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Murdock: Even left now laughing at global warming

http://seattlepi.nwsourc.com/opinion/397959_murdockonline30.html

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DEROY MURDOCK

SYNDICATED COLUMNIST

SAN FRANCISCO -- So-called "global warming" has shrunk from problem to punch line. And now, Leftists are laughing, too. It's hard not to chuckle at the idea of Earth boiling in a carbon cauldron when the news won't cooperate:

* Nearly four inches of snow blanketed the United Arab Emirates' Jebel Jais region for just the second time in recorded history on Jan. 24. Citizens were speechless. The local dialect has no word for snowfall.

* Dutchmen on ice skates sped past windmills as canals in Holland froze in mid-January for the first time since 1997. Defense Minister Eimert van Middelkoop, who inhabits a renovated 17th Century windmill, stumbled on the ice and fractured his wrist.

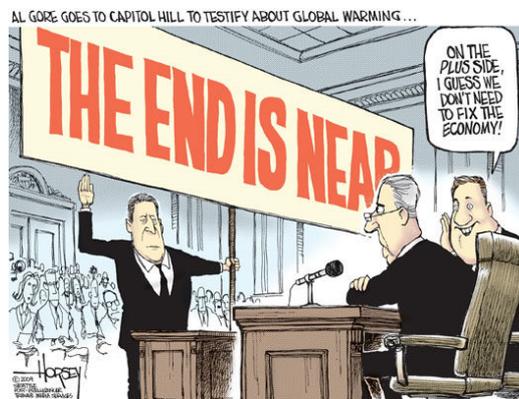
* January saw northern Minnesota's temperatures plunge to 38 below zero, forcing ski-resort closures. A Frazee, Minnesota dog-sled race was cancelled, due to excessive snow. Snow whitened Surf City, North Carolina's beaches. Days ago, ice glazed Florida's citrus groves.

As Earth faces global cooling, both troglodyte right-wingers and lachrymose left-wingers find Albert Gore's simmering-planet hypothesis increasingly hilarious:

"In terms of (global warming's) capacity to cause the human species harm, I don't think it makes it into the top 10," Dr. Robert Giegengack, former chairman of University of Pennsylvania's Earth and Environmental Sciences Department, told the Pennsylvania Gazette. Giegengack voted for Gore in 2000, and says he likely would again.

Commentator Harold Ambler declared Jan. 3 on HuffingtonPost.com that he voted for Barack Obama "for a thousand times a thousand reasons." He added that Gore "owes the world an apology for his actions regarding global warming." He called Gore's assertion that "the science is in" on this issue "the biggest whopper ever sold to the public in the history of mankind."

"Not only is it false that human activity has any significant effect on global warming or the weather in general, but for the record, global warming is over," retired Navy meteorologist Dr. Martin Hertzberg wrote on carbon-sense.com. The physical chemist



and self-described "scientist and life-long liberal Democrat" added: "The average temperature of Earth's atmosphere has declined over the last 10 years. From the El Nino Year of 1998 until Jan. 2007, it dropped a quarter of a degree Celsius (0.45 degrees Fahrenheit). From Jan 2007 to the spring of 2008, it dropped a whopping three-quarters of a degree Celsius (1.35 degrees Fahrenheit). Those data further prove that the fear-mongering hysteria about human-caused global warming is completely unjustified and is totally counterproductive to our Nation's essential needs and security."

"It is a tribute to the scientific ignorance of politicians and journalists that they keep regurgitating the nonsense about human-caused global warming," veteran Left-wing commentator and Nation magazine columnist Alexander Cockburn wrote. "The greenhouse fear mongers rely on unverified, crudely oversimplified models to finger mankind's sinful contribution -- and carbon trafficking, just like the old indulgences, is powered by guilt, credulity, cynicism, and greed."

Some leftists believe the collective hallucination of warmism distracts from what they consider urgent progressive priorities:

"The most destructive force on the planet is power-driven financiers and profit-driven corporations and their cartels backed by military might," University of Ottawa physics professor Dr. Denis Rancourt has written. "The global warming myth is a red herring that contributes to hiding this truth."

