Skull and shoulders of “Selam”—a 3.3-million-year-old female child Australopithecus afarensis from Dikika, Ethiopia. The upside-down view reveals her palate, vertebral column, and both shoulder blades (in this orientation, the scapula on the right measures 60 millimeters across). The scapulae were recently freed from their sandstone matrix and are described in the Report on page 514. The scapulae display several apelike characteristics, implying that A. afarensis was still a capable climber.

Image: Zeresenay Alemseged/Dikika Research Project
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