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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Visa Lottery deadline moved to October

NEW YORK — Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani announced on Monday, August 25, that the Federal DV-99 Immigration Visa Lottery has moved up its application period to October 24 through November 24 of this year, almost four months earlier than its originally scheduled date of February 1998. The mayor urged prospective visa lottery applicants to obtain information from the New York City Department of Consumer Affairs (DCA) on how to apply. (Applicants that live outside the New York City area can contact INS at (800) 375-5283 for the address of their regional application center).

From October 24 to November 24, the U.S. State Department will conduct its fourth annual Diversity Visa Lottery and will award 55,000 permanent resident visas, nationwide, to immigrants from traditionally lower-immigration areas. The lottery program was established by the Immigration Act of 1990 to expand the number of countries from which new immigrants to the United States originate. Being randomly selected in the visa lottery does not guarantee a permanent resident visa, but it does make the prospective green card candidate eligible to apply for a permanent resident visa immediately.

Mayor Giuliani also announced that the Department of Consumer Affairs will conduct an educational outreach campaign to steer prospective lottery participants away from unscrupulous immigration service practitioners.

“We can’t do anything to actually increase prospective immigrants’ chance in the lottery, [but] we can make sure that they get accurate, up-to-date information and have everything they need to make the process go smoothly,” said the mayor.

DCA Commissioner Jose Maldonado added, “Unfortunately, some fraudulent immigrant service providers see the lottery as a chance to prey on prospective immigrants. With our outreach campaign, we hope to get the message across that this lottery is free and easy to enter, that we have information available in nine languages to help future Americans take advantage of this opportunity — without being taken advantage of by con artists.”

Michael Bloom, director of the Federal Trade Commissions New York regional office, said “consumers should be on the alert for unscrupulous businesses and attorneys who claim that, for a fee, they can increase your chances of winning the U.S. State Department’s annual visa lottery. Selection is purely random and there are no special techniques or loopholes available to increase an individual’s chance of winning.”

Visa Lottery rules

Visa Lottery applicants must now furnish a 1 1/2" x 1 1/2" photograph no more than six months old, with their name printed on the back and taped to their lottery applications. The following lottery rules and restrictions also govern the lottery:

- Applicants must have a high school education (or its equivalent — not a GED) or two years of experience in an occupation requiring two years of training, with such experience being attained within the past five years.
- Each applicant can only submit one application. A person submitting more than one application will automatically be disqualified.
- Applications must be submitted by mail only from October 24, 1997 to November 24, 1997. Any applications received before October 24, 1997 or after

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Second World Forum convenes in Kyiv



Khristina Lew

Ivan Drach, head of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council (center, standing) opens second World Forum of Ukrainians on August 21, at the Ukraina Palace of Culture in Kyiv. President Leonid Kuchma (seated left of Mr. Drach), as well as Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz (seated right of Mr. Drach) and Ukrainian World Congress President Dr. Dmytro Cipywnyk (second from right) addressed the opening day of the Forum. Also seated at the head table are Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko, Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udovenko, former President Leonid Kravchuk, Minister of Defense Gen. Oleksander Kuzmuk. (See story on page 8).

Ukraine celebrates independence

by Khristina Lew
Kyiv Press Bureau

LVIV — The heart of western Ukraine greeted the sixth anniversary of Ukraine’s independence with patriotic aplomb, as thousands of Lvivians gathered on Prospekt Svobody on August 24 to discuss politics, sing songs of the Sich Riflemen and partake in general merrymaking.

All day long, a steady stream of old and young laid flowers at the statue of Taras Shevchenko that overlooks the city’s main avenue, formerly Prospekt Lenina, the site of Ukraine’s political awakening in the late 1980s. City leaders honored the soldiers who fought for Ukraine’s independence by placing flowers on their graves at the Lychakivskiyi and Yanivskiyi cemeteries.

At 10 a.m. Lviv Mayor Vasyl Kuybida greeted the 400 participants of the “Halychyna” marathon, which began at Prospekt Svobody, wound through the villages surrounding Lviv, and finished in the city center.

In the afternoon, veterans of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists-Ukrainian Insurgent Army (OUN-UPA) gathered at the Shevchenko monument in dress uniform to sing songs of Ukraine’s turbulent past, while folklore ensembles in national costumes performed at various sites throughout the city.

At the Shevchenkivskiyi Hai open-air museum, artists and craftsmen displayed their works along the winding paths leading to an open-air stage, where folk ensembles and musicians from throughout the Lviv

Oblast performed.

Across town at the Ukraina Stadium, low-flying airplanes dropped parachutists waving blue-and-yellow Ukrainian flags onto the field where Lviv’s youth began gathering for an Independence Day rock concert sponsored by Rukh and the People’s Democratic Party (Narodna Demokratychna Partia).

As evening settled on Lviv, thousands of young people blocked the streets leading to the Ukraina Stadium, where for 5 hrv (\$2.75) they could listen to Ukraine’s most popular pop and rock bands — VV, Skriabin, Pikardiiska Tertsia, Mertyvi Piven, Komu Vnyz, Ruslana and Plach Yeremii — perform. The concert, which filled the 15,000-seat stadium, was simulcast in Kyiv, Lviv and Kharkiv.

Official Independence Day celebrations

Ukraine officially began celebrating Independence Day on August 22 with a presentation of the new Cabinet of Ministers at Mariinskyi Palace in Kyiv. The presentation ceremony, attended by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, was broadcast live on Ukrainian television.

In a separate ceremony at the Presidential Administration Building, President Kuchma presented awards to more than 60 people “who have made weighty contributions to building and strengthening the state.” Among those honored were citizens of the United States,

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Freedom of press and information still under threat in Ukraine

by Serhiy Naboka

PART I

KYIV — Lately, there has been an increasing degradation of freedom of the press and information, and an increased influence over the media on the part of government structures, especially over the editorial policies and the content of materials in the mass media.

In the last year the level of freedom of speech has fallen, ironically, even as a legal basis has developed ensuring wider freedoms of the press.

Many experts and journalists believe that today freedom of the press remains weak, and that even some political censorship is beginning to appear. It is not an obvious, formal type of censorship with formal functioning organs whose job it is to censor in advance of publication; it is a soft, yet persistent, form of ideological control over editorial direction, pressure exerted by the executive branch and its administrative bodies. First and foremost it comes from the president's administration and those structures that are tied to it (officially or unofficially).

Legal safeguards for the press

There exists a relatively solid legal foundation from which to safeguard press and information freedoms, most notably Ukraine's Constitution, which was passed in June 1996.

From 1992 to 1997 the Verkhovna Rada passed a series of laws on the information and press freedom. Yet it is becoming more clear that many of these laws are too vague and were not properly thought through. The Verkhovna Rada on April 10, 1997, discussed this issue at a special hearing titled, "Freedom of the press in Ukraine, its status, problems, perspectives." The conclusion reached by the participants was that "the legal foundation for guaranteeing and realizing the rights of citizens to their freedom of thought, ideas and principles remains vague and contradictory. This includes the rights of the mass media and journalists."

The Ukrainian Independent Center for Political Study (UICPS) has found that "Ukrainian legislation with regard to the mass media resembles a labyrinth with many mine fields." For example, in both parliamentary legislation and decrees of the president with the power of law, it is stated that gathering information on a private individual without prior approval by that person is banned (Law on Information, Statute 23) and that one cannot disseminate information about the life of a private individual without their approval.

Those who control media outlets and who also are members of government, or have close ties to it, are treated more favorably than editors and publishers who are not well connected. The Cabinet of Ministers has the exclusive right to choose whom to support and the resources to do so. This is done through budget outlays or through out-of-budget funds, which they exclusively control.

Also according to the UICPS, "the influence of the government on the mass media in the last years has not only remained but has juridically increased," chiefly through a series of new laws regarding capital and financial budget outlays and the establish-

Serhiy Naboka is first vice president of the Ukrainian Media Club as well as chief editor of the Ukrainian News and Information Agency Respublika—UNIAR.

ment of a new information ministry. "The Cabinet of Ministers ... has monopolistic powers ... 1996 can be called the year that the Ukrainian press came exclusively under the control of the Cabinet of Ministers," states the report.

Another problem [with the status of press freedom] is that the wording in legislative acts is vague and undefined. For example, few restrictions or explanations exist as to the meaning of the broad term "state secrets." There are also no explanations of the limitations of such terms as "security" and "damage to Ukraine's national interest," "social mandate," or even the definition of the term "technical control of program quality," which is used in legislation regarding broadcast media.

Legislative acts also include such ambiguous concepts and terms as "disgracing the honor and worth of the individual," "news that infringes on the rights and legal interests of the citizen and abuses their honor and dignity," "unsubstantiated conjecture that damages another," "intentional abuse of dignity"; "disrespectful form," "false accusation;" "insult" and other terms.

These vague notions, which have been encoded in law and are punishable by law, have allowed for a series of judicial decisions in favor of government leaders, politicians and national deputies, stifling the work of the mass media, journalists in particular.

Lately, an average of 10 such cases have been heard monthly. The vagueness of the terminology, in addition to the bias and lack of independence in the judiciary, has led to verdicts against the mass media.

The financial sums awarded for stories that are shown to have "intentionally abused the dignity" of politicians have reached astronomical figures, financial burdens that can ruin any media business. Plaintiffs demand from several thousand to several million dollars (U.S.) in awards.

Recently the Union of Journalists, the Ukrainian Editors' Guild and the chief editors of Ukraine's 20 largest newspapers submitted an open letter to the Ukrainian Supreme Court to suspend the practice of indiscriminate lawsuits and enumerate the legal norms for such actions.

Not only members of the press, but also politicians are increasingly complaining about the possibility of "judicial persecution." It has led the president to release a decree (July 21, 1997) that identifies "the necessity for developing a special judicial organ to investigate questions (regarding the judiciary) in the matter of media activities."

Political censorship

Censorship is banned by law in Ukraine. However, it must be concluded that political censorship is practiced in Ukraine. In part, this function has come under the de facto control of the National Security and Defense Council, the administration of the President, especially the press service, and of the Ministry of Information.

It is important to understand that attempts to restrict freedom of speech occurred also during the tenure of President Leonid Kravchuk, especially towards the end of his presidency and during the [1994] election campaign. However, the most obvious form of pressure on the press began during Mr. Kuchma's tenure (from July 1994).

Since November 13, 1996, by a decree of President Kuchma, there has existed a

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NEWSBRIEFS

"Sea Breeze 97" begins in Ukraine

The "Sea Breeze 97" maneuvers began on August 23 at the Black Sea port of Donuzlav. Warships from the U.S. and Turkey, along with ships from Bulgaria, Georgia, and Romania, are participating in the week-long exercises. The Russian government has expressed opposition to the NATO-backed maneuvers and refused an invitation to participate. On August 25, the anti-NATO group in the Russian State Duma issued a statement describing the exercises as an "action openly hostile to Russia," Interfax reported. The anti-NATO group consists of 254 deputies of the 450 in the Duma. (RFE/RL Newsline)

IMF approves stand-by loan for Ukraine

The IMF on 25 August approved a \$542 million stand-by loan to Ukraine to provide approximately \$49 million immediately and to release the remainder in installments over the next year, provided Kyiv carries out promised economic reforms. A larger \$2.5-3 billion loan was put on hold earlier this year because the IMF stated that Kyiv's economic reforms were not moving forward fast enough. The one-year stand-by loan will support the government's 1997-1998 economic program, which aims to consolidate the progress already made and to reduce inflation from 40 percent in 1996 to 15 percent in 1997 and 12 percent in 1998. To achieve these objectives, the budget deficit will be limited to 4.6 percent of GDP in 1997 and 4.5 percent in 1998, according to IMF statements. (RFE/RL Newsline; Eastern Economist)

Russia's defense minister in Ukraine

Igor Sergeev was in Ukraine on August 26 for talks on military cooperation and implementing the Black Sea Fleet agreement between the two countries. Ukrainian Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk and Mr. Sergeev signed a military intelligence accord pledging the countries' military forces will not spy on each other. They also discussed the fate of 42 Soviet strategic bombers that remain on Ukrainian territory. Russia initially wanted to buy them, but has since changed its position. The two ministers agreed that experts from both countries will discuss for which purposes the bombers will be used. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian foreign minister in Moscow

Meeting in Moscow on August 27, Hennadii Udovenko and his Russian counterpart, Yevgenii Primakov, reviewed progress in implementing

agreements reached by Presidents Leonid Kuchma and Boris Yeltsin during their May meeting in Kyiv, Russian media reported. The two ministers also signed a statement stipulating the legal aspects of the border issue and Mr. Primakov stated that the demarcation of the Russian-Ukrainian border is "not an issue for today." Mr. Udovenko also met with Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin and announced that President Kuchma will visit Moscow in January or February 1998. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Closer ties sought with Japan

Ukrainian Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko told a visiting Japanese parliamentary delegation on August 27 that Kyiv hopes to have closer ties with Japan, Agence France Presse reported. Mr. Pustovoitenko said Ukraine is particularly eager to encourage the creation of joint enterprises between the two countries in electronics, construction, and oil exploitation. Juro Saito, the speaker of Japanese House of Councilors, headed the delegation of seven Japanese MPs and stated that Tokyo intends to help Ukraine with its economic and political reforms. He added that Japan would like to set up a joint Ukrainian-Japanese research center to study the effects of the explosion at the Chernobyl nuclear power station. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Relations with Israel enter a new phase

The main goal of the Israeli Interior Minister's visit to Ukraine on August 26 was to lay the foundation for cooperation between the two ministries in fighting organized crime and renewing lost personal contacts, said visiting Israeli Interior Minister Avigdor Kakhalani. He said there although there had been no contacts between Israel and Soviet Ukraine, it is now possible to "mention the development of cooperation between our two ministries." Mr. Kakhalani said that there are "several criminals who committed crimes in Ukraine and are now hiding in Israel." He noted the importance of effective cooperation between the respective security services. A representative of Ukraine's Interior Ministry will be posted to Israel shortly. In turn Interior Minister Yurii Kravchenko confirmed the existence of agreements between the ministries on exchange of information. Mr. Kravchenko confirmed that new proposals are being developed and that "thanks to this exchange of information, it will soon be possible to find specific people who are wanted by the security services of our countries." (UNIAN; Eastern Economist)

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Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz
Assistant editor: Khristina Lew (Kyiv)
Staff editors: Roman Woronowycz
and Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj (Toronto)

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Ukrainians in Poland: reflections of a checkered history

by **Khristina Lew**
Kyiv Press Bureau

WARSAW, Poland — In the 1990s, Ukrainians in Warsaw number a mere 1,000, but the Polish capital's checkered history of Ukrainian settlement is reflected in contemporary community life and activity.

Much of the Ukrainian community's activities are centered around the Association of Ukrainians in Poland, whose building on the right bank of the river Wisla in Warsaw houses numerous Ukrainian organizations, and Warsaw's one Ukrainian Catholic and two Polish Autocephalous Orthodox churches.

The Basilian Church and Monastery on Miodowa Street are located near Warsaw's Old City. Construction of the church began in 1781, and by 1810 the church had 710 Ukrainian parishioners. In 1876 the church was given to Orthodox faithful, but after the start of World War I it was returned to Catholics. It was destroyed during the Warsaw insurrection and rebuilt after the second world war.

Mirosław Czech, a member of the Polish Sejm (Parliament), recalled that during the Soviet era, the Basilians were forced to celebrate divine liturgy in the Roman Catholic rite, in Polish. After 1956, with the Khrushchev thaw, divine liturgy was celebrated in the Ukrainian rite, although the homily continued to be delivered in the Polish language. Only in the 1960s was the Ukrainian language used throughout the entire service.

Today the monastery on Miodowa Street is the largest such Basilian monastery in the world. It currently has 40 seminarians, studying Eastern-rite Catholicism, from Ukraine, Slovakia,



Tombstones of soldiers of the army of the Ukrainian National Republic.

Khristina Lew

Romania and the Czech Republic. After divine liturgy on Sundays, 30 children are provided Ukrainian language instruction there.

Across town is the Mary Magdalene Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church, and on the outskirts of Warsaw is St. John Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church. The majority of parishioners at both churches are Ukrainians, nonetheless

Belarusians, Poles and Russians are included in their ranks. In 1948 the Patriarch of Moscow brought the Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church under his jurisdiction, and today St. John's church almanac is published in the Ukrainian, Polish and Belarusian languages.

