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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Floods devastate Zakarpattia region

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

TEKOVO, Ukraine — As floodwaters from the Tysa River approached the village of Tekovo, located in the poor Zakarpattia region of western Ukraine near the Hungarian and Slovak borders, few of its residents were unaware of the looming danger. They expected, however, that it would be like 1998, when extensive flooding in the region only touched them. While many surrounding villages suffered that year, in Tekovo water flooded the street and surrounding fields, but barely reached most homes. This time the villagers were not as lucky.

Tekovo, along with the neighboring hamlets of Sasovo and Chomotysiv, took the brunt of the water from the Tysa River on March 5-6 as it rushed down from the highlands over the railroad tracks and into these low-lying areas. Shocked villagers watched in horror as the water washed into town in the afternoon and then steadily rose throughout the evening and into the night, for 14 hours in all, collapsing walls and ceilings, and causing destruction the likes of which this village had rarely seen.

Before the onslaught finally began to recede just as the sun rose, the water had reached nearly two meters in some of the homes, as evidenced by the watermarks left behind.

It was the second time in less than two years that the Tysa River overflowed its banks and rampaged through Zakarpattia, this time taking six victims, while leaving behind tens of thousands of homeless, and mass destruction estimated in the tens of millions of dollars.

Fully one-third of Tekovo's buildings, mostly homes but also the local schoolhouse, collapsed or were badly damaged by the assault of water that persisted through the night

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Bush names Dobriansky undersecretary of state

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — President George W. Bush has named Paula J. Dobriansky as his choice to be undersecretary of state for global affairs.

The White House announced the president's intent on March 12. If the Senate confirms the nomination, she will become the most senior American of Ukrainian descent to serve in any U.S. administration.

Currently the vice-president and director of the Washington office of the Council on Foreign Relations, Dr. Dobriansky has served in several important government positions over the past 20 years. She served in the Office of European and Soviet Affairs at the National Security Council from 1980 to 1987; she was deputy assistant secretary of state for human rights and humanitarian affairs from 1987 to 1990; and associate director of the Bureau of Policy and Programs at the U.S. Information Agency from 1990 to 1993.

In 1985 she was an advisor to the U.S. delegation to the United Nations Decade for Women Conference in Nairobi, Kenya, and in 1990 she was deputy head of the U.S. delegation to the 1990 Copenhagen Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE). In October 1997 she was appointed by President Bill

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PROTESTERS AND POLICE CLASH IN KYIV



Efrem Lukatsky

Opposition activists clash with the police on March 9 in an attempt to break down a barrier in Kyiv near the Taras Shevchenko monument at the time when President Leonid Kuchma laid flowers at the foot of the memorial.

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Mass demonstrations turned bloody as violent civil disturbances swept through Kyiv on March 9 in the form of pitched confrontations between local militia and protesters who were demanding the resignation of Ukraine's president. The violence left 35 militia officers and 60 demonstrators hospitalized or injured, and led to the arrests of more than 200 people.

Law enforcement officials blamed organizers of the anti-Kuchma demonstrations, who represent the civil organizations For the Truth, Ukraine Without Kuchma and the Forum for National Salvation, for provoking the confrontations. The organizers, meanwhile, said provocative tactics by law enforcement officials and heavy-handed police maneuvers caused the violent and bloody encounters,

which included a firebomb attack and smoke bomb incidents and led to a teargas response by the militia.

The demonstrations were the first in Kyiv of such a violent nature since 1995. But the mass gatherings and protests against the current administration were another in what are becoming regular occurrences on the streets of Ukraine's capital organized by opposition forces who blame President Leonid Kuchma and several of his top officials for complicity in the disappearance and death of Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

The Gongadze affair became a political crisis for the Kuchma administration after a presidential bodyguard made public hundreds of hours of audiotapes he had recorded secretly in the president's office. The tapes seem to implicate the president in various criminal undertakings and

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Foundation has 90 days to purchase Verkhovyna

MONTICELLO, N.Y. — Following daylong conferences of attorneys and a judge of the New York State Supreme Court in Sullivan County, the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation has been given 90 days to close on the purchase of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association's resort in Glen Spey, N.Y.

The UFA had been planning to go ahead with the sale of Verkhovyna to a buyer from Monticello, N.Y., until the settlement was reached on March 12.

A hearing had been scheduled for that day for oral arguments before Judge Burton Ledina of the New York State Supreme Court in Sullivan County, based in Monticello, to determine certain preliminary issues in the case of Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation et al vs. the Ukrainian Fraternal Association.

