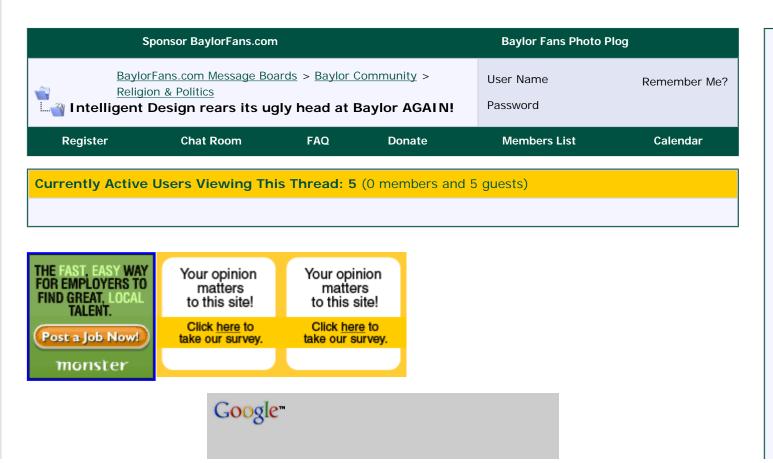


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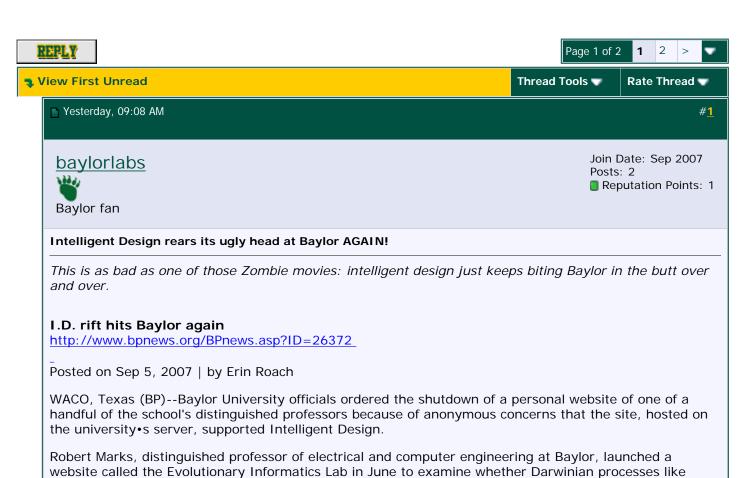


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Marks' conclusions, as explained on the website, placed limits on the scope of Darwinism and offered

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random mutation and natural selection can generate new information.

scientific support for Intelligent Design.

In July, a podcast interview with Marks appeared on a website run by the pro-ID Discovery Institute, and a week later Benjamin Kelley, dean of engineering at Baylor, told Marks to remove the Evolutionary Informatics website immediately.

"This is a big story, perhaps the biggest story yet of academic suppression relating to ID," William Dembski, a research professor in philosophy at Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, told Baptist Press.

"Robert Marks is a world-class expert in the field of evolutionary computing, and yet the Baylor administration, without any consideration of the actual content of Marks' work at the Evolutionary Informatics Lab, decided to shut it down simply because there were anonymous complaints linking the lab to Intelligent Design," Dembski said.

Dembski himself was at the center of a controversy involving Baylor and Intelligent Design in 2000 when he was removed from his post as director of the school's Michael Polanyi Center for Complexity, Information, and Design after refusing to rescind a statement supporting Intelligent Design as a legitimate form of academic inquiry.

Lori Fogleman, director of media communications at Baylor, told Baptist Press Sept. 5 that the school's objection to the website involves standards by which something can or cannot attach its name to Baylor.

"This isn't about the content of the website. Really the issue is related to Baylor's policies and procedures of approving centers, institutes, products using the university's name," Fogleman said. "Baylor reserves the exclusive right to the use of its own name, and we're pretty jealous in the protection of that name. So it has nothing to do with the content but is all about how one goes about establishing a center, an institute, a product using the university's name."

In response to the dean's order to remove the Evolutionary Informatics website, Marks requested a meeting with Baylor legal counsel to resolve the matter. Six days before the scheduled Aug. 9 meeting, Kelley entered Marks' Baylor webspace and, without his consent, removed all references to the Evolutionary Informatics Lab, according to a timeline Dembski sent to BP.

The Aug. 9 meeting involved John Gilmore, an attorney who advised Dembski in 2000 and now represents Marks, Baylor Provost Randall O'Brien, Kelley and Baylor attorneys including Charles Beckenhauer, chief counsel for the school. Baylor officials asked that Marks add a disclaimer to his website and remove anything that could imply the lab is a Baylor initiative.

"Randall O'Brien signs off on the EIL site going back up and closes the meeting with prayer," Dembski's timeline states.

An Aug. 21 e-mail from Beckenhauer to Gilmore included what the Baylor chief counsel called his "proposed fixes" to the website, which by then existed only as a mirror site, not viewable by the general public. Gilmore responded by saying the matter had been settled at the Aug. 9 meeting with the provost and that Beckenhauer's recommendations were out of line.

