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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Germany's foreign minister notes Ukraine's role in European security

by **Khristina Lew**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — German Vice-Chancellor and Foreign Affairs Minister Klaus Kinkel traveled to Kyiv on July 29-30 with a delegation of 30 businessmen to discuss expanding German-Ukrainian investment relations and meet with Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko and Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko.

During a joint press conference with Mr. Udovenko on July 30, Mr. Kinkel reiterated that, because of its geographic location, "Ukraine is a very important country to us and to Europe" and that it plays a "huge role in assuring the security of Europe."

Germany has been a strong supporter of Ukraine's drive for democratic and market reforms, and was instrumental in drafting the European Union's Plan of Action for Ukraine that was adopted in 1996. Vice-Chancellor Kinkel emphasized that Germany actively participated in formulating the plan "in order to ensure that Ukraine does not become a buffer zone."

"Germany understands Ukraine's important role in the world," he said, but would not elaborate on Ukraine's prospects for joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. "In terms of security, the issue is to keep a balance between Ukraine and Russia," he said.

Mr. Udovenko emphasized that three factors will guarantee security in Europe: the expansion of NATO, the Ukraine-NATO charter and the Russia-NATO act.

Mr. Kinkel told reporters that during his meeting with the Ukrainian president and the delegation of German businessmen, Mr. Kuchma "assured me positively that the stone that lies on the road to economic

reform would be removed."

Germany is Ukraine's third largest trading partner after Russia and Turkmenistan. In 1996 the volume of trade between the two countries grew by 11 percent; in the first quarter of 1997, Ukraine's exports to Germany grew by 34 percent. To date, the level of trade is 2.7 billion DM.

Mr. Kinkel said Germany would consider two proposals put forth by Ukraine: President Kuchma's request that Ukraine become an associate member of the Western European Union and Foreign Affairs Minister Udovenko's motion to create a German-Ukrainian working group on the return of cultural artifacts lost during World War II.

Some Ukrainian artifacts have in fact been returned by Germany to Russia as the successor state of the former Soviet Union. Mr. Udovenko said Ukraine has submitted requests to both Germany and Russia for inventories of what has been returned.

Mr. Udovenko also proposed that Ukraine, Germany and Poland create a "triangle" to explore issues such as illegal immigration, narcotics and stolen cars.

During the course of his two-day visit, Mr. Kinkel met with most members of Ukraine's newly appointed Cabinet of Ministers and Verkhovna Rada First Vice-Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko. He also won assurances from President Kuchma that a dispute with the Lutheran Evangelical community of Kyiv over church property would be resolved.

The German foreign affairs minister toured the NATO Information Center in Kyiv, the disputed Lutheran Evangelical church and the 11th century St. Sophia complex, and cruised the Dnipro River.

Mr. Kinkel last visited Kyiv in 1993.

Kuchma's "new" Cabinet includes mostly old ministers

by **Khristina Lew**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma began the process of appointing a new Cabinet of Ministers on July 25, but with the notable exception of leftist Viktor Suslov, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Banking and Finance who replaced reform-minded Yurii Yekhanurov as minister of the economy, most ministers of the former government have stayed in place.

On the recommendation of Ukraine's newly confirmed prime minister, Valerii Pustovoitenko, President Kuchma re-appointed Serhii Tyhytko as vice prime minister for the economy; Oleksander Kuzmuk as minister of defense; Yurii Kravchenko as minister of internal affairs; Ihor Mitiukov as finance minister; Andrii Serdiuk as minister of health; Mykhailo Zghurovskii as minister of education; and Dmytro Ostapenko as minister of culture and arts.

Oleksii Sheberstov, who served as minister of energy in July 1995-June 1996, was re-appointed to that post. Anatolii Kasianenko was appointed head of the State Committee for Tourism.

In the first day of the Cabinet reshuffle, only Mykhailo Zubets, vice prime minister of the agro-industrial complex and minister of agriculture and food, and Yurii Rusanov, minister of the coal industry, were not re-appointed to their posts.

Mr. Zubets has retired from government service and, in accordance with the Constitution, the post of vice prime minister of the agro-industrial complex no longer exists. (The Constitution of Ukraine permits three vice prime ministerial portfolios — Prime Minister Pustovoitenko on July 26

indicated that they would focus on the economy, social policy and humanitarian policy.) The Ministry of Agriculture and Food was restructured into the Ministry of the Agro-Industrial Complex.

Mr. Rusanov was replaced by National Deputy Stanislav Yanko. Mr. Yanko is a member of the Verkhovna Rada Committee for the Fuel and Energy Complex, and an "Honored Miner of Ukraine." In 1990-1994 he served as first deputy chairman of the State Committee for the Coal Industry.

Mr. Kuchma also issued several decrees on July 25 that restructure existing ministries and state committees, and completely eliminate others. According to Anatolii Halchynskyi, deputy head of the presidential administration and presidential advisor on economic policy, seven out of 27 ministries have been liquidated and three new

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New minister at economy post: Viktor Suslov

by **Khristina Lew**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Some among Ukraine's political elite view the appointment of Viktor Suslov to the post of minister of the economy as a catalyst to cooperation in the economic sphere between the Cabinet of Ministers and the Verkhovna Rada.

Others, like Vyacheslav Chornovil, head of Rukh, view it as the government's movement "leftward."

The 42-year-old Mr. Suslov is chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Banking and Finance, and belongs to the Agrarian parliamentary group. He served as chief consultant to the Office of the President until 1993 and advisor to the prime minister in March 1993-June 1994.

An ethnic Russian, Mr. Suslov completed post-graduate studies in economics at Kharkiv University, and lectured at the Odesa Institute of National Economy and in Mozambique.

"Suslov distinguishes himself as competent in economic matters and one who adheres to reforms. He will strengthen the government bloc in charge of the economy," said Anatolii Halchynskyi, deputy head of the presidential administration

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UNA awards \$70,300 in scholarships for 1997-1998

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — The Ukrainian National Association's Scholarship Committee has awarded \$70,300 in scholarships to 186 undergraduate students.

The committee met on Monday, July 21, to review 228 applications. (Forty-two were rejected because of incomplete documents.)

Scholarship grants the 1997-1998 academic year were awarded to 186 students. The awards were allocated as follows: one for \$2,500; five for \$1,000; three for \$800; five for \$700; one for \$600; 34 for \$500; 32 for \$400; 55 for \$300 and 50 for \$200.

Special awards were given to the following:

- The Joseph and Dora Galandiuk Scholarship of \$2,500 was to Alexander Kollias of Elkins Park, Pa. (Branch 239), a chemistry and mathematics major at Drexel University in Philadelphia. This special scholarship was set up by Dr. Susan Galandiuk in memory of her deceased parents, who resided in Ellenville, N.Y.

- The Anthony Dragan Memorial Scholarship of \$500, named for the long-time editor-in-chief of the Ukrainian language daily newspaper Svoboda, was awarded to Jennifer Uihlein of Hicksville, N.Y. (Branch 327), a media and communications major at Fordham University in New York.

- The Roman Slobodian Memorial Scholarship of \$500, given in honor of the long-time UNA supreme treasurer, was awarded to Renata Kosc of North Royalton, Ohio (Branch 240), an economics and international relations major at Case Western Reserve University in Cleveland.

- The Vera Stangl Scholarship of \$500 was awarded to Taisa Skulsky of Philadelphia (Branch 153), a metropolitan studies major at New York University in New York. In her testament, Vera Stangl had bequeathed funds to the Ukrainian National Association for a scholarship in memory of her late father,

Prof. Joseph Stetkewicz, a former editor of the Svoboda daily.

- The Joseph Wolk Memorial Scholarship of \$500, a bequest given primarily for the education of Lemkos, was awarded to Orysia Duplak of Camillus, N.Y. (Branch 39), an accounting and economics major at Le Moyne College in Syracuse, N.Y.

- The Bohdan Zorych Memorial Scholarship of \$500, in honor of the late UNA supreme vice-president for Canada, was designated for Marc Marzotto of Windsor, Ontario (Branch 341), a commerce major at McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario.

- Scholarships funded by the Ukrainian National Home Corp. of Blackstone, Mass., for students from the New England area were awarded as follows: \$1,000 to Bruce Burak of Woonsocket, R.I., an education major at Rhode Island College;

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ANALYSIS

Kuchma and the politics of re-election

by Markian Bilynskyj

The general expectation is that, following its summer recess, the Verkhovna Rada will focus almost exclusively on next March's constitutionally mandated parliamentary elections, and that this re-election imperative will inevitably impact its legislative output, thereby further impeding reforms. This thesis was reiterated by President Leonid Kuchma in a major address on June 27 commemorating the first anniversary of the Constitution.

The implied corollary of the above argument is that the executive branch — principally the presidency — has more often been sinned against than sinner. However, it was actually President Kuchma himself who introduced the re-election factor into an already complex Ukrainian political equation when, in September 1996, he quite unexpectedly announced that he would seek re-election. Since then, almost every major initiative has been examined by both sides with at least half an eye as to its potential electoral impact.

Despite the administration's often justified accusations concerning the Rada's antics, it has lately become very difficult to separate President Kuchma's own re-election efforts from any declaratively objective effort to address Ukraine's chronic problems. This is particularly true where they intersect with the ambitions of other elements within the leadership elite.

Last year's relatively successful macro-economic stabilization has not translated into the much-hoped-for improvement at the critical micro level. The lack of palpable progress has exacerbated a host of negative socioeconomic tendencies — principal among which is the seemingly intractable problem with state salary and pension arrears — that with parliamentary and local government elections rapidly approaching threatens to create a highly damaging momentum when President Kuchma tries to renew his own mandate in October 1999.

Thus, over the past couple of months the administration has been putting into place a political strategy to facilitate the kind of economic reforms that can, indeed must, produce swift results. One of the key elements is a wholesale restructuring and disciplining of the government to be presided over by a prime minister familiar with the bureaucracy. Another is the centralization of economic strategy planning within the Supreme Economic Council (SEC). The goal is to facilitate the passage and implementation of a whole series of measures, including a package of "urgent measures" for the acceleration of economic reforms. The final and most controversial component, revealed in the June 27 speech, requires a postponement of the parliamentary and local government elections for another year to allow the Verkhovna Rada time to pass all of these measures.

Earlier this year, President Kuchma cultivated an image of an observer rather than participant in the wrangling over the budget between the Rada and the government of then Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko. Contemporary realities within the executive branch — the Constitution and an impending law on the Cabinet of Ministers notwithstanding — are such that the president remains relatively free to take the credit for any government successes while generally avoiding the blame for any shortcomings. Essentially, therefore, he can choose to

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exercise authority largely without responsibility. Thus, during his annual March report to the Rada, President Kuchma publicly absolved himself of any responsibility for the budgetary deadlock and the resultant socio-economic consequences while excoriating the government, the prime minister, and the Rada.

Such an approach is tenable only over the short run because ultimately the president cannot avoid responsibility for his nominee's failure to deliver. President Kuchma finally admitted as much in his June 27 speech when he stated that he had to shoulder some responsibility for the state of affairs in the country, specifically through his handling of the "kadrove pytan'nia" (literally, "the staffing question"). This can be interpreted as referring principally to his choices for prime minister that have so far proved less than successful.

The July 16 appointment of Valerii Pustovoitenko as prime minister — the fifth acting or permanent head of government during the Kuchma presidency — reflects President Kuchma's latest attempt finally to get the "kadrove pytan'nia" right, this time within the context of a fluid pre-electoral political environment.

In contrast to his predecessor, a powerful individual who attempted to expand the prerogatives of the office of prime minister, Mr. Pustovoitenko is a close personal friend of President Kuchma; an unassuming, experienced bureaucrat with, critically, no constituency apart from the president himself. Theoretically, his appointment should reduce appreciably the potential for friction inherent in the presidency's relationship with the prime minister's office.

Moreover, although he was approved by literally the slimmest of margins, those Rada deputies who opposed Mr. Pustovoitenko's candidacy had nothing as such against the nominee himself, save for the simple fact that he is transparently little more than an extension of President Kuchma's political persona. This at least offers the prospect of a less confrontational relationship between the Cabinet of Ministers and the Verkhovna Rada (although being so closely associated with President Kuchma could actually condemn the new prime minister to a largely peripheral role).

Finally, and perhaps most importantly, having worked for several years as the minister of the Cabinet of Ministers, essentially the government's chief bureaucrat, Mr. Pustovoitenko could also prove more successful than any of his predecessors in disciplining the bureaucracy through systematic reform. Indeed, it appears that this might well be his principal — arguably sole — responsibility. Ideas for reforming the bureaucracy are to be generated by an independent Commission for Administrative Reform under former President Leonid Kravchuk.

Mr. Pustovoitenko's appointment thus represents a tacit admission by President Kuchma that the bureaucracy is perhaps as much to blame as the Verkhovna Rada for the disappointing pace of reforms. Indeed, despite the often spectacular political pyrotechnics between the administration and the Verkhovna Rada, a case could be made that President Kuchma in general has had a much more constructive relationship with the Rada than with the bureaucracy, which has resisted all previous efforts — half-hearted at best — to reform it.

However, despite these personal and professional assets (or, more accurately perhaps, the lack of any obvious liabilities), there were some equally significant, broader, factors at work behind Mr. Pustovoitenko's appointment.

