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State Department's annual report praises Ukraine for significant progress on rights

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — The U.S. State Department's annual human rights report for 1996 praises Ukraine for "significant progress toward building a law-based civil society" and at the same time focuses on a number of shortcomings in that process. The report on Ukraine, along with reports on 193 other countries, was released here January 30.

Human rights violations in Ukraine "remained at the same low level as last year (1995)," the report states, but adds that "problems remain in the unreformed legal and prison systems," which are underfunded and, despite the new Constitution, continue with some of the old Soviet practices and rely on judges and prosecutors appointed during the Soviet era. While the previous year's report criticized Ukraine for continuing to work under the old, Soviet Constitution, this year's report lauds the new Constitution adopted

in June for safeguarding human rights and establishing the principle of judicial review, among other things.

But the U.S. government report adds that "the efficacy of the new Constitution, however, depends on enabling legislation, most of which had not been passed by year's end."

The report highlights the following problem areas:

- Police and prison officials "regularly beat" detainees and are not punished for it.

- The judiciary is overburdened; long trial delays and pre-trial detentions are a problem; prison conditions are poor.

- Despite progress toward an independent judiciary, political interference continues, and there are cases of organized-crime influence.

- There have been government attempts to control the press, and there are limits on the freedom of association and the work of non-native religious organizations.

- "Significant societal anti-Semitism," discrimination and violence against women, and incidents of discrimination against ethnic and religious minorities are evident.

The report notes that there were no political prisoners, no known political killings and no reported cases of political abuse in psychiatry in Ukraine in 1996. There was, however, a claim by the speaker of the

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Miners strike for back pay

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Chanting "Zar-pla-ta" and banging their helmets on the cold, wet pavement, almost 1,500 miners from the coal mining regions of Ukraine demonstrated before the Cabinet of Ministers Building and the Verkhovna Rada on February 4.

Members of the Coal Mine Workers' Union from the cities of Donetsk, Makiyivka and Pavlohrad, Luhansk and Krasnoarmiisk were demanding "zarplata" (wages), which some haven't received since August 1996, as well as unpaid pensions, disability benefits and student stipends for their families and co-workers. Demonstration leaders said the government owes them almost 1.5 billion hryvni.

Although the miners demanded to see Vice Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets, Minister of the Coal Industry Yuriy Rusantsov came out to speak with them instead. He was shouted down each time he suggested that payments would soon resume. Igor Pomarionov, one of the demonstrators who stood just off to the side from the minister, belligerently kept shouting, "We have heard your promises and your lies before. When was the last time you weren't paid?"

The miners then moved up Hrushevskiy Street to the Verkhovna Rada building and resumed their chanting and helmet beating until Oleksander Moroz, chairman of the parliament, appeared. He told the workers that they are not the only ones who have

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Council of Europe condemns Ukraine on use of death penalty

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, meeting in Strasbourg, France, condemned Ukraine on January 29 for failing to implement a moratorium on state executions. It could expel the country from the council at its next scheduled meeting in April if executions are not halted immediately.

In December 1995, Ukraine had agreed to a moratorium on capital punishment and to abolish the death penalty by the year 2000 as part of the conditions for its acceptance into the Council of Europe.

The Parliamentary Assembly has determined that in the first half of 1996 89 people found guilty of capital offenses were executed in Ukraine. The number is not disputed by Ukraine's government.

The Parliamentary Assembly resolution states that "the executions that have taken place in Ukraine in 1996 thus constitute a flagrant violation of her commitments and obligations" and "the Assembly must condemn Ukraine for having violated her commitment to put into place a moratorium on executions."

Minister of Justice Serhii Holovatyi called the resolution an embarrassment to Ukraine. "It is extremely unpleasant when your country is made out to be a renegade



Justice Minister Serhii Holovatyi

country." Using soccer terminology he said Ukraine had been given a yellow card (a warning), and that in April a red card (eviction) could follow if Ukraine does not uphold the promises it gave.

Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma told reporters at the meeting of the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland, on February 1 that he is for abolition of the death penalty, but Europe must understand that Ukraine cannot do overnight

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Investment forum explores Ukrainian market

by Khristina Lew

NEW YORK — For many foreign investors, the Ukrainian market continues to be uncharted terrain riddled by chaotic laws and corruption. Yet, a growing number are plunging in, with profitable results.

The Ukrainian-North American Investment Forum, held on January 29-30 at the Marriott Financial Center Hotel here, explored the possibilities and pitfalls of doing business in Ukraine and featured first-hand accounts from joint ventures such as UTEL and UKR-CAN Power.

The two-day forum attracted 125 investors from companies as diverse as Shell, Chrysler, KPMG and the International Finance Corp., and heard from Ukrainian officials from the Ukrainian Agency for Reconstruction and Development, the State Property Fund, the State Securities and Stock Market Commission, and the Embassy of Ukraine to the United States.

U.S. government presence was heavy, led by Ambassador Richard Morningstar, special advisor to the president and secretary of state on assistance for the NIS, and Jan Kalicki, U.S.

ombudsman for energy and commercial cooperation with the NIS.

Conspicuously absent were the forum's top-billed speakers: Ukraine's reform-minded Vice Prime Minister for the Economy Viktor Pynzenyk, Chairman of the Ukrainian Agency for Reconstruction and Development Roman Shpek and Chairman of the State Property Fund Yuriy Yekhanurov.

Stephen Butler, producer of the forum, presented by the American Conference Institute-EuroForum, explained that all three were last-minute cancellations. Mr. Pynzenyk was asked to stay in the Ukrainian capital while Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko took a vacation. Mr. Shpek accompanied President Leonid Kuchma on a trip to Paris. Mr. Yekhanurov sent a deputy to speak on his behalf.

"It's disappointing that the Ukrainian side didn't send its ministers," said Maryna Hrushetska of EPIC, a European privatization and investment corporation that sponsored the forum. "It shows that Ukraine doesn't take courting private capital seriously."

According to many speakers at the

conference, however, Ukraine has taken great strides to improve its investment climate. In 1996 the Verkhovna Rada passed a Constitution, the government achieved macroeconomic stabilization, and the interim currency, the karbovanets, was replaced with the hryvnia.

The State Property Fund introduced compensation certificates and began holding state certificate auctions. According to Natalia Prokopovich, director of the Investment Department at the State Property Fund, since the beginning of last year, the SPF has offered 290 share packages of enterprises, with an over-all face value of \$60 million, for sale at commercial and non-commercial tenders. The SPF is also readying 222 enterprises of strategic value for the Ukrainian economy, the "crown jewels," for sale at non-commercial tenders.

On the flip side, investors in the Ukrainian market still face many hurdles. The judiciary is not well established, corruption is an extremely serious issue, there is no mechanism to resolve investment disputes, and the

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ANALYSIS: Poll asks experts about NATO-Ukraine relations

by Volodymyr Zviglianich

NATO's proposed enlargement eastward has stirred debate among politicians and analysts, particularly with regard to its impact on Ukraine's relations with the West and Russia. In Ukraine, which occupies a strategic position between the countries of Central Europe, which want to join NATO, and Russia, which enters a new period of political struggle caused by President Boris Yeltsin's prolonged absence from public sight, the issue of NATO enlargement to the East is particularly important. Equally important is the opinion of experts and the population at large.

An expert poll on Ukraine and NATO

In late November-early December 1996, the Kyiv-based Ukrainian Center for Peace, Conversion and Conflict Resolution Studies and the Democratic Initiatives Sociological Center conducted an expert evaluation of relations between Ukraine and NATO.

The group of 44 specialists polled included representatives of the following social strata:

1) officials of the ministries of foreign affairs and defense, and researchers of advisory bodies to the government (e.g., the National Institute for Strategic Studies);

2) officers of the military forces of Ukraine (the lowest rank was lieutenant-colonel), including professors and specialists of higher military educational institutions and research centers, most of them with scholarly degrees;

3) deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, including members of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Relations with the CIS and the Committee on Defense and State Security; and

4) leading journalists specializing in international issues and representing the most influential mass media.

The experts' positions

The first question was: "If it were up to you to decide whether or not Ukraine was to become a member of NATO, what would you decide?" The experts' opinions can be divided into following categories:

- "Alarmists" (It is imperative that Ukraine immediately join NATO, i.e., despite the absence of necessary preconditions for such a move) – 23.8 percent.

Trying to justify their standpoint, these experts mentioned the necessity of defending Ukraine's national security and territorial integrity, and noted that Russia is seen as a threat. The necessity of joining a collective security system, of European integration, improbability of the USSR's restoration – the arguments common to all pro-NATO groups – also were mentioned.

However, this group is over-optimistic in its evaluation of NATO's tasks and opportunities. It revealed an incomplete understanding of the nature of this organization and its current policy. For example, one of the "alarmists" wants to join NATO "together with Russia in order to restrain the expansion of Western civilization in cooperation with it" (the West).

- "Strong supporters of NATO" (Ukraine should become a member within three to four years; joining NATO remains a strategic goal toward which Ukraine should move consistently) – 26.2 percent.

Experts belonging to this category stress that Ukraine is not yet ready to join NATO. First it must "adopt a proper military doctrine and work out a program of actions preparing Ukraine for joining NATO." This includes the development of infrastructure, increasing safety standards at military installations, and resolving all border disputes and other historical disagreements with neighbors (Russia and Romania, first and foremost).

Corresponding changes in the public mentality also are needed for a better understanding of Ukraine's attitude toward NATO. One of the experts in this group implies that "in three to four years Ukraine will have its lobbyists in NATO from the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland."

- "Weak supporters of NATO" (Ukraine should become a member within five to 10 years, during which time there would be room for maneuvering regarding the state of relations between NATO and Russia, Russia and Ukraine, etc.) – 33.3 percent.

The experts in this group stress that, "due to the very difficult economic and social conditions, non-restructured economy, unfinished state-building process and lack of reforms in the army, it is unrealistic to join NATO within a short period of time." Stabilization of the geopolitical situation in Eastern Europe also is necessary for Ukraine to be treated equally.

- "Opponents of NATO" (Ukraine should never become a member under any circumstances) – 16.7 percent.

The core of experts in this group consists of left-wing members of the Verkhovna Rada. However, some of them today side with patriots and thus have backtracked from the statement made by their leader, Chairman Oleksander Moroz, in November 1996: "I don't care whether the doors of NATO are open and whether they exist at all."¹

This group of experts maintains that relations with Russia could deteriorate significantly if Ukraine joins NATO. The underlying idea is that "our economic and spiritual interests are in Russia; we should be oriented toward it." Remarkably enough, almost no one completely rejects cooperation with NATO (one national deputy considers NATO "an enemy" structure). Another basic idea expressed by experts in this group could be summarized as follows: "Now it is impossible, later it is unnecessary."

Evaluation of opinions

The results of the poll stress the political elite's inclination to join NATO and to develop multidimensional cooperation with the alliance. An overwhelming 88.5 percent of the experts polled think joining NATO does not contradict Ukraine's national interests. Only 12.2 percent have an opposite view, while 2.44 percent didn't have an opinion.

At the same time, another poll conducted by SOCIS-Gallup and the Democratic Initiatives Sociological Center revealed poor knowledge among the population at large about NATO and its activity. Nineteen percent of the 400 Kyiv residents polled said Ukraine should never join NATO; 45 percent were undecided. Twelve percent of respondents said they trust NATO, 19 percent do not trust it, 28 percent neither trust nor mistrust it, and 41 percent were undecided. Those who

(Continued on page 13)

Dr. Volodymyr Zviglianich is adjunct professor of East European area studies at George Washington University.

¹ Kyievskiy Viedomosti, November 20, 1996.

NEWSBRIEFS

British defense secretary visits Ukraine

KYIV — In his first official trip to Ukraine on February 2-3, British Defense Secretary Michael Portillo urged Ukraine to seek a special relationship with NATO, Western agencies reported. In talks with Ukrainian National Security and Defense Council Secretary Volodymyr Horbulin and Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk on the first day of his visit, Mr. Portillo said a special partnership agreement could be worked out before the next NATO summit in July, during which the first candidates for NATO membership are likely to be announced. The partnership entails cooperation, but is not full NATO membership. The next day he met with Foreign Minister Hennadii Udovenko and gave a speech at the Defense Ministry in which he said that the partnership agreement would guarantee Ukraine's "sovereignty and integrity." (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukraine's Gradobank declared insolvent

KYIV — Gradobank, one of the banks in charge of disbursing German money to compensate victims of the Nazis, is insolvent, although it still owes 119 million marks (\$72.5 million), Western agencies reported on February 4. The Ukrainian Cabinet is scheduled to meet on February 7 to decide how to handle the payment problems. Since 1993, Germany has paid 400 million marks in compensation ranging from DM 400 to DM 1,900 to about 541,000 Nazi victims. But some 20 percent of those eligible have not yet received any compensation. The original February 1 deadline for filing claims has been extended to February 7. Claims from people living in remote regions are still coming in. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Controversy over treaty with Ukraine?

BUDAPEST — Responding to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's opposition to Romania joining NATO without previously recognizing the existing borders, Foreign Minister Adrian Severin said Mr. Kuchma's attitude was "unsuitable" and amounts to "blackmail," the daily Jurnalul reported. He emphasized that his country has no territorial claims on Ukraine. Adrian Nastase, deputy chairman of the opposition Party of Social Democracy in Romania, said the present leaders' change of policy toward a Romania-Ukraine treaty was "worrying." Mr. Nastase added that the treaty should not be concluded "at any price." The leader of the extreme nationalist Greater Romania Party, Corneliu

Vadim Tudor, said his party's very name indicated its position and "we would rather forego the conclusion of the treaty than abandon those ancient Romanian lands." At that price, he added, "we do not understand why we should join NATO at all." (OMRI Daily Digest)

Crime hinders abolition of death penalty

KYIV — Borys Oliynyk, vice-president of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly, has said "it is impossible to fully abolish capital punishment" in Ukraine at present, ITAR-TASS reported on January 30. His statement came in the wake of harsh criticism of Ukraine by the Council of Europe for failing to honor its commitment to put a stop to the death penalty. Ukrainian authorities registered 4,896 premeditated murders in 1996, most of which were in the economically developed regions of Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk, Luhansk, Odesa, Crimea and Kyiv. The number of contract killings grew from eight in 1993 to 210 in 1995, while 400 per 100,000 of the Ukrainian population received prison sentences last year. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukrainian president visits France

PARIS — President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine has been assured by President Jacques Chirac that France will support G-7 financing of the Chernobyl nuclear plant's closure, international agencies reported on January 30. Mr. Kuchma, who was on a two-day official visit to France, said Chernobyl will be shut down in 2000, revoking earlier threats that Ukraine might backslide on its promise to shut the plant owing to economic problems. The G-7 has pledged \$3.1 billion to assist the closure, but Ukraine has demanded the money sooner than planned. France will finance building nuclear plants at Rivne and Khmelnytskyi to replace Chernobyl. The same day, an agreement was signed to establish a joint economic commission to boost bilateral trade. France is the last of the G-7 countries to host a visit by President Kuchma. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Women form new political party

KYIV — A new party, the Women's Party of Ukraine, held its founding congress here on January 18. Though women constitute 54 percent of the population of Ukraine, they hold only 4 percent of the seats in the Verkhovna Rada. Among the 415 national deputies, there are only 18 women. In oblast, regional and city councils women hold no more than 10 percent of the seats. The principal goal of the new

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Huculak appointed new bishop for Edmonton's Ukrainian Catholics

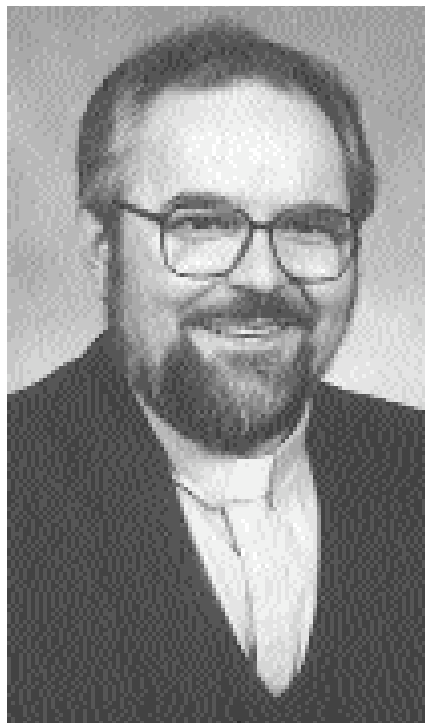
by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA — For the second time in less than a year, the Vatican has named a Ukrainian Catholic priest under age 50 as bishop in Canada.

The Rev. Laurence Daniel Huculak, a 45-year-old Basilian priest, was named the fourth bishop of the Edmonton Eparchy on January 14 — exactly one year to the day his predecessor and fellow Basilian, Bishop Myron Daciuk, died in Edmonton at age 76.

Last April, Bishop Stefan Soroka, then 44, was named auxiliary bishop to Metropolitan-Archbishop Michael Bzdel in Winnipeg.

"This is not a calm time in my life," said Bishop-designate Huculak over the telephone from his office in Mundare, Alberta — a community out-



The Rev. Lawrence Huculak

side of Edmonton.

Only last September, the British Columbia-born priest was named superior and master of novices of Ss. Peter and Paul Monastery in Mundare, when his predecessor in that job, the Rev. Myron Chimy, was elected provincial superior of the Canadian Basilians.

The Rev. Bill Hupalo, who served as apostolic administrator of the Edmonton Eparchy since Bishop Daciuk's death, told *The Weekly* that he was approached by the Holy See's ambassador to take the job but had declined. "There's a lot of administrative work involved, and I come from a farm and don't like sitting around," said the 53-year-old diocesan priest who hails from Bonnyville, Alberta, about 150 miles northeast of Edmonton.