On Aug. 30, Beckenhauer told Gilmore via e-mail that "there is now a long trail of information that inappropriately links independent research to the Baylor name," and he said the website issue centered on "misleading representations of your client and his collaborator (Dr. Dembski)."

Research papers that Dembski and Marks wrote jointly were on the website, and Dembski said his connection with the lab had been evident from the start.



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ord=70428?"></SCRIPT>

Beckenhauer said the Aug. 9 meeting was not meant to be a final agreement, and he expressed concerns that Marks and Dembski had created a "trail of inaccuracies" that would lead people to believe Baylor had given direct support for what in reality was an independent project.

"All the circumstantial evidence points to John Lilley, Baylor's president, as being behind this effort to stamp out ID at Baylor," Dembski told Baptist Press. "The provost was at the crucial Aug. 9 meeting; the president wasn't. Lilley is the only one with the authority to overturn what the provost agreed to at that meeting."

Dembski, in comments to the Southern Baptist Texan newsjournal Sept. 4, underscored the hypersensitivity surrounding Intelligent Design in scholastic institutions these days.

"You have to understand, in the current academic climate, Intelligent Design is like leprosy or heresy in times past," he said. "To be tagged as an ID supporter is to become an academic pariah, and this holds even at so-called Christian institutions that place a premium on respectability at the expense of truth and the offense of the Gospel."

Dembski said he knows of several faculty members at Baylor who support Intelligent Design, but they are mostly younger faculty who don't have tenure and don't speak up on the topic. An old guard at Baylor, he said, supports secularization.

"John Lilley, in attempting to pacify that old guard, and perhaps because of a sense of foreboding about how Baylor might be perceived in the wider university culture if it were seen as supporting Intelligent Design or as even allowing it merely a presence, has therefore decided to come down hard against it," Dembski said.

Intelligent Design "in a sense became a poster child" of what immediate past president Robert Sloan tried to accomplish at Baylor, seeking to rescue the Baptist General Convention of Texas-affiliated school from its slide into secularization before he resigned under pressure in 2005, Dembski noted.

Aside from the hot-button issue of Intelligent Design, Dembski said the way the Baylor administration has dealt with Marks in this case is "inexcusable by any standard, certainly Christian but even secular."

"I've been at MIT, Princeton University, Notre Dame, Cornell, Northwestern and the University of Chicago, and at none of these schools have I ever have witnessed the shameful treatment that Baylor has accorded to Robert Marks," Dembski said.

"... [Marks] was a star in his department at the University of Washington in Seattle for 26 years before Baylor recruited him, and now Baylor is subjecting him to treatment that even so 'liberal' and 'secular' a place as UW would find unconscionable," Dembski added. "Yes, there are academic freedom issues here, but at this point the issue is one of plain decency."

Robert Crowther of the Discovery Institute's Center for Science and Culture told Baptist Press the institute is watching the Marks situation from an academic freedom standpoint.

"We're deeply concerned that the administration at Baylor University has really not shown any support for academic freedom or freedom of scientific inquiry in shutting down a website and a research project of one of their distinguished faculty," Crowther said. "We find that very troubling. It does show a certain trend at Baylor."

Crowther said he believes Intelligent Design has become such a controversial issue in academia because of the scientific threat it poses. The Scopes Trial should have settled the issue, he said, but discoveries



href="http://c.casalemedia.com/ c?s=77447& f=3& id=1067465397.3285128" target="_blank"><img src="http://as.casalemedia.com/ s?s=77447& u=http%3A// baylorfans.com/forums/ showthread.php%3Ft% 3D131150& f=3& id=1067465397.3285128& since then have altered the discussion.

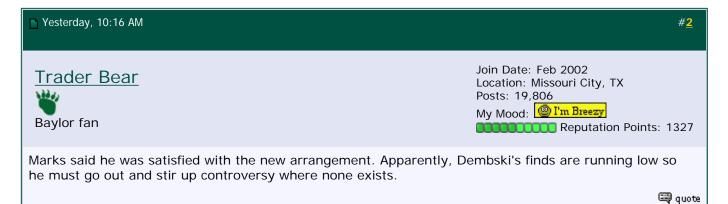
"What has changed is the science. We know things now and there are new discoveries being made all the time that are leading a number of scientists to not just question Darwinian evolution but to actively pursue research into Intelligent Design," Crowther said. "The thing that is driving this really is the science. We wouldn't be having the debate if there wasn't something going on in science that was causing a lot of guestions to rise from most of the scientists."