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NEWSBRIEFS**Ukraine, IMF reach tentative agreement**

KYIV — Gooheon Kwon, the IMF's resident representative in Kyiv, says an agreement has been reached in principle with Ukraine on a temporary loan, Reuters reported on July 30. The agreement is tentative and subject to the approval of the IMF board in Washington. Mr. Kwon did not say how much the one-year loan is worth, but Ukrainian officials have said it will total \$750 million. Ukraine's last stand-by agreement with the IMF expired in February. The agreements are seen as a temporary measure until Kyiv fulfills conditions to qualify for a three-year credit valued at between \$2.5 billion and \$3 billion. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Kuchma criticizes EU for delays in aid

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma on July 28 criticized the European Union for "unfair delays in providing assistance" to help boost Ukraine's struggling economy. President Kuchma spoke to journalists in Kyiv after meeting with Belgian Prime Minister Jean-Luc Dehaene, who arrived for a two-day official visit. The Ukrainian president said European countries have demanded too many conditions in exchange for financial assistance, including the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant and the elimination of Ukraine's tactical and strategic nuclear weapons. He said the U.S. has surpassed the EU in investments and financial assistance to Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Back wages problem is Cabinet's priority

KYIV — Ukraine's new prime minister, Valerii Pustovoitenko, has promised that all back wages and social debts owed by the government will be paid out by December 1. On July 28, Mr. Pustovoitenko said payment of back wages is "a priority for the Cabinet." He claimed the Cabinet has already prepared a decree on a schedule for repayment. President Leonid Kuchma said on July 24 that unpaid back wages have reached 4.7 billion hrv (\$2.5 billion). (Eastern Economist)

Inflation, GDP fall in Ukraine

KYIV — Ukrainian National Bank Chairman Viktor Yushchenko told a German-Ukrainian economic seminar in Kyiv on July 17 that inflation amounted to 17.8 percent in Ukraine during the past 12 months, Interfax reported. The figure is the lowest since Ukraine proclaimed independence. Since June 1996, the volume of capital markets has grown 75 percent to \$3 billion. Despite achievements in financial stabilization, real gross domestic product is not growing. A board member of Deutsche Bank Research, Axel Siedenber, told the

seminar that real GDP could shrink an additional 3 percent this year due to the slowness of structural reforms in Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Kuchma vetoes increase in budget deficit

KYIV — Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has vetoed a law passed by the Verkhovna Rada that would have increased the budget deficit in order to finance construction of an iron ore refinery, his top aide said on July 30. Parliament voted on July 18 to raise the deficit by 0.1 percent to complete construction of the Kryvorizhsky Hirnycho-Zbachevalny refinery in eastern Ukraine. Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov said this week his ministry and the presidential administration were seeking other sources of financing for the iron ore refinery, whose construction began in the Soviet era but was halted due to a lack of funds. (Reuters)

Floods cause damage in Lviv region

KYIV — Floods caused by heavy rains have hit the Lviv region of western Ukraine, leaving 50 villages and small towns partly under water, local officials said on July 29. "Heavy rains last weekend caused the water levels in some rivers to rise between three and three and a half meters," said a spokesman for the Lviv regional administration, naming the Dnistro, Stryi and Yablunka rivers. "More than 1,700 houses in 50 villages and small towns were affected by the waters, about 800 people were evacuated," spokesman Viktor Kobzarenko said from Lviv, about 500 kilometers (300 miles) west of Kyiv. He said no deaths had been reported due to the floods. Mr. Kobzarenko said newly appointed Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko was to visit the area on July 30. The UNIAN news agency said the prime minister has allocated 2 million hrv (\$1.1 million) from government funds to repair the flood damage. Ukrainian television reported that preliminary estimates on damage stand at 10 million hrv (\$5.5 million). An agriculture official from the Lviv administration said 44,000 hectares (108,000 acres) of grain, or about 10 percent of the total sown area in the Lviv region, had been affected. (Reuters)

Ukraine receives six warships from Russia

KYIV — Russia has handed over to Ukraine six out of the 11 Black Sea Fleet warships it is due to receive, as the two countries complete the second stage of the fleet's division, the Ukrainian Navy's press service told ITAR-TASS on July 24. Kyiv has already received 12 out of 30

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Ukrainian women dragged into prostitution in foreign lands

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Lena thinks it is the opportunity of a lifetime. She has been invited to Italy to become a cabaret dancer. The 24-year-old believes that now she will have a chance to see the world and make real money.

Lena, who asked that we not use her surname, doesn't even want to consider that she is being set up by one of several organized crime syndicates that lure women to foreign lands illegally and then force them into prostitution.

"The guys I talked with were really nice. They are legitimate, I am sure," said the 25-year-old, dark-haired Kyivan.

She also is not bothered by the fact that she may have to enter Italy illegally, with a forged visa.

Lena is unemployed and has little hope for a job in Ukraine that pays enough to allow her to support herself comfortably. She is one of hundreds, if not thousands, of women who answer ads that run in shoppers' newspapers or who are approached at clubs by young, good-mannered males and deceived into believing a bright future lies before them in the "entertainment" industry. Others are simply attracted by offers of a good job in a country more economically stable than Ukraine.

"These are girls who have ambition, but no money and no job," explained Oleksander Akimov, assistant director of the Consular Division of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, who is in charge of emergency actions. "It is a huge temptation. They do not foresee what can happen to them."

Lena met two young men while working out at a local gym. They said they saw in her an undeveloped talent for dancing, a latent talent they suggested she should develop. They offered several dancing lessons and a job in Italy as a cabaret dancer afterwards.

Lena said she knows the danger exists that the offer is not on the up and up, but she feels confident that she can take care of herself. "I trust these people," she said.

Women are increasingly turning up at consular offices in Italy, Greece and Turkey, the warm-climate countries where most of these young women are forced into prostitution, after having escaped from pimps who keep them locked up in hotel rooms. "Around 60 to 70 percent are young women who are

tricked into going there," said Mr. Akimov.

In the first three months of 1997 alone, 28 of the 36 Ukrainians expelled from Turkey had worked as prostitutes. Typically, the women are between the ages of 18 and 29 and accept proposals to work as dancers or in fashion boutiques. They are offered double or triple what they could make in Ukraine's stagnant economy and are given free transportation. "Illegal firms hire our women to work at stores, at bazaars, selling leather goods, jeans, whatnot. They are promised \$600-\$700 a month, which is not bad money and attracts our girls," said Mr. Akimov.

But once in the foreign country, the "nice people" who recruited them demand that the girls pay back the cost of the airline ticket and the hotel at which they have been staying. The horror begins when the girls can't cough up the cash.

"Their passports are taken from them, and they are taken to another hotel, or to other cities to work off their debt," explained Mr. Akimov. And that means prostitution.

"They are forced to live in a dirty hotel and work night and day," he continued. "They are afraid to leave the hotel without their documents."

The girls, invested with the Soviet notion that it is illegal to walk the streets of the city without documents, fear arrest and imprisonment by the government, and do not make overt efforts to escape, which their controllers use to their advantage. Mr. Akimov said that a type of brainwashing occurs. "The pimps tell the girl that she came into the country on an illegal visa, that she was working illegally. They tell her that if she is caught by the police she will be arrested and sent to jail, where she will die. They convince her that she is safest doing their bidding."

The biggest problem is that the girl in most cases doesn't realize that all she needs to do is go to the local police or to the Ukrainian Consulate. "But she has little access to the real world," explained Mr. Akimov. "She lives in a hotel and is watched by bodyguards. She is taken from hotel to hotel, from client to client."

The girls typically languish in slavery, while often sold to other pimps and moved to other countries, until they accept their fate, die of a sexual disease or, at times, escape.

"Usually, we are made aware of a problem by the

parents of the girls," said Mr. Akimov. "They contact us because their child went on vacation, or to work in another country and hasn't returned or called."

Other times a girl calls home but gives little information of what she is doing, or where she is. "She may say that she is fine, and then turn the conversation to what is going on in Ukraine," explained Mr. Akimov, which leaves parents concerned and moves them to call the Consular Division.

When a report is received by the Consular Division, local officials are contacted in the country where the girl was to have traveled. Investigations rarely turn up much. In a tourist mecca like Istanbul, with a population of more than 7 million and 2,000 hotels, finding one girl is an impossible task.

A girl's only real hope for freedom is to run. Usually, a girl escapes with the help of a bodyguard who has become infatuated with her or due to the carelessness of a pimp who has grown to trust her.

When she finally turns up at a police station or at the Ukrainian Consulate, she is given food and documents and is transported home; the costs are covered by the Ukrainian government.

She is also debriefed and, if she can identify where she was imprisoned, the hotel is raided.

Other times the woman is not even that lucky. A day after an interview with *The Weekly*, Mr. Akimov informed this correspondent that the previous evening, two Ukrainian women aged 42 and 36 were found dead, shot in the head, in Istanbul. According to Mr. Akimov, their pimp is the prime suspect.

Mr. Akimov emphasized that not every offer of a job in a foreign country means trouble. "Don't get me wrong, there are girls who are recruited to work in legitimate cabarets or even in exotic dance clubs, shake a little every evening and make good, honest money. But the legitimacy of such proposals is very evident."

Others find good work as waitresses, as salespersons and as professionals. However, his advice for those girls who seek to better their financial picture by working in a foreign country remains: don't do it. If the individual is determined to go then he recommends that the girl, "consider the proposal 100 times and research it 300 times before she makes her decision."

Newsbriefs

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auxiliary vessels and 10 shore installations out of some 100 that it has been allocated. Under the division plan, the last warship is to be handed over to Ukraine before July 25. The deadline for completing the division is August 1. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Chornobyl reactor repairs postponed

PRYPIAT — Chornobyl nuclear power plant director Sergei Parashin told journalists on July 25 that repairs to the third reactor at the Chornobyl nuclear power plant have been postponed until October 1. The third reactor is the only one at the facility still in operation. He said the plant has received only 25 percent of the equipment it needs. Meanwhile, work on the sarcophagus covering the damaged fourth reactor and on the first and second reactors has received almost no financing since the beginning of this year. The first reactor was halted last year in accordance with a memorandum signed by Kyiv and the G-7. Mr. Parashin said he hopes the halt of all power units will not result in the plant's closure. But he said the lack of control over the power plant may have "dreadful consequences." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Reported crime rises in 1997

KYIV — In the first six months of 1997, over 300,000 crimes have been reported, with some 600 gangs operating throughout Ukraine, InfoBank reported on July 8. Cases involving financial fraud and bribery increased by 53 percent and 25 percent, respectively, over the corresponding period last year. (Eastern Economist)

Kuchma's "new"...

(Continued from page 1)

ministries have been created, bringing the total to 23 ministries within the Ukrainian government. "This restructuring is the first step toward an administrative reform of the central bodies of executive power," he said.

On July 26 Prime Minister Pustovoitenko emphasized that one of the main tasks in restructuring the Cabinet of Ministers was to improve the government bodies responsible for economic and social policy.

The Ukrainian president eliminated the Ministry of Labor and appointed its head, Mykola Biloblotskii, as vice prime minister for social policy, and head of the newly created Ministry of Labor and Social Policy.

The Ministry of Agriculture and Food was closed and replaced by the Ministry of the Agro-Industrial Complex. Yuri Karasyk, head of the Kherson Regional Administration, was appointed to run the new ministry. He served as minister of agriculture and food in December 1992-August 1995.

In the same decree, the Ukrainian president eliminated the State Committee for the Food Industry and the State Committee for Food, Vine-Growing and the Wine-Making Industry. In their place he created the Committee for the Food Industry and the Committee for Food, Vine-Growing and the Wine-Making Industry, which will be subordinated to the Ministry of the Agro-Industrial Complex.

The Ministry of Machine-Building, Military-Industrial Complex and Conversion, headed by Vasyl Hureiev, and the Ministry of Industry, the domain of Valerii Mazur, were liquidated and recreated into one ministry — the Ministry of Industrial Policy. President Kuchma

appointed Mr. Hureiev as minister of industrial policy and Mr. Mazur as first vice minister of industrial policy.

The Ministry of Communications was closed and replaced by the State Committee for Communications. Dmytro Hudolii, minister of communications, will head the new state committee.

The Ministry of Fishing and the Fish Industry was restructured into the State Committee for Fishing and the Fish Industry. Mykola Shvedenko, who was minister of the fishing ministry, will head the new state committee.

On July 26 President Kuchma appointed Anatolii Tolstoukhov as minister of the Cabinet of Ministers. A member of the political council and the political executive council of the National Democratic Party of Ukraine (the political party of Prime Minister Pustovoitenko), Mr. Tolstoukhov served as vice minister of the Cabinet of Ministers in the previous government.

On July 29 President Kuchma reappointed Hennadii Udovenko as minister of foreign affairs; Serhii Osyka as minister of foreign economic relations and trade; Volodymyr Semynozhenko as minister of technology; and Valerii Kalchenko as minister of emergency situations and the protection of the population against the aftereffects of the Chornobyl catastrophe.

He also created the State Committee for Developing Industry and appointed former Economics Minister Yuri Yekhanurov as its head. The Ministry of Forestry and the Ministry of Statistics were restructured into state committees; both Forestry Minister Valerii Samoplavsky and Statistics Minister Oleksander Osaulenko were appointed as heads of their respective state committees.

Before departing for a working vacation to Crimea on July 30, President Kuchma told reporters he had appointed Vasyl

Durdynets, first vice prime minister in the previous government, as head of the National Bureau of Investigations.

