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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

## Parliament approves austere budget

by Marta Kolomayets  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Parliament approved Ukraine's 1996 budget on March 22, paving the way for the release of stalled International Monetary Fund credits.

The austere budget, which passed by a vote of 266 to 22 (354 deputies were registered, 11 abstained and 56 did not take part in the vote), includes a deficit of 6.2 percent of the gross domestic product. This is 1.1 percent lower than last year's figure of 7.3 percent and satisfies requirements set forth by the IMF to release a delayed installment of a \$1.7 billion stand-by loan.

It also provides for annual inflation of about 40 percent, as compared to 183 percent last year.

National Bank Governor Viktor Yushchenko said it would be possible to keep inflation at a rate of 40 to 45 percent in 1996 by pursuing a tough monetary policy.

The 1996 budget includes income of \$12.8 billion (U.S.) and expenditures of \$15.3 billion, for a deficit of almost \$2.5 billion. The deficit will be financed by internal state loans of \$800 million, National Bank credits of \$573 million, and foreign loans and credits of \$1.09 billion, including loans from the World Bank, the European Community and the Japanese Eximbank.

The final budget differs from the budget passed in its first reading in February in that there is a higher budget deficit (\$182 million more). Additional costs were earmarked for Chernobyl clean-up expenses, as well as increases in social programs, education and health care. However, a monetary emission from the National Bank will not be necessary, because these additional costs will come from credits issued by Japan late last year.

Funding for the liquidation of the consequences of the Chernobyl disaster accounts for 6 percent of Ukraine's budget, or \$960 million more than funds allocated for defense and education — \$738 million and \$705 million, respectively, or 4.8 and 4.6 percent.

"I want to assure deputies that the government will do everything to implement the budget," said Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, who attended the parliamentary proceedings on March 21-22.

He pointed out, "there is no one in the government who is satisfied with the projected budget because the funding proposals were two times greater than the budget can afford. But the draft presented to you is the lesser of all evils; it is the optimum choice that we can bear at this time."

"Today's budget cannot satisfy us

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## Communists propose own version of new constitution for Ukraine

by Marta Kolomayets  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — An alternative to the draft constitution developed by Ukraine's Constitutional Committee and presented to the Parliament last week began circulating among deputies of the legislature on March 25.

This second document — signed by 125 left-wing members of the Parliament — is "the Constitution of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic." It does not differ from the fundamental law of the Ukrainian SSR, most recently revised in 1978.

Representatives of the Communist, Socialist and Agrarian factions made good on their threat to present their own version of a draft constitution, despite the fact that this move is seen as a destabilizing factor in an already polarized Parliament.

The draft states that the Ukrainian SSR represents a "socialist state of the people expressing the will of the workers, peasants, working intelligentsia, of all people who have created material and spiritual values by their honest labor effort."

It also states that all the power in the Ukrainian SSR belongs to the people. The Supreme Council is the supreme body of state power and the sole legislative body. It is empowered to "examine any issue within the competence of the Ukrainian SSR, apart from those in the competence of the executive and judicial branches of power, as well as those to be decided by national vote."

The alternative document does not include the post of president, but it does provide for a Council of Ministers as the supreme executive body of the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic.

The draft also envisages three forms of property: citizens' (earned by labor), collective and state.

Both Ukrainian and Russian are regarded as state languages. The trident is replaced by the hammer and sickle and a red five-pointed star as the coat of arms of the Ukrainian SSR. The blue-and-yellow flag is bumped for the old red-and-blue banner of the Ukrainian SSR.

The draft constitution presented by the Constitutional Committee on March 11 and submitted to Parliament by the committee's co-chairmen, President Leonid Kuchma and Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz, was written by a group that represented all factions of Parliament. However, the left-wingers on the committee did not approve the completed draft during the final debates.

Although most of the country's officials agree that Ukraine must adopt a constitution in the near future, the procedure to do so has not yet been agreed upon. Thus, it appears that future sessions of Parliament will be chaotic as the deputies are sure to argue about the means to adopt the Constitution.

Already the alternative Communist constitution has been harshly criticized by Ukraine's national democrats, who view the move as a provocation pure and simple.

"I see this as a diplomatic move by the undiplomatic HKChP (putsch organizers of August 1991). To be sure, the left forces in Parliament submitted their own draft in order to sharply curb the constitutional process, to stir the already delicate balance of powers," commented Les Taniuk, a

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## U.S. announces anniversary airlift

As *The Weekly* was going to press, the U.S. Department of State released the following statement delivered by spokesman Nicholas Burns, regarding the 10th anniversary Chernobyl relief mission.

In observance of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant explosion, on April 26 the Office of the Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to the New Independent States will execute a special combined humanitarian assistance surface and airlift mission to Ukraine and Belarus. The combined surface and airlift mission will have a volume of 1,500 tons and a value of \$10 million.

Since early February, containers of U.S. government and privately donated medical supplies and equipment have been moving via surface shipping to staging warehouses in Ukraine and Belarus in preparation for distribution to numerous recipient hospitals and clinics throughout Ukraine in April.

U.S. government and privately donated high-value and sensitive medicines are being consolidated at a secure facility in Maastricht, Netherlands, and will be flown to Kyiv, Ukraine, on April 25, 1996, and distributed to a number of recipient medical facilities in Ukraine.

The aircraft will be met upon arrival in Kyiv by Ambassador-designate Richard L. Morningstar, special advisor to the president and secretary of state, and coordinator for U.S. assistance to the new independent states.

Subsequently, a portion of the airlifted medicines will continue on a separate aircraft to Miensk, Belarus, on April 27, 1996, and will be distributed to recipient medical facilities in Belarus.

## Ukraine cooperates with FBI

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON — Ukraine has indicated to the Federal Bureau of Investigation that it is interested in conducting a joint investigation of the reported use of Ukrainian planes by Colombian drug traffickers.

FBI Director Louis J. Freeh told a Senate panel on March 13 that he has had official contact from Ukraine on the case since the allegations surfaced in a Los Angeles Times story during Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's visit to Washington in February.

Ukraine has denied any official involvement in the misuse of the Antonov 23Bs, which, it says, were leased by a Ukrainian non-government enterprise for legal purposes.

Asked about the case by Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.) during a hearing before the Senate Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Mr. Freeh said he spoke about it with an official of the Interior Ministry of Ukraine.

"He indicated that the president of Ukraine, President Kuchma, is very concerned and interested in having an operation, a joint investigative operation, where we can look at this problem and see whether any laws have been violated in the United States. So, yes,

we will follow up on that."

When such an investigation begins, some of the Ukrainian investigators involved may be very familiar with FBI investigative procedures, since Ukraine has been taking part in a special FBI law enforcement training program for the new democracies of Central Europe and the former Soviet Union.

The main thrust of FBI Director Freeh's Senate testimony focused on this and related programs funded by the Freedom Support Act (FSA) and the Support for Eastern European Democracies (SEED), which in 1995 trained some 1,800 law enforcement officers from Ukraine, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Russia, Romania and Moldova. The program is being expanded this year to include Belarus, Slovenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Bulgaria and Albania, Mr. Freeh said.

"Since the first of this year, in only several months, we've trained 150 police officers from the Russian Federation, as well as Ukraine," Mr. Freeh said.

He said he recently visited the FBI Academy in Quantico, Va., where the Russian and Ukrainian officers were studying, among other things, internal police controls — "how we police the

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# Russia, the specter of integration and Ukraine: a look at new realities

by Volodymyr Zvighyanich

## PART I

Nearly 150 years ago, in 1848, Karl Marx and Friedrich Engels wrote in the "Communist Manifesto" about the specter of communism wandering around Europe, scaring the bourgeoisie and encouraging the proletariat to revolt. The end of the Cold War, reunification of Germany and dissolution of the Soviet Union, warmly welcomed in the West, seemingly coincided with the end of the communism and instability in Europe.

Unfortunately, the end of the Cold War did not bring about the end of communism. As the results of the December 1995 parliamentary elections in Russia (and earlier in some East European countries) have shown, the communist idea is still alive in Russia and in major states of the former Soviet Union. Only now it is dressed in moral and juridical clothes.

The Communists in the Russian Duma on March 16 voted for a non-binding resolution abolishing as "illegal" the ratification on December 12, 1991, by the Russian Federation's Supreme Soviet of the Belaya Vezha agreement of December 8, 1991, which dissolved the USSR and created the CIS. In so doing, they sent a powerful appeal to the traditional psycho-emotional sentiments of the bulk of the Russian populace, to its primordial feeling of "sobornost" (common will).

What is the CIS in reality? What is the essence of neo-integrationism in Russia? What will come after the CIS? What are the lessons that this emerging geopolitical and philosophical reality brings to the West and to Ukraine?

### The CIS and legality

The recent decision by the Russian Duma has attracted public attention to a question obviously forgotten in post-Soviet Russia: What is the CIS? Did the treaty on its creation correspond to the body of laws in existence at that time in the USSR, or was it a radical break-up aimed at creating new laws corresponding to world practice?

Several arguments have been put forward by supporters of the CIS treaty:

- The time argument: St. Petersburg Mayor Anatoliy Sobchak, speaking at the December 12, 1991, Supreme Soviet session claimed: "The country's economic and political situation today is such that we can no longer allow ourselves to waste time on endless debates about our future. ...The agreement concluded does not at all cancel the possibility of creating a renewed union."

- The structural argument: The old union structure ceased to exist and, after the declarations of independence by Ukraine, Belarus, etc., in the aftermath of the August 1991 putsch, it virtually died. In order to "bring order to the chaotic disintegration of this union," as Ruslan Khasbulatov noted, the CIS was created. According to Boris Yeltsin, the main result of the pact in Belaya Vezha was that "three republics, founders of the USSR, have halted a process of a spontaneous and anarchic disintegration of the common space inhabited by our people."

- The military argument: Andrei Kozirev, then Russia's minister of foreign affairs, maintained that "one of the reasons this Commonwealth of Independent States has been formed is to put a final end to the presence of Russian and other soldiers on territories which no longer rec-

ognize their being under the flag of the USSR." This aim was never implemented and since 1993 Russia has made the presence of its troops on the territories of the CIS countries one of its principal goals.

- 4) The constitutional/legal argument: Mr. Yeltsin, trying to prove the constitutionality of the CIS's creation, purported that in forming the union in 1922, the founders did not lose their state sovereignty and retained their status and responsibility as founders of the union. This was enshrined in all USSR constitutions, including the last one (1977). He assumed that the Belaya Vezha treaty could have been arrived at by the republics even within the framework of the 1977 Constitution of the USSR. He concluded that "all charges that this step is unconstitutional are unfounded and pursue either political aims, which are essentially destructive, or openly personal selfish interests." He also blamed attempts of those who tried to cast doubt on the legality of the accords that have been reached as "simply immoral" and stressed that "to torpedo it at present is tantamount to entering into direct confrontation with those who made their choice, including in the union referendum."

The opponents of the treaty, e.g., the USSR Constitutional Oversight Committee, asserted that its major statement — "The USSR as a subject of international law and a geopolitical reality has ceased to exist" — can only be regarded as a political assessment of the situation and has no legal force. The committee stressed that individual republics cannot take it upon themselves to resolve questions affecting the rights and interests of others and, therefore, the agreement's provision on the cessation of activity of organs of the former Soviet Union on the territory of the CIS states also has no legal force.

This analysis shows that the supporters of the treaty capitalized mostly on situational arguments of political expediency, which prevailed at that time over those of a purely legal nature. The opponents of the treaty stressed mostly its "illegal" nature and the non-binding character of the documents signed in Belaya Vezha. However, no serious public hearings or academic conferences devoted to the legality of the CIS's creation have ever been conducted, either in Russia or in the West.

Therefore, the treaty itself started to be interpreted in different ways by its signatories. For Ukraine it was a civilized means of "divorce" with the USSR; for Russia it was a means to achieve neo-integrationist aspirations; and for "underdog" Belarus it was a means of joining the "top dog," Russia, thus avoiding responsibility for its deep political and economic crises. This fact also prevented CIS legal bodies from elaborating significant laws to be respected and implemented by all member-states.

As soon as arguments of the CIS creation's political expediency came under increasing fire from the victorious Communist opposition, the weakness of the CIS's legal basis became especially obvious. This explains the relative ease with which the Communists managed to revoke, on their first attempt, the decision of the Supreme Soviet of Russia of December 12, 1991. They used the same set of arguments ("illegality" and "immorality") that Mr. Yeltsin had used in 1991 to prove the legality of the Belaya Vezha pact. Such switching of sides has only reinforced the ambiguity of neo-integrationist tendencies in Russia, all started after 1993, and suggests that the communists have only driven to its logical conclu-

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Ukrainian plane forced down in Russia

KYIV — Russian air defense forces on March 24 forced a Ukrainian military transport to land in the city of Rostov-na-Donu, near the Ukrainian border, Russian and Ukrainian media reported the next day. The Il-76 plane was forced down because it allegedly had not filed flight plans for its return from Central Asia, Russian General Staff sources said, describing the incident as "a grave violation of international agreements." The Ukrainian government denied having violated any laws and claimed that proper flight plans had been filed and authorization granted by the Russian air control system. Ukraine is not a formal member of the unified CIS air defense system, limiting its participation to informal contacts and exchanges of information. (OMRI Daily Digest/Respublika)

### Kuchma wraps up Swiss visit

BERN — Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, at the end of his two-day visit to Switzerland, signed a joint communiqué with Swiss President Jean Pascal de la Miro on expanding ties between the two countries, Ukrainian and Western media reported on March 22-23. Mr. Kuchma also met with U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Sadako Ogata, who expressed an interest in helping Ukraine obtain international aid for the resettlement of Crimean Tatars on the Black Sea peninsula. He also discussed Ukrainian cooperation with U.N. Human Rights Commissioner Jose Ayala Lasso and addressed Geneva's international conference center on Ukraine's place in Europe. (OMRI Daily Digest)

### Consolidation of centrists continues

KYIV — Three Ukrainian political parties have formed a new political alliance

called Mist (Bridge), Radio Ukraine reported on March 22. The center-right Democratic Party of Ukraine, the centrist Social-Democratic Party and the center-left Labor Party support democratic and free-market reforms but also favor maintaining a social safety network. Another center-right party, the Christian-Democratic Party of Ukraine, announced it was joining several civic organizations in another political alliance, the Christian-Social Union, reported Ukrainian Television on March 22. They are joined by the All-Ukrainian Association of Entrepreneurs as well as several similar regional groups. Recently, a new centrist caucus, Social-Market Choice, was formed, with 31 members, including former President Leonid Kravchuk and other well-known figures, it is now the second-largest caucus after the Communists. (OMRI Daily Digest)

### Parliament raises poverty threshold

KYIV — The Ukrainian Parliament voted to raise the poverty threshold from below 5 million karbovants to 6.8 million kvb (\$36) a month, Radio Ukraine reported on March 25. Legislators ordered the government to find funds to raise pensions and social benefits to reflect the increase. In other news, President Leonid Kuchma issued a decree creating a presidential Council on Science and Scientific-Technical Policy to oversee reforms in science and scientific research. He appointed Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of his Security Council, as the new council's chairman. (OMRI Daily Digest)

### Marchuk in Moscow for Yeltsin visit prep

MOSCOW — Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk met with his Russian

(Continued on page 4)

## Protests erupt as Belarus moves towards union

MIENSK — Demonstrators, numbering up to 30,000, according to the BBC World Service, marched down Francis Skaryna Boulevard, surrounded the state television headquarters and clashed with riot police on March 24, local and Western media reported the same day. The crowd, led by Belarusian Popular Front Chairman Zyanon Pazniak, was protesting President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's decision to conclude a treaty of union with Russia, to be signed on April 2.