The primary issue was whether the plaintiffs, the UACF and others, were entitled to maintain the preliminary injunction granted them on February 15 that

restrained the UFA from selling its resort to David Willner.

The UACF argued that UFA executive officers, in agreeing to sell Verkhovyna to Mr. Willner, had acted in violation of the resolutions adopted at the 1998 UFA Convention as well as the 2000 annual meeting of the UFA Supreme Council. Both bodies, which supersede the authority of the Executive Committee, had voted to sell the resort to the UACF.

The defendants, including the UFA and its president, Ivan Oleksyn, cross-moved for dismissal of the lawsuit, removal of the temporary restraining order and removal of the lien placed on the Glen Spey, N.Y., property by the plaintiffs. They argued that the UFA By-Laws give the Executive Committee the authority to sell the resort.

The plaintiffs were represented by Oleh N. Dekajlo. The defendants appeared with the proposed purchaser, Mr. Willner, and were represented by

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ANALYSIS

Yuschenko to make peace with oligarchs?

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

PRAGUE – Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko on March 10 met with the leadership of the parliamentary majority to discuss a “political accord” between the Cabinet of Ministers and the legislative majority in order to define mutual obligations and responsibilities of the government and its legislative support group. Interfax reported that the meeting resulted in a decision to set up a working group for drafting such an accord.

Oleksander Turchynov, leader of the Fatherland Party parliamentary caucus, commented after the meeting that he fully shares Mr. Yuschenko’s conviction that his Cabinet works in a businesslike way. Mr. Turchynov said the recently voiced signals about a crisis in the Yuschenko Cabinet are only an attempt by some political forces to divert public attention from the political crisis in the country and transform it into a Cabinet problem.

The oligarchs appear poised to seize power in Ukraine.

Mr. Turchynov added that no lawmaker proposed any personnel changes in the Cabinet during the meeting with the prime minister. The Fatherland Party parliamentary caucus is against the signing of a joint accord by the government and the parliamentary majority, and is opting for a series of accords between the Cabinet and each separate pro-government parliamentary group.

Yurii Kostenko, leader of the Ukrainian National Rukh, told Interfax that the only possible non-leftist pro-government majority is the one existing at the present moment. Mr. Kostenko added that any attempt at changing the current composition of the parliamentary majority will put an end to the reform efforts of the Ukrainian Parliament.

Mr. Kostenko seemed to be commenting on last month’s ultimatum by Verkhovna Rada First Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk, who said that, unless Mr. Yuschenko forms a coalition Cabinet, “the reformist parliamentary majority will create a new coalition government with a new prime minister.”

For some political observers of the Ukrainian political scene, Mr. Medvedchuk’s statement clearly signaled the beginning of a major campaign by Ukrainian oligarchs to rearrange the country’s top echelons of power.

The testing day for Mr. Yuschenko will be April 10, when he is expected to deliver a report to the Parliament on the performance of his Cabinet. Some political analysts say the Verkhovna Rada is very likely to dismiss Mr. Yuschenko under the pretext of his alleged failure to fulfill the government program approved by lawmakers a year ago.

Mr. Yuschenko may be voted out jointly by the Communists – whose representative will subsequently head the legislature – and some oligarchic caucuses that want Mr. Medvedchuk (or some other oligarch) to head the government.

There are three major oligarchic parties (each having its own parliamentary representation) in Ukraine: the Social Democratic Party (United), led by oligarchs

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Viktor Medvedchuk and Hryhoriy Surkis; the Democratic Union led by Oleksander Volkov; and the Labor Ukraine Party, led by Serhii Tyhypko, Viktor Pynchuk and Andriy Derkach. They may have keen interests in unseating Mr. Yuschenko for at least two reasons.

First, Mr. Yuschenko, assisted by former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, has managed to shift a majority of payments in Ukraine’s economy from shady barter schemes to transparent cash settlements, thus depriving Ukrainian oligarchs of considerable profits.

Second, Ukraine is to hold parliamentary elections next year, and oligarchs may simply want to have their own people in the government at administrative levers of control over the situation in the country, which would better position their parties for the upcoming election campaign.

As of now, President Leonid Kuchma seems to be in full control of the situation in the country, but it is also obvious to everyone that he is currently more concerned with what takes place on Kyiv’s streets and squares than about developments in parliamentary lobbies and government offices. Taking advantage of the president’s political troubles, the oligarchs – who so far have influenced developments in Ukraine from behind Mr. Kuchma’s back – now appear to be prepared to take the reins of power directly in their own hands.