Earlier in the week Prime Minister Pustovoitenko had promised that the entire Cabinet of Ministers would be appointed before the Verkhovna Rada concludes its seventh session on August 28-29.

New minister...

(Continued from page 1)

and presidential advisor on economic policy. "His appointment was a smart move on the part of the president and the prime minister."

"Ukraine's economic situation has never been more difficult," the newly appointed economics minister told the Interfax-Ukraine news agency on July 25. "It demands intensive and coordinated work inside the government, and interaction with the presidential administration, the Verkhovna Rada and the National Bank of Ukraine."

The three main tasks that Mr. Suslov has set for himself in his new post is to establish a "normal relationship with the National Bank of Ukraine," clear up the situation with subsidies and artificially low prices to ensure the real cost of goods, and find money to pay overdue pensions and wages.

He said he will focus on creating a favorable climate for foreign investment, but added that he advocates "moderate, reasonable protectionism."

As for Ukraine's dealings with the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, Mr. Suslov said he would "carefully examine the recommendations of international financial organizations," but in making decisions he would proceed in "Ukraine's national interests."

OBITUARIES

Very Rev. Stephen Hankavich, pastor emeritus in Parma, 74

PARMA, Ohio — The Very Rev. Protopresbyter Stephen Hankavich, pastor emeritus of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, Parma, Ohio, passed away on June 20. He was 74.

The Rev. Hankavich was born in Youngstown, Ohio, on September 17, 1922. He served in the army in Europe during World War II.

A graduate of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Seminary in Winnipeg, he was ordained in 1950. That year he was assigned as pastor of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Northampton, Pa., where he remained for 10 years, until his transfer to St. Vladimir's in Parma (then Cleveland) in 1960. He also served as dean of the Penn-Ohio Deanery.

On Saturday, June 21, five priests of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church anointed the body of the Rev. Hankavich and vested him for the final time. On Sunday, June 22, the Rev. Hankavich's body lay in state at St. Vladimir's Cathedral — the parish he had served for 37 years. A parastas service was celebrated in the cathedral, which was filled with friends, relatives and spiritual children of the Rev. Hankavich. Bishop Robert Moskal of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Parma concelebrated and delivered the homily.

A divine liturgy was celebrated at the cathedral on Monday morning, June 23, with the Rev. John Nakonachny, pastor of St. Vladimir's, serving as the main celebrant. The Rev. Ivan Mironko of Holy Trinity Parish in North Royalton, Ohio, gave a homily in Ukrainian and the Rev. Dennis Kristof of St. Nicholas Pro-Cathedral in Lakewood, Ohio, offered a sermon in English. The cathedral remained open all day for the steady stream of visitors who came to bid the Rev. Hankavich a fond farewell and to express their condolences to Pani Matka Ann Hankavich and the members of her family.

On Monday evening, the service of priestly burial was celebrated by Metropolitan Constantine and over 20 area and eparchial clergy serving in the overflowing cathedral. The Rev. John Zdinak, president of the Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy, eulogized the pastor emeritus in English

and the Rev. Stephen Posakiwsky of St. Stephen Church in Brunswick, Ohio, did so in Ukrainian. The Rev. Nakonachny offered his thanks to all who attended the service, especially the many members of the Greater Cleveland Council of Orthodox Clergy.

Metropolitan Constantine was the main celebrant at the funeral hierarchical divine liturgy on Tuesday, June 24; Archbishop Antony concelebrated with more than 20 priests and deacons. Metropolitan Constantine preached in both Ukrainian and English. The responses for all the funeral services were led by the cathedral choir, under the direction of Markian Komichak. During the three days of services, approximately 2,000 faithful visited St. Vladimir's Cathedral to pay their respects to the Rev. Hankavich.

Following the funeral liturgy, a procession led by priests as pallbearers circled the cathedral, chanting a gospel account at each side. A luncheon was hosted by the parish in the parish hall, during which the Rev. Nakonachny, Pani Matka Hankavich and Parish Council President Paul Burlij expressed their gratitude to all who attended and participated in the funeral services.

After the luncheon, three buses of faithful travelled to Youngstown, Ohio, where interment was held at Ss. Peter and Paul Cemetery, the parish where the Rev. Hankavich was baptized and raised. The procession was met by the Rev. Charles Baxter, pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul, and other priests of the Penn-Ohio Deanery of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. A reception, hosted by the parish, followed the burial service. Survivors include the Rev. Hankavich's wife of 47 years, the former Ann Cherepacha; daughters Mary Ann O'Neill of Baltimore and Donna Kominko of Independence, Ohio; five grandchildren; and a brother, Charles, of Youngstown.

The Rev. Hankavich was a member of the Youngstown Branch of the Ukrainian National Association. Donations in his memory were made to the St. Vladimir Brotherhood Scholarship Fund and the St. Vladimir Seminary Fund.

Sister Dionysia, teacher and pastoral minister

SLOATSBURG, N.Y. — Sister Dionysia Pedelisky, superior and pastoral minister at St. Nicholas Catholic Church, Minersville, Pa., and her sister, Emma Pedelisky Swindler, were killed in an automobile accident, June 12 in Fairbanks, Alaska.

They had gone there to vacation with Mrs. Swindler's son, a resident of Fairbanks, and were on a sightseeing excursion.

Sister Dionysia, 76, a member of the Order of Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, a former teacher, worked in Minersville's St. Nicholas Elementary School in 1952-1957, went on to serve diocesan schools in Shamokin, Pa.; St. Nicholas, Passaic, N.J.; St. Joseph, Chicago; and the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. She returned to Minersville in 1993. She also directed the Sodality Girls of the Mother of God and led the altar servers.

The fatal accident occurred 20 miles beyond a rest stop along an Alaskan interstate when Mrs. Swindler swerved to avoid debris on the road. Her car went out of control and over a 20-foot embankment, landing in a stream. Sister Dionysia was killed instantly. Mrs. Swindler was almost unconscious when the state police arrived on the scene but was able to tell them to call a priest for Sister Dionysia. Mrs. Swindler was transported to a hospital where she died.

"She [Sister Dionysia] was probably one of the most outgoing, friendly and compassionate people you'd ever meet," said Sister Helen Paskevich, a fellow Sister Servant of Mary Immaculate, who was missioned with her in Minersville. "She was constantly smiling and had just a wonderful sense of humor."

Panakhida services were sung by Msgr. Leon Mosko, Msgr. John Terlecky, the Rev. Jonathan Morse, the Rev. Edward Young and the Rev. James Carroll OFM on the day prior to the burial. Bishop Basil H. Losten celebrated a parastas service that evening with concelebrating priests Archpriest Daniel Troyan, the Rev. James Carroll OFM, the Rev. John Chiurpita and the Rev. Anthony Radchuk.

Father Michael Hytsko, pastor of the parish in which Sister Dionysia had last been missioned, led some 65 parishioners, faculty members and school children — members of the Sodality wearing their school uniforms to St. Mary's Villa,



Sister Dionysia Pedelisky

Sloatsburg, N.Y., for the funeral liturgy on June 18.

Bishop Losten was the principal celebrant at the liturgy along with Msgr. Michael Fedorowich, Archpriest Troyan, the Rev. Radchuk, and the Rev. Hutsko, who was the homilist. Interment was in the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate Cemetery in Sloatsburg.

Born in Belfield, N.D., the fifth of 10 children, Sister Dionysia entered the community of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate in 1940. She is survived by a brother, the Rev. Nestor Pedelisky of Chicago.

Correction

According to information supplied by a reader, the ninth paragraph of the obituary (which appeared in our April 27 issue) of Tonia Horokhovich, educator and Plast activist, should have read as follows.

She headed Plast's "Plemia Novachok" (akin to Girl Guides) in Lviv and then the "Ulad Novachok" when the organization was reformed in post-war Germany's Displaced Persons camps, as a member of the Supreme Plast Command (Holovna Plastova Bulava, HPB).

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THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

UNA Seniors Association concludes 23rd annual conference

by Anna Chopek

KERHONKSON – The 23rd Conference of UNA Seniors was held at Soyuzivka on June 8-13. The weather was perfect, accommodations excellent, the program varied – and a very good time was had by all.

The welcoming wine and cheese party, hosted by Alice Orlan, was held in a new setting, the lobby of the Main House, which had been transformed into a lounge. Dancing, music and socializing made for a pleasant evening. The 14 seniors who had come to the conference for the first time were introduced.

Registration was handled by Olga Paproski, Dr. Stefania Baranowsky and Mary Bobeczko. In all, 103 seniors registered, among them, former UNA officers Joseph Lesawyer, John Flis (supreme presidents) and Gloria Paschen (supreme vice-presidentess).

On Monday morning, members participated in a liturgy at the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church offered in memory of deceased UNA seniors.

The conference was opened by UNA Seniors Association President Anna Chopek. The American and Ukrainian anthems were sung, led by Eugene Moroz, "The Pledge of Allegiance" was recited, and the business session of the UNA conference was begun.

The conference presidium was elected as follows: Ms. Chopek, chairperson; Olga Liteplo, English secretary; Dr. Jurij Swyschuk, Ukrainian secretary; Mirosława Karp, Vladimir Tkach and Myron Sidorowitz, nominating committee; John Pawlow, Prof. Irene Tanya Rishko and Olga Shatynski, controllers; Irene Russnak, Estelle Woloshyn and Helen Chornomaz, Committee on Contributions.

Greetings from the first and long-time president of the UNA Seniors Association, Stefan Kuropas, were read, and tribute was paid to the late Walter Kwas for his many accomplishments as manager of Soyuzivka. Deceased members Stella Demey and Rosalie Polche also were remembered.

The minutes of the 1996 conference were read by the secretaries, Ms. Liteplo and Dr. Swyschuk, and reports were given by Ms. Chopek, president; Olga Paproski, treasurer; Sam Liteplo, vice-president; and Ms. Orlan, executive vice-president.

The following regional representatives also reported: Olga Paproski, Connecticut; Maria Mandzij, New Jersey; Ms. Russnak, Rochester, N.Y.; Ms. Liteplo, New York City and vicinity; Mary Bobeczko, Ohio; and Eva Uzych, Pennsylvania. Anne Remick, New England, was absent because of illness in her family, and therefore unable to give her report.

The controllers reported that the treasurer's books were in order, and a vote of confidence was passed.

The nominating committee submitted the following slate for election: all the present officers, the controllers who conducted this year's audit and all the regional representatives, plus, Dr. Stefania Baranowskyj, Kerhonkson, N.Y.; Mary Bednarczyk, Manchester, N.H.; and Helen Trenkler, Rhode Island. All were elected unanimously. Honorary Past Presidents Stepan Kuropas and Eugene Woloshyn continue to be members of the executive board. Dr. Roman Baranowsky and Ms. Chopek were also elected publicity chairpersons, respectively for English- and Ukrainian-language releases.

The highlight of the week was the bus trip to The Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York City, where members viewed "The Glory of Byzantium"



Members of the UNA Seniors Association executive board:(seated, from left) Dr. Roman Baranowsky, Olga Liteplo, Anna Chopek, Olga Paproski, Jurij Swyschuk, (second row) Maria Mandzij, Irene Russnak, Estelle Woloshyn, Eugene Woloshyn, Helen Trenkler, Eva Uzych, Dr. Stefania Baranowsky, Mary Bobeczko and Sam Liteplo.

exhibit. Of particular interest was the religious and secular art of Kyivan Rus'.

An evening of Bingo, a very popular event, was ably conducted by Nicholas and Mary Bobeczko, John and Helen Laba, and Mr. Liteplo.

Ms. Orlan was in charge of the square dance night. She was able to find a superb caller, and between them they succeeded in getting six squares – 24 dancers – dancing. To get 24 seniors dancing was a remarkable achievement. Everyone including those on the sidelines had a great deal of fun, and expressed a wish that square dancing be on the program for the next year.

The Ukrainian singalong, led by Mrs. Liteplo and Mr. Moroz was an evening to remember. It was held on the Veselka deck. The Ukrainian folk songs we loved to sing over the years, the songs we can never forget, never lose their charm. The singers and the listeners just hated to see the evening come to an end.

The seniors were very grateful to Yuri Trenkler, who entertained them with Ukrainian videos, as he does each year. This year he included a video on "The Glory of Byzantium."

A total of \$1,400 was raised during the 1997 conference via an auction and a raffle. The auction was very ably conducted by Messrs. Woloshyn and Moroz, assisted by Stephen Zenczak. The raffle was successful thanks to the hard work of Marie Prucknicki and Cornelia Yavarrow. On the recommendation of the Committee on Contributions and the approval of the membership, \$700 will be sent to the Children of Chernobyl Foundation and \$700 to the Soyuz Ukrainok project "The Babusia Fund" to aid poor grandmothers in Ukraine.

The annual review of current events in Ukraine, conducted by Dr. Roman Baranowsky was enhanced by a report given by Dr. Roman Procyk, director of the Ukrainian Studies Fund. He told of the many changes that he observed on a recent trip to Ukraine. It was a very

interesting program and enjoyed by all.

UNA Secretary Martha Lysko discussed events taking place at the UNA: the sale of the UNA headquarters building, the acquisition of a new facility adequate for UNA needs and other matters. The question and answer period that followed was of great interest to the members. UNA President Ulana Diachuk usually visits the seniors' conference, but was unable to come this year because of a scheduling conflict.

