

# Star Tribune

NEWSPAPER OF THE TWIN CITIES

www.startribune.com

A new Omnimax film, made by the Science Museum of Minnesota, takes viewers into the exotic world of chimps in the wild.



Provided by Michael Neugebauer/Science Museum of Minnesota  
Goodall provides most of the narration for the film, which covers four decades of studying the behavior of chimpanzees.

By Sharon Schmickle  
Star Tribune Staff Writer

Mike Day suddenly understood his creative challenge when he had an eyeball-to-eyeball encounter with a wild chimpanzee.

The executive producer from the Science Museum of Minnesota was scouting in Tanzania four years ago for a film about primatologist Jane Goodall's famous studies in Gombe National Park.

Day's crew passed a chimp with its back to the trail. Day, the last person in line, crouched to get a better look.

"He turned around and stared into my eyes," Day said. "There was no way I could look away."

Day was overwhelmed, he said, by the feeling "you are looking into the

eyes of a cousin whom you have not seen for 6 million years."

Thus was the challenge set. The film should tap that human-chimp connection while using the power of the giant screen to take viewers into the exotic world of chimps in the wild.

The result, "Jane Goodall's Wild Chimpanzees," succeeds on both levels, Goodall said in a recent interview.

"I never thought it could be done," she said. "The whole thing seemed like a nightmare to me, with the huge cameras and all of the equipment the filmmakers needed to carry. Now the whole thing seems very worthwhile."

**GOODALL continues on E10:**

— University of Minnesota has collection of Goodall's field notes.