The Rev. Hupalo said that, at first, even the Rev. Huculak was reticent in accepting his new assignment. When asked, the bishop-designate said the apostolic nuncio, Italian-born Archbishop Carlo Curis, had invited him to discuss the offer at the archbishop's Ottawa office on January 3.

"I felt there were other people who could do the job better," explained the Rev. Huculak, who recently taught summer courses in Byzantine liturgy at Newman Theological College in Edmonton. "But the nuncio said it was the desire of the holy father that I

accept and the Basilians include in their vows loyalty to the Holy Father — so that settled that issue."

Although the Edmonton Eparchy, which encompasses 26,250 faithful and includes all of Alberta, has been without a bishop for a year, the gap is certainly not the longest. Following the 1990 death of Bishop Martin Greschuk, the Rev. Hupalo served as apostolic administrator for two years until Bishop Daciuk was named Edmonton's third bishop.

The first eparch, Basilian Bishop Neil Savaryn, served in Edmonton from 1948 until his death on Christmas Day (according to the Julian calendar), January 7, 1986.

Born in Vernon, British Columbia, on January 25, 1951, Bishop-designate Huculak attended St. Vladimir's College and Minor Seminary in Roblin, Manitoba, and joined the Ukrainian-rite Order of St. Basil the Great in Ottawa in 1969.

He was enrolled in the Basilian novitiate at St. Josaphat's Monastery in Glen Cove, N.Y., from 1971 to 1972 and later the University of Ottawa, where he received a bachelor of arts degree in philosophy in 1974.

Following theological studies at St. Anselm's University in Rome, Edmonton's bishop-designate was ordained to the priesthood in 1977. The Rev. Huculak then pursued post-graduate work at the Pontifical Institute in Rome. Seven years ago he received a doctorate in Oriental Church Studies after successfully defending his thesis titled, "The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom in the Kyivan Metropolitan Province during the Period of Union with Rome, 1596-1805."

While in Rome, the Rev. Huculak served as director of the Basilian students' choir, which regularly sang the divine liturgy on Vatican Radio's service to Ukraine.

He returned to Canada in the spring of 1986 and was appointed pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Church in Mundare — where he has remained until now, living in a monastery of a dozen Basilians.

"I always wanted to be in a religious community," admitted the Rev. Huculak, who also recently served as director of the Basilian Fathers Museum in Mundare. "When I lived in British Columbia, I had heard of Mundare and its community of prayer. Once I entered, I have not only been involved in parish work, but I have taught and led missions. Certainly, I enjoyed that period of life when I was studying and researching [in Rome]."

As bishop of Edmonton, the Rev. Huculak will oversee the work of 42 priests and 40 religious who serve 93 parishes and missions. He said that no date has been set for his episcopal ordination and installation as the eparchy's fourth bishop. "I have three months from the time of my appointment," offered the Rev. Huculak.

In the meantime, the Rev. Hupalo said he's grateful that Rome has finally named a new bishop for Alberta's Ukrainian Catholics and is delighted the Holy See named an eparchial priest to the position. "Although I never lost any sleep as administrator, the job requires a lot of patience and someone who won't let things bother

Yuschenko confirmed for second term as National Bank of Ukraine chairman

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Viktor Yuschenko was confirmed by the Verkhovna Rada for a second four-year term as chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine on February 5. He had been confirmed only as the acting head of the bank on January 23 because he was on a business trip and not available to appear before the legislative body. His temporary designation was to expire on the day of the confirmation vote.

Until that day it appeared uncertain whether Mr. Yuschenko would retain his job. Parliament members of the Constitutional Center and the Reform factions had suggested that a less strident monetarist assume the position. However, with no suitable replacement candidate, they settled on the 42-year-old economist.

"There is no alternative today," said Yulii Yoffa, member of the Constitutional Center, before the vote.

Mr. Yuschenko's re-appointment by President Leonid Kuchma had been criticized by the Socialist and Communist forces in the legislature for all their traditional reasons: his policies were robbing the working class, and his reforms were merely financial manipulations to enrich the new ruling class.

Communist faction leader Petro Symonenko criticized the NBU for policies that "do not reflect the interests of Ukraine."

The leftist factions in the legislature had floated the names of two alternatives: Viktor Suslov, member of the Agrarian faction, and Serhii Tyhypka, president of PrivatBank.

Before the vote, however, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, a leader of the Socialist Party, called on the national deputies and specifically on his fellow party members to support the nomination of Mr. Yuschenko. In the end, 257 lawmakers voted in favor of the nomination and 87 were against.

Mr. Yuschenko, who had once served as head of the Ulyanovsk branch of the State Bank of the Ukrainian SSR and



Viktor Yuschenko

started his career as deputy chief economist for a collective farm, was praised by Vice Prime Minister of Economic Reform Viktor Pynzenyk for his unwavering support for economic reform and for his tight monetary policy that had resulted in a dramatic fall in inflation in Ukraine from more than 300 percent in 1995 to 39.7 percent in 1996.

"The bank performed well in tandem with the government, and as a result macro-economic stabilization has finally been reached," said Mr. Pynzenyk.

Deputy Vadym Hetman, former head of the National Bank of Ukraine and today a member of the Verkhovna Rada's Financial and Banking Activities Committee, said Mr. Yuschenko has calmed the financial waters in Ukraine. "The NBU is in effective control of the currency market, and today there is no fear that the value of the hryvnia could decline," he said.

Mr. Hetman made the motion to confirm Mr. Yuschenko as the NBU chairman, when Mr. Suslov of the Agrarian Party, who is the chairman of the Financial and Banking Activities Committee, declined to do so.

Rukh members serve as observers of presidential elections in Chechnya

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The election of Aslan Maskhadov as the first president of Chechnya on January 26 was a fair election, free of fraud, said Viktor Tymbaliuk, a member of the executive body of the Rukh, at a press conference on February 2.

He was part of a delegation of five Rukh officials that traveled to the war-torn country as official observers of Chechnya's first independent elections, joining scores of other international observers.

The elections presented Chechens with three choices for the post of president. Aslan Maskhadov, a moderate who has attempted to maintain contacts with Russia in hopes of achieving a sort of peaceful co-existence with Moscow; Shamil Basaev, who was the most hard line of the three candidates; and Zelimkhan Yandarbiev, who became the president of the Autonomous Republic of Chechnya and the leader of the movement for Chechen independence after Jokar Dudaev was killed by mortar fire during the war against Russia.

Mr. Maskhadov won handily, gaining 65 percent of the vote, with Mr. Basaev a distant second with 26 percent, trailed by Mr. Yandarbiev at 9 percent.

In all 275 official observers were on hand in the devastated capital of Grozny (recently renamed Dudaev-cali) to witness the elections; among them 70 from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), five from Rukh and dozens from civil rights organizations in Russia and from around the world.

Mr. Tymbaliuk said the atmosphere in Grozny was relaxed. "The election halls were filled with young people who waited patiently to allow the elderly and women to vote first," he explained. "Some waited so long they never got the chance to vote."

He also explained that the Russian press had treated the elections fairly, at least until after it was over. "In the last two days," said Mr. Tymbaliuk, "the attitude has changed."

The openness with which the Chechen leaders greeted the election observers has also changed, it seems. On February 5, Tim Huldiman, the head of the OSCE observer delegation, was named "persona non grata" by the Chechen Foreign Affairs Ministry and asked to leave the country after he had stated at a press conference in Moscow that "jurisdictionally, Chechnya still belongs to Russia." According to the Associated Press, Mr. Huldiman said he would leave voluntarily.

OBITUARIES

Taras Durbak, leading activist in Plast and Catholic Church, 86

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. — Taras Durbak, a chemical engineer and leading Plast and Ukrainian Church activist, died here on December 31, 1996. He was 86.

Mr. Durbak was born on June 3, 1911, in Lviv.

An active member of Plast since his youth in Ukraine, he was a member of the Chornomortsi Plast fraternity and held various positions in the Supreme Plast Command. He resumed his work in Plast in Germany after having fled Soviet-occupied Ukraine during World War II.

Upon emigrating to the U.S., Mr. Durbak continued to work in Plast, becoming active in the Newark, N.J., Plast Branch. Subsequently, he served as vice-president of the National Plast Command, was a member of the Supreme Plast Bulava and president of the Supreme Plast Council (1980-1983).

Mr. Durbak was one of the founders and first president of the Tysovsky Senior Plast Fraternity, the first Plast fraternity

of seniors to be established in the U.S.

In recognition of Mr. Durbak's lifelong service and dedication to Plast, he was awarded the medal of merit in 1929 and Plast's highest honor, the St. George Medal (gold), in 1958.

Mr. Durbak lived in Newark until his retirement in the 1980s.

He was a member of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America.

A parishioner and active member of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, Mr. Durbak was a trustee and member of the church board. In recognition of his work for the Ukrainian Catholic Church and St. John's parish, he was named a Knight of St. Gregory the Great by the pope.

Mr. Durbak is survived by his wife, Maria Anna, nee Bilostotska; son, Dmytro; grandchildren, Aleksander and Amanda; and brothers, Borys and Aleksander.

Funeral services were held January 3 at the Epiphany Ukrainian Catholic Church in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Former Winnipeg school trustee and Ps/Bs leader, Michael Sawka

by Christopher Guly

WINNIPEG — Bushy browed and always grinning, Michael Harry Sawka was a fixture in both North End Winnipeg's Ukrainian community and in local school board politics — where he served as a school trustee for the Seven Oaks School Division for 18 years.

Mr. Sawka died suddenly in Winnipeg of an apparent heart attack on December 21, 1996. He was 67 years old.

Born in Winnipeg on November 9, 1929, Mr. Sawka received his bachelor of electrical engineering degree from the University of Manitoba in 1955 and his education degree from the same university 12 years later.

His academic credentials were reflected in his work experience: he was an electrical engineer with the Manitoba Telephone

System for eight years, and an instructor and career guidance counselor with Red River Community College for 33 years until his June 21, 1996, retirement.

A former president of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club in Winnipeg, Mr. Sawka served in the Canadian Naval Reserves for 25 years, retiring as a lieutenant commander. He was also a member of the Ukrainian-Canadian Royal Canadian Legion Branch No. 141 in Winnipeg.

Mr. Sawka leaves behind his wife, four children, three grandchildren and a brother. More than 400 mourners packed into St. Nicholas Church on December 26 to attend a funeral prayer service, which was followed the next morning by a memorial liturgy.

Burial was at Holy Family Cemetery outside Winnipeg.

that Ukraine's debt to the miners is 1.33 billion hry, He said the 1997 government budget, which has not yet been approved by the Verkhovna Rada, authorized 1.55 billion hry to cover back pay for workers.

A related rally took place in Donetsk, where 1,000 mine workers protested outside the Coal Industry Ministry building in support of their striking co-workers in Kyiv.

The miners have been striking and demonstrating on and off for several years, each time the government stops sending their pay. The strikes have had only immediate benefits: after each strike the government has released some funds to cover back pay, but after a while the checks stop arriving.

In August 1996, after a strike by independent coal miners, President Leonid Kuchma initiated a commission to investigate where the money is going. At the time he said that funds earmarked to cover miners' salaries were disappearing before they reached the workers and he ordered Vice Prime Minister Durdynets to lead an investigation. That inquiry has not yet announced any findings.

State Department's...

(Continued from page 1)

Crimean Parliament that he was kidnapped and beaten by unidentified assailants, and the report also mentions that the 1994 disappearance of a Rukh leader, Mykhailo Boichyshyn, remains unsolved.

With respect to the right to privacy, the reports notes that while the Constitution requires that courts issue search warrants, during a five-year "transition" period, search warrants as well as arrest warrants will be issued at the discretion of the prosecutor. Also evident are some remnants of the Soviet control mechanisms, most notably the militia's right to stop any vehicle without probable cause to check the vehicle and the driver's documents, a practice that frequently results in a bribe being paid.

While the Constitution provides for freedom of speech and the press, the report points out that the government "largely controls" the broadcast media and "occasionally attempts to control" the press, which also results in tendencies toward self-censorship. The report cited the attempts by Derzhelradio to quash two independently produced television news programs "Vikna" and "Pisliamova" and the sentencing to two years (suspended) of Ivan Makar, editor of the newspaper Opozytsiya, for libel against the president and his staff. At the same time, reporting on organized crime and corruption in government "is becoming increasingly bold."

In education, the report points out that the major universities, while state owned, "ostensibly operate under full autonomy." Academic freedom, however, "is an underdeveloped and poorly understood concept."

Under the new Constitution, organizers of demonstrations need only to inform the government about their plans in advance; there is no 10-day requirement, as in the past. Unlicensed demonstrations are common, the report says, but there have been cases of criminal prosecution of participants of unauthorized demonstrations in Kharkiv and Dnipropetrovsk.

The report is highly critical of that part of the Constitution of Ukraine, its laws and government regulations that significantly limit freedom of association and the use of "onerous registration requirements to circumscribe this right."

The formation of regional political parties is restricted by a requirement that in order to be registered as a political party, a group must have representatives in at least half of the country's oblasts. The report points out that this negatively effects Russian and Tatar organizations in Crimea. According to the report, all organizations must be registered with the government, which then has a large measure of control over the organization's activities: the group must keep the government apprised of all its activities, including notification of its meetings; the meetings must be open to all, regardless of whether they are members or not; and the group must be ready, upon request, to present registration documents to any government official and be ready to prove that it is in compliance with its registration requirements. A change in purpose requires a new registration.

The government of Ukraine respects the religious freedoms enshrined in the new Constitution and the 1991 Law on Freedom of Conscience and Religion. Unfortunately, the 1993 amendment to the law, as the report points out, "requires that members of the clergy, preachers, teachers and other foreign citizen representatives of foreign organizations preach, administer religious ordinances, or practice other canonical activities 'only in those religious organizations which invited them to Ukraine and with official approval of the governmental body that registered the statutes and the articles of the pertinent religious organization.'"

Freedom of movement within Ukraine is not limited by law, but there is a nationwide registration requirement at the workplace and place of residence in order to get social benefits. The report also notes that Ukrainians may travel abroad freely; however, they are still required to obtain exit visas.

Women are active in political life, but hold a disproportionately small percentage of offices, the report states. There are 16 women in the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada; four women are of Cabinet rank; and two of the 18-member Supreme Court are women. The principle of equal pay for equal work is "generally observed" in the case of women in the workplace, the report notes, but they are barred by law from hard and hazardous jobs, which are the best paid blue-collar positions, and they have to contend with a glass ceiling for managerial positions. Statistics on wife beatings are not available, and even though most women who are raped never report it, there has been an 80 percent increase in rapes in recent years.

The State Department report states that Jews, the second largest religious minority in Ukraine, have "expanded opportunities to pursue their religious and cultural activities, but anti-Semitic incidents continue to occur." "The government has protected the rights of the Jewish community and speaks out against anti-Semitism," the report says, pointing out that there are "freely operating Jewish cultural centers and educational institutions, including several colleges." The report adds, however, that some "ultranationalist" groups, like UNASO (Ukrainian National Assembly-Ukrainian National Self Defense Organization) and DSU (National Independence of Ukraine), circulate anti-Semitic tracts, and that anti-Semitic articles continue to appear in a few local newspapers, citing Za Vilnu Ukrainu in Lviv and Vechirniy Kyiv in the capital. The report points out that the papers have not been prosecuted under the law forbidding the sowing of interethnic hatred.

"With the exception of two regions," the report contends, "there is no evidence of serious ethnic tension. In some parts of western Ukraine, small Russian, Jewish and other minority groups credibly accuse some local Ukrainian ultranationalists of fostering ethnic hatred and printing anti-Semitic tracts. They also charge that local authorities have not taken action against those who foment ethnic hatred. In Crimea, Ukrainian and Tatar minorities credibly complain of discrimination by the Russian majority and demand that the Ukrainian and Tatar languages be given equal treatment to Russian."

The State Department compiles its annual human rights reports on countries that receive U.S. foreign aid as well as on all member-countries of the United Nations in compliance with the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961 and the Trade Act of 1974.

In summarizing this year's reports, the State Department singled out China, Nigeria, Cuba, Burma and North Korea for their human rights violations.

It called the situation in Russia "mixed." There was "serious backsliding" on human rights in Belarus; Armenia had "flawed elections"; presidential power grew at the expense of the legislative and judiciary in Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan; and Uzbekistan, Turkmenistan and Tajikistan lagged "even further behind" in human rights in the development of democracy.

In releasing the human rights reports, Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright stressed that they reflect "the American people's commitment to high standards of respect for human dignity and freedom for all people."

"That commitment matters a great deal to me, for I am a beneficiary of it, she said. Secretary Albright was born in Czechoslovakia, whence her family was forced to flee twice — once before the Nazis, and again before the Communists.

Miners strike...

(Continued from page 1)

been affected by the collapse of the economy. He promised to meet with the Cabinet of Ministers that evening to resolve the problem. He did not, however, put the matter before the deputies at the afternoon session of the Verkhovna Rada as the miners had demanded.

The demonstrators gathered in the afternoon at the former October Revolution Palace where they were addressed by the chairman of the Independent Miners' Union of Ukraine, Viktor Derzhak. "Tensions are running very high in Donetsk and other coal basins of Ukraine," he said.

According to Interfax-Ukraine, Mr. Derzhak suggested that the government should subsidize the price of coal shipped to state-owned companies, that it should guarantee orders of 75 percent of coal industry output and that a system of advanced credits should be introduced.

Coal Industry Minister Rusantsov, who was present along with Vice Prime Minister Durdynets and Minister of the Economy Vasyl Hureiev, acknowledged

CBS "60 Minutes" focuses on Canada's pursuit of war criminals

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — "The traditional cold calm of Canada has been shattered by a meddling American." With these words, spoken by co-anchor Mike Wallace, CBS's "60 Minutes" popular weekly newsmagazine loudly caught up with a controversy simmering on this side of the border since late November.