The manager of Soyuzivka, John A. Flis, gave the seniors an overview of Soyuzivka, its problems and its prospects for the future.

Members dressed up for the conference banquet – the women wearing Ukrainian blouses, the men wearing Ukrainian shirts or Ukrainian ties. This presented an opportunity for taking pictures, and the seniors were fortunate to have among them a member whose hobby is photography. Emilian Jurchynsky of Rochester, N.Y., took various pictures, as he has

done in the past, and members were very pleased with the results.

Soyuzivka management provided a marvelous cocktail party and an elegant banquet. Danny Slobodian, an active UNA senior who was unable to attend the conference and banquet because of his health, was present at the cocktail party.

The banquet speaker was George Sawicki, an architect of note from New York whose firm is the architect for Ukrainian Museum in New York. He showed slides of the plans for the museum, which whetted the seniors' interest. Members are anxiously looking forward to visiting this institution, which will be a wonderful addition to Ukrainian culture in the United States.

On Friday morning the seniors' busy week came to an end, and it was time to say our good-byes. All agreed the conference was a huge success, that a true fraternal spirit had prevailed all week and that they must come back next year.

Khristina Lew assigned to Kyiv

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Khristina Lew, assistant editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, has been assigned to the Kyiv Press Bureau through the end of August. Ms. Lew began her tour of duty — her third in the capital of Ukraine — in mid-July.

Meanwhile, Staff Editor Roman Woronowycz, who was based in Kyiv since September 1996, is now at The Weekly's home office in Jersey City, N.J. He will take up duties at the Kyiv Press Bureau once again on September 1.

Assistant Editor Lew has been on the paper's editorial staff since November 1990. She first served in the Kyiv Press Bureau in the fall of 1992, and then again in July through September 1995.

The Ukrainian National Association's Kyiv Press Bureau has been functioning since January of 1990. Its work is made possible in part by the UNA's Fund for the Rebirth of Ukraine.



Khristina Lew

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Soyuzivka: an appreciation

Perhaps it's serendipity or something greater, but a search through our files revealed that it was exactly 45 years ago this week that the Ukrainian National Association purchased a large property in Ulster County, upstate New York. What was once the Foord Sanitarium, located off the Minnewaska Trail in the Catskill Mountains, became the Soyuzivka resort. Quite fitting that we spotted this news item clipped from the New York Herald Tribune of August 2, 1952, as we had already determined that this week's editorial would be an appreciation of Soyuzivka, the resort of the Ukrainian National Association.

Speaking with guests at the resort recently, a pertinent question came up: Soyuzivka is such a great place, so beautifully situated and comfortable, but why don't more people use it? One of our interlocutors noted how wonderful it is to spend time there with one's own family and friends. Another asked: Why doesn't the resort do more "theme weeks" to attract groups? And so it went, the result being that all agreed Soyuzivka is a true treasure and that it is not used enough by our community. ("Use it, or lose it," the resort's manager once said.)

And then, just as we were writing these lines, a fax was transmitted to our offices. It concerned another resort owned by another fraternal organization: Verkhovyna, the resort of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, located in Glen Spey, N.Y., in the scenic Delaware River valley. "Let's save Verkhovyna," said the leaflet released by an entity calling itself the Verkhovyna Corp. The reason: state insurance authorities are pressuring the UFA to divest itself of the resort. Though no one wants the UFA to sell, it appears there is no choice...

Here, then, was a dose of reality that made us ponder further the state of affairs within our community. Why is it that we do not appreciate what we have right under our noses? Why is it that we begin to see the value of our holdings only when we are about to lose them, or after they're gone?

Soyuzivka, for example, was once a mecca for all Ukrainians. They would travel from near and far to enjoy concerts and other programs at the resort, send their kids to camps and cultural courses, or just drive up for a week of camaraderie and relaxation. The resort was booked solid during the summer season. Today, the weekends still are a draw, but during the week it is quieter, even though there are many activities, theme nights, etc.

There's plenty to do at the resort — swimming, tennis, hiking, for example — and plenty more to do in the nearby area, as there are many historic sites, wineries, orchards, lakes and mountain trails in that part of New York state. One could go bicycling one day, rock climbing another, horseback riding the third, fishing the fourth, not to mention engaging in more esoteric pursuits like antiquing, scuba-diving or hang-gliding. Soyuzivka and its environs offer year-round possibilities. In the wintertime, there are nearby resorts for skiing and facilities for ice skating, or you can enjoy sledding/tobogganing right at the resort. The off-season offers an opportunity for various organizations' seminars, conferences and conventions, as well as private gatherings like weddings, christenings, testimonial dinners, holiday parties — you name it.

So, if you haven't been to Soyuzivka in a while, come and visit an old friend. And, if you've never been there, consider stopping by this jewel in the Catskills. You are sure to be captivated by its natural beauty and its Ukrainian atmosphere.

Aug.
4
1854

Turning the pages back...

Maria Adasovska was born into a wealthy family on August 4, 1854, in Zanky, a town in northeast Ukraine now in the Nizhen district of the Chernihiv Oblast. Educated in a

Chernihiv private school and later at the Conservatory in Helsinki, Finland, Maria from Zanky burst onto the scene as the actress known as Maria Zankovetska in 1882 in a production of Ivan Kotliarevsky's "Natalka Poltavka" (Natalka from Poltava).

Mykola Kropyvnytsky's troupe had taken her on and the staging, in Yelysavethrad (now Kirovohrad), heralded the rebirth of Ukrainian professional theater. It was also an act of defiance and ended a period of heavy repression under the tsarist Ems Ukase of 1876, which had banned the Ukrainian language itself, in the printed word and in performance.

Zankovetska continued to perform as Kropyvnytsky's leading actress (1882-1883, 1885-1888, 1899-1900), but also made her mark under Poltavan dramaturge Mykhailo Starytsky (1883-1885), with Mykola Sadovsky (1888-1898), whose theater made the important transitional step from the populist-folk productions to a modern Ukrainian theater. In 1897, she appeared at the All-Russian Congress of Stage Workers and demanded the termination of censorship in Ukrainian theater.

At the turn of the century, she joined Panas Saksahansky's Society of Russian and Little Russian actors (later known as the Society of Ukrainian Actors), then appeared in productions mounted by Onysym Suslov (1903-1905). After a brief hiatus, in 1909 Zankovetska established her own amateur group centered on Nizhen and Krolevets (east of Chernihiv), and directed its productions until 1915 when she returned to Saksahansky's Society for two years. In 1910, she appeared in her first film role, reprising "Natalka Poltavka."

In 1918, she was with Saksahansky in Kyiv, and together they founded the People's Theater, dedicated to staging Western European drama. From 1919, they defied a ban the Soviet authorities attempted to impose, mounting productions of Friedrich Schiller's plays, as well as Ivan Karpenko Kary's historical dramas. Her last performance on stage was in Kyiv in 1922, and that same year a theater was founded in her name in Lviv.

In 1923, she starred in the film "Ostap Bandura," then retired to write her memoirs. Maria Zankovetska died in Kyiv on October 4, 1934. A museum in her honor was established in Zanky 30 years later.

Source: "Zankovetska, Mariia," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 5 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Another perspective on dinner with Kuchma

Dear Editor:

As the primary organizer of President Leonid Kuchma's dinner with the Ukrainian American community, I was disappointed by your editorial (July 20). Still, constructive criticism is acceptable. Some of your points are valid, albeit hyperbolic, i.e., the number of participants, some crashing the event. However, I was distressed by the contempt you demonstrated towards the community you serve, which pays your salary and is undeserving, certainly, of your disdain.

The dinner was organized at the request of the president of Ukraine to enable him to familiarize himself more intimately with the community's concerns. Reciprocally, it was geared to permit the community a close-up with the president. Initially, the number of participants was limited to 40 from the community and 20 from the president's entourage. The final number increased by about 50 percent, enabling some Ukrainian American philanthropists to participate. Crashing was not permitted, but suffered in order to avoid a scene (only two instances). Picture-taking with the president was not encouraged, but, certainly, permitted. Frankly it is not unusual for people to desire a photograph with any president. You are being disingenuous inasmuch as you did publish a photo of Ulana Diachuk with the president. As you know, most governmental luminaries in the United States, including the White House, have official photographers who subsequently forward their product to the event's invitees.

Contrary to your arrogant assertion assuming journalistic sophistication, in my opinion the questions and comments by the community leaders were both insightful and, perhaps surprisingly without exception, eloquently presented. More importantly, they represented the community's concerns. Ukraine has no ally more faithful nor more effective than its diaspora. Arguably, a meeting with that diaspora is as important as a *tete à tete* with Vice-President Al Gore. The former serves to mutually inform and exhort. The latter, essentially, is political posturing on the U.S. side to "spin" selling out to Russia at the Denver summit as justifiable. In a democracy, power belongs to the people. People help formulate their representatives' perspectives and policies. I refer you to basic treatises on democracy as well as the influence of the Jewish American community on U.S. foreign policy as a striking example.

The Ukrainian American community is an integral part of the Ukrainian nation, its American citizenship and loyalty notwithstanding. I am reminded of the lyrics from "Man of La Mancha": "to be willing to march into hell for a heavenly cause." The essence of these words has served as the clarion call for the Ukrainian nation. Having been the men and women of "La Mancha" for so long, the Ukrainian people wheresoever situated, certainly, have earned the right to converse with the president of their Ukraine. You owe them an apology.

Askold S. Lozynskyj
New York

The letter writer is president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Editorial on reception was right on target

Dear Editor:

I congratulate you on your editorial about the Harvard Club reception for President Kuchma. It was right on target.

The diaspora is incapable of understanding that it is quickly becoming irrelevant.

I do think the president, or leading ministers of Ukraine, should meet with students

from Ukraine. Within the network of the Ukrainian Student Association in the U.S.A. there are several students who could begin to make major contributions to Ukraine. They also need recognition for their hard work, academic excellence and connections. Several could already open doors to universities, to investment banks, etc. in the U.S.

But I will wait for their time to come.

Bohdan Oryshkevich
New York, N.Y.

ACTION ITEM

On July 17, the Senate passed the Foreign Aid Bill which included Sen. Mitch McConnell's (R-Ky.) earmark of \$225 million for Ukraine. The vote was 91 senators in favor of the bill and eight against. For the third year in a row, the Senate has passed an earmark for Ukraine in the amount of \$225 million.

Although the Senate's passage of the bill was a great success, the House-Senate Conference Committee still needs to agree on the final version of the bill that will be sent to President Bill Clinton for his approval. The House has not yet voted, but its version of the bill is expected to provide \$175 million less in aid to the newly independent states (NIS), with no earmark of assistance to Ukraine.

It is important that the Ukrainian American community contact the members of the House-Senate Conference Committee immediately and voice our support for the Senate version of the Foreign Aid Bill, especially for the earmark and subearmarks for Ukraine. A sample letter to the House-Senate conferees follows. The letter should be distributed to all community members and faxed to the subcommittee members. Follow-up phone calls to your district and Washington offices should also be made. (Please report all activities to the Ukrainian National Information Service.)

SAMPLE LETTER

The Honorable (Name)
U.S. Senate/U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510/20515

Dear Senator/Representative (Name):

I am writing to express my support and gratitude for the \$225 million earmark for Ukraine proposed by Sen. Mitch McConnell, which was included in the Senate version of the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill.

(Continued on page 8)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The number of "n's" in Andrianna...

Dear Editor:

The report on the recent "Ptashata camp" brought back a number of sweet memories (July 20). Unfortunately, an error crept in the rendition of the name of one of the head counselors.

My daughter has a somewhat uncommon name: Andrianna (please, count the n's; one, two three!). We are sure that people call her Adrianna unintentionally, and no one really begrudges her the extra

"n." Yet the feeling persists that "this person does not really care for me if he (she) does not even bother to know my correct name." It is the same as when people refer to me as Hawrylak or, in the case of a good friend of mine whose name is Kryzanowskyj, they call him Kryzaniwskyj.

Yarema A. Bachynsky probably would be less than ecstatic were someone to refer to him as "Mr. Bichynsky." It is a mark of a good journalist that he double-checks his facts before rushing into print.

Orest Hawryluk, M.D.
Elkins Park, Pa.

Please help us locate our former shipmate

Dear Editor:

I joined the U.S. Navy in December of 1940. In boot camp at Newport, R.I., I met another 18-year-old young man, Joseph Kwasny, whose grandparents came from Kyiv. My grandparents come from there, too (named Shikoff/nee Karpovich). Joe and I became close friends. At that time his folks lived in Trenton, N. J.

We graduated boot camp and were assigned to the USS Louisville at the Brooklyn Navy Yard. It was a heavy cruiser and became one of the most decorated cruisers of World War II. Before the infamous attack by the Japanese on Pearl Harbor, Joe and I enjoyed nine months in Hawaiian waters aboard this ship. When we returned to San Diego, Joe was so homesick that he went AWOL, but was brought back to the ship. We spent four years on the Louisville and earned 12 of the ship's 13 battle stars.

After a couple of direct kamikaze hits, 32 dead and 125 wounded, our ship was

relieved of duty and came back from the Philippines to San Francisco. We all departed the ship separately and went back home in 1945. I got married and lost track of Joe Kwasny. I tried to find a telephone listing for any Kwasny in Trenton, N. J., without success.

The USS Louisville Reunion Association now meets every two years in various cities, coast to coast. Joe Kwasny doesn't know this.

