

L. Copy of letter from Russel Bixler (documentarian) to Laurie Godfrey

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Dr. Laurie Godfrey
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Dear Dr. Godfrey:

I read with great interest Mr. Frederick Edwards' article, "Footprints in the Mind," in the March/April issue of The Humanist.

Needless to say, I was quite distressed about his report. Since you are a scientist, I have to assume Mr. Edwards misquoted you repeatedly.

Last August I was present for several days on the dig near Glen Rose. I worked with Dr. Carl Baugh on the McFall farm. As we very laboriously lifted twelve-inch blocks of limestone, we repeatedly uncovered dinosaur and human footprints. They were all found in the surface of a second layer of limestone, directly beneath four inches of marl.

There was absolutely no difficulty in distinguishing all the prints. In the three days I was there, I helped to uncover a number of tyrannosaurus prints, six or eight human footprints, one brontosaurus and one sabre-toothed tiger print.

Mr. Edwards' first comment was that "Many of the depressions in the Cretaceous limestone were too large to be human footprints, often sixteen inches long or longer." Actually, all of the six or eight human footprints were exactly sixteen inches long; there was no variation whatsoever. His second point was that "Some examples had the 'big toe' in the middle." This is so ridiculous a statement that it caused me to feel that he was misquoting you. The big toe was always in the proper location; however, the second toe was a little longer, and apparently was bent downward at the end, consistently causing a slightly deeper depression in the limestone. Many people today have a longer second toe, and it seems inevitable that their second toe bends downward at the end.

Appendage L.