Speaker urges voter registration

By Stephanie Sisson Oregon Daily Emerald

More people in El Salvador need to be registered voters before the March 1994 elections, and Eugene citizens can help put pressure on El Salvador's government to register voters, said a representative from an El Salvadoran women's group Saturday.

Maria Isabella Morales, organizing director for Melida Anaya Montes, spoke to 60 members of the Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People about the importance of the upcoming El Salvadoran elections.

"The elections depend on all undocumented persons being registered to vote," Morales said with the help of a translator. "We're demanding that the Supreme Council carry out an extraordinary campaign to register all to vote."

Morales explained that the March 1994 elections are the first to occur in El Salvador since peace accords were signed in 1992. In these elections, a new president, a new national assembly and new municipal governments will be determined.

However, because so many El Salvadorans are not registered voters, including 60% of the female population, Morales said the right-wing presidential candidate has a good chance of winning. Morales said that if this candidate wins, he has said he will not honor the peace accord because "he didn't sign it."

"The government is placing as many obstacles as possible in the way of registering voters," Morales said. "They know most



Erin Weeks, freshman at South Eugene High School, helps paint for the low income housing last Saturday at the CISCAP work-a-Thon.

people would vote for the left."

The Farabundo Marti National Liberation front has fought the present Salvadoran government for 12 years to win the right to change El Salvador's social system without violence. Now, along with MAM, the popular opposition plans to use the elections to advance a revolutionary platform.

"We will continue to struggle, centimeter by centimeter, until we win fulfillment of the peace accords," Morales said.

Morales' speech was the kickoff for a CISCAP all-day work-athon. Teams of volunteers washed windows, painted and made repairs at Eugene Emergency Housing's Uhlhorn Apartments and the Royal Avenue Shelter. Another team worked on the Food for Lane County's Grassroots Garden Project.

Volunteers raised sponsor pledges for the number of hours worked. The money CISCAP raises goes toward educating the community, special projects, grass-roots opposition to U.S. military intervention and generating pressure for a "more just" U.S. policy toward Central America.

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by Wed. 27th. Talk to your Dorm
Pres. for more info! Winners announced at the Pep Rally on the 29th.

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NIX

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5:00 - 8:00

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