We have a player piano at home. One day, my wife and I were playing and singing a song named "When Day Is Done." I started to weep. My wife asked why, and I told her because Joe had told me that song always reminded him of his home.

Wherever Joe is, if he's still alive, I know he is with his fellow Ukrainians. Six hundred active shipmates in our reunion association would like to hear from him.

I would appreciate it if you could help us locate Joseph Kwasny.

John Duffy
Palisades Park, N.J.

The letter writer may be contacted at 321 Ninth St., Palisades Park, NJ 07650.

Russian language resurgence in Ukraine

Dear Editor:

On page 2 of the July 20 issue of The Weekly, it is reported that 44 percent of Ukrainians support the idea of joining a Russian-Belarusian union. It is a shocking and disturbing statistic, but it shouldn't be totally surprising.

Being involved in military interpreter missions for the last five years, I have seen a dramatic shift during my last visit in June. In previous years, military officials made every attempt to use Ukrainian as the national language. Ukrainian military terminology was being developed; you sensed that Ukraine was moving forward as an independent nation.

This past June I was once again a Ukrainian interpreter on a military mission to Kyiv. Without saying a word, the general began speaking in Russian at the opening session. At least we were provided a translator from Russian to English. Russian was used as if we were in Russia. To be diplomatic, I asked if any sessions would be in Ukrainian. I was not given a reply. Instead the general (Ukrainian) stated that "they were trained in Russian and the manuals are all written in Russian." The same general later spoke to me in excellent Ukrainian. There were sessions held in Ukrainian, but it was because the group insisted on Ukrainian. Nevertheless, it was

a daily battle.

It appears that there is a push to revert to Russian, to become essentially a Ukrainian/Russian state. Individuals would emphasize that Russian is the language of government and diplomacy, while Ukrainian is "not fit" for such matters, yet members of the Ukrainian government visiting us in the U.S. state just the opposite. Why the difference? Perhaps we are told what we want to hear and refuse to see what actually exists.

Are Ukrainians responding to this newest wave of Russification? No, this change to Russian appears to be just below the radar screen. Perhaps my experiences are limited and not representative. Perhaps. The Ukrainian Embassy will emphatically state that Ukrainian is the national language. Yet, the Peace Shield 97 mission, to be held in California, put out a call for primarily Russian interpreters since "the Ukrainian military continues to communicate mainly in Russian."

So the next time members of the Ukrainian government speak, look at what they do and not what they say. Most Ukrainians agree that if they lose the language they will lose their freedom. What does it all mean? Another evil empire? Good chance.

At any rate, I doubt it would be in our national interests to have Moscow once again rule Ukraine.

Roman G. Golash
Schaumburg, Ill.

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.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Ukraine's communist cancer growing

When the Soviet Union deteriorated, I believed Ukraine's Communist cancer would be excised once and for all. I was wrong. The cancer went into remission as Ukraine's Communists went underground for a brief period to await developments. Once the Communist Party was legalized, the cancer returned, as malignant as ever.

Bolshevik strategy in Ukraine is simple: sabotage current efforts at economic reform and convince the voting public that independence is the cause of all their problems. Taking full advantage of Ukraine's new democracy, today's Bolsheviks are making headway in their hostile battle to recapture control of Ukraine, and to destroy the very democracy that allows them to function.

A leading conspirator is Oleksander Moroz, a Socialist who is chairman of Verkhovna Rada. Posturing as a blue-and-yellow patriot by day, the slick Mr. Moroz is closely allied with the left in Parliament.

Bright red in his approach to Ukraine's future is Petro Symonenko, secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine. He has condemned efforts to recognize the role of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) and the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) in the struggle to attain Ukraine's independence. Demanding that all OUN and UPA veterans be indicted for "crimes against the Ukrainian people," Mr. Symonenko points to recent demands in Canada for a more vigorous prosecution of Ukrainian "fascists." According to Visti Kombatanta (No. 3, 1997), Communists in eastern Ukraine are gathering signatures of local citizens for petitions that condemn the OUN and UPA. Signatories are promised more land or a higher salary.

A red deputy of a different hue is Natalia Vitrenko, chairman of the Progressive Socialist Party of Ukraine (PSPU) and a darling of Lyndon Larouche. According to the July 14 issue of The New Federalist, an official publication of the LaRouchies, Ms. Vitrenko, Volodymr Marchenko, another strident deputy of the Left, and some 70 PSPU members recently completed a hunger strike protesting President Leonid Kuchma's efforts to fulfill pledges made to the International Monetary Fund (IMF), which will guarantee future loans. Arguing that the recently passed budget is "against the national interest," Ms. Vitrenko and her followers demanded the immediate resignation of both President Kuchma and the Verkhovna Rada, the immediate elimination of wage and pension arrears, full employment in existing jobs, the creation of new jobs, "a nationwide referendum on the question of Ukraine's social-economic development, and the adoption of a new constitution."

The July 21 issue of The New Federalist featured a rather glamorous photo of Ms. Vitrenko holding her pet cat and an appeal to send messages of support directly to the PSPU press center at 011-380-44-228-5492. I called that number to see if I could get more information, but no one there spoke English. Interesting.

Another deputy, Anatoly Motsban, is openly pushing for a return to a command economy with a national monopoly on all exports as well as on the manufacture and control of all alcoholic beverages, and the full nationalization of commercial banks.

Inadvertently, the United States government may be helping Ukraine's old-line Bolsheviks maintain themselves. In a

July 5 article in The Chicago Tribune, Tom Hundley wrote: "The Clinton administration says it wants to encourage privatization of agriculture, but last year it helped underwrite a \$187 million purchase of 1,049 John Deere farm combines which, say critics, will only prop up the state farms and the bosses that run them." The Rada, Mr. Hundley pointed out, "remains firmly in control of the bosses who are set against anything that threatens their privileged status."

Local Ukrainian farmers complain that the government once offered private farmers loans but that source dried up two years ago. If loans are provided, the interest rate is 100 percent. According to Mr. Hundley, "last year's John Deere deal was a classic example of how one aspect of the administration's foreign policy — the aggressive promotion of overseas sales for American corporations — can undermine another. In this case, the need for Ukraine to privatize its agricultural sector and move toward a market economy. At the administration's urging, the Export-Import Bank agreed to finance the Deere and Co. deal despite Ukraine's shaky credit rating and reputation for rampant corruption." The sale was good for Deere, but not for Ukraine's farmers who "make do with broken-down Soviet equipment and manual labor."

At present only 2 percent of Ukrainian farmland has been handed back to private farmers. Some 13 percent of the land remains in private plots, while the rest is under the control of giant state farms.

But not to worry. According to the July 22 issue of Svoboda, a special presidential economic commission of 30 individuals has been appointed including 16 deputies, among them Mr. Moroz, Vitalii Masol, Vitold Fokin and Yevhen Marchuk. Asking people like that to work on behalf of Ukrainian interests is like asking a fox to guard the chicken coop.

Greed and corruption have permeated many other Ukrainian institutions, including hospitals. On July 27 "60 Minutes" broadcast a balanced portrayal of the way babies were sold to American parents by a Dr. Doroshenko in Lviv for fees ranging up to \$9,000. One of the babies was found to be brain-damaged and was returned by the American parents as "damaged goods."

Apparently, American institutions have also been corrupted. Have you ever wondered why it is that young Ukrainian professionals you know can't get visas while other less savory individuals arrive here weekly? Rumors persist regarding certain people in the American Embassy who sell visas for up to \$5,000. I have spoken with individuals who know people who have been contacted, but are afraid to come forward with the information lest they or their families suffer harm. I have been tracing this abomination for eight months and have been in touch with special agent Alan Boroshok at the State Department. Anyone out there who has information can contact me via The Ukrainian Weekly, 30 Montgomery St., Jersey City, NJ 07302; or Mr. Boroshok, (703) 284-1919. (Contacts can be anonymous if need be.)

In conclusion I want to thank Walter J. Dziwak for correcting my math. In my last article I wrote that 11,000 is .0003 percent of 36 million. It's not. It's .0003 which is .03 percent.

Myron Kuropas' new e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

UNA awards...

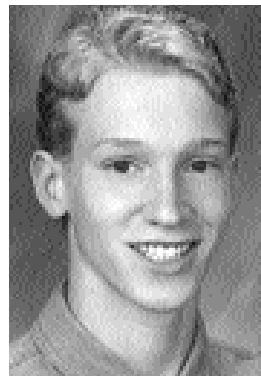
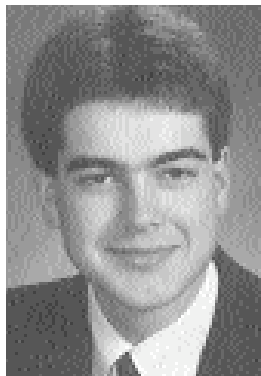
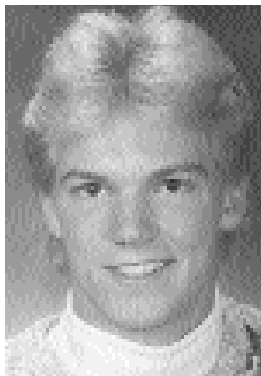
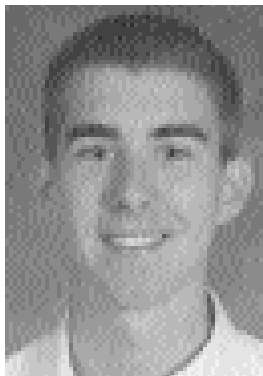
(Continued from page 1)

\$1,000 to Jason Hardink of Slatersville, R.I., a piano performance major at the Oberlin Conservatory, Oberlin, Ohio; \$500 to Karen Hardink of Slatersville, R.I., a psychology major at Keene State College, Keene, N.H.; \$500 to Kenneth Payette of Woonsocket, R.I., who will major in business at Western New England College, Springfield, Mass. All four award recipients are members of UNA Branch 206 in Woonsocket.

• Awards for academic excellence during the past school year were given to: Dariya Bidnyk of New York City (Branch 184), a computer science major at Pace University in New York; Nadia Sawicki of Holliswood, N.Y. (Branch 450), a biomedical ethics major at Brown University in Providence, R.I.; Katherine Moroz Smith of Morris Plains, N.J. (Branch 172), a political science major at Drew University in Madison, N.J. Each award was in the amount of \$1,000.

Members of the UNA Scholarship Committee include UNA executive officers, auditors and advisors, and the editor-in-chief of Svoboda. Present at the July 21 meeting were: Secretary Martha Lysko, Treasurer Alexander Blahitka, Auditor Stefan Hawrysz and Advisors Roma Hadzewycz and Alex Chudolij.

Barbara Bachynsky of the UNA Organizing Department, who had prepared all preliminary information on the applicants, also attended and reported to the committee.



The UNA's top scholarship recipients for 1997-1998 (beginning with top row, from left): Alexander Kollias of Elkins Park, Pa., Jennifer Uihlein of Hicksville, N.Y., Renata Kosc of North Royalton, Ohio, Taisa Skulsky of Philadelphia, Orsya Duplak of Camillus, N.Y., Marc Marzotto of Windsor, Ontario, Bruce Burak of Woonsocket, R.I., Jason Hardink and Karen Hardink of Slatersville, R.I., Kenneth Payette of Woonsocket, R.I., Dariya Bidnyk of New York, Nadia Sawicki of Holliswood, N.Y., and Katherine Moroz Smith of Morris Plains, N.J.

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ACTION ITEM

(Continued from page 6)

Through the continued support of the United States and the \$225 million earmark, in the last six years Ukraine has evolved into a Western-oriented country. Just recently, Ukraine signed a charter with NATO, initiated an anti-corruption program, and reaffirmed its commitment to economic and legal reform.

During the upcoming House-Senate Conference on the FY 1998 Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill, I urge you to endorse the Senate-approved \$225 million earmark for Ukraine, as well as the subearmarks, which promote American interests by making Ukraine strong and self sufficient.

Sincerely,

Below is a list of the members of the Foreign Operations Subcommittees of the Senate and House of Representatives, followed by the members' phone and fax numbers. (All numbers are preceded by area code 202.)

Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee

Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), chairman, 225-2541, 224-2499
Arlen Specter (R-Pa.), 224-4254, 228-1229
Judd Gregg (R-N.H.), 224-3324, 224-4952
Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), 224-5744, 224-3416
Robert Bennett (R-Utah), 224-5444, n/a
Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), 224-5852, 224-1933
Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), 224-3004, 224-0772
Patrick Leahy (D-Vt.), ranking member, 224-4242, n/a
Daniel Inouye (D-Hawaii), 224-3934, 224-6747
Frank Lautenberg (D-N.J.), 224-4744, 224-9707
Tom Harkin (D-Iowa), 224-3254, 224-9369
Barbara Mikulski (D-Md.), 224-4654, 224-8858
Patty Murray (D-Wash.), 224-2621, 224-0238

House Foreign Operations Subcommittee:

Sonny Callahan (R-Ala.), chairman, 1st District, 225-4931, 225-0562
John Edward Porter (R-Ill.), 10th District, 225-4835, n/a
Frank Wolf (R-Va.), 10th District, 225-5136, 225-0437
Ron Packard (R-Calif.), 48th District, 225-3906, 225-0134
Joseph Knollenberg (R-Mich.), 11th District, 225-5802, 226-2356
Michael Forbes (R-N.Y.), 1st District, 225-3826, 225-3143
Jack Kingston (R-Ga.), 1st District, 225-5831, 226-2269
Rodney Frelinghuysen (R-N.J.), 11th District, 225-5034, 225-3186
Nancy Pelosi (D-Calif.), 8th District, ranking member, 225-4965, 225-8259
Sidney Yates (D-Ill.), 9th District, 225-2111, 225-3493
Nita Lowey (D-N.Y.), 18th District, 225-6506, 225-0546
Thomas Foglietta (D-Pa.), 1st District, 225-4731, 225-0088
Esteban Edward Torres (D-Calif.), 34th District, 225-5256, 225-9711

NOTE: Members of Congress will be on recess through Labor Day. This is an appropriate time to meet with them as an organized group to discuss issues important to the Ukrainian American community.

