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THE RELIGIOUS V. SCIENCE DEBATE MAY SOON END

Large protons collide to duplicate creation of the universe
POA



beams will be fired in opposite directions in order that scientists recreate conditions a split second after the "Big Bang". Scientists theorize the universe was created by a massive explosion. Many religious leaders disagree.

The test occurred at the French/Swiss border; scientists from 80 countries were involved. The U.S. contributed about \$531 million and 1,200 U.S. scientists participated in the test.

The collider, called the Large Hadron Collider or "LHC" for short, is the biggest physics experiment in history, costing nearly \$4 billion. The project is not without its critics who fear the collision of protons could eventually imperil the earth. These critics claim the collisions could cause micro black holes, subatomic versions of collapsed stars whose gravity is so strong they can suck in planets and other stars.

Smaller colliders have been used for decades, without incident, to study the makeup of the atom.

This experiment could also reveal more about "dark matter," antimatter and possibly hidden dimensions of space and time.

In the meantime, it will stir the religion v. science debate.

The religious v. science debate about the creation of the universe may soon be resolved.

On September 10th, scientists from the European Organization for Nuclear Research (known by its French acronym CERN) fired up the first test of the world's largest particle collider. A beam of protons (subatomic particles) traveling close to the speed of light was fired in a clockwise direction around a 17-mile underground ring. A second test will fire a beam of protons in a counterclockwise direction. Once the initial tests are complete, two

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