Speakers at the march and demonstration, called to commemorate the 78th anniversary of the Belarusian People's Republic (which lasted for nine months in 1918 before being partitioned between

Poland and the future USSR), questioned Mr. Lukashenka's motives in promoting to the forthcoming treaty, which would create a supranational governing council composed of the Russian and Belarusian presidents, prime ministers and parliamentary officials.

Mr. Pazniak was quoted by the BBC report as saying that "Russia would be up to its neck in blood" if it tried to reoccupy Belarus.

The demonstrators were prevented from gathering in front of the Parliament, whereupon they marched to the television building. Riot police broke up the gathering by firing tear gas and beating numerous demonstrators with batons, reported OMRI Daily Digest on March 25.

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## INTERVIEW: Nicholas Burns on evolving U.S.-Ukrainian relations

Secretary of State Warren Christopher's March 19-23 trip to Eastern Europe and Russia included one-day meetings with government officials in Ukraine. In Kyiv, Mr. Christopher denounced the Russian Duma's non-binding resolution declaring the dissolution of the Soviet Union illegal, calling the March 15 decision by the Russian Parliament's lower house "highly irresponsible."

Mr. Christopher's March 19 visit with Leonid Kuchma was his third meeting with the Ukrainian president since the beginning of the year. Discussions, tainted by the explosive Duma resolution, centered on Ukraine's relationship with NATO, closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant, and progress on Ukraine's new constitution.

Accompanying the secretary of state on his European tour was R. Nicholas Burns, State Department spokesman and deputy assistant secretary for public affairs. No stranger to Ukrainian issues, the former special assistant to President Bill Clinton on Russia and Ukraine (1993-1995) told *The Weekly* in a March 26 interview that "it was great to be back" in Kyiv.

A career foreign service officer, Mr. Burns served on the National Security Council at the White House during the break-up of the Soviet Union until his appointment to the State Department in January 1995. In the fall of 1993, he led an economic delegation to Kyiv that marked the shift in U.S. policy toward Ukraine. In 1994, Mr. Burns traveled to Kyiv five times to enhance the U.S.-Ukrainian economic relationship.

Below, Mr. Burns offers *The Weekly* his views on U.S.-Ukrainian relations. The phone interview was conducted by Weekly Assistant Editor Kristina Lew.

### PART I

**You accompanied Mr. Christopher on his recent trip to Eastern Europe. Let's begin with your visit to Kyiv.**

We had had two meetings with President Kuchma this year. We saw him in Helsinki in early February, and then he also came to the United States [February 20-22], where he saw President Clinton and Secretary Christopher.

The secretary was on a trip to Europe, both Western Europe, Central Europe and Russia. He wanted to stop in Kyiv. He hadn't been there on his own since October 1993, and felt it was time he went back and had good discussions with the leadership. We spent the entire day last Tuesday in Kyiv, met with President Kuchma, met with Prime Minister [Yevhen] Marchuk, Foreign Minister [Hennadiy] Udovenko had a luncheon and meeting with him, and then he met with [Oleksander] Moroz as well, the Supreme Rada chairman.

In addition to that, we went to the Okhmadit Hospital, which is a hospital that specializes in the care of cancer patients, and a lot of the Chernobyl patients are there.

It was a very good visit. The reason for visiting is because we have determined, and I think we have demonstrated this over the last couple of years, that Ukraine ought to be one of the strongest partners of the United States in Europe. Ukraine is now the leading recipient of American economic assistance in all of the former Soviet Union — more than Russia this year — with \$225 million in 1996, compared to about \$180 million for Russia.

We have worked very hard to try to get Ukraine to participate actively in the Partnership for Peace. We were glad to announce when we were there that American troops are going to be in western Ukraine this summer for a military exercise with the Ukrainian military, which I think is very important. It's important symbolically. It's also important practically in order to establish closer military relations with Ukraine, which is one of the things we want to do, and build up confidence between our two militaries.

Ukraine is also going to be attending the nuclear summit in Moscow with the G-7 countries in mid-April. That's really at our suggestion. We felt that you couldn't have a summit on nuclear power plant safety and not invite Ukraine.

There were some people who didn't want to invite Ukraine who will go unnamed — some countries. We thought it was very important to invite them. We have developed, over the last two and a half years or so, I think a very good, very solid, relationship with Ukraine.

**What is the State Department's position on the fact that Ukraine would like to remain a neutral state? You talk about PFP and how it's very important that Ukraine work with the American military to build closer military relations. What about NATO? If Ukraine is not interested in NATO, how does the United States view that?**

Our view is that the most important thing is that

Ukraine be, now and in the future, a truly independent state, truly sovereign, and that its territorial integrity be respected by everybody, including Russia. What we obviously would never, ever want to see would be any attempt by Russia to subjugate Ukraine or to expand its influence over Ukraine. We think that the emergence of Ukraine as an independent state in Central Europe is a very important development for Europe as well as for the United States.

We understand that Ukraine will probably always have economic ties with Russia. We understand that Ukrainians and Russians have been linked, certainly personally — there are 12 million or thereabouts ethnic Russians in Ukraine by Ukrainian estimates; there are 4 million ethnic Ukrainians in Russia — so there are always going to be very tight links.

But the current Ukrainian government clearly does not wish to see a return of the Soviet Union as some people in the Russian Duma would like to see. They clearly want to have Ukraine maintain its independence from Russia, and they clearly also want to reach out to the West and have ties to the West: economic, political and military.

They have not made a decision about NATO. They have not come forward and said we want to become a member of NATO as have the Czechs, the Poles and the Hungarians, and the Balts for that matter. But they clearly have made a decision that they don't want to be Belarus — they don't want to become a province of Russia, they don't want to give up their sovereignty to Russia, and we support that.

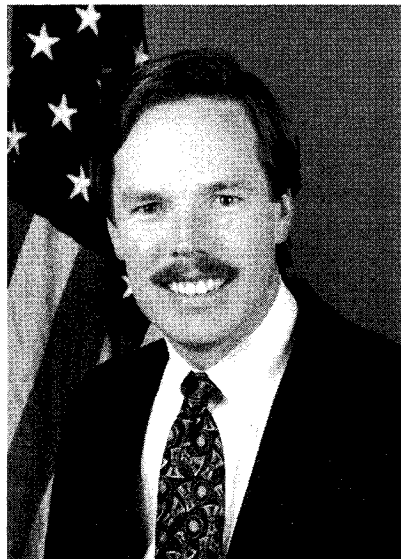
I think that military exercises, the political relationship that we have, the very strong economic support, all that helps to create connections for Ukraine westward towards Europe and North America, which we think are healthy and will strengthen Ukraine as well as strengthen our own national security interests.

**There was talk of a special relationship between Ukraine and NATO. Do you see something like that happening?**

If Ukraine decides in the future that it does not want to become a member of NATO — and that's Ukraine's decision to make, we can't make it for it — I think it would make a lot of sense for Ukraine to have some kind of relationship with NATO outside of membership. We've talked to Russia about this kind of relationship and if we're talking to Russia, we also should talk to Ukraine. We've told the Ukrainians this. There ought to be some kind of military and political relationship that would help strengthen Ukraine's independence, and we'd be very open to discussing that with Ukraine.

**During the secretary's visit to Moscow, was there any discussion of the imminent union between Russia and Belarus?**

There was. We certainly heard a lot of it. We met with some parliamentarians, heard about it from them, certainly read about it in the press. It was really on the



State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns.

margins of all the meetings that we had.

The secretary made a very strong statement in Ukraine, and he spoke out against the resolution of the Russian Duma. He said that the United States was opposed, that we felt that it was the wrong direction to go in, that we would never support that; that the Russians had to understand that any relationship that they would want to have with the former republics, the now independent states of the former Soviet Union, would have to be voluntary on the part of the other states, and that could not be achieved through coercion or intimidation.

I frankly think that the break-up of the Soviet Union was one of the great, positive events of modern times, and that the emergence of these 15 new countries is a very positive development for the United States. The last thing we want to see is the return of the Soviet Union.

**Why do you say that it's a positive development for the United States?**

As the Soviet Union began to implode in 1991, it was clearly the will of the Ukrainian people, the Estonians, the Latvians, the Armenians, the Kazakhs, the Azeris, to be independent of the Soviet Union. All these countries

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## Yeltsin's visit is postponed again (anyone surprised?)

by Marta Kolomayets  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Despite profuse promises and telephonic tête-à-têtes with President Leonid Kuchma, it seems that Russian President Boris Yeltsin has postponed his state visit to Kyiv — once again.

Since President Kuchma came to power in July 1994 — over 20 months ago — President Yeltsin has pledged to come to Ukraine in order to sign a treaty on friendship and cooperation, but has canceled his plans, often at the last minute.

Indeed, with presidential elections slated for June in Russia, and with the real threat of Communists ascending to power there, most Ukrainian political observers agree that it would serve Ukraine well to sign an agreement with Moscow while President Yeltsin is still at the helm.

While he had been scheduled to arrive in Ukraine on April 4, President Yeltsin told Interfax on March 28 that he may have to delay his trip because some issues regarding the Black Sea Fleet have yet to be resolved.

"If the BSF agreements are not included in the treaty on friendship and cooperation with Ukraine, there is no reason to go to Ukraine now," he noted.

Ukrainian presidential press secretary Dmytro Markov told journalists on March 27 that a "possible delay" in the date of the visit to Ukraine by President Yeltsin "would not be a surprise to Kyiv."

Mr. Markov said the visit may be postponed in connection with "the presidential campaign in Russia." However, Russia's Foreign Ministry responded to this

news that very same day saying that it was unaware of any postponement of President Yeltsin's visit to Kyiv, adding that the treaty between Ukraine and Russia had already been drafted and could be signed, although BSF agreements have not been finalized.

According to President Yeltsin, there are only two outstanding issues regarding the fleet; he did not explain which ones are unresolved.

In what was clearly an attempt to resolve BSF problems, Ukraine's Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk made an unexpected jaunt to Moscow on March 26 to meet with his counterpart, Viktor Chernomyrdin, to discuss the final division of the fleet and its property.

Mr. Marchuk told journalists that day that two draft agreements out of the three outstanding had been agreed upon: the status of the Russian fleet in the Black Sea, and the naval base of the Russian Black Sea Fleet.

But, upon his return from Moscow, he commented that "a change in dates for Mr. Yeltsin's visit would not be tragic."

According to Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergey Krylov, the "toughest issues remain unsettled." Despite a "very thorough examination of the issues, one or two more meetings" may be needed to reach a final agreement, he added.

The Ukrainian leadership has said in the past that the BSF problem would not be an obstacle to the visit of President Yeltsin to Kyiv. However, Russian officials have disagreed, as Foreign Minister Yevgeniy Primakov stated on February 1 in Kyiv during a visit aimed at preparing for President Yeltsin's state visit.

## New York consul's son killed in Kyiv

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Viktor Khrzyzhanivsky, the son of Consul General Viktor Khrzyzhanivsky of Ukraine's Consulate General in New York, died on March 19 in Kyiv from injuries he suffered in a car accident. He was fatally injured on March 17 when a car driving at a high rate of speed jumped a curb on a Kyiv city street.

Viktor Jr. was born on March 3, 1969, in Kyiv. He attended the Kyiv Institute of

Economics from 1987-1992 and graduated with a degree in economics-statistics. He was also a certified English language interpreter.

Mr. Khrzyzhanivsky was buried on March 20 in Baykiv Cemetery. He is survived by his father, Viktor, sister, Maryna, brother, Oleksander, and step-mother, Liudmyla.

A memorial service was held in New York on March 23 at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

## Communists propose...

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member of the Rukh faction in Parliament.

"But, this move by the left forces, in my opinion, is a farce: it is not serious. Especially if one compares it to the events developing in Russia, it comes off looking, not like a drama, but like a parody," he added.

"I think it is just another provocation to try to regain lost powers," noted Bohdan Horyn, a member of the Statehood faction, adding that the left-wingers are consolidating all of their forces to turn back the wheel of history, to bring back the power of the Soviet system, which is the only power they felt comfortable with.

"For the left forces, the totalitarian regime is both nostalgia and a current need. And now in Russia the Communists are setting the tone for unfolding events — such as attempts at the rebirth of the Soviet Union. You can be sure that there is constant consultation going on between the Communists

in Russia and the Communists in Ukraine," said Mr. Horyn, who is a member of the Ukrainian Republican Party.