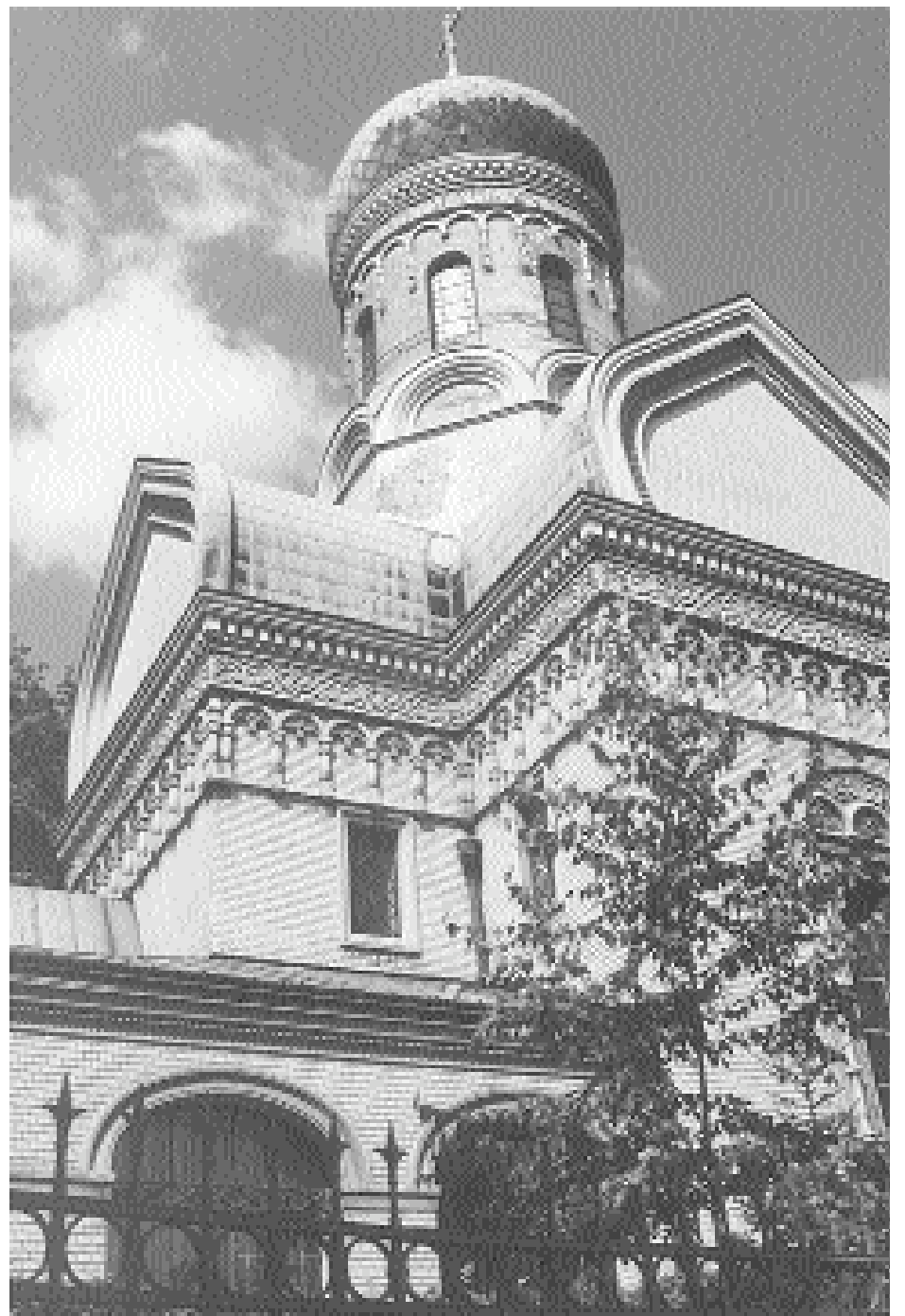
Behind St. John Church is a vast cemetery that dates back to tsarist times. The cemetery is dotted with gravestones

inscribed in the Ukrainian and Polish languages, and in its far reaches lie soldiers of the army of the Ukrainian National Republic, who battled for Ukraine's independence in 1917-1920 and later escaped to Warsaw. The government in exile of the Ukrainian National Republic was located in Warsaw until 1923.

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The Basilian Church and Monastery on Miodowa Street.



St. John Polish Autocephalous Orthodox Church.

A letter to friends on the occasion of the second World Forum of Ukrainians

by James E. Mace

CONCLUSION

When Ukraine became independent, most people merely assumed that, with Moscow gone, everything would sooner or later sort itself out and the country would become more or less normal. What was not understood was the dead weight of its inherited Soviet structures, which were then too weak to manage a Soviet-style command economy, redundant in a real market economy, and which fight like hell, so far successfully, to survive and expand.

For example, if in 1991 Ukraine had 291,000 ministerial employees, by 1996 it had over 500,000 and current estimates put the figure at around 800,000. There are roughly 70 ministries and state committees, which are quasi-ministries, supposedly coordinated by seven deputy prime ministers (President Kuchma is currently trying to streamline this apparatus). In such a bloated bureaucratic maze it often becomes impossible to speak of a state policy. Instead we have what economist Volodymyr Sidenko once called the micro-policies of different bureaucratic bailiwicks defending their own interests against all comers.

For example, when former Vice Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk's reformism ran up against the ingrained bureaucratic interests of the sector ministries he supposedly oversaw, he was largely pushed out of the loop on everything except the job of trying to convince Western official donors that something called "reform" was indeed significant enough to justify more aid. Minister of Justice Serhii Holovaty, who was put in charge of the "clean hands" anti-corruption campaign recently called a press conference and stated that he can't do anything because the corruption goes too high, to the ministerial level, and he simply can't touch it. Significantly, the head of one of the main villains that Mr. Holovaty mentioned as frustrating his anti-corruption efforts, the Cabinet of Ministers (comprising about 800 staffers who serve the Cabinet of Ministers as a whole), has just been promoted to the office of prime minister.

Much attention has been paid to corruption, which in Ukraine really does go all the way up and all the way down. But with all due respect to Mr. Holovaty and the Western organizations that forced the current official steps against corruption, the good justice minister's efforts were doomed from the start.

The simple fact is that when those in a position to misappropriate funds or demand bribes cannot live and support their families in what they consider a decent fashion on their official incomes, they will indulge in corruption. Under such circumstances, even imposing the death penalty on corruption just won't work. Virtually everybody will do it, and nobody with his hand in the till with look very closely at where someone else is supplementing his income. When the state cannot support its own structures, those in such structures will form a covert culture of corruption, based on the principle that those not participating are just plain stupid. And this has happened in Ukraine.

Moreover, Ukraine has inherited the Soviet mind-set that only the government can protect "the people" from

being "exploited," and this has led to the assumption, still virtually unchallenged in ruling circles, that the state has to retain control over practically everything. This suits employees of the so-called sector ministries (the Ministry of Machine Building, Ministry of the Coal Industry, etc.) just fine. Meanwhile, those who "privatized" basically uncompetitive assets, which might well become worthless if foreign investors were allowed to build something new, join state and shadow structures in what Oleksander Turchynov calls administrative economic groups, dedicated to the proposition that competitors must be pushed out.

The energy industry, the most serious money for politicians in both Ukraine and Russia, has been completely remonopolized; Motorola has been pushed out of the mobile satellite telephone market; and similar horror stories abound. Coca-Cola, which has won about 80 percent of the Ukrainian soft drink market with a plant in Lviv and is building a huge plant near Kyiv that will create thousands of new jobs, still has endless difficulties with the quasi-ministerial State Committee on the Food Industry, center of an economic-administrative group including breweries that also make soda pop, macaroni factories (which they call vermicelli) and a tobacco plant in Kharkiv that makes fake L&M cigarettes, which means it also creates permanent headaches for Kraft and Philip Morris.

Administrative economic groups can be based on sectors, but they also can be regional like in Uzhhorod, where one Serhii Ratushniak, after making his money in Russian metals trading, got himself elected mayor and basically privatized the whole city in the name of the RIO Syndicate that he controls. Since RIO also makes something called Rata Cola, Uzhhorod is practically the only place in Ukraine where things don't go better with Coke: the "real thing" has been effectively banned.

It might seem logical to abolish such sector committees and analogous ministries, and leave the old badly run industrial dinosaurs they control to their fate vis-à-vis those who can do it better, pay their workers more, and thus create demand for more goods and services, and thereby revive the economy. However, the opposite is being done and that – not the much-vaunted "severed economic ties" with the old "unified economic complex" – is the real reason that most people in Ukraine are so poor.

Governments, like people, who try to do more than they can, cannot complete anything. The result in Ukraine is that the government cannot effectively control even such basic functions of government as law enforcement, national defense and taxation. The state practically fails to pay the militia, which means that the Ukrainian equivalent to the cop on the beat de facto works for those who pay him, i.e., representatives of those who collect unofficial "taxes" for protection and provide their own version of order. I will never forget the night I saw someone try to rob a kiosk, and the girl without great concern replied, "You can't rob me. I already paid, and they'll find you where you live." The implication to the would-be robber was clear: either go home or wind up in a leg cast. He went home. The mafia, not the state, keeps order on the streets of Kyiv.

The military is no less a scandal than the militia. Common soldiers in the Ukrainian armed forces are paid all of 17 hryvni, less than \$10 dollars (U.S.), a month.

Spent on their upkeep (food, clothing, etc.) are 1.58 hryvni (87 cents) a day. A series in the popular Russian-language (but rather patriotic) daily Kievskie Viedomosti quoted one anonymous young officer to the effect that, should such an army have to fight somebody, most soldiers would immediately ask where to surrender. The usual official response, "Yes, we're poor but combat ready," fails to assuage doubts that the state is really capable of fulfilling the function of national defense.

The tax system is such that not long ago economist Oleh Soskin estimated that the total tax liability to make one hryvnia in the private sector would come to around 1.30 hryvni. Obviously, nobody pays it. Traditional managers have inherited from the Soviet era the custom of "doing chemistry" ("khemichyty" – to cook the books), and virtually every firm operates with a bookkeeper, who deals with taxable revenues, and a safe, where the off-the-books and untaxed funds necessary to keep any Ukrainian company in business are kept. Officials have also spoken about a huge problem of "revenues lost due to underestimates by tax inspectors," which is a code word for the fact that it's often cheaper to bribe the tax inspector than pay absolutely outrageous taxes.

This won't come without thorough tax reform, but lowering the tax burden to the point where it's easier to pay taxes than evade them cannot be done without either radically downsizing government or returning to hyperinflation, even with the now fashionable fiscal expedient of running up huge wage and pension arrears in the state sector.

Another problem is that independent Ukraine inherited all the social obligations of the old Soviet system. One is the system of privileges (pilhy), a case for each of which can be made, but which in their aggregate constitute a crushing burden on the economy.

For example, 25 million people, half the population, have the right to free public transportation. No one would really quarrel that pensioners ride the bus free to turn in the bottles they collect at 2 to 4 cents apiece, that invalids get free trips to the clinic, or that barely paid rank-and-file military personnel cannot pay to get where they're ordered to go. But why should a general, a prosecutor and the secretaries who type their paperwork enjoy such a privilege?

Moreover, the new Constitution of Ukraine guarantees all citizens the rights to free health care, education and "higher education on a competitive basis" at a time when the nation's hospitals, clinics, schools and universities lack the funds to pay either their staff or their utility bills on time. And you don't have to be Sherlock Holmes to figure out that those who are not paid by the state for their services often either demand payment from those they serve or perform those services in such a perfunctory manner that the client would have been better off staying at home. Pensions, guaranteed by the state, are well below the subsistence level.

When I raised this problem with one national deputy, he replied that all governments promise things they can't deliver. Politicians certainly do, especially in Ukraine – a country lacking the organizations of civil society that can compel politicians to keep their word to the group such an organization represents.

(Continued on page 18)

James E. Mace is professor of political science at the University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy.

CONVENTION '97: September 13-14th

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- \$5,000 Co-Chair Patron: Convention registration for 10, 2 premiere tables of 10 at Gala Dinner, 20 admissions to VIP private reception, full-page color Ad in program book.

Axworthy, Copps rescue Radio Canada International

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA – Canada's financially troubled foreign radio service may finally have a future.

On August 18, Foreign Affairs Minister Lloyd Axworthy and Canadian Heritage Minister Sheila Copps announced that their government would provide Radio Canada International with ongoing annual funding starting next year.

Late last year, Ms. Copps rescued RCI from extinction when she organized funding from four federal departments and agencies (Canadian Heritage, Foreign Affairs, National Defense and the Canadian International Development Agency) to support the radio network's \$16 million (about \$12 million U.S.) annual budget. However, the relief effort was only to last until March 31, 1998.

RCI broadcasts programming in five foreign languages – Ukrainian, Russian, Spanish, Mandarin and Arabic – throughout Europe, the Middle East, Latin America, Asia, the Caribbean and the United States. The international network is managed by the Canadian Broadcasting Corp. Foreign listeners pick up programs through short-wave radio, satellite or through their local broadcasters, who have partnership agreements with RCI.

In addition to sending two hours of daily broadcasts live by short-wave, RCI also has forged a cable partnership with Ukrainian state radio to transmit Canadian programming, and downlinks programs to several local stations in such metropolitan centers as Lviv and Kharkiv.

Mr. Axworthy said that in coming to RCI's aid, the federal Liberal government has undertaken an "ongoing commitment to the important role that RCI plays in increasing awareness and understanding of Canada and its citizens throughout the world."

Ottawa also has a stake in RCI's future.

According to Mr. Axworthy, the Canadian foreign radio service will become an "integral element" of Canada's International Information Strategy, which is designed to use the latest communications technologies, such as the Internet and other broadcast media, to promote Canada's foreign policy, trade and international development agenda.

Certainly, the federal government has an audience for its objectives, judging by the bagfuls of mail the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv receives from listeners of RCI's Ukrainian programs.

Andrii Marchenko, newly appointed assistant to Ambassador Volodymyr Furkalo in Ottawa, said RCI was useful to him when he worked at the Canadian desk at the Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry prior to his Canadian posting. "I learned things about Canada that I'm beginning to see now that I'm here," he said.

Mr. Marchenko said the fact that RCI broadcasts programming in Ukrainian helps connect Ukrainians with Canada. "Ukrainians are exposed to different foreign radio services, which often report a lot about what's going on in the United States, but very little about Canada. [RCI] tells them about Canada in their own language, such as coverage of the 1995 referendum in Quebec," he said.

But under this most recent rescue plan, RCI's future will only be safeguarded as long as Ottawa continues to show an interest in the service.

"The minister has made it clear that RCI funding is part of the government's existing fiscal framework that was provided for in the February federal budget," said Janet Bax, director of communications for Ms. Copps. "There's no way she or anyone else can say this formula will apply beyond the life of this government."

Prof. Petryshyn legally insane, not guilty of wife's murder

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — More than a year after noted painter and critic Arcadia Olenska-Petryshyn was found dead in her bedroom, her husband, former Rutgers University mathematics professor Walter Petryshyn, was found not guilty of her murder by reason of insanity.

The decision was handed down on August 11 by Superior Court Judge Barnett Hoffman in a New Brunswick, N.J., courtroom. Defense attorney Barry Albin had contended Prof. Petryshyn suffered from "severe psychotic depression," which had begun several months before the fatal assault.

On May 6, 1996, local police found Ms. Olenska-Petryshyn in the couple's home in North Brunswick, N.J., dead of injuries to her head, caused by a hammer, and arrested Prof. Petryshyn.

In a report carried by The Weekly last year following the incident, it was noted that Prof. Petryshyn had become increasingly despondent and remote after discovering an error in a math textbook he had published in 1995.

On August 12, the New Jersey Star-Ledger's court reporter quoted Mr. Albin, a Woodbridge, N.J.-based attorney with the firm of Wilentz, Goldman and Spitzer, telling Judge Hoffman that the academic had become convinced he would be "a laughingstock in the mathematics community," grossly exaggerating

the significance of the error.

Mr. Albin said Prof. Petryshyn began having delusions that his wife was conspiring to have him committed to a hospital, and that "he felt certain that was going to be the end of his freedom."

In the Star-Ledger item the attorney is quoted as saying that "it's really a tragic case of the raging effects of mental illness." Judge Hoffman added that it was "a very sad day."

The Star-Ledger reported that Middlesex County Prosecutor Thomas Kapsak agreed with Mr. Albin's contention, saying that four psychiatrists had examined Prof. Petryshyn and all of them had found him to be mentally ill.

