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Fossils used to teach flood story by Holly Huffman, Eagle Staff Writer

"Dear Dinosaur man, "I've always wondered how to explain dinosaurs from the Bible. "Because you came, I've been able to explain dinosaurs to my mother and now my mother understands."

Its the thank-you letter like the one above from a sixth-grader boy that makes Dr. G. Thomas Sharp feel like he is making a difference in people's lives with his traveling multimedia presentation- The Truth About Dinosaurs!

"The spin of evolution in schools has caused serious doubting of Scripture," Sharp said.

Sharp hopes that with his program, run under the Creation Truth Foundation- an Oklahoma not-for-profit Christian educational corporation that he started- he will change the way people look at the evolution and creation debate.

Sharp and his son, Thomas Anthony, travel anywhere from Phoenix to Miami with their collection of 18 - soon to be 20 dinosaur fossils, including skulls of tyrannosaurus rex, a triceratops, a mammoth, a saber tooth tiger, a tylosaur, a pachycephalosaur, an edmontosaurus, a bison fossil and a pteranodon skeleton.

The traveling museum will be on display Monday at the Brazos Christian School's gym. The group will put on three shows for students in the morning and one for the general public that evening.

Sharp, a former teacher and professor with a doctorate in religion in science, says many people are, "ignoring evidence for a worldwide catastrophe that the Bible calls the flood."

The dinosaur did not evolve, they were created by God, and in turn, they were destroyed by God in what the Bible refers to as the flood, he said.

"Generally you find invertebrates at the bottom, and as you go up the rock layers we get more sophistication," he said. "It's not the development of life, but catastrophic death."

Sharp explained that amebic entities were on the bottom rock layers because they had fewer resources when the flood came and were killed off first. The dinosaurs made it to the top rock layers because they could get to the highest ground.

Sharp said that since the corporation's inception in 1989, they have presented the program to 90,000 children, mostly in Christian school setting. Sharp said they get hundreds of letters thanking them for helping student and teachers make more sense out of where dinosaurs fit into the creationist theory.

Thomas Anthony Sharp said the started the corporation to share what his dad feels is a more balanced view point.

"How dinosaurs fit into the million-year scheme," Thomas Anthony Sharp said, " With the advent of all the

Jurassic Park -- you have Barney himself now -- what better way to do it than through this?"

Sharp said researchers are finding new evidence that proves that some of the dinosaurs might not be 65 million years old.

It was Brazos Valley Christian School eighth-grade science teacher Mark Briles who got together with the corporation after meeting them at a convention to schedule a program at the school. Briles calls the group a "traveling ministry."

"I presented both sides {in class} and we back what we believe with scriptures in the Bible," he said.

Briles said they have to explain to the students what evolution is first, before they can discredit it.

"We need to see the dark side as well as the light side," Briles said.

The program will be held at 7p.m. Monday in the Brazos Christian School gym.