"I consider the move of the Ukrainian left-wing forces to present an alternative constitution to the Parliament as an attempt to revive a lost cause. And I hope to God that it's the last such move," he underlined.

Ivan Pliushch, a member of the Center faction, underscored the discipline within the left forces. He questioned who could Ukraine work with if it refuses to move ahead and stagnates in the past, promoting socialist ideals. "Cuba, Belarus — are these countries with whom we should strive to integrate?" he asked.

"It's been two weeks, and we can't seem to get copies of the [draft] constitution presented on March 11 distributed to all the deputies. Look at the left forces — their constitution is one and a half times longer than ours and they distributed it to everyone quickly, efficiently," Mr. Pliushch noted. "What does that tell us?"

## Parliament approves...

(Continued from page 1)

completely. But this is the best version in today's economic crisis, setting out priorities of reforming the energy sector and restructuring the entire economy," Vasyl Hureyev, Ukraine's minister of the economy, told Reuters.

The toughest budget passed in four years of Ukraine's independence, Prime Minister Marchuk told reporters its adoption "is of great consequence for Ukraine's image in the world, and not only in the eyes of international financial establishments."

"By practicing internal budgetary discipline, Ukraine is growing into an economically civilized nation," emphasized the prime minister.

Ukraine had to adopt a budget before

April if it is to be considered for the allocation of IMF credits, originally \$700 million, but with a promise of \$900 million if the Parliament passed an acceptable budget by this time.

President Leonid Kuchma, who is viewed as a staunch reformer by Western leaders, was also promised substantial aid from the IMF (\$3 billion to \$4 billion) until the end of the century, if Ukraine stays on the course toward market reform.

During this last week, Johannes Linn, vice-president of the World Bank, met with President Kuchma and urged the Ukrainian leadership to stay on course toward reforms, adding that the World Bank is prepared for cooperation with Ukraine in a variety of areas.

Although he acknowledged that each country needs to find its own style of reform, Mr. Linn noted that macroeconomic stabilization is the foundation of all reforms.

"The government showed it has no intention of carrying out the will of the people and will instead implement a program dictated from overseas," Communist leader Petro Symonenko told Reuters.

"The question is one of life or death, as living standards plunge to levels of mere physical survival," he said after the budget was passed.

Despite the fact that left-wing forces make up more than one-third of the Parliament, as the March 22 vote showed, many heeded Mr. Marchuk's words, which in turn allowed the budget to be adopted.

"The approval of the budget and the entire period leading up to the final vote, including work in parliamentary committees, specifically the budget committee, has demonstrated that despite the bottlenecks we come up against in dealing with the Parliament, and despite the tough nature of the problem at hand, we, nevertheless, are able to find common ground and achieve compromises when we come to understand that we are tackling a vital challenge of national importance," said the prime minister.

## Ukraine cooperates...

(Continued from page 1)

police, how we monitor each other, how we ensure that we have a police leadership and a rank and file which is corruption-free, which understands the principles of due process."

The FBI director recalled that a Ukrainian general came to him after he addressed one of the classes and said "that he could not imagine even a short time ago that the Americans, the FBI in particular, would be offering and teaching them a course in police ethics, and was just overwhelmed with the fact that we cared enough to share that expertise with him."

In addition to the training program offered at the FBI Academy in Quantico, a similar intensive eight-week course is conducted at the U.S.-funded International Law Enforcement Training Academy in Budapest. The over-all program also includes two-week "in-country" training programs.

Mr. Freeh said that "the single most significant factor" in the FBI's ability to detect, deter and investigate international crimes is the "legal attaché program," which now has 70 senior bureau agents working on coordinating crime-fighting activities in 23 countries, including Russia.

The FBI director explained that the presence of an FBI attaché at an embassy has to be requested and approved by the U.S. ambassador. "We've gone through that process, for instance, in Ukraine, in Poland, in some of the other countries; the ambassadors have concurred in our request," he said.

The United States recognized the need to help upgrade the law enforcement capabilities of former Eastern Bloc countries and to coordinate crime-fighting efforts with them soon after the fall of communism in that region.

"The political, social and economic changes occurring in Eastern Europe and in the former Soviet republics have provided significant, unintended opportunities for organized crime groups and criminal enterprises in these countries to expand internationally," Mr. Freeh said. "Evidence that organized crime activity from these areas is expanding and will continue to expand to the United States is well-documented."

"Grave crime is no longer bound by

the constraints of borders. Such offenses as terrorism, nuclear smuggling, organized crime, computer crime and drug trafficking can spill over from other countries into the United States," he said.

In addition to the training and attaché programs, as Sen. McConnell pointed out, his subcommittee earmarked funds for "an initiative I strongly support — to develop FBI-like institutions in Ukraine and Kazakhstan."

Asked by Sen. McConnell if the budget was sufficient to fund "the creation of FBIs in Ukraine and Kazakhstan," Mr. Freeh replied: "If we applied the \$5.5 million (the current average of annual funds available), yes, sir, that would certainly be more than enough."

Asked about the possible formation of an "FBI" in Ukraine, a spokesman of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington said the creation of a new "national bureau of investigation" has been the subject of public discussion over the past year.

The spokesman added that, following the recent anti-terrorism summit in Egypt, the Ukrainian government is studying a proposal to create an "anti-terrorism center" that would coordinate the work of the various law enforcement agencies in Ukraine. This would be done, hopefully, with Western and American assistance, he said.

The spokesman said Ukraine's law enforcement agencies maintain regular contacts with the FBI in such areas as combating illegal drug and arms trafficking.

## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

counterpart, Viktor Chemomyrdin, here on March 26 to prepare for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's scheduled April 4-5 visit to Kyiv, Western media reported. The division of the Black Sea Fleet, in particular Russian leasing of shore base facilities, remains the outstanding issue in the bilateral treaty on friendship and cooperation. Meanwhile, a voluntary organization called "300 Years of the Russian Fleet" has launched a national campaign to raise money from banks and businesses to pay for the completion of eight new naval vessels, including the cruiser Peter the Great. ITAR-TASS reported on March 26. (OMRI Daily Digest)

## Nicholas Burns...

(Continued from page 3)

which formally had to live in a totalitarian system, political and economic, at least the great majority of these countries, are now democracies of one sort or another. Ukraine has got a strong democracy — it's had contested elections. Many of them, including the Kuchma government, have decided they want a market economy. And they've decided that they want to have closer relations with the West than was certainly possible before 1991.

All that is good, and all that is in our interest. The Soviet Union was a foe of the United States, and these countries are not. So we're better off. Our security situation is far preferable than what it was before 1991. As an American, if you believe in democracy, and almost all of us do, you can't help but support emerging democracies wherever they are. In this case Ukraine is 52 million people, larger than France territorially, one of the most important countries for the future of Europe.

I have said many times, publicly, that I think if you look at Europe over the next 100 years, Ukraine will become one of the most important European countries because of how big it is, how many people it has, and where it is, in relation to Russia, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and other countries. That means

that we as Americans ought to reach out and have closer relations with Ukraine. That's what we're trying to do.

**So the United States has no position on Belarus uniting with Russia?**

Our position on that is what we've said in the last couple of days. We actually have not received from either the Belarusians or the Russians much detail about what this is. There has been a lot of conflicting information in the press about exactly what this closer relationship will be. Our position is that if Russia intends to have closer relations and uses intimidation or coercion to achieve it, then we oppose that. If it's truly voluntary, and if this country truly wants a closer association, then we, of course, would not be in a position to object.

Now we know that Ukraine does not want this type of relationship with Russia. We know that Armenia does not want this. We know that the Baltic countries do not want this kind of relationship, so therefore it's in our interest, and we will continue to do this, to speak out in support of the independence of these countries.

Frankly, Belarus is a complex situation. It's pretty clear that the president, [Alyaksandr] Lukashenka, wants a closer relationship, but there were 30,000 people demonstrating in Minsk on Sunday [March 24] against the closer relationship. So I think we've got to listen to those voices, too.

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## Kyiv Dynamo's contribution draws diaspora fire, minister's disapproval

by Andriy Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — Kyiv Dynamo, the Ukrainian capital's elite soccer team, is under fire from diaspora leaders for a charitable contribution.

Dynamo decided to donate \$42,000 (U.S.) of their winnings in a CIS tournament held in Moscow on February 11 to the families of Russian soldiers who died while fighting against Chechen rebels. The donation made headlines in Ukraine and drew the ire of many citizens who wrote letters to newspapers (see *The Weekly*, March 3).

On March 8, President Dr. Dmytro Cipywnyk and Sports Commissioner Vsevolod Sokolyk of the Ukrainian World Congress; Stan Haba, president of the Canadian Friends of the Ukrainian National Olympic Committee; Myron Stebelsky, president of the Ukrainian Association of Sports Clubs in North America; and Volodymyr Panchuk, president of the European FUNOC; sent a clear signal of their displeasure to Ukraine's Minister of Youth and Sport Valery Borzov.

"News [of Dynamo's decision] has aroused understandable outrage among people here; among people who have long been generously donating hard-earned money to support the needs of Ukraine's

athletes, as well as among those who have voluntarily donated many hours of work to assist these athletes," the group of diaspora activists wrote.

Reminding the former Olympic track star of the Ukrainian diaspora's contribution to the development of sport in Ukraine since independence, the signatories warned of the consequences of Dynamo's action. "We fear that such distressing news from Ukraine could have a negative impact on continuing aid to sport in Ukraine," the letter read.

The diasporans' expectation that a statement condemning Dynamo would be issued by Mr. Borzov was confirmed by a March 13 fax from the minister.

"We share the anxiety and anger expressed by the executive of the UWC and the Ukrainian diaspora's sports associations concerning the decision made by the Dynamo football club's administration during the CIS Cup competition," Mr. Borzov wrote.

"On behalf of the Ukrainian National Olympic Committee I communicated our negative attitude to [Dynamo's decision] to the soccer club's administration and to its president, Grigoriy Surkis. We also [informed] the media of our position," the minister's fax read.

Contacted by *The Weekly* for a clarification on how this "negative attitude" had been conveyed, Mr. Borzov said he personally had spoken with Mr. Surkis. He added that the NOC had protested Dynamo's action and this was reported in the Ukrainian press.

Mr. Borzov added that he hoped this incident would "in no way affect our cordial relations and our fruitful cooperation, particularly during preparations and participation of Ukraine's athletes in the Summer Olympic Games in Atlanta."

According to a Canadian FUNOC release, donations from the diaspora covered the costs of the Ukrainian Olympic team's preparatory training sessions in the Atlanta area in the summer of 1995.

## NOC's rep in U.S. reacts to Dynamo flap

by Roman Woronowycz

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The Ukrainian soccer team Dynamo has no connection whatsoever with either Ukraine's Ministry of Youth and Sports or the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, Laryssa Barabash-Temple, U.S. representative of the NOC-Ukraine, told *The Weekly* on March 22.

"We have no more control over Dynamo than the United States Olympic Committee has over the Dallas Cowboys," said Ms. Temple.

A brouhaha of sorts developed when the Ukrainian World Congress, the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the United States and Canada, the Canadian Friends of the Ukrainian National Olympic Committee and its European counterpart sent a letter to the Ministry of Youth and Sports expressing their condemnation of a financial gift by Dynamo players to a fund for the widows and children of Russian soldiers who died in Chechnya.

Ms. Temple said that she has received correspondence of a rather nasty sort also from individuals expressing their disgruntlement with Dynamo's move.

Ms. Temple explained that Dynamo is part of the Ministry of the Interior and that historically the team's athletes have been members of the militia. Through a joint venture, the team is also partly owned by Concern Ometa, whose president, Grigoriy Surkis, is also president of Dynamo.

The *Weekly* also learned there is some supposition among sports officials in Ukraine that the reason Dynamo made the controversial donation is because the Russian vice-president of the Union of European Football (Soccer) Associations (UEFA), Anatolii Koloskov, said he would intercede on the team's behalf with international soccer officials. On September 20, 1995, the UEFA had suspended the team for three years following an incident during which the Dynamo coach allegedly tried to bribe a referee to fix its match against a club from Greece.

## Ukraine's skaters figure in top 10 at World Championships in Canada

by Andriy Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — Ukraine's competitors maintained their presence in the top 10 in three out of four categories, as the 1996 competitive figure skating season culminated at the World Championships held in Edmonton on March 17-24, but none won a medal.

The highest ranked Ukrainian skaters as of the Worlds are ice dancers Irina Romanova and Ihor Yaroshenko, who finished fifth in their event.

They share a coach (Natalia Linnichuk), with this year's champions, Oksana Grishchuk and Yevgeny Platov of Russia and train at the University of Delaware. They had the best shot at the podium of Team Ukraine's entries after the free dance, thanks to a spirited number done to music from "Zorba the Greek," but were bounced out of third down to their final position by a strong performance from Canada's Shaelyn Bourne and Victor Kraatz.

Romanova and Yaroshenko had also placed fifth consistently throughout the competition — in the two dance compulsorys, the original dance, and the free event.

At the end of the championships, the next highest ranked Ukrainian competitor was Viacheslav Zahorodniuk, sixth in the men's standings. Both favorites, defending World Champion Elvis Stojko of Canada and current Olympic Champion Aleksei Urmanov of Russia, fell while attempting jumps, which dropped them out of the medals.

Nevertheless, they still placed ahead of Mr. Zahorodniuk, who came in for criticism by TV commentators for a technically strong, but artistically listless and emotionless program, skated to Chopin's "Polonaise Militaire" and "Fantasie Impromptu."

The direct opposite plagued Dmytro Dmytrenko, the 1993 European Champion, who according to Canadian figure skating columnist Steve Milton, "works too slowly, without enough

power, and exits and enters his jumps with poor quality."

