

Speaker: U.S. policies hurt Central America

Natasha Shepard
Oregon Daily Emerald

Many of Central America's problems have their roots in U.S. policy, an activist for progressive social change in Central America said at a presentation in the EMU Wednesday evening.

Roy Holman, who is the founder and director of a non-profit language school in Guatemala and has lived in Quetzaltenango, Guatemala, for the last three years, said that foreign aid is, by and large, a failure.

Holman included the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and U.S.A.I.D. as institutions whose lending and development policies are actually detrimental to the progress of Central American countries.

"The evidence is overwhelming that these institutions and policies are not working," he said.

The policies of these groups, along with increasing pressure and debt, have forced many Central American countries to cut social spending, "supposedly for debt payments," Holman said.

In a slide presentation, Holman illustrated the problems and challenges facing

Guatemala in particular, after 35 years of oppression, violence and political, social and economic instability.

Many of these problems, Holman said, are the result of U.S. foreign policy that is, "influenced, if not controlled, by corporate power in the U.S."

Guatemala has been faced with a lack of social spending, disparity of wealth and outright poverty, Holman said.

"In Guatemala, two percent controls 65 percent of the land," he said. "Guatemala has been a socioeconomic basket case for the last 35 years. There is an 80 to 85 percent poverty rate."

Poverty rates have climbed, he said, and crime rates have soared. Conditions in Guatemala also include almost innumerable human rights abuses and environmental degradation, he said.

"Guatemala, which means land of trees, will be completely deforested in 20 years if current rates continue," Holman said.

According to Holman, the Guatemalan Human Rights Commission's Report for 1992 lists 478 political assassinations and 103 tortures in Guatemala, the majority attributed to security forces.

The answers to some of these problems lie in changing foreign policy, Holman said.

"Some of us consider the roots of these problems to be outside [Guatemala]," Holman said. "What if the U.S. used its leverage to encourage land redistribution, or to restructure foreign debts that continuously fall on the shoulders of the poor? What if aid were distributed through non-governmental agencies that included small farmers and indigenous communities trying to maintain their customs and culture?"

Aside from coordinating the language school in Guatemala, Holman also works with international observer groups in Central America that help shield "at-risk" Guatemalan refugees and other citizens. "At-risk," according to Holman, means those that are in danger of various forms of oppression, including violence.

Holman's visit to the University was sponsored by the Survival Center, an umbrella organization for social and environmental activism groups on campus, and the Committee in Solidarity with the Central American People (CISCAP). CISCAP is a local grass-roots organization that works to educate, fund raise and build support for popular issues in Central America.

RALLY

Continued from Page 1

The organizers of the noon to 2 p.m. rally encouraged students to skip their classes. They made available an excuse slip for students to take to their professors, signed by "Newt and the good ol' boys," which would explain their absence from class.

Students could sign special copies of the "Contract With America" which labeled the document as a war against students, laborers, minorities, women, children, the environment and the poor. The copies will be sent to Congress.

At the end of the rally, supporters burned copies of the contract.

"Burn it, before it burns you," Brady said as he encouraged the crowd to participate.

First-Year Students
Get to Know Us —
Your Before you Need Us.
Student Health Center
x4441

JOHN HENRY'S
BEER • MUSIC • ARTS

LIVE ENTERTAINMENT NIGHTLY

FREE POOL
Every day until 9 p.m.
Sunday & Monday all day
Pinball &
FREE Foosball

Smokers Welcome

See our concert schedule in Friday's Entertainment section

342 - 3358
136 E. 11th • Eugene, OR.

SUPER SALE

March 31 Fri. 12-8
April 1 Sat. 10-6
April 2 Sun. 11-5

Everything is on SALE!

Bikes up to 10% off
Yakima Car Racks 15% off
Accessories up to 80% off
Clothing up to 50% off

helmets, shoes, locks, computers, tires, tubes, gloves...
EVERYTHING ON SALE FOR 3 DAYS ONLY!

Free water bottle with this ad

Collins
TREK®
BURLEY
SPECIALIZED

60. E. 11th Ave.
between Oak and
Willamette

CYCLE SHOP

SPRING IS an EXPLOSION OF ACTIVITY!

LEAGUES	DIV	MIN# PLAYERS	ENTRY DEADLINE	START DATE	FEE
+Softball	M-W-C	10	**Instant Lottery Scheduling	April 7	\$35
+Tennis	M-W-C	1-2	April 6	April 10	\$5/person
+Soccer	M-W-C	9	**Instant Lottery Scheduling	April 18	\$40
Ultimate Frisbee	M-W-C	7	April 20	April 24	\$30
Grass Volleyball	C	6	April 24	April 26	\$30
ONE DAY EVENTS					
Soccer Scramble	M-W	9	April 4	April 5	NC
Track Meet	M-W	4	April 26	April 28, 4-7pm	\$15/team
Golf Tournament	M-W-C	2	May 15	May 21	\$20/person
TWO/THREE DAY EVENTS					
EVIAN "Serve" Volleyball Festival	M-W-C	4	May 4	May 5,6	NC
Spring Tennis Classic	M-W-C	1-2	May 16	May 19, 20, 21	I

* M=Men, W=Women, C=Coed
+ Intramural sport - under IM regulations (See Handbook)

**INSTANT LOTTERY SCHEDULING
SOFTBALL: Tuesday, April 4, 102 Esslinger, time TBA
SOCCER: Wednesday, April 12, 102 Esslinger, time TBA

I Cost for activity - check RIM office for exact amount.

TEAM CAPTAIN/MANAGER OR TEAM REPRESENTATIVE MUST ATTEND MANDATORY PRE-SEASON MEETING TO GET AN ASSIGNED REGISTRATION TIME

Mandatory Pre-Season Meetings:

Sport	Day	Date	Time	Location
Softball	Monday	April 3	4:00 p.m.	Fir Room - EMU
Tennis	Thursday	April 6	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU
Soccer	Tuesday	April 11	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU
Ultimate Frisbee	Thursday	April 20	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU
Grass Volleyball	Monday	April 24	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU

Mandatory Playoff Meetings:

Sport	Day	Date	Time	Location
Softball	Wednesday	May 3	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU
Tennis	Monday	May 8	4:00 p.m.	Walnut Room - EMU
Soccer	Tuesday	May 9	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU
Grass Volleyball	Monday	May 15	4:30 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU
Ultimate Frisbee	Monday	May 15	4:00 p.m.	Cedar AB - EMU

Earn Money!

RIM

Now accepting applications for RIM Softball-Soccer officials. Apply at 102 Esslinger or call 6-4113.

102 Esslinger
Phone # 6-4113