

interview, I had not yet seen the soft-tissue reconstruction by James Chatters and Tom McClelland. Therefore, any comments I made were generally about reconstructions and were not directed at the reconstruction of Kennewick Man. Now that I have examined it, I commend Chatters and McClelland on their effort to capture the living essence of an individual who lived 9300 years ago.

Second, I agree, along with many other anthropologists, that the Kennewick skull exhibits a mixture of Caucasoid and Mongoloid traits. Obviously more research is needed if we are to better understand the morphological variability in skulls of this age, which in turn would allow us to understand their phylogenetic significance. At present, the overall skull morphology suggests that Kennewick Man is a possible ancestor to many of us and an important addition to our understanding of recent evolutionary history. I believe that, because of its age, the skull should not fall under the regulations of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act.

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Reforming Calculus

Suppose you were a high-school football star who finds the important college game is basketball. You would be upset and feel cheated, not wanting to master a new sport, and perhaps seek to transfer. I believe that is a fair analogy to the "math whizzes [who] spurn reformed calc[ulus]" (Random Samples, 20 Feb., p. 1137). These students have done well in the old game, "traditional calculus," and do not want to learn a new one. While that is quite understandable, this in itself does not validate their concern or actions. In many ways, reformed courses are more challenging than courses taught emphasizing manipulative skills. Research on outcomes, not opinions, is what is needed.

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Siberian Sediment Cores

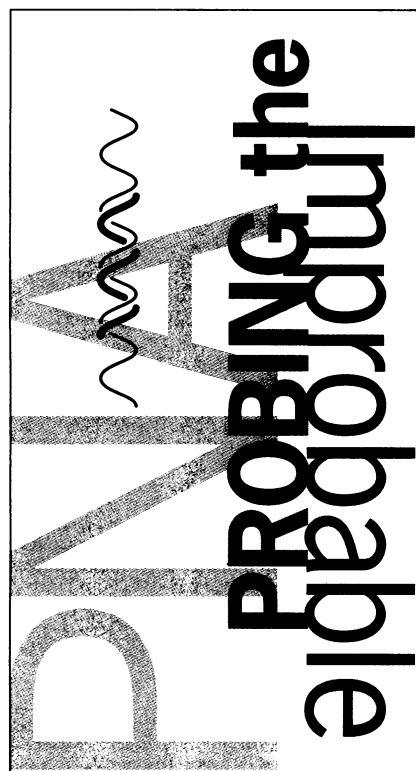
With regard to the report "Lake Baikal record of continental climate response to orbital insolation during the past 5 million years" by D. F. Williams *et al.* (7 Nov., p. 1114), I would like to point out that the data set of

diatom abundance (presented in figure 1, column E, p. 1115) was collected by Markus Schwab and Dominik Weil, students in the Baikal Drilling Programme. When the Baikal Lake cores were opened in Irkutsk, Russia, these students helped with core description and documentation. We performed smear slide preparation and description at a much higher time resolution than would have been necessary if the work had been done only for lithologic description.

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Letters to the Editor

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Direct fluorescence in situ hybridization with a PNA 18-mer probe (Flu-(C₃TA₃)₆) for the telomere repeats on metaphase chromosomes from cultured human fetal cells. Chromosomes were counterstained with propidium iodide.

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