

Smart Stuff

with Twig Walkingstick



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AND DEVELOPMENT CENTER

For the week of
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Notes: Sources included the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, <http://www.ipcc.ch/>; a Jan. 25 Reuters story titled "Interview — UN Climate Report Will Shock the World — Chairman"; a Jan. 27 story in *The Guardian*, "UN's Vast Report Will End the Scientific Argument. Now Will the World Act?"; and a Jan. 28 Associated Press story titled "Some Experts Blast Latest Climate Report" (actually as being too sugarcoated). Got a question? Send it to Twig's right-hand lefthanded assistant, Kurt Knebusch, knebusch.1@osu.edu.

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Q. Dear Twig: What's causing global climate change? Some people say it's people. Some people say that's bunk.

A. I'm a bug. An insect. A northern walking stick. So I'll base what I say on the brains of humans who actually study the question. I'll base what I say on the work and the facts of 2,500 scientists: the men and women who pitched in to put out **a big new report on climate change.**

The report, due Feb. 2, says this: that, yes, global climate change is really going on. And that **the main cause "very likely" is people.** (In this case, "very likely" means the scientists are 90-99 percent sure.)

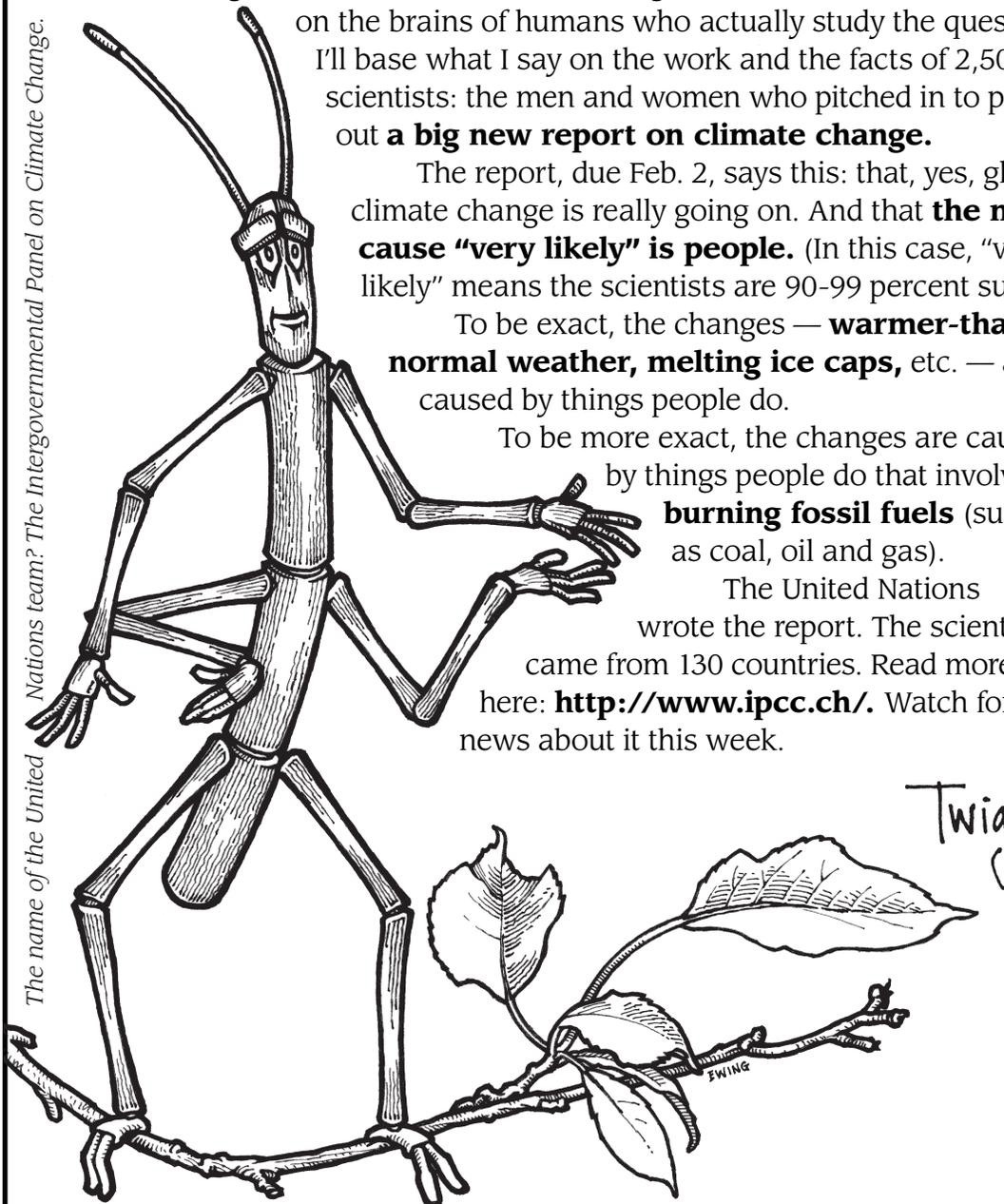
To be exact, the changes — **warmer-than-normal weather, melting ice caps,** etc. — are caused by things people do.

To be more exact, the changes are caused by things people do that involve **burning fossil fuels** (such as coal, oil and gas).

The United Nations wrote the report. The scientists came from 130 countries. Read more here: <http://www.ipcc.ch/>. Watch for news about it this week.

Nations team? The Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

The name of the United



From your scientific friends at The Ohio State University — specifically, the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (www.oardc.ohio-state.edu) and OSU Extension (extension.osu.edu).