Reached by The Weekly on August 20, Prosecutor Kapsak said the disturbed academic has been held at the Middlesex Adult County Correction Center since his arrest on the day of the tragic incident, except for a brief trip to a county psychologist's office.

Prosecutor Kapsak said Prof. Petryshyn has been handed over for examination in a state psychiatric hospital, where "it will be determined if he is a danger to himself and others, and what should be done with him from now on." A hearing will be held in about 30 to 60 days at which the formal decision on where Prof. Petryshyn is to be hospitalized will be made.

Mr. Kapsak said the case is now being treated as a civil, not a criminal matter. Mr. Albin did not return calls to his office.

U.S. representative to U.N. in Kyiv



Khristina Lew

U.S. Ambassador to the United Nations Bill Richardson (left) meets with Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko in Kyiv on August 20 to discuss the reorganization of the United Nations and U.S.-Ukraine bilateral relations. Ambassador Richardson congratulated Minister Udovenko on his "upcoming election to the United Nations," noting that it is a "great honor for Ukraine and the minister, who as a figure on the stage in Ukraine will now be a figure on the world stage." Minister Udovenko is scheduled to be elected president of the 52nd session of the U.N. General Assembly in September. Ambassador Richardson had been traveling through the Far East, Central Asia and Europe explaining U.S. support for the reform efforts of U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan when he paid his first visit to Ukraine on August 20. After meeting with the U.S. ambassador, Minister Udovenko said the United States supports expanding the U.N. Security Council, "which is in the interest of the Eastern European group to which Ukraine belongs." During his one day visit to Kyiv, Ambassador Richardson also met with Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko.

William Courtney appointed to NSC

WASHINGTON — William Harrison Courtney, once designated to be the U.S. envoy to Ukraine, has been named special assistant to the president and senior director for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasian Affairs, effective August 25. The announcement was made on July 25 by National Security Advisor Samuel Berger. Ambassador Courtney will succeed Steve Pifer.

Mr. Courtney has been ambassador to Georgia since 1995. Prior to that he was ambassador to Kazakhstan, co-chair of the U.S. delegation on Safety, Security and Dismantlement of Nuclear Weapons, and head of the U.S. delegation, with rank of ambassador, to the implementing commis-

sions established by the Threshold Test Ban and Peaceful Nuclear Explosions Treaties.

Earlier, he served in the Nuclear and Space Talks in Geneva and at the American Embassies in Moscow and Brasilia. He was an international affairs fellow at the Council of Foreign Relations and since 1972 has been a career foreign service officer.

A native of West Virginia, Ambassador Courtney is a graduate of West Virginia University and received a Ph.D. in economics from Brown University. He and his wife, Paula Feeny, have two young children.

Calgary judge receives promotion

by Nestor Gula

TORONTO — Justice Allen B. Sulatycky of Calgary was appointed a judge of the Court of Appeal of Alberta in Calgary on July 7. He replaces Justice R.P. Kerans, who resigned recently. Prior to this new appointment, Justice Sulatycky sat on the Court of the Queen's Bench of Alberta (the province's court of second instance).

Born in Hafford, Saskatchewan, Justice Sulatycky completed law school at the University of Saskatchewan in 1962 and was called to the Bar of Alberta in 1963. Speaking with The Weekly in a recent interview, Judge Sulatycky said, "I moved to Alberta primarily because there were more opportunities there at the time, and I had a cousin who practiced law there and another cousin, by marriage, who was a judge in Edmonton."

From 1968 to 1973, he served as a member of Parliament for the Liberal Party representing the Rocky Mountain riding, which is on the western edge of Alberta and

encompasses the Banff and Jasper national parks. As an MP in the government of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau, he served as parliamentary secretary to Energy, Mines, and Resources Minister Joe Green and later to Indian Affairs and Northern Development Minister Jean Chrétien, who is Canada's current prime minister.

He lost his seat in the election of October 30, 1972, to Progressive Conservative Joe Clark, who later became leader of his party and briefly served as prime minister of the country in 1979.

Judge Sulatycky was appointed to the Court of Queen's Bench of Alberta in 1982. Prior to his appointment he practiced law with the firm Parlee, Irving, Henning, Mustard and Rodney in Calgary.

While in Edmonton and Calgary, Judge Sulatycky was involved with the local chapters of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and the Ukrainian Professional and Business Association, but has curtailed his community activism since being appointed to the Bench.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A Shackled Media

Much has been written in the press about Ukraine's economy, or lack of it, alleged government corruption, alignment with NATO. However, rarely is the state of the medium that gives us information about Ukraine examined. Today the rights of the mass media in Ukraine balance precariously between independence guaranteed by Ukraine's Constitution and the government's desire to control it.

Serhiy Naboka, first vice-president of the Ukrainian Media Club based in Kyiv, writes in this issue that even with a Constitution that encodes freedom of speech and information in Ukraine, in the last year "there has been an increasing degradation of freedom of the press and information, and an increased influence over it on the part of government structures."

He is correct when he states that it is not overt censorship that stifles freedom of speech in the press in Ukraine, but "a soft, yet persistent form of ideological control over editorial direction." Simply put, it is the art of intimidation that the government is today practicing in Ukraine: write what you want, but be prepared to suffer the consequences.

Mr. Naboka writes of editors being dressed down for criticizing the government, of government subsidies granted to "favored" publications, of legislation that has been used to stifle the press.

At a seminar at Harvard University on the press and Ukraine, held in August, the renowned Canadian broadcast journalist, Viktor Malarek, said he sees the development of privately owned television stations in Ukraine as a plus that can only help develop and ensure a free press in Ukraine. Essentially that is true, but Mr. Malarek may have conditioned his remarks had he read Mr. Naboka's insightful article.

Although privately-held television stations exist in Ukraine, they are, for the most part, owned by people in government or those close to it. In a shrewd move, government officials or their proxies are buying up media outlets in order to be able to dictate editorial content; to control the press, and hence, control news and information that citizens receive, and we all know what that harks back to.

There is also the matter of deaths.

Most recently the editor-in-chief of Vecherniaya Odessa, Boris Derevianenko, was gunned down on his way to work in what is widely acknowledged as a contract murder. Unfortunately, gangland style hits are becoming common in Ukraine. Who does it and why is material for another entire editorial. What is important to mention here is that the Odesa Mayor's Office is the target of the investigation now being carried out by police officials.

Then there is the death of Petro Shevchenko, a Luhansk correspondent for the popular tabloid Kievskie Viedomosti, who traveled to Kyiv in the spring of this year to collect his pay and was found hanging in an abandoned building near the central train station. The Security Service of Ukraine says Mr. Shevchenko committed suicide. His family and friends say he exhibited no telltale signs for such action. Coincidentally, (or not) he was investigating corruption in the Secret Service ranks of Luhansk at the time of his death.

There are other cases of death, beatings, physical intimidation, phoned threats. Here the point is not that the government is to blame for every one of these acts, or none of them. It is that President Leonid Kuchma's government must make a priority of identifying and bringing to justice those who are perpetrating crimes that are leaving journalists feeling exposed and vulnerable. That would be a good first step towards a show of support for freedom of the press.

The New York-based Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) has expressed its grave concern about the murder of the Vecherniaya Odessa editor Derevianenko in a letter addressed to President Kuchma, Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Kravchenko and other government figures. The organization's executive editor, William A. Orme Jr., states that "the CPJ has become increasingly disturbed at the number of threats, beatings and killings of journalists in Ukraine, most of which have not been thoroughly investigated. It is the responsibility of the local and national governments of Ukraine to guarantee that journalists are able to work without retaliation. Such apparent intimidation indicated by the attacks on Vecherniaya Odessa and other Ukrainian newspapers only serves to stifle press freedom, in blatant disregard for Ukraine's international obligations regarding free and safe practice of journalism."

We wholeheartedly agree.

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Turning the pages back...

Oleksander Marynych served as the Ukrainian SSR's minister of education for most of the 1970s (1971-1979), surviving the ouster of Soviet Ukraine's controversial premier, Petro

Shelest, in 1972, continuing to work for Mr. Shelest's successor, Volodymyr Shcherbytsky. Mr. Marynych is a geographer and geomorphologist and a member of Ukraine's Academy of Science since 1969.

He graduated from Kazan (Russia) University in 1942, and after World War II, he taught at Kyiv University, serving as dean of the geography faculty (1956-1968) and head of the department of physical geography. In 1964 he was elected president of the Geographical Society of the Ukrainian SSR. Mr. Marynych specializes in physical geography and geomorphology of Ukraine and the rational use of the environment. He has written two books on the physical geography of Polissia (1982) and co-authored books on the physical geography of Ukraine (1985) and environmental protection of the Middle Dnipro region (1986). He is the editor-in-chief of the three-volume "Heohrafichna Ensyclopedia Ukrainy" (Geographic Encyclopedia of Ukraine), which began to appear in 1989 in Kyiv.

Source: "Marynych, Oleksander," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 3 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UACC head remarks on reception

Dear Editor:

In regard to the Ukrainian American community's recent dinner with President Leonid Kuchma, which was the subject of an editorial on July 20 and the focus of several letters to the editor written in response, I, too, would like to take a stand.

First, it should be noted that the dinner was sponsored jointly by Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council. As originally envisioned the guest list was to include 15 representatives each from the UCCA and UACC, 10 from the non-aligned organizations, plus the president and his delegation. It was to be an intimate gathering, meant for a frank exchange of ideas and opinions between Ukrainian American community leaders and the president of Ukraine.

However, due to last-minute pressures, the size of the group more than doubled. The original intent of the dinner was forgotten. UACC stood steadfast and did not enlarge its delegation.

Ulana M. Diachuk
Rutherford, N.J.

The letter writer is president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council

Fiascos will reduce influence of diaspora

Dear Editor:

While I essentially still believe that the diaspora is quickly becoming irrelevant, I also believe that some of the points raised by letter writers in reaction to the July 20 editorial to the editor are well taken.

First, President Leonid Kuchma is not running for public office in the United States. He is not looking for votes here. If he has to press hands and kiss babies in the worst backwaters of Ukraine that is one thing. To submit him to that here at the Harvard Club is quite another. The event was held in full view not only of the local Ukrainian community but also at a major venue in the so-called world capital and it could have led to a truly major embarrassment.

At the same time we must acknowledge that there are many older people here in the diaspora who dedicated their whole life to working for, and dreaming about, a free and prosperous Ukraine. We should not only not exclude them from meeting with the most important digni-

taries from Ukraine, but find ways of including them in such events. A meeting with the press is one thing and a meeting with the demos is another. The visit of President Kuchma to Little Ukraine in New York on his first official visit to the United States several years ago was dignified and touching.

I use many simple analogies to explain the differences between Russians and Ukrainians. I tell Americans that Ukrainians are Breughel-like, that is, exuberant and hearty and joyful about life. The Russians are van Dyckian, that is formal, staid, pompous and somewhat dogmatic. Now that we have a nation we must learn to be formal and proper in the proper venue. Some of us will never learn, unfortunately, because we never had the opportunity. Meetings with the president are not the place to learn. Nor must all meetings be open to all comers.

Dignified meetings with dignitaries from Ukraine will serve the local diaspora and Ukraine well. Fiascos will only reduce the influence of the diaspora at a time when Ukraine may need its help more than its government officials realize or are willing to admit.

Bohdan Oryshkevich
New York

Editorial reflects majority opinion

Dear Editor:

Regarding Askold Lozynskyj's response to The Ukrainian Weekly's July 20 editorial, I would like to note that the editorial reflected the opinion of the majority of Ukrainian Americans in the New York area, particularly its intelligentsia and scholars. Yes, Mr. Lozynskyj well understands the opinions of the hromada; unfortunately he believes in "positive criticism" only. In essence he mim-

ics the thinking of many totalitarian leaders who never tolerated criticism in any form (instead punishing their critics in places like the gulag).

The Weekly's editorial did correctly reflect the unpleasant reality of the situation surrounding the reception of President Kuchma. Democracy is built on the foundation of public opinion, freedom of the press and freedom of speech (including open criticism).

Therefore, I find Mr. Lozynskyj's uncultured reaction to be quite strange.

Eugene Stakhiv
Waldwick, N.J.

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.

NEWS AND VIEWS: UNICEF reports on childhood and motherhood in Ukraine

by Olga Stawnychy

CONCLUSION

Ukraine's children are its future, and how they develop physically, mentally and emotionally will impact the well-being of the entire nation and the world. The planners of economic reform in Ukraine have overlooked the welfare needs of millions of vulnerable children during this transition period.

The greatest gap between economic progress and social impoverishment is seen in the deteriorating position of the children in public care. These are the children whose parent, in effect, is the state.

In launching the report, "Children at Risk in Central and Eastern Europe: Peril and Promises," John Donohue, director of the UNICEF regional office for Central and Eastern Europe, the CIS and the Baltic states, stated that many difficulties have stood in the way of major improvement in institutional care and more humane options for children without parental care. Over 1 million children in the region are being abandoned to state care.

Many families have had to cope with a devastating deterioration in their material conditions. It might have been expected that families would pull together in times of crisis. Instead, the tremendous pressures of the transition appear to be splitting them apart and eroding parental responsibility. The divorce rate has increased, and fewer divorced fathers provide regular support to their families. Skills, social values and coping strategies developed in earlier decades have proved vastly inadequate. Poverty and social dislocation have put enormous burdens on families who often have limited capacity or experience in taking responsibility for their children's welfare, traditionally the task of state authorities. Child monitoring mechanisms, including those normally expected in school and health systems, have been eroded and are in need of reform.

Children in especially difficult circumstances must be the focus of special attention from the state, according to the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The children belonging to this group are: orphaned and abandoned children, children whose parents are unemployed, children who must work, children who have suffered from ecological disasters, runaways, and drug and alcohol abusers.

In Ukraine, according to the national report, "Childhood and Motherhood," there are 90,000 orphaned children and children deprived of parental care. Of this number, only 7 percent are true orphans; the rest have parents who have abandoned them or who have been removed from them by the court due to their inability to provide care, imprisonment or long-term medical care. About 1 percent of these are abandoned by the mother hours after birth because they lack the means to support the child, or are imprisoned, or due to the newborn's illness.

The institutions currently in existence in Ukraine are based on the 19th century model of socialism and were set up as a child-rescue institutions for destitute and neglected children. Large-scale collectivist rather than individualized care and a belief that the state could readily replace the family were its distinguishing features. This approach is totally unsuited to meet the child protection needs of the 20th century, incapable of safeguarding children and families from the social

and economic shocks of transition in a post-communist society.

In the last 50 years there have been many changes in approaches to substitute care for children in Western societies. There was a shift from large-scale institutional upbringing to smaller scale residential care and an emphasis on offering, whenever possible, the chance to be placed in foster homes. There are also programs to strengthen the natural family to prevent its breakdown and in this way reduce the need for substitute care.

New methods of raising children have been developed in Ukraine with the establishment of family homes where orphans are raised within families. In 1996, 572 orphans were placed in 74 "family children's houses." According to Suzanna Stanik, former minister of Youth and Family in Ukraine (who has just been named minister of justice), this alternative is working well and is better for the children. Unfortunately this arrangement is available only to a very small number of children, while there are 90,000 in state care.

Children living in institutional care are the most vulnerable of all those separated from their families. In the past these children constituted a forgotten underclass whose voice to the outside world was not heard. Many of these institutions house 150 to 600 children, who, as a result, often lose all contact with family, friends and the community. Institutional care stunts the capacity of children to bond and form deep and lasting relationships. It does not prepare children to take their place in the outside world and often produces serious delays in cognitive development.

Orphans often display particular emotional traits: they develop an inferiority complex, a weak ego, impulsive behavior and lack the ability to appraise adults, their peers and the world. These children have specific developmental needs that must be addressed in special education establishments.

Over 160,000 children live in 830 boarding schools in Ukraine. Of these 51,000 are orphaned. There is a continual increase in the number of families unable to support their children and no concomitant increase in the number of boarding schools to care for them. Many of the existing buildings are in need of renovation; 100 schools have no sewage or running water, and every fourth one needs complete renovation.

Boarding schools also are experiencing difficulties in terms of rehabilitation, recreation and medical services, especially for disabled children. Children with disabilities are of particular concern because the attitude of the public towards disabilities remains one of ignorance, contempt, prejudice and fear. These children are often isolated, and their families receive little assistance medically, economically or socially.

