In August, 2003, Jeff Wilson and Paul Sereno described a new dinosaur, Rajasaurus narmadensis, a 30-foot horned carnivore that lived 65 million years ago.

A few weeks after this report, Xijun Ni and colleagues described in the Jan. 1, 2004, Nature specimens of the oldest known primate (a primate with modern features) from the early Eocene (55 million years ago) of the Hengyang Basin in China. Placed in the European genus Telahurina, this Asian specimen has large eye sockets that faced forward, along with a large braincase and relatively primitive teeth. Although it is smaller than any living primate (body mass was estimated at only 28 grams), the creature is closely related to the extinct *Proconsul* primates and the living tarsiers. Telahurina assistance shows that direct connections between Europe and East Asia were possible in the early Eocene, despite the barrier of the Obih Sea across Siberia. A number of other important discoveries were reported from Asia as well. Jeff Wilson and Paul Sereno (Contribution from the Museum of Paleontology, University of Michigan, v. 31, p. 1) described a 4-ton, 10-meter-long tyrannosaur from the latest Cretaceous deposits of the Narmada Valley of India, which they named *Rajasaurus narmadensis*. Robert V. Hill and colleagues (American Museum Novitates, v. 3395) described new specimens of the ankylosaur *Pinacosaurus* from the Late Cretaceous of Mongolia, which reveal important clues about how these dinosaurs grew and changed as they got older. Hai-Lu Yao and co-workers (Cretaceous Research, v. 24, p. 147) described the oldest known duckbill dinosaur from China. It comes from the Late Early Cretaceous of the Gobi Desert in Inner Mongolia, and suggests that the hadrosaurs originated in Asia in the Early Cretaceous before spreading around the world. From Africa, Sereno and colleagues (Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, v. 25, p. 477) described a specimen known as the “duck-billed crocodile,” *Anatosuchus* minor, from the middle Cretaceous of Nigera. It is closely related to Cretaceous crocodiles of South America, suggesting that they could still cross the widening South Atlantic even by the mid-Cretaceous. David Krause and colleagues (Journal of Vertebrate Paleontology, v. 23, p. 844) described the oldest known African feline fossil, which comes from the Late Cretaceous of Madagascar.

Important studies on functional paleontology included an analysis of CAT scans of pterosaur skulls. Larry Witmer and colleagues (Nature, v. 425, p. 950) found that they have smaller brains than comparably sized birds, with enlarged balance organs for coordinating flight, and other features that enhanced their ability to grasp prey with their flexible beaks while in flight. Frank Seileracher (Philosophical Transactions of the Royal Society, v. 209, p. 103) reexamined the question of warm-blooded dinosaurs. He found that nearly all dinosaur groups *could* have maintained high body temperatures without an endothermic metabolism, only advanced theropod carnivores were likely to be endothermic.

Prenter is professor of geology at Occidental College in Los Angeles and lectures at the geology of Catal in Pamukkale, Calif. E-mail: prenter@oxy.edu.