

# LUCY WHO?

## EVOLUTION Lucy Who?

**T**he story of Lucy, man's famous upright-walking ancestor, may be almost as well known as the Creation story. Since her discovery in 1974, scientists have painted her as chimplike, one of the earliest creatures to evolve after humans' and chimpanzees' evolutionary split. So why does the latest picture of her species look suspiciously—heretically, even—like an orangutan? It's



**NO CHIMP HERE:** Lucy

the result of a 20-year campaign by anthropologist Jeffrey Schwartz, who argues that the Asian apes, not their African cousins, are the species from which humans evolved. Visitors to the Buffalo Museum of Science can now ponder a portrait of *Australopithecus afarensis* through Schwartz's eyes. She lacks the chimplike brow ridges most artists give her and sports features orangs share with humans (but not chimps), including widely separated breasts and longish hair. Schwartz's argument rests on the unorthodox proposition that years of DNA evidence linking humans and chimps is flawed. As such, it hasn't gotten much serious attention yet. "My data have been dismissed from existence," Schwartz says. "But there is something compelling here—to me, anyway." Renowned paleontologist Ian Tattersall has urged scientists to at least debate the idea. Museumgoers are doubtless already doing that.

—MARY CARMICHAEL

**UPRIGHT** – ADJECTIVE describes something which is taller than it is wide  
*Pokončen, navpičen*

**ANCESTOR** – NOUN a person, plant, animal or object that is related to one existing at a later point in time *Prednik*

**CREATURE** – NOUN *Bitje, stvar, človek*

1 any large or small living thing which can move independently

2 used to refer to a life form that is unusual, unknown or imaginary

**EVOLVE** – VERB to develop gradually, or to cause something or someone to develop gradually *Razvi(ja)ti (se), nastajati*

**CAMPAIGN** – NOUN a planned group of especially political, business or military activities which are intended to achieve a particular aim *Bojni pohod, vojskovanje, politična gonja*

**ARGUE** – VERB to speak angrily to someone, telling them that you disagree with them *Pričkati se*

**PONDER** – VERB to think carefully about something, especially for a noticeable length of time *Premišljati, razmišljati, pretehtati*

**LACK** – NOUN lack of *sth* the absence of something or when there is not enough of it *Pomanjkanje, stiska*

**RIDGE** – NOUN a long narrow raised part of a surface, especially a high edge along a mountain *Gorski greben, hrbet, sleme, sedlo*

**UNORTHODOXE** – ADJECTIVE different from what is usual or expected in behaviour, ideas, methods, etc *Nepravoveren, neortodoksen*

**FLAW** – NOUN a fault, mistake or weakness, especially one that happens while something is being planned or made, or which causes something not to be perfect *Napaka, hiba, pomanjkljivost*

**COMPEL** – VERB to force someone to do something *(pri)siliti; podrediti*

**RENOWN** – NOUN the state of being famous *Sloves, velik ugled, slava*

**SUSPICIOUS** – ADJECTIVE feeling lack of trust or doubt in someone or something *Sumljiv, sum zbujajoč*