There has been a steady increase in children's disabilities in the 90s. This is due to the increase in hereditary diseases and problem pregnancies and births. Hereditary diseases are difficult to treat after birth. Between 1992 and 1995, the incidence of birth defects doubled. Disorders of the nervous system are the most common form of disability (43 percent) followed by psychiatric mental disorders (24 percent) and those resulting from congenital diseases (14 percent). Efforts need to be made for early rehabilitation (from the moment of birth) of children with disabilities and in high-risk

(Continued on page 14)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Will NGOs save Ukraine?

In the minds of many U.S. government officials, the future of Central and Eastern Europe (CEE) depends on the ability of the people to organize themselves into non-governmental organizations or NGOs.

NGOs are private associations, federations, unions, societies, and groups not founded or funded by the government. When it comes to servicing the poor, providing low cost services, building grassroots organizations, and adapting or creating innovative programs to meet local needs, it is clear that in many instances, NGOs can often accomplish more than government agencies.

Old-line NGOs in our community are the Ukrainian National Association and the Selfreliance Federal Credit Unions.

Voluntarism is as American as apple pie. It is a unique American way of getting things done, an integral part of our civil society. Alexis de Tocqueville noticed this as early as 1832 and wrote about it in Democracy in America, his classic critique of life in the United States. "Americans of all ages, all conditions, and all dispositions, constantly form associations," he wrote. "They have not only commercial and manufacturing companies, in which all take part, but associations of a thousand other kinds — religious, moral, serious, futile, general or restricted, enormous or diminutive. The Americans make associations to give entertainments, to found seminaries, to build inns, to construct churches, to diffuse books to send missionaries to the antipodes; they found in this manner hospitals, prisons, or schools. If it be proposed to inculcate some truth, or to foster some feeling by the encouragement of a great example, they form a society."

The aristocratic de Tocqueville was aware of the difficulties individuals living in a democracy faced in attaining power. All citizens are independent and feeble, he wrote. "They all, therefore, become powerless, if they do not learn voluntarily to help each other... If men living in democratic countries had no right and no inclination to associate for political purposes, their independence would be in great jeopardy; but they might long preserve their wealth and cultivation: whereas, if they never acquired the habit of forming associations in ordinary life, civilization itself would be endangered."

Believing that civic development is an essential element in economic stability and the preservation of democratic institutions, the U.S. government, various research and think tanks, and numerous foundations have poured billions of dollars into the creation of NGOs in CEE, all since 1989. To keep track of all this funding there is even a newsletter titled NGO News which strives to keep everyone informed of what is going on.

One organization involved in the development of NGOs in Ukraine is the Counterpart Service Center (CSC), headquartered in Washington, and funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID).

More familiar to Ukrainian Americans is the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation which was recently awarded a grant of 6.9 million dollars for a three year program titled "U.S.-Ukraine Community Partnerships for Training and Education." The goal of the program, according to Infolink, "is to provide efficient, cost-effective and sustainable technical assistance, training and education to Ukrainian communities so that they may

advance their role as constructive players in a democratic society." I'm not sure I understand what that means, but it sure sounds wonderful.

There is no doubt that NGOs are a viable part of a country like the United States where the government is constituted to protect our rights under the law. How effective can NGOs be, however, in a nation where there exists, as one commentator has described it, "an incoherent state tenuously connected to a demoralized society?" How can NGOs be expected to function when the government is fragmented, barely solvent, and apparently unaccountable to the citizenry?

Another question: Can there be a strong civil society in a nation that has no middle-class, where the rich have no sense of noblesse oblige (focusing only on themselves), the poor are too tired, disillusioned and powerless to act, and where the civilization is endangered because Ukrainians have not "acquired the habit of forming associations in ordinary life?"

Even if a civil society is created, it is not necessarily a guarantee of a strong democratic government. In an article titled "Civil Society and the Collapse of the Weimar Republic," (cited in the Wilson Quarterly, Summer, 1997), Sheri Berman argues that civil society flourished in 19th century Germany and grew even stronger during the 1920s under the democratic Weimar Republic. "As middle-class Germans became frustrated with the failures of the national government ... they threw themselves into their clubs, voluntary associations, and professional organizations," she writes. This "not only deflected the citizen's energies from the politics and government, further weakening the republic's democratic institutions, but also provided the Nazis with a golden opportunity."

The Nazis infiltrated various voluntary organizations and used the talents of the people there as channels for spreading their message. Ms. Berman concludes that without strong and responsive political institutions, a vigorous civil society of the type championed by latter-day Tocquevilleans, can actually undermine liberal democracy.

Since Ukraine has no large middle-class as yet, and few viable, self-sustaining, and independent NGOs, there is little danger of a takeover by anybody. But what happens down the line when powerful NGOs do appear? What's to prevent the Communists from infiltrating them? They've done it before. Since most of the NGOs depend on terminal grants, what happens once grant money runs out? Will NGOs be able to maintain an independent existence?

The basic premise underlying NGOs is a sound one. They provide a significant first step towards the creation of a civil society. "Civil associations ... facilitate political association," wrote de Tocqueville, "but on the other hand, political association singularly strengthens and improves associations for civil purposes." In other words, there can be no meaningful civil society without political involvement by the citizenry.

Today Ukraine's citizenry remains politically lethargic. They need a jump-start to get them off their bottoms. Let's hope the people associated with U.S.-Ukraine Foundation can provide it. The emergence of a civil society in Ukraine depends on it.

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

Ms. Stawnychy is the WFUWO's NGO representative to the United Nations and UNICEF.

Ukrainians from 46 countries represented at World Forum

by **Khristina Lew**
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Despite calls from leaders of Ukrainian organizations worldwide to work in a coordinated fashion for the good of Ukraine, the second World Forum of Ukrainians held in Kyiv on August 21-24 ended in conflict to the strains of Ukraine's national anthem "Shche Ne Vmerla Ukraina."

The four-day forum, titled "In Cooperation and Unity We Enter the 21st Century," brought together Ukrainians from 46 countries to review the work of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council (UWCC), the umbrella body for Ukrainian organizations worldwide created at the first World Forum of Ukrainians, which was held in Kyiv as well, in August 1992, and to chart a course of organizational activity into the 21st century.

The event was jointly organized by the UWCC, a government committee created to organize the event and the Ukraina Society, an organization that maintains ties with Ukrainians in the diaspora.

The 650 delegates, 200 from the Eastern diaspora, 200 from the Western diaspora and 250 from Ukraine, and over 1,000 invited guests met in plenary sessions at the Ukraina Palace of Culture, worked in sections and roundtables at Kyiv State University, attended concerts, viewed films and participated in an ecumenical prayer service to mark the sixth anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

Most of the activity centered around two days of work in sections and roundtables that focused on issues of concern to the Ukrainian diaspora and community leaders in Ukraine: the protection of ethnic identity; the role of the diaspora in facilitating economic ties between Ukraine and other countries; cooperation between the diaspora and Ukraine in the sphere of science; the Ukrainian women's movement and problems encountered in Ukrainian families; ecology, health and Ukrainian medicine; the spiritual unification of Ukraine's Churches; Ukraine's national security; youth; the Ukrainian language; and legal and political issues that affect Ukrainians

worldwide.

The work of the forum was disorganized. Delegates arriving at their Left Bank hotels on August 20 waited three hours to officially register for the event; activities were canceled and venues changed with no further information; tickets for the Independence Day gathering, concerts and banquets were hard to come by; voting procedures at the plenary session were ambiguous.

The second World Forum of Ukrainians was officially opened on August 21, and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma gave a 40-minute state-of-the-state address. Mr. Kuchma outlined Ukraine's achievements and shortcomings, urged all Orthodox Churches in Ukraine to unite into one Church, called upon Ukrainians in the West to facilitate economic cooperation between Ukraine and their respective countries, and encouraged the Western diaspora to work more closely with the Eastern diaspora in creating schools and assisting in the promotion of the Ukrainian language.

The Ukrainian President reminded the audience that "since 1991, Ukrainians abroad stopped becoming a diaspora without a nation" and applauded the efforts of Ukrainians in the West who maintained their Ukrainian identity.

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz acknowledged forum delegates, "some of whom represent organizations such as the Ukrainian National Association, which is 100 years old," as the "message-bearers to the world about Ukraine's potential." The delegate who represented the Ukrainian National Association was Wolodymyr Sochan, also a member of the forum's Nominating Committee.

Ivan Drach, head of both the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council and the Ukraina Society, gave a rousing speech in which he criticized Ukraine's former prime ministers, "who have aspirations of becoming the next Ukrainian president," and criticized the Ukrainian contingent of the UWCC (the council has 14 representatives from Ukraine, and 14 representatives each from the Eastern and Western diaspora) and the government committee created to orga-

nize the forum, which could only afford to pay 20 people to organize the event.

"Many people feel that we live not in a democracy, but in an untransformed remnant of the former Soviet Union. The Ukrainian state will not be built by the president, or the Verkhovna Rada, or the government. We alone can build the Ukrainian state," he said.

The forum was then addressed by leaders of the larger umbrella organizations, among them: Dr. Dmytro Cipiwnyk, president, World Congress of Ukrainians; Oksana Bryzhun-Sokolyk, president, World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations; Juriy Rejt, chairman, European Congress of Ukrainians; Askold Lozynskyj, president, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Dr. Bohdan Shebunchak, chairman of the National Council of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council; and Oleksander Rudenko-Desniak, head of the Association of Ukrainians in Russia.

Notable was the address of Mr. Rudenko-Desniak who chastised forum participants for not following through on commitments made to the Eastern diaspora at the first World Forum of Ukrainians.

The remainder of the day and the following day were devoted to work in sections and roundtables.

The forum convened its concluding plenary session on August 23, during which time each section and roundtable put forth its recommendations and resolutions. Almost every section and roundtable recommended that the Ukrainian government recognize the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists-Ukrainian Insurgent Army (OUN-UPA) as a warring side against the Soviets and Germans in the second world war.

Mykhailo Horyn, representing the resolutions committee, then proposed that every recommendation and resolution proposed by the sections and roundtables be accepted as official documents of the forum, and his proposal was approved.

Mr. Horyn read the 11-page resolution of the second World Forum of Ukrainians, which called for, among other things: the use of the Ukrainian language in all

spheres of life; both the Eastern and Western diaspora's assistance in creating a positive image of Ukraine; and assistance to Ukrainians in the Eastern diaspora.

A majority of delegates voted to approve the resolution with applause. After the approval of the resolution, National Deputy Slava Stetsko proposed that government recognition of OUN-UPA should be included in the general resolution. Mr. Horyn reminded her that the forum had approved a measure to treat all recommendations and resolutions of sections and roundtables as official documents of the forum, not resolutions from the floor.

Mr. Lozynskyj then proposed that recognition of OUN-UPA be included in the general resolution. His proposal was approved.

From that point on, streams of delegates approached the podium to put forth additional resolutions. On several occasions Mykola Zhulynskyi, head of the Nominating Committee, attempted to approach the podium to put forth a list of candidates for the new leadership of the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council. In an attempt to assist Mr. Zhulynskyi, Mr. Lozynskyj blocked other people from having access to the microphone in order to let Mr. Zhulynskyi address the forum.

Mr. Zhulynskyi proposed a list of 14 candidates each from Ukraine, the Eastern diaspora and the Western diaspora as one slate. Delegates objected, insisting that they wanted to vote for each group of candidates separately.

When the vote was called, it was not clear whether those who raised their hands in support of the single slate of candidates were delegates or simply guests. A little more than half of the auditorium voted to approve the candidates. When objections began to be raised about the voting procedure, the Ukrainian national anthem was played on the public announcement system, and the plenary session was officially closed.

Delegates then attended a concert and closing banquet attended by Vice Prime Minister Valerii Smolii and Yevhen Kushniarov, head of the President's administration.

Ukrainian Museum offers progress report on building project

by **Roman Hawrylak**

NEW YORK — In order to provide its public with information concerning the building of a new museum facility on East Sixth Street in New York City, the Board of Trustees of The Ukrainian Museum utilizes broad means of communication including the media. The following is a summary of what has already been accomplished and what is scheduled for the next few months.

The building committee of the board works closely with George Sawicki (Greenfield, Sawicki, Tarella, Architects, PC), the architect developing the new museum project following several years of preparatory work and raising funds. Efforts are now proceeding at an accelerated pace in order to bring the project to its realization. Although the old building on Sixth Street still remains in its original state, with only a prominent sign announcing the site as the new home of the Museum, much progress on the project has already been made.

Until now only the interior of the existing structure was demolished in order to ascertain the conditions of the foundation and interior framework of the building. This occurred in the fall of 1996 and was one of the first tasks in the project following the signing of the contract with the architect on June 22, 1996.

Subsequently the building committee began to work with the architect on various detailed aspects of the project, which included considerations of the museum's special needs, determining the layout to specifications of the interior, and completing the specifics of the design of the facade. This was a lengthy process, since

it involved dealing with the special requirements of the museum, as well as with the space and budget limitations of the project.

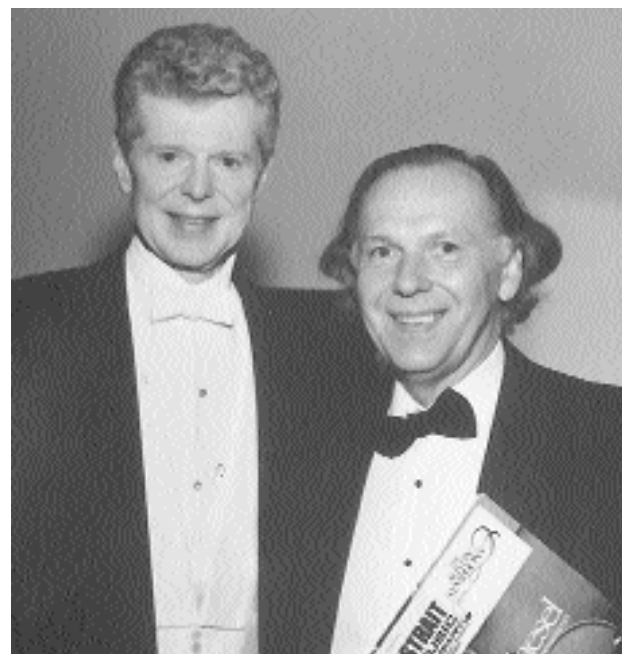
From June 1996 to this day, the committee held twelve marathon sessions with the architect, during which the above mentioned topics and problems were dealt with diligently and with careful attention to countless details. On March 8, 1997, the final architectural design plans were approved by the board.

Currently, the architect, working with structural, electrical, mechanical and HVAC (heating, ventilation and air conditioning) engineers, is working to design the final construction plans and documents according to which the new museum facility will be built. This phase of the project is expected to be completed by the end of August 1997, at which time the plans will be presented to New York City officials for review and approval. A list of contractors who will be asked to submit their bids for the job of building the new museum facility is being prepared, from which one will be selected.

It is expected that the contract with the winning bidder will be signed in September and construction of the building will begin in the fall. The construction phase is expected to last about ten months and optimistically, at the end of 1998, The Ukrainian Museum in New York City will have a new home.

Intensive work was being done on the building project for a very long time although at the actual site there was little evidence of such. However this work, carried out behind the scenes, so to speak, was very necessary because the requirements of a museum building are very complex. It was necessary to take the time to do the job thoroughly, because changes implemented after the approval of architectural plans are extremely costly.

Concertmaster Gratoich hosts Van Cliburn in Texas



AUSTIN, Texas — Ukrainian concert violinist Eugene Gratoich (right) chats with pianist Van Cliburn after a concert here. Dr. Gratoich is associate concertmaster of the Austin Symphony Orchestra, which featured Maestro Cliburn as soloist. In February, Dr. Gratoich will perform with his wife, pianist Sylvia Golmon, on a tour of northern Italy, Slovenia, and Austria. Both have recorded Ukrainian folk music and romantic classical music for Yevshan Records.

Mr. Hawrylak is the chairman of the building committee of The Ukrainian Museum.

CELEBRATIONS AND COMMEMORATIONS OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak hosts celebrations in Washington

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON — The Ukrainian Embassy marked the sixth anniversary of Ukraine's independence with a ceremony at the Taras Shevchenko Monument in the nation's capital and a reception at the embassy.

On August 22, Ambassador Yuri Shcherbak led a large delegation of Ukrainian diplomats to the Ukrainian poet's monument erected here in 1964 by the Ukrainian American community. Assisted by the Embassy's press and cultural attaché Natalia Zarudna, he placed a basket of flowers at the foot of the monument and spoke about the importance of the anniversary to the gathered diplomats and a small group of Ukrainian Americans that came to be part the event.