Social historian Dr. David Noble of Canada's York University concurs. He has lamented that warmism is "diverting attention from the radical challenges of the global justice movements."

Geophysicist Dr. Claude Allegre, previously Education Minister in France's late 1990s Socialist government, denounced the "prophets of doom of global warming." He sounded amused in a September 2006 L'Express article. "The ecology of helpless protesting has become a very lucrative business for some people."

"The so-called 'consensus' on man-made global warming is not holding up," Sen. James Inhofe, R-Okla., told his colleagues Jan. 8. "It is becoming increasingly clear that skepticism about man-made global warming fear is not a partisan left vs. right issue."

So-called "global warming" has accomplished the impossible: It has united liberals and conservatives in laughter.

Deroy Murdock is a columnist with Scripps Howard News Service and a media fellow with the Hoover Institution on War, Revolution and Peace at Stanford University. E-mail him at deroy.Murdock@gmail.com

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BELLAMY/DUCHAMP: World is getting colder

<http://www.washingtontimes.com/news/2009/jan/30/world-is-getting-colder/>

The Washington Times

It's the sun, not CO2, that's to blame

David J. Bellamy and Mark Duchamp
Friday, January 30, 2009

OP-ED:

After the wet and cold centuries of the Little Ice Age (around 1550-1850 A.D.), the world's climate recuperated some warmth, but did not replicate the balmy period known as the Middle Age Warm Period (around 800-1300 A.D.), when the margins of [Greenland](#) were green and England had vineyards.

Climate began to cool again after World War II, for about 30 years. This is undisputed. The cooling occurred at a time when emissions of CO2 were rising sharply from the reconstruction effort and from unprecedented development. It is important to realize that.

By 1978 it had started to warm again, to everybody's relief. But two decades later, after the temperature peaked in 1998 under the influence of El Nino, climate stopped warming for eight years; and in 2007 entered a cooling phase marked by lower solar radiation and a reversal of the cycles of warm ocean temperature in the Atlantic and the Pacific. And here again, it is important to note that this new cooling period is occurring concurrently with an acceleration in CO2 emissions, caused by the emergence of two industrial giants: China and India.

To anyone analyzing this data with common sense, it is obvious that factors other than CO2 emissions are ruling the climate. And the same applies to other periods of the planet's history. Al Gore, in his famous movie "The Inconvenient Truth," had simply omitted to say that for the past 420,000 years that he cited as an example, rises in CO2 levels in the atmosphere always followed increases in global temperature by at least 800 years. It means that CO2 can't possibly be the cause of the warming cycles.

So, if it's not CO2, what is it that makes the world's temperature periodically rise and fall? The obvious answer is the sun, and sea currents in a subsidiary manner.

The tilt of Earth, the shape of Earth's orbit (distance to the sun), and Earth's "wobble" as it turns around the sun are all important factors in the cyclical recurrence of ice ages and interglacial periods. It has been observed that ice ages last about 100,000 years, and warm interglacials only 12,000. And within these warm periods, variations in solar activity cause shorter periods of less-pronounced warming and cooling.

There is no way to know for sure if the present cooling period will last several decades or 100,000 years. Russian scientists have just warned that a fully-blown ice

age is not to be ruled out, as about 12,000 years have elapsed since the end of the last one.

Entering a new ice age would be a disaster for humanity: billions of people could die from lack of food, from the cold, and from the collapse of the world economy, social strife, war, etc.

And if what's ahead of us is only a little ice age, the consequences would still be pretty dire. World food reserves are already low, and we can barely feed the current population of the planet. Surfaces of arable land used for bio-fuels and biomass are increasing. Cool and wet summers would cause crop failures as they did in the Little Ice Age (as a result, starving Parisians had taken to the streets, soon sending their king to the guillotine). Winter frost would also bring its share of misery, destroying fruits and vegetables on a large scale.

Let's just hope we'll only have a few years of cooling, and that another warming period will follow. But it may be wishful thinking. In any case, there will be hardship during the cold cycle, whatever its length.

As President Obama takes office, and as the European Union is about to waste one trillion euros to de-carbonize the economy (in a bid to stop nonexistent man-made global warming) they would be well-advised to perform a reality check on what's currently happening to the climate. Talking to independent scientists about the positive properties of CO2 (plant food that enhances crops) would also be a good idea.