On the other hand, Mr. Milton remarked on Mr. Dmytrenko's "understanding of music." The Ukrainian skated a Plaza del Toros short program to a score he'd adapted himself from a composition by contemporary Ukrainian composer Ihor Stasiuk. This put him in ninth position, just behind Mr. Zahorodniuk, but then a brutal outing in the free skate (rated 19th over all by the judges) plunged him down to 16th.

Olena Belousovska and Serhiy Potalov finished ninth in the pairs event, completing an adequate season in which they placed sixth at the World Centennial competition in St. Petersburg in mid-February, but failed to qualify for the Grand Prix in Paris a week later.

Finishing just out of the top 10 in Edmonton was Olena Liashenko, who was 12th in the ladies' competition. Ms. Liashenko was consistently punished by marks from the U.S. judge who refused to rate her above 4.7, while others gave her 4.9s, 5.0s and 5.1s.

As usual, judging was the focus of controversy during the championship. Another U.S. judge, Joan Gruber, made an impression on the Worlds by pouncing on Frenchman Philippe Candeloro — rating him 19th over all for artistic impression in the free skate, even as the others rated him at sixth or seventh. There was speculation that Ms. Gruber had seen one too many Westerners as Mr. Candeloro wore a cowboy outfit for that routine.

On the other hand, Mr. Dmytrenko benefited from the largesse of Austrian judge Helmut Sieber in the men's free skate. Mr. Sieber placed him 11th instead of 19th as did the majority. It seemed that Mr. Sieber compensated by rating Mr. Zahorodniuk slightly lower than others.

Ukraine's other entries included Yulia Lavrenchuk, who placed 17th in the ladies' competition, and Olena Grushina and Ruslan Honcharov, who finished 19th in the ice dance event.

## Vegreville rolls out the red carpet for Ukrainian skaters

by Andriy Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — For over a week prior to the Figure Skating World Championships held in nearby Edmonton on March 17-24, Vegreville, Alberta, was an attraction for more than just the world's biggest pysanka.

Team Ukraine was in town.

As Cam Cole of the Edmonton Journal put it, "no one had landed a triple axel on the ice of the Vegreville Recreation Center until Viacheslav Zahorodniuk and Dmytro Dmytrenko reeled them off regularly in practices."

They arrived on March 5, after a gruel-

ing itinerary of flights from Kyiv to Zurich, Zurich to Montreal, Montreal to Toronto and Toronto to Edmonton, topped off by a 90-minute bus ride to Vegreville.

On March 9, together with women's competitors Olena Liashenko and Yulia

(Continued on page 15)



Roman Petriv, Ukrainian News (Edmonton)

Bidding farewell to Vegreville at the conclusion of their performance are: (from left) Olena Grushina, Ruslan Honcharov, Yulia Lavrenchuk, Serhiy Potalov, Olena Bilousovska, Dmytro Dmytrenko, Olena Liashenko and Viacheslav Zahorodniuk.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### What if it disappears?

You don't know what you've got 'til it's gone. Indeed.

Last week's issue reported on the most recent meeting of the Ukrainian National Association's Executive Committee, which reviewed the financial status of the UNA and its various operations. As regards the UNA's two newspapers, the Ukrainian-language daily *Svoboda* and *The Ukrainian Weekly*, it was a classic good news/bad news scenario.

Though there was good news to report in terms of the funds coming in from subscriptions — a 145 percent increase in 1995 (as compared to 1994) for *Svoboda* and 75 percent more for *The Weekly*, there was bad news on the number of subscriptions. For *Svoboda*, the number had declined by 1,240 during the period from February 1995 to February 1996, while for *The Weekly* there was a loss of 1,063 subscribers. Not very reassuring figures. At a time when worldwide interest in Ukraine is increasing, our own Ukrainians, it seems, are not interested.

The reason for the decline, at least in the case of *The Weekly*, we believe can be found in the fact that last year our publisher, the UNA, had doubled subscription fees. In fact, we have quite a few letters on hand stating that the price is too high (one reader called it "outrageous") or that it is unaffordable, especially for those on fixed incomes. Unfortunately, we cannot do as one reader suggested and reconsider. The reality is that costs have risen markedly, especially in terms of postage and newsprint, and what is a remarkable is not the 200 percent price increase last year, but the fact that the subscription fee was kept artificially low for so many years.

We ask you, dear readers, to consider what dinner for two costs you nowadays. For that same price you have *The Weekly* for one whole year. (Perhaps you should think of *The Weekly* as dinner for your mind — a weekly outing that costs you \$1.15, or 77 cents if you are a member). Is it worth the price? We believe so. Just think of the stories you have read in *The Weekly* in the past year? How many of these would you have seen elsewhere?

So, dear readers, we ask you, please value what you have. And, if you could, please do us a favor, use the best and oldest form of advertising — word of mouth — to spread the word about *The Weekly*.

April  
1  
1809

### Turning the pages back...

As some of Ukraine's Communists and other political factions consider reunification with a re-established Russian empire, no better cautionary tale of a tortured biography could be more instructive than that of the moody genius Mykola Hohol, known to the world as Nikolai Gogol.

The *Encyclopedia of Ukraine* refers to him as "the most famous Russian writer of Ukrainian origin." Fyodor Dostoyevsky, perhaps the most famous Russian writer, considered Gogol to be among the greatest in literature's pantheon.

Born on April 1, 1809, in Velyki Sorochyntsi, Myrhorod county in the Poltava Gubernia, to a Kozak family of the petty nobility, Gogol graduated from the prestigious Nizhen gymnasium.

At the age of 19 he left for the imperial capital, St. Petersburg, with a manuscript under his arm and virtually messianic aspirations in the field of letters. Gogol published the Romantic narrative poem "Hans Kuchelgarten" at his own expense in 1829, but it was savaged by local critics.

A neurotic at the best of times, Gogol was devastated and embittered by this setback. He bought up all copies of this work and destroyed all traces of it, then tried to make a living in the imperial bureaucracy, as a teacher at a boarding school, a tutor for the daughters of the elite (an experience which reappears dramatically in his "Diary of a Madman"), and very briefly as a lecturer in history at St. Petersburg University.

While working as a minor civil servant, Gogol spent his free time composing short stories based on his observations and memories of life in Ukraine. The first two volumes of these stories, published in 1831-1832 under the title "Evenings on a Farm near Dykanka," brought him the fame he sought.

In the second volume, "Mirgorod," which appeared three years later, the tone of his writing turns from nostalgia imbued with a sense of the fantastic, to satire of a sort that would grow ever more bitter, although rarely less brilliant.

His most renowned satire was a masterpiece, "The Inspector General," a play that needed the approval of the emperor to be staged. It premiered in 1836. Shattered by the fact that his idea of the moral influence of true art did not have the desired effect he left Russia to live in Rome.

He concentrated on producing his epic work, "Dead Souls," but managed to finish only the first of three intended parts. The writings that did make it into print, such as "The Overcoat" (1841), were attacked, and Gogol became increasingly consumed by wrenching anguish that he was incapable of producing morally ennobling art.

To prepare himself for the task of, as he put it, "serving God and humanity," Gogol embarked first on a pilgrimage to Jerusalem. Returning to Russia, he came to Moscow, where he fell under the influence of a religious fanatic, the Rev. M. Konstantinovsky, who demanded that he enter a monastery and destroy his "evil" works.

Gogol burned the manuscript of the second part of "Dead Souls," refused all food, and stayed in bed until his death on March 4, 1852.

The famous writer's relation to Ukraine is a controversial issue. His indifference to the Ukrainian question as a political matter was sharply condemned by critics such as Serhiy Yefremov and even more severely by Yevhen Malaniuk.

Others focused on the importance of Ukrainian elements in his writings, allegedly the source of the rhythm and euphony of his language.

Sources: "Gogol, Nikolaï," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 2 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988); G.S.N. Luckyj, "Between Gogol and Sevchenko, Polarity in the Literary Ukraine, 1798-1847" (Munich: Wilhelm Fink Verlag, 1971).

## Leaders in Ukraine denounce attempts to revive Soviet Union

by Marta Kolomayets  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The union treaty between Russia and Belarus scheduled to be signed by Presidents Boris Yeltsin and Alyaksandr Lukashenka on April 2 in Moscow has spurred Ukraine's leadership to denounce any attempts at reviving the Soviet Union.

According to a statement issued by Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs on March 27, should a new state entity be formed by choice of the Russian and Belarusian peoples, Ukraine, as an independent state, will develop relations with that entity based on mutually accepted international legal standards.

"As regards Ukraine, its people have chosen the course of developing their own independent state, a neutral state in the world community, which does not belong to any bloc," noted the statement, which went on to explain that Ukraine does support economic integration within the Commonwealth of Independent States.

"Ukraine has always attached priority significance to Ukrainian-Russian and Ukrainian-Belarusian relations, and views the future of these relations as ones which are good-neighborly, friendly and equal with mutually beneficial economic, humanitarian and cultural ties, based on respect of each other's sovereignty, territorial integrity, inviolability of state borders and non-interference in other's affairs," the statement underscored.

"Simultaneously, Ukraine is fundamentally against any attempts to restore the Soviet Union in any form. Such actions may make it necessary for Ukraine to review its foreign policy priorities, among them relations with the CIS," noted the document.

Belarusian President Lukashenka told *Interfax-West* in Miensk on March 28 that "the stand of the Ukrainian authorities is preventing Ukraine from joining the intensifying integration within the CIS."

Although he noted that the forces opposing integration are more powerful in Ukraine than in Belarus, and there is a "special point of view on the issue in western Ukraine," there is no reason why Kyiv should not become part of a closer union, which Russia and Belarus hope to form on April 2.

"I doubt that the Ukrainian people's mentality is different from that of the peoples of Belarus and Russia," said Mr. Lukashenka, who added that the April 2 action will be a "political push which will revive the situation in the Commonwealth."

Indeed, this new union has already been referred to by leaders in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus as the CIS-2. However, President Leonid Kuchma has underlined, Ukraine is "categorically against forming any kind of 'supra-national structures.'"

Ukrainian Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk said in an interview on March 27 that "the Belarus-Russia accord is not a model for Ukraine."

"Retrospectively, it is good in art, in fashion, but not in politics," said the prime minister. "And any attempts to renew the Soviet Union can carry dangerous consequences."

Moreover, the creation of the CIS-2 as a structure that would evolve into a new Soviet Union is unlikely, since even the first CIS is an amorphous body that can't function even on an economic level, he noted.

"Belarusian President Lukashenka has received carte-blanche from the Russian leadership to implement a pilot project to create an empire," said Ukrainian Deputy Mykola Zhulynsky on March 23.

"This is a propaganda move which is in the interests of Russian President Boris Yeltsin prior to presidential elec-

tions in June," he explained.

He added that this move will certainly "activate Ukrainian left-wing forces, who wish to create conditions for Ukraine to join the new empire."

Ivan Drach, chairman of the Congress of the Ukrainian Intelligentsia, said he sees this latest play by Messrs. Lukashenka and Yeltsin as a signal for national democratic forces to energize themselves and defend Ukraine's sovereignty.

"Ukraine needs to disassociate itself from any talks of integration with Russia and should immediately launch the process of leaving the CIS," he stated.

Oleh Vitovych, a member of the ultra-right Ukrainian National Assembly (UNA) and a deputy in Parliament, said he was quite disturbed by the recent intentions of Belarus to sign an accord with Russia.

"This may lead to increased activity among the left-wing forces in Ukraine," he noted. "We will do everything necessary to activate patriotic forces in Russia, both political and social, who will defend Russian statehood and condemn the CIS and the revival of the USSR. We plan to support our friends from the radical wing of the Belarusian National Front, as well."

"Perhaps there is a positive side to this integration between Russia and Belarus," observed Leonid Kravchuk, Ukraine's first president and currently a deputy in Parliament. "Maybe now the constructive, progressive forces in our country, the democrats who want to see an independent Ukraine, will unite," he said.

Rukh, the Popular Movement of Ukraine, also reacted to the impending Belarus-Russia accord, sending an appeal to international organizations, parliamentary and government circles, and the world community, urging them to defend democracy in Belarus and to protect the rights of its citizens.

The statement noted that, "democratic principles, civil rights and freedoms are being violated in Belarus," and reported that on March 24 the "Spetsnaz" (special forces) broke up a rally in Miensk, which was held to mark the 78th anniversary of the Belarusian People's Republic. According to the statement, tear gas and physical force were used against demonstrators.

Rukh has called on representatives of Ukraine's democratic forces to picket the Belarusian Embassy in Kyiv, with signs reading "Hands off independent Belarus" and "No to Russian Imperialism."

## Weeklies are stolen from Florida library

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Lead from a story that appeared in the North Port Sun Herald of North Port, Fla., on March 17: "What do Southern Living, Rolling Stone, The Ukrainian Weekly and the Sarasota Herald Tribune all have in common? They've all been stolen from the North Port Public Library."

The story questions why issues of the above noted periodicals have been found missing at the library of the small community and why library-users in this case could not take the time to simply photocopy the material.

The story explains that one month's worth of *The Ukrainian Weekly* is among the stolen publications. Northport residents include many retired Ukrainian Americans and Canadians who have moved there from the North. The story didn't explain whether the issues taken were ones from before or after *The Weekly* rates were increased last year.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Yet another reaction to Quebec's vote

Dear Editor:

I am writing this letter in response to the letter written by George Primak regarding the Quebec referendum (January 7).

First of all, Mr. Primak reports that over 95 percent of the "ethnic" vote went with the "no" side in the referendum. Doesn't this very statement betray a deep-seated bigotry? Why differentiate between the so-called "ethnics" and the others? I thought that in a democracy all votes are equal. And where does Mr. Primak get the figure of 95 percent? The vote, after all, was secret and it is, therefore, impossible to say with any accuracy how people voted. This figure of 95 percent is bandied around by separatist lackeys without any substantiation in fact.

The majority of ethnics voted "no" not to humiliate Francophones, but for reasons of self-preservation. When one can be jailed for putting up a bilingual sign then one will not vote for those who would bring in even greater discrimination.