"We came to remind ourselves of that which is lasting and undying, to attest to our determination to build a free and independent Ukraine," Ambassador Shcherbak said.

"Six years is but a brief moment in the history of mankind," he said, "but it is a part of a long, never-ending journey toward Ukrainian independence. For hundreds of years the Ukrainian people yearned for independence. Millions of people died for an independent Ukraine, and only six years ago were we able to renew our nationhood," he said.

Ambassador Shcherbak pointed out that he had just returned from a meeting in Kyiv of Ukraine's ambassadors and consul generals. Together with the foreign minister, he said, they visited Taras Shevchenko's grave in Kaniv, to reunite with Ukraine's "mighty spiritual roots" that grew into the Cherkassian soil.

Another demonstration of Ukrainians coming together was taking place in Kyiv at the Second World Forum of Ukrainians, he said, where representatives of Ukrainians living in 46 countries were affirming the reunification of a people, artificially divided and scattered around the world throughout Ukraine's long history.

"The differences between Ukrainians who grew up in Ukraine and those who were raised on foreign soil but



The statue of a beloved poet stands above the guests of the embassy who gathered to commemorate independence.

remained Ukrainian are diminishing," he said. "We are proud to now be a part of one, undivided people."

"Standing as we are in front of the statue of the young poet, the young revolutionary, a man who suffered much and became the sacred shrine of all that is Ukrainian, let us pledge to do all that we can to ensure that Ukraine will forever remain an independent nation," Ambassador Shcherbak said.

The ambassador expressed his country's gratitude to the Ukrainian American community for the moral, spiritual as

well as material support it has constantly given Ukraine, and he invited those present to join in the anniversary reception, which was held that evening at the Embassy.

On Independence Day, August 24th, the Washington Ukrainian American community marked the anniversary with a special program at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral hall, at which Mr. Shcherbak spoke, and at an annual picnic, sponsored jointly by The Washington Group, an association of Ukrainian-American professionals, and the Self-Reliance Baltimore Federal Credit Union.

Toronto's Ukrainians celebrate with festival, parade in Bloor West Village

by Nestor Gula

TORONTO — Ukrainians in Toronto have a new festival to mark Ukraine's independence.

The first annual Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival was held on August 23 under skies that continuously threatened rain. For the most part, the rain held off and the thousands of people who regularly shop in the Bloor West Village, and the many more who came down especially for the festival, were treated to a unique festival. The area has a large population of Ukrainians and many Ukrainian-owned stores.

The festival began with a parade down Bloor Street, a major artery in Toronto. The street was partially shut down to accommodate the parade. Leading the parade were the Governor General's Horse Guard, some of whom were dressed in Kozak garb, and bringing up the rear, the Ramses Shriners. In between were marching bands, Baturyn, Avantgarde and the multi-ethnic York Lions Steel Band; the Vesnianka, Barvinok, Hurtovyina and Desna Dance companies; a model train (sponsored by the Ukrainian Canadian School Board-Toronto Branch) filled with children dressed in various costumes; a host of local politicians (municipal elections loom in Toronto this fall) and a host of other floats representing various local Ukrainian Canadian organizations.

The festival proper was held in a parking lot next to the medical center at the corner of Jane and Bloor streets, where a stage was built. The lot featured a beer garden, with suds provided by the Ukrainian-owned Hogtown Brewing Co., a varenyky stand run by activists of Ukrainian Canadian Social Services, and other concession stands.

About 3,000 people crammed into the parking lot to see the show, ably hosted by Michael Luchka of the Kontakt television program and Renata Duma-Jaciw of the Svitohliad television program. The stage show, which ran every hour-and-a-half featured the dance groups Vesnianka, Desna and Barvinok, the Ukrainian folk band Hopak, Happy the Clown and comedian Ihor Baczynskij.

Greg Blynsniuk, who came to see the festival from Mississauga, said that he met his wife at the Ukrainian Day festival, formerly held at Ontario Place on Toronto's Lakeshore. He said, "This weekend is very special for us. I think it's a great idea to hold the festival in the Bloor West

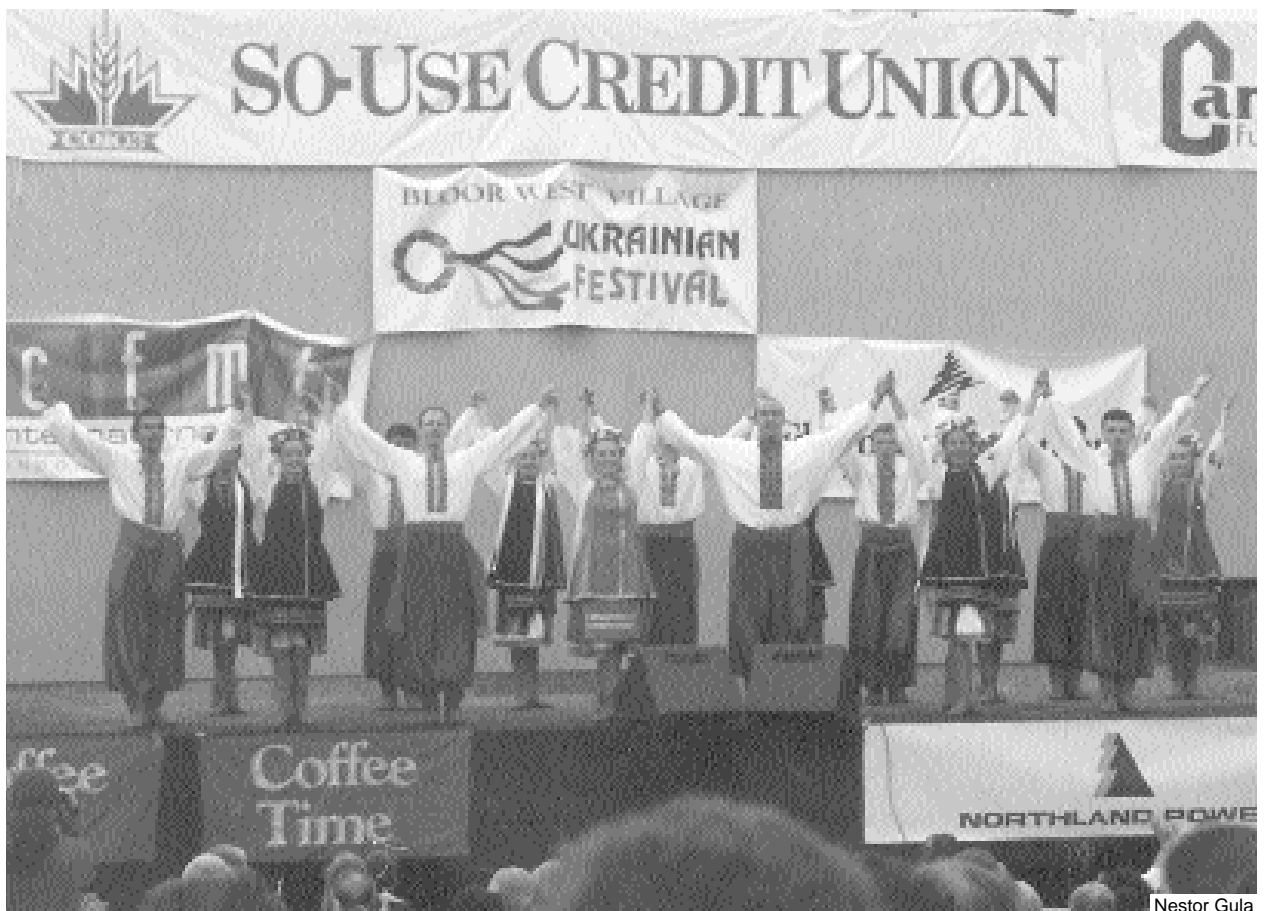
Village." Mr. Blynsniuk added that, "this is going to give the Ukrainian community and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress a good chance to form ties with other ethno-cultural groups."

The chairman of the festival's organizing committee, Jurij Klufas, said the idea to hold the festival cropped up about three years ago and the actual planning started in November 1996.

"We are treating this as the first step," says Mr. Klufas, who is also the executive producer of the Ukrainian television show Kontakt, "we eventually want to get to the point

where we can close down Bloor Street between Runnymede and Jane."

For next year, Mr. Klufas plans to get more sponsors and organizations involved in the festival. He said the Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival would not have succeeded if it were not for the volunteers. "There were tons of them. The most important volunteers were from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, which was 100 percent behind the idea. Mary Lopata [executive director of the UCC's Toronto branch] did an extraordinary job. Mrs. Olia Grod and Mrs. Luba Zaraska also helped out considerably."



The Vesnianka Dance ensemble's "Mnohaya Lita" performance for Ukraine at the festival.

CELEBRATIONS AND COMMEMORATIONS OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE



Ukraine celebrates...

(Continued from page 1)

France and Poland, including Ulana Diachuk, president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Julian Kulas, president, First Security F.S.B. in Chicago, and Bohdan Watral, president, Selfreliance F.C.U. in Chicago.

Throughout the summer, the Presidential Administration Building had been swathed in blue-and-yellow tarps, as craftsmen removed the hammer and sickle emblem adorning its facade. Replacing the symbol of the Soviet Union will be the Great State Emblem of Ukraine, whose status has yet to be confirmed by a two-thirds constitutional majority of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada.

On the afternoon of August 22, Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko addressed an official Independence Day gathering of Cabinet ministers, national deputies and delegates to the second World Forum of Ukrainians at the Ukraina Palace of Culture.

In the 30-minute address, his first public policy speech since being appointed prime minister, Mr. Pustovoitenko highlighted Ukraine's achievements in the past six years and outlined its goals for the future. "Democratic Ukraine has taken its rightful place in the world. We didn't emerge in Europe in 1991, we have always been here," he said.

The prime minister said Ukraine must expand into the world marketplace by strengthening economic relations with its CIS neighbors, the Group of Seven industrial states, Europe, Asia and Latin America.

"Our goal is become the true regional leader in Central and Eastern Europe," he emphasized.

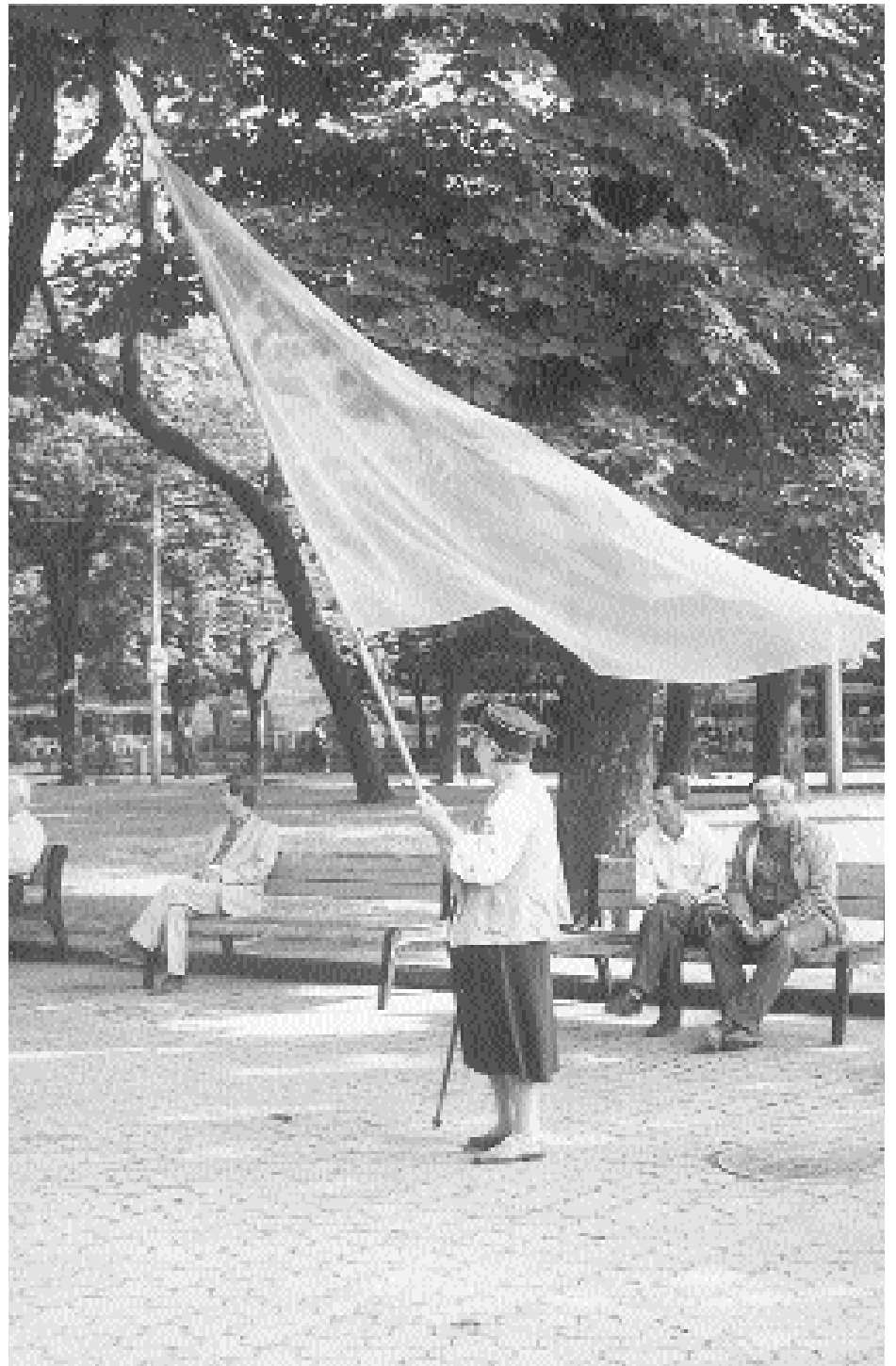
The focus of the new Cabinet of Ministers, he said, will be to increase radical economic reform, accelerate the privatization process, eliminate government wastefulness, streamline administrative structures, strengthen the social safety net, and reform the tax system, the agro-industrial complex and the technological sector.

Mr. Pustovoitenko pointed out that Ukraine's gravest problem is its indebtedness to its workers and pensioners, and announced that in August, 1.2 billion hryvnia have been allocated to pay back wages and pensions. Ukraine's pensioners, veterans and government-supported Chernobyl victims number four million people.

The prime minister said the government has "no illusions of returning to Soviet times," and that Ukraine will follow its own formula of transforming into a market economy. "These tasks that we have set for ourselves are complicated and far reaching. If we want to live in a democratic, legal state, we must build it. No one will do this for us," he stated.

Mr. Pustovoitenko's address was followed by a celebratory concert.

In recognition of Ukraine's sixth anniversary of independence, President Kuchma received telegrams of congratulations from U.S. President Bill Clinton, U.N. Secretary-General Kofi Annan, Austrian President Thomas Klestil, Italian President Luigi Scalfaro, German President Roman Herzog, Latvian President Guntis Ulmanis, Armenian President Levon Ter-Petrosian and other presidents of countries within the Commonwealth of Independent States.



Images of Independence: Ukraine begins its seventh year

Western Ukraine has doggedly and persistently fought for Ukraine's independence from various foreign regimes. The sixth anniversary dawned bright and sunny, as those in western Ukraine solemnly and joyfully marked their holiday of independence.

▢ In Lviv's center, at the memorial dedicated to poet Taras Shevchenko, people came forward all day to place flowers at the base of the bard's statue (upper left).

▢ The Ukrainian flag of gold and blue flew throughout the city in various sizes - from the tiny ribbons pinned to the dresses and shirts of children, to flowing banners three times the size of the bearers (above).

▢ Komu Vnyz (upper right) has become one of the favorite rock bands of young Ukrainians. On a balmy summer evening they performed to an enthusiastic concert audience of 15,000 at Lviv's Ukraina Stadium.

▢ At the starting line-up, the first several dozen runners all jointly held the edges of a huge Ukrainian flag above their heads. But after the starting gun, it was a matter of each runner for himself (and an occasional herself) as the 400 participants of the annual "Halychyna" independence day marathon (center right) took off from the center of the city for a run through outlying villages, to return back to the city center to the cheers of friends and family.

▢ Ukrainian artisans displayed and sold their wares at the Shevchenkivskyi Hai open-air museum (lower right), a favorite gathering place for families on the outskirts of Lviv, as grandparents and parents and children wandered through the several hundred acres of meadows that are dotted with cottages representing Ukrainian village life in the 18th, 19th and early 20th centuries.