If they don't, we may be in for mass starvation. And let's not forget that the world population is increasing by about 78 million every year.

[David J. Bellamy](#) is a professor at three British universities and an officer in several conservation organizations. [Mark Duchamp](#), a retired businessman, has investigated global-warming theory and written more than 100 articles.

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Source: Senate EPW Staffer, Marc Morano

RealClimate Woes

[Best reaction to Real Climate's Schmidt's latest activities: [Schmidt's Antics Prompts Laughter From Scientist "How am I supposed to get any work done when I am laughing so hard?"](#)]

Alert: Real Climate Woes: Pielke Jr.: 'Gavin Schmidt admits to stealing a scientific idea from his arch-nemesis, Steve McIntyre' – February 4, 2009

Excerpt: This is not a hypothetical example, but a caricature of real goings on with our friends over at Real Climate . . . Due to an inadvertent release of information, NASA's [Gavin Schmidt](#) (a "real scientist" of the Real Climate blog) admits to stealing a scientific idea from his arch-nemesis, Steve McIntyre (not a "real scientist" of the Climate Audit blog) and then representing it as his own idea, and getting credit for it. (Details [here](#) and [here](#).) In his explanation why this is OK, Gavin explains that he did some work on his own after getting the idea from Steve's blog, and so it was OK to

take full credit for the idea. I am sure that there are legions of graduate students and other scientific support staff who do a lot of work on a project, only to find their sponsor or advisor, who initially proposed the idea, as first author on the resulting paper, who might have empathy for Gavin's logic. [...] But lets be clear, in science, the ethical thing to do is to give full credit to the origination of an idea, even if it comes from your arch-enemy. Gavin's outing is remarkable because it shows him not only stealing an idea, but stealing from someone who he and his colleagues routinely criticize as being wrong, corrupt, and a fraud. Does anyone wonder why skepticism flourishes? When evaluations of expertise hinge on trust, stealing someone's ideas and taking credit for them does not help.

<http://sciencepolicy.colorado.edu/prometheus/all-fair-in-love-war-and-science-4929>

Gavin's "Mystery Man" Revealed - by Steve McIntyre on February 4th, 2009

Excerpt: On Monday, Feb 2, Gavin Schmidt explained some "ethics" to realclimate readers as follows: [Response: People will generally credit the person who tells them something. BAS were notified by people Sunday night who independently found the Gill/Harry mismatch. SM could have notified them but he didn't. My ethical position is that it is far better to fix errors that are found than play around thinking about cute names for follow-on blog posts. That might just be me though. - gavin] As readers know, I was interested in who was the scientist that, unbeknownst to me, had "independently" identified the problem with Harry - a problem overlooked by BAS, NASA GISS for a year or so anyway; and a problem which had been missed by his realclimate coauthors, Steig and Mann, during their preparation of Steig et al 2009, and which had been missed by the Nature peer reviewers. And remarkably this had been "independently" identified just after I had noted the problem at Climate Audit and Climate Audit readers had contributed ideas on it, even during the Super Bowl. Yesterday, I inquired about the identity of Gavin's "mystery man"? Today (Feb 4) the British Antarctic survey revealed the identity of Gavin's "mystery man". It was... GAVIN.

<http://www.climateaudit.org/?p=5093>

Schmidt's Antics Prompts Laughter Scientist "How am I supposed to get any work done when I am laughing so hard?"

Reaction By Climate researcher Dr. Craig Loehle, formerly of the department of Energy Laboratories and currently with the National Council for Air and Stream Improvements, who has published more than 100 peer-reviewed scientific papers. "How am I supposed to get any work done when I am laughing so hard?"