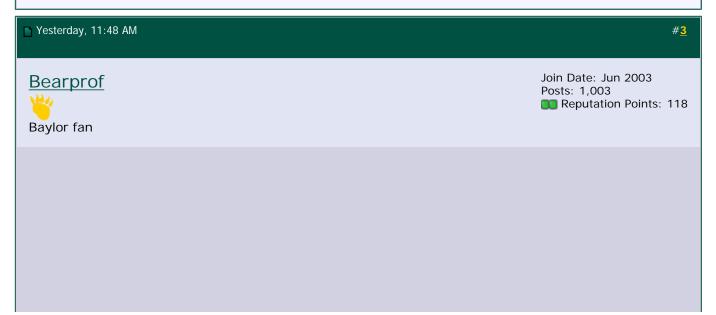
--30--

Erin Roach is a staff writer for Baptist Press. Jerry Pierce, managing editor of the Southern Baptist Texan newsjournal, contributed to this article.



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Quote:

Originally Posted by Trader Bear [2]

Marks said he was satisfied with the new arrangement. Apparently, Dembski's finds are running low so he must go out and stir up controversy where none exists.

Yet another "unintended consequence" of the Presidency of Robert Sloan, a man who many members of the current BOR clearly support by their actions since Sloan resigned. BOR - this is what happens when you support agendas that do not benefit the institution as a whole, but the agendas of a certain few individuals. At least Baylor did the right thing in this case and had Marks's website removed. If Marks wants to host his own website on ID, that's fine, but it isn't science and shouldn't have Baylor's name attached to it.

🕮 quote



""I've been at MIT, Princeton University, Notre Dame, Cornell, Northwestern and the University of Chicago, and at none of these schools have I ever have witnessed the shameful treatment that Baylor has accorded to Robert Marks," Dembski said."

Just curious... Do MIT, Princeton University, Notre Dame, Cornell, Northwestern and the University of Chicago teach, or host websites devoted to the support of, ID? If not, then how has Baylor "shamefully treated" Marks as opposed to the treatment that he might receive at those other institutions? Would ID be tolerated in any way, shape, or form at those schools? If not, then I would say that Baylor has treated Marks quite well, a situation that Marks may clearly appreciate.

🕮 quote





the only act, concept, or PERSON I find "inexcusable by any standard, certainly Christian" at Baylor is William Demski, et al, who, in how many different ways, have been told, "your form of 'scholarship' under the guise of 'science' is not wanted here" but more, your presumption to keep finding clandestine ways to get your ID work affiliated with Baylor University (this is not the first such rodeo, you shall recall with School of Engineering faculty).

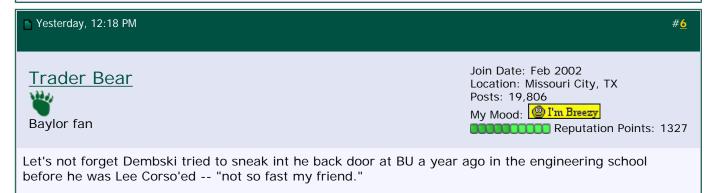
No one has an inalieanable right to Baylor University's heritage--not Dembski, not Presidents, not regents, not me--(and I'm about as much a son of Baylor blood as one can get).

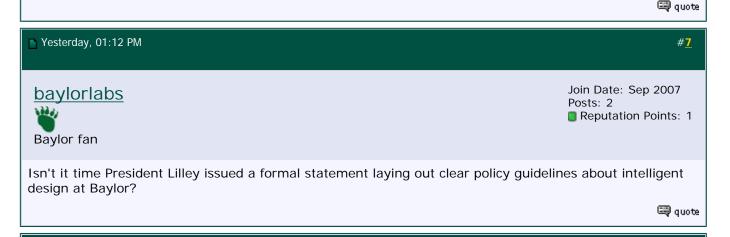
I regret that the Provost did not nip it in the bud when he had a chance. But in fairness to the Provost, those of us not in those meetings don't know the dialogue of compromise that is invoked.

But if John Lilley simply nixed it. Done, finis. Then kudos to President Lilley. We need mores such decisions at Baylor, i.e. the kind that protect BAYLOR from those who would alter it's course from its historic mission and posture for the smaller, more narcissistic usage.

Last edited by Barely a prof: Yesterday at 12:16 PM.









NORSEMAN

Belmont fan

Join Date: Aug 2002 Posts: 4,659

Reputation Points: 177

Quote:

Originally Posted by baylorlabs 💟

Isn't it time President Lilley issued a formal statement laying out clear policy guidelines about intelligent design at Baylor?

No doubt it is past time for Lilley to use the authority and power vested in the office of President of Baylor University.

What the Regents gonna do? Fire him? Oh, please...make my day Regents. Also doubt that will happen since what you see in Lilley so far is who he is and what he is going to do as prez......You fill in the blank for your own answers here.

Whoever the guy/gal who claimed to be from UN-Reno and who posted about Lilley just after he was hired was apparently correct in regard to Lilley's leadership and personality.