Photos by Khristina Lew

CELEBRATIONS AND COMMEMORATIONS OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE



Torontonians greet former President Leonid Kravchuk

by Nestor Gula

TORONTO — Former Ukrainian President Leonid Kravchuk was the keynote speaker as the Ukrainian community celebrated the sixth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine at the St. Volodymyr Cultural Center in Oakville, Ontario, about 30 miles from Toronto.

Under sunny skies over 3,000 people gathered to attend an ecumenical service and to see a concert that featured an address by Ukraine's first democratically elected president.

Mr. Kravchuk said he was happy to celebrate the sixth anniversary of Ukraine's independence in Canada because of all the help this community has given Ukraine. He said that while Ukraine is currently experiencing deep fiscal, social and political difficulties, "I'm convinced that these problems will be erased from our memories as time advances and all that will be remembered is the great step forward the Ukrainian nation took on August 24, 1991."

The former president then recounted the events that led to the declaration of Ukrainian independence on that day. He said the key was the July 16, 1990, declaration of Ukrainian sovereignty by Parliament, "of which 90 percent of the members were communists." Mr. Kravchuk added that most of the deputies assumed that sovereignty meant sovereignty within the USSR, and said it was amazing that within a year so much had changed that Ukraine was able to achieve its independence.

Mr. Kravchuk also stressed the importance of the referendum held on December 1, 1991. "Many people were not convinced that the people in Ukraine would vote 'yes' to Ukrainian independence. I knew that Ukraine could only guarantee its independence through a 'yes' vote in a referendum. An act of parliament can always be canceled by another act, but a referendum decision can only be changed by another referendum."

The former president also made references to former American President George Bush's "Chicken Kyiv" speech in Kyiv, in which he warned the Ukrainian government about the perils of "suicidal nationalism."

Mr. Kravchuk said December 1, 1991, was the happiest day of his life, not because he was elected president, but because both he and then-president of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev, were wrong in predicting the outcome of the referendum.

"Mikhail said we would not even get 50 percent, while I said the yes side would poll about 75 percent. In the night of December 1, I phoned him and told him we were both wrong. The result was over 90 percent supporting independence," said Mr. Kravchuk. He noted that there was no area, town or village in Ukraine, even in Crimea, where the vote for independence was below 50 percent.

Mr. Kravchuk said that after achieving independence Ukraine quickly started the process of establishing new democratic and economic institutions and methods. "We are trying to achieve, in the course of a few short years, what other nations and states achieved over the course of decades of development." He concluded that although there are great difficulties facing Ukraine, all these problems will be summarily dealt with, and Ukraine will never waver from the path of complete independence.

After Mr. Kravchuk's speech, Ukraine's Consul General in Toronto Serhiy Borovyk bestowed the President's Medal on Toronto pysanka artist Odarka Onyschuk. Mr. Borovyk said, "while we in Ukraine were unable to keep our culture alive, people like Mrs. Onyschuk kept the tradition of pysanka making alive and popularized it throughout the world."

The diplomat noted that even the world famous tenor Luciano Pavarotti has several of Mrs. Onyschuk's pysanky in his collection, "and he knows a thing or two about art."

A concert followed the speeches, featuring the Baturyn marching band, soloists from the dance ensemble of Pavlo Virsky, the Prolisok youth choir, the Desna dance ensemble, the Troisty Muzyky, the Prometheus Men's choir and the Dibrova women's choir.

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Visa Lottery...

(Continued from page 1)

November 24, 1997 will be discarded.

The Visa Lottery will be open to anyone abroad or in the United States, except for natives of Canada, China (except Hong Kong), Columbia, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, India, Jamaica, Mexico, Philippines, Poland, South Korea, Taiwan, United Kingdom (except Northern Ireland), and Vietnam. Some people from excluded countries may be eligible if their spouses are from an eligible country.

The Consumer Guide, which explains the rules and restrictions for the upcoming Visa Lottery, to the DV-99 Visa Lottery is available in English, Spanish, Chinese, French, Italian, Haitian Creole, Korean, Russian and Arabic. Another brochure titled Beware of Immigration

Services Fraud is also available in nine languages.

To get a free copy of the guides, send a self-addressed stamped envelope to:

Consumer Affairs Visa Lottery Guides, 42 Broadway, New York, NY 10004. (Please specify the language in which you wish to receive the material).

Consumers who believe they are the victims of fraud concerning the green card lottery program are urged to contact the NYC Department of Consumer Affairs at (212) 487-4444 or the Federal Trade Commission's Regional Office at (212) 264-1207.

Mayor Giuliani asked prospective lottery applicants to take note of the following hotlines for assistance:

U.S. State Department Hotline, 1-900-884-8840 (each call costs \$5.10); New York Immigration Hotline, (718) 899-4000; U.S. Immigration and Naturalization services, (800) 375-5283.

Freedom of press...

(Continued from page 2)

Ministry of Information, which Ukrainian journalists, and opposition and centrist political forces, have dubbed either the "Ministry of Truth" (from the Orwellian) or the "Ministry of Propaganda" (from Josef Goebel's Nazi ministry).

By this decree an effort is being made to re-introduce political censorship as an institution and as one of the instruments of executive control. A study done by the Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies found that this government structure in particular has the most negative affect on the influence of the mass media (on citizens). It is worth emphasizing that the ministry is fully controlled by the president, which the minister, Zinovy Kulyk, freely admits.

In the same study, 70 percent of respondents (journalists) said that political censorship exists in Ukraine, about 70.6 percent said they had personally experienced it, and of those, 31.4 percent said they had experienced it often.

Radio

The government pays the least attention to radio communications. One reason for this is that, traditionally, radio has been most obedient to the government, and, second, because it is the least influential of the three major media.

Ironically, it is in radio that there still exists the best opportunity for freedom of expression (even given the abbreviated broadcasts of the sessions of the Verkhovna Rada), which is just the opposite in the most popular medium — television.

The situation in television

The most widespread political censorship, essentially in the form of various political controls and pressures, is practiced

in the largest mass medium — television. This conclusion is based on ideas expressed by individual television and radio journalists, on the results of sociological surveys and on statements made by political activists, as well as national deputies of the Verkhovna Rada (there are many documented instances of deputies being refused access to television programs by the National Commission of Television and Radio because their viewpoints diverged from those of the president and the government).

At the end of 1995, the popular news program "Pisliamova" disappeared from the airwaves. At the time it was probably the best news magazine on Ukrainian television. Some civic organizations have said this was "the beginning of political censorship, of open pressure on the mass media," according to a January 1996 report in Kievskie Viedomosti.

After a while it became evident that program was halted by direct order of the president. The program was renewed only after certain compromises must have been reached with the executive branch; when it returned the program was less balanced and more sympathetic to the government's official stances.

On June 20, 1996, 70 leading Ukrainian journalists and foreign correspondents signed a petition in which they expressed their concern for the "active attempts to exert political pressure on the mass media."

A few descriptive examples of political censorship by the government were given, and it was concluded that "national television and radio still belongs to the government, and there are no mechanisms in place for citizen's control."

On June 26, the general-secretary of the international organization Reporters without Borders, Robert Maynar, added his name to the list. But nothing fruitful came of this. The opposite actually happened, especially with regard to television.

Coteau Books calls for short stories

Coteau Books is planning to publish an anthology of short stories called "Two Lands, One Heart" (working title). This anthology will include 10 stories by Canadian writers of Ukrainian heritage and 10 stories by writers from Ukraine and will be co-published with a Ukrainian publisher, with editions in both languages. The Canadian edition will appear in the fall of 1998.

The editor for the Canadian stories is Janice Kulyk Keefer, Canadian novelist, short story writer and scholar, whose last book, "The Green Library," is partly set in Kyiv. Solomea Pavlychko, Ukrainian scholar and editor, author of "Letters from Kyiv," has already selected the 10 stories from Ukraine.

Canadian writers of Ukrainian heritage are welcome to submit up to two short stories for consideration for this anthology. These stories may have appeared in journals or magazines, but must not have been previously published in books. The stories may deal with Canadian Ukrainian subject matter, but other subjects are welcome.

Stories must be postmarked no later than September 30, 1997. Please send stories along with a cover letter, a brief biographical note, and a stamped, self-addressed reply envelope to: Two Lands, Coteau Books, 401-2206 Dewdney Ave., Regina, SK S4R 1H3.

Young vocalist, Stefania Chaban wins Miss Soyuzivka '98 contest



Miss Soyuzivka 1998, Stefania Chaban (left) with runners-up Oksana Kozyra and Laryssa Chomiak

by Serhiy Myroniuk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — An 18-year-old vocalist from Ukraine was crowned Miss Soyuzivka 1998 in the traditional 42nd annual contest at the Ukrainian National Association estate on August 16.

Stefania Chaban, a voice major at the Baltimore School of Arts, smiled as a wreath of wild flowers was laid on her head 10 minutes before midnight. People at the south wing of the Veselka Terrace cheered the new queen chosen from among the five young women who took part in the competition.

That night two other contestants wore wreaths, though less colorful — first runner-up Oksanna Kozyra, 20, of Cedar Knolls, N.J. and second runner-up Laryssa Chomiak, 18, of Naples, Fla.

The next day Ms. Chaban, an opera singer, said it was one of the happiest moments in her life. She added, however, that she wished that more women had participated in the contest. The event had been announced in The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, as well as at Soyuzivka.

A three member jury interviewed the contestants. After an evening performance by singer Ostap Stakhiv, Soyuzivka's office manager Sonya Semanszyn, UNA Advisor Aleks Chudolij, and director of the Dumka Chorus Vasyl Hrechynsky evaluated the participant's fluency in the Ukrainian language, their involvement in the Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian community.

UNA members answered questions about the UNA and revealed their knowledge of current events in Ukraine. UNA Advisor Stephanie Hawryluk introduced each of the contestants to the jury.

Meanwhile, the band "Fata Morgana" entertained guests who gathered outside at the Veselka Terrace. Before midnight the music stopped and people formed a semi-circle anxiously waiting for the appearance of the new Miss Soyuzivka.

As Lida Hawryluk, the estate's mistress of ceremonies for 1997, announced the selections, Tania Kosc, the outgoing Miss Soyuzivka 1997, laid wreaths of wild flowers on the winners' heads. The crowd cheered and applauded. Camera flashes lit up the happy

faces of the three.

"Fata Morgana" played again, and Ms. Chaban shared her first dance with the estate's manager, John Flis. They were then joined by the runners-up and judges with their partners.

"I think my whole life is an interesting event," Ms. Chaban exclaimed next day.

"I am quite young, but I have seen so many interesting people, visited so many interesting places. I've been everywhere and I am very grateful to my family for making this possible," said Ms. Chaban, adding that both her parents are artists.

Born in Ukraine, she traveled to many European countries such as Denmark, Germany, Great Britain, France and Austria. For the last three years she has been living in the U.S. where she works on her career as an opera singer. "I would like to visit Ukraine again. I miss it so much," she said.

In part because of frequent travel Ms. Chaban has mastered six different languages. In addition to Ukrainian, English and Russian she speaks German, French and Italian.

Her life revolves around classical music and especially operatic singing. "When I was a child we had many albums in our family," she said. "I saw a portrait of Bach on one of them. For me it was something absolutely phenomenal. I always asked my parents to play this record." The portrait of the famous composer, she said, prompted her to pursue a musical career.

Ms. Chaban had sung in the chorus of Kyiv State Conservatory and played piano for 11 years. A member of the National Honor Society, she received an award of the National Association of Teachers of Singing. She is also a recipient of a Maryland Distinguished Scholarship. In addition to music, Ms. Chaban loves poetry, acting, and fine arts.

Miss Soyuzivka 1998 will receive \$500 in prize money and a free week at the UNA's estate. "I would send some money to Ukraine," said Ms. Chaban, adding she had a sick friend there. First runner-up Oksanna Kozyra, who attends Seton Hall University, will also enjoy one free week at Soyuzivka while second runner-up Laryssa Chomiak, a Fordham University student, will spend a free weekend there.

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UNICEF reports...

(Continued from page 7)

groups and in prevention of births of serious congenital disorders.

The socialist-communist system did not provide for a healthy moral development of society, and the current economic and social crisis worsens the marginal moral environment for the care and education of children and youth. They are living under extremely unfavorable conditions: a difficult financial situation within families leading to worsening intra-familial relations, deficiencies in the organization of school education and reduction in extra-curricular school establishments.

There is an increase in the number of adolescents who neither work nor study. Deprived of society-level protection mechanisms, children and adolescents in particular are falling prey to drug abuse, alcohol and tobacco addiction, violence, child prostitution, STDs, including HIV/AIDS, and crime. In the past five years, the number of teens who have repeatedly committed crimes has risen more than 19 percent. Drug addiction and heavy drinking contribute to this growth. The number of drug addicts who are minors is estimated to be between 17,000 and 20,000. Every sixth teen who committed a crime was drunk. Research shows that 17 percent of pupils in grade 5, 25 percent in grade 8 and 56 percent in grade 11 consume alcohol regularly. These young people are increasingly forming anti-social groups (gangs).

Every year 8,000 to 9,000 teens leave their families, children's houses, boarding schools and institutions. There are no homes for delinquent minors.

In the last few years, there has been a drop in children's interest in books, art and high cultural values simultaneously with the destruction of the infrastructure for cultural activities. These are being replaced by publications and movies popularizing violence, cruelty, sex and mysticism. There is a need to directly involve minors in social life, so that they can acquire social experience and adopt moral norms and fundamental human values. The current situation promotes apathy and social doubt in youth, and this must be overcome to instill socially responsible behavior.

"Children and the Chernobyl Power

Plant Disaster" was a topic addressed separately in this report. As of 1996 there were 2,218 settlements located in the areas contaminated by the accident. About 2.4 million people are living in the contaminated areas, including 535,200 children under age 15. In 1994, 731,000 Ukrainian children and adolescents were registered as being affected by Chernobyl's fallout; by January 1995 the number was 1,177,000; and in January 1996 the number was 965,000 (the recent decline is due to the statistical increase in children age 15 and over).

It has been found that children living in contaminated areas have greater susceptibility to radiation than adults, and trends indicate that the health of these children is worsening from year to year. According to data of the Academy of Medical Sciences Radiation Research Institute, in 1987-1988, 53 percent of Ukrainian children were deemed healthy (no chronic disorders) while in 1990-1994 only 31 percent to 41 percent tested healthy. For children in contaminated areas, 27 percent tested healthy.

Clinical observations show that health disorders of children affected by the catastrophe are caused mainly by immune system, metabolic and hormonal disorders, and dysfunctions of the central and peripheral nervous system. Most children are still not provided with uncontaminated foodstuffs and the drugs, vitamins and herbs needed to protect them from the influence of radiation and to increase their resistance to illness.

The consequences of this radiation in the next decade are an issue of special concern, especially for children who were affected prior to birth or have been living for a long period in contaminated areas. The child mortality rate is expected to increase by between 22 percent and 76 percent in the most contaminated areas.

Financing of rehabilitation by ministries and enterprises has decreased because of the current economic crisis in Ukraine. Trade unions, the Social Insurance Fund and local authorities have stopped financing rehabilitation of affected children, while the minister of health and minister of Chernobyl have not developed mechanisms for rehabilitation abroad. This is done mostly by private

(Continued on page 15)

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SPORTSLINE

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj

World Track and Field Championships

At the International Amateur Athletic Federation's world track and field championships held on August 1-10 in Athens, Ukraine maintained its high profile in athletics, thanks to the headline-making heroics of Sergey Bubka and Zhanna Pintusevych, and less favorably, due to the ignominy of Oleksander Bohach's failure of a drug test.

On the final day of competition, Mr. Bubka confounded critics who suggested he was avoiding competition and milking his reputation for sponsorships, rebounded from surgery on his Achilles tendon last December, and took gold in the pole vault for the sixth straight year in a row with a championship record height of 6.01 meters.

The Associated Press agency's pick for "Quote of the Day" on August 10 was a word from the Luhansk native: "After Atlanta, many said, 'he's finished, he's dead.' Maybe for that reason, I tried to find motivation and come back."

(For further details, please see the front page report in The Weekly's August 17 issue.)

Triumphing in the women's 200-meters on August 9, Ms. Pintusevych, a Nizhyn-born sprinter capable of explosive power in the last few meters, also left her mark.

Claiming a gold in the 200 and silver in the 100, she came just a vest's width away from repeating at the world championships what current Ukrainian sports minister Valeriy Borzov achieved at the Munich Olympics in 1972 — double gold, in the 100-meter and 200-meter sprints.

