

Student to aid Nicaragua plight

By LAURA ANDERSON

When UNC-CH graduate student Nancy Picado telephoned her sister in Managua, Nicaragua, last Sunday, she realized it was time to help the refugees caught in the civil war going on there.

The Carolina Committee on Nicaragua, which Picado helped form several months ago to educate the Chapel Hill community on the plight of Nicaragua, decided to temporarily abandon its educational goals and instead try to raise funds to send food and medical supplies to Managua, Picado said.

The group is raising and channeling funds through the International Red Cross and a group called the Humanitarian Aid for

Nicaraguan Democracy, which is based in Washington, D.C.

Picado's sister, Janet, a Red Cross volunteer in Managua, described the health crisis in the city during last Sunday's phone call.

"There is no electricity and no running water," Picado said. "Janet told us not to send food that had to be cooked, and we can't even send powdered milk for the babies because there's no water. The streets smell terrible. Dead bodies are decomposing."

"My sister has pointed out that even after the fighting actually ends, there will still be a need for relief. Apart from politics, apart from fighting, they'll need food and help."

The committee plans to start a street campaign in Chapel Hill and will operate a booth at the People's Fair Saturday, Picado said.

Picado said anyone who wishes to send aid or get more information should contact the Carolina Committee on Nicaragua at 307 Hillsborough St., Chapel Hill, or should write to H.A.N.D. at 1322 18th St. NW, Washington, D.C. 20036.



Wendy O'Flaherty

Indian mythology professor to visit

Visiting professor Wendy O'Flaherty is looking forward to the change of pace when she comes to Chapel Hill from Chicago in July.

"This is my first time to live in the city and I have missed country living," said the professor of Indian studies. O'Flaherty has lived and taught most recently at Oxford, England, and at three schools in Berkeley, California.

She is highly respected and considered an expert in her field. "I work in Indian mythology and symbolism," she said.

When she comes to the UNC department of religion for the second summer session, O'Flaherty will lecture from her latest book on women and goddesses in Hindu mythology.



"I rode the bus on the first day of service in Chapel Hill. Now, four years and four bus passes later, I think it's better than ever.

"What I like most is the convenience. I used to walk everywhere. Sometimes I took a cab. But now, just about everywhere I go has a bus stop nearby. And with a pass, I don't have to carry change around.

"The bus made it possible for me to move out to where I live now, and I can get almost anywhere in town in just a few minutes.

"The bus is a great social place, too. I've made lots of new friends since I started riding the bus. It's great because the bus really keeps the village atmosphere alive.

"The same thing goes for the drivers. Every one is courteous and they know me personally. Sometimes, if I'm late, they'll even wait for me.

"I think the bus system is one of the best things that's ever happened to Chapel Hill."

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