Yesterday, 04:30 PM

Bearprof

Rayl

Baylor fan

Join Date: Jun 2003 Posts: 1,003

Reputation Points: 118

Quote:

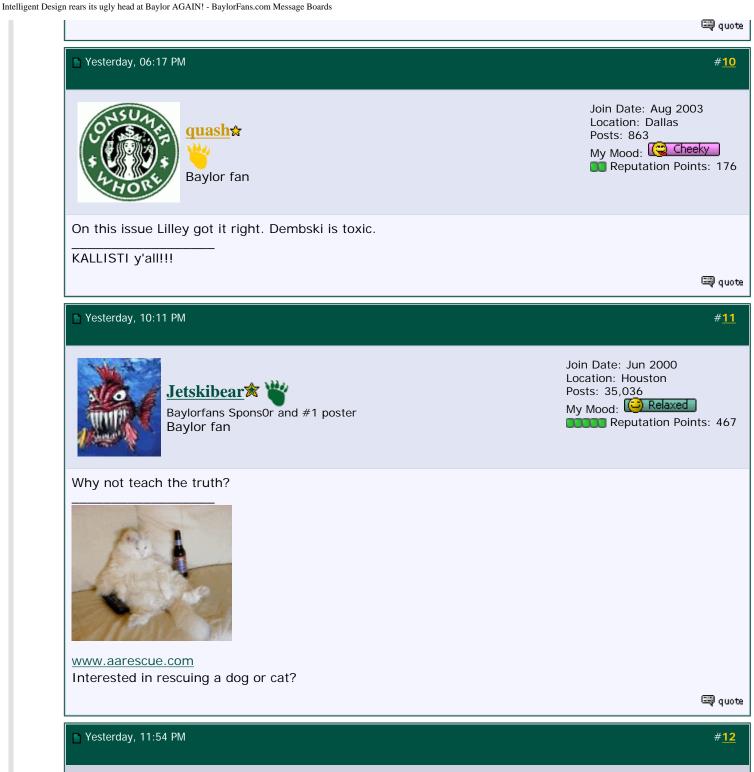
Originally Posted by NORSEMAN 💟

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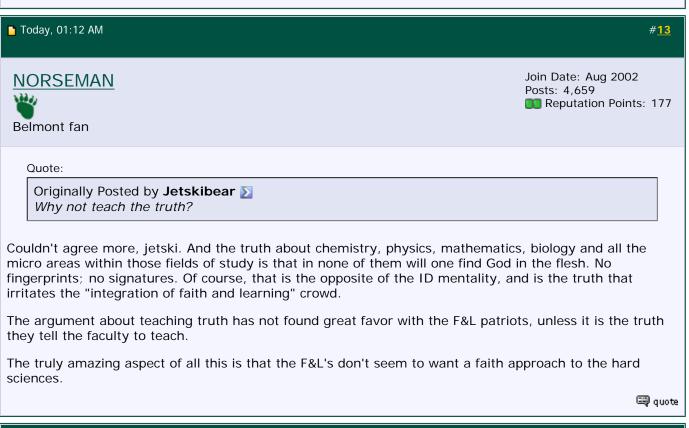
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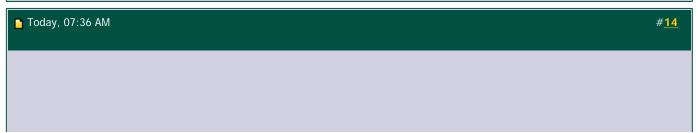
Whoever the guy/gal who claimed to be from UN-Reno and who posted about Lilley just after he was hired was apparently correct in regard to Lilley's leadership and personality.

Agreed, Norseman. I've said from the beginning of Lilley's tenure that he was as bulletproof as any incoming Baylor president perhaps ever due to the circumstances upon him entering. He needs to step up help out our science faculty who have been undermined in the academic realm by the ID proponents.

