

Re: Q for Lee O, desert running

Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.anthropology.paleo/2007-01/msg00196.html>

- *From:* "Lee Olsen" <paleocity@xxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* 18 Jan 2007 08:16:54 -0800
-

Chapstick wrote:

"Lee Olsen" <paleocity@xxxxxxxxxxx> wrote in message
news:1169099023.910873.286760@xx

Chapstick wrote:

"Easy, because we can out run a horse in the desert. Proof is in the pudding, no matter what your flawed-comparative data tells you." --Lee,
Sun,
Sep-11-05, 06:38
<http://forum.lowcarber.org/archive/index.php/t-263723.html>

Hello Lee et. al.,

Is this true? We can outrun a horse on the desert? Can either animal (human or horse) run for any length on the desert?

http://news.bbc.co.uk/cbbcnews/hi/animals/newsid_1804000/1804830.stm

Even better I think...

mclark found this one
<http://www.naturalhistorymag.com/>
December 2006-January 2007

Click on 'samplings'

"And the hunters' tracking skills must be exquisite; finding and following the quarry every time it bolts out of sight or mingles with a herd is no easy task-teamwork helps. But done right, Liebenberg says, persistence hunting is so effective that it may have helped select for the excellent thermoregulatory system, bipedal posture, and long strides that we all possess."

Re: Q for Lee O, desert running

The entire piece from mclark's link follows... thank you... meanwhile, if it (persistence hunting) is better than the bow and arrow, how come we invented (evolved) the bow and arrow? <grin> Of course, we DID develop that tool,

Maybe it was a couch potato who needed to invent the bow and arrow in the first place :-)

Getting back to this point made in the article: "But done right, Liebenberg says, persistence hunting is so effective that it may have helped select for the excellent thermoregulatory system, bipedal posture, and long strides that we all possess."

<http://tinyurl.com/7u5wo>

" In fact, he (Homo e) walked and ran with better mechanics than we do today. The mechanics of his femur, femur head, pelvis, and lower back are superior to those of today. We have had to sacrifice some of that efficiency of walking and running to give birth to children with larger brains."

As more and more innovations came along, the less physical we needed to be, a feedback loop. Even though we have teeth, we invented the pressure cooker anyway. One anthropologist quipped that if the rate of tooth reduction continues at the present rate, in another 50,000 years humans probably won't have teeth at all.

and many others, so obviously something was to an advantage. Perhaps the "terrain" wasn't perfect in very many places.

I agree that running is not as good as a bow and arrow in some places, but Lucy and early Homo e did not have a choice in the matter (perfect terrain or not). They did not have the brain power to invent the bow and arrow or pressure cooker, hence early Homo's better running abilities were needed and selected for.

-chap