position is filled. The University of Oregon is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution committed to cultural diversity and compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. (John M. Harris)

BERNARD KREBS, 1934–2001



On 29 March 2001, the well-known vertebrate paleontologist Prof. Dr. Bernard Krebs passed away unexpectedly and suddenly in France (Chanceaux, near Dijon, Burgundy). In particular his publications on the early archosaur *Ticinosuchus ferox*, from the Triassic of the Monte San Giorgio, Switzerland (1965), and on the early mammal *Henkelotherium guimarotae*, from the Jurassic of the Guimarota mine, Portugal (1991), are milestones in the liter-

ature of our field and the cornerstones of his scientific career.

Bernard Krebs was born on 9 June 1934 in Basel, Switzerland. He grew up with his parents in Mulhouse, Alsace, France. As a youth, he had already started collecting fossils, as well as Recent animal remains, and plants of the area. This early-discovered passion for nature made a firm imprint on his entire life. He treated his biological finds as carefully as he did his toys, an important trait for research which also characterized his later scientific activities.

In 1940, Alsace was occupied by Germany, and French, Bernard Krebs' mother tongue, was forbidden. Failure to comply was met with the threat of deportation. Of course, all teaching was also done in German. Bernard Krebs, who began school in that year, thus made his first acquaintance with the German language, an experience which was unwelcome but intensive. In 1944, the air raids increased, and in the winter of 1944–1945, the allied front ran for some time straight through the town. The school children from the liberated side, including Bernard Krebs, were evacuated to Switzerland, where he was taken care of by family friends.

After the liberation, he returned to Mulhouse, now a part of French territory again, and attended a special class to refresh his

“forgotten” first language with French teachers ignorant of the German language. In the autumn of 1945 he entered high school, where the teachers recognized and encouraged his talents for natural science. At that time he also began to develop his diverse cultural-historical interests, which he continued to cultivate right up to his last days. During his time at school he got to know the Mediterranean area, for which he developed a great affinity. Later he undertook many trips to the southern part of Europe, most as a scientist, but several also as a tourist.

In 1952, Bernard Krebs enrolled at the University of Strasburg (France), but broke off his studies after six semesters, however, because of the subjects physics and mathematics. Following his parents’ wishes, he began as a trainee in a Swiss textile factory. It was their last attempt to awaken his interest in the family business, also in the textile branch. But the traineeship interested him little. He preferred attending lectures in zoology and paleontology at the University of Basel, where his good knowledge of German proved extremely useful.

In Basel, Bernard Krebs learned of the Institute and Museum of Paleontology of the University of Zürich, which had been founded in 1956, and of the possibility of studying vertebrate paleontology there. In the same year, he went to Zürich and enrolled for study under supervision of the first director, Prof. Dr. Emil Kuhn-Schneider. He also attended lectures in art history.

In the summers of 1958 and 1960 Bernard Krebs took part in the excavations of the Zürich Institute of Paleontology in the marine Middle Triassic of the Monte San Giorgio in the canton of Ticino, Switzerland. He published first scientific reports and was thus able to begin work straight away on his dissertation without having first to complete a diploma.

For his dissertation, Bernard Krebs examined the skeleton of the only large terrestrial predatory saurian which had been found in the marine Middle Triassic of the Monte San Giorgio. He came to highly acclaimed results. He named the form *Ticinosuchus ferox* and established, among other things, that this pseudosuchian had a quadruped gait with body lifted off the ground. Its reconstructed trackway is very similar to that of *Chirotherium*. He also discovered

in this reptile the crocodile-normal ankle, which excludes it from the ancestry of the dinosaurs and birds, and with whose help a classification of the archosaurs was made possible.

During his time in Zürich, Bernard Krebs intensified his interest in railway history, and began collecting historic model trains.

In 1963, Bernard Krebs received his doctorate with honors at the University of Zürich. Following this, he was supposed to go with a grant to Prof. Dr. Jean-pierre Lehman at the Musée d'histoire Naturelle in Paris to work on the fishes from the Monte San Giorgio. He never went, however, as Prof. Dr. Walter Kühne offered him a position as assistant at the newly founded Chair for Paleontology at the Free University of Berlin (Germany).

On 1 January 1964, Bernard Krebs arrived in Berlin with his wife, Elisabeth, who had worked as a secretary at the Zürich Institute of Paleontology. As his relationship to Germany had been colored by the war, his intention was to stay only a few months. But he ended up staying for more than 35 years. He found life agreeable in the divided city, with its characteristic climate of social tolerance, and there was an open, friendly atmosphere among the paleontologists. In his spare time he set out to discover the Berlin tram network. Things were going well for the young couple. Two daughters and two sons were born.

