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United States. This results in fewer fish, fowl and shrimp, she said.

According to Thomas, there is a lack of education and awareness of the dangers of pesticides in Central America. Many of the peasants live alongside the fields they work in and are consequently dusted by planes spraying for pests.

In many cases, workers have no masks or gloves for protection. Thomas said during the 1970s, 300 to 500 people died in Guatemala each year from causes directly related to pesticide use.

In educating the peasants of its dangers, Thomas found complaining about the effects of pesticide contamination was not "macho."

"If I was in a room with more than one man, neither would say he was suffering from the pesticides," she said. "But if he was the only man in the room, he would admit to headaches."

Peasant children are the innocent victims of a

lack of information, Thomas said.

"I've seen little kids sucking on the cotton flower because it's sweet, and you know it's been sprayed," Thomas said.

Thomas said she has seen some positive changes taking place since her earlier visits to Central America, most notably in Nicaragua.

Before the revolution in 1979, there was not much talk about environmental issues, Thomas said. After the revolution, the Sandinista government has recognized the need to implement land reforms, she said.

Among them: a program to limit pesticide use; crop diversification; reforestation; better communication between environmental groups and the government; new laws for the protection of the workers and planting a wind break of eucalyptus and leucaena trees on the southern coast to prevent soil erosion.

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sage to take home with you today," Miller said. "Message number one might be, 'Stay in touch with your state legislature — keep very close to them, because that's the first place where the action moves (if the high court approves the statute).'"

In that case, each state would probably enact individual legislation on abortion, Miller said.

"Some states would make abortion a crime, and would make women who get abortions criminals, and make doctors and others who provide them criminals. Some states would just make it difficult to get an abortion.

If abortion were made illegal, Miller predicted that coat hangers would become the instrument women would be forced to use. Miller held a broken hanger aloft and led the crowd in chanting, "Never again!"

Also present was area physician Peter Cary, who advocated easier access to medication for women who opt for abortions, and Jill Heiman of the American Civil Liberties Union, a co-sponsor of the event.

Other sponsors included the Oregon chapter of NOW (National Organization For Women), the Democratic Party of Lane County, and the University Student Against Apartheid.



Rep. Peter DeFazio was an unexpected speaker at the pro-choice rally Sunday.



Photo by Mia Bertelsen

County Commissioner Jerry Rust and Rep. Bill Dwyer charged the University with contributing to Eugene's homelessness problem at a panel discussion on Saturday.

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"We've got a one percent vacancy rate and ... these trends are going to continue to escalate until we can see something in the neighborhood of about 1,000 more units built in the next year or two."

However, Sen. Larry Hill (D-Springfield) said the state also should help solve the housing problems faced by university towns in Oregon.

"We need to be more aggressive in providing student housing, which is possible through bonding provisions in the Oregon Constitution," he said. "The U of O is a perfect example of that need."

In addition, Hill said more emergency housing needs to be provided for battered women and the mentally ill. "These are special needs which are often short term that we also need to look at and seek state funding and federal funding for," he said.

Peter Marin, co-founder of the Santa Barbara, Calif. Homelessness Coalition and

who also was a member of the panel, said the government administrators placed too much emphasis on housing as a solution to homelessness.

"Affordable housing does not equal a solution to homelessness ... and talking about affordable housing is a way of avoiding talking about homelessness," he said, adding that the most important issues for homeless people are the city ordinances which prohibit camping and sleeping outdoors within the city limits.

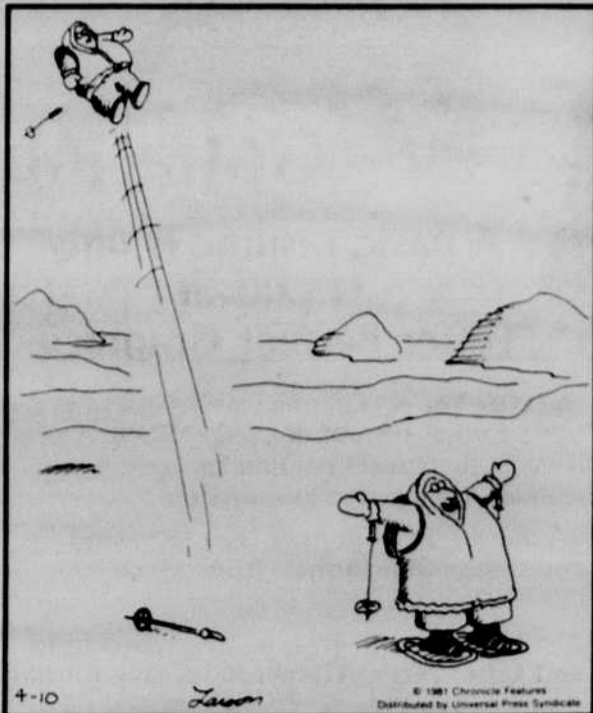
"Almost every human activity which is allowed in a person's house is denied to those who don't have homes," Marin said. "To deny such people shelter ... and to deny them to shelter themselves is a slow form of murder."

"The city is not going to look as good as we think it should look when they (the ordinances) are lifted," he added. "But we have to make a place for these people to exist."

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### THE FAR SIDE

By GARY LARSON



"We're here, Eric! Antarctica! ... Bottom of the world!"



## University of Oregon Computing Center Spring Term Information & Training Sessions

Session	Date	Time	Length	Room	Instructor
<b>VAX &amp; Micro Communications:</b>					
NEWS & Listserv	4/17	3:30	90 min.	245 CC	Richard Haller
File & Document Transfer	5/2	3:30	90 min.	245 CC	Richard Haller
<b>VAX/VMS Sessions:</b>					
Introduction to VMS	4/11	1:30	90 min.	165 CC	Andrew Doremus
Introduction to EVE	4/18	1:30	90 min.	165 CC	Andrew Doremus
Survey of VAX Editors	4/25	3:30	60 min.	245 CC	Andrew Doremus
VAX Tape Handling	5/1	1:30	90 min.	245 CC	Joe St Sauver
EVE for EDT Users	5/8	1:30	90 min.	245 CC	Andrew Doremus
<b>Scientific Computing Series:</b>					
Data Presentation & Display	5/25	3:30	90 min.	245 CC	Patrick Holleran
<b>Microcomputer Classes:</b>					
Macintosh Viruses	4/19	4:00	60 min.	245 CC	Hervey Allen
Macintosh Orientation	4/12	2:30	120 min.	185 CC	Janet Brown
Macintosh Orientation	4/26	2:30	120 min.	185 CC	Janet Brown
Macintosh Orientation	5/10	2:30	120 min.	185 CC	Janet Brown
Macintosh Orientation	5/24	2:30	120 min.	185 CC	Janet Brown
<b>Vendor Forum:</b>					
Apple New CPU's, Scanner, OCR	4/20	1:30 P.M.	90 mins.	245 CC	Pam Meyer
NeXT The Cube	4/19	1:00 P.M.	90 mins.	245 CC	Peter Schofield
Microsoft Word for the Mac	5/4	3:30 P.M.	90 mins.	245 CC	Steve Walti

All Computing Center sessions are free. Pre-registration is required for all courses and is available by calling 686-4394. Fuller descriptions of sessions are available from the Consulting Office at the Computing Center (207 CC, x4402).