Mr. Bohach reigned briefly as the world champion in the shot put, but became one of two medalists at this competition to be stripped of their prizes after IAAF officials determined that "pseudoephedrine," a banned substance, was detected in a post-competition test.

The championships produced five positive drug tests, including Mr. Bohach of Ukraine and women's 10-kilometer walk silver medalist Olimpiada Ivanova of Russia.

Despite maintaining his innocence, Mr. Bohach became the first athlete to be

stripped of a gold medal at a world championship. Canada's Ben Johnson was stripped of his 1987 world 100-meter title and world record, but that decision was taken retroactively after he tested positive at the 1988 Olympics in Seoul and admitted he had been taking steroids throughout.

The shot put gold medal was handed to John Godina of the U.S., who had received a wild card entry as defending champion.

The Pintusevych saga — 100-meters

The North American media have long exhibited a Western Hemispheric slant to their reportage of the sprints, and nowhere was this more in evidence than in their constant "surprise" at Ms. Pintusevych's strong performance at these championships. They shouldn't have been surprised.

Born on July 6, 1972, barely a month before Mr. Borzov's double Olympic triumph, she won the silver in the 200-meters at the European Championships in Helsinki in 1994. Before that, her major claim to fame was that she briefly held the world indoor 50-meters record of 6.09 seconds in 1993. She is married to hurdler Ihor Pintusevych, a bronze medalist at the world junior athletics championships in the 110-meters hurdles in 1992.

In the 100-meters event, the 25-year-old served notice on August 2, the second day of competition, by scorching her first heat opponents. (Time: 11.01 seconds.) In the second round, the Nizhyn native turned the heat up further, posting a 10.90, the best that day, and got the attention of Agence France-Presse (AFP).

Before the final of the race that confers the title "world's fastest woman," Merlene Ottey of Jamaica, at 37 the oldest athlete at the championships, and Marion Jones of the U.S., an athlete returning to track and field after quitting the sport in favor of basketball while still a teenager, got most of the media attention.

On August 3, as it always is before sprint events, the tension was high among the runners. A first try: the starter's pistol went off, and then officials immediately called a false start, but Ms. Ottey hadn't

heard the recall and did not realize she was the only one running until she was 50 meters down the track. Her concentration shattered, much of her energy spent, she dragged herself back to the start, Reuters reported, walking so slowly that two 100-meter races could have been run by the time she reached her blocks.

When the gun went off again, Ms. Jones surged into the lead, but in typical fashion, the Nizhynian sprinter's afterburners kicked in, and as they crossed the finish line Ms. Pintusevych, along with most of the stadium, was convinced she had edged her rival.

She started out on a victory lap, surrounded by photographers as the stunned American stood by the side of the track, staring at the giant television screen, waiting for a replay. Ms. Pintusevych sank to her knees on the far side of the track, weeping with joy, when the screen suddenly confirmed Ms. Jones as the new world champion who'd clocked 10.83 seconds, a personal best, and that the Ukrainian had come in second in 10.85. Sevatheda Fynes of the Bahamas was third in 11.03.

A tearful Ms. Pintusevych told reporters: "I thought I was first and I was very happy. Now I am very sad."

The Pintusevych saga — 200-meters

On August 6, it all began again, this time, in the 200-meters event. Ms. Pintusevych won her heat with a time of 22.85 the fourth fastest time posted in the day's seven heats, and also conserved her energy in the second round.

The day of reckoning, August 9, arrived and the pressure was back at peak. Ms. Ottey, the pre-race favorite, was in the field attempting to take her third successive 200-meter title. Before the final the Jamaican, who trains with former Olympic champion Linford Christie said it was a miracle she could still compete at this level at her age, and would carry on as long as the miracle continued.

But Ms. Pintusevych's determination was palpable, and in trademark fashion, she surged forward in the last few paces and blew Ms. Ottey's doors off. The defending champion was also overtaken by 20-year-old Susanthika Jayasinghe of Sri Lanka. The times: the streak in blue-and-yellow, 22.32 seconds; Ms. Jayasinghe 22.39; Ms. Ottey 22.40.

The AFP called it sweet revenge. The 25-year-old had "wiped away the heartache of her 100-meter defeat by winning the 200-meter title." The 100-meters was clearly a burning issue for her. "After the 100-meters I felt exhausted, but I said to myself 'I must, I must go on,'" the Ukrainian sprinter told the post-race press conference.

"I really did not believe I could win, but I just don't know what happened to Merlene," Ms. Pintusevych said. "After what happened on Sunday [August 3], when I thought I won, today is proof of my talent," she added.

Shot putter's roller coaster ride

Oleksander Bohach's odyssey held equally golden potential, but the ending was far more disappointing.

He was born on November 21, 1966, in Matusiv (a town southwest of Cherkasy in central Ukraine). While competing under the Soviet flag in 1989, Mr. Bohach was banned for two years for excessive testosterone levels after he finished third in the European Cup in Gateshead, England.

Ironically, given the outcome of this year's events, the shot-putter was promoted to a bronze medal at the 1993 world championships in Stuttgart, Germany, after a U.S. competitor, Mike Stulce, tested positive for drugs.

In 1994, he became the first athlete

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Sportsline

(Continued from page 16)

representing Ukraine in shot put to win a European indoor title. In May of this year, he improved his personal best to 21.47 meters.

On August 2, from the early going in the qualifying round, it was clear that the contest was between Mr. Godina and Mr. Bohach, with the American leading the pack by a comfortable margin (over a foot). Olympic champion and world record holder Randy Barnes failed to make the final after finishing 14th in the morning's eliminations.

In the medal round, Mr. Godina was ahead in a tight battle with a mark of 21.44 meters when the 30-year-old Ukrainian surprised everyone (even himself) by recording a 21.47-meter throw with his third attempt (matching May's personal best), sufficient to earn Mr. Bohach the gold and his first shot put world title. Mr. Godina had to be content with silver, while Oliver-Sven Buder of Germany took the bronze with a 21.24-meter effort.

In the post-competition press conference, as the athletes waited for the mandatory drug test results, Mr. Bohach joked with journalists. "I've passed five dope tests this year so the sixth doesn't worry me. I'm just looking forward to the free beer," he said, unaware of the cruel irony in store.

It took five days for the results to come back. On August 7, IAAF officials called a news conference to announce that the Matusiv-born world-beater would have his medal and \$60,000 in prize money taken away.

Mr. Bohach pleaded his innocence. "Basically I used this supplement which is made of natural substances and does not mention that it has ephedrine in it," the 30-year-old Ukrainian told Reuters Television. "It is so absurd," Mr. Bohach said. "It is nonsense. I cannot believe it. ... Now the commission finds 'pseudo-ephedrine.'"

"I obtained the product in Kyiv from the official representative of the manufacturing company who assured me there was nothing forbidden in the ingredients. I first used it at the world [shot put] championships in Paris and when I tested I was negative," he added.

His coach, Mykola Kolodiyiv, was even more forceful. "This is a misunderstanding, and I can call it a barbarous case," Mr. Kolodiyiv told The Associated Press. "Bohach is really upset. He is in despair because he does not understand and does not know how an innocent sportsman can prove his innocence to the whole world."

"Before he (Bohach) was tested for drugs, he filled in a declaration form enumerating all types of medicine he was taking recently, including the ill-fated medicine produced by an American pharmaceutical company which had shown positive results for the drug," the coach continued.

Valerii Alexandrov, vice-president of the Ukrainian Athletic Federation, criticized athletics officials in Ukraine for not informing the team that the supplement Mr. Bohach had used contained banned drugs.

"The mistake of this athlete is that he used this substance without knowing that this pseudo-ephedrine was in it," Reuters quoted Mr. Alexandrov as saying, "No competent authorities informed us of this and there are no adequate laboratories in Ukraine to do a check on this product."

Mr. Bohach was lucky in one respect. Since the IAAF relaxed their doping rules just two days before the championships, he will receive a public warning, but will be free to continue competing in lucrative grand prix meetings after the championships.

"Following the recent decision by the IAAF congress, these athletes will be issued a public warning and disqualified from the competition," read a Reuters-quoted IAAF statement. "The results they achieved at these world championships have been canceled."

Other athlete notes: "the heavies"

Of course, Ukraine's performance was not just about the headliners. Other men and women toiled mightily to secure their country's position in the elite top-10 category of athletic nations, a delegation that took home the aforementioned two gold medals, four silver and one bronze.

In a shot-put-positive note, one can take heart that Ukraine has considerable depth in this event. Vita Pavlysh took silver in the women's competition, and veteran powerhouse Valentyna Fediushina is still on the scene, although in this meet she didn't advance past the qualifying round. On the men's side, Yuriy Bilonih came in fifth and Roman Vyrastuik was seventh in the final.

Also in the "heavy metal" category, Andriy Shkvaruk took the silver in the hammer throw, whipping the wire-and-weight projectile 81.46 meters, with Oleksa Krykun checking in for eighth place with a 77.14-meter throw. Vadym Kolesnyk had also been in the field, but he failed to qualify for the final.

In the discus final, Vitalii Sidorov was significantly behind the field (at 60.32, a full six meters behind Lithuanian silver medalist Virgilijus Alekna's 66.70), but did just make it into the top-10. Mr. Sidorov had done better in the qualifying round, coming in second in Group A with a toss of 63.08.

"Light athletics" success

Ukraine demonstrated that it also continues to belong in the elite of "light" field events, sprinting and middle-distance running. Inga Babakova tied Russian Olga Kaliturlina for a height of 1.96 meters in the high jump (behind Norway's Hanne Haugland who cleared 1.99), and both took home silver medals.

In the triple jump, there was mixed news. Yelena Govorova took bronze with an effort of 14.67 meters, behind the Czech Republic's Sarka Kasparkova (15.20) and Rodica Mateescu (15.16) of Romania, but things could have been better still.

Defending champion Inessa Kravets did not turn up for the qualifying rounds of the women's triple jump on the opening day of the world championships on August 2. Ms. Kravets is also the Olympic champion and current world record holder. Also in the women's triple jump, Olena Khlusovych managed seventh in her qualifying group before dropping out.

In the men's triple jump, valiant efforts from Volodymyr Kravchenko (16.24) and Yuriy Osypenko (16.13) did not pass the qualifying cut of 17.00 meters.

Other top-10 Ukrainian finishers at the Athens' worlds included Tetiana Tereshchuk, whose fourth-place 53.81-second run in the 400-meter hurdles was just half a second off the podium pace. In the long jump final Viktoria Vershinina came in seventh, with a leap of 6.71 meters, with Russia's Liudmila Galkina completely outclassing the field at 7.05 (silver medalist Niki Xanthou of Greece managed 6.94)

Running behind her silver-medal-winning compatriot Pintusevych, Anzhela Kravchenko was fourth in her heat of the women's 100-meters, qualifying for the semifinal with a time of 11.46, and even though she improved to 11.43 in the next, this was only good for seventh in that elimination round. Iryna Pukha was also in the running for the women's 100-meters, but came in fifth in her first round

heat (time: 11.75). Ihor Strakh, pulled up lame in the 10th heat of qualifying in the men's 100-meters and could not finish.

Ukraine's 4x100-meters men's relay team qualified (39.92 seconds) for the semi-finals (better than the vaunted U.S. team, which blew their baton pass in the first round), but then false started twice and were disqualified.

In the men's 200-meters, Serhiy Osovysh was fourth in his very fast heat, with a time of 20.56, lifting him to the second round. There, he came in third and lopped 0.02 seconds off his time, but it was not good enough to go further.

In the women's 800-meters, Olena Buzhenko was third in her heat (time, 2 minutes, 2.0 seconds), and Iryna Nedelenko fifth (2:03.56) in hers, but as the qualifying time was 2 minutes even, neither advanced to the final.

In the women's 1,500-meters, Natalia Ivanova was ninth in her second-round heat (4:10.39, improving on her first round time of 4:10.79), while Tetiana Bilovil came in tenth in her first round heat (time: 4:12.17).

Other members of the contingent included Irena Lenska, 400-meter hurdles (time: 56.05), Olena Antonova, women's discus (distance, 59.62 meters), Valentyna Savchuk, 10 km walk; Roman Galkin, 400-meters (time: 46.82 seconds); Oleksa Lukasevych, ninth in his qualifying group in men's long jump, just failed to qualify by three centimeters.

Final phrases

These were the first world championships at which no country won at least 10 gold medals, as top honors were spread among 25 countries. For the first time in the 14-year history of the championships, athletes from each of the six world areas — Africa, Asia, Europe, North America, Oceania and South America — won medals.

There were no world records in Athens but Mr. Bubka's performance in winning six world gold medals over a 14-year period was as good as any world mark.

The next world championships will be held in Seville, Spain, in 1999.

Ukraine's world medals

Ukraine's position in the top 10 of the final medals table for the World Outdoor Track and Field Championships held in Athens, August 1-10.

Country	G	S	B	Total
United States	7	3	8	18
Germany	5	1	4	10
Russia	1	4	3	8
Kenya	3	2	2	7
Ukraine	2	4	1	7
Jamaica	0	3	4	7
Cuba	4	1	1	6
Britain	0	5	1	6
Spain	1	3	1	5
Morocco	2	1	1	4

Ukraine's medal winners at the World Championships

Gold

Men's pole vault
Sergey Bubka

Women's 200-meters
Zhanna Pintusevych

Men's shot put
Oleksander Bohach (disqualified)*
**Mr. Bohach was stripped of his medal after testing positive for drugs.*

Silver

Women's 100-meters
Zhanna Pintusevych

Women's high jump
Inga Babakova

Women's shot put
Vita Pavlysh

Men's hammer
Andriy Shkvaruk

Bronze

Women's triple jump
Yelena Govorova



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GAINS IN APRIL 1997				
Total new members	20	42	0	62
New members UL	2	7	0	9
Canadian NP	1	20	0	21
Reinstated	2	0	0	2
Transferred in	34	141	15	190
Change class in	3	1	0	4
Transferred from Juvenile Dept.	0	3	0	3
TOTAL GAINS:	62	214	15	291
LOSSES IN APRIL 1997				
Suspended	3	31	17	51
Transferred out	34	141	15	190
Change of class out	3	1	0	4
Transferred to adults	3	0	0	3
Died	1	109	1	111
Cash surrender	23	50	0	73
Endowment matured	14	18	0	32
Fully paid-up	12	33	0	45
Reduced paid-up	0	2	0	2
Certificate terminated	0	4	2	6
TOTAL LOSSES	93	389	35	517
INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
GAINS IN APRIL 1997				
Paid-up	12	33	0	45
Extended insurance	0	16	0	16
TOTAL GAINS	12	49	0	61
LOSSES IN APRIL 1997				
Died	1	63	0	64
Cash surrender	9	23	0	32
Reinstated	2	0	0	2
Lapsed	0	0	0	0
TOTAL LOSSES	12	86	0	98
TOTAL UNA MEMBERSHIP				
AS OF APRIL 1997	16,106	37,466	4,679	58,251

MARTHA LYSKO
Secretary

FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

INCOME FOR APRIL 1997

Dues From Members	\$ 174,369.51
Annuity Premiums From Members	38,943.14
Reinsurance Allowance-Canada	13,788.36
Income From "Svoboda" Operation	96,205.83
Investment Income:	
Banks	\$ 594.33
Bonds	239,764.17
Certificate Loans	2,469.99
Mortgage Loans	32,220.51
Real Estate	20,818.15
Short Term Investments	2,067.11
Stocks	11,833.55
	\$ 309,767.81
Total	\$ 633,074.6
Refunds:	
Bank Charges	\$ 24.60
Dues Refunded Returned	110.35
Employee Benefit Plan	1,285.34
Insurance Workmens Compensation	7,704.12
Investment Expense	100.00
Rent	1,248.80
Reward To Special Organizer	751.52
Taxes Federal, State & City On Employee Wages	85,650.27
Telephone	7.28
Total	\$ 96,882.2
Miscellaneous:	
Donations To Fraternal Fund	\$ 525.00
Donations To Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	4,825.00
Exchange Account-UNURC	322,112.44
Profit On Bonds and Stocks Sold or Bonds Matured	16,355.53
Sale Of "Ukrainian Encyclopaedia"	390.00
Transfer Account	840,329.20
Total	\$ 1,184,537.1
Investments:	
Bonds Matured Or Sold	\$ 534,602.66
Certificate Loans Repaid	7,797.39
Mortgages Repaid	33,439.50
Short Term Investments Sold	448,738.63
Stock	888,543.05
Total	\$ 1,913,121.1
Income For April, 1997	\$ 3,827,615.1