Mr. Primak also chooses to ignore another pertinent point: almost half of the Francophone population voted "no" as well.

Point No. 2 voiced by Mr. Primak is one that could easily be found in KGB propaganda files and betrays a hatred for Ukraine. Ukraine was much more distinct in the Soviet Union than Quebec could ever hope for in the Canadian federation, claims Mr. Primak. Let us consider how Ukrainians were distinct. Over 10 million were murdered in 1932-1933 through an artificial famine. The language and culture of Ukrainians was persecuted as the intelligentsia was annihilated. The gulags were populated by between 50 and 60 percent Ukrainians. Is this the distinctiveness you are referring to Mr. Primak? I remember talking to members of the Vervovka choir when they visited Montreal in the early 1930s. I pointed out to them that our premier of Quebec at that time was planning to separate Quebec from Canada. And, this was being debated in a civilized manner. In Ukraine, Levko Lukianenko, for raising consideration of a point in the Soviet Constitution, was sentenced to death.

Truly, the lot of Quebecers was and is a lot harder than that of the lucky Ukrainians.

Point No. 3: Ukraine seceded from the Soviet Union in accordance with provisions in the Constitution of the Soviet Union. The secession proposed by Quebec is in violation of law. It is illegal. It is rather interesting that Mr. Primak fails to mention the documented fraud that went on in ballot counting during the referendum. "No" votes were counted as "yes" votes, and this was done with the blessings of the scrutineers, all appointed by the separatist government. Nor does Mr. Primak mention that the separatist government of Quebec, before the results of the referendum were even in, was soliciting members of the Canadian Armed Forces to swear allegiance to Quebec. Is this the act of a democratic government? Is this the act of responsible people, when they incite sedition and mutiny?

Point No. 4: In a curious perversion of logic, Mr. Primak blames ethnics for the racism of the separatists. After all if there were no "ethnics" in Quebec then there would be no racism. This kind of apologetics for racism has been going on for years and it is every bit as ugly as actual racism. What about the defacing of Ukrainian churches in Montreal? I suppose that this was only a natural reaction from people who have been humiliated by those ethnics. Mr. Parizeau, the premier of Quebec, on the

night of the referendum defeat blamed the "ethnics and money." Mr. Landry verbally attacked a worker in a hotel, berating her for having a non-Francophone name and therefore voting "no" in the referendum. The police had to be called out to calm this incident and this, by the way, involved the minister in the separatist government in charge of developing relations with the ethnic communities.

Mr. Primak, in case you don't know this or wish to ignore it, Ukraine has a history of over 1,000 years. We settled our lands peacefully and not by force as the French did when they drove out the indigenous Native peoples. With a population of over 52 million, Ukraine is a land rich in resources. Its historical and geographic importance is unquestionable, and the suffering that this land and its people have undergone is unique. This country voted by over 92 percent to be free. There is undoubted democratic support for independence in Ukraine. Your separatist confers on the other hand, were looking at 50 percent plus one vote. Even constitutions aren't changed with that kind of vote, and yet the "yes" side was preparing to rend Canada on such a razor-thin decision.

Just one other comment has to be made about Mr. Parizeau, whom Mr. Primak defends with such ardor. When Mr. Parizeau announced the referendum, it was to be on a question of Quebec completely seceding from Canada. This did not fly with the populace, as the support for this position was in the vicinity of 30 percent. So Mr. Parizeau changed his tune: a new arrangement with Canada was promised as a goal. It was interesting and somewhat embarrassing that Mr. Parizeau taped a television interview prior to the referendum but on the condition that this interview was to be shown only several months after the referendum was held. In the interview, Mr. Parizeau clearly admits that he lied to the people. He had no intention of negotiating any relationship with the rest of Canada. In fact, the whole separatist position was based on lies, on cheating and on fraud – and they still lost.

Over half the territory of Quebec was granted to it after it joined the Confederation. It will obviously lose this land in case of separation, because the aboriginal peoples occupying this territory have voted overwhelmingly to stay within Canada. If Mr. Primak is so gung-ho in defending the so-called rights of the Francophones, will he defend the rights of the Native people? Somehow I don't think so.

Dr. A. Melnyk  
St. Laurent, Quebec

### A reader's query re "Animal Farm"

Dear Editor:

I was delighted to discover in The Weekly that a Ukrainian edition of George Orwell's "Animal Farm" was issued in 1947. I've often mentioned this book to Ukrainian friends overseas who are very curious about Orwell and particularly about this anti-communist tale which is unavailable in Ukraine.

I would be interested to know if the Ukrainian edition is still around, and where one may purchase copies. If not, are there plans to re-issue this book? Given the precarious political climate in Ukraine these days, I believe "Animal Farm" would be a timely fable for Ukrainians here to process and ponder.

Thank you for your assistance.

Irene Zabytko  
Apopka, Fla.

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### Kyiv-Mohyla: A light in the tunnel

During the last five years, Ukrainians living in North America have become increasingly disillusioned with developments in Ukraine.

Corruption, an irradicable Soviet mindset, parliamentary intransigence, naiveté regarding the diaspora, and other shortcomings have contributed to a growing sense of pessimism about Ukraine's future.

Recently, however, there appear to be small lights in Ukraine's long, dark tunnel. One of those lights was lit by Viatcheslav Brioukhovetsky, president of the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy (UKMA). It was Mr. Brioukhovetsky, a Rukh activist, who, together with a handful of dedicated educators, revived the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in 1991.

Founded in 1615, the original 17th century academy was unique. According to a lengthy article by Igor Greenwald in the March 15 issue of the highly regarded Chronicle of Higher Education, the original academy "demonstrated that it was possible to combine national consciousness with intellectual curiosity. Its founder, Petro Mohyla, an Orthodox bishop, shunned the staid educational model then dominant in Ukraine and patterned his academy on Europe's Jesuit institutions. This helped the academy to become a scholarly powerhouse that attracted students from all over Eastern Europe. Yet it maintained its distinctly Ukrainian heritage and its close ties to the Cossacks [sic], who gave the country its first taste of statehood."

A similar struggle is being waged today by Dr. Brioukhovetsky against the staid Soviet-style academicians who dominate Ukrainian higher education. In the Greenwald article Dr. Brioukhovetsky mentions that he no longer attends meetings of the Ukrainian rectors' council. "I went several times," he says. "The people are predominantly those who were appointed by the Communist Party. And they don't want to change anything. Why should they? They have a quiet life."

"So far, the institution has managed to balance its twin commitments to internationalism and Ukrainian nationalism," Mr. Greenwald writes. "It has two languages of instruction, Ukrainian and English, and applicants must have a command of both. Four years of English-language study and two of a second foreign language are required to graduate." Japanese and Chinese are offered, but Russian is not.

Another refreshing change at the university is the lack of nepotism. Entrance exams are taken and graded anonymously. Copies are made on the premises, in the dead of night, to be certain that versions aren't sold on the black market. "Today, Mohyla is widely recognized as one of the very few higher-education institutions in Ukraine where admission decisions are based on a student's ability rather than on cash," writes Mr. Greenwald.

The UKMA curriculum is patterned on the liberal arts tradition of the West. Electives have also been introduced, something that was foreign to the Soviet style of education, where the course of study was rigorously prescribed. The first graduate school of social work has recently opened, and soon there will be master's and doctor's degree programs in place at UKMA as well.

Another aspect of the UKMA program is its autonomy. The power at Mohyla is derived from a Senate that includes a board of trustees and faculty members who are responsible for electing the president and

rector. An international advisory board includes such luminaries as Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski.

All of these "innovations" have not set well with the Ukrainian educational establishment. Yuri Bugai, a former deputy education minister, argues that UKMA lags behind Kyiv State University and wonders what "niche" the institution hopes to fill. The government has also resisted allowing UKMA to occupy a vacant piece of property adjoining the campus. Despite these problems, UKMA was licensed as a fully accredited institution in June of 1994.

Despite enormous difficulties, UKMA has come a long way. In 1991, there was no campus, no money – not even a telephone. Today, there are three faculties (social studies, humanities and natural sciences), 900 students, and even alumni who in 1995 were the first UKMA graduating class. Significantly, when last year's freshmen were asked about their career goals, 11 percent stated they planned to seek Ukraine's presidency.

All of this was made possible by generous contributions from Ukrainians in the street – one woman offered strawberries – and philanthropists such as George Soros. Recently, UKMA received a generous grant from the Eurasia Foundation to develop a graduate program in economics.

The UKMA library consists of 204,442 books and 15,512 periodicals. The university publishes the newspapers Mist and The Stranger's Gazette as well as the journals Kino-Teatr and Tsentri Europy. The KM Academia Publishing House at UKMA is responsible for 15 books and over 100 internal publications.

But Dr. Brioukhovetsky is not resting on his laurels. His master plan is to create a network of semi-private university-academies throughout Ukraine. The Ostrih Higher College was founded in 1994 and currently has 147 students enrolled. Last summer two professors and I from Northern Illinois University had an opportunity to visit and lecture at Ostrih. Another UKMA affiliate will open soon in Mykolajiv.

Although UKMA is well on the way to becoming the premier institution of higher learning in Ukraine, the tunnel in which it finds itself is far from illuminated. Student costs are high. The university expends the equivalent of \$4,950 to educate one student for one year, of which almost \$3,000 is paid by the government of Ukraine. Freshmen are required to pay only \$200 of the balance, with the university absorbing the remaining costs. In the future, however, sophomores and above will be asked to pay the fee equivalent of \$2,000. This will enable UKMA to provide a world-class education.

To expand the UKMA student population, the International Charitable Fund for the Renaissance of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy has been established. Those who donate \$2,000 or more will have an opportunity to specify the conditions under which their grant will be given. The fund will conduct competition for the grants based on these conditions. Since the fund is a non-profit organization (No. 23-2697509), all donations are tax-deductible. I urge all Ukrainians to donate whatever their means allow to this worthy cause. What happens at UKMA may well determine the future of Ukraine.

Donations should be sent to: The Mohyla Academic Society Inc., 77 Bayberry Road, Princeton, NJ 08540-7418.

## Tree-planting campaign targets American and Ukrainian forests

WASHINGTON - The 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster falls on April 26, which is National Arbor Day in the United States. In a fitting tribute, American Forests and the Chernobyl Committee of Washington are launching a campaign to plant trees in Ukraine and in a memorial forest in the U.S.

"We invite individuals everywhere to join in support of these plantings, which are intended to give hope to the hundreds of thousands of people still bearing the burden of one of the worst human and environmental disasters ever," said Barry Cullen, executive vice-president of American Forests.

The number of trees planted will depend on the success of the campaign, which gets under way with the March 29 dedication of the first trees planted at the U.S. site northwest of Orlando, Fla. One tree will be planted for every dollar donated. Donations will be evenly divided between the Ukrainian and U.S. projects. A \$20 contribution plants 10 trees in Ukraine and 10 in the U.S. memorial forest.

Before the April 26, 1986, Chernobyl explosion, the Ukrainian region of Polissia was an area famed for its old forests rich with medicinal plants and wildlife. Nuclear fallout killed or polluted more than 10 million acres of forest. The plantings in Ukraine will provide a living symbol of hope for the future in the Kyiv, Chernihiv and Poltava regions, where many of the victims of Chernobyl were relocated. Selection and implementation of specific sites for Ukrainian plantings will be done by the National Ecological Center of Ukraine, American Forests' Global ReLeaf partner.

The U.S. project will restore a native longleaf pine forest in Florida's

Ocklawaha Prairie Conservation Area located 45 miles northwest of Orlando.

At one time, longleaf pine sandhill ecosystems flourished throughout the Southeast United States, but today less than 3 percent remain. According to Steve Miller, the land management coordinator for the St. Johns River Water Management District, the Ocklawaha Prairie site, cleared and converted to agriculture in the past, is ideal for restoration. Early this year 157,000 trees were planted at the 314-acre site.

The Chernobyl memorial will be the seventh Global ReLeaf forest restoration project sponsored by American Forests in Florida. More than 50 others have been planted in 31 other states. American Forests, based in Washington and founded in 1875, is the national conservation organization for trees and forests.

In a companion effort, Global ReLeaf International is selling notecards featuring pen-and-ink drawings of tree seeds by the late famed Ukrainian American artist Jacques Hnizdovsky. Each \$10 purchase of 12 note cards results in the planting of two trees - one in the memorial grove in Florida, the other in Ukraine - and supports the creation of an "Album of Memories" based on survivors' photographs, documents and narrations.

Tax-deductible contributions to the Chernobyl Tree Plantings should be sent to: American Forests, Global ReLeaf International-Chernobyl, P.O. Box 2000, Washington DC 20013. Credit card donations (\$20 minimum) may be made by phone to (202) 667-3300, ext. 200. The Hnizdovsky notecards may also be ordered at that phone number.

## Chornobyl commemorations: a listing

*Below, The Weekly provides a listing of regional events commemorating the 10th anniversary of Chornobyl as submitted by Chornobyl Challenge '96.*

### Boston:

April 24-25 - Two-day symposium, "Chornobyl: Ten Years Later," Harvard University; Ukrainian Studies Institute, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., Cambridge; documentary film showing by Volodymyr Kuznetsov.

April 26 - Commemorative vigil, Boston Common.

(For more information, contact Christina Slywotzky, 617-864-1838.)

### Buffalo, N.Y.:

April 18 - Candlelight vigil, University of Buffalo, 6:30 film showing: "Living Under the Cloud" by T. Metcalf.

April 20 - Commemorative dinner, 6 p.m.

(For more information, contact Olenka Bodnarskyj, 716-636-1300.)

### Cleveland:

April 21 - Earth Day, Cleveland Zoological Park (information table and display).

April 26 - Candlelight ceremony, Chester Common, downtown Cleveland, guest speaker: Dr. J. White.

### Denver:

April 26 - Candlelight vigil, Cheesman Park.

April 28 - Commemorative dinner, principal sponsor: Ukrainian National Women's League of America.

(For more information, contact Maria Figlus, 303-423-1738.)