At the Chair for Paleontology of the Free University Berlin, Bernard Krebs had extensive teaching commitments. With typical circumspection, he also set up a department library, which was a self-imposed task he remained devoted to later as a professor.

Beyond this, Bernard Krebs played a highly influential role in the further development of the Chair for Paleontology, which had been founded in 1963 and which evolved into an independent Institute of Paleontology in 1971. Here students could attend classes covering the complete spectrum of paleontology. Aside from its commitment to teaching, the whole institute was also engaged in research on Mesozoic land vertebrates. Four professors and one custodian were employed in the research project "Paleontological analysis of non-marine Mesozoic sedimentation areas with regard to the evolution of small tetrapods, particularly mammals." It is thanks to their efforts that in Berlin a center for vertebrate paleon-

tology was established with an international reputation.

At first, Bernard Krebs continued to concentrate his scientific work on archosaurs. Inspired by Walter Georg Kühne, however, he soon began studying Mesozoic mammals, focusing mainly on the Pantotheria. He discovered in the lower jaw of these mammals rudimentary reptilian elements and carried out functional-morphological analyses of the dentitions.

In addition, Bernard Krebs was involved with the other vertebrate paleontologists of the Free University in the search for further material relevant to the early phylogeny of the mammals. There followed trips to France, Spain, Portugal, Morocco, and Persia, which suited him well with his love for the Mediterranean area. Together with Dr. Siegfried Henkel, then assistant and later professor at the Berlin institute, Bernard Krebs reopened the Upper Jurassic coal mine Guimarota, Portugal, for specifically paleontological purposes. At this Mesozoic mammal locality, originally discovered by Walter Georg Kühne, they then carried out an excavation campaign lasting ten years from 1973 to 1982. It was one of the largest paleontological endeavors of the 20th century and one of the most important excavations of this kind ever done. The reward was a very rich fossil collection of the highest scientific value.

In 1969, Bernard Krebs habilitated cumulatively. In 1970, he was made “Akademischer Rat” and professor at the now-independent institute, in 1971 full professor. The year 1977 was disappointing as the appointment to professor in ordinary, which was considered certain, did not happen because of a sudden, unexpected change in the Berlin Senate. Bernard Krebs was managing director of the institute for more than ten years. For many years he was also a member of the department board and of the research commission, being president of the latter. For a considerable period of time he was a member, at intervals also the president, of the committee of promoters of the natural science museums of Berlin, an institution created to preserve natural science collections in the western part of the then divided city. The traditional Natural History Museum of the Humboldt University, with the famous dinosaurs from Tendaguru, was then in East Berlin (the “capital” of the GDR according

to the communists' interpretation of its status accorded by the four allied powers). Therefore the natural science museums scene of the free part of Berlin had to be newly established.

Because of the increased work load created by the retirement of Walter Georg Kühne, who was left unreplaced, and the early death of Siegfried Henkel, Bernard Krebs was practically unable to follow up his decision to devote more time to research. Consequently, the long-awaited monograph on the first complete skeleton of a mammal from the Upper Jurassic, the most sensational find from the Guimarota mine, appeared late. Bernard Krebs reconstructed it as a small insectivorous, arboreal animal, which easily climbed tree trunks with the help of its claws, nimbly moved on small branches with its fully erect and narrow gait, and was able to carry out precise jumps with the help of its tail. He gave it the genus name *Henkelotherium* in honor of the late Siegfried Henkel. This study is the crowning achievement in the paleontological life work of Bernard Krebs.

Bernard Krebs' list of publications is relatively short. On the one hand, too much of his time was taken up by other tasks. On the other hand, his perfectionism and unsparing self-criticism prevented a larger number of publications.

In 1991, he took part in an expedition to a newly discovered locality of terrestrial vertebrates in the Upper Cretaceous of Sudan. This brought no mammal remains. However, the extensive finds, which were also collected on later expeditions, provide important information on the paleogeography of North Africa.

From 1992 to 1996 Bernard Krebs was a consultant for the German Research Association (DFG: Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft). During this time he co-edited a book on the Guimarota locality. He lived to see its appearance in the autumn of 2000. During his last year at the institute he was involved in the graduate college "Evolutionary transformations and mass extinctions," which had been set up in 1998 at the Natural Science Museum of the Humboldt University Berlin.

Right up to his retirement in October 1999, Bernard Krebs took his lecturing work very seriously. His lectures were impressive for their good preparation and their very personal touch. All illustra-

tions, such as morphological sketches of the animals referred to, were drawn by himself on the blackboard. His scientific presentations were outstanding.