The "60 Minutes" segment, aired on February 2 and titled "Canada's Dark Secret," looked into allegations made by Steve Rambam, a Brooklyn-based private detective, that Canada's efforts in pursuing alleged Nazi war criminals are inadequate, and that, in fact, the country is a safe haven for them.

The story first broke in a mid-November 1996 Jerusalem Post weekend magazine, and in Canada in the Montreal Gazette daily's November 22, 1996, issue.

Mr. Rambam, 39, had posed as Salvatore Romano, a professor of a fictitious university, St. Paul's University of the Americas in Belize, fabricating identification cards and even sweatshirts from the imaginary institution. Mr. Rambam told subjects that he was writing a thesis about police and army collaboration in the World War II.

With Jerusalem Post reporters Robert Sarner and Steve Leibowitz acting as his assistants in some cases, Mr. Rambam interviewed a number of suspected war criminals living in Canada and tricked them into providing apparent confessions of their crimes.

According to the original Gazette report, the private eye was given "a list of 157 suspected collaborators ... by the Simon Wiesenthal Center and Yad Vashem, a Holocaust memorial in Israel." In a telephone interview conducted from Jerusalem on November 21, Mr. Rambam told the Gazette he had obtained confessions from 58 accused, seven of whom had admitted killing Jews. Twenty-five were said to be living in the Montreal area.

The report mentioned the graphic confession of Atanas Kenstavičius, who admitted participating in the murder of Jews from Svencionys, a region of Lithuania in which he acted as police chief during the Nazi occupation.

In a November 27, 1996, item in the Jerusalem Post, Messrs. Sarner and Leibowitz reported that Mr. Rambam "met 60 of the suspects" over the past two years.

It also reported that Canada's justice minister and attorney general, Allan Rock, reacted to the findings by saying, "I'd be surprised to learn that there were that many people that we've overlooked, given the efforts the government has taken over the last 10 or 15 years." He added that he wanted to study Mr. Rambam's report.

The Jerusalem Post article mentioned that the Canadian Jewish Congress (CJC) "welcomed the foreign attention to Ottawa's dubious record" in pursuing war criminals, while the Gazette quoted Irving Abella, former CJC president and currently chairman of its war crime committee, as saying that he found it incredible that "one person working with meager resources had little trouble tracking down and getting confessions from alleged Nazi war criminals, while for 50 years the Canadian government has done very little."

On November 26, 1996, the Toronto Star daily's Ottawa Bureau Chief David Vienneau reported that Mr. Rambam's investigation had been funded by the U.S.-based Jeff Weltman Foundation and an anonymous New York businessman.

Mr. Rambam told the Star that he'd spoken to 25 suspected war criminals in the Toronto area.

The CBS's "Canada's Dark Secret" segment began by outlining Mr. Rambam's investigative effort, then focused on Mr. Kenstavičius, a resident of British Columbia until his death in mid-January at the age of 90, and aired his confession.

Next, Mr. Wallace related that Mr. Rambam was given a list of "a thousand" suspects by Efraim Zuroff, an official of the SWC's Jerusalem chapter. During the course of the program, both Mr. Wallace and Mr. Rambam assert that there are "thousands" and "hundreds" of suspected war criminals living in Canada.

However, it fell to Mr. Zuroff to make the program's most alarming and most generalized accusation. Prodded by Mr. Wallace to speak about "Lithuanians, Latvians, Ukrainians," Mr. Zuroff said "In those areas, most of the Jews were murdered by the locals. They weren't shipped off to death camps in many cases."

Mr. Zuroff further alleged that "without [the local population's] willing, active and zealous collaboration, the Nazis could never have possibly murdered so many Jews as they did."

The program then shifted to Dr. Abella, a history professor at Toronto's York University, who praised Mr. Rambam's resourcefulness in unmasking war criminals living in Canada and decried the unwillingness of Canada's government to tackle the problem. Prof. Abella recalled that former Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau had told him that he was "bringing Old World antagonisms" to the country, and expressed a fear that proceeding against war criminals

could exacerbate tensions between East Europeans and Jews in Canada.

John Sims, a member of the Canadian Justice Department's war crimes investigation unit, was shown announcing that "1997 is going to be an important year, in which I think progress is going to be made."

In introducing Mr. Sims, Mr. Wallace asserted that Canada had deported "just one" suspected war criminal. Since the early 1980s, Ottawa has expelled three: Helmut Rauca (extradited in 1982), Arthur Rudolph (expelled in 1991) and Jacob Lutjens (deported in 1992).

Much of the rest of "Canada's Dark Secret" showed Mr. Wallace attempting to interview suspected Einsatzgruppen (mobile killing unit) translator Helmut Oberlander (subject to deportation proceedings since January 1995), and various footage gathered by Canadian news agencies on accused war criminals.

No mention was made of Johann Dueck, a Scarborough, Ontario, resident who stands accused of killing civilians during his tenure as a deputy police chief in eastern Ukraine.

Potential deportee Josef Nemsila (accused of killing civilians in Slovakia) is shown saying, "They will never change." A surprised reporter asks "Who? Who will never change?" Mr. Nemsila rejoins, "The Jews."

The "Canada's Dark Secret" segment closed with an additional allegation, proffered by Mr. Wallace, that investigators were looking into charges that the German government is paying pensions to SS veterans while stalling on compensation to Holocaust victims.

On February 3, the day after the airing of the CBS war crimes feature, Canadian

Justice Minister Rock defended his government's commitment to the pursuit of war criminals. In a press release issued that day, Minister Rock is quoted as saying, "We are determined to deny safe haven in Canada to war criminals."

Minister Rock added "We have also been extremely active in dealing with modern war criminals, having intervened in hundreds of immigration cases in order to deny present-day war criminals refugee status in Canada."

Talking points posted on the Justice Ministry's website indicated that "Canada has done more than most countries, including France, England, Australia and New Zealand to attempt to bring war criminals to justice; this government has a record of solid achievement in taking action to bring suspected war criminals before the courts."

On February 5, Canadian Justice Department officials confirmed that legal proceedings had already been initiated against all of the men accused of war crimes mentioned by Mr. Wallace and Mr. Rambam in the course of the "Dark Secrets" segment.

On February 3, CBC-TV's talk show "Ralph Benmergui Live" engaged the topic of whether Canada should deport accused war criminals. Speaking from Washington, Eli Rosenbaum, an official of the U.S. Department of Justice, said that in some sense Canada's record on pursuing war criminals is not as strong as his country's (49 deported from the U.S. versus three from Canada) but that Ottawa had "made a valiant attempt, early on, to bring criminal prosecutions, something that was not possible for us

(Continued on page 19)

FOR THE RECORD: UCC letter to prime minister

Dear Editor:

We attach a copy of the letter sent today to the Prime Minister of Canada, the Right Honorable Jean Chrétien. This is an open letter which summarizes the Ukrainian Canadian community's grave concerns over specious allegations made by an American TV network about alleged Nazi war criminals in Canada. We hope that the Canadian justice system will not be misdirected by disinformation of the sort that was broadcast by CBS-TV's "60 Minutes" program ("Canada's Dark Secret," February 2) and that Ottawa will continue to pursue all war criminals found in Canada, regardless of their ethnic, religious or racial origin, or the period or place where they committed their crimes against humanity, bringing all such villains to justice in Canada under Canadian criminal law.

Lydia Shawarsky

Executive Director

Ukrainian Canadian Congress

* * *

The Right Honorable Jean Chrétien
Prime Minister of Canada
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario
K1A 0A6

Dear Prime Minister:

On behalf of the Ukrainian Canadian community, I am writing to express our serious concern about allegations made that there are Nazi war criminals hiding in Canada, as reported yesterday evening on the CBS-TV "60 Minutes" program in a segment titled "Canada's Dark Secret," hosted by Mike Wallace. Please note that this is an open letter

which we will be distributing to all MPs, senators, media, and to our supporters across Canada for their information and action.

As you may recall, the Ukrainian Canadian community has repeatedly and unanimously supported the principle that all war criminals found in Canada, regardless of their ethnic, religious or racial origin, or the period or place where they committed their crimes against humanity or war crimes, should be brought to justice in Canada under Canadian criminal law.

We accepted the "made in Canada" solution to this problem when it was tendered by Mr. Justice Jules Deschenes, in the public report of the Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals (December 1986).

Despite our misgivings about what appears to be a rather selective mandate on the part of the Ministry of Justice's War Crimes Unit (e.g., no Soviet war criminals are being investigated seriously), we have supported the government's efforts to explore what appeared to be serious charges against a few individuals. We also note that none of those cases were successful, reportedly because the evidence produced was insufficient to secure a criminal conviction.

As much as we would be dismayed to think that a Nazi war criminal might escape justice — more Ukrainians perished during the second world war than any other European nation — we do not support attempts to deal with this problem through the civil procedures of denaturalization and deportation. These are serious cases, involving the life and liberty of individual Canadians, every one of whom must be presumed inno-

cent until proven guilty, the basic principle of our legal system.

The government first investigated charges about Nazi war criminals in Canada in the early 1950s, when they were raised (without any accompanying proof) by the Canadian Jewish Congress. We went through it all again in the mid 1980s, against a background of very divisive arguments between Canadians of East and Central European origins and the Jewish Canadian community, provoked by what we now know were the specious claims of Mr. Littman and his confederates. Mr. Deschenes, after several years of study, rebuked Mr. Littman, his Los Angeles-based Wiesenthal Center and Mr. Wiesenthal himself for their gross exaggerations on this subject.

We would appreciate an early opportunity to meet with you and the Honorable Allan Rock, minister of justice, to place our concerns on this subject before you directly. We support efforts to ensure that any and all war criminals found in Canada are brought to justice under Canadian criminal law, but we want to underscore how critical it is for the government of Canada to reject as malicious and disingenuous all attempts to portray our country as a haven for war criminals of any sort.

Canada's Ukrainians, despite our misgivings about the workings of the War Crimes Unit, nevertheless believe that we live in a country where justice is done fairly. We want to keep our legal system unpolluted by misinformation of the sort that the "60 Minutes" program was laced with.

Oleh Romaniw, Q.C.

President

Ukrainian Canadian Congress

Friends and colleagues recall Walter Kwas as the heart and soul of Soyuzivka



Members of the 1989 Soyuzivka workers' reunion committee present Walter Kwas with the official reunion t-shirt bearing the legendary manager's likeness and the warning "You can run, but you can't hide."

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — "Walter Kwas has entered into eternity — and with him a whole epoch of the famous Soyuzivka."

That was both the headline for a news report about funeral services for the former longtime manager of the Ukrainian National Association's upstate New York resort, and a simple statement of fact.

As reported by Svoboda editorial staff member Halyna Kolessa, representatives of the Ukrainian community, of various generations, came from many areas in the United States and Canada to pay their last respects to Walter Kwas, the legendary manager of Soyuzivka during the years 1955-1983. They were joined by local residents, Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike.

Present were his colleagues from Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian National Association, the Ulster County Legislature, the Lions' Club and the United Way.

The mourners knew Mr. Kwas as "a Ukrainian patriot, a UNA activist and leader, and a man with a beautiful soul," Ms. Kolessa wrote.

She added: "Everyone knew him ... his name was integrally connected to the largest Ukrainian resort — a resort unparalleled by any other ethnic group in the diaspora — the famous Soyuzivka. The resort was his life; and the

youths who worked there — his children. Devoting himself completely and fully to Soyuzivka, Mr. Kwas, in his deep longing for his native homeland, created his own Ukraine in the Catskill Mountains of New York state — amid mountains that reminded him of his Carpathians."

During his 28 years running Soyuzivka, popularly referred to as "a little piece of Ukraine," Mr. Kwas was the resort's soul as well as its wise manager and its gracious host. He was simultaneously a father figure to the hundreds of youths and young adults who worked at Soyuzivka during the summer season.

On January 3, friends and colleagues of Mr. Kwas attended a panakhyda, or requiem service. The next day more than 200 persons attended a funeral liturgy offered at Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, the construction of which was initiated by Mr. Kwas. Burial followed at Pine Bush Cemetery.

Mr. Kwas was eulogized during the memorial services by many community activists, among them Dr. Roman Baranowsky, who spoke on behalf of the Ukrainian community; as well as UNA President Ulana Diachuk; UNA Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky, who acted as master of ceremonies at the memorial repast, or tryzna, held after the funeral; Daniel Slobodian, his for-



Walter Kwas, Hutsul.

mer co-manager at Soyuzivka; Roman Wasylyk, a former employee at the resort; and Vasyl Nykyforuk.

Memorial donations were made in Mr. Kwas' honor to organizations and causes that were particularly close to his heart: Plast (the youth organization had recognized Mr. Kwas for all his contributions with the honorary title "Dobrodiy Plastu" — Benefactor of Plast), Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church, the Children of Chernobyl Fund of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America; and The Ukrainian Museum of New York.

Perhaps the most fitting farewell came from a lone trembita player at the conclusion of services at Mr. Kwas' grave. The melancholy sound of the Hutsul instrument, played by Mr. Wasylyk, rolled and reverberated through the hills and valleys of Mr. Kwas' beloved Catskills.

Walter Kwas, a Hutsul at heart, surely must have appreciated that special moment.

Former employees of Soyuzivka who would like to participate in establishing a memorial to Walter Kwas at the UNA resort may send donations and suggestions to UNA Treasurer Alexander Blahitka at: Ukrainian National Association, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302; fax, (201) 451-2093.



Walter Kwas in his "Kwasmobile" next to John A. Flis, his assistant and later his successor.



Walter Kwas and Daniel Slobodian, at one time co-managers of Soyuzivka, they being honored by the Lions' Club.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

The UNA and you *Should you refinance?*

by Stephan Welhasch

As interest rates have fallen, even people who got a mortgage just two or three years ago may be able to save thousands of dollars by replacing that old loan with a new one. The old rule of thumb that mortgage rates needed to drop two percentage points before it made sense to refinance doesn't hold true any longer.

Consider a couple paying 9.5 percent on a \$125,000, 15-year fixed-rate mortgage they took out a few years ago. With a new 15-year loan at 7 percent, the new monthly payment of principal and interest would drop to about \$1,123 from \$1,305 — a savings of \$182 a month. Over 15 years the savings would be more than \$32,000.

Searching for the best interest rate possible is paramount, but the search can be bewildering. A wise consumer should contact at least three commercial banks, thrifts and three mortgage companies. The rates and other terms of a loan can differ substantially. So, when shopping around, compare apples to apples, that is, ask all the same questions — for example, "how much is your interest rate on a 15-year fixed with 0 points?" or "What is your interest rate on a 30-year mortgage with 0 points?" (a point is usually paid at closing and represents 1 percent of the loan). This way you can more easily compare one institution's rates to another's.

Fifteen or 30-year? Many borrowers, eager to reduce their debt, are taking shorter term loans. Those who trade their 30-year mortgage for a 15-year get essentially the same payment with today's lower rates while cutting the term of the mortgage in half. Following this strategy can save you large amounts of interest over the life of the loan.

Of course, choosing between a 15-year and a 30-year loan depends on the cash needs and budget of the individual. If you can handle the payments, a 15-year mortgage is generally the better idea. You will pay off your loan and build up your net

(Continued on page 17)

To Weekly readers from the UNA president

Dear Readers:

Last year the General Assembly of the Ukrainian National Association made the difficult decision to raise subscription rates on both Svoboda, our Ukrainian-language daily, as well as the English-language Ukrainian Weekly.

As official publications of the Ukrainian National Association, a non-profit, fraternal insurance association, both newspapers serve the dual purpose of promoting the interests of the UNA, informing its membership, as well as providing general information about topics of interest and concern to the Ukrainian community in North America.

After the price increase, we expected a drop in renewals, mostly among older readers of Svoboda on limited incomes, and among those households that subscribed to both papers and then chose one over the other. However, the substantial drop in Ukrainian Weekly renewals nonetheless was greater than expected; high cost was the most frequently cited reason. After some preliminary, informal fact-finding, we came up with some information that I would like to share with you.

Though renewals dropped, The Ukrainian Weekly almost paradoxically experienced a very large increase in requests for back issues this year, especially our special editions about independence and Chernobyl. Each back issue costs us several dollars to process and mail. Instead of demanding payment up front, as do many other publications that mail back issues, we mail out the back issues, very often several copies per request, with our request for payment. This is not cost-effective for us, yet we provide it as a service for our community and readers.

In order to keep public officials informed about our community, the UNA mails complimentary copies of The Weekly to all members of the U.S. Congress, to key members of the Canadian Parliament, as well as to select offices of government and private institutions.

Unlike other publications, The

Weekly does not charge higher subscription rates for institutions so that institutions such as libraries and universities will be encouraged to subscribe. In this way, more people can have access to information about Ukraine.

Free of charge, highlights from The Weekly are available on-line at <http://www.std.com/sabre/UKRAINE.html>.

As a service to our readers and community, each week the newspaper publishes a free calendar of events, though we realize that this service cuts into our advertising revenue.

One of the largest categories of increase in Ukrainian Weekly subscriptions is from non-UNA members, non-Ukrainian heritage subscribers, people and institutions who value The Weekly for information about Ukraine for personal and professional reasons. At present, more than 50 percent of The Ukrainian Weekly's subscribers are not UNA members.

No doubt, those who subscribe to our newspaper for professional reasons do so for our extensive coverage of Ukraine. The UNA is one of the few Western organizations that has a full-time press bureau in Ukraine. The Kyiv Press Bureau allows us to receive information and analysis first-hand on a continuous basis. To better serve our Canadian readers, a Toronto Press Bureau was opened as well. One of the reasons that only a few Western publications have full time press bureaus in Ukraine is not because there is no news in Ukraine, but because a foreign bureau is expensive. Our bureaus are completely subsidized by the UNA for its members and for our newspaper readers.

The reason I give you these details is to give you, our readers, a better sense of the environment in which we work, and the services that we provide. Unlike many ethnic newspapers that exist exclusively on advertising revenue and subscriptions, our newspapers are first and foremost a service publication subsidized by the UNA. This also allows more space for information instead of ads, and gives you, our subscribers, more news for your money.

