

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 `.profile` 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.

```
UW PICO(tm) 3.7                               File: .profile

PATH='/bin:/usr/bin:/opt/bin:/usr/local/bin:/users/jpeek/bin:/users/$
LESS='eMq'
export PATH LESS
/usr/games/fortune
date
umask 002
```

```
[ Read 6 lines ]
```

```
^G Get Help  ^O WriteOut  ^R Read File  ^Y Prev Pg  ^K Cut Text
^X Exit      ^J Justify   ^W Where is   ^V Next Pg  ^U UnCut Text
```

Figure 4-1. Pico display while editing