### Detroit:

April 21 - Blood drive for the American Red Cross, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church (Dearborn), Ukrainian Cultural Center (Warren).

April 28 - Commemorative services for the victims of Chornobyl at all Detroit-area churches; commemorative program, St. Joseph Ukrainian Catholic Church, guest speaker: Ambassador Anatoly Zlenko.

April 29 - Lecture by Ambassador Zlenko at Wayne State University. (For more information, contact Roma Dyhdalo, 810-879-7655.)

### Hartford, Conn.:

April 26 - Evening rally and candlelight vigil, Connecticut State Capitol, 6:30 p.m.

(For more information, contact Nadia

Haftkowycz, 860-956-3834.)

### Northern New Jersey:

April 26 - Outdoor service, Holy Ascension Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Clifton, N.J.; Candlelight march to Clifton City Center.

(For more information, contact Zenia Brozyna, 201-935-6233.)

### Philadelphia:

April 26 - Candlelight vigil, Center City.

April 27 - Afternoon march to the Schuylkill River; evening commemorative program featuring Prometheus Choir, Ukrainian Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown.

(For more information, contact Orlysa Hewka 215-663-0707.)

### Pittsburgh:

April 26 - Ecumenical service, Heinz Chapel.

(For more information, contact Michael Komichak, 412-331-6724.)

### Rochester, N.Y.:

April 26 - Public rally.

April 28 - Commemorative fund-raising dinner, guest speaker: Dr. Natalia Fendrikova, Kyiv Institute of Pediatrics, Obstetrics and Gynecology.

### San Diego:

April 27 - Commemorative dinner, candlelight vigil, House of Ukraine, 4 p.m. Balboa Park (bandura selections by Andriy Kytasty).

(For more information, contact Bill Loznycky, 619-452-9759.)

## Service at St. Patrick's

WASHINGTON - On April 26, the 10th anniversary of the tragic nuclear accident at Chornobyl, a solemn ecumenical service will take place at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York City, reported the Ukrainian National Information Service.

The service will begin at 6 p.m., conducted by the hierarchy of Ukrainian Churches.

Among the guests of honor will be Cardinal John O'Connor, head of the Roman Catholic Archdiocese of New York; Mrs. Boutros Boutros-Ghali, wife of the United Nations secretary-general; and New York Gov. George Pataki, who will deliver the keynote address.

St. Patrick's Cathedral is located on Fifth Avenue and 50th Street in New York City.

## CHORNOBYL: TEN YEARS AFTER

You are cordially invited to attend  
A Commemorative Conference  
part of the series:

### CHORNOBYL CHALLENGE '96

hosted by:

Council on Russian and East European Studies

### YALE UNIVERSITY

(with the Chopivsky Family Foundation)  
Law School Auditorium

127 Wall Street, New Haven, CT

Monday, April 8th 8:45 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

and

The Harriman Institute

### COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

School for International and Public Affairs  
Altschul Auditorium

420 West 118th Street, New York, NY

Tuesday, April 9th 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

A distinguished group of scholars and international experts addresses one of the greatest environmental and human challenges of our time. Panelists will include: **Ambassador Anatoly Zlenko** (Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the U.N.), **Prof. David Marples** (University of Alberta), **Volodymyr Yavorivsky** (Ukrainian Member of Parliament), **Dr. Yuri Shcherbak** (Ambassador of Ukraine), **Carlos Pascual** (National Security Council), **Prof. Murray Fesbach** (Georgetown University), **Vice-Prime Minister Vasyl Durdnyec** (Ukraine), **Alla Yaroshinska** (award winning journalist, *Izvestiya*), **Dr. Alexander Sich** (MIT), **Congressman Benjamin Gilman** (R-NY), **Dr. Nora Groce** (Yale School of Public Health), **Dr. Alexander Motyl** (Columbia University).

Conference fee: \$35 both days / \$20 one day  
Yale and Columbia students and faculty free w/ valid ID

Registration information:  
Ellis Mishulovich 203-432-3423 (Yale)  
Susan Holmes 212-854-8487 (Columbia)

Support for these conferences has been given by:

Council on Russian & East European Studies (Yale University), Harriman Institute (Columbia University), The Chopivsky Family Foundation, The Yale Ukrainian Initiative, Chornobyl Challenge '96 Coalition, Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund, Shevchenko Scientific Society.

## A CALL TO ACTION

The Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) would like to offer a few suggestions on what can be done in your area to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster. Large-scale participation is always best, but if you are unable to participate in large-scale events, then the following suggestions may help:

- Distribute press packets on Chornobyl, which can be obtained through the UNIS office or through the Children of Chornobyl Foundation.
  - Use the 15-minute documentary on Chornobyl prepared by CCF to obtain access to public television stations in your area and provide interviews with local news stations.
  - Sponsor a blood drive, where people can donate blood in commemoration of the 10th anniversary of Chornobyl. Call your local chapter of the American Red Cross for further information.
  - Involve other ethnic communities and religious denominations in your observances.
  - Have exhibits on Chornobyl based on materials gathered from newspapers, magazines or other publications at your local schools or libraries.
  - Talk to the administrators of your children's schools to have Chornobyl remembered during a "moment of silence" or "moment of prayer."
  - Contact churches and synagogues in your area and ask the priests, pastors and rabbis to either hold a special service for the victims or to mention the suffering and the dead during a regularly scheduled service.
  - Sponsor academic conferences, and invite the medical and university communities.
  - Hold candlelight vigils or processions.
  - Sponsor walk-a-thons through organizations such as the American Cancer Society, and request that all proceeds be donated to the victims of Chornobyl.
- Keep in mind that the effects of the tragedy are still felt to this day. Feel free to do any of these things throughout the year - just as long as you do them! For more information, contact the UNIS office at (202) 547-0018.



## Fiddler Peter Ostroushko plays music from around the world

by Maria Koropecy

TORONTO — In Ukrainian, Ostroushko literally means "sharp ear," and when you hear fiddler Peter Ostroushko play, you will see that he truly lives up to his name.

Mr. Ostroushko played on February 25 at the Water's Edge Café, in Toronto's Harbourfront Center with guitarist Dean Magraw. As he said in introducing the first set, the duet plays "original music and music from around the world."

This was Mr. Ostroushko's first visit to Toronto. He was promoting his most recent album, "Heart of the Heartland." There is definitely a relationship between the Minnesota-born violinist's music and the land. It is music that lets your mind wander and inspires you to think of vast prairies illuminated by the light of endless skies.

Mr. Ostroushko told this writer that he intended to go out for Thai food after the show, and added, "Too bad they can't make Ukrainian food with Thai sensibilities."

Merging two or more cultures is the way he approaches his music. His "International Medley," for example, started off with contemporary television show tunes and then traveled through Ukrainian, Texan and French Canadian fiddle melodies.

Raised in the family of an immigrant shoemaker who played the mandolin for fun, Mr. Ostroushko was constantly surrounded by music. Completely self-taught, he considers himself a fiddler

*Maria Koropecy is a free-lance writer living in Toronto.*

brought up in the folk tradition.

The fact that he has had no formal training makes Mr. Ostroushko's musicianship all the more notable. He is able to improvise fluid melodies with intricate note combinations, and although his partner, Mr. Magraw, often veered off on his own creative tangent, Mr. Ostroushko never missed a beat. Their timing was extraordinary.

The duet's repertoire is vast. They played some blues and some jazz tunes, such as Fats Waller's "Jitterbug Waltz." During the concert, they also played a song with a Gypsy Kings flavor at a tempo so fast the glass doors of the café blew open.

During this concert, as in most, Mr. Ostroushko opens each set playing the violin, but switches to mandolin for most selections. Although the pair's set was mostly instrumental, the prairie fiddler threw in some vocals too.

In the second set, Mr. Ostroushko put an interesting twist on a familiar melody. He sang about a man who comes home after an absence of three years to find his wife has had a baby. Having asked her "where did the boy come from?" he gets the reply "Benny's from heaven."

Another song, written while he was staying at a Holiday Inn on Valentine's Day, has a refrain that goes "Walking into the Twilight of Our Years." Mr. Ostroushko said it will appear on his new recording, but details about this release still need to be worked out.

Early in the performance, Mr. Ostroushko asked if there were any Ukrainians in the audience. Only a few people raised their hands, but during the break someone requested a Ukrainian song. He chose the lullaby "Drimota," and



Peter Ostroushko (right) and Dean Magraw perform at the Harbourfront York Quay Center.

explained that the title refers to the transient state between sleep and wakefulness. The "Drimota" and a "Dream" walk together, find a girl in her cradle, then send her to sleep.

Mr. Ostroushko has several CDs to his credit and travels extensively for performances and inspiration. His most recent

titles, all on the Red House Records label, include "Duo" (with Mr. Magraw), "Blue Mesa," "Buddies of Swing" and "Amando Boys."

For more information about Mr. Ostroushko's touring schedule as well as Red House catalogue information, call 1-800-695-4687.

## Composer Lubomyr Melnyk explores new directions in contemporary music

by Nestor Gula

TORONTO — Continuous music exists when the harmony becomes involved with the sound of the instrument. One of the main composers of continuous music is Lubomyr Melnyk, who, through his works for solo piano, two pianos, and piano quartets occasionally accompanied by small ensembles, explores new directions in contemporary classical music.

A listener of continuous music falls into a trance-like state. This, according to the composer, is exactly what the effect of continuous music should be. He explained that "the slowing harmonic change down has a twofold and contradictory process on the listener." The music slows the listener's metabolism down to a trance-like state, while at the same time awakening the mind and opening it up to hyper-speed activity.

Mr. Melnyk added that the effect on the audience and on him, as the performer, is nearly identical. "There is a state of almost near motionlessness, while at the same time the capacity to think and move the body enters the hyper-realm."

Mr. Melnyk was born in Munich and came to Canada when he was very young. He currently lives in Katrineholm, in central Sweden, with his wife Lesia and their son Lubko. Though he studied philosophy at the University of Winnipeg, he chose a career in music. He played piano with various dance groups and started to explore continuous music while he was living in Paris in 1974.

One of Mr. Melnyk's main inspirations was the music of Terry Riley, whose compositions frequently were based on continuous music. Mr. Melnyk said he wanted to adapt continuous music to the piano. He observed that when he started to develop the technique he encountered many technical problems but eventually mastered it. He also found that, "the tonality of music, which had seemed tired out and finished, acquired a vital new meaning."

The technique of continuous music requires that the performer play many notes, in arpeggio fashion, with one hand. In concert this ranges between 11 and 14 notes per second. The quickest Mr. Melnyk ever plays is about 19.5 notes per second, but he can keep this up only for about 15 seconds.

He started composing pieces and eventually wrote the

50.5 minute piece "KMH", which was recorded in 1979. Although he has made five more albums since that first one, the latest being "A portrait of Petlura on the Day He Was Killed," and countless tapes, he believes live performance is the way music must be heard.

"The live performance possesses the gift of reality; it is living, something we have forgotten in our day-to-day familiarity with the term 'live.' This reality is not possible from a recording." He scoffs at musicians who spend all their time perfecting their work in a studio, rarely venturing out to play concerts. "The sacred nature of music deems that it should be played live."

He says that he himself does not play concerts as often because "the concert possibilities are harder to find... Many places that feature contemporary music have disappeared." One of the reasons for this is that governments are putting a greater distance between themselves and the arts.

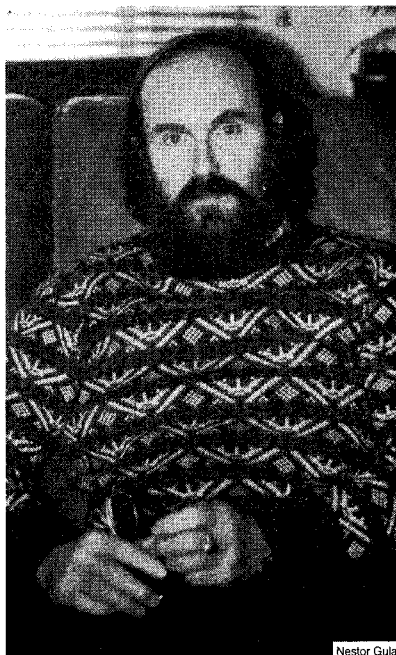
### Toronto concert

Mr. Melnyk performed in concert on February 25 in Toronto's Music Gallery. The performance featured three new pieces by the composer, "The Riding and the Tale", "Triangle 14...19...22," and the premier performance of an excerpt of "It Was Revealed onto Us that Man Is the Center of the Universe, But Few Can Now Remember."

This latest work By Lubomyr Melnyk was commissioned by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's radio show "Two New Hours," which airs on Sunday's at 10:05 p.m. The concert will be broadcast on a future edition (the air date has not yet been determined).

"It Was Revealed..." is 110 minutes long and took one-and-a-half years to compose. The inspiration behind this work is the conflict between science and art. "Science has never, will never, and can never, come to grips with beauty or art," according to Mr. Melnyk.

He writes in the program notes for the Toronto performance that as science pushes the frontiers of knowledge, always seeking out more distant stars or delving into the heart of the atom, beauty and art are suppressed. "Art does not exist in this world. It exists in our soul and in our psyche. It is beyond time, it is beyond space. It is smaller than the smallest and larger than the largest. Art and beauty are a gift... a gift to be treasured. Not a gift



Lubomyr Melnyk

to be pushed aside by technology."

He states that man's obsession with machines that stretch the dimensions of space and time will not prevail over art and beauty because, "Beauty shall remain. Art will remain. Even after the world has ceased." Art and beauty will remain because after everything is gone, according to Mr. Melnyk, "the angels shall still be humming a tune...."

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**SPORTSLINE****TENNIS****Andrei sings the blues:  
"Don't wanna be Ukrainian"**

Now that the tennis season is in full swing, Ukraine's most demonstrative Russian, Andrei Medvedev, has hit the headlines again. Rumors swirled since the beginning of the year that Mr. Medvedev was seeking a Russian passport after years of insisting that Kyiv was where his heart is and resisting Muscovite enticements to relocate.

