

# Debate between science and religion rages on

By Karen Creighton  
Of the Emerald

Is it possible to reconcile science and Biblical views? The debate between theories of science and creationism is still alive on the University campus.

Creationism is a religious belief based on the Bible, not on independent observations, said Aaron Novick, director of the Institute of Molecular Biology.

Science instead is based on observations that all can be agreed upon. There are never absolute truths in science, Novick said.

"We never 'prove' things. We just disprove some of the alternatives," he said, referring to scientific theories. Scientists subscribe to the Darwinian theory of evolution because it is

the most viable explanation at this point.

Brian Frary, a junior in biology, said he doesn't see any conflict between science and the Bible.

Creationism is the theory that God created the universe in the way described in the book of Genesis, he said.

The Bible is the literal word of God and is too complicated for lay people to interpret alone, Frary said. He relies on the Biblical commentaries of linguistic and historical experts to interpret the Bible.

People who take the Bible literally are missing the most important point of the Bible, said geology Professor Gordon Goles.

"I accept the Bible as truth,

but as a special kind of truth," he said.

Goles, who describes himself as a committed Christian, views the Bible as a series of myths, not as a report of facts.

"Myths have a well-defined, but not well-recognized role in our society," he said. Myths influence us greatly, and we operate by them daily, he said.

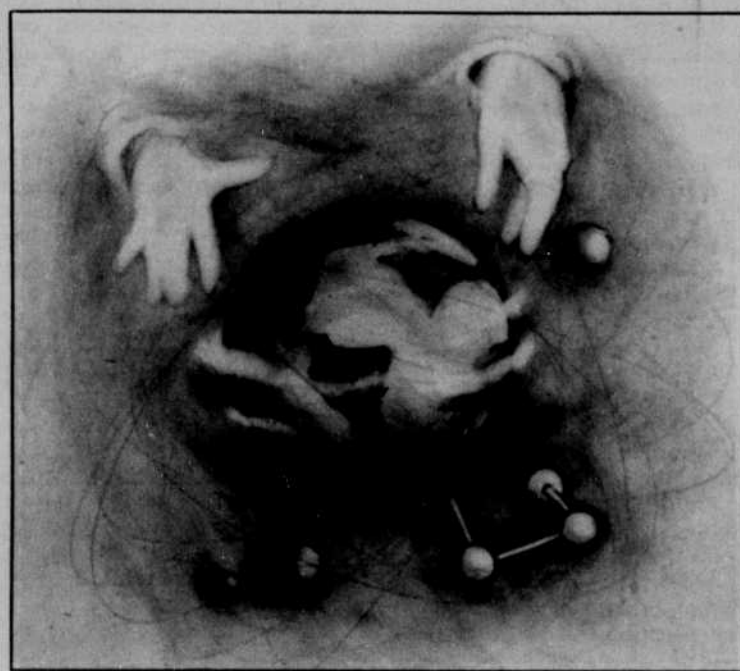
"I believe that God communicates to us in ways that we are adapted to understand," he said. He compares the Biblical myths to the stories he tells his children. The stories are intended to entertain and to teach them valuable lessons. They know the stories aren't true, but still benefit from them.

Frary said he rejects the idea that the Bible is based on myth.

"There was more evidence to believe in Jesus Christ than that Napoleon existed," he said, referring to experts on Biblical history.

Both Goles and Frary see evidence for their beliefs in the world around them.

"We're looking at one immense and vastly complex entity," Goles said. The many different ways of looking at the



Graphic by Lorraine Rath

universe through different disciples are all equally valid, he said. However, when presented with a conflict between Biblical beliefs and scientific evidence, Goles said he chooses science.

Goles said he objects to the

unspoken assumption of many creationists that God would lie to us by putting false evidence in the world.

Frary said his ideas of creationism don't seem to contain any assumptions of deceit.

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## Disputed final round determines College Bowl student champions

By Gary Henley  
Of the Emerald

The "3 X's and an O" defeated the "Space Cadets" 175-160 in the championship match of the College Bowl on Wednesday night in the EMU Forum Room.

The quarterfinals and semifinals also were conducted in the Forum Room.

The 3 X's came from behind

to win a thrilling match against the "No Names" in the semifinals to meet the Cadets in the final.

Early in the match, the 3 X's fell behind 125-30 only to come back strong to win 130-125 amid some controversy. The No Names claimed time ran out when the final question, with five seconds remaining, had to be repeated.



Photo by John Giustina

Students compete in the College Bowl final round Wednesday night. The "3 X's and an O" prevailed over the "Space Cadets" to secure a berth in the regional contest on February 21.

3 X's captain Craig Harris said "I knew the time was running down on that last question so I tried to stall."

"Their team was phenomenal. It was real exciting to come back like that," said 3 X's member Mike Schaeffer.

The protest was disallowed, and the 3 X's advanced to the final against the Space Cadets, who played hard in their defeat of "Slaughter House Four" in the other semifinal match, 160-90.

Much like their semifinal match, the 3 X's faced an early deficit, falling behind by scores of 65-0 and 105-30. The Space Cadets correctly answered the question: "What were the names of the two gangs in 'West Side Story'?" The Jets and the Sharks. The correct answer gave the Space Cadets a 130-85 lead at the halftime break.

The 3 X's tied the score 130-130 before the Cadets scored their final 30 points to lead 160-130. The 3 X's came back once again, with correct answers to questions such as: "Huck Finn rode down the river

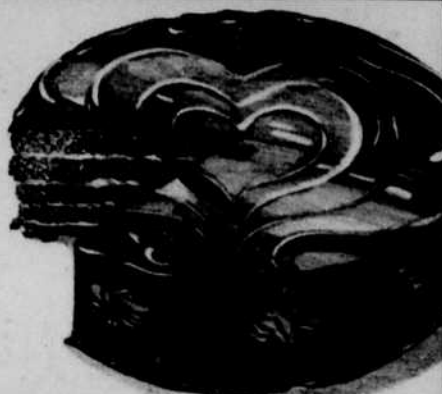
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