

Wind Horse Alliance Times

Winter, 2003

A free quarterly newsletter

To subscribe, use the form on back page.

In this issue:

*Why war isn't the answer,
and why it's the wrong
question*

(by Bev, see page 2)

Why should we laugh?

(by Carl, see page 3)

*City, State, Nation,
Globe: does Gaia care
about Bloomington?*

(by Omar, see page 4)

Climate Update

(see page 5)

Biodiversity Update

(see page 5)

Diminishing Resources Update

(see page 6)

Confluentism Update

(see page 7)

Mike's Comic

(see back page)

James' Jokes

(see back page)

Upcoming Events:

Jan 7: WHA meeting/lecture,
Old Library basement
Topic TBA

Jan 14: Anti-War Rally,
Dunkirk Square

Feb 7: Eric Nolan Lecture:
Lester Brown, Wittenberg
Auditorium, IU

Feb 14: Valentine's Day (love
your Mother today)

Mar 7: WHA meeting/lecture,
Old Library basement
Topic TBA

Front Page Editorial:

"War on Terrorism" Distracts World from Real Threats to National Security

President Bush's appalling war-of-choice with Iraq, and his decision to focus so very much of the nation's and world's resources on "the war on terrorism," may go down in history as a fatal error of global consequence.

This is not a popular attitude to take, to say the least. We at the WHA have been pilloried as unpatriotic, attacked as traitors, or dismissed as "terrorist sympathizers." In truth, we have no sympathy for terrorists, and were as appalled as any by the attacks of September 11. Indeed, we lost loved ones in the attack. But we at the WHA take a longer view, and recognize that there are threats with much more serious consequences, which must be apprehended by the grass roots and by those in policy power.

Those threats are less obvious, and require not just imagination, but vision, to comprehend. They include the frightening prospect of global warming, and the likely impact on global biodiversity of our actions - not just via our warming of the planet, but also by our pollution, our ocean drift-nets, even our treatment of our global resources as endless supplies.

Even our fundamental economic systems are, shall we say, fundamentally flawed. The underlying presumption is that our economy can *continue to grow indefinitely*.

This must be analyzed for rationality. There are resources - for example, oil - that take millions of years of geological pressure to be produced, and cannot be regenerated in human-history terms. Yet we are building economies upon the presumption that we can grow forever, and that oil will continue to be available in perpetuity, in endless supplies.

Is this rational? We challenge you to name a sustainable example of continuous, indefinite growth in Nature. That describes cancer, or plagues of locusts, or algal blooms, not an ecosystem that is self-sustaining. Humans cannot control these realities, even if the