Prime Minister Yuschenko’s immediate and defiant reaction to the oligarchs’ move indicated that he is aware of the looming political takeover in Ukraine. On February 28 he commented on Mr. Medvedchuk’s threat that “the government will never participate in a dialogue of ultimatums with any political force.” Mr. Yuschenko added that Mr. Medvedchuk’s statement is “a prologue for destabilizing the situation in Ukraine” and “an attempt to change Ukraine’s future.”

Speaking on behalf of his Cabinet, which discussed the domestic political situation during a closed-door session, he noted, “We are convinced that this is a purely clannish approach toward organizing Ukrainian politics.”

Last week, however, Mr. Yuschenko proposed that talks be held between the government and the parliamentary majority on signing a political accord that could regulate mutual relations. Some see this proposal as an indication that in the meantime the prime minister had tried unsuccessfully to get support from President Kuchma to strengthen the Cabinet’s stand against the oligarchs.

True, Mr. Kuchma publicly declared that he is not going to dismiss the Yuschenko Cabinet, but he added that the government should be efficient and depend more on the parliamentary majority. Mr. Yuschenko apparently treated this pronouncement as less than comforting, and made an attempt at concluding a separate peace agreement with the oligarchs.

It may sound paradoxical to many, but the question of whether President Kuchma survives the current political unrest in Ukraine seems to be of secondary importance in comparison with the question of Prime Minister Yuschenko’s survival. Mr. Yuschenko’s possible ouster in April may not only disrupt the current positive economic trends in the country, along with the government’s reformist course, but also make a much more gloomy prospect a reality.

Ukraine could soon find itself left to the full discretion of those who contributed enormously over the past 10 years to its plunge into all-encompassing corruption, economic inefficiency and abject poverty.

NEWSBRIEFS**Students demand Kuchma’s imprisonment**

LVIV – Some 3,000 students marched in Lviv on March 13, calling for the imprisonment of President Leonid Kuchma, the sacking of Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Kravchenko and the release of protesters arrested during the March 9 anti-presidential rally in Kyiv, Interfax reported. The march took place without any reported violence. Last week, agencies reported that the Kyiv police arrested some 100 students, primarily from Lviv and other western Ukrainian cities, while they were gathering at a railway station to return home from the anti-Kuchma rally and the founding congress of the All-Ukrainian Public Resistance Committee “For the Truth!” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Deputies differ on accord with government

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko is currently discussing a draft accord between the government and the parliamentary majority on mutual responsibilities and obligations, Interfax reported. The need for such a document has been questioned by both pro-government and opposition parliamentary groups. Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz said the accord is unnecessary, adding that the Constitution of Ukraine is sufficient for regulating relations between the government and the legislature. Oleksander Zinchenko, head of the Social Democratic Party (United) caucus, criticized the draft as “extremely raw” and “full of contradictions.” Mr. Yuschenko’s intention to sign an accord with the parliamentary majority is seen by some Ukrainian commentators as a move to prevent his possible ouster next month. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ombudswoman warns of civil war

KYIV – Ombudswoman for human rights Nina Karpachova has called on politicians to come to the negotiating table in order to “constructively resolve” the current political unrest in Ukraine, Interfax reported on March 12. Ms. Karpachova made her appeal while visiting hospitalized policemen who suffered injuries in the March 9 clashes with demonstrators in Kyiv protesting against President Leonid Kuchma. “All should be aware of the threat of civil war [in Ukraine],” Mr. Karpachova said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma cites “brown plague”

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on March 10 said tolerating the activities of radical nationalists within the ranks of his opponents is similar to the 1938 Munich agreement accepting Hitler’s expansionist policies before the outbreak of World War II, Reuters reported. “Let people see with

their own eyes the signs of just such a brown plague that could just develop in Ukraine given a situation of this sort. We should be careful, as things start from small beginnings,” he noted. And in last week’s interview with the German magazine Focus, the Ukrainian president said people take to the streets in Ukraine for money. “Just look at this circus with the demonstrations. People have been paid to take part. For many students it’s a real business,” the Associated Press quoted Mr. Kuchma as saying in the interview. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PM: Cabinet remains loyal to Kuchma

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yuschenko told journalists on March 7 that his Cabinet “has no ministers opposing the presidential course,” Interfax reported. Mr. Yuschenko said the Cabinet constructively cooperates with the president and implements the “directives and political concepts that were laid down by the president in his annual message [to the Parliament] last year.” Mr. Yuschenko seems to have reacted to President Leonid Kuchma’s demand that all state officials publicly renounce ties to the opposition or leave their posts. The same day, the prime minister introduced Stanislav Stashevskiy, the new energy minister appointed by President Kuchma to replace Serhii Yermilov. Mr. Yermilov said no one has told him why he was dismissed. (RFE/RL Newsline)