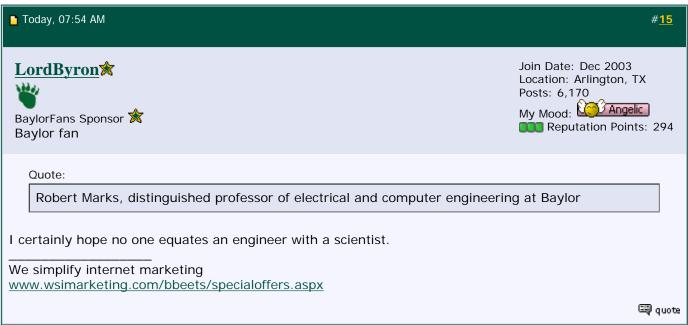




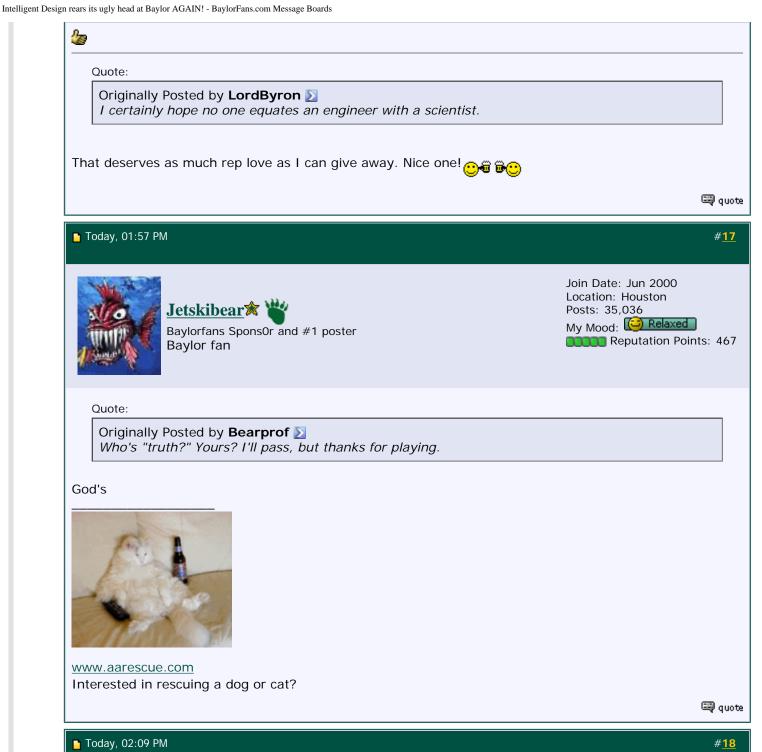


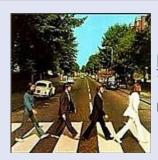












Maxwell's Silver Hammer



Father McKenzie fan

Join Date: Oct 1999

Location: Abbey Road, London

Posts: 7,886

My Mood: Psychedelia

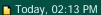
Reputation Points: 824

Quote:

Originally Posted by **Jetskibear D**God's

Good suggestion, but you may have noticed that, across history, there has been some minor dispute over what exactly is God's truth





#<u>19</u>



Jetskibear

Baylorfans Spons0r and #1 poster
Baylor fan

Join Date: Jun 2000 Location: Houston Posts: 35,036

My Mood: Relaxed

Reputation Points: 467

Quote:

Originally Posted by Maxwell's Silver Hammer D

Good suggestion, but you may have noticed that, across history, there has been some minor dispute over what exactly is God's truth

Not in my book.





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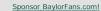
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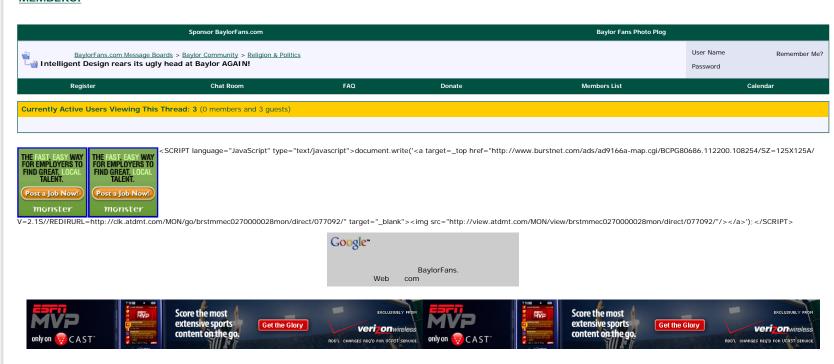
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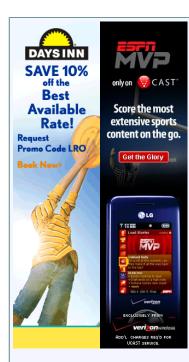
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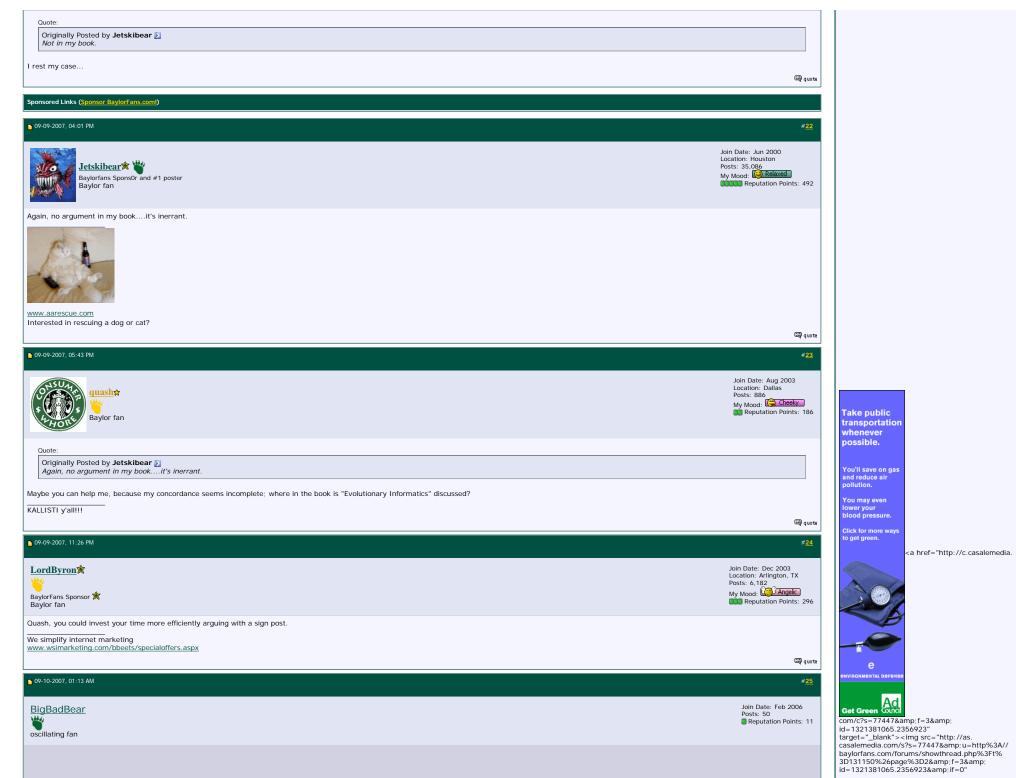


