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SCIENCE'S COMPASS

Frakes acknowledge (2) that "by prescribing SSTs we eliminate any possibility of "ice-house" conditions through a positive ice-albedo feedback at oceanic grid points." In their view, this constraint is justified "by the geologic rock record which does not indicate global glaciation during the Proterozoic or at any other period in Earth's history." We read the rock record differently.

An alpine glacial interpretation can be ruled out for reasons given in our original report: there were no mountains in the region at the time of the Ghaub glaciation. The glacial deposits occur within a broadly conformable succession of shelf carbonates, extending for more than 400 kilometers landward of the shelf edge where our study was conducted (6). Virtually all the glacial debris is from sources on the carbonate shelf. Mountains did form during the assembly of Gondwana, which involved the closure of oceans flanking the Congo Craton. Our study area, located on the southwestern salient of the craton, was directly affected by closure of the ocean to the west and south (present-day coordinates). The first deformation related to this closure [less than 550 million years ago (7)] folded the entire shelf carbonate suc-

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cession enclosing the glacial deposits and clearly postdates the glaciation, which occurred 700 to 750 million years ago. The eastern ocean closed in two stages—680 million years ago and less than 550 million years ago (7), and the mountain belt related to its closure was located 1900 kilometers east of our study area. The dramatic rise in the ratio of strontium-87 to strontium-86 in the Neoproterozoic ocean that is commonly taken to signal an erosion flux associated with the Pan-African orogeny occurs only after the last of the proposed snowball glaciations—580 million years ago (8).

The snowball Earth hypothesis explains the most salient features of the Neoproterozoic sedimentary record, including low-latitude glaciations, banded iron-formations, cap carbonates, and carbon isotopic excursions, but Jenkins and Scotese offer no alternative explanation.

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CORRECTIONS AND CLARIFICATIONS

In the 13 November NetWatch (p. 1223), the URL for the Left Handed DNA Hall of Fame should have been given as "www.lecb.ncifcrf.gov/~toms/LeftHanded.DNA.html."

In the third line of the legend of table 1 (p. 738) in the report "Rapid identification of subtype-selective agonists of the somatostatin receptor through combinatorial chemistry" by S. P. Rohrer *et al.* (23 Oct., p. 737), "(in nanomoles)" should have read, (nM)." In the first footnote in the legend of table 2 (p. 739), "(in M)" should have read, "(nM)."