

Re: Pretty wild theory

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- *From:* "Mayer Wonga" <mayer@xxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Mon, 26 Sep 2005 21:57:12 GMT
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"Rich" <none@xxxxxxx> wrote in message

news:80bcj15gtdtb4b6a15tgchvbourkh3h4n3@xxxxxxxxxxx

>A distant supernova that exploded 41,000 years ago may have led to the
> extinction of the mammoth, according to research that will be
> presented tomorrow (Sept. 24) by nuclear scientist Richard Firestone
> of the U.S. Department of Energy's Lawrence Berkeley National
> Laboratory.

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> Firestone, who conducted this research with Arizona geologist Allen
> West, will unveil this theory at the 2nd International Conference "The
> World of Elephants" in Hot Springs, SD. Their theory joins the list of
> possible culprits responsible for the demise of mammoths, which last
> roamed North America roughly 13,000 years ago. Scientists have long
> eyed climate change, disease, or intensive hunting by humans as likely
> suspects.

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> Now, a supernova may join the lineup. Firestone and West believe that
> debris from a supernova explosion coalesced into low-density,
> comet-like objects that wreaked havoc on the solar system long ago.
> One such comet may have hit North America 13,000 years ago, unleashing
> a cataclysmic event that killed off the vast majority of mammoths and
> many other large North American mammals. They found evidence of this
> impact layer at several archaeological sites throughout North America
> where Clovis hunting artifacts and human-butchered mammoths have been
> unearthed. It has long been established that human activity ceased at
> these sites about 13,000 years ago, which is roughly the same time
> that mammoths disappeared.

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> They also found evidence of the supernova explosion's initial
> shockwave: 34,000-year-old mammoth tusks that are peppered with tiny
> impact craters apparently produced by iron-rich grains traveling at an
> estimated 10,000 kilometers per second. These grains may have been
> emitted from a supernova that exploded roughly 7,000 years earlier and
> about 250 light years from Earth.

LOL!! These guys get paid for this too!

- **References:**

- ◆ **Pretty wild theory**
 - ◇ From: Rich

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