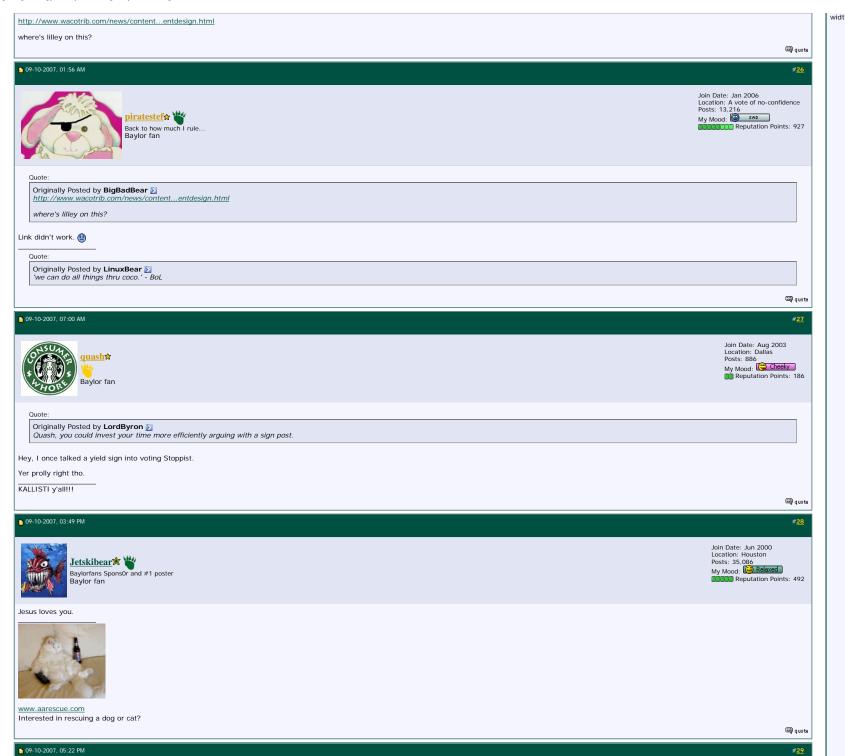
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NSWEB



Join Date: Aug 2003 Location: Dallas Posts: 886 My Mood: Cheeky

Reputation Points: 186

Jesus wept

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Gender ○M ○F

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20 years

09-10-2007, 06:11 PM

PapaBear86

Baylor Bears fan

Join Date: Feb 2006 Location: Austin Posts: 698 My Mood: Cheerful Reputation Points: 118

Amazing stuff

Quote:

Originally Posted by Bearprof 💟

Agreed, Norseman. I've said from the beginning of Lilley's tenure that he was as bulletproof as any incoming Baylor president perhaps ever due to the circumstances upon him entering. He needs to step up help out our science faculty who have been undermined in the academic realm by the ID proponents.

The highlights in red are stunning. What an amazing leap of faith you must have to dismiss ID. Impressive!!!

I will remember to put on my church clothes before reading any additional comments about your "theories"

🕮 quote

09-10-2007, 06:45 PM

<u>billytheskink</u>*

Join Date: Dec 2003 Location: Richmond Tx. Posts: 6,298 Reputation Points: 399

Crowther said he believes Intelligent Design has become such a controversial issue in academia because of the scientific threat it poses. The Scopes Trial should have settled the issue, he said, but discoveries since then have altered the discussion.

Had the Scopes trial settled the issue, Marks and Dembski wouldn't be having any trouble right now.