Now dear readers, we ask this of you: If you read The Ukrainian Weekly, if only a dozen times a year, then please subscribe. If we publish information about your organization, or if your organization gets publicity from us, then please subscribe. Instead of reading your parents' copy of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly when you drop off your children at "dido" and "babtsia's," or when you come to their house for dinner on Sunday, buy your own subscription. When thinking of a gift — housewarming, shower, birthday, Christmas, graduation — send a subscription to The Weekly. Instead of keeping back issues for your children who are away at school, buy them a subscription. Then they can see a picture of their brother escorting a debutante the week after it happened, not when they come home for Easter several months later.

We admire the family closeness that is one of the hallmarks of our community, and do not want to disrupt family habits. However, in the long run, publications survive only if the number of subscriptions remains constant or increases. For this we need to rely on you. The Weekly is a publication of the UNA, but it is also your community paper. We encourage and readily accept articles and information about life in our community. And we ask you to renew your subscriptions, encourage others to subscribe, subscribe yourself for the first time, or get a subscription for a friend, or for a library, or for a government official.

Our publications respond to a broad range of interests, a range that reflects the variety in our community and diversity of readers. However, besides serving our needs today, our publications also build a base for the future of our community. We should leave a solid legacy for the next generation. This we can only do together by supporting the network among ourselves, which includes The Ukrainian Weekly.

Sincerely,
Ulana M. Diachuk
President

Young UNA ers



Bryana Victoria Melnic, daughter of Joseph and Donna Melnic, is a new member of UNA Branch 382 in Frackville, Pa. She was enrolled by her grandparents William and Julia Melnic.



Zachary W. Elliott, son of Wayne and Deborah Elliott, is a new member of UNA Branch 382 in Frackville, Pa. He was enrolled by his grandmother Anna Halupa.

Are you still reading your mother's copy of
The Ukrainian Weekly?

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

In memoriam: Walter Kwas

Walter Kwas, the legendary manager of Soyuzivka, will be sorely missed by many friends, colleagues, acquaintances and others who were lucky enough to have crossed paths with him at the Ukrainian National Association's upstate New York resort during the 28 years he was manager and afterwards.

Soyuzivka, that "little piece of Ukraine" in the Catskill Mountains, remained a part of Mr. Kwas' life even after he retired. It could not be otherwise as the resort was Mr. Kwas' life's occupation and his dream. He transformed the former sanatorium into a Ukrainian resort, a showcase for Ukrainian culture and talent. And he decorated it with Hutsul-style accoutrements reminiscent of the Carpathian Mountains of Ukraine.

Soyuzivka's guests were his family, and the Ukrainian youths and young adults who each summer trekked to Soyuzivka to work during the busy season were Mr. Kwas' children.

Many of these youths today are leaders in our community. They have precious memories of Mr. Kwas, the Hutsul hospodar of Soyuzivka. Alexander Blahitka, today the treasurer of the UNA, recalled in an interview published last week that "the man helped literally thousands of Ukrainian youths become responsible adults, in addition to running a resort. ... Mr. Kwas helped our characters grow and kept us out of trouble."

Many of those former youths attended funeral services for Mr. Kwas on January 2-3. They recalled him as a tough boss, and as a father figure. Some boasted of how many times they had been told: "I give you fire." (Translation for the uninitiated: You're fired.) Others recalled how he took a personal paternal interest in each and every one of them. For example, one former office worker reminisced that it was Mr. Kwas who took her and several other girls to dinner — it was their first time in a fancy restaurant, and how he decided who would be roommates with whom (for the record, she and her roommate have been close friends ever since). Another recalled how the Soyuzivka manager also enjoyed the role of cupid. Who knows how many weddings he is personally responsible for!

He had a special concern for young people that was already evident from his interaction with them at Soyuzivka, as well as his promotion of youth camps, workshops and other special youth programs at the resort. But he also took an interest in and wholeheartedly supported youth organizations, especially Plast. In recognition of his multifaceted support, Plast awarded him the honorary title "Dobrodiy Plastu" (Benefactor of Plast). On the UNA Supreme Assembly, Supreme Advisor Kwas invariably was interested in youth issues, and it was on that body's committees and during UNA conventions that his voice could be heard.

Halyna Kolessa, a member of the Svoboda editorial staff who was once employed at Soyuzivka as master of ceremonies for entertainment programs and concerts, wrote in our Ukrainian-language sister publication that Mr. Kwas was "a Ukrainian patriot, a UNA activist and leader, and a man with a beautiful soul."

There were many other sides to the late Walter Kwas: Ulster County legislator, active member of the Lions' Club, activist of the United Way, Republican Committee chairman ... The list could go on. But no matter where he went, in Ukrainian circles and in the American milieu, Mr. Kwas left his mark.

Throughout his life, Mr. Kwas touched the lives of so many people. Now that he has passed on from this life, they feel a great loss. But they are comforted by the realization that they are lucky to have known a man like Walter Kwas.

Vichna Yomu Pamiat.

Feb.
10
1947

Turning the pages back...

Most students of history know about the agreements reached at Yalta and Potsdam by the Big Three (the U.S., the U.K., and the USSR) concerning the map of Europe following the defeat

of Nazi Germany. Less known are a series of treaties that came to define many of Eastern Europe's boundaries and the various war reparations owed by states that had supported the fascist Axis in the second world war.

Following the European armistice, the foreign ministries of Great Britain, France, the U.S. and the USSR drafted five treaties for peace with Italy, Romania, Hungary, Bulgaria and Finland, and a preliminary conference was held in Paris between July and October 1946 to discuss them.

Delegates from 21 states attended, including a contingent from the Ukrainian SSR, headed by the notorious Comintern purger Dmytro Manuilsky. Ukrainian émigré organizations also used the opportunity of the talks to raise concerns as to whether or not Soviet Ukrainian delegates were truly representing the interests of the republic's citizens.

Among the matters settled were Ukraine's borders with Romania (which have occasionally come into question since December 1991) and Hungary.

Romania was compelled to recognize its cession of Bessarabia and northern Bukovyna to the Ukrainian SSR, which had been effected in 1940, at a time when the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact still held the Nazi-Soviet collaboration effort together. Hungary accepted its 1938 boundaries. Some Transcarpathian lands that had passed to Ukraine under a June 1945 arrangement were transferred back to the Czechs.

While Bulgaria, Finland, Hungary and Italy were required to pay the USSR reparations valued at over \$500 million (U.S.), Ukraine was not awarded any direct payments.

The official signing ceremonies took place on February 10, 1947.

Source: "Paris Peace Treaties of 1947," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 4 (Toronto: Toronto University Press, 1993).



Journalist's notebook in Ukraine

by Marta Kolomayets

Holiday time in Ukraine

The Christmas holidays in Ukraine are over. Finally. It seems that Ukrainians have been celebrating for weeks. Actually, they have been celebrating for a month. The holidays began with St. Nicholas descending upon Ukraine on December 19, and according to legend (begun, I think, by journalists who wanted to continue the merry-making) leaving earth on January 19, on the Feast of the Epiphany.

Needless to say, the Ukrainian government did its share to give its citizens the opportunity to celebrate during this holiday season, granting them extra days off from work by creatively managing the calendar. For example, January 1 and 2 — a Wednesday and a Thursday — were declared days off. Friday and Saturday, January 3 and 4, became working days, while January 5, 6, 7 and 8 — Sunday, Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday — were declared official holidays, with people going to work on Saturday, January 11, in a swap for having Wednesday, January 8, off.

Confusing, you say? It was so confusing for most of Ukraine's citizens that many of them took off at 1 p.m. on December 31, 1996, and did not go back to work until Monday, January 13, 1997. Of course, those who celebrate old-style New Year and the Feast Day of St. Vasyl on January 14, did not make it back to work until January 15.

Although President Leonid Kuchma this year extended not only New Year's greetings to Ukrainians throughout the world, but Christmas wishes as well, the meaning of Christmas still tends to elude many of the people in this society controlled for decades by an atheistic regime. Five years plus since independence has demonstrated little progress in educating Ukrainians — the majority of whom are Christians — about the birth of Jesus Christ, our Savior.

In his Christmas message President Kuchma noted: "Today, Christmas is a life-giving source of spiritual rehabilitation, inspiring us to unity and cooperation for the sake of our Motherland." He noted that Ukraine appreciates the social mission of the Church, and its role in the cultural and moral development of the nation. But, despite such convictions, little has been done by the state to educate its people about the role of the Church. And that's right here in Kyiv, the cradle of Slavic Christianity, where Prince Volodymyr baptized the land and its people more than 1,000 years ago.

The lack of importance attached to the Christmas holiday is underscored in a recent poll conducted by SOCRIS-Gallup and published in Den, Ukraine's national newspaper. When readers were asked what their favorite holiday was, only 16.6 percent said Christmas, while 17.3 percent declared Easter their favorite celebration. Also noted were a person's birthday, coming in with 15.8 percent, and International Women's Day (March 8), with 2.7 percent.

The most popular holiday in Ukraine today is New Year's Day — cited by 48.7 percent of the population. So many people consider this day the highlight of the winter season and this is the day for which they spend weeks preparing. On New Year's Eve the fir tree, adorned with lights, candies, ornaments and garland, goes up in people's living rooms; (there is no Nativity scene under the tree); on New Year's Day gifts are exchanged among friends and family.

This is the holiday that most families spend together. New Year's Eve is not

marked by wild parties and dances in large hall and restaurants — although a lot of drinking does go on. It is often met in the comfortable surroundings of one's home, with loved ones gathered around a table laden with Ukrainian delicacies and bottles of the bubbly.

Another poll, also conducted by SOCRIS-Gallup and published in Den, shows that 75.2 percent of those surveyed celebrate New Year's Eve in their family circle, 15.2 percent celebrate with close friends, while less than half of one percent celebrate with colleagues and only 0.2 percent spend it in restaurants or cafes.

Since my arrival here during the Christmas season in 1991 (I arrived in Ukraine on New Year's Eve according to the Julian calendar — January 13 and known here as Malanka), there has been a significant change during the holiday season, at least cosmetically. It used to be that the streets were dark and only once in a while did one spot a silver tree in a storefront window. Although, as far back as my friends here remember, there was always a big tree in the center of October Revolution (now Independence) Square, little else marked the holidays in the nation's capital.

In the past two to three years, Ukrainians have been catching on. As Western businesses come into Ukraine, they bring with them the grandeur and garlands of their world. Besides the central square's Christmas tree this year, the streets were decorated with slogans and billboards, greeting people with "Khrystos Rozhdayetsia" — "Slavim Yoho." Companies like Coca-Cola and Marlboro spread the word of peace and good tidings with the same zeal and money they spend in the West.

Cosmetically things are beginning to look a lot like Christmas in Ukraine (there was even a lot of snow on the ground this year, making it a white Christmas), but it does not look like the true meaning of Christmas will be understood here in the near future. Little is being done to teach children the story of Christmas. Sunday schools at some churches, be they Orthodox, Catholic or Protestant, have made some attempts to teach children Bible stories, emphasizing morals and ethics. But, those schools are small and don't reach a large number of children.

The state does fund a number of plays, skits and shows for children, called "Yalynky," but they have only entertainment value. These plays are indeed plentiful one of my friends took her children to six such events in the span of a week.

I happened to go to one of these events with my godson, who is 5 years old. I was confused about the play, so I can't imagine what message he received during the two-hour performance. It included everything from dancing bears to wobbling snowmen, to baby Jesus and King Herod. St. Nicholas made it across the stage once or twice, and a few dancing snowflakes whirled around him. There was no coherent story.

As we were walking home from the show, "Did Moroz," who is described by some people as the atheist cousin of Santa Claus and St. Nicholas, greeted us at Independence Square. This particular one — and there were many roaming around the Square — was very young (I don't think he even shaved yet) and thin as a rail, but he was armed with a Polaroid and ready to take our photo for 5 hryvni.

Christ is Born. Businessmen rejoice.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kuropas is voice of Ukrainian diaspora

Dear Editor:

I am getting tired of reading all of the anti-Kuropas letters in your letters section, especially from writers who have never lifted a finger for the truly challenging aspects of "the Ukrainian cause," e.g. justice for Demjanjuk (it's still ongoing), the Myroslav Medvid case, the Polovchak case, the "60 Minutes" "Ugly Face" case, the Famine-Holocaust debate, etc. I'm not talking Easter eggs or calendars here.

Dr. Kuropas has been in the thick of battle on the real issues and fights when our "Liberation Front" leaders were nowhere to be found.

Dr. Kuropas is truly the main voice (heart and soul) of the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States! If you don't agree, then please name someone who's been there more on the issues that count. Consider this a challenge!

Jaroslaw Sawka Sterling Heights, Mich.

Trofim Lysenko lives — in Kyiv

Dear Editor:

Trofim Lysenko lives — in Kyiv! Not long ago I found out that, finally, in Ukraine the problem of suicides will be resolved in the near future. Local scholars have found a way to sharply decrease the number of so-called self-aggressive acts of its citizens. "The war on suicide!" — with such slogans the government of Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko is apparently ushering in 1997.

And they are winning! Judge for yourselves: "Kyiv psychiatrists ... have developed new, never before employed, non-traditional methods of helping people with self-aggressive tendencies. The minister of public health has permitted the use of these methods which use uncomplicated physical therapy procedures."

On November 23, 1996, in the Kyiv daily newspaper Zerkalo Nedeli (Mirror of the Week), I quoted the author of this extensive article. The author is Anatolii Chuprikov, the head psychiatrist of the Ministry of Public Health in Ukraine and the director of the Ukrainian Scientific Research Institute of Social and Legal Psychiatry.

The procedure is also described in the article. It is reasonably simple. "In the evening the director issues a brief (not longer than two minutes) and extremely gentle (so that it is not even sensed by the patient) electrical shock to the left hand." But "on the following morning the person is calm and a bit lethargic upon waking. He will think about his complicated situation and contemplate suicide, but he won't follow through with it. Thus, it is easy to assist a person who is aspiring to leave this life."

It is indeed simple, just as it was simple for the Soviet academic Trofim Lysenko to make oats from grains of wheat. ...Or to make apple juice from oranges...

Surely, the Nobel Prize in the area of medicine for 1997 is guaranteed to go to Kyiv scholars. I hope that the prime min-

ister of Ukraine also is given the appropriate consideration by the Nobel Committee.

Another aspect of this is unfortunate. I received the Zerkalo Nedeli, a newspaper with quite interesting articles, from a well-known German pharmaceutical firm. I had asked this firm to provide assistance to the Ukrainian mental hospitals that are truly in need of medical supplies. With the copy of the newspaper was enclosed the following letter: "Unfortunately, our firm is unable to collaborate with Ukrainian psychiatrists; the reason should be clear when reading the article in the accompanying Kyiv newspaper."

Robert van Voren Amsterdam

The writer is general secretary of the Geneva Initiative. He has been working to reform the field of psychiatry in post-Soviet Ukraine.

Where will military train interpreters?

Dear Editor:

Capt. Paul K. Baumann's article in the December 15, 1996, issue was excellent. The University of Kansas and the Ukrainian track within the Russian/East European studies are crucial not only to our community but also to the military.

The number of missions to Ukraine is increasing every year. Interpreters need to know the language and the historical perspective of Ukraine. Currently, the U.S. military has over 100 Ukrainian interpreters. Over 70 are very fluent and can do simultaneous interpretations. Most of these interpreters learned the language at home and in the Saturday language schools throughout the country.

The Defense Language Institute (DLI) in Monterey, Calif., trains future interpreters by intensive submersion in a given language. The institute also trained soldiers in Ukrainian; however, that program ceased to exist in December 1996. Where will future interpreters come from?

The current group of highly proficient interpreters will be retiring from the military within the next five to 10 years. At this point we do not see younger people making a choice to join the military. If they do, the language skills they possess may not be optimum. Further cadres of interpreters would have to come from DLI, and train at the University of Kansas.

At Peace Shield 96, I met Capt. Lee Gabel from South Dakota, who attended DLI and the University of Kansas. His Ukrainian was quite good and his ability to understand Ukraine came from his training at the University of Kansas. His thesis dealt with establishing a chaplain corps in the Ukrainian military. In Ukraine he met Father Zeleniuk, who is attempting to convince the military to initiate the chaplaincy corps. It was an interesting meeting for everyone.

Roman G. Golash Schaumburg, Ill.

The writer is a major in the Army reserve and participated in the first medical mission to Ukraine (1993) followed by Peace Shield 95 and Peace Shield 96.

CANADA COURIER

by Christopher Guly



The new Progress biweekly

My first full-time job in journalism was serving as assistant editor of the now 38-year-old Winnipeg-based Progress (Postup) Ukrainian-English newspaper. That was 17 summers ago.

My editor was Msgr. Gerry Rudachek, who ran the English section since 1960. The late Msgr. Semen Izyk served as editor-in-chief. We had no computers. I would poke out copy on an old manual typewriter. After editing and layout, the pages would look horrendous with red-ink markings.

Pity the folks in typesetting, I would always think — because my prose was green and far less worthy of much work.

But I remember that summer job with much fondness. It helped cut my teeth in my profession. In a final report to the then-federal Department of the Secretary of State, which funded my term position at Progress, Msgr. Rudachek wrote, "Chris did a lot of work and is serious about his work." I blush at the first remark and now agree about the second.

However, Progress, as I once knew it, is no more.

Late last fall, the Ukrainian Catholic Archeparchy of Winnipeg, which ran the old newspaper, launched a new version that now blends Ukrainian and English copy throughout — and one that obviously relies on computers to produce the final product.

Msgr. Rudachek, now in his 80s, has retired. So has long-time typesetter Anton Borys, who recently served as Ukrainian editor. Msgr. Izyk's old, two-story residence in the city's North End, where the paper was published, has also been sold to a local Christian youth group.