— submitted by the Ukrainian National Information Service, Washington.

Taras Polataiko cited as "one of 10 artists to watch worldwide"

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – What does one do after having been named one of the "10 artists to watch worldwide" by the prestigious ARTnews (January 1995)? Do things that are worthwhile to watch!

Taras Polataiko continues to draw attention: "a new star of the Canadian art world" (Western Record, February, 1996), "one of the most carefully scrutinized artists in Canada" (Border Crossings, 1996), as an artist who is "sharply tuned into current art trends, he works intuitively and intentionally beyond them" (World Art, No.12). These are only a few quotes that describe this artist.

A review of his show at the Caelum gallery in New York (ARTnews, April 1997) called his works "vigorously up to date." Temporarily living in Toronto, Mr. Polataiko's latest work "Mole: Installation" was shown at the Art Gallery of North York, Toronto, from May 1 to June 30.

Taras Polataiko lives in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, where he arrived from Ukraine in 1991. It was a time when Ukrainians were celebrating the centenary of their settlement in Canada; Ramon Hnatyshyn, son of Ukrainian immigrants, was ensconced in Ottawa as governor general and the country was awash in commemorative euphoria. A statue of the governor general was erected in Saskatoon in September, 1992, commissioned by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. Mr. Polataiko, then a student of fine arts at the University of Saskatchewan, painted himself bronze and, facing Mr. Hnatyshyn, mounted his own pedestal on which he wrote: "Dedicated to the 100th anniversary of Ukrainian settlement in honor of those Ukrainians who never became governor general." It was October and Mr. Polataiko stood motionless for an hour on seven separate occasions in the uncomfortable cold. His art action, called "Artist as a Politician – in the Shadow of the Monument," stirred fierce controversy. He was accused of mocking Ukrainians who came to settle in Canada; a city councillor called the action "offensive to the community and disrespectful of the things for which this country stands."

There were also supporters of Mr. Polataiko's action who covered his pedestal with cards and information on other immigrants who did not become governor general. And it got him noticed by ARTnews. Mr. Polataiko claims that political notoriety was not his aim at the time. "It got politicized more than I wished, for it was aesthetic, the aesthetics of dealing with an image in a public space, an image in a public space loaded with historical meanings. I was curious to see what would happen if I produced a mirror image," he said.

Born on September 28, 1966, in Chernivtsi, the son of a sculptor, Mr. Polataiko was part of the art world from childhood. He dropped out of every school he attended: he didn't complete a school for gifted children because he did not like a teacher, he attended the Kosiv College of Art for only two years (1981-1983) and then, at age 17, went to Moscow to the Stroganov Institute of Fine and Industrial Arts (1983-1989), which he also did not finish. In 1991 he came to Saskatoon on a personal invitation. At the University of Saskatchewan he was offered studio space and a scholarship for the master of fine arts program, a certificate that he actually completed in 1993.

Saskatoon – a provincial prairie city of about 200,000 inhabitants was, after post-perestroika Moscow, a big change for Mr. Polataiko. Socialist Realism, with its references to a completely foreign Soviet context, seemed exotic in the North American. His first show in Canada, called "YOU," was a series of self-portrait paintings in high contrasts of light and shadows and some of the works incorporated Soviet-type propaganda art elements. The works were completed in 1992-1994 and one work of this series was acquired by Microsoft's president, Bill Gates.

In his series "Glare" (Rosemont Art Gallery, Regina, 1994), Mr. Polataiko examined "how various media overlap and cross over into one another's field of meaning" (Border Crossings, 1996). He photographed a number of black and white reproductions from a book of paintings by Kazimir Malevich (it is interesting that in all the reviews and catalogue texts of this series, Kyiv-born Malevich, who had hitherto always been called a Russian avant-garde artist, is now referred to as Mr. Polataiko's countryman), and then painted the paintings, incorporating the glare of the camera flash, the bends in the book page, even the surface on which the photographed book sat.

In the article "Malevich's Ghost" (World Art, No. 12), Mr. Polataiko claimed, "The Glare paintings were difficult to do. I had to show the illusion of the flat surface of the page. Each of the paintings takes place in the lightning time-span of a blink of an eye. Malevich wanted to move toward a space of emptiness, a world that is invisible to

common sight. The glare is like that – an additional element. It is like a ghost emanating from Malevich's pictorial arrangements. A glare is so present that we condition ourselves not to see it. We see through it." Mr. Polataiko scaled his paintings to the dimensions of the original Malevich canvases. A painting was photographed and reproduced, the photograph was replicated and painted – all creating a disorienting effect.

Although supposedly eschewing the political, Mr. Polataiko's next project again made use of political symbolism. He visited the 30-kilometer closed zone around the Chernobyl plant, spending several days there absorbing radioactivity. Then, over a period of 15 months, he had five liters of his blood extracted. The blood was stored frozen in the artist's refrigerator and became part of his next project, the installation "Cradle" (The Mendel Gallery, Saskatoon, January/February, 1996).

A cast iron bathtub, plated with a shimmering nickel coating, was completely covered and sealed off near its rim by a plate of nickel. The tub was suspended about six inches above the floor by four anchor chains. Ceiling lights reflected off the tub's surface. In the center of the tub's nickel plate lid, a small hinged cap covered a hole. One could peer inside the dark tub by lifting the cap. The contents of the tub – the five litres of the artist's irradiated blood mixed with anti-coagulants.

Also part of the installation were six oval paintings constructed of drywall and covered by wallpaper patterned with small colored squares. Each painting was hung in a highly polished stainless steel frame. Mr. Polataiko had punched each of the wallpapered paintings with his fist making a hole in the drywall. The hole was patched up and carefully painted over in trompe l'oeil fashion until the restoration was barely discernible. It was only from a certain angle that one could see that each work had been punctured and then patched up.

According to the "Cradle" exhibit catalogue, "Nothing appears to be happening across these surface of the wallpaper but the appearance and disappearance of the patch, depending on where you stand and where the light is hitting, reveals a process of something being there and not being there at the same instant. The theatrical setting operates on both an ideological and an aesthetic level. It implies violent action yet is cool and remote."

Mr. Polataiko was asked whether it was necessary that he make himself susceptible to radiation in order to do the piece. Could not he have just created a metaphor for contaminated blood? "That was exactly something I was trying to avoid. Then it would be like a smart work. I don't think this is smart work; this is visceral work. The process is probably the most important thing about this work" said Mr. Polataiko (Border Crossings, 1996).

It is the viewer's choice whether or not to look in the tub and see the blood. "When the viewer sees the blood, it's more powerful than just imagining it was there or having it hermetically sealed inside the tub. Why didn't I use animal blood? It's important that the blood is from me. If you don't do that, you might as well use acrylic paint. It had to be mine, not for the viewer, just for me. It is a private meditative piece that puts me through an



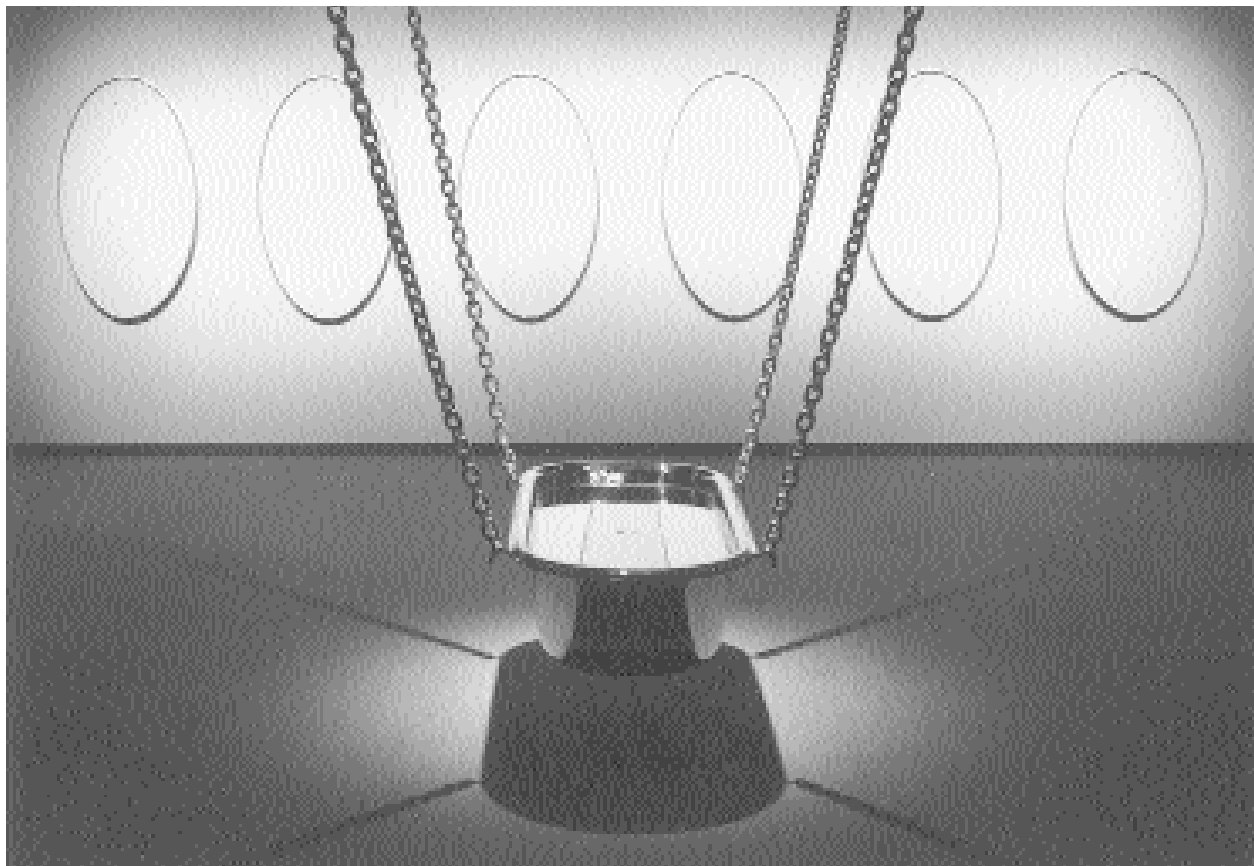
Taras Polataiko

important process. At the same time I don't think it's personal, I think it's impersonal," he continued (Border Crossings, 1996). It is a deliberately understated installation; the blood was not splashed over the walls nor spilled over the floor, but placed inside the tub-out of sight, but not out of mind.

I look over the numerous articles and reviews of Mr. Polataiko in front of me. Reviewers and journalists never seem to run out of things to say about his works. There is agreement on some points: that Mr. Polataiko's work asks questions; that it acknowledges the presence of the artist and viewer and that he loves turning his work back onto the viewer who is often passive before a work of art. The concepts that interest the artist are not desiccated intellectual constructs, but notions which can be shared by the viewer and that Mr. Polataiko uses to involve the viewer: illusion, deception, trompe l'oeil, blind spots, mirrors, contamination, dislocation, distortion, erasure. Yet they probably don't have the same meaning for the viewer and for the artist because Mr. Polataiko's concerns are primarily formal; his art is about art and it is to art that he relates the above notions.

Prepared to be an active viewer, I went to the opening of Mr. Polataiko's Toronto exhibit "Mole: Installation." I find

(Continued on page 14)



"Cradle" installation, Mendel Art Gallery, 1996.

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Kuchma...

(Continued from page 2)

President Kuchma hesitated over whether, when and how to dismiss Prime Minister Lazarenko. One of the reasons for that hesitation is that, despite his numerous liabilities, Mr. Lazarenko was and remains influential within the Rada and in the regions - with everything that this implies in a pre-election climate. In his speech nominating Mr. Pustovoitenko, President Kuchma, after again admitting his staffing errors, said that "the dismissal of the prime minister was brought about primarily by the results of his work, which did not satisfy me. There were also moral issues which did not add to the authority of the head of government and began to damage the international image of the country." However, there is strong evidence suggesting that there was another important factor behind Mr. Lazarenko's dismissal and his successor's ascendancy. Indeed, it can even be seen as the proximate cause.

In early June, the National Democratic Party of Ukraine (NDPU) held its second congress during which its leader, Anatoliy Matviyenko, not only harshly criticized the Cabinet of Ministers but categorically called for Mr. Lazarenko's dismissal. In the days that followed, Mr. Matviyenko and other party spokesmen upped the ante by publicly declaring that should the president nominate one of the NDPU's nominees for the premiership, the NDPU would take full responsibility for his performance in office. The two names the NDPU eventually proposed were the former chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, Ivan Pliushch, and Mr. Pustovoitenko.