quote 🚐

09-10-2007, 06:57 PM



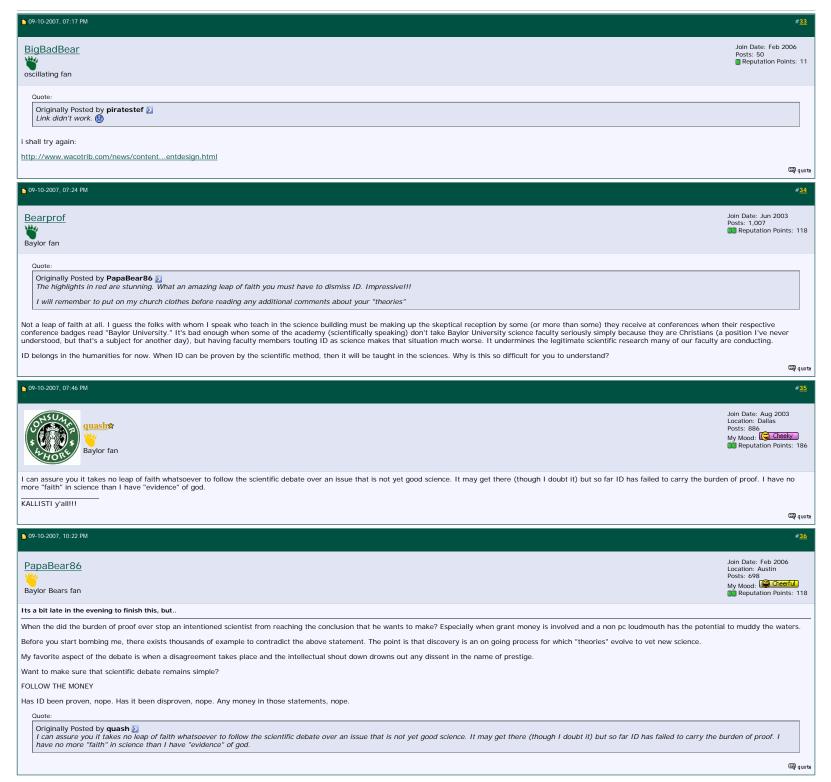
Join Date: Jun 2000 Location: Houston Posts: 35,086 My Mood: Relaxed Reputation Points: 492

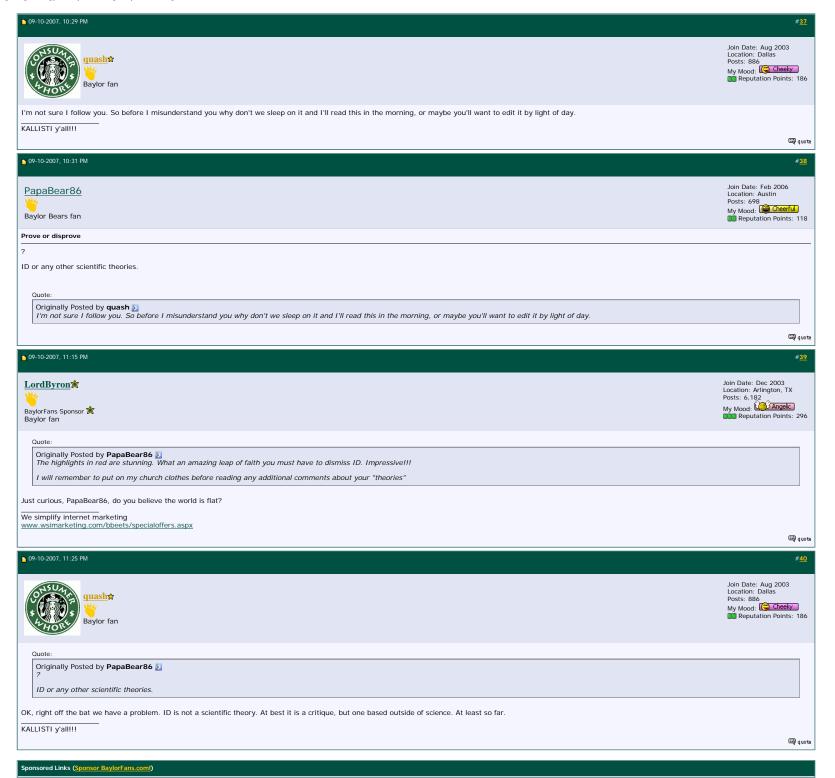
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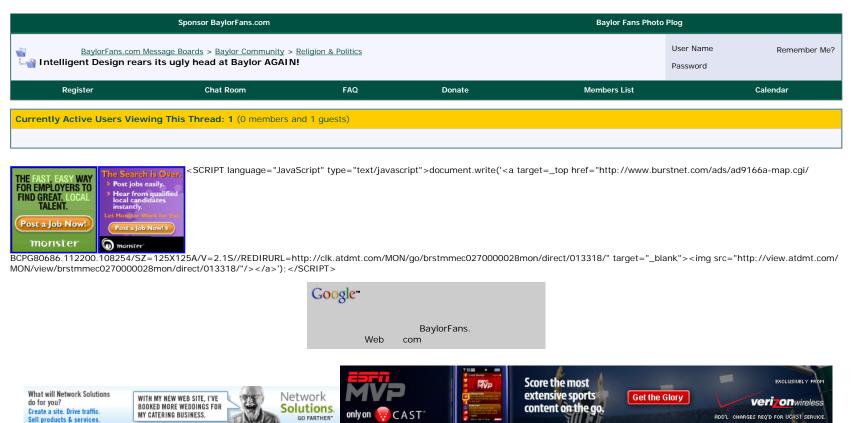
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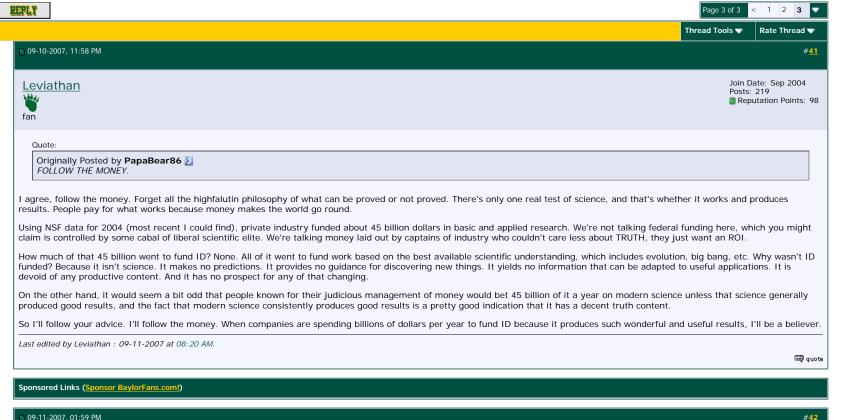
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PapaBear86