Its new home is in the consistory, and Auxiliary Bishop Stefan Soroka has become the biweekly newspaper's new editor. Helping out is a 10-member board of directors along with a four-member committee that is charged with restructuring Progress' content and look.

"We set goals that would make the newspaper more based on the Catholic faith as opposed to general Ukrainian-Canadian news," said Winnipeg City Councillor John Prystanski, who heads the restructuring team. The new Progress is part of a \$950,000 (\$688,000 U.S.) overhaul campaign undertaken by Metropolitan-Archbishop Michael Bzdel, which includes the construction of a new residence for him and Bishop Soroka, and the renovation of the existing residence to house up to four retired priests.

So far, the 9,000 copies of Progress' first three issues — as of the end of 1996 — have been distributed free of charge to the archeparchy's parishes. Though subscriptions are available, Mr. Prystanski said the goal is to make the newspaper self-sufficient through advertising revenue.

Writers and columnists, who cover issues involving young people, seniors and the community at large, are unpaid. But the work

of several correspondents is featured — along with numerous photographs, many of which include the bishop-editor in group shots. And, there are a considerable number of ads throughout the newspaper.

Furthermore, Progress does what it is supposed to do. There is a little bit on papal teachings, quite a few articles on faith and traditions, and items on people and events in the Winnipeg Archeparchy. More are written in English than Ukrainian, which is also deliberate, explained Councillor Prystanski. "We wanted people to read every single page," he explained.

Still, the ghosts of the old Progress still haunt its successor. News stories are still several months old and are mainly written in a non-journalistic style. But that is not my major concern.

During my days with Postup, Msgr. Rudachek invariably included a column titled "The Vacuum Cleaner," which had nothing to do with dustballs. It featured a list of jokes my old boss culled from various publications and which I always thought only he appreciated.

For example: "It was visiting day at the insane asylum. One of the inmates imagined himself to be an artist, and he was busily engaged in dabbing at a blank canvas with a dry brush. A visitor, wishing to humor him, asked what the picture represented.

"That," said the patient, 'is a picture of the Israelites being pursued through the Red Sea.'

"Where is the sea?" asked the visitor. "Why, that's rolled back to allow the Israelites to pass."

"Where are the Israelites?"

"They've just gone by."

"Then where are their pursuers?"

"Oh, they'll be along in a minute."

For me, the concept and title of the column was what made "The Vacuum Cleaner" un-funny. But now the column is gone, and suddenly I miss seeing it. Nothing has replaced it, though a "Dear Baba" advice column has appeared without a byline.



The front page of a recent issue of the new Progress, the Ukrainian Catholic newspaper published in Winnipeg.

Note from the editor:

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Ukrainian Christmas traditions in the spotlight in downtown Winnipeg

by Jeff Picknicki Morski

WINNIPEG – From January 6 to 14, Winnipeg's Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center (Oseredok), together with The Bay Downtown, presented a program of Ukrainian Christmas traditions to the delight and enjoyment of all those who attended or took part in the celebration.

The event, coordinated by Irka Balan and Oseredok staff members Shawna Balas and Andrea Balas, offered Winnipeggers an insider's glimpse into the rich Ukrainian traditions of the Christmas and New Year's season in presentations ranging from cooking demonstrations, to caroling by children from the city's Ukrainian bilingual program, to historical and cultural displays.

Other highlights included an exhibit of art work by Dr. Leo Mol, a Ukrainian custom fashion show and performances by local folk dance and theatrical groups. Sustenance, too, was provided in the daily Ukrainian lunch specials at The Bay's Paddlewheel Restaurant. Worthy of special note was Mr. Balas' window display titled "Koliadnyky" (The Carolers), a thoughtful and colorful tribute to one of the season's best loved traditions.

The last of the program's events, and a fitting finale to the weeklong celebration, was the Ukrainian New Year Concert on

January 14. Lorraine Walton, special events coordinator for The Bay Downtown, gave the opening address in which she briefly described the program's inception some 14 months ago and praised the work and efforts of all those involved in making the event a success.

Orysia Tracz, master of ceremonies for the concert, spoke in her own inimitable style about some of the special customs of the season and recited in Ukrainian a traditional Hutsul blessing for a happy, healthy and prosperous New Year for all.

Performing to a standing-room-only audience in The Bay's Paddlewheel Restaurant were members of the Oleksander Koshetz Choir with their renditions of "Dobryi Vechir Tobi," "Shchedryk," and two other popular carols. The Maryna vocal duet sang "Ivanku, Ivanku," "De Zhoda v Rodyni" and "Proshchannia" although these selections were mistakenly introduced to the audience as Ukrainian pioneer songs.

Two members of Winnipeg's Rusalka Ukrainian dance ensemble performed a short selection. Oly and Oleksander Harkavyi closed the performance with three songs of the season, most notably their magnificent arrangement and superb harmonies in "Tykha Nich" which

(Continued on page 12)



Ukrainian folk dancers perform during a program at The Bay Downtown, a Winnipeg department store.

Bandurist Chorus sponsors koliada workshop

by Volodymyr Murha

SOUTHFIELD, Mich. – "Koliada" is not just the Ukrainian word for a Christmas carol, it is an activity, a feeling; it is Ukrainian warmth. St. Mary's Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Southfield, Mich., was the site of a recent koliada event: a Christmas carol workshop held December 26-29, 1996, that brought 25 attendees from Chicago, Toronto, London and Cleveland.

This was the first carol workshop organized by Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus members Anatoli Murha and Mykola Schitowka. Both are also the administrators of the annual Kobzarska Sich and Camp Ukraina summer bandura/vocal events.

The quality of the koliada workshop

was enhanced by Oleh Mahlay, conductor and musical director of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, and Nadya Tarnawska, director of the Vocal Workshop for Female Voices held annually in Cleveland.

The five-day effort was part of the community outreach program now being implemented by younger professionals of the Bandurist Chorus.

On Sunday, December 29, the workshop performed after liturgy at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Warren, Mich. Later, after a requested repeat performance in the church hall, the workshop participants turned into koliadnyky and took to the surrounding Ukrainian neighborhood.

Attendees ranged in age from 13 to 40; some played the bandura, while others

sang. The repertoire touched upon rarely heard koliady. Participants had fun, but at the same time they worked hard to accomplish an excellent professional sound.

The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus is looking for community feedback regarding workshop endeavors. Communities willing to co-sponsor a bandura and/or vocal workshop, are asked to contact the chorus, which will bring in the instructors if a community is willing to take care of logistics. Please contact: Anatoli Murha, 15356 Ellen Drive, Livonia, MI 48154; (313) 953-0305; e-mail: ANATOLUKE@AOL.COM; or Mykola Schitowka, 7067 Beattie St. W., Lambeth, Ontario N0L 1S1; (519) 652-3043; e-mail: ODUM@EXECULINK.COM



Bandurists and singers during the koliada workshop held in Southfield, Mich., by the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus.

At The Bay: Reminiscences of Christmas

by Oksana Bashuk Hepburn

Jeff Picknicki Morski mentions the Christmas window exhibit at The Bay, a department store in Winnipeg. A little history may be of interest to some.

The window exhibit was started by my mother, Natalie Leontowych Bashuk back in the late 1950s. It was a first in Winnipeg – perhaps in Canada. From that time, for about 30 years, as president or executive member of the League for the Liberation of Ukraine, the Ukrainian Canadian Committee, the Society of Ukrainian Cultural Activists, etc., and on behalf of, or in conjunction with the various organizations with which she was involved, the window exhibit of Sviata Vechera was the best. Portage or Vaughan windows would get done. Half of Mama's house decor would be transported to The Bay to do the job right. (Poriadno!)

It seems to have started because a fine lady, Mrs. Tsybulska, or as she was lovingly called by Mama, "Pani Tsybulka," a thin-as-a-scalion elegant soul who worked in the gift/china department at The Bay and served on the LLU executive, with Mama presiding, suggested it. The overture was made, and the practice was begun. The Bay saw this as a means to lure clientele. Mama saw it as a way to spread the word. ("Schoby vsi znaly.")

At that time there were no funds available or donated for such undertakings. At the end of December, after St. Nicholas' Feast Day and the annual unforeseen cost of the

(Continued on page 20)

Lviv artist Roman Romanyshyn gains recognition abroad

by Daria Darewych

TORONTO — Ukraine has many talented contemporary artists. However, talent and success at home are no guarantee of international recognition.

The work of the 40-year-old Lviv artist Roman Romanyshyn, whose prolific oeuvre encompasses prints, paintings and sculpture, has gained increasing recognition in European art circles.

Last year the Museum of Contemporary Art in Geneva purchased three works from the artist's one-man exhibit held at the Gallerie Saint Léger in November.

The Latvian gallery Rigas-Vini in Riga, after holding a one-man exhibition of Mr. Romanyshyn's works in 1995, chose to showcase the Ukrainian artist at the Milan Art Fair in 1996. Last year the gallery purchased all 22 Romanyshyn works exhibited at the gallery in December and is planning to bring these works to this year's Art Fair in New York.

Born in 1957 in Tlumach, western Ukraine, Mr. Romanyshyn graduated from the Lviv Institute of Applied and Decorative Arts in 1982. His first solo exhibit was held in Peremyshl, Poland, in 1986. The following year the artist's mixed-media paintings attracted attention at the Molodist Kraiiny (Young Artists') exhibition in Kyiv. Other solo exhibits followed: at the Museum of Ethnography, Lviv, 1990; Szuper Gallery, Munich, 1992, 1993; the Susekullen, Olofstrom, Sweden, 1994; and the Ukrainian House, Kyiv, 1994.

In the spring of 1996 the French Cultural Center in Kyiv hosted a solo exhibition of Mr. Romanyshyn's 40 prints inspired by the 19th century French poets Apollinaire, Rimbaud, Verlaine and Baudelaire. The artist's work was also on display at the Geneva International Art Fair (May 1-5). This, in turn, led to an invitation to exhibit at the aforementioned Gallerie Saint Léger.

Mr. Romanyshyn's work is unique in its images and inter-relationships of the real, imagined and subconscious. The compositions are most often complex and full of symbolism. Although there is a dominance of figurative images, con-

siderable attention is paid to the formal design elements.

The artist takes great pride in his workmanship. His etchings, aquatints, intaglios, dry point and any combinations thereof are technically superb. He has adapted the batik technique used in Ukrainian Easter egg designs to create paintings with strong white contours and rich color. He has developed a technique for transferring paintings on glass onto paper while retaining the luminosity of the original.

Usually Mr. Romanyshyn works in a series format, with specific themes and motifs appearing in individual works. Thematically his work encompasses the artist's meditations on history, literature, and the meaning of life and death. Often he uses religious or historical events as commentary on present-day situations.

In some of Mr. Romanyshyn's work Ukrainian images and elements of Ukrainian culture intertwine with post-modern appropriations from world art, often of the Italian Renaissance. For the most part, his prints and paintings express universal concerns about life, creativity, death and eternity. At their best they transcend the familiar and commonplace into the realm of the metaphysical. Their rendering is contemporary, they stand at the threshold of international creative processes without losing their national identity.

In the last 10 years Mr. Romanyshyn has participated in 30 international exhibitions held in Ukraine, Norway, Poland, Switzerland, Canada, the United States, Germany, Sweden, the Netherlands, Belgium, Great Britain, Spain, Macedonia, Italy, Korea and Japan.

He is the recipient of various awards, among them those accorded at the Ninth International Miniature Print Exhibition in Seoul, Korea, in 1996; the Miniprint International Exhibition in Cadaqués/Barcelona, Spain, 1994; and the Third Annual International Miniature Exhibition in Napa, Calif., 1993.

A catalogue of the artist's works has been published by the Soros Center of Contemporary Art in Kyiv (1996) in a bilingual, English-Ukrainian edition and by the



"Reappraisal of Values," (etching, 1992) from the "Cross" series by Roman Romanyshyn.

Ukrainian Art Gallery in Munich (1991), as well as a German-Ukrainian edition published by Gerdan Publishers in Lviv (1991).

An exhibit of Mr. Romanyshyn's work will be held at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation in Toronto February 16-

March 6. This will be the second time that the artist will exhibit at the UCAF, the last time being in 1990.

The artist's U.S. exhibit will be held in March at the Alla Rogers Gallery in Washington.

Detroit exhibit showcases works by 65 Ukrainian artists

DETROIT — In celebration of the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence, the art exhibit "Volya-Freedom," sponsored by the Toronto-based Ukrainian Association of Visual Artists of Canada (USOM) and the Association for the Advancement of Ukrainian Culture (ADUK) in Warren, Mich., was held November 3-December 13, 1996, at the Biegas Gallery.

Greetings on the occasion of Ukraine's fifth year of independence and support for the endeavor were sent by Dennis W. Archer, mayor of Detroit, and Congressman David Bonior, minority whip.

The showing featured 65 artists from Ukraine, the United States and Canada and 200 tableaux. The scope of the exhibit included renowned artists who have passed away, among them Mychajlo Moroz (1904-1992), Myron Levytsky (1913-1993), Orest Kawka (1936-1982), Dr. Bohdan Stebelsky (1911-1994) and Wolodymyr Bednarsky-Wolod (1927-1996). The oldest exhibitor was 88-year-old Mychajlo Dmytrenko, and the youngest was 18-year-old photographer, Tanas Hayda. The exhibit allowed viewers to see works in various genres, covering a span of 75 years of Ukrainian art.

The exhibit was curated by Dzvinka Nykorak Hayda, president of ADUK.

The exhibit opened with a reception on November 3, with many Ukrainian and American viewers as well as art gallery owners in attendance. The exhibit was displayed on two levels of the 8,000-square foot gallery.

Among the icons exhibited were works by Mr. Dmytrenko, Pavlo Lopata, Bohdan Holowacki and Bohdan Kozakov.

Landscape and cityscape paintings in various styles were exhibited by such diverse artists as Yuri Savchenko,

Oleh Tsoi, Slava Hnativ, Yakiv Krekhovetsky, Volodymyr Monastyrsky, Ludmila Shanta, Larissa Shoushko and Yuri Skoroopsky.

There was a strong representation of floral paintings by Helena Panczak, Valeri Kovalchuck, Yevgeniya Buyanova, Adele Kereliuk and Mr. Skoroopsky.

Works characterized by individual abstract styles were rendered by Roman Baranyk, Ludmila Barmina, Olena Diadenco, Vasyl Kondratiuk, Erika Komenyi-Skoroopska, Oksana Movchan, Lydia Palij, Andrij Sinitar, Raina Stebelsky and Yuri Hura.

Also on exhibit were bas-reliefs in wood by Zenon Holubec; watercolors by Alexander Tkachenko; folklore motifs characterizing the work of Yuri Olyshkevych; batik on silk by Chrystyna Nykorak; ink-on-paper drawings by Volodymyr Nemyra; ceramic works by Wendy Walgate; sculpture by Adriana Shoom, Oleh Lesiuk and Nicholas Nehaniv; tapestry by Maria Zazula; photography by Taras Hayda, Tanas Hayda and Christina Kudryk; and installation art by Dan Grashuk, exhibition juror.

Among the other artists whose works were exhibited were Andrij Babytsch (president, USOM), Ihor Bilinsky, Olena Diadenco, Anatolij Druchylo, Judy Enright, Ihor Kurok, Ivan Lazirko, Anatoli Moukhortov, Ms. Nykorak Hayda, Isabella Dereniuk McDermick, Irena Nosyk, Halyna Novakiwska, Irma Osadsa, Maria Styranka, Youlia Tkatchouck, Victor Tsapko, Emil Telizyn and Anna Yuschuk.

Part of the proceeds from the exhibition sale was designated for humanitarian causes in Ukraine.

A 70-page black-and-white illustrated catalogue of the exhibition is available for \$9 (postage included) by writing to: ADUK, 2582 Otter, Warren, MI 48092.