The NDPU is often referred to as "the party of power" or, by its detractors, as "the party with illusions of power" (even though the most accurate designation might be "genuine pretensions to power"). Apart from Mr. Pustovoitenko, its ranks include the following high level officials: President Kuchma's chief of staff, Yevhen Kushnariov; deputy chief of staff and former principal economic adviser to President Kuchma, Anatoliy Halchynskyi; the deputy minister of the Cabinet of Ministers, Anatoliy Tolstoukhov; the deputy chairman of the National Security Council and former chief adviser to the president, Oleksander Razumkov; the governor of the Bank of

Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko; the minister of the economy, Yurii Yekhanurov; the minister of information, Zinovii Kulyk; and Anatoliy Kinakh, president of the powerful Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, who was recently appointed by President Kuchma to head the newly created Interdepartmental Council on Strategic Privatization.

For some time now President Kuchma and the NDPU have been tentatively courting each other, while publicly denying this in the unconvincing fashion of two bashful teenagers denying the significance of having been caught embracing. However, if the NDPU - generally viewed as representing narrow, elite interests - is to provide the kind of party base President Kuchma is undoubtedly seeking, it must first substantially broaden its appeal and by extension its parliamentary representation. The swiftest way of achieving this, regardless of whether or not elections to the Rada are held on schedule, would be to have a government led by an NDPU member make tangible progress, specifically on the high-profile salary arrears issue. The gambit is risky, but not necessarily so for the individuals involved. President Kuchma has no formal associations with the NDPU and in the event of failure, the political careers of individual NDPU members are unlikely to suffer even as the development of the NDPU is set back. The potential pay-off for both sides, on the other hand, is self-evident.

Thus, given this NDPU factor, as well as his personal links to the president, Mr. Pustovoitenko's nomination makes sense. (Given the nature of the new prime minister's likely principal task, First Vice Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets might have prevailed had his reputation in the Rada not been so thoroughly discredited following a botched attempt - whether instigated by the administration or by Mr. Lazarenko is not clear - to break the budget deadlock by removing the chairman of the Rada, Oleksander Moroz).

Among the speculations preceding Mr. Pustovoitenko's nomination and confirmation, the idea of a coalition government was broached quite frequently. Indeed, during times of crisis resorting to this form of governance has much to recommend it. However, the generally amorphous state of Ukrainian party politics, particularly within

(Continued on page 11)

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Kuchma...

(Continued from page 10)

the Verkhovna Rada, effectively precludes this option on the formal level. Nevertheless, it is possible to view the Supreme Economic Council (SEC) as a de facto coalition government cobbled together to deal with the kinds of issues these bodies have historically been designed to address.

The SEC consists of 30 members: key government officials, former prime ministers, academics and 16 key Rada deputies – including Chairman Moroz. Following the July 17 inaugural meeting of the SEC, the acting secretary Mr. Halchynskyi insisted that the new body is simply an advisory and consultative council which cannot replace the government or the Rada. But the very nature of this “denial” merely strengthens the suspicion that, at minimum, the SEC is designed to fundamentally influence the work of these two bodies.

Thus, while the government is scheduled to discuss the issues the SEC reviewed in its first session, it is highly unlikely to come to its own separate conclusions over how reforms should proceed. Indeed, its role will likely focus on how to substantiate and then implement the decisions reached within the SEC, a critical but essentially administrative task for which the new prime minister is by character eminently suited; but one which allowed his predecessor plenty of latitude for (re)interpretation with, according to President Kuchma, all of the attendant negative consequences which prompted his eventual dismissal.

As regards policy matters, Prime Minister Pustovoitenko's government will deal with process rather than content – something which, theoretically, can only help intra-executive branch coordination and reforms as a whole.

As for the Verkhovna Rada, trying to co-opt its leadership and other key deputies by giving them a key role in what is effectively a decision-making process, should facilitate the passage through the Rada of the administration's reform package regardless of any pre-election theatrics that might be enacted on the floor of the chamber.

Creating strategic councils, like changing prime ministers, is nothing new to Ukrainian politics. And only time will tell whether this informal centralization, or perhaps more accurately centralization by invi-

tation, will produce the desired results. But time is the one commodity that is in short supply. Administration officials estimate that passage and implementation of the package of urgent measures proposed by President Kuchma would require two years at minimum. And that, essentially, is the reason that during his June 27 speech President Kuchma declared his willingness to entertain the proposal to postpone the parliamentary and local government elections for a full year. (There is still some confusion over where the initiative originated. But under the circumstances it does not stretch the bounds of probability to suggest that the idea was born inside the administration and then presented by pro-presidential forces within the Rada for the president's “consideration”; altogether a much more subtle way for the guarantor of the Constitution to effectively announce that at least in one respect the fundamental law was a political hindrance rather than an asset.)

In a somewhat hackneyed, almost contrived manner, the president's Regional Council, which consists of the heads of the oblast level governments, began reporting spontaneous grass-roots support from citizens, groups and associations for postponing the elections, not least because the money “thus saved could then be used to settle state salary and pension debts.”

On July 18, the last day of the Rada session, Vice Chairman Viktor Musiyaka proposed a motion that the Rada reconvene for two or three days commencing on August 28 to consider the arguments for amending the Constitution.

So far, the Rada's reaction to moving the elections has been mixed. Even some generally pro-presidential elements are skeptical. Crucially, however, Chairman Moroz has come out unequivocally against such a step. Quite understandably, having expedited Mr. Pustovoitenko's confirmation by the Rada, Mr. Moroz would be justified in perhaps feeling that further assisting President Kuchma's reform effort could become counterproductive to his own undoubted presidential ambitions. But clearly, any conclusion would ultimately depend on the Rada chairman's own assessment of where along the political continuum the currently all too fine dividing line between President Kuchma's re-election efforts and the objective requirements of Ukrainian reforms is located.

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MEN'S BASKETBALL EUROBASKET '97

Ukraine's national men's basketball team recently participated in its first European championship. The 30th such biennial tournament since 1935 was held in Spain on June 24-July 6 in Barcelona and its environs. Sixteen teams took part in what was known as "Eurobasket '97."

Placed in Group D along with the host country, Croatia and Germany, the blue-and-yellow was in a tough position (although they could count their blessings, not being in Group C to face both eventual finalists Yugoslavia and Italy, as well eventual seventh-place Poland). To add to the pressure, their debut match on June 25 against the Spaniards was widely televised, and there could be no doubt on whose side the 12,000 screaming fans were.

All of Ukraine's games were played in the ancient Iberian town of Badalona, northeast of Barcelona, in the Pavello Olympic built for the 1992 Olympics.

The first game did not go all that well, as the visitors dropped a lop-sided 82-54 decision, but all 12 men on the squad got to play.

Guard Dmytro Bazylevsky turned in a reasonable effort, potting 15 points (two three-pointers), and going three-for-four off the foul line, and three-for-four in the field. Also in the double figures was forward Leonid Yailo, with 12 points, drawing six fouls and making two steals. Forward Anatolii Lokhmanchuk gave a hint of what was to come by putting up three blocks and going five for seven off the line, while the seemingly dwarf-like (six-foot, two-inch) guard Ihor Kharchenko announced his specialty — steals.

First Ukrainian men's dunk

The next day brought on the next opponent, Germany, and another loss by a score of 81-60. With forwards Vadym Pudzyrei and Viktor Savchenko riding

the pines, Lokhmanchuk was active on both sides of the court, with 16 points (two trifectas), five steals and five defensive rebounds. He also put down Ukraine's very first dunk in international men's competition. Kharchenko checked in with 13 points and seven steals. Bazylevsky was firing blanks however, ending up with seven points, and hitting only one of six three-pointers. Guard Evgenii Murzyn picked up some of the slack, netting 10 points, but his percentage was low from the field, sinking only five of 12 shots.

First hoopy victory

On June 27, the Ukrainians scored their first victory (and a major upset) against the high-scoring Croatians (1995 Bronze medalists and the only team to reach 100 points in one game in the tourney). Final tally: 95-88.

They shortened their bench by sitting out Oleksander Okunsky, Roman Rubchenko and master-thief Kharchenko, and had Bazylevsky and Lokhmanchuk put on a show. Lokhmanchuk drew seven fouls (four-for-seven off the line) and went bananas from three-point range, trying eight but draining two, and had a total of 18 points. Bazylevsky hit for 19 points (two three-pointers), drew 10 fouls and was an NBA-like 11 for 12 off the line (that's 92 percent folks).

Forward Denys Zykavliov awoke and netted 14 points, draining two from three-point range, while seven-foot center Hryhorii Khyzhniak announced his presence with authority, slamming two dunks and muscling in three offensive rebounds for 10 points. Murzyn stole three and put up 11 points, and Pudzyrei responded off the bench by adding 10.

At the end of group play, the standings were:

GROUP D

Team	gp	w	l	For	Agst
1. Spain	3	3	0	227	184
2. Croatia	3	1	2	234	228
3. Germany	3	1	2	195	202
4. Ukraine	3	1	2	209	251

However, because they'd lost to Germany and conceded more points than the Teutons did, Ukraine was judged to be unworthy of the playoff round despite having a similar record.

Lucky 13

Undeterred, the team kept its composure in the classification rounds. After a day's layoff, they met the Latvians on June 29 and came out on top, 84-76. Lokhmanchuk had his best game of the tournament, with 21 points. He hammered in a dunk, three rebounds and drew 11 fouls and went an impressive 13-for-16 off the line (81 percent). It could have been even better, as he fired a less than awesome four-for-10 in the field and missed two three-pointers. Bazylevsky also was strong, with 17 points, five-for-seven on free throws and two three-pointers. Murzyn added 14 on an almost perfect day (five-for-five in the field, four-for-five on the line), and Yailo was also strong off fouls (five-for-six) for a total of 13 points.

That victory gave Ukraine a chance to play for 13th over all in the championship against Slovenia on June 30. The result was a solid balanced effort, with scoring coming from almost every member of the squad, and another win, 80-75.

The points leader was the surprising giant, seven-foot three-inch center Okunsky, who had spent many of the

(Continued on page 13)



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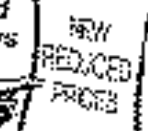
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Sportsline

(Continued from page 12)

earlier contests idle. In this game he contributed 18 points, two dunks and four rebounds, was a perfect four off the line and seven-for-10 in the field. He was all over the court, adding three defensive rebounds and three blocked shots.

Bazylevsky and Lokhmanchuk got into foul trouble early and were kept to nine and eight points, respectively. Bazylevsky got all of his points on the line off 10 attempts. Murzyn hit for 13 with an average six-for-11 day off the line, Khyzniak had nine points, and forward Ihor Molchanov netted nine.

In closing it can be said that the men from Kyiv acquitted themselves fairly well. They need to be more aggressive on the offensive boards — they had only 32 rebounds for the whole tournament as a team. Defensively, their rebounding was reasonable (65 for the tourney). Lokhmanchuk was obviously the team's main man, scoring 72 points and drawing 32 fouls. He made 14 steals but, tellingly, allowed 17 turnovers, a sign of impatience.

As anybody who has played "21" and then joined a full-flight game in motion knows, they need to improve the accuracy of their shooting from the field. Free-throw heroes Bazylevsky and Lokhmanchuk were great on the line, but if they continue to miss three pointers at their present rate (17 of 24 and 12 of 18 respectively), their team and their fans will have many broken hearts. To compound this problem, the Ukrainians as a group seem not to be willing to pass. They had the among the lowest assist total of all 16 teams. While Yugoslavia and Russia had several players with over 20 and Italy had one over 30, only Murzyn (10) and Bazylevsky (nine) had over five on the Ukrainian side. If you wanna be hetman, you'd better be Michael Jordan.

The team also needs more balance. While other country rosters (particularly the elite squads) showed an even mix of centers, guards and forwards, Ukraine's contingent consisted of two centers, two guards and eight forwards.

For complete stats on the Eurobasket '97 Championship, visit the tournament's website at <http://www.catbq.es>, and take your pick of English or Spanish.

WOMEN'S BASKETBALL European League Teams

In other basketball news, the draw for the EuroLeague Women (ECF), EuroCup (ECC), Korac Cup (ECK) and Ronchetti Cup (ECR) for the coming season was

400 not 40

Due to a typographical error in Dateline New York (July 27), the number of members of the Ukrainian Institute of America was incorrectly given as 40. In reality, the New York-based UIA has 400 members.

held on July 22 at the Sheraton Hotel in Munich.

Kozachka-ZALK of Ukraine will play in the EuroLeague Women (ECF)'s Group B together with teams from the Czech Republic, France, Germany, Hungary, Turkey and Yugoslavia (Serbia).

Ukraine's Bipa-Moda-SKA will play in the EuroCup (ECC)'s Group A, with teams from Finland, Lithuania, Macedonia, Spain and Turkey, while Budivelnik-Horda will be in Group H with squads from Austria, Greece, Israel, Russia and Slovakia.

In the Korac Cup (ECK), Ukraine's CSKA-RICO will play in Group K with Spartak Moscow and WTK Azoty Nobiles of Poland; and Dendi Basket will play with teams from Russia, Lithuania and a qualifier. In the Ronchetti Cup (ECR) Group P, Energobis will play a team from Finland and Poland.

National team slips at Europeans

While the Ukrainian women's national team continues to do far better than its male counterpart in the international arena, 1995's European champions suffered a grievous blow.

