as WordPerfect and StarOffice (which are compatible, more or less, with Microsoft word processors). Ask your system staff what's available or can be installed.

## The Pico Text Editor

The Pico editor, from the University of Washington, is easy to use. If you send email with Pine, you already know how to use Pico; it's Pine's message editor. Like Pine, Pico is still evolving; if you use an older version than we did here (Version 3.7), yours may have some different features.

Start Pico by typing its name; the argument is the filename you want to create or edit. If you're editing a Unix shell setup file or shell script, you'll also want the -w option; it tells Pico not to break ("wrap") lines at the right margin, but only when you press the RETURN key. If a line is longer than the right margin, like the line starting with PATH= in Figure 4-1, pico -w marks the right end with a dollar sign (\$). When you move the cursor over the dollar sign, the next 80 characters of that one line are displayed. For instance, to edit my <code>.profile</code> setup file, I cd to my home directory and enter:

## \$ pico -w .profile

My terminal fills with a copy of the file (and, because the file is short, some blank lines too), as shown in Figure 4-1.

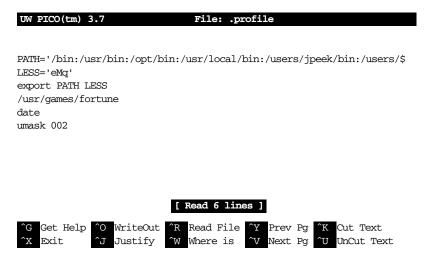


Figure 4-1. Pico display while editing