

Problem: Homelessness won't just end

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they were trying to make students aware of the various issues dealing with homelessness.

"I think people know it's a problem, and having events like Hunger and Homelessness Week help to bring it to people," said Kelly Alsup, a volunteer who was planning on participating in the sleep out. "It's so easy for us to forget that other people don't have a home."

Participants said they knew they would be dealing with the weather conditions, no matter how bad they might become.

"I hope I get aggravated of just

one night of sleeping out in the rain," said Miller. "There are other people going through this and we need to support them."

The affordability of housing was another issue emphasized at the sleep out.

Many students receive support from their families in funding their education, but if these students were left on their own and had to come up with their own funding, many would probably be living below the poverty line, Miller said.

The sleep out was also organized to remind people that the

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— Kelly Alsup
sleep out volunteer

problem isn't going to go away, organizers said.

"It's important for people to realize that homeless people are homeless no matter what," Paluck said.

Rally: Boycott of company was called in March

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The ASUO Jewish Student Union also supports the boycott, said Micah Citrin, director of the JSU.

Citrin said the situation of today's farm workers was similar to the situation of Jewish people in sweatshops 50 years ago.

"It is inappropriate and we will not stand for it," he said.

A boycott against NORPAC Foods Inc. products began in 1992 after growers refused to negotiate for improvements such as paid breaks and toilet facilities in the fields.

"We are talking about the struggle of farm workers for the right just to talk to the growers," said Jim Garcia, assistant director of Multicultural Affairs. "The

growers aren't even willing just to talk."

The boycott against Wholesome and Hearty food products was called in March 1996 when the company refused to sever its ties to NORPAC Foods, Inc.

Although Wholesome and Hearty Foods is not employing farm workers, they are subsidizing NORPAC and its growers.

"The problem is that the vegetables are coming from farms that are against farm workers," said Emilio Hernandez, director of the University's high school equivalency program. "Unfortunately, the Garden Burger company is caught in the middle. We hope they make the right ethical decision. The fact is if they are not part of the solution, then they are a part of the problem."



November 21, 1996



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November 21, 1996

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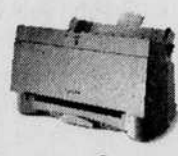
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