

Book Reviews

Editors Note: In order to reduce the backlog of articles in the *Journal of Paleontology*, book reviews will now be published in *Priscum*. Book reviews that were not included in previous issues of the journal are included here, although not all are recent.

DINOSAURS-The Encyclopedia; Supplement 4, 2006

Donald Glut
McFarland & Company, Jefferson (North Carolina), and London; 749p. (\$95.00 library binding)
ISBN 0-7864-2295-5

Reviewed by Robert M. Sullivan

In the foreword of this latest supplement to *Dinosaurs—The Encyclopedia* by Donald Glut, Peter Makovicky writes "...it requires an almost superhuman effort to keep abreast of current developments in dinosaur science." I would like to nominate Don Glut as superhuman of the decade.

Dinosaurs-The Encyclopedia Supplement 4 continues what has become the mini-series of the dinosaurs, the first installment of which was published almost 10 years ago. The Introduction follows the format of previous supplements and highlights the recent fieldwork of Luis Chaippe (in Argentina). The transformation of the Los Angeles County Museum's exhibition program, shifting from an institution that once focused on Cenozoic vertebrates (mostly Pleistocene mammals) to one that is now more anchored in Mesozoic dinosaurs is discussed. A new dynamic exhibition, *Dinosaurs in Their World*, is scheduled to open by the end of the present decade in the Carnegie Museum of Natural History's dinosaur hall. Lastly, Glut writes about the long-awaited publication of the second edition of *The Dinosauria*, edited by D. B. Weishampel, P. Dodson and H. Osmólska.

The Mesozoic Era portion of the Introduction is very brief and once again presents the three geologic periods of the Mesozoic Era in reverse stratigraphic order (from young-

est to oldest). *New Discoveries, Ideas and Studies* highlights current research on the major groups of dinosaurs and covers a wide range of subjects from gastroliths and gastralia to pneumaticity in sauropods to histology and phylogenetic significance of ankylosaur dermal armor. The Continuing Ectothermy/Endothermy debate, or as I characterize it, "brooding over brooding," is of interest, but frankly, it strikes me as analogous to the debate about birds not being dinosaurs. Then there is a section called *Dinosaurs and Birds* that highlights the latest discoveries and interpretations of the phylogenetic relationships of various non-avian theropods (mostly from China). Finally, *Dinosaur Extinction* closes this introductory chapter but with nothing worth commenting on in my opinion.

The section titled *Dinosaurian Systematics* is much the same as in previous volumes and *Dinosaur Genera* highlights 40 new genera plus a number of previously reported taxa. Two genera (*Procompsognathus* and *Shuvosaurus*) are excluded (i.e., genera no longer considered to be dinosaurian). Although not dinosaurs, the pterosaurs have been included in this volume in Appendix One and Mesozoic birds are the subject of Appendix Two.

The quality of figures and photographs in Supplement 4 follow that of the other supplements and anchor volume. Some of the photos are of good quality, whereas others are substandard or blurry. But, again, as I have indicated in my other reviews of this series, the primary strength of these encyclopedias continues to be the figures and photos of original material. There are, of course, a few snafus. For example, the photos of the holotype of *Feganocephale adenticulatum* (p. 341) reappear on page 513 labeled as the holotype tooth of *Tecovasaurus murryi*. The photos are of *Feganocephale*, not *Tecovasaurus*; not that it matters because *F. adenticulatum* is a nomen dubium. Unfortunately, the reader cannot see the teeth of *Tecovasaurus murryi* (back to the primary literature!).

Despite these and other shortcomings, Supplement 4 is another "must have" for dinophiles and anyone working on dinosaurs.