DISBURSEMENTS FOR APRIL 1997

Paid To Or For Members:	
Annuity Benefits And Partial Withdrawals	\$ 75,437.89

Cash Surrenders	59,001.01
Death Benefits	119,080.00
Universal Life Withdrawals	372.51
Dividend Accumulations	933.06
Dues And Annuity Premiums From Members Returned	274.47
Endowments Matured	103,678.34
Indigent Benefits Disbursed	550.00
Interest On Death Benefits	592.79
Payor Death Benefits	96.24
Reinsurance Premiums Paid	11,502.77
Total	\$ 371,519.0

Operating Expenses:	
Real Estate	\$ 65,048.18
Svoboda Operation	121,781.19
Washington Office	136.02
Organizing Expenses:	
Advertising	5,426.76
Commissions And Overrides On Universal Life	1,382.59
Field Conferences	4,468.77
Medical Inspections	836.75
Refund of Branch Secretaries Expenses	62,916.56
Reward To Organizers	265.31
Reward To Special Organizers	13,263.84
Traveling Expenses-Special Organizers	3,665.10
	\$ 92,225.68
Total	\$ 279,191.0

Payroll, Insurance And Taxes:	
Employee Benefit Plan	\$ 46,267.69
Insurance-General	2,731.72
Salaries Of Executive Officers	18,272.30
Salaries Of Office Employees	84,145.12
Tax On Canadian Investments and Business	1,786.59
Taxes-Federal, State And City On Employee Wages	95,869.00
Total	\$ 249,072.4

General Expenses:	
Actuarial And Statistical Expenses	\$ 37,860.31
Bank Charges	3,391.89
Bank Charges For Custodian Account	2,821.05
Books And Periodicals	393.08
Dues To Fraternal Congresses	500.00
Furniture & Equipment	11,666.73
General Office Maintenance	2,097.68
Insurance Department Fees	3,043.24
Legal Expenses-General	434.14
Operating Expense of Canadian Office	350.00
Postage	4,418.54
Printing and Stationery	8,738.86
Rental Of Equipment And Services	18,427.82
Telephone, Telegraph	9,206.74
Traveling Expenses-General	225.50
Total	\$ 103,575.5

Miscellaneous:	
Convention Expenses	\$ 2,632.33
Donation From Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine	720.00
Donations	300.00
Exchange Account-UNURC	322,112.44
Investment Expense-Mortgages	275.00
Loss On Bonds	65,172.41
Professional Fees	11,304.08
Rent	4,942.19
Transfer Account	874,570.33
Total	\$ 1,282,028.1

Investments:	
Certificate Loans	\$ 10,544.99
Real Estate	8,445.00
Short Term Investments	720,960.64
Stock	193,845.09
Total	\$ 933,795.7
Disbursements For April, 1997	\$ 3,219,182.1

BALANCE

ASSETS		LIABILITIES	
Cash	\$ 4,009,343.41	Life Insurance	\$ 64,602,410.26
Short Term Investments	411,275.58		
Bonds	41,893,190.93		
Mortgage Loans	6,844,302.96		
Certificate Loan	720,259.85		
Real Estate	3,144,632.41	Accidental D.D.	2,237,364.47
Printing Plant & E.D.P.			
Equipment	471,623.07	Fraternal	0.00
Stocks	2,569,710.36	Orphans	438,427.72
Loan to D.H.-U.N.A			
Housing Corp.	104,551.04	Old Age Home	0.00
Loan To U.N.U.R.C.	7,163,051.81	Emergency	53,738.97
Total	\$ 67,331,941.42	Total	\$ 67,331,941.1

ALEXANDER BLAHITKA
Treasurer

A letter to friends...

(Continued from page 4)

But when the law, especially the Constitution, promises very concrete things and people don't get it, the law and government itself begin to lose legitimacy. If the state can't deliver what its fundamental law tells people they have a right to, the people simply stop believing in that particular state's right to govern them. And this is already beginning to happen in Ukraine.

Logic would dictate that, if government cannot support its own structures even in the sense of paying their workers on time, the question must be raised of how to reduce those structures and certainly not, as in the case with Ukraine, expand the number of people working in them. If the state assumes so many functions that it cannot effectively carry out even such basic functions as national defense, law enforcement and taxation, it simply must reduce the number of its functions. If a state cannot meet the obligations it has assumed before its people, it must be frank in telling the people that the community must decide what it can live without, so that it can guarantee such basic needs as education and care for the elderly.

Various studies of voter behavior in various countries indicate that the most important indicator of popular political behavior is not people's material circumstances but their future expectations concerning their material circumstances. In other words, if people still have faith in a better future, they will put up with today's hardships. Ukraine's political elite is rapidly squandering that reservoir of faith. Once it is gone, restoring it will be next to impossible.

The Ukrainian diaspora can and should hold itself up as a mirror before the Ukrainian people. Earlier in this century members of an identical population went their different ways. Emigrants came to the New World with nothing but their knowledge and their willingness to work. Those they left behind had, and retain, the same knowledge and abilities. But the emigrants came to a system where the state limits itself to doing a few things well and lets citizens know that their labors can earn real rewards for themselves and their descendants. Ukraine has inherited structures that render this virtually impossible. Should those structures be supplanted by more modest, Western-style ones providing individual and economic opportunity, there is no reason not to expect that in a couple of generations Ukraine would be in a position to offer humanitarian aid to the United States.

Ukrainians in Poland...

(Continued from page 3)

Since 1990, Warsaw's Ukrainians have come to this spot of the cemetery to commemorate the declaration of independence of the Ukrainian National Republic on January 22, 1918. Mr. Czech says that since 1992, representatives of Ukraine's Embassy to Poland have participated in those commemorations.

Warsaw has attracted Ukrainians since the early 19th century. In the 1920s and 1930s Warsaw became one of the centers of the Ukrainian political emigration with the fall of the Ukrainian National Republic. Mykhailo Hrushevsky, president of the UNR, stayed in Warsaw briefly in 1919, and the UNR's supreme otaman, Symon Petliura, lived there in 1920-1923.

During the second world war the Ukrainian community grew rapidly in Warsaw as Ukrainians escaped there from the advancing Soviet Army. After the war, the Ukrainian population dropped with mass emigration to the West.

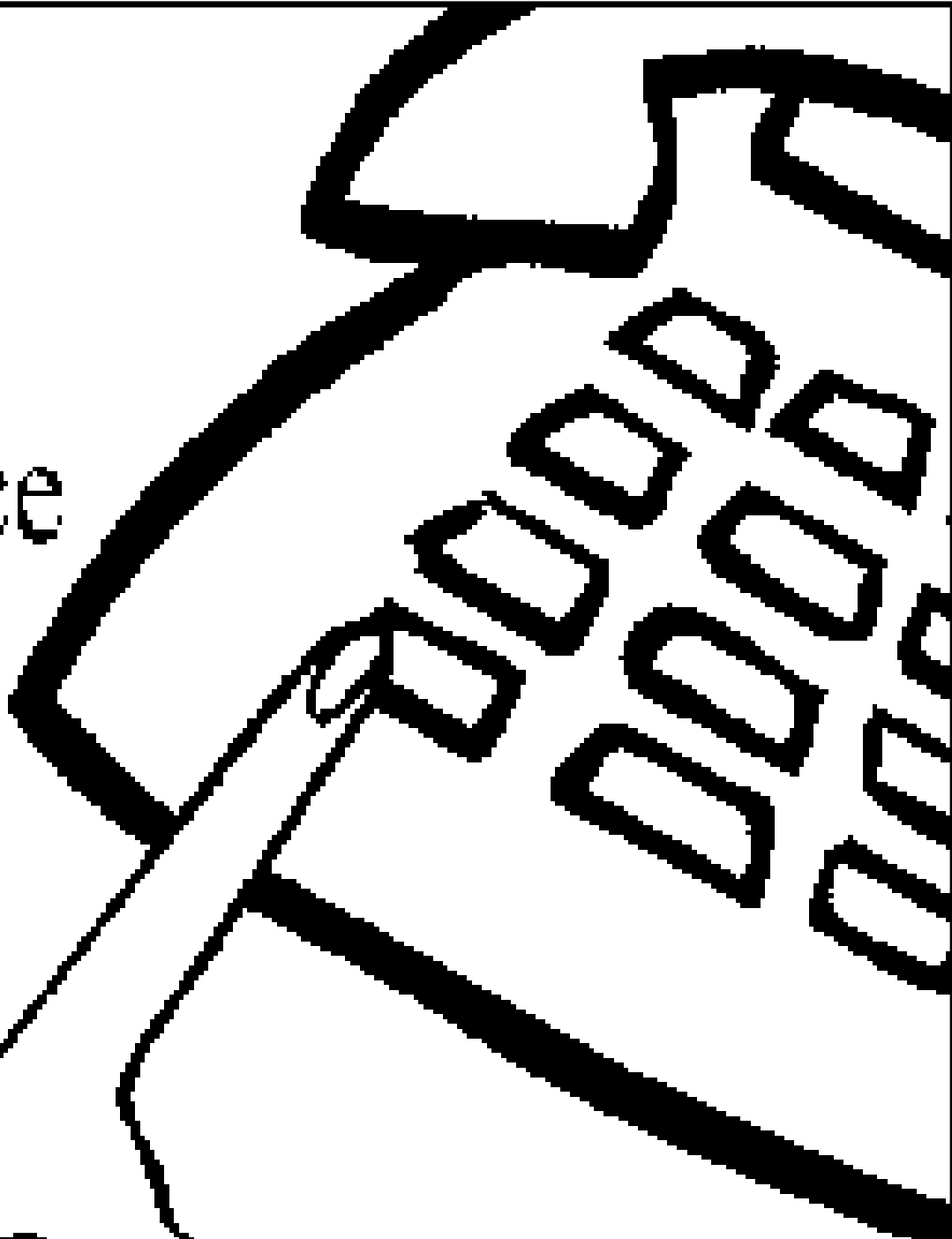
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, September 7

SOMERSET, N.J.: An afternoon of music with Michael Lev will take place at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, Davidson Avenue, Somerset, N.J. at 4 p.m. Featured performers singing selections by Mr. Lev will be: "Lastivka" women's vocal ensemble; "Lvivsky Muzyky" folk group; Natalia Honcharenko, soprano. Mr. Lev is a composer, orchestrator and musical director of the "Lastivka" ensemble. Tickets are \$10 at the door. For additional information please call (718) 948-2076.

September 11- October 31

WASHINGTON: The Dimock Gallery at The George Washington University is sponsoring "Mixed Mediums: Cycles of the Spiritual," sculptural and wall pieces in mixed medium by three women artists. It will feature the works of Lydia Bodnar-Balahutrak and Sharon Kopriva, both from Houston, and Breon Gilleran of Baltimore, all of whom combine themes of religious or spiritual journeys with an engaging use of mixed media. An opening reception will take place on Wednesday, September 10, 5 p.m. to 7 p.m. For more information contact Lenore Miller at the Dimock Gallery, (202) 994-1525.

Saturday, September 13

MONTCLAIR, N.J.: An artist's reception for "Remembering Myth," an exhibition of paintings by Christina Saj will take place at the Midland Gallery from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. Ms. Saj's contemporary interpretations of ancient mythological themes include characters from Greek and Roman mythology as well as personages from historic and literary fables. The exhibit will be on view from September 6 through October 3. The Midland Gallery is located at 13 Midland Ave. For more information please call the gallery director Jose Camacho at (973) 746-4884.

Sunday, September 14

CHICAGO: Ukrainians from the Chicagoland area will assemble to remember the more than 7 million men, women and children who perished in the Soviet man-made famine of 1932-33. Religious services will be held at the Great Famine Memorial at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church, 300 E. Army Trail Road, Bloomingdale, Illinois at 1 p.m. Participating will be leaders of the Ukrainian Orthodox, Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Protestant Churches, as well as the Consul General of Ukraine, youth organizations and the general public. Forty five survivors of the tragedy will be present. A program will follow afterward in the church's parish center, where survivors of the Great Famine will give personal testimonies, which will be followed by an appearance by the Surma Male Chorus and the Bandura Ensemble.

PARMA, Ohio: The 23rd annual Homecoming, sponsored by St. Andrew Ukrainian Catholic parish in Parma, Ohio, will be held at the picnic grove, 7700 Hoertz Road. The yearly Homecoming gives Ukrainians and friends throughout Greater Cleveland and the surrounding area the opportunity to get together and renew friendships as well as spend some time in a pleasant atmosphere. This year's program: 1 p.m. — tasty Ukrainian foods will be served; 3 p.m. — prayer service for the Ukrainian nation; 5 p.m. — performance by 30 children of the Ukrainian Dance Ensemble Kashtan.

Wednesday, September 17

MONTCLAIR, N.J.: "Artists and the Internet," a presentation by Orest Saj, Internet publishing expert on art marketing and online publishing, will take place at 7:15 p.m. at the Midland Gallery, 13 Midland Ave. For more information please call gallery director Jose Camacho at (973) 746-4884.

WASHINGTON: In observance of the sixth anniversary of Ukrainian independence, a special Congressional Reception will be held on Capitol Hill from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. in the Rayburn House Office Building, rm. B354. Sponsored by the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, it will feature remarks by

Congressmen and representatives of Ukraine. The cost of the Congressional Reception is \$25. Please RSVP by September 11 and make checks payable to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. Send to: Ukrainian National Information Service, 214 Massachusetts Ave, NE, Suite 225, Washington D.C. 20002. For further information contact Michael Sawkiw Jr. at (202) 547-0018 or Ihor Gawdiak (301) 680-0415.

Thursday, September 18

EDMONTON, Alberta: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies cordially invites you to celebrate the publication of volume 1 of the English-language edition of Mychailo Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus'" at 3:30 p.m. at the Timms Centre, University of Alberta (corner of 112 Street and 87 Avenue). RSVP by September 12 to (403) 492-2972.

Friday, September 19.

BUFFALO: The Ukrainian Women's League of America, Branch 97, and the University of Buffalo Center for the Arts are presenting a Ukrainian Night of Opera and Music, featuring Volodymyr Vynnytsky, pianist; Maria Stefiuk, soprano; Oleh Chmyr, baritone. The concert will be held at the Center for the Arts, SUNYAB North Campus, at 7:30 p.m. Admission: adults \$15; students (with i.d.) \$10. Tickets may be purchased at the door the day of the concert, or at area TicketMaster outlets in advance. They may also be reserved by calling (716) 852-5000. For more information call Maria at (716) 835-6288.

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art is pleased to present "Digital Perspectives," an exhibition of computer generated art by nationally recognized artists in the field of digital art. Digital Perspectives will feature the work of such acknowledged pioneers in the field of electronically-generated art as Joan Truckenbrod, Diane Fenster, Ken Musgrave and Roman Verostko. Viewers will be encouraged to interact with a number of the pieces on view, becoming participants in the creative process. The UIMA is proud to be one of the satellite sites of the International Symposium on Electronic Art, hosted by the School of the Art Institute of Chicago from September 22-27. The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art is located in the hear of Chicago's Ukrainian Village at 2320 W. Chicago Ave. For more information contact Oleh Kowerko at (773) 227-5522 during the day or Natalie Domchenko at (773) 283-7868 in the evening.

EDMONTON, Alberta: "Glass Making in Kyivan Rus'," a seminar featuring Prof. Thomas Noonan of the University of Minnesota will take place at 3:30 p.m. at the University of Alberta, 352 Athabasca Hall, CIUS Library. For further information contact the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2E8.

Sunday, September 21

MONTCLAIR, N.J.: Christina Saj will talk about here views on art and the various techniques she employs in the works in her latest exhibition "Remembering Myth" at 4 p.m. at the Midland Gallery, 13 Midland Ave. For more information please call gallery director Jose Camacho at (973) 746-4884.

Monday, September 29

TORONTO: The Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research, the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, CIUS Press and the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies cordially invite you to attend the University of Toronto book launch for the English-language edition of Volume 1 of Mychailo Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus'," which will be held at 4 p.m. in the Common Room of the Pontifical Institute of Mediaeval Studies, 59 Queen's Park Crescent. The main speaker will be Prof. Ihor Sevcenko, specialist in Byzantine studies at Harvard University. Other participants: Marta Skorupska, translator of Volume 1; Dr. Frank Sysyn, editor-in-chief; and Dr. Zenon Kohut, CIUS Director.