

the Waste Watchers

in

"The Mystery of the UNSMELLY BUS!"

WE FIND OUR HEROES IN THEIR SECRET HEADQUARTERS, CHECKING UP ON THEIR MANY EARTH-SAVING ACTIVITIES-

PIZZA-BOX RECYCLING IS ON THE RISE...

STINKY MILK JUGS ARE DOWN 13%!

LEAF COLLECTION IS FALLING, BUT COMPOST IS MULCH BETTER...

OW!

THIS IS AWFUL!

KICK!

WHAT'S WRONG?

WHILE WE'VE BEEN WORRYING ABOUT RECYCLABLES, ANOTHER RESOURCE IS GOING FAST - AND THERE'S NOTHING WE CAN DO ABOUT IT!!!

WELL? WHAT IS IT?

GASOLINE!

LATER:

ACCORDING TO THIS, THE WORLD WILL START RUNNING OUT OF OIL IN 40 YEARS! THAT MEANS NO MORE GASOLINE-POWERED CARS, NO AIRPLANE FUEL... NOT EVEN OIL-BASED PLASTICS!

WHAT?!

HOW OLD WILL WE BE IN 40 YEARS?

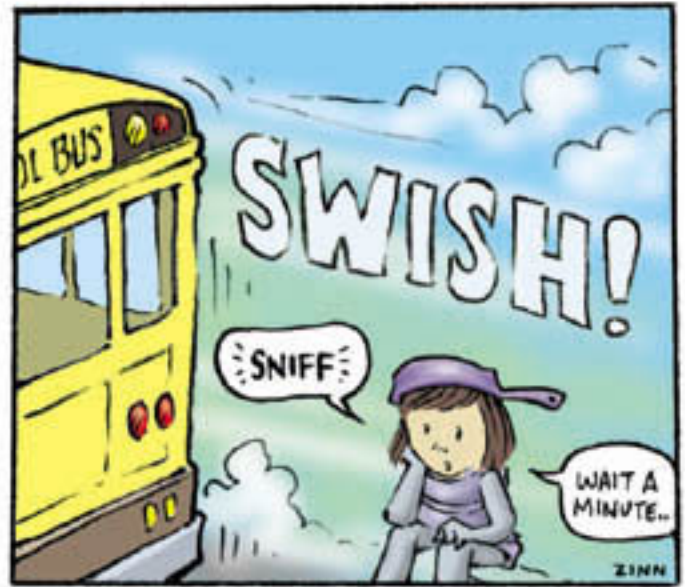
I DUNNO.... HOW OLD ARE WE NOW?

*Annual Energy Review 1999, published by the Energy Information Administration of the Dept. of Energy

AND SINCE OIL ISN'T RENEWABLE, ALL WE CAN DO IN THE MEANTIME IS SIT AND SMELL THE EXHAUST.

COUGH

YEAH, COUGH!



THAT BUS DOESN'T STINK!
THAT BUS DOESN'T STINK
AT ALL!

WASTEWATCHERS!
FOLLOW THAT BUS!!

UNFORTUNATELY, SUPERHERO COSTUMES ARE NO MATCH FOR HEAVY TRAFFIC, AND SO OUR HEROES CONSULT THEIR EARTH-SAVING MENTOR, DR. RECYCLE, INSTEAD.

UNFORTUNATELY, AS MY NAME SUGGESTS, THIS SORT OF MYSTERY IS OUTSIDE MY AREA OF EXPERTISE. BUT I DO HAVE A FRIEND WHO MIGHT BE ABLE TO HELP YOU...

...LET'S ASK
DR. FUEL!

DOCTOR FOOL?
THAT'S NOT VERY
ENCOURAGING...

THAT'S F-U-E-L, HUMUSHEAD!
AND WE'RE TALKING ABOUT
ALTERNATIVE FUEL HERE,
NOT YOUR NAMBY-PAMBY
PETROLEUM PRODUCTS!

COME WITH
ME, AND I
WILL EXPLAIN.