New anti-Kuchma group emerges

KYIV – An All-Ukrainian Public Resistance Committee “For the Truth!” was founded in Kyiv on March 9. Interfax reported that the initiators of the committee included leaders of the student hunger strikes on Kyiv’s Independence Square in 1990. “[Our main goal] is not simply to replace one president with another, but to fully reconstruct the entire system of political, economic and social relations in Ukraine,” the agency quoted Volodymyr Chemerys of the committee’s leadership as saying. Mr. Chemerys was hospitalized on March 11 with a brain concussion suffered in the March 9 clashes at the presidential administration building. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko warns of totalitarianism

KYIV – Former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, who is now in prison, published a letter in the March 14 Financial Times, which said that President Leonid Kuchma is consciously building a totalitarian state in Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko said Kuchma has blocked all reforms and anti-corruption efforts by the government in the energy sector. She noted that the president

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INTERVIEW: Naval officer offers observations on fleet's recent history and current status

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

PART I

KYIV – As Ukraine approaches the 10th anniversary of its declaration of independence from Moscow in August 1991, books are appearing in Kyiv commemorating and analyzing various aspects of that event. Among them is Anatolii Danilov's first book, "The Ukrainian Flotilla: Near the Well of Rebirth," which documents the events that occurred in Sevastopol and the Black Sea Fleet just before and after that momentous occasion in the life of Ukraine.

Capt. 1st Class Danilov, who was responsible for the formation of the first Ukrainian Navy Television and Radio Center in Sevastopol in the early 1990s, chronicles the political intrigue and the social climate in Kyiv and Sevastopol during those days and months. Today Capt. Danilov is assistant director of the Nakhimov Naval Institute of Sevastopol.

The book, written in the Ukrainian language, is the first tome of a history of the Ukrainian navy that Capt. Danilov is preparing. The second tome is due out in time for the jubilee celebrations of Ukrainian independence in August.

In the following edited interview, conducted in Kyiv in mid-February, the naval officer, who ran unsuccessfully for a seat in the Verkhovna Rada in March 1998 on the Ukrainian National Rukh ticket, gives his views on Ukrainian-Russian relations – with the focus on Sevastopol, home port to both the Russian Black Sea Fleet and the Ukrainian navy. Capt. Danilov also comments on recent agreements on mutual cooperation signed by the Ukrainian and Russian ministries of defense.

Today, how are relations between the Ukrainian navy and the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Sevastopol?

I believe that today relations are stable. After all, it has been nearly four years since the division of the Black Sea Fleet.

No matter what the situation, the most important aspect of this issue is that the split in fact took place. I, as a front-line representative of the Ukrainian navy higher command, remember well when the leadership of the Black Sea Fleet categorically was against the division.

This situation existed for nearly four years, from about April 1992 to May 1996, when the accord finally was signed – a far-reaching treaty between Ukraine and Russia by the two prime ministers, at the time Pavlo Lazarenko and Viktor Chernomyrdin, on the division of the Black Sea Fleet.

Positive changes have taken place since then, although I want to emphasize here that the split itself did not take place either

less of what is officially said, does not lie in Sevastopol. They understand this.

It may take 20 or 25 years, but Ukraine is an independent country and the perspective for the future will not be in favor of Russia. If they care for their Black Sea Fleet they will have to decide the question of where their main military port will be, whether it is Novorosiisk, or Anapa, or Sochi. That's their problem.

Relations in general are normal, however. We live together with our families. We don't have Ukrainian "reservations" and Russian reservations. Relations are constructive. We have no right to exaggerate the situation; relations are normal at all levels.

Leonid Danylovykh Kuchma has deter-

... Sevastopol belongs to us. Sevastopol is a Ukrainian city, it is the main base of the Ukrainian navy and the only master can be Ukraine ...

proportionally or in the end, evenly. Even then much was written in the press that Ukraine was losing a lot with the division.

Well, you can't change history. The ships we received were old, although it is true that the fleet, or at least about 95 percent of the vessels in it, were at the end of their life expectancy. But Ukraine, as strange as it may seem, received the oldest of the ships. Of course, for us this wasn't the most pleasant of experiences.

In the last years, as a result of the active work of our Commander of Naval Forces Admiral Mykhailo Yezhel toward peaceful and constructive relations with the Black Sea Fleet, we have held joint exercises under the name Channel of Peace 1999 and Channel of Peace 2000, and are planning Channel of Peace exercises for this year as well.

But I have to admit there remains a certain amount of internal tension [between the two navies]. It