<http://www.climateaudit.org/?p=5093#comment-324316>

Report: Error in Antarctic Warming Paper? Warming trend 'arises entirely from the impact of splicing the two data sets together' - Australia's Herald Sun - February 4, 2009

Excerpt: But Steve McIntyre, who did most to expose Mann's "hockey stick", now notices a far more embarrassing problem with Steig's paper. Previous researchers hadn't overlooked the data. What they'd done was to ignore data from four West Antarctic automatic weather stations in particular that didn't meet their quality control. As you can see above, one shows no warming, two show insignificant warming and fourth - from a station dubbed "Harry" shows a sharp jump in temperature that helped Steig and his team discover their warming Antarctic. Uh oh. Harry in fact is a problematic site that was buried in snow for years and then re-sited in 2005. But, worse, the data that Steig used in his modelling which he claimed came from Harry was actually old data from another station on the Ross Ice Shelf known as Gill with new data from Harry added to it, producing the abrupt warming. The

data is worthless. Or [as McIntyre puts it](#): Considered by itself, Gill has a slightly negative trend from 1987 to 2002. The big trend in "New Harry" arises entirely from the impact of splicing the two data sets together. It's a mess. Read [this link](#) and [this](#) to see McIntyre's superb forensic work. Why wasn't this error picked up earlier? Perhaps because the researchers got the results they'd hoped for, and no alarm bell went off that made them check. Now, wait for the papers to report the error with the zeal with which they reported Steig's "warming".
http://blogs.news.com.au/heraldsun/andrewbolt/index.php/heraldsun/comments/going_cold_on_antarctic_warming#48360

Prominent Scientist 'Appalled' By Gavin Schmidt's 'lack of knowledge' – 'Back to graduate school, Gavin!' – Climate Science Blog – January 29, 2009

By Atmospheric scientist Dr. Hendrik Tennekes, a scientific pioneer in the development of numerical weather prediction and former director of research at The Netherlands' Royal National Meteorological Institute, and an internationally recognized expert in atmospheric boundary layer processes. Tennekes is featured in [U.S. Senate Minority Report Update: More Than 650 International Scientists Dissent Over Man-Made Global Warming Claims](#)

Excerpt: Roger Pielke Sr. has graciously invited me to add my perspective to his discussion with Gavin Schmidt at RealClimate. If this were not such a serious matter, I would have been amused by Gavin's lack of knowledge of the differences between weather models and climate models. As it stands, I am appalled. Back to graduate school, Gavin! [...] Gavin Schmidt is not the only meteorologist with an inadequate grasp of the role of the oceans in the climate system. In my weblog of June 24, 2008, I addressed the limited perception that at least one other climate modeler appears to have. A few lines from that essay deserve repeating here." [...] From my perspective it is not a little bit alarming that the current generation of climate models cannot simulate such fundamental phenomena as the Pacific Decadal Oscillation. I will not trust any climate model until and unless it can accurately represent the PDO and other slow features of the world ocean circulation. Even then, I would remain skeptical about the potential predictive skill of such a model many tens of years into the future.

<http://climatesci.org/2009/01/29/real-climate-suffers-from-foggy-perception-by-henk-tennekes/>

[Note: for more analysis of the warming partisans at Real Climate, see these links from [Israeli Astrophysicist Nir Shaviv's website](#): "The aim of RealClimate.org is not to engage a sincere scientific debate. Their aim is post a reply full of a straw man so their supporters can claim that your point 'has been refuted by real scientists at ReaClimate.org.'" Shaviv, who calls the website "Wishfulclimate.org" [noted that the "writers \(at RealClimate.org\) try again and again to concoct what appears to be deep critiques against skeptic arguments, but end up doing a very shallow job. All in the name of saving the world. How gallant of them."](#)]

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WEBCommentary Editor

Author: Bob Webster

Date: February 3, 2009

Climate Alarmists: Having it both ways!

Bitter northern winters, scorching southern summers. Everything is evidence of human-caused global warming to climate alarmists.

Are climate alarmists' claims of catastrophic consequences of human-caused global warming reinforced by recent weather events?

Apparently, according to climate alarmist scientists.

Southern Australia has experienced excessive heat during the 2008-2009 summer with drought affecting many areas of the south.

"The oppressive heat [i]s a major talking point of the vast and drought stricken country of Australia.

"While cyclonic winds have been lashing the coast off Townsville, the temperature today soared to 112 degrees Fahrenheit (44.4° C) in Adelaide and Broken Hill, and 104° F (40° C) in Melbourne.