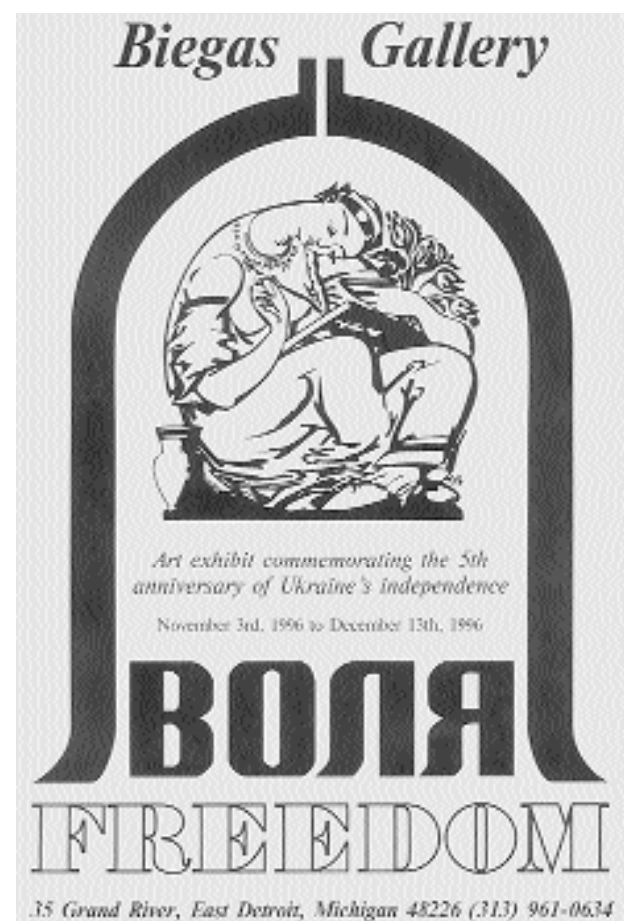


Exhibit catalogue, with cover illustration by Mychailo Dmytrenko.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

political party is to increase women's participation in the development of democratic Ukraine and to get them involved in seeking political office. The party's program focuses on social justice, restructuring of the economy and development of a democratic state. (Respublika)

Romania seeks closer ties with neighbors

STRASBOURG, France — Romania's Foreign Affairs Minister Adrian Severin told a press conference in Strasbourg that his country is actively seeking closer relations with its neighbors, RFE/RL reported on January 29. Mr. Severin said his country is considering forming a "triangular association" encompassing Poland, Ukraine and Romania, and that Hungary might eventually join the group. According to Radio Bucharest, he also discussed the pending basic treaty with Ukraine, saying it was imperative to avoid the "Pandora's box" in which the talks had been stranded so far — an apparent allusion to Romania's former insistence that the treaty mention the Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact of 1939. Foreign Affairs Minister Severin added that Romania now wants a reference to Council of Europe Recommendation 1201 to be included in the treaty to ensure the protection of the rights of the Romanian minority in Ukraine. That recommendation is referred to in Romania's basic treaty with Hungary. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukraine sixth in World Bank aid

WASHINGTON — As of December 1996, Ukraine is in sixth place among the 30 recipients of assistance provided to Europe and Central Asia by the World Bank. The total amount of credits extended by the World Bank to Ukraine is \$1.016 billion (U.S.), according to The World Bank News. Russia is the largest recipient of WB assistance with \$6.447 billion received. Next in line are Poland, \$4.043 billion; Turkey, \$2.781 billion; Romania, \$1.916 billion; and Hungary \$1.696 billion. (Ukrainian Information Center, The Netherlands)

Lebed leads presidential polls

MOSCOW — Former Security Council Secretary Aleksandr Lebed would defeat any opponent in the second round of Russian presidential elections if they were held now, according to a mid-January Public Opinion Foundation poll, Agence France Presse reported on January 29. He would beat Moscow Mayor Yuriy Luzhkov by 42 percent to 31 percent; Communist Party leader Gennadii Zyuganov, 46 percent to 30 percent; and Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, 44 percent to 19 percent. Meanwhile, according to Nezavisimaya Gazeta, Mr. Lebed's press secretary, Aleksandr Barkhatov, claimed that "high-level bureaucrats" are engaged in "provocative activities designed to discredit" the retired general. The authorities' investigation into an October 17, 1996, incident in which Mr. Lebed's guards arrested a team from the Ministry of Internal Affairs that was trailing him provoked Mr. Barkhatov's statement. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Kuchma meets with papal nuncio

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma received the Vatican's nuncio in Ukraine, Archbishop Antonio Franco, on January 22. The nuncio brought greetings from Pope John Paul II, and noted that the head of the Catholic Church constantly prays for Ukraine and spends much time reflecting on the hard times the country is now living through as it establishes its political and economic stability and works toward harmony among Ukraine's Churches. Archbishop Franco said the pontiff has a desire to visit Ukraine, a land that suffered

for many centuries. President Kuchma thanked the nuncio for conveying the pope's greeting, expressed his deep respect for the pope, and wished him a speedy return to health. As regards a papal visit to Ukraine, President Kuchma spoke of the necessity to create appropriate preconditions for a dignified visit by the head of the Catholic Church. (Respublika)

URP leaders protest Lavra transfers

KYIV — The leaders of the Ukrainian Republican Party have appealed to President Leonid Kuchma regarding the transfer of several buildings located in the 11th century Kyivan Monastery of the Caves (Pecherska Lavra) to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate. In an appeal released to the press, the URP expressed its concern that "without any announcement, Lavra properties are quietly being transferred to the Moscow Patriarchate: the building housing the artifacts from the book museum; the building housing the museum of cults, which focuses on the role of religion in the development of culture; and two buildings that "already have become the walls of this Moscow citadel." The URP appeal underlines: "You, Mr. President, understand full well that the UOC—Moscow Patriarchate is a structure inimical to our state, a structure that functions on the basis of foreign laws and defends the interests of Russia. There is no doubt that this game involving Ukrainian national shrines and their transfer to Moscow's jurisdiction is a phenomenon caused by the same source as problems regarding the Black Sea Fleet, our incautious disarmament, the 'zero option' and ... many other hard-headed bows before our insatiable neighbor." (Respublika)

Antonov tests new aircraft

KYIV — Two years after an earlier model had crashed, the Antonov Design Bureau on the outskirts of Kyiv is testing the AN-70, the first aircraft designed in Ukraine since the country declared independence in 1991. The earlier model of the Antonov-70 crashed into an accompanying AN-72 during a test flight in 1994. Ukraine hopes the new plan will break into the world aircraft market, and designers expect that the four-engine turbojet will replace the American S-130 Hercules and the European S-160 Transol. (Reuters)

Environmentalists object to oil terminal

KYIV — A group of Ukrainian environmentalists has panned a project to construct an oil terminal in Kherson Bay, at the mouth of the Dnipro River on the Black Sea, calling it economically absurd and dangerous to nature, ITAR-TASS reported on January 21. The environmentalists said reconstructing existing oil pipelines would cost \$300 million less and allow the existing terminal and refinery in Kherson Bay to work at full capacity. Another terminal is located in Odesa, several hundred kilometers to the west. The planned new terminal, with a projected annual capacity of 6 million to 8 million tons of oil, has already attracted some \$26 million of investment, 20 percent of that from the national budget. (OMRI Daily Digest)

Ukrainian Christmas...

(Continued from page 10)

left the audience speechless.

Clearly a success, Winnipeggers can look forward with anticipation to next year's Ukrainian Christmas program. As announced by The Bay's store manager, Brian Reid, this marks only the beginning of future similar activities between the store and the city's Ukrainian community. Oseredok's program of Ukrainian Easter and spring traditions will begin at The Bay on March 24.

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Poll asks experts...

(Continued from page 2)

supported joining NATO were mostly young people, university graduates and those who favor private enterprise. Knowledge about NATO may be rated a 2.2 on a five-point scale. The NATO Information Center in Ukraine has much to do to fill the information gap in public opinion about the alliance's activities.

The experts were also asked: "If the issue of Ukrainian admittance to NATO were posed to a national referendum, to what extent would it be supported by the Ukrainian population?" They replied that there would not be large public support: 51.2 percent of the experts evaluated the extent of support as "medium" and 35.5 percent as a "small," while 9.3 percent failed to find an answer.

At the same time, the experts evaluating the effectiveness of the Individual Partnership Program (IPP) between NATO and Ukraine, rated it 3.2 on a 5-point scale. Peacekeeping, humanitarian and other similar operations were rated 3.51, while the Partnership for Peace program got 3.5.

One of the military experts whose general evaluation of the IPP is 3 points, stressed that the "IPP is well implemented only on paper, and it is the leadership of the Defense Ministry which is to blame."

Right-wing members of the Verkhovna Rada are those who enthusiastically applaud cooperation with NATO and are an actual or potential lobby for NATO. As such, they were mentioned by 88 percent of the experts. The centrists in the Verkhovna Rada, the chief staff of the Ministry of Defense and army generals, leaders of financial and banking businesses, and officers of the armed forces were mentioned by 26 to 29 percent of the experts.

It is important to increase the number of pro-NATO officials among the state leaders protecting the military-industrial complex's interests and among arms producers. Without their support, the idea of Ukraine joining the alliance is doomed to failure.

Thus far, leaders of the military-industrial enterprises oriented toward cooperative links with Russia occupy third place among all opponents to rapprochement with NATO (60.5 percent).

First and second places are occupied by pro-Russian politicians (86 percent) and left-wing members of the Verkhovna Rada (81 percent).

The list of priorities for Ukraine's cooperation with NATO is as follows:

- 1) providing additional security guarantees to Ukraine;
- 2) assisting with implementation of military reforms;
- 3) creating conditions for Ukraine's eventual membership in NATO;
- 4) training personnel;
- 5) participating in peacekeeping operations;
- 6) assisting in elaboration of a military policy;
- 7) joint maneuvers;
- 8) weapons trade and services;
- 9) coordinating military strategy and armament policy;
- 10) maintaining the military-industrial complex.

The experts polled consider expansion of the zone of stability and security in Europe and prevention of regional conflicts as the chief goal of NATO's eastward enlargement (58 percent). Other NATO goals were cited as follows: adjusting to new realities in the post-Cold War era - 51 percent; creating military preconditions to curb Russian expansionism - 46.5 percent; filling the security vacuum in the region - 39.5 percent; supporting integration into

European structures - 34.9 percent.

However, 25.6 percent of the experts consider NATO's enlargement to be a means of enforcing America's hegemony in the region as the only superpower remaining after the collapse of the USSR.

Current Ukrainian policy is oriented at expanding cooperation with NATO and supporting NATO's eastward expansion. This policy receives the support of 50 percent of the experts polled and is viewed as corresponding to Ukraine's national interests.

At the same time, 19 percent of the experts believe that current policy puts Ukraine in the position of a buffer state between NATO and the Tashkent Treaty countries headed by Russia, while 14 percent think it will undermine the stability of relations with Russia. Among those who see the negative aspects of NATO's enlargement, only 2.4 percent openly characterize it as contradictory to Ukraine's interests.

The experts gave high ratings to the Verkhovna Rada leadership's stance on cooperation with NATO and its enlargement, based on the criterion of meeting Ukraine's national interests (3.7 on a 5-point scale). However, they underlined that there is a lack of clarity and coordination of positions among various branches of power on the NATO issue.

Conclusion

The majority of the experts polled gave a positive evaluation to the consequences of Ukraine joining NATO. Between 59 and 75 percent of them mention among such consequences: creation of proper conditions for the reform and modernization of Ukraine's military forces; Ukraine's membership in the club of developed market democracies with effective international security guarantees; strengthening of security throughout Europe; and creation of an effective system of civil control over the military.

Today there is a pro-NATO majority among the political elite in Ukraine. Whether it will succeed or lose depends on Russia's policy in the region, current and future policies of Russian leaders toward Ukraine, and international support for Ukraine's integrity.

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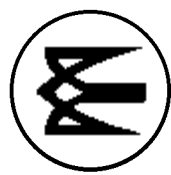
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SPORTSLINE

In order to get our readers' minds off this winter's crushing freezes, befuddling thaws, and freak storms and floods, we'll delay reporting on winter sports for a week, and bring in the Ukrainian new year with news about summer-ish sportage.

SOCCER

Some continue to gather trophies even after they're gone. Walt Chyzowych, a player and coach on a number of international U.S. soccer teams was honored posthumously as the National Soccer Coaches Association of America inducted him into the National Soccer Hall of Fame at the NSCAA's annual convention in Nashville, Tenn., on January 15-19. The award was accepted by his brother, Ihor.

The NSCAA is (believe it or not), the largest single-sport coaching organization in the U.S., with more than 11,500 members. Potential honorees to the Hall of Fame are nominated from the four major national soccer organizations — the NSCAA, the National Intercollegiate Soccer Officials Association, the United States Soccer Federation (USSF) and the American Youth Soccer Organization. All inductees from each of these organizations are honored in the National Soccer Hall of Fame's two museums in Oneonta, N.Y.

Mr. Chyzowych, who passed away in September 1994, began coaching at Philadelphia Textile College in 1961, leading them to a 122-35-15 record and five NCAA tournaments in 1966-1975. He then jumped to the USSF, where he served as director of coaching (1975-1981; 1984-1986), and head coach of the World Cup, Olympic, Pan American and National Youth teams, compiling a 65-44-21 record.

Although the U.S. team failed to reach the 1978 and 1982 World Cup during his tenure, squads under his direction did qualify for the Pan Am Games, the Olympic Games in 1980 (boycotted by the U.S.) and the FIFA World Youth Championship in 1981.

Mr. Chyzowych was instrumental in refining the U.S. national coaching system in terms of training and application, and attracted coaches from abroad to conduct clinics. He is credited with the training of 650 "A" level coaches throughout the U.S. and over 20,000 others at various clinics, camps and schools.

In 1981-1984, he helped establish the Major Indoor Soccer League, playing a major role in the development of the league's structure and playing rules, and served as the league's assistant commissioner. He also coached the Philadelphia Fever team.

Mr. Chyzowych joined the staff of Wake Forest University in 1986. He led its team to an Atlantic Coast Conference title in 1989 and was named South Region Coach of the Year. Other awards include the NSCAA Coach of the Year award (1975) and the ISAA Jeffrey Award in Coaching (1981). He was also elected to a number of collegiate and regional halls of fame during his lifetime.

Mr. Chyzowych, born in Sambir, western Ukraine, in April 1937, was brought to the U.S. by his parents in 1949, and from the late 1950s until 1975 starred as a player on a number of squads, setting a college scoring record while at Temple University and twice being selected as the most valuable player on the U.S. World Cup team.

ATHLETICS

On a brief, but distressing note, Sergey Bubka, the man from Donetsk who has

owned pole vaulting for about a decade, is facing the possibility of retirement.

On January 22, Agence France Presse reported that the five-time world champion and 30-time world record holder would not be among the star-studded field in the eighth annual pole vault competition he sponsors and organizes in his home town.

Mr. Bubka had to sit out his own meet when he pulled a calf muscle in practice.

Nevertheless, top vaulters such as Olympic champion Jean Galfione of France and 1992 Olympic champion Maxim Tarasov of Russia competed in the tournament that began on January 26.

"Obviously, I'm very disappointed not to perform in front of my home crowd," Mr. Bubka was quoted as saying through his spokesperson, "But it's too risky for me to vault now." Doctors advised him to rest for two months.

Mr. Bubka complained of chronic burning sensations in his legs, and voiced feelings that it might be time to retire from the sport he has dominated in such impressive fashion.

TENNIS

The professional tennis season kicked off as the tune-up tournaments to the year's first Grand Slam — the Australian Open — got under way.

Women

At the outset, it should be admitted that this space has largely neglected doubles play, and as a result the considerable success enjoyed by two women from Ukraine has gone mostly unnoticed.

For example, Larisa Savchenko Neiland was last year's Australian Open Mixed Doubles Champion of 1996, together with her Aussie partner, Mark Woodforde, as well as being a finalist, semifinalist and quarterfinalist several times over in the women's doubles draw, and yet the best she could manage on the singles circuit was a third-round victory at the Indian Wells Tournament.

For her part, Natalia Medvedeva (still living in Kyiv) has won 10 women's doubles tour titles. The two Ukrainian-born women teamed up for a tournament in San Diego in 1995, reaching the quarterfinals.

To start the tennis new year, it can do no harm to provide basic prosopographic data on everyone as they come up.

Larisa Savchenko Neiland

Birthdate: July 21, 1966
Birthplace: Lviv, Ukraine
Resides: Yurmala, Latvia
Height: 5'6.5" (169 cm)
Turned Pro: 1988
Earnings 1996: \$395,000
Earnings career: \$3,227,824

Ms. Neiland was ranked second in the world in doubles behind Spaniard Arantxa Sanchez Vicario as of January 27, 59th in the world in singles.

At the Australian Open, played in Melbourne from January 13 to 26, Ms. Neiland beat Evie Daninikovic 6-2, 6-7 (2-7), 6-0. The young Croat later made it to the quarterfinals in the Junior Girls' Draw. In the second round, the Ukrainian expatriate met the indomitable German No. 1 seed Steffi Graf, who sent her packing 7-5, 6-2. Unfortunately, Ms. Graf (perhaps disturbed by her father's jailing for tax evasion) proved quite domitable a few rounds later, but not soon enough for Ms. Neiland.

However, the Lviv-born star's aptitude in doubles play soon was in evidence. Paired with John de Jager, who is not even rated on the ATP singles rankings,

(Continued on page 15)



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Sportsline

(Continued from page 14)

they reached the final, having dropped only one set in four matches. However, the Ukrainian-content tandem lost to Manon Bellegraf of France and Rick Leach of the U.S., 3-6, 7-6 (7-5), 5-7.

Ms. Neiland also played in the women's doubles draw alongside Czech Helena Sukova (whom she downed in mixed doubles action in round two), reaching the semifinal before being ousted by Americans Lindsay Davenport and Lisa Raymond, 5-7, 3-6.

Natalia Medvedeva

Birthdate: November 15, 1971
Birthplace: Kyiv
Resides: Kyiv
Height: 5' 9.75" (176 cm)
Turned Pro: 1987
Earnings 1996: \$64,200
Earnings career: \$872,550

On the WTA tour a year longer than Ms. Neiland, after an explosive beginning to her career, Ms. Medvedeva has been hobbled by injuries that forced her to pull out of part of the 1993 season (just as she reached her best ever ranking, 23rd in the world) and miss much of 1994. Andrei Medvedev's elder sister, coached by their mother Svetlana, was ranked 60th in doubles at the beginning of this year, 78th in singles.

At the Australian Open, she beat Li Chen of China in the first round, 6-2, 3-6, 6-3, before bowing out to the French-based but Canadian-born Mary Pierce, who roared past the sunny Kyivan, 6-2, 6-2, and into the final against eventual champion Martina Hingis.

In the women's doubles draw, Ms. Medvedeva didn't fare much better yoked to Russian Elena Makarova, and they got knocked off in the first round by Mary Joe Fernandez and Katrina Adams of the U.S., 6-2, 6-2.

It was a different story in the mixed doubles draw, for which she was paired with Dutchman Jacco Eltingh. The European twosome reached the quarterfinals, and seemed poised for a Ukrainian East-West face-off between Ms. Neiland and Ms. Medvedeva in the semis after going up 6-3 against the Bollegraf-Leach duo. However, the Uke-killers took the next two sets 6-3, 6-4 and eliminated that possibility.

The Weekly's readers deserve to be aware of other Ukrainian doings on the WTA tour, particularly of the anomaly that places Ukraine's Olha Lugina (46th) ahead of Ms. Medvedeva in the doubles rankings. If she's that good, she's sure to swim into our viewfinders soon, and information about her successes will be forwarded posthaste.

