



ANTHONY FORNEY/Emerald

Nikolina Korecic (left), a freshman in voice performance, and Renata Filipovic, a sophomore in interior architecture, are students from the former Yugoslavia who are at the University.

Students fear for families in war

□ Former Yugoslavian students share some of their experiences

By Marius Meland
Oregon Daily Emerald

Renata Filipovic had planned to go home to Sarajevo after a stay as an exchange student in Klickitat in southeastern Washington last year.

But by the time of her departure, the country she had left one year earlier didn't exist anymore. And the airline that was going to take her home didn't fly anymore. War had broken out in Bosnia, and Renata found herself stuck in the United States.

Renata read everything she came across about the war in Bosnia. She heard about bombings, sniper attacks and atrocities in Sarajevo. But after a telephone call in July 1992, she lost contact with her family.

"It was dreadful," she said. "I was here in the United States, safe and secure, while my family was living in the middle of a war zone in Sarajevo. And worst of all, I was watching these terrible television images from Sarajevo, and I didn't know anything about the state of my family."

Renata, a sophomore majoring in interior architecture, is one of two students from the former Yugoslavia at the University. Nikolina Korecic, who entered the University this year as a freshman majoring in voice performance, came to Oregon from Zagreb, Croatia, last year.

They both finance their studies through scholarships and gifts from private sponsors such as the Rotary and Lions clubs.

"I think the worst stage of the war was over when I left for the United States," Nikolina said. "I met a girl from Oregon during a European music festival in Prague in the Czech Republic. We wrote to each other for some time, and when the war broke out she invited me to come to the United States to live with her family."

"I didn't know anything about her hometown of Waldport on the Oregon Coast, but I knew I didn't want to stay in Croatia. So I packed my suitcases and flew to America, hoping to pursue studies in opera."

When the war broke out in Bosnia, Renata wanted to go home.

"I felt so bad, all I could think of was going home," she said. "In retrospect, I realize how naive I was. I didn't know anything about what a war is like, how awful it is for everyone who lives in the war zone. I just wanted to go home and be with my family and friends."

But the country was sealed, and Renata could not go home even if she wanted to. After obtaining a student visa, she went to The Dalles to study at Columbia Gorge Community College.

"I wasn't happy there," she said. "It was such a small town, and I was thinking about the war all the time."

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Investigation will probe allegations

□ Association director breaks election rule

By Marius Meland
Oregon Daily Emerald

The ASUO has launched an investigation to probe allegations that the director of the International Student Association was not registered as a student when he ran for office before the summer.

The investigation will also look into a number of informal complaints about the director's alleged autocratic leadership style.

In a case similar to the one involving ASUO Vice President Diana Collins Puente last year, Chia Wei

Shing from Singapore has acknowledged failure to register as a student when he was co-director of the ISA. As co-director, he received a stipend from the ASUO of \$75 a month.

Shing successfully ran for the office of the ISA director during the term when he was not registered. He took over as ISA director this summer.

In an interview with the *Emerald*, Shing confirmed that he was not registered.

"One of the reasons why I didn't register was that I devoted so much of my time for the ISA that I didn't have time for studies," Shing said.

Shing said he did not tell anyone about his status. Not even the director of the ISA was informed.

"It never struck me that it mattered," Shing said. "I didn't think it was against the rules."

May-Ling Loo, ASUO international affairs coordinator, contacted Shing about the allegations last Friday. On Monday they had a meeting in which ASUO Program Coordinator Mohamed Fahnbulleh participated. Shing conceded that he was not a student at the University last spring and agreed to pay back his stipend.

ASUO President Eric Bowen was informed about the investigation.

"For now, we just note that the ISA director has agreed to pay back his stipend," Bowen said. "We're waiting to learn the outcome of the investigation."

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Fun with Slinky



SOL NEELMAN/for the Emerald

Tiffini Mueller, a junior in journalism and theater arts, works on a project for her TV production class that will show the progression of a Slinky as it moves down a ladder.

Committee challenges sales tax measure

□ PAC official says tax will hurt the poor

By Edward Klopfenstein
Oregon Daily Emerald

Supporting public schools is important, but not by passing state Ballot Measure 1, an official of one anti-tax organization said Thursday.

"I hope it gets squashed," said Frank Cardoza, co-coordinator for the Stop Oregon's Sales Tax political action committee. "Measure 1 was constitutionally void from the beginning. It should never have been allowed on the ballot."

The SOS Tax political action committee, Cardoza said, is a small grass-roots organization fighting efforts by the rich to dump their responsibilities for financing education on the poor. Cardoza is a small-businessman in Eugene and a one-time student at the University.

Marion County Circuit Judge Albin Norblad ruled Oct. 12 that the ballot measure was unconstitutional because it contained more than one amendment. He called for the different provisions to be divided up on the ballot and voted on separately.

The state attorney general's office quickly responded by appealing the decision to the higher court.

Robert Nosse, executive director of the Oregon Student Lobby in Salem, said he was positive that the election would be allowed to go ahead as scheduled. But he admitted that the measure's legal problems didn't help the tax's image with voters.

"Don't publish this (story) if you want it to pass," Nosse said. "At large, there is apathy. But if students understand the measure, they will vote for it."

Even if the election is held, Cardoza said he is confident the measure would be struck down later by the high court.

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