"So dry is much of Australia that the riverboats on the Murray have come to a stand still. On a cattle station in central Queensland, it is reported that the kangaroos are too weak to hop and the kookaburras can no longer fly.

"In Western Australia, Victoria and Tasmania, the New Year sees these State's battling to recover after recent bushfires. But if its not fires it would be floods, and if not floods it would be drought.

"In the north the odd cyclone adds a bit of interest by knocking down a few towns, or sinking the fishing fleet."

Compelling evidence for human-caused global warming? Evidently, Australia's Climate Change Minister Penny Wong thinks so: "The scorching weather across southern Australia prove[s] the accuracy of warnings by climate change scientists." ([Heatwave shows climate scientists are right, Wong says, January 29, 2009. The Canberra Times.](#))

Except that the report cited above was made more than 108 years earlier! (See, *Chronicles of Australia*, Edited by John Ross, Legrand, 1993.) What caused that episode of warming? Could the same source be responsible for today's Australian heat and drought? We're not likely to find out from the UN's IPCC as they have little interest in learning about natural climate events.

So much for "unprecedented" warming!

Meanwhile, up in the northern winter, Britain experiences the worst winter weather in decades. And, of course, the [UK Telegraph reports scientists claim snow is consistent with global warming](#). Dave Britton, a meteorologist at the UK Met Office, said: "Even with global warming you cannot rule out we will have a cold winter every so often." The story goes on to quote Bob Ward, spokesman for the Grantham Research Institute for Climate Change at the London School of Economics: "What is important to do is look at the long term global trends and they are still up. What we experience in the short term in this country is not important. After all, Melbourne had a heat wave last week."

It is correct to point out that weather events are not necessarily an indication of the trend of climate change. However, Ward is incorrect when he claims "long term global trends ... are still up." If James Hansen's doctored data from questionable reporting stations is your only source of temperature records, you might come to

Ward's conclusion of an upward trend. Though you'd have to ignore real world reports that fly in the face of the nonsense produced by Hansen's operation. An accurate view of the record of temperature trends since 1895 [reveals the recent warming spell peaked in 1998 with an accelerating cooling trend](#) beginning at the beginning of the 21st Century.

When weather events pile up consistently over time, one might expect that even the climate change alarmists would notice that maybe they are not such isolated events after all. Evidently that would be expecting too much.

The past two winters have been particularly severe and persistent through most of Asia and North America. Even Europe has not been spared from the cold onslaught with glaciers advancing in Norway, frozen Dutch canals, and blizzards in the UK. To summarize, we are instructed by climate alarmists that the bitter cold and snow in the UK is *not* an indicator of climate change and that isolated weather events should not be taken as evidence of climate change. Yet the major heat wave in Melbourne, Australia during a summer of heat and drought that have plagued a large part of southern Australia, *is* cited as evidence for human-caused global warming by climate alarmists!

Ever notice that the "human-caused" modifier is automatically assumed when any of the climate alarmists speak of "global warming" or the new code phrase, "climate change"?

So there you have it. It's been bitter cold in much of the northern hemisphere for two consecutive winters, even Arctic Sea ice was greater this past summer than the previous summer, and yet that is all quite "consistent" with alarmists' theory of human-caused global warming. And, oh yes, so is the heat wave and drought in southern Australia evidence for human-caused global warming, despite a more persistent and severe heat and drought having occurred more than 100 years earlier!

To climate alarmists, *everything* is evidence of human-caused climate change.

Bob Webster
Editor, Publisher, [WEBCommentary](#)

Biography - Bob Webster

Bob Webster is a descendent of Daniel Webster's brother Ezekiel. Bob has always had a strong interest in history, our Constitution, U.S. politics and law. A political conservative with objectivist and libertarian roots, he has faith in the ultimate triumph of truth and reason over deception and emotion. He is a strong believer in our Constitution as written and views the abandonment of constitutional restraint as a great danger to our Republic. His favorite novel is *Atlas Shrugged* by Ayn Rand and believes it should be required reading for every high school student.

A lifelong interest in meteorology and climatology spurred his strong interest in science. Bob earned his degree in Mathematics at Virginia Tech, graduating in 1964.

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