EEP!

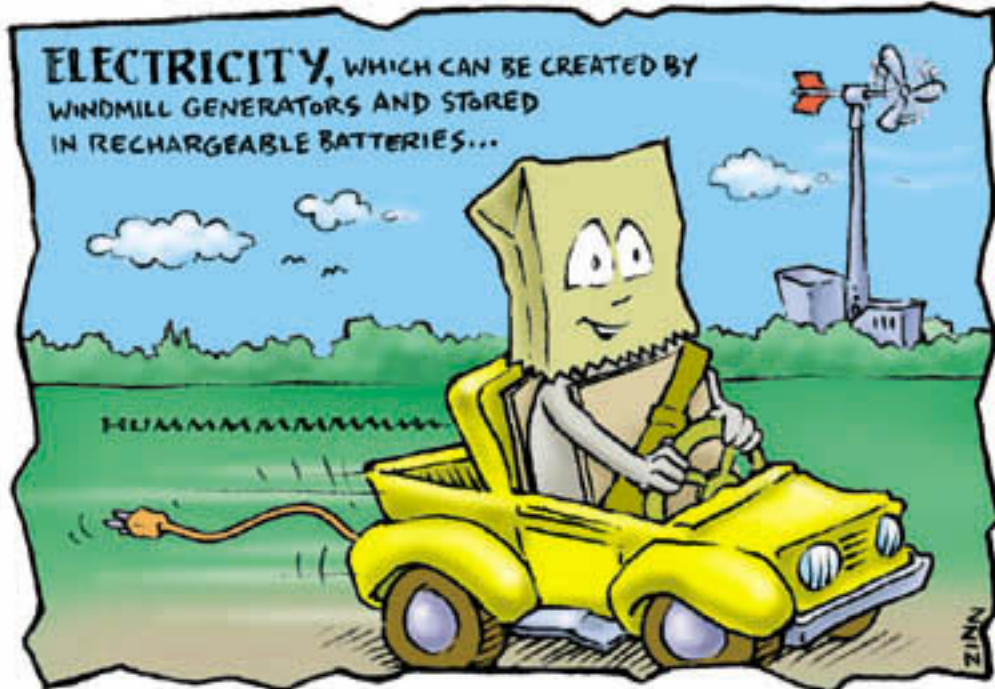
HERE'S YOUR "MYSTERY BUS." IT'S FUELED BY NATURAL GAS,
WHICH BURNS MUCH CLEANER THAN GASOLINE... HENCE THE
STINK-FREE EXHAUST.

AND EVEN THOUGH NATURAL GAS IS ALREADY USED
IN LOTS OF STOVES AND HEATERS, THERE'S ENOUGH
UNDER OUR FEET TO LAST ALMOST 80 YEARS!

BUT DOESN'T THAT MEAN THAT WE'LL BE IN
TROUBLE ALL OVER AGAIN IN 80 YEARS?

WELL, YES! THAT'S WHY WE'RE
WORKING ON ENERGY SOURCES
THAT ARE RENEWABLE, SUCH AS...

ELECTRICITY, WHICH CAN BE CREATED BY
WINDMILL GENERATORS AND STORED
IN RECHARGEABLE BATTERIES...



ETHANOL, AN ALCOHOL FUEL MADE FROM CORN, SUGAR BEETS, OR EVEN AGRICULTURAL WASTE...