As listed on the WTA website (their spellings, not ours), Ukrainian women in the world singles rankings system are provided below. The rank shown is the highest achieved by that particular athlete in the past month.

177	Brioukhovets, Olena
192	Tatarkova, Elena
192	Lugina, Olha
277	Sukhova, Irina
475	Nemchinova, Natalia
485	Beiko, Talina
500	Kovalchuk, Tetiana
533	Zaporozhanova, Anna
647	Tsiganii, Tanja
660	Chasovaya, Natalia
726	Bondarenko, Natalia
869	Zdorovitska, Angeli
929	Tchvanova, Nadia
1003	Kavun, Kate
1022	Turpak, Daria
1033	Nossenko, Irena
1045	Davidyuk, Juliya
1067	Semenets, Juliya
1101	Sholuh, Anna

Men

A switch in genders brings us to our perennial favorite, and reluctant hero in his country, Andrei Medvedev.

Andrei Medvedev

Birthdate: August 31, 1974
Birthplace: Kyiv
Resides: Kyiv
Height: 6'4" (193 cm)
Turned Pro: 1991
Earnings 1996: \$398,000
Earnings career: \$4.3 million

Currently ranked 36th in the world in singles, and somewhere in the hundreds in doubles, Mr. Medvedev has carved out a nice career for himself despite dropping out of the top 20s of late. Since turning pro the year of Ukraine's independence (which, as Weekly readers know, he has oft bemoaned), he has won 10 ATP singles tournaments, the first coming at the IP Cup in Genoa, Italy, in June 1992, and most recently in Hamlet, Conn., in August 1996.

The new season began rockily for the 22-year-old Kyivan, as on December 31, 1996, he was mercilessly thrashed 6-1, 6-1, in the first round of Sydney's Grand Slam tune-up Australian hardcourt tennis championship by Jonathan Stark of the U.S.

Whatever new year's resolutions Mr. Medvedev may have drafted appear to have been passed by his psychic legislature, because he arrived in Melbourne in good focus. He dispatched Frenchman Thierry Champion 7-5, 6-2, 6-2 in the first round, only to meet the always-dangerous Michael Stich (15th seed) of Germany.

Their battle royal lasted three and a half hours. Both players made whopping amounts of unforced errors (68 Stich, 62 Medvedev), both allowed scores of break points, and both scorched winners from all sides and depths of the court. It also appeared that Mr. Medvedev has settled down into a comfortable service routine, as he committed only two double faults in the match, and got 58 percent of his first serves in (an astounding 80 percent in the second set). Suffice it to say, the Russian Ukrainian prevailed in the arduous five-set battle 4-6, 6-1, 6-2, 4-6, 9-7.

Mr. Medvedev probably needed a respite after that ordeal, and Dennis Van Scheppigen of Holland seemed willing to oblige. The outspoken Kyivan won 6-1, 6-1, 6-1 in a leisurely 70-minute cakewalk.

It's hard to avoid biggies in the fourth round, and U.S. powerhouse Michael Chang (seeded second in the tournament) was Mr. Medvedev's biggie. Ukraine's top player managed to take the first set 6-4, but Mr. Chang loves a comeback, and he rolled over Mr. Medvedev 6-2, 6-2, 6-1.

It was actually much closer than the score suggests. Mr. Medvedev continued to maintain a high first-serve percentage throughout the match (61), and had more winners than the Chinese American star (26-23). However, the very high number of unforced errors (58, exactly twice as many as his opponent) proved his undoing.

The other top-flight Ukrainian in the field, Canadian-born defector to the U.K. Greg Rusedski is struggling of late, seemingly distracted by the arrival of Tim Henman as chief Union Jack bearer, and continues his slide in the rankings.

Greg Rusedski

Birthdate: September 6, 1973
Birthplace: Montreal
Resides: London
Height: 6'3" (191.5 cm)
Turned Pro: 1991
Earnings 1996: \$324,000
Earnings career: \$1,122,340

In late November, Mr. Rusedski stood at 38th, a few weeks later he was 10 points further down, and on January 27 he'd fallen out of the top 50, coming to rest (for how long?) at 56.

(Continued on page 16)

The Ukrainian National Association

sponsors

2nd Annual Soyuzivka Photo Contest 1996-1997



Judges at the UNA-Soyuzivka '96 Photo Contest (from left): Ulana Diachuk, UNA President; Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky, choreographer; Roman Iwasivka, professional photographer and George Kozak, painter (not present).

Due to the positive response our first contest received, we will hold our second contest during the 1997 season. We encourage all amateur photographers who are visiting Soyuzivka to participate, and send entries for the contest to the UNA's Home Office.

Rules and regulations:

1. Only non-professional photo buffs can participate.
2. Photos must be taken at Soyuzivka in 1995, 1996 and 1997.
3. Entries must have a people theme and provide the following information printed on the **reverse of photo**:
 - each photo must be dated;
 - people on the photo must be identified and model release signature must be included;
 - name, address and telephone number of the entrant must be typed on a label.

There is no limit on the number of entries.
4. Selected photos will be published in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly.
5. Photos will not be returned and will become the property of the UNA.
6. Prints only (no slides); black/white or color; at least 4 x 6 up to 11x14
7. All photo entries will be exhibited at Soyuzivka in 1997.
8. Entries will be judged solely on their merit; decisions of the judges will be final.
9. Entries must be postmarked no later than April 30, 1997, and mailed to:

UNA - Soyuzivka Photo Contest '96-97
30 Montgomery St.
Jersey City, NJ 07303
Att'n.: Oksana Trytjak
Tel. (201) 451-2200

Field & Olesnycky

Attorneys at Law

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зі Львова 13 днів

Міншенін, Париж, Люрд, Штрашбург, Вроцлав \$650

Sportsline

(Continued from page 15)

Of course, first-round exits in succession will do that to you. After his distinctly unmemorable performance at the Australian hardcourt championship, Mr. Rusedski was faced with a high hurdle in his first rounder at the Grand Slam in Melbourne.

Spaniard Felix Mantilla has been on a surge of late, climbing up to 15th in the ATP rankings and, although the ex-Montrealer put up a fight, Mediterranean passion prevailed on the Australian Open's bakingly hot courts. The score was 6-4, 5-7, 7-5, 6-2, with the Ukrainian Canadian Brit at the short end of the stick.

Fans of service cannonades will be glad to know that Mr. Rusedski still has a yen for aces (he unleashed 16 in that match), but his unforced errors (47), double faults (11) and relatively weak play behind his second serve (40 percent) still do him in.

In other men's tour notes, according to the website maintained by the "Stats Queen" (billed as "the site the ATP tour hates"), Ukrainians of various stripes known to Sportsline occupy the following spots in the world rankings as of January 27, with the +/- numbers indicating movement in the most recent rating period.

28	Medvedev, Andrei	+8
56	Rusedski, Greg	-1
334	Rybalko, Andrij	-2
489	Poliakov, Dmytro	-3
855	Yakymenko, Denys	+2
1038	Muzyka, Dmytro	-3
1093	Dovban, Serhiy	-4
1169	Litvinov, Andrei	-2
1302	Lys, Volodymyr	-4
1302	Yaroshenko, Serhiy	-4

The fact that Messrs. Lys and Yaroshenko appeared by happy coincidence to be tied for 1,302th in the world is neither happy, nor a coincidence. It is simply an indication that the rating system places everybody who is doing not very well, or is even mostly inactive (such as the retired Yannick Noah of France) tied at the bottom, with a loss of ranking positions every time they don't play in an ATP-sanctioned tournament.

On another note, a certain Max Mirnyi registered as having lost in the Australian Open's first qualifying round to Mark Knowles of the Bahamas, 6-7, 4-6, 2-6. At press time it was impossible to confirm whether Mr. Mirnyi is Ukrainian and which country he calls his own.

Any reader with information about Mr. Mirnyi, or about any other player this column has neglected is hereby encouraged to pass it along. In addition, any readers burning with outrage at the injustice dealt those athletes mentioned are enjoined to write acid letters to the editor.

The Stats Queen's site provides diverting statistical analyses of the progress of our sporting pilgrims, with categories such as "Movers and Losers" and "Time to Get a Day Job." This brand of wit is no doubt what garners her such affection from the professional circuit. Happily, Mr. Medvedev is listed under the "Movers" column, and Mr. Rusedski's headlong plunge, if not to the depths, then out of the loftier heavens, escaped notice of the "Losers" crib.

The site's address is: <http://www.jdland.com/tennis.html>

- compiled by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj.

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Irondequoit helps Poltava

ROCHESTER, N.Y. — In mid-November 1996 the Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities Committee sent its second shipment of humanitarian aid, primarily medical supplies collected from area individuals and medical facilities, to Ukraine.

This shipment was bound for the Mother's and Children's Hospital in the city of Kamin-Kashyrsk, in the Polissia region of Ukraine — an area designated as the third zone of Chernobyl. The retail value of the items collected was estimated at \$55,000. The shipment included hospital beds, disposable and portable medical supplies, dental equipment, infant and children's items.

Ludmila Labash, president of the Irondequoit-Poltava Sister Cities Committee, and her husband, Mykola, organized the effort, along with committee members Harry Rab, the Rev. Richard C. Kinsky, Walter Denysenko and Bill Bastuk, chairman of the Irondequoit Sister Cities Council.

Though this second shipment was not expected to arrive at its destination until sometime in January, Mrs. Labash and committee members have already started collecting for a third shipment to an area of Ukraine that has little or no access to medical supplies.

The first shipment, valued at over \$30,000, was made to the 200-bed Poltava Children's Clinical Hospital in 1995.

Since the establishment of the sister cities relationship with Poltava in 1991, the committee has provided financial support to several Poltava schools, community, cultural and religious organizations. Currently, committee member Tamara Denysenko is working with counterparts in Poltava to provide awards to students who excel in English, Ukrainian culture and the arts.

For more information contact Tamara Denysenko, (716) 544-9518; or write to: International Sister Cities Council of Irondequoit, c/o Tamara Denysenko, 93 Montaine Park, Rochester, NY 14617.

Project to treat alcoholism in Ukraine seeks volunteers

EUGENE, Ore. — Throughout Ukraine, people who seek treatment from the ravages of alcoholism confront archaic and ineffective treatment programs, which, in effect, is a guarantee that almost none of the tens of thousands who seek treatment every year will ever recover.

In cooperation with the Ministry of Health of Ukraine, the Academy of Sciences and other organizations, First Light Partners — "Zorya" has designed a treatment model based on the effective 12-step, self-help process and an accompanying training program. This initial program has been working in Ukraine since 1992 through the efforts of dedicated volunteers.

Now First Light is ready to implement a series of intensive hands-on training programs in Ukraine for health care professionals who work with alcoholics. The first of these intensive training programs will begin in June 1997 and will last approximately four months.

The program is requesting applications for volunteer/interns. Volunteers will be working in the training program, instructing approximately 20 Ukrainian health care professionals who specialize in the treatment of alcoholism as a disease.

Volunteers need not speak Ukrainian or Russian, though language knowledge would be a plus. For several reasons

First Light would prefer that applicants personally be in recovery, not the least of which would be the ability to make an example of recovery accessible and to offer living proof.

Volunteers will receive airfare, visas, housing and stipends for food and pocket expenses. One week of training will be provided about the specific model and Ukraine.

First Light Partners is a 501(c)3 non-profit organization registered in both Ukraine and the United States (in Oregon). Program funding is provided by the Anonymous Foundation, the Embassy of Canada in Kyiv, Hewlett-Packard, Rotary International, Sister Cities International, The West Foundation, and numerous individuals who generously provide private donations to help combat an enormous public health crisis in Ukraine.

Those interested in volunteering are asked to send a one- or two- page letter that explains their interest in volunteering, as well as a short resume.

For more information about First Light or about volunteering as a trainer in Ukraine, please contact: Ted Hicks, Executive Director, First Light Partners, 2680 McMillan St., Eugene, OR 97405; telephone, (541) 341- 6447; e-mail, flp3@aol.com.

Should you...

(Continued from page 7)

worth a lot faster.

The arguments for the 30-year mortgage are that it offers a lower monthly payment for the cash-strapped. While total interest payments over the life of the loan are greater, tax savings partly offset the interest burden. If you really want to pay off your mortgage in less than 30 years, you can always increase the size and frequency of your payments, in this way bringing down the interest payments, the principal amount owed and the term of the loan. Just make sure there's no prepayment penalty.

Even though rates have dropped recently, there is always a good chance they may swing the other way. Don't wait any longer, call the UNA and see how much you can save. Make your dreams come true.

Whether you need a first mortgage loan on a new home or you need to refinance your existing mortgage loan, your decision on whom to borrow from is most important. The UNA offers its members financing for one-, two- and three-family, owner-occupied homes throughout the United States and Canada. To find out more about mortgages, or about becoming a member and sharing in the many benefits the UNA has to offer, please call 1 (800) 253-9862.

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Ukrainian National Association

Monthly reports

RECORDING DEPARTMENT

MEMBERSHIP REPORT

	JUV.	ADULTS	ADD	TOTALS
TOTAL AS OF OCTOBER 1996	16,299	38,513	4,811	59,623
GAINS IN NOVEMBER 1996				
Total new members	36	27	0	63
New members UL	2	3	0	5
Reinstated	20	45	0	65
Transferred in	4	5	0	9
Change class in	2	2	0	4
Transferred from Juvenile Dept.	0	0	0	0
TOTAL GAINS:	64	82	0	146
LOSSES IN NOVEMBER 1996				
Suspended	11	34	38	83
Transferred out	4	5	0	9
Change of class out	2	2	0	4
Transferred to adults	0	0	0	0
Died	1	51	0	52
Cash surrender	19	25	0	44
Endowment matured	27	31	0	58
Fully paid-up	19	47	0	66
Reduced paid-up	0	1	0	1
Certificate terminated	0	1	8	9
TOTAL LOSSES	83	197	46	326
INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
GAINS IN NOVEMBER 1996				
Paid-up	19	47	0	66
Extended insurance	6	23	0	29
TOTAL GAINS	25	70	0	95
LOSSES IN NOVEMBER 1996				
Died	0	29	0	29
Cash surrender	10	11	0	21
Reinstated	2	3	0	5
AIP	0	2	0	2
TOTAL LOSSES	12	45	0	57
TOTAL UNA MEMBERSHIP				
AS OF NOVEMBER 1996	16,293	38,423	4,765	59,481

MARTHA LYSKO
Secretary

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

INCOME FOR NOVEMBER 1996

Dues From Members	\$	176,823.71
Annuity Premiums From Members		32,141.15
Income From "Svoboda" Operation		81,098.84
Investment Income:		
Banks	\$	119.49
Bonds		268,753.06
Certificate Loans		2,516.82
Mortgage Loans		43,297.48
Real Estate		57,950.57
Short Term Investments		18,761.73
Stocks		8,301.05
	\$	399,700.20
Total	\$	689,763.9
Refunds:		
Cash Surrender	\$	374.10
Employee Hospitalization Plan Premiums		1,071.40
Fraternal Benefits		50.00
Insurance-General		150.00
Investment Expense		250.00
Official Publication "Svoboda"		65,000.00
Rent		204.59
Reward To Special Organizer		3,926.25
Scholarship		100.00
Taxes Federal, State & City On Employee Wages		106,502.18
Telephone		38.43
Total	\$	177,666.9
Miscellaneous:		
Donations To Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	\$	2,432.90
Exchange Account-UNURC		400,822.27
Transfer Account		5,880,736.95
Total	\$	6,283,992.1
Investments:		
Bonds Matured Or Sold	\$	1,823.34
Certificate Loans Repaid		1,584.93
Mortgages Repaid		36,657.71
Short Term Investments Sold		10,218,696.79
Total	\$	10,258,762.1
Income For November, 1996	\$	17,410,185.1

DISBURSEMENTS FOR NOVEMBER 1996

Paid To Or For Members:		
Annuity Benefits And Partial Withdrawals	\$	19,231.86
Cash Surrenders		37,194.28

Death Benefits	75,615.00
Dividend Accumulations	1,756.94
Dues And Annuity Premiums From Members Returned	54.87
Endowments Matured	68,201.00
Indigent Benefits Disbursed	600.00
Interest On Death Benefits	233.58
Reinsurance Premiums Paid	2,775.52
Scholarships	600.00
Total	\$ 206,263.0

Operating Expenses:	
Real Estate	\$ 89,998.34
Svoboda Operation	219,565.19
Washington Office	2,118.00
Organizing Expenses:	
Advertising	\$ 2,579.37
Commissions And Overrides On Universal Life	205.03
Field Conferences	1,327.83
Refund of Branch Secretaries Expenses	40,847.97
Reward To Organizers	10,353.19
Reward To Special Organizers	28,202.06
Traveling Expenses-Special Organizers	4,930.06
	\$ 88,445.51
Total	\$ 400,127.0

Payroll, Insurance And Taxes:	
Employee Benefit Plan	\$ 21,239.81
Insurance-General	12,444.60
Insurance-Workmens Compensation	35,234.00
Salaries Of Executive Officers	17,740.09
Salaries Of Office Employees	110,211.64
Taxes-Federal, State And City On Employee Wages	116,667.84
Total	\$ 313,537.9

General Expenses:	
Actuarial And Statistical Expenses	\$ 28,884.40
Bank Charges	2,598.26
Bank Charges For Custodian Account	890.30
Books And Periodicals	1,754.70
Dues To Fraternal Congresses	187.25
Furniture & Equipment	112.69
General Office Maintenance	1,993.89
Insurance Department Fees	1,634.82
Legal Expenses-General	2,883.21
Operating Expense of Canadian Office	262.49
Postage	7,402.79
Printing and Stationery	1,070.24
Rental Of Equipment And Services	17,402.83
Telephone, Telegraph	5,070.64
Traveling Expenses-General	448.02
Total	\$ 72,596.5

Miscellaneous:	
Auditing Committee Expenses	\$ 3,570.32
Donation From Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	32,490.34
Exchange Account-UNURC	400,822.27
Expenses Of Annual Sessions	33,886.87
Loss On Canadian Exchange	1,355,213.93
Professional Fees	6,280.00
Rent	5,052.67
Transfer Account	5,880,709.95
Total	\$ 7,718,026.1

Investments:	
Certificate Loans	\$ 4,016.82
E.D.P. Equipment	5,707.56
Real Estate	1,354.67
Short Term Investments	8,367,609.74
Stock	5,406.75
Total	\$ 8,384,095.1
Disbursements For November, 1996	\$ 17,094,646.1

BALANCE

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash	\$ 1,264,339.54	Life Insurance	\$ 71,437,118.77
Short Term Investments	3,788,861.95		
Bonds	43,167,469.50		
Mortgage Loans	6,999,603.79		
Certificate Loan	699,953.66	Accidental D.D.	2,223,043.81
Real Estate	3,212,188.20		
Printing Plant & E.D.P.		Fraternal	0.00
Equipment	599,258.79	Orphans	442,100.30
Stocks	1,545,048.02		
Loan to D.H.-U.N.A		Old Age Home	0.00
Housing Corp.	104,551.04	Emergency	53,740.50
Loan To U.N.U.R.C.	12,774,728.89		
Total	\$ 74,156,003.38	Total	\$ 74,156,003.3

ALEXANDER BLAHITKA
Treasurer

Council of Europe...

