

# 'It's not looking good, folks'

There's not much hope for peace on earth, say U of L profs

By **CAROLINE BOSCHMAN**

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With 60,000 American troops in the Middle East many consider an invasion on Iraq a foregone conclusion.

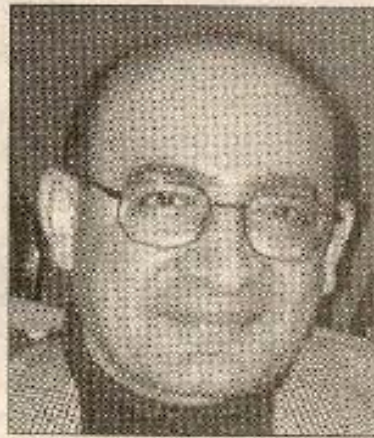
So much for the seasonal sentiment for peace on Earth.

Humans might as well wish for peace on Pluto because we don't have a good record of achieving any sort of lasting peace here on Earth.

No generation has been immune from war, said Paul Viminiz, an assistant professor of philosophy at the University of Lethbridge, at Thursday's Southern Alberta Council on Public Affairs.

Co-speaker Abdie Kazemipur, an assistant professor of sociology at the U of L, also doesn't see much hope for peace in the world.

Kazemipur said the United States seems to need the war on Iraq and will proceed whether Iraq complies



**Abdie Kazemipur**

with United Nations resolutions or not.

"The war on terrorism that the U.S. started a year ago has failed and because of that they have to create some kind of success story," Kazemipur said.

The war on terrorism differed from a conventional war in that conventional wars have a specific geographical location.

Those people heavily involved in the war are not professional military personnel as they are in a conventional war. Instead, they are selfless combatants.

"The war on terrorism has



**Paul Viminiz**

challenged conventional policies in how we deal with wars," Kazemipur said.

Why do humans wage wars?

"Human beings fight wars for the fruits of war," said Viminiz.

In the logic of war, sides will risk their champions rather than everyone and people without a champion take other tacks.

"People who cannot mount a champion with a reasonable chance of success have no choice but to revert to passive resistance or terrorism," he said.

When asked about the effects of an Iraqi war on the Middle East, Kazemipur said it would likely inflame the situation.

"Iraq is not one of the prime suppliers to the Palestinian cause but Abdie is right. This is going to inflame the Muslim world," Viminiz said.

Israeli defence will be bolstered and it will drive the program to build the separation wall.

"It's not looking good, folks."