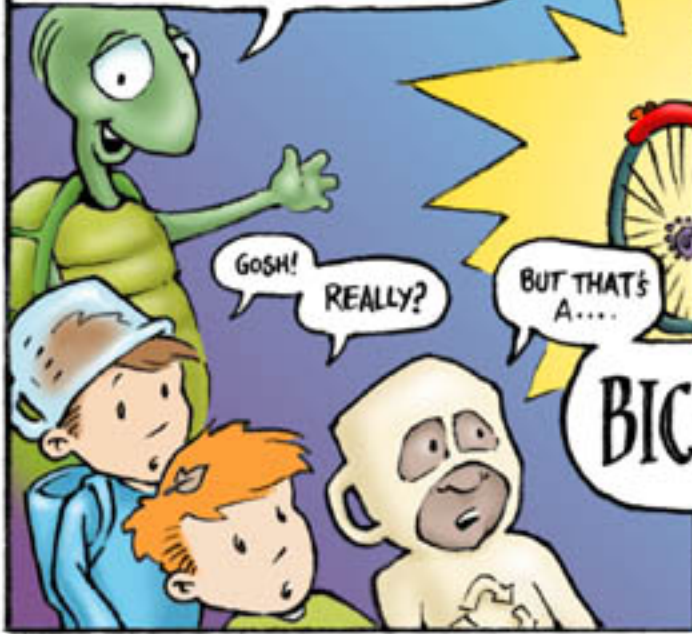
CORN POWER!

SOLAR HYDROGEN, MADE BY SPLITTING WATER MOLECULES WITH SUNLIGHT...



COOL!

AND OF COURSE, THERE'S ALWAYS THIS FANTASTIC VEHICLE THAT REQUIRES NO OUTSIDE FUEL SOURCE AT ALL!



GOSH! REALLY?

BUT THAT'S A...

BICYCLE!

OF COURSE! THIS VEHICLE NEEDS NO ENERGY SOURCE OTHER THAN YOUR OWN FEET!



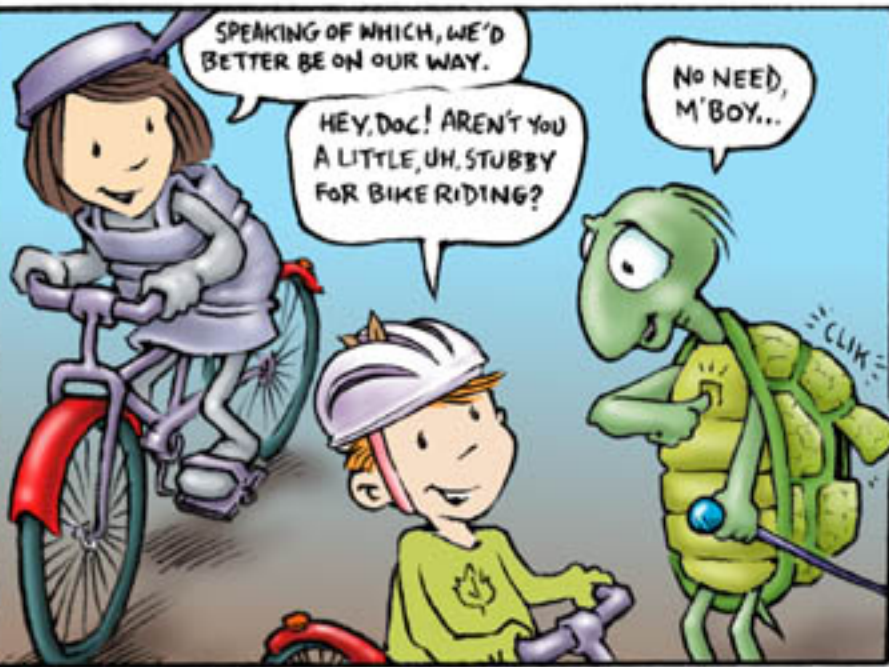
AFTER ALL, WE USED TO TRAVEL BY FOOT BEFORE GASOLINE WAS DISCOVERED...

...AND IF WE DON'T START WORKING ON ALTERNATIVE FUELS, WE'LL BE BACK ON FOOT AGAIN!

SPEAKING OF WHICH, WE'D BETTER BE ON OUR WAY.

HEY, DOC! AREN'T YOU A LITTLE, UH, STUBBY FOR BIKE RIDING?

NO NEED, M'BOY...



SOLAR-POWERED PROPELLOR!

WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP WHUP

DID YOU THINK THESE PANELS WERE JUST FOR SHOW?