(Continued from page 1)

what Europe has gradually implemented over a 50-year time span.

His remarks reflect the problem the president and government leaders face in abolishing the death penalty: more than 60 percent of Ukrainians favor capital punishment. And that has turned the move to abolish it into a slow process.

The Verkhovna Rada has been preparing a bill for months; it is finally scheduled for debate on the floor this next week. A second proposal, by the Cabinet of Ministers, which carries the signatures of the heads of the Internal Affairs Ministry, the Security Service and the Procurator General's Office, also is scheduled for debate soon.

But few political observers believe that a law prohibiting state executions will move quickly through the Parliament when most Ukrainians feel the country is suffering a crime epidemic and that law and order must be a major priority of government.

This is not the first time the Council of Europe has confronted Ukraine about ongoing executions. In November 1996, a symposium on the abolition of the death penalty was held in Kyiv under the sponsorship of the Council of Europe. The symposium revealed that among the member-states of the organization only Russia and Ukraine had not implemented a moratorium on the death penalty.

At that time Parliamentary Assembly member Zolt Nemeth had announced, "We have learned a shocking fact — hundreds, hundreds of people have been executed in Ukraine in the last months. We had suspected such figures before, now we are sure." The seminar demanded the immediate implementation of the moratorium, a warning Ukraine seems to have ignored.

Russia, which executed 53 people between January and June 1996, also faces expulsion if it does not enact a moratorium by April. Among the other member-states of the Council of Europe, only Great Britain and Belgium have not outlawed the death penalty, however, they have implemented moratoriums.

The Council of Europe resolution also criticized the manner in which deaths are carried out in Ukraine, where family members are not told the date or place of executions and the executed are buried in unmarked graves. "The Assembly is particularly shocked by the information that executions in Ukraine are shrouded in secrecy, with apparently not even the families of the prisoners being informed, and that the executed are reportedly buried in unmarked graves," the resolution stated.

It further voiced concern over the fact that the government does not officially release capital death figures and that numbers for the second half of 1996 are not available.

That figure is rumored to have exceeded 100 persons. Justice Minister Holovatyi would not confirm or deny the rumor. He explained that the numbers are known only to officials in the Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Procurator General's Office, and they will not be made available to the Ministry of Justice until later in the year.

But he was adamant that executions must be halted immediately.

"If, after yesterday's resolution, today someone is executed in Ukraine, we will not have a seat on the Council of Europe," said Minister Holovatyi, who is an advocate for the abolition of the death penalty.

He added that people must understand that nobody is dictating to Ukraine how to run its penal system. "We elected to join the Council of Europe. We promised to abide by the standards and requirements. Now we are backing away."

Notice to publishers and authors

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals, only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: The Editor, The Ukrainian Weekly, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302.

Investment forum...

(Continued from page 1)

Verkhovna Rada has yet to pass a legislative package designed to reform the economy, promote foreign investment, and reduce the tax burden on domestic and foreign investment.

Estimates place between 40 percent and 50 percent of the Ukrainian economy in the gray area, but Dr. Peter Goldscheider, managing director of EPIC, claims that this is a necessary developmental step for Ukraine. "In my view, the Dnipropetrovsk mafia is rubbish. We shouldn't tie this with corruption," he said.

In recent years, total foreign investment in Ukraine amounts to \$1 billion, with the United States leading the pack with \$250 million. A large percentage of foreign investment, according to Dr. Goldscheider, comes from Cyprus, Swiss bank accounts and the return of flight money.

Success stories

Foreign investors attempting to launch joint ventures in Ukraine tell horror stories about confusion and corruption at the highest levels of government over policy and implementation. Stewart Reich, president of UTEL, a joint venture between AT&T, Deutsche Telekom, PTT Telecom (the Netherlands) and Ukrainian telecommunications entities, readily admits that UTEL benefited from the government's chaotic practice of licensing.

Four years ago UTEL entered the Ukrainian market with 20 employees, and has thus far invested a total of \$100 million. Today, 1,500 employees operate and maintain a long-distance and international switching network that generated over \$250 million in revenues in 1996.

Mr. Reich advises potential investors to be patient and pointed out that with 30 percent of all foreign investments in Ukraine occurring in the first six months of 1996, the country's investment climate has improved dramatically. "Ukraine is a good place to invest, but it is not an easy place to invest," he said.

In the energy sector, Northland Power of Calgary formed a joint venture called UKR-CAN Power with the State Property Fund and the Darnytsia Heat and Power Plant, making Northland Power the largest private investor in the Ukrainian electrical energy sector. UKR-CAN Power will reconstruct the Darnytsia plant facilities with an investment of over \$110 million.

Ed Southern, chief executive officer of UK-RAN Oil Corp. of Calgary, reminded investors that Ukraine has tremendous oil and gas potential which has yet to be exploited. Ronald Cormick, president of Epic Energy in Calgary, said Ukraine can be a net oil exporter in five to 10 years.

Perhaps the greatest success story in Ukraine involves a Ukrainian commercial bank, Privatbank. Created in March 1992, the Dnipropetrovsk bank today has 144 branches in Ukraine, one bank in Moscow, and is considered the 14th largest bank in Belarus. It is the first bank in Ukraine to issue credit cards, and according to Serhiy Tigipko, the bank's chairman of the board, it issues 1,000 new credit cards every month. The bank has worked with the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, is a member of the Visa Europe network and last year received credit lines.

Privatbank also allows customers to open anonymous numbered accounts. The 30-something Mr. Tigipko said that 30 billion to 40 billion hrv (about \$15.96 billion to \$21.28 billion U.S.) of flight capital has returned to Ukraine through Privatbank's numbered accounts.

Investment banks such as Creditanstalt Investment Bank in Vienna, Credit Suisse First Boston and Kinto Investments &

Securities in Kyiv, a sponsor of the forum, have had some measure of success in trading Treasury bills and compensation certificates.

Anton Janes, director of corporate finance at Creditanstalt Investment Bank, noted that only a small number of compensation certificates has been obtained by the population, and an even smaller number has been invested. The Ukrainian government has extended the privatization voucher deadline until the end of 1997, 40 percent of which have not been invested, he said.

Alexander Knaster, managing director of Credit Suisse First Boston in Moscow, pointed out some of the risks of investing in Ukraine — the budget may be delayed by the Verkhovna Rada, the government has accumulated wage and pension arrears, and relies too heavily on the International Monetary Fund, Ukraine's equity market is pre-emerging compared to Eastern Europe — but predicted that 1997 will be the year of rapid and steep growth of securities because privatization will be completed.

Both government officials and investors already in the country recommended that potential investors work with a Ukrainian partner whom they have chosen very carefully, document their activity and stay involved in the venture. Ambassador Morningstar advised setting limits and cautioned against "falling down the slippery slope of corruption."

U.S./Canadian government support

The U.S. government demonstrated its commitment to Ukraine's economic development by sending high-level representatives of the State Department and the Overseas Private Investment Corp. to the Ukrainian-North American Investment Forum.

Ambassador Morningstar emphatically stated at the outset of the forum that "There is no higher priority in U.S. foreign policy than to see Ukraine become an independent and stable market economy." He noted that U.S. energies are focused on bolstering Ukraine's economic reforms and pointed out that two committees of the Kuchma-Gore Commission — Sustainable Economic Cooperation, and Trade and Investment — relate to Ukraine's economic well-being.

Mr. Kalicki, who attended the January meeting of the Committee on Trade and Investment held in Kyiv, said the committee will create a Subcommittee on Business Facilitation that will act as a channel for resolving disputes involving American firms.

The Canadian government has set up a similar commission to serve as the front line to addressing issues so that investment projects will not suffer the long delays associated with doing business in Ukraine.

The Canadian government's perspective on investing in Ukraine was outlined by Bohdan Onyschuk, managing partner of Smith Lyons, who led the first Canadian trade mission to Ukraine in 1989. Lloyd Axworthy, Canadian minister of foreign affairs, was scheduled to attend the forum but canceled due to an official trip.

Gerald Fedchun, president of the Canada-Ukraine Chamber of Commerce, detailed last year's Canadian trade mission to Ukraine, which delivered deals worth \$600 million and will make Canada the premier investor in Ukraine.

Most investors at the two-day forum agreed that the value of conferences such as these is gleaned from new information and making contacts. George Carivalis of Caspian Asset Management in New York and London, a firm that is considering investing in Ukraine, said, "We lacked information about the Ukrainian market and we're curious — there is a lot of surplus cash looking for a home in markets like Ukraine."

Democracy fellowship open to applicants

NEW YORK — The New School for Social Research in Manhattan has announced that applications are being accepted for the Democracy Fellowships. The fellowship program, supported in part by a grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts of Philadelphia, is designed to strengthen the educational and research capacity of reform-oriented institutions in Eastern and Central Europe in the public policy subfields of economic policy, political institutions and international affairs.

The fellowships will be offered to junior faculty teaching at targeted univer-

sities and institutions of higher learning in Bulgaria, Slovakia, Ukraine and the Baltic states. The fellowship will offer two semesters of graduate study at the New School in New York, and a third semester of supported research at the awardee's home institution.

The application deadline is March 1 for the academic year beginning September 1. For application information, please contact: Heshan de Silva-Weeramuni, East and Central Europe Program, Graduate Faculty, 65 Fifth Ave., New York, NY 10003; e-mail: weeramun@newschool.edu.

CBS "60 Minutes" ...

(Continued from page 5)

under our Constitution."

Mr. Rosenbaum was guarded also about the results of Mr. Rambam's investigation. "I think time will show how many confessions really were obtained and what contribution that effort makes to the pursuit of justice," the U.S. official said.

Bernie Farber, a CJC director, also participated in the discussion, saying that the pursuit of war criminals "is not an ethnic issue. Those people who would make it one are doing it a terrible disservice."

John Gregorovich, chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, phoned in to the program to reaffirm the UCCLA's position favoring prosecution of war criminals in Canada, and opposing deportation. Mr. Gregorovich said the Supreme Court's 1990 decision to acquit Imre Finta based on the "following orders" defense was not, in his opinion, a reason not to pursue

criminal proceedings against other accused.

In response to the CBS program, on February 3 Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Oleh Romaniw fired off a letter to Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chrétien expressing his community's "serious concern about allegations made that there are Nazi war criminals hiding in Canada."

Mr. Romaniw reiterated support for a "made in Canada" solution of prosecuting war criminals in Canada rather than deporting them.

The UCC president also emphasized that it is "critical ... for the government of Canada to reject as malicious and disingenuous all attempts to portray our country as a haven for war criminals of any sort," adding that Ukrainian Canadians "want to keep our legal system unpolluted by misinformation of the sort that the '60 Minutes' program was laced with."

The full text of the UCC letter appears on page 5.

Being Ukrainian means:

- Malanka in January.
- Deb in February.
- Sviato Vesny in May.
- Wedding of your roommate in June.
- Tabir in July.
- Volleyball at Wildwood in August.
- Labor Day at Soyuzivka in September.
- Morskyi Bal in November.
- Koliada in December.

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- Youth Segment
- Community News
- Arts • Travel
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- Business • Sports
- Kid's Corner

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To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, and the like – we receive from our readers.

In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, February 14

NEW YORK: The Literary and Art Club is holding an evening of poetry on the occasion of St. Valentine's Day. Reading their poetry will be Bohdan Boychuk, Maria Rewakowycz and Yuri Tarnawsky; reading works of contemporary poets will be Larysa Kukrytska and Volodymyr Lysniak. A musical interlude will be provided by Lavrentia Turkevych and Andriy Miliavsky. Concurrently, an exhibit of paintings by Maryna Tsesarska will be on view at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave. The reading of poetry begins at 7 p.m.

WOONSOCKET, R.I.: The Ladies' Sodality of St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church will hold its annual Lenten Kitchen in the parish hall at 874 Harris Ave. The kitchen will be open every Friday beginning February 14 through March 28, at 3-6:30 p.m. The Ukrainian meatless dishes may be eaten in or taken out. For more information contact Gloria Hreczuck, (508) 883-8187, or Anna Chaharyn, (401) 762-4511.

Sunday, February 16

LAS VEGAS: The Ukrainian American Social Club of Las Vegas will hold a Valentine's Day party /pot luck dinner to be held at 4301 Coran Land. Cocktails and social hour, 5:30-7 p.m.; dinner, 7 p.m. Members, free; non-members, \$7. For more information and reservations call Steve, (702) 434-1187.

Tuesday, February 18

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: Manor Junior College's office of continuing education is offering, as part of its special interest courses, a course on Advanced Ukrainian Embroidery to be held Tuesdays, February 18-March 25, at 7-9 p.m. For more information, or to enroll, contact the office, (215) 884-2218.

Monday, February 24

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is holding a lecture by Robert DeLossa, HURI, who will speak on the topic "Saint Nicholas and the Politics of Translation." The lecture will be held in the HURI seminar room, 1581-83 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m.

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta is holding a lecture by Dr. John-Paul Himka, University of Alberta, who will speak on the topic "Cyclical Time and Linear Time, the Ukrainian Past and Ukrainian History." The lecture will be

held in the CIUS library, 352 Athabasca Hall, at 3:30 p.m.

Thursday, February 27

ATLANTA: The Center for Russian and East European Studies at Emory University is holding a seminar titled "Financial Sector Reform in the Former Soviet Union," with Ross Kendall, attorney with Glass, McCullough, Sherrill and Harrold, and technical advisor to the National Bank of Ukraine. The seminar will be held in Room 205, Rich Building, at 4 p.m. For additional information call (404) 727-6582.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, March 1

KHERSON, Ukraine: An international conference titled "The Colonization of Southern Ukrainian: Problems of Ethnic and Cultural Development," will be held May 19-25 in Kherson. The conference is being held to discuss contemporary methodology and theory regarding ethnic and regional studies. Among topics to be discussed are: the colonization of southern Ukraine from the time of the Paleolithic to the 20th century; state policy and cultural development of southern Ukraine in the 20th century; the state of regional studies at universities, schools and cultural organizations; ethnic studies and contemporary theory and methodology. Workshops for ethnologists and folklorists will be held in the village of Zmievka, outside of Kherson. The conference is sponsored, among others, by the Department of History and Law at the Kherson State Pedagogical Institute, the Kherson Regional Administration, the Department of History and Culture of Southern Ukraine at the Institute of Art, Folklore and Ethnology of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences and the Ukrainian Association for Regional Studies. The working languages at the conference will be Ukrainian, Russian and English. The deadline for registration is March 1. Interested scholars, post-graduate students and researchers may apply by submitting the following information: name, professional status and affiliation, address as well as a short description of work to be submitted. The material should be submitted to the conference committee at: Prospekt Sorok Rokiv Zhovtnyia, 27; Khersonskyy Derzhavnyi Pedahohichnyi Instytut, Istoryko-Pravoznavchyyi Fakultet; Kherson, Ukraine, 32500; Sinkevych, Yevhen Hryhorovych. Telephone: (011-38-0552) 24-04-36; fax: (011-38-0552) 24-21-14.

PLEASE NOTE: Preview items must be received one week before desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Preview items will be published only once (please indicate desired date of publication). All items are published at the discretion of the editorial staff and in accordance with available space.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS, a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public, is a service provided free of charge by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. To have an event listed in this column, please send information (type of event, date, time, place, admission, sponsor, etc.) — typed and in the English language — along with the phone number of a person who may be contacted during daytime hours for additional information, to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302.

At the Bay...

(Continued from page 10)

extra delivery of coal for that "kholiorny" (cursed) furnace during each "kholiarna" (cursed) winter cleaned out the monthly budget, Mama would solicit all our pennies and clean out all the coat pockets for loose change to pay for taxis to The Bay to deliver the exhibit pieces.

The memories of these times are very warm and rich.

Through the years, coming home from Ottawa for Sviat Vechir, we made the requisite pilgrimage – babies, children, the middling and the old – to view the window display. It was wonderful and as valued as going to midnight liturgy, a never-to-be-

questioned tradition, good for the soul.

The problem was that at home for our own Sviata Vechera, Mama would fuss that this "servetka" (ritual cloth) and that "svichnyk" (candleholder) were missing. Of course, they were gracing the display, wishing all Winnipeggers a Merry Ukrainian Christmas.

There was always a fine discussion about the value of preserving and protecting traditions for one's own family and self, or going beyond the ghetto. Mama always won and did what she thought was needed to enhance and promote the presence and contribution of Ukrainians in Canada, even if we had to do without the manger.

And I'm glad that Oseredok is continuing the tradition.

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