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# 'Coffee Talk' for non-natives

■ The session is part of a series that should get more regular with the coming year

By Edward Yuen  
*Oregon Daily Emerald*

The International Students Association and the YWCA are co-sponsoring Coffee Talk — a workshop for students from different cultures to interact with each other. The theme of the first session will focus on intercultural relationships.

The idea of the workshop was initiated by Cathy Kozlowizz, a volunteer from the YWCA.

Kozlowizz said when she was a tutor at the University of Wisconsin at Stevens Point, some international students at Wisconsin visited tutors to practice their oral

skills. She said she organized oral practices with other tutors there, and the result was satisfying.

Kozlowizz said she understands the importance for non-native students to have a chance to talk to other native English speakers. When Kozlowizz came to the



University, she contacted the ISA and suggested to organize a similar workshop.

Ilona Widjojo, program coordinator of the ISA, said the workshop

provides a safe environment for students to learn about different cultures.

Haya Matsumoto, ISA co-director, agreed that the workshop is a

## Coffee Talk workshop

What: A multicultural communication workshop

Where: YWCA, 841 E. 18th Ave.

When: 6:30 p.m.

For more information, contact the YWCA at 346-4439.

chance for students to learn more about different cultures in a friendly and relaxed environment.

Kozlowizz encourages both local and international students, especially those who are new to the University, to go to the workshop.

Widjojo said the workshop tonight will be the only one for this term. The ISA and the YWCA will hold other sessions more regularly starting in January 2000.

# Judge denies request to move trial

By C. Bryson Hull  
*The Associated Press*

JASPER, Texas — The defendant's credibility will be the issue when jurors decide whether a third white man should join two ex-roommates on death row for dragging a black man to his death, prosecutors said today.

Shawn Allen Berry's defense attorney told jurors Berry was afraid for his own life and decided not to stop the beating that culminated with the June 7, 1998, death of James Byrd Jr.

"We all feel there is a moral responsibility to stop it, but there is no legal responsibility," said Joseph C. "Lum" Hawthorn, Berry's lawyer. "Shawn felt like, well, he was scared. That does not make him guilty."

Attorneys made their opening remarks and testimony began today after Judge Joe Bob Golden denied a defense motion to move the trial because of extensive media coverage. Golden said he believed the request was an attempt to delay the trial.

Berry, 24, could receive the death penalty for his alleged role in Byrd's death.

Lawyers on both sides noted today that Berry was not adorned with racist tattoos and did not write racist letters like John William King and Lawrence Russell Brewer, two men who shared a Jasper apartment with him at the time of the slaying. Both are on death row for the Byrd murder.

"This boy over there is not like them," Jasper County District

Attorney Guy James Gray said. "He's different."

But, he said, the three knew each other and Berry had been "partying with them, drinking with them, running with them."

"The evidence will show you the choice to pick up James Byrd was made by Shawn Berry," Gray said. "He knew what the men were like that he was living with. He knew they wanted to kill a black man when he picked him up."

Hawthorn said Berry was aware of his roommates' racist views "but did not think they posed a danger of killing anybody." He said Berry frequently offered rides to people walking along the road.

"I guess some people would find there's something sinister in that," he said. "Shawn did not. He saw James Byrd walking. He decided to give him a ride."

Hawthorn had introduced hundreds of print and broadcast stories about the case from local media and contended extensive coverage and community sentiment against his client would not afford him fair trial in Jasper.

The motion was filed shortly before an all-white jury was chosen Friday and reversed Hawthorn's earlier contention that he wanted to have the case tried there because Berry is a well-liked native son.

Hawthorn said jury selection revealed lingering prejudice against his client.

In another trial issue, Jasper County District Attorney Guy James Gray asked that CBS pro-

ducer Mary Mapes be taken to jail today for contempt of court for refusing to turn over a copy of a transcript of an interview the network conducted with Berry two months ago.

Negotiations went late into Tuesday night on a proposed agreement between prosecutors and CBS. "I'm a simple guy and I want a very simple deal," Gray said.

The Texas Court of Criminal Appeals refused Tuesday to hear two contempt appeals filed by Mapes and ordered her to report to jail for refusing to turn over materials from an interview with Berry.

It was unclear this morning whether or when she would report to jail.

"Discussions are taking place but there's no deal as of yet," said CBS News spokeswoman Sandy Genelius. Genelius said she "wouldn't venture a guess" as to how the situation would be resolved.

The Society of Professional Journalists said today it had paid Mapes' bail bond of \$250.

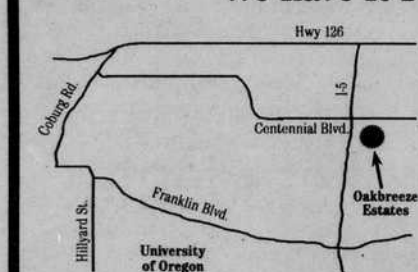
"It's a symbolic gesture of support to CBS and its employees for keeping the functions of the media separated from those of the courts and law enforcement," said Kyle Niederpruem, president of the society.

Golden twice has ordered Mapes jailed on contempt charges for refusing to comply with subpoenas that demand she hand over a transcript and videotape of the complete interview between Berry and anchor Dan Rather.

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## News brief

### Forum to focus on Mexican wars, environmental impact

The Committee in Solidarity with Central American People has organized "Chiapas: Challenges in the Face of Transnational Corporations and Militarization," a forum that will focus on the low-

intensity wars happening in Mexico and the impacts on the environment due to these wars. It takes place tonight 7:30 p.m. at the EMU Multicultural Center.

University graduate Mike Saltz traveled to Chiapas in September and will present what he saw there in the forum. Saltz worked with a human rights delegation, which investigated the living con-

ditions there.

A short film prepared by the Native Forest Network will be shown after Saltz's presentation.

University professors Dan Goldrich from the department of political science and Lynn Stephen of the anthropology department will discuss the impacts of these low intensity wars after Saltz's presentation.

## Oregon Daily Emerald

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