Unfortunately, the squad did not qualify for the world championships to be played in Germany next year. According to statistics on the Fédération International de Basketball's website (<http://www.fiba.com>), they were knocked out of the semi-finals of the 26th European Championship held in Budapest on June 6-15.

In the preliminary round, Ukraine was proceeding with its usual aplomb in Group A. On the first day, they knocked off powerhouse Yugoslavia 81-67 after trailing 36-41 at the half. But the wheels began to come off on June 7, first in a loss to Germany (88-92), then to Spain (62-76, June 8), then to Lithuania (70-73, June 10). The blue-and-yellow just managed to squeak into the next round by besting the Czechs 76-72 on June 11.

In the quarter-finals two days later, the team overcame a strong Italian side 75-73, but the following afternoon the Czech Republic exacted its revenge, and Ukraine was out of the semi-final round.

Ukraine was 10th in the final European placings, with only six teams entitled to advance to the Worlds.

According to a FIBA press release of June 20, 10 of the 16 teams that will participate at the World Championship via their continental championships (including entries from Asia and Oceania) will include Germany (organizer), Lithuania, Slovak Republic, Hungary, Spain, Russia, Korea, Japan, China and Australia. The 16-team field will be completed by four teams from the Americas and two teams from Africa.

The World Championship for Women will take place in Germany from May 26 to June 7, 1998.

(A Sportsline thank you to one of our readers in Spain for letting us know the Eurobasket tournament was on.)

— compiled by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

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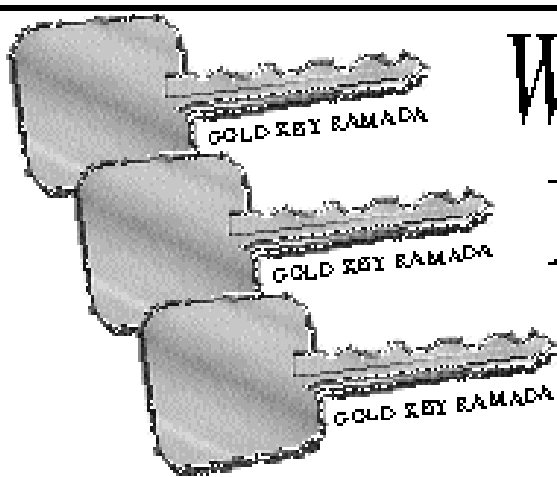
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Taras Polataiko...

(Continued from page 9)

the thorough formality of the installation opaque and impervious. Large photographic blow-ups of holes in the wall around the Reichstag in Berlin, bullet holes made during the war - by Germans? By Soviets? Does it matter? The photographs are turned upside down so that the hole and its tunnel form become a protuberance. A mole? In the middle of the gallery floor, there is a mound of earth, watched over by a security guard. Out of the mound of earth, a mole (in this case stuffed, but even when alive - blind) is looking at us looking at the moles on the wall. I remember one of the articles referring the artist's "deviant sense of humor" and leave it at that.

Mr. Polataiko currently has a basement studio in the west end of Toronto, among body shop garages. Under his loft bed the nickel plated bathtub with its five litres of blood is stored. Large "Glare" canvases line the walls. The artist is engaging, friendly and generous in providing information. A whip hangs in the studio. I learn that it is to be part of his next project.

Unlike the Hnatyshyn statue, where the artist took on a Ukrainian icon, his next project involves commemorating a native of Lviv about whom the city fathers are ambivalent. Leopold von Sacher-Masoch was an Austrian writer, born in Lviv in 1836 where he spent the first 16 years of his life. Some of his writings are set in Galicia and he taught briefly at Lviv University. His works are said to be of little literary value, but his preoccupation with

sexual perversions was immortalized in the term masochism. The house in Lviv where he was born has no plaque to commemorate him. The Soviets considered him too deviant to celebrate as a cultural figure.

Mr. Polataiko's Masoch project will take two forms: photographs of the whip in mid air with the camera catching the whip just before it touches the skin, a moment that is too fast for the human eye. A nickel plated whip will be installed above the front entrance of the Masoch house.

The last time Mr. Polataiko was in Lviv, he tried to get a permit to do the installation. At first the city authorities were excited by the fact that an artist from Canada was going to honor a Lviv writer, but their enthusiasm waned when they found out in whom Mr. Polataiko was interested. The project is currently on hold, but Mr. Polataiko will try to get permission to go ahead the next time he is in Lviv. (In an article on Mr. Polataiko, a Canadian journalist makes the point that maybe the citizens of Lviv, as inhabitants of a post-colonial society, might have a hard time accepting the whip image.) Another example of aesthetisizing politics? But at least the literary reference point is easier to relate to than the blind mole. I make a note to check out the house on my next trip to Lviv.

A few weeks after my visit to Mr. Polataiko's studio, I hear that he is scheduled to have a show at The Power Plant in Toronto - the numero uno location for contemporary art in the city. Taras Polataiko is continuing not to disappoint those who started watching him two years ago.



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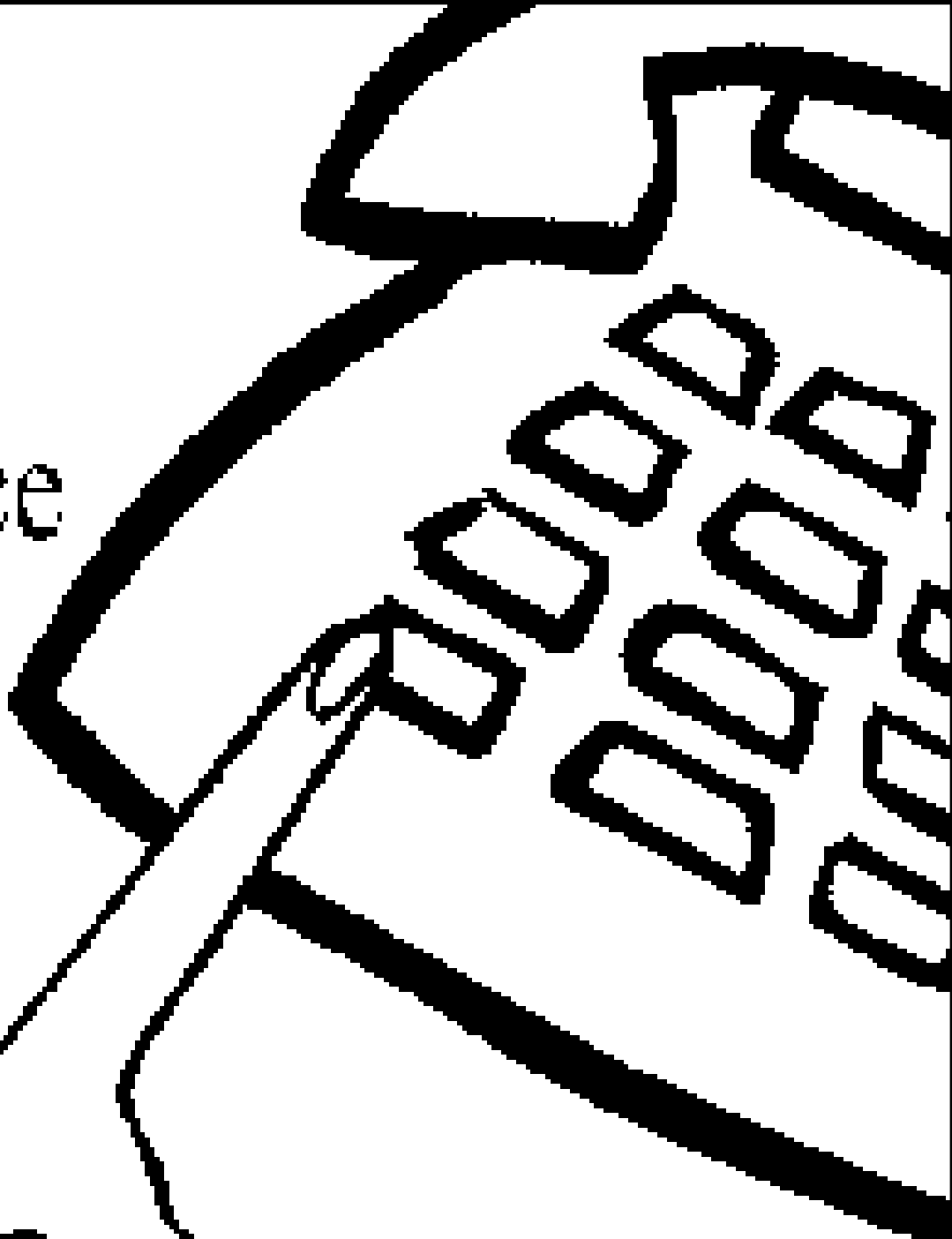
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, August 4

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute is sponsoring a lecture and musical presentation by Dr. Virko Baley titled "Dream Time and Other Profanities." Dr. Baley is a composer and conductor of the Las Vegas Symphony Orchestra. The lecture will be held in Emerson Hall, Room 210, at 7:30 p.m.

Wednesday, August 6

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute is sponsoring a roundtable discussion titled "The Media and Ukraine/Ukraine and the Media" with journalists Rostyslav Chomiak, Roman Woronowycz, Selma Williams, Victor Malarek, Christian Wehrsuetz, Kateryna Zelenska-Kalinicheva. The discussion will be held in Emerson Hall, Room 210, at 7:30 p.m.

Saturday, August 9

HUNTER, N.Y.: Concert pianist Thomas Hrynkiw will appear in concert in a program of works by Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart, Nyzhankivsky and Vytvytsky as part of the Music and Art Center of Greene County summer concert series. The program is at 8 p.m. at the Grazhda.

Saturday-Sunday, August 9-10

SLOATSBURG, N.Y.: The Holy Dormition Pilgrimage sponsored by the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate will be held here at St. Mary's Villa. The program includes liturgies and other religious services, as well as a candlelight procession to the grotto on Saturday at 8 p.m. For information call (914) 753-2840.

HAINES FALLS, N.Y.: Taras Schumylowych will exhibit three tempera paintings at the 50th Annual Group Exhibition sponsored by the Twilight Park

Artists. The exhibit, which usually features the works of about 60 artists, will be held in the Twilight Park Clubhouse beginning with a wine reception on August 9 at 5-7:30 p.m. On Sunday the exhibit will be open to the public at 1-5 p.m., with artists' demonstrations at 3-4 p.m. Also participating in the show, in the Young Artists Division, will be the artist's grandchildren, Xenia (age 9) and Justin (age 6) Schumylowych.

Week of August 9-15

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: The 14th annual gathering of Club Suzie Q, for singles and couples over age 25, will be held at Soyuzivka Ukrainian National Association Estate. Sponsored by Club Suzie Q, donation is \$35 for the week. For more information please contact Orest Bystryanyk, (860) 653-0167, or Roman Nazarewycz, (416) 236-2093 (evenings to 10 p.m.). For reservations call Soyuzivka, (914) 626-5641.

Friday-Sunday, August 15-17

LIGONIER, Pa.: The third annual Convention of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat will be held at Antiochian Village, Ligonier, Pa. For more information contact Joan Fedora, (412) 766-8801.

Sunday, August 17

SACRAMENTO: Ukrainian Fest '97, a showcase of Ukrainian cuisine and culture, will be held from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. at The Croatian American Cultural Center, 3730 Auburn Blvd. "Old Country" style food, beverages and cultural items will be available for purchase; daylong live entertainment, music and folk dancing begin at noon. Admission: \$3 per person, \$5 a couple; children under age 10, free. Sponsored by St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic Church with the support of the Ukrainian Heritage Club. For more information call (916) 486-0632 or (916) 481-8545.

PLEASE NOTE: Individuals or organizations who have not taken into account the changes in Preview requirements announced on April 13 and have not submitted information in Preview format will find that their entries have not been published in this issue.

At Soyuzivka: August 8-10

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The second weekend of August at Soyuzivka promises something special for one and all, as the Ukrainian National Association's resort offers fine food, an evening of cabaret entertainment, folk art and outdoor fun.

Early arrivals at the estate can feast on Chef Andriy Sonevtsky's seafood during Odesa Night, starting at 6:30 p.m. on Friday on the Veselka Patio. Afterwards, enjoy the sounds of Soyuzivka, as interpreted by the house band, the Lviyany, performing in the Trembita Lounge of the Veselka complex.

On Saturday, after enjoying the beauty of the Catskills by the pool, on the courts, or during a hike through Soyuzivka's woods, guests can relax in the evening during a cabaret/review beginning at 8:30 p.m. This will be singer Olya Chodoba-Fryz's first full-length show at Soyuzivka with a live band. Joining her will be Andriy Stasiw on piano, Chris Chodoba, vocals and percussion, George Stasiw, guitar, Nick Chodoba, bass, and Kefin Roth, drums.

The evening will reflect Olya's musical career, including songs from her first and second albums, as well as a selection from her new album of lullabies, and the singer's favorite cabaret and pop tunes. The program promises a mix of folk, contemporary and jazz music.

Immediately after coming to the cabaret, guests are invited to stay for the

dance featuring the music of the Luna orchestra until the wee hours of the morning.

On Sunday morning guests may enjoy Soyuzivka's elaborate brunch, served in the Main House dining room.

The art feature for the weekend is ceramics by Daria Hanushevsky, on display in Soyuzivka's Main House.

For more information about Soyuzivka programs, or to make reservations, call the resort at (914) 626-5641.



Olya Chodoba-Fryz

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