On February 29, the Reuters news agency reported that Mr. Medvedev had made a bid to change allegiance from Ukraine to Russia in time for this year's summer Olympics. His move was rejected by the International Tennis Federation.

Reuters reported that Mr. Medvedev is "viewed as a national hero in Ukraine alongside figure skating gold medalist Oksana Baiul and world pole vault record holder Serge Bubka." It also quoted an interview with the Moscow daily Sport Express, in which the tennis pro opined: "I grew up in the Soviet Union, my homeland was the Soviet Union, my capital was Moscow, even if Kyiv was my home town. But everything is so complicated, it's hard for me to say what it means now."

According to the London-based ITF's rules, players are eligible to play for an adopted team only if they have not represented any other country for three years before their application. A Kyiv-born ethnic Russian, Mr. Medvedev has played for Ukraine in the Davis Cup during that period.

Powered by a quartet of the professional tour's rising stars, Yevgeny Kafelnikov (currently ranked eighth in the world), Andrei Olhovskiy, Alexander Volkov and Andrei Chesnokov, Russia has been the runner-up for the past two years in the Davis Cup tournament (to Sweden and the U.S.), but lost in the first round to Italy on February 9-11 in a series of close hard-fought matches.

According to a March 1 item in Ukraina Moloda, Ukrainian Tennis Federation President German Beniaminov said "the [Ukrainian] federation cannot place any roadblocks in the way of a sportsman who is ranked 13th in the tennis world."

Ukrainian National Olympic Committee President Valery Borzov begged to differ. He pointed out that a change of teams about five months prior to Olympic competition is impossible. "Our tennis team has already been formed, but we are ready to discuss the matter following the Olympics," Mr. Borzov said in a quote carried by Ukraina Moloda.

Taras Bejko, a former teammate of Mr. Medvedev contacted by The Weekly in Montreal, opined that the famous Kyivan's performance has fallen off recently, and he was probably seeking a less pressure-packed assignment than carrying a weak Ukrainian men's team.

A winner of nine major tournaments and ranked as high as fourth in the world in 1993, Mr. Medvedev has dropped to 14th as of March 17. In the season's first Grand Slam event, the Australian Open, he lost in the second round to Patrick McEnroe in a bizarre match he led 6-0, 6-2 at one point.

Mr. Medvedev has seemingly recovered, and is still capable of inspired play, as he proved in his first-round drubbing of Mr. Kafelnikov 6-1, 6-3, at the European Community Championships on February 19-25 in Antwerp, Belgium.

Mr. Medvedev pressed on, besting Romanian Adrian Panu, 6-3, 6-3, and eking out a gritty win over the Swiss Marc Rosset (the eighth seed), 4-6, 7-6 (7-2) 6-3. He bowed out in the semi-final to the eventual champion, Germany's Michael Stich, 6-4, 6-1.

In his latest result, at the Muratti Indoor in Milan, Mr. Medvedev reached the quarter-finals, but lost to France's Guy Forget on March 1, 1-6, 6-3, 5-7.

**Rusedski turns it up a notch**

The other high-profile Ukrainian member of the men's tour is a turncoat of a different stripe. Former Montrealer Greg Rusedski sought and won the right to represent the United Kingdom last year, having avoided playing for Canada on its Davis Cup team.

His season began with a series of hard fights down under. At the Australian Open in Melbourne, he gave eventual champion Boris Becker of Germany a run for his money, with the score 6-4, 3-6, 4-6, 6-3, 6-3 in the Teuton's favor.

His best result came at the Peters International Tournament in Sydney, Australia, where he shocked No. 2 seed Richard Krajicek of the Netherlands 7-6, 7-6 and reached the semi-finals before being ousted by fifth seed Todd Martin, 7-5, 7-6 (7-2), of the U.S.

Mr. Rusedski has vaulted to 44th in the world rankings, but has had the bad luck of frequently running into his Wimbledon '95 nemesis, Pete Sampras. They met at the Kroger St. Jude Open in Memphis, Tennessee, in February, and Mr. Sampras prevailed, 7-6 (9-7) 7-6 (7-1), in an awesome slugfest. Mr. Rusedski took the first set against the hot U.S. player in a quarter-final match at the Sybase Open in San Jose, Calif., 7-6 (7-5), but then lost the next two, 3-6, 4-6.

**Women's tour**

On the men's tour, Ukraine has nobody other than the restless Mr. Medvedev in the top 200. On the women's circuit, there are three competitors in the Tier 2 and 3 group, though none are flirting with the elite top-20.

Natalia Medvedeva, Andrei's older sister, is ranked 154th, and at a the EA-Generali tournament in Linz, Austria, she beat local Beate Reinstadler 6-4, 6-3 in the first round, but bowed out to France's Julie Halard in the next, 7-5, 6-1.

At the same event, Olga Lugina, ranked 173rd, rose out of the qualifying round with a victory over Germany's Wiltrud Probst, 6-7 (4-7), 7-5, 6-3. Unfortunately, in the first round she ran up against 37th ranked Silvia Farina of Italy and lost, 6-4, 6-4.

The last of Ukraine's women's tour trio, Elena Tatarikova, has yet to register a game above the qualifying round in a Women's Tennis Association sanctioned event this year, but has risen five places to a 181 rank in the world.

Natalia Medvedeva, although raised in the same family as her demonstrative star brother, is bemused by her identity as a representative of Ukraine, but not resentful. In an interview she gave to Volodymyr Khoroshun of the Russian-language Dzerkalo Nedeli (February 12 issue), she explains that hearing the Ukrainian national anthem played at the Australian Open when she walked on court with her sibling for a mixed doubles match was "pleasant, although I'm not entirely used to it."

She also greatly appreciated it when fans showed up and frantically waved the Ukrainian blue and yellow.

(Continued on page 11)

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## Sportsline

(Continued from page 10)

Although she shares an apartment with Andrei in Germany when on tour, Ms. Medvedeva finds people there "cold."

Asked if she could play for Russia, Ms. Medvedeva said, "No, definitely not. I was born [in Ukraine], grew up here, trained here. Never in my life will I play for Russia, no matter what they offered; it doesn't interest me."

### HOCKEY

When Toronto Maple Leaf's General Manager Cliff Fletcher fired Pat Burns as coach on March 4, he appointed Nick Beverley, the team's director of scouting and player personnel, as interim coach for the balance of the season.

Mr. Beverley is of Ukrainian background — his family changed the surname from Bezverehney.

Mr. Beverley broke into the NHL as a defenseman in 1966, and played with six teams over 11 seasons. He continued his career with the Los Angeles Kings organization as coach of their minor league affiliate in Houston, and then gradually rose through the managerial ranks.

In 1991, Mr. Beverley was appointed the Kings' general manager and saw his team reach the Stanley Cup finals two years later. In 1994, he joined the Leafs as their chief scout. (Ukrainian World Congress Sports Commission)

### SKIING

This year's Great Scorer award (it's not if you win, it's how you play the game) should go to Ukraine's indefatigable skier Yulia Kharkivska. Competing in the Alpine Skiing World Championship in Sierra Nevada, Spain, she came in dead last (37th) in the women's first event, the Super-G, held on February 12th, a full six seconds behind the first-place finisher, in a sport where the top five are separated by hundredths of a second.

In the downhill on February 18, she tied for last with Argentina's Lucila Lantschner, 10 seconds behind the leader, photogenic champion Picabo Street of the U.S. The next day, Ms. Kharkivska did not finish in the women's combined, but neither did 17 others, including the slick Ms. Street.

Then came the plucky skier's best results. As the field fell and missed gates in tortuous conditions (29 did not finish), Ms. Kharkivska came in 25th in the slalom on February 25. Three days later, as 20 competitors bowed out of the giant slalom, she came in 28th.

In cross-country skiing, Iryna Taranenko soldiers on in World Cup competition. She came in 13th at a Nordic meet in Lahti, Finland, settling into ninth place in the over-all standings after 13 races.

### BIATHLON

In the biathlon World Championships at Ruhpolding, Germany, on February 10, Ukraine claimed the bronze medal in the 4 x 7.5 kilometer relay thanks to Olympic medalist Valentyna Tserbe and her teammates Tetiana Vodopianova, Elena Petrova and Olena Zubrilova.

### VOLLEYBALL

Mike Burchuk has joined Taras Lisekevych among the ranks of Olympic volleyball team coaches in North America.

Mr. Burchuk's squad clinched a berth in this summer's Olympics in Atlanta by besting the Dominican Republic in a convincing straight set (15-6, 15-6, 15-2) victory at the Continental Cup championship in Winnipeg on March 16.

Mr. Burchuk was named head coach

of the Canadian squad in the spring of 1989, after serving for three years as the skipper of the national junior team.

Before that he put in a nine-year stint as a coach at the University of Winnipeg, leading the team to six consecutive national titles, two undefeated seasons and an over-all winning percentage of 89.4. Under his leadership the U of W's women won 43 of the 56 tournaments they entered.

The last time Canada's women's team qualified for the Olympics was in 1984, for the Los Angeles Games, under another Ukrainian, Lorne Sawula.

### FIGURE SKATING

Although feeling the void left by the stellar Oksana Baiul, Ukraine was in good shape heading into the World Championships, held March 19-23 in Edmonton, Alberta. (See story on page 5.)

At the recent Champions' Series Grand Prix in Paris, held February 22-24, the recently crowned European Champion Viacheslav Zahorodniuk narrowly missed making the podium and took fourth place, behind local Eric Mallot.

### TRACK AND FIELD

Ukrainian Lyubov Klochko won her second Los Angeles marathon on March 3 with a time of 2 hours, 30 minutes, 30 seconds. "I wanted to run with a pack of women," she told the Associated Press through an interpreter, "but no one wanted to go with me. I had to run with the men."

On February 11, world record holding pole vaulter Sergei Bubka of Donetsk chalked up another victory at the French International Indoor track meet in Paris, but the height was less than impressive. At 18 feet, 4.5 inches, the winning height was a about foot below his season's best of 19 feet 4.25 inches, not to mention his world mark of over 20 feet.

At the European Indoor meet in Stockholm held on March 9-11, which most of Ukraine's leading athletes appeared to have avoided, Viacheslav Tyrtshnyk placed 12th in the men's high jump, while Yelena Khlopotnova finished 10th in the women's long jump.

### HANDBALL

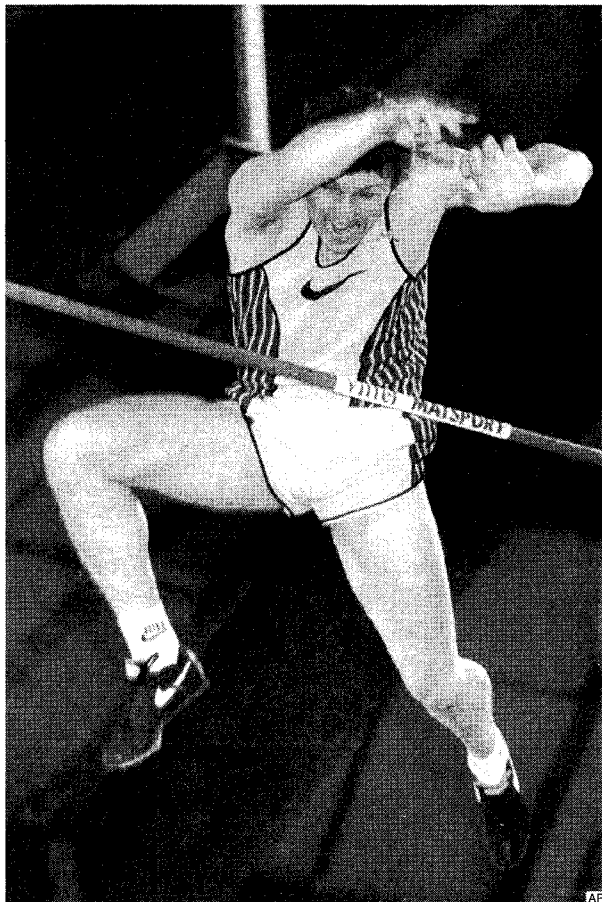
Rick Oleksyk is the coach of the USA's national team in a sport he says deserves more recognition. "I guarantee, before we're old men, people will know this sport in the U.S.," he said. Mr. Oleksyk hopes he will benefit from the added profile afforded by his country's hosting of this year's Olympics. His team was given an automatic berth as host country.

Mr. Oleksyk assumed his present position in 1982. A graduate of West Point who served seven years in the U.S. Army, he has motivated his team. "We want to shock the world," said 29-year-old squad member Tom Fitzgerald. "Mr. Oleksyk's not a real screamer. At the same time, when he speaks everyone knows that's the law."

Mr. Oleksyk knows he's fighting an uphill battle. "It is the total opposite of basketball," he said, "Whenever we go to Europe, they kind of laugh and say, 'Now you know how we feel in basketball.'"

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Sergei Bubka clears 19 feet 6 1/4 inches during the Lievin International Track Meet in France.

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## Russia, the specter...

(Continued from page 2)

sion the spirit of Yeltsin's "real" integration.

### The temptation of neo-integrationism

The dissolution of the USSR and the emergence on its territory of new independent states, especially Ukraine, has caused several blows to the Russian national identity. First, the emergence of Ukraine as an independent state designated Kyivan Rus' as the starting point of new independent Ukraine rather than Russia, thus compelling the latter to search for its historical roots and to ponder whether these should be attributed to Europe, Asia or Eurasia. It also focused attention on the fact that, historically, Russia and Ukraine existed as two different nations with complex relations rather than as one "single" brotherly people.

The loss of Ukraine in 1991 signified for Russia its physical removal from the European mainstream, thus causing a blow to the Russian self-image and necessitating its search for new strategic partners in the region. Thus, Russia's interest in Belarus as its No. 1 strategic partner emerged at that time. The eventual removal from power of the democratic-minded Stanislav Shushkevich, one of the signatories of the Belaya Vezha pact, and the accession to the presidency of Alyaksandr Lukashenka (January 1994), an ardent proponent of neo-integrationist ideas, apparently coincided with the

efforts of the Russian special service to mastermind a plan for new integration.