Baylor Bears fan



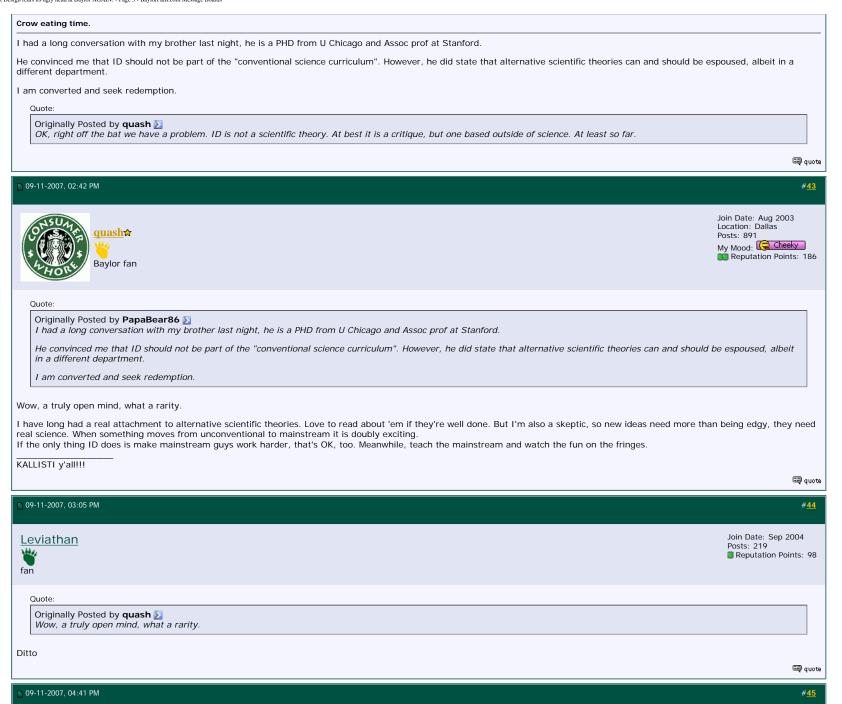


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ord=41506?"></SCRIPT>

Join Date: Feb 2006

Reputation Points: 118

Location: Austin Posts: 700 My Mood: Cheerful



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Join Date: Feb 2002

Location: Missouri City, TX Posts: 19,836 My Mood: U'm Breezy

Reputation Points: 1335

Trader Bear

Baylor fan

Quote:

Originally Posted by PapaBear86 [2]

I had a long conversation with my brother last night, he is a PHD from U Chicago and Assoc prof at Stanford.

He convinced me that ID should not be part of the "conventional science curriculum". However, he did state that alternative scientific theories can and should be espoused, albeit in a different department.

I am converted and seek redemption.

It takes a big man to come and admit what you just did. Openness or mind (and university policies) is an admirable quality. Willingness to admit error is something sorely lacking around Baylor these days.



#46

Join Date: Dec 2003

Join Date: Jun 2000 Location: Houston

Reputation Points: 500

Posts: 35.098 My Mood: CRelaxed

Location: Arlington, TX Posts: 6,183 My Mood: Angelic

Reputation Points: 296



LordByron



Quote:

Originally Posted by PapaBear86 [2]

I had a long conversation with my brother last night, he is a PHD from U Chicago and Assoc prof at Stanford.

He convinced me that ID should not be part of the "conventional science curriculum". However, he did state that alternative scientific theories can and should be espoused, albeit in a different department.

I am converted and seek redemption.

Way to gp, PapaBear86. I am truly impressed with your ability to think - not because you agree with me, but because you have an open mind.

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09-11-2007, 06:23 PM



<u>Jetskibear🕸 👑</u>

Baylorfans Spons0r and #1 poster Baylor fan

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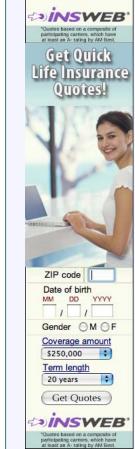
09-11-2007, 07:56 PM





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