The new generation of scientists in the field of vertebrate paleontology was at first slow in evolving. An active group of promising students dedicated to vertebrate paleontology formed at the Free University Berlin in the second half of the 1980s, however, a group which still exists today. It is thus a great pity that, after the retirement of Bernard Krebs and his final move to France, conditions at the Berlin institute have not developed in the way he envisaged.

A description of the person Bernard Krebs would be incomplete without mention of his other activities, which he pursued almost as passionately as he did paleontology. To his last days he was greatly interested in the history of art and architecture, in film history, and in railways. As part of his cultural-historical activities he bought, in the middle of the 1980s, a large, old property in France in need of restoration. Bernard Krebs spent his lecture-free time and the last period of his life there, together with his wife Elisabeth, who helped him to renew the house and garden in the tradition of the region.

It is probably this diversity of interests, each taken very seriously, which was Bernard Krebs' most special quality. He was also a kind person, who never thrust himself on others. For his students he was a reliable mentor, to whom they could turn with their professional and private troubles. Many people who knew him will honor his memory. His scientific work in the field of vertebrate paleontology speaks for itself and will continue to remain important for future generations. (Winand Brinkmann) (I thank Mrs. Elisabeth Krebs for important biographical information and Mr. Andrew Barnes for translation. In the "Paläontologische Zeitschrift" an obituary with a reference list will be published.)

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
By-Law on Ethics

“Article 9. Statement of Ethics.

Several goals for the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology follow from its mission statement (Constitution Article 1): to discover, conserve, and protect vertebrate fossils and to foster the scientific, educational, and personal appreciation and understanding of them by amateur, student and professional paleontologists, as well as the general public. Fossil vertebrates are usually unique or rare, nonrenewable scientific and educational resources that, along with their accompanying contextual data, constitute part of our natural heritage. They provide data by which the history of vertebrate life on earth may be reconstructed and are one of the primary means of studying evolutionary patterns and processes as well as environmental change.

- ! It is the responsibility of vertebrate paleontologists to strive to ensure that vertebrate fossils are collected in a professional manner, which includes the detailed recording of pertinent contextual data (e.g., geographic, stratigraphic, sedimentologic, taphonomic).
- ! It is the responsibility of vertebrate paleontologists to assist government agencies in the development of management policies and regulations pertinent to the collection of vertebrate fossils, and to comply with those policies and regulations during and after collection. Necessary permits on all lands administered by federal, state, and local governments, whether domestic or foreign, must be obtained from the appropriate agency(ies) before fossil vertebrates are collected. Collecting fossils on private lands must only be done with the landowner’s consent.
- ! Fossil vertebrate specimens should be prepared by, or under the supervision of, trained personnel.
- ! Scientifically significant fossil vertebrate specimens, along with ancillary data, should be curated and accessioned in the collections of repositories charged in perpetuity with conserving fossil vertebrates for scientific study and education (e.g., accredited museums, universities, colleges, and other educational institutions).
- ! Information about vertebrate fossils and their accompanying data should be disseminated expeditiously to both scientific community and interested general public.
- ! The barter, sale, or purchase of scientifically significant vertebrate fossils is not condoned unless it brings them into, or keeps them within, a public trust. Any other trade or commerce in scientifically significant vertebrate fossils is inconsistent with the foregoing, in that it deprives both the public and professionals of important specimens, which are part of our natural heritage.”

SVP Sponsors
As of 25 January 2001

The following individuals sponsor one or more SVP members by generously paying for their annual dues. If you are interested in becoming an SVP sponsor, please complete the sponsorship application on the following page.

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Sponsorship Application

Society of Vertebrate Paleontology

33552 Treasury Center

Chicago IL 60694-3500 USA

Tel. (847) 480-9095; fax (847) 480-9282; e-mail svp@sherwood-group.com

This application is for a current SVP member who would like to pay the membership fee of another SVP member. The applicant must sign the SVP Ethics Statement on the reverse side of this form.

Sponsor, please complete the following:

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I would like to sponsor the following individual for membership in SVP:

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C In what kind of institution does the proposed member work?
 University or College Museum None (Student/retired) Other

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 One year or less 2-5 years 6-10 years 11-20 years More than 20 years

C How many SVP Annual Meetings has he/she attended?
 None One meeting 2-5 meetings 6-10 meetings 11-20 meetings More than 20 meetings

C What are his/her areas of interest in vertebrate paleontology? (Taxonomy, biogeography, biostratigraphy, functional morphology, etc.)

Please specify groups, areas, and geologic time periods when relevant

C Does he/she hold membership in any other professional societies? If yes, please list all below.

Please complete reverse side of this form.