After the forceful dissolution of the Russian Parliament in October 1993, Mr. Yeltsin expressed the main idea of this plan in a vague, albeit comprehensible, fashion in a speech on October 23, 1993. Appearing in Yaroslavl, a city that is one of the historical pillars of Russian statehood, he spoke about its significance as a city of Russian glory, and focused on the necessity of "gathering all Russian lands" around Russia proper.

The victory of the nationalists and the Communists in elections to the Russian Duma in December 1993 compelled the presidential administration to strike first. In September 1994 the Foreign Intelligence Service of Russia headed by Yevgeniy Primakov, prepared a document titled "Russia-CIS: Does the Position of the West Need to be Corrected?" This document concentrated on two major ideas: the course on reintegration of CIS countries was deemed "objective" and inevitable, and the West was warned against interfering. This document was primarily of a consultative nature, however, and it did not contain direct recommendations to executive bodies.

On September 14, 1995, President Yeltsin issued Edict No. 940, titled "The Strategic Course of Russia with the States of the CIS," which contained directives to state institutions such as the Foreign Affairs Ministry, the Defense Ministry, the

(Continued on page 13)



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## Russia, the specter...

(Continued from page 12)

Ministry on Cooperation with Countries of the CIS, etc. Edict No. 940 declared the CIS countries the principal target of Russia's geopolitical ambitions because that is where "are concentrated our [Russian] vital interests in the domain of economics, defense, security, protection of the rights of Russians, the guarantee of which constitutes the basis of the country's national security." The document contained a broad range of measures limiting and eventually eliminating CIS member-states' independence and equality.

The economic part of this forthcoming integration presupposes the following measures: enlargement of the Customs Union through the involvement of members of the CIS Economic Union; integration of national economic systems with the help of the Interparliamentary Assembly of the CIS states; enhancement of the Payments Union with the aim of using the ruble as a "reserve" currency; and creation of juridical and economic conditions for "joint property" in the CIS countries.

The military part of the document presupposes: establishment of a system of collective security on the basis of the Treaty on Mutual Security of the CIS countries of May 15, 1992; establishment of Russian military bases; creation of a joint system for CIS border protection and legal guarantees for the presence of Russian border troops in these countries;

introduction of joint peacekeeping activities; and notification to third parties and international organizations involved in peacekeeping operations that this region is the "zone of Russia's interests."

The final aim of this plan is to create a new confederation that would include Russia and three of the other 12 former Soviet republics that today are members of the CIS: Belarus, Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan. As early as 1991, then First Deputy Prime Minister of Russia Gennadiy Burbulis deemed the formula about a confederative state contained in Mikhail Gorbachev's version of a new union treaty "hypocritical." So far, both the Communist and Yeltsin versions of "reintegration" of CIS countries support a "voluntary" union. The difference between them is purely verbal: the Communists openly call this a "union" by analogy to the USSR (i.e., sticking to ideological motives), whereas Mr. Yeltsin's team prefers such words as "real union," "new confederation," "profound integration" (i.e., clinging to the vision of Russia as a "great power").

Leaving aside the economic costs of such a "confederation" for Russia, the hectic moves of both the Communists and the Yeltsin team reflects the fact that the idea of renewed grandeur implied in a Soviet revival has a mighty psycho-emotional appeal to vast segments of the Russian electorate. It looks like both connect their electoral success to the matter of who will be first to actually revive some sort of a union inside (or instead of) the CIS.

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## LaSalle's graduate program offers two courses with Ukrainian content

PHILADELPHIA - La Salle University has a long-standing tradition of promoting Ukrainian studies. It has sponsored many conferences and symposiums devoted to Ukrainian topics, and in 1992 it awarded an honorary degree to the first president of Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk.

Since its inception in 1993, the master of arts in Central and Eastern European studies has featured a number of courses dealing with Ukrainian culture. Among the student body pursuing a master's degree are several students from Ukraine as well as a number of Americans of Ukrainian descent. The program has received a commendation from the Department of Education in Harrisburg, and several of its students have distinguished them-

selves both academically and professionally.

In May the program will offer two three-credit graduate courses with a strong Ukrainian content. They are: "Cultures of Central and East Europe" (CES 620) and "Opportunities in Ukraine and other East European Countries" (CES 680). Later in the summer, June 17-July 17, a new course, "Geography of Central and East Europe" (CES 611) will be offered.

Applications for admission into the program are now being accepted. For additional information, contact: Dr. L.D. Rudnytsky, director, Central and Eastern European Studies, La Salle University, 1900 W. Oleny Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19141-1199; tel., (215) 951-1200 (215) 951-1488.

## Ukrainian Heritage Foundation is donating Hopak dance video

POLAND, Ohio - Eugene Woloshyn, president of the Ukrainian Heritage Foundation, has announced that, due to the artistic and financial success of the video "Hopak, Ukrainian National Dance," the foundation will give it free to any recognized Ukrainian dance group or community school.

Along with the video the foundation will send a poster of a couple doing the Hopak that is reproduced from an original print by the foundation's art director, Marion Senyk.

The foundation developed the video to promote one of Ukrainian culture's most

popular art forms, as well as to pay tribute to Vasil Avramenko, who popularized Ukrainian dance in North America.

Organizations wishing a copy of the video and poster should send a letter signed by an officer to: Ukrainian Heritage Foundation of North America Inc., 2047 Wingate Road, Poland, OH 44514. Please enclose a check made out to the foundation for \$5 (U.S.) to cover shipping and handling charges.

According to Mr. Woloshyn, the foundation's goal is to get this video to every dance group and school in the United States and Canada.

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## Vegreville rolls out...

(Continued from page 5)

Lavrenchuk, pairs skaters Olena Belousovska and Serhiy Potalov, and the ice dance couple Olena Grushina and Ruslan Honcharov, they put on an ice show that the hamlet of 5,200 would long remember.

As reported in the Ukrainian News in its March 13-26 issue, Mr. Dmytrenko, Mr. Liashenko and Mr. Lavrenchuk led off the program dressed in traditional Poltavans costumes brought from home, skating to a medley of "Dyvlus ya na Nebo" and "Oy Chorna ya sy Chorna." Mr. Zahorodniuk performed a stirring "Hopak" during the show. All eight competitors came onto the ice for a group skate marked by Ukrainian dance choreography.

"We wanted to show how we respect the traditions of the Ukrainian people," Mr. Honcharov told the Ukrainian News in halting Ukrainian.

Some 1,000 people had lined up two and a half hours before packing the 800-seat Rec Center, and on March 10 about 400 paid \$10 a plate for a civic banquet and all-out Ukrainian folk-fest to help the habitually cash-strapped athletes, and to buy their own arena a much-needed Zamboni.

For practices, the rink manager had to add a full inch to the ice's thickness (you need more for figure skating than hockey because of all the high-impact jumping). Scheduling the ice time was no problem because the training regimen skaters endure puts them into action during off-hours — from mid-morning to early afternoon.

The 16-member Ukrainian delegation also included Ludmila Mikhailovska, president of Ukraine's Figure Skating Federation, who told Mr. Cole: "It is like home. It is very helpful for the skaters to

live with families, surrounded by so much care and affection."

It's the least one could expect, when billeting in a town where about 35 percent of the population is of Ukrainian background. Organizers had to turn away volunteers and enough food to feed the contingent for a month.

Because of the volunteering and donations, according to an earlier Edmonton Journal article by Joan Ireland, costs for the stay of the Ukrainian delegation wouldn't clear \$1,000.

The Vegreville venture was the result of a meeting of three minds. Ms. Mikhailovska had been looking for a place where her athletes could practice and acclimatize while not paying for the more expensive hotels and ice time in Edmonton.

Bohdan Smycniuk, head of the western branch of the Canadian Friends of the Ukrainian National Olympic Committee, had hoped to replicate the visit of the Soviet team to Caroline, Alberta, home-town of four-time world champion Kurt Browning, during the 1988 Winter Olympics in Calgary. The trio was complete when Orest Olineck, head of the annual Vegreville Cultural Festival, came aboard to oversee the 10 committees mobilized to make it all happen.

The mayor of Vegreville, David Kucherawy, got to be "gazda" (host) of the proceedings.

On March 22 the story hit the front page of Canada's "national newspaper," The Globe and Mail, under a photo of the beaming Elvis Stojko of Canada, who'd just won the free skate to salvage a fourth place finish over all.

"Elvis may be king in the rest of this skating-mad province," Brian Laghi wrote, "but in the home of the world's biggest Ukrainian Easter egg, the locals are crazy for Dmitry and Viacheslav."

Position:

## DEVELOPMENT COORDINATOR

Employer:

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The Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko is seeking a Development Coordinator to provide leadership in planning and conducting fundraising. The successful applicant will report to the Foundation President and Executive Director and will be accountable for contributing to the success of the Shevchenko Foundation Mission of preserving and developing Ukrainian cultural heritage in Canada by working with community volunteers to raise an annual target amount in donations.

### Functions

The Development Coordinator will be responsible for all aspects of fundraising, including creating a volunteer network of fundraisers, writing proposals, planning and evaluating events, answering donor and volunteer questions, managing project contracts, creating new fundraising ideas, contacting existing and potential donors, training volunteers in fundraising procedures, as well as assisting the Executive Director. Other responsibilities include representing the Foundation at external events and activities, participating in the evaluation, planning and development of office procedures and participating in appropriate external committees representing the Foundation.

### Requirements

The Development Coordinator must have a thorough understanding of the principles of fundraising and the ability to apply them. The incumbent should have 3 years minimum of practical related experience in a broad range of fundraising, volunteer management and events coordination, along with proven administrative skills and an understanding of accounting practices and financial analysis. The successful applicant must be self-motivated and demonstrate excellent communication, interpersonal, planning, budgetary, supervisory and problem solving skills. In addition, the Development Coordinator should show an aptitude for directing the activities of volunteers/project workers, be willing to travel across Canada, possess a thorough knowledge of the Ukrainian Canadian community and be able to work in the Ukrainian language.

### Salary

A competitive salary is negotiable and will relate to experience and qualifications.

### Applications

A detailed resume, marked Confidential, stating salary expectations should be addressed to: Development Coordinator Competition, Shevchenko Foundation, 456 Main Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3B 1B6. The application deadline is **May 1, 1996**.

## Manager assistant required.

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Thursday, March 28 - Sunday, April 21**

**CHARLESBOURG, Quebec:** The community is invited to an exposition of Ukrainian history and culture, "Ukraine: More Than Just Easter Eggs," at the Reine-Malouin Room of the Charlesbourg Municipal Library. The exposition is presented as an opportunity for Quebecers and all Canadians to become familiar with the Ukrainian ethos and culture. An exhibit consisting of 21 displays gives the viewer a brief overview of what Ukraine was, is and can be in the future. Other articles are specifically tailored towards schoolchildren and culture enthusiasts. For more information, call Mike Reshitynk, (418) 628-0941.

**Saturday, April 6**

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society is hosting a lecture by Dmytro Grodzynsky, who will speak on "Complicated Problems of Chernobyl and Ecology." Dr. Grodzynsky is a microbiologist and a member of the National Academy of Science of Ukraine. The lecture will be held on the society's premises, 63 Fourth Ave., starting at 5 p.m. For further information, call (212) 254-5130.

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America presents the Les Kurbas Theater from Lviv in adaptations of Lesia Ukrainka's "On the Fields of Blood" and "Johanna Khusa's Wife," starting at 7:30 p.m. at the institute building, 2 E. 79th St. For additional information, call (212) 288-8660.

**Wednesday, April 10**

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Les Kurbas Theater from Lviv will present their production of "Games for Faust" in Harvard University's Old Library Theater, McKinlock Hall, Leverett House, located on Mill Street. The performance starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets: adults, \$10; seniors and students, \$5. For additional information, call the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, (617) 495-4053.

**Thursday, April 11**

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute presents a "Ukraine and Poland: Reflections on the Post-war Past and Relations After Communism." An initial lecture will be followed by a roundtable discussion with

Krzysztof Pomian (Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique, Paris), George Grabowicz and Roman Szporluk (Harvard University), and Teresa Rakowska-Harmstone (Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute). The program starts at 4 p.m. at the institute's seminar room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave. The event is free and open to the public. For further information, call (617) 495-4053.

**Wednesday, April 17**

**SCRANTON, Pa.:** Enthusiasts of folk dance are invited to the Scranton Cultural Center Theater for the North American debut of the Black Sea Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, a company of 40 whose program features Kozak swordplay, lyrical choreographic compositions and humorous sketches from yesteryear in Ukraine. The program starts at 7:30 p.m. Tickets are priced at \$15, \$19, \$23 and \$25 and may be purchased by calling the theater's box office, (717) 344-1111. Discounts are available for groups of 20 or more. For additional information, call Lisa Sauder, (717) 586-7539.

**Thursday, April 18**

**EDMONTON:** The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, continuing its Spring Seminar Series, invites students, scholars and the community to "Ukrainian Culture in Canada: Petro Karmansky's 'Monkey's Mirror (Mavpache Dzerkalo),'" a lecture by Dr. Myroslav Shkandrij, professor of German and Slavic studies at the University of Manitoba. The lecture starts at 7:30 p.m. in the Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta. For further information, call CIUS, (403) 492-2972.

**Saturday, April 20**

**WASHINGTON:** The Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family is sponsoring a benefit dinner-dance and fund-raiser to help cover the medical expenses of a son of active parishioners from the shrine. The son has been critically ill for some time and has recently undergone a bone marrow transplant. The evening will include a live band, silent auction, bake sale table, door prizes and a spaghetti dinner. The fun starts at 6 p.m. at the UCNS, 4250 Harewood Road NE. Tickets are \$15; children age 6-15, \$5; under 6 admitted free. For more information, to order tickets or make a donation call Joe Melkovits, (202) 362-5277.

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