Membership Options

- C Associate membership includes receipt of *SVP News Bulletin* and member rates on the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, *SVP Memoirs*; no voting rights.
- C All other categories include receipt of the *SVP News Bulletin* and *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*; member rates on the *Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology*, *SVP Memoirs*; voting rights.
- C Students must submit a copy of a valid university or college identification card.

Please check the appropriate category below. If the individual you are sponsoring is approved for membership in the Society, you will receive a letter indicating this, as well as an invoice for his/her membership dues. The new member will receive a letter welcoming him/her into the Society.

- 9 Regular (\$80.00)
- 9 Student (with ID) (\$45.00)
- 9 Associate (\$30.00)

9 For faster delivery of the News Bulletin, you may pay an **optional** air postage of \$20.00 per year for overseas delivery.

NOTE: The minimum age requirement for membership is 18 years.

Signature of Applicant

Upon approval of my membership to the SVP, I agree to abide by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology's Ethics Statement provided below.

Applicant signature: _____ Date: _____

*Article 9. Statement of Ethics.

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SOCIETY OF VERTEBRATE PALEONTOLOGY - ORDER FORM

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1978 Volume(s):	Member Rate	\$55.00	
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Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology Past Issues (excluding 18-1):			
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**Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
Membership Application**

(Membership for the period 1 October to 30 September)
60 Revere Drive, Suite 500, Northbrook IL 60062 USA

Tel. (847) 480-9095; fax (847) 480-9282; e-mail: svp@sherwood-group.com

Please type or print the following:

Title: Dr. _____ Mr. _____ Mrs. _____ Ms. _____

Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Country: _____ Phone No. _____ Fax No. _____

E-mail Address: _____

Date of Birth: _____

Degrees with Dates and Schools: _____

- C In what kind of institution do you work?
 University or College Museum None (student/retired) Other
- C In that institution, what is your occupation? _____
- C How long have you been associated with your institution?
 One year or less 2-5 years 6-10 years 11-20 years More than 20 years
- C How many SVP Annual Meetings have you attended?
 None One meeting 2-5 meetings 6-10 meetings 11-20 meetings >20 meetings
- C What are your areas of interest in vertebrate paleontology (taxonomy, biogeography, biostratigraphy, functional morphology, etc.)? Please specify groups, areas, & geologic time periods when relevant.

- C Do you hold membership in any other professional societies? If yes, please list all below.

Nominator

NOMINATIONS are required for membership acceptance. Your nominator must be a current SVP member. (If you need a contact in your area, please contact the SVP Business Office at the number listed on the top of this form).

Nominated by: _____ Date _____

Nominator's Address & Phone Number: _____

Nominator's Signature: _____

Please complete the reverse side of this form

Advisor: If *Student* applicant, include advisor's name and signature below. All student applicants must submit a copy of valid university or college identification card.

Advisor: _____

Advisor Signature: _____

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- C Associate membership includes *SVP News Bulletin* and member rates on books, journals, etc.; no voting rights.
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- C Students must submit a copy of a valid university or college identification card as well as an advisor's and/or authorized academic official's signature for approval of membership.

Please check the appropriate category below. Once your application is approved, you will receive an acceptance letter and invoice for membership dues. DO NOT REMIT PAYMENT AT THIS TIME. You will be billed upon your acceptance to the Society.

- | | |
|--|----------------------------|
| 9 Regular (\$95.00) | 9 Sustaining (\$250–\$599) |
| 9 Student (with ID) (\$45.00) | 9 Partner (\$600–\$1,199) |
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9 For faster delivery of the *News Bulletin*, you may pay an **optional** air postage of \$20.00 per year for overseas delivery.

NOTE: The minimum age requirement for membership is 18 years along with a nomination.

Signature

Upon approval of my membership to the SVP, I agree to abide by the Society of Vertebrate Paleontology's Ethics Statement provided below.

Applicant Signature: _____

The Society of Vertebrate Paleontology By-Laws on Ethics

"Article 9. Statement of Ethics.

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**Contributions to the Endowment and Dedicated Funds
Society of Vertebrate Paleontology
2001–2002
As of 26 June 2001**

In 1986, the Society established an Endowment Fund to meet the urgent needs of the science as determined annually by the Executive Committee. Initially, the income was applied largely to support the Bibliography of Fossil Vertebrates. In recent years, endowment funds have also been used to support other strategic initiatives of the Society. Currently members may support the dedicated funds of the Society (Patterson, Skinner, Estes, and Romer) in addition to supporting the endowment

The following list includes contributors to the general endowment fund as well as contributions made to one or more of the Society's dedicated funds for the 2001–2002 fiscal year based on funds and/or written pledges received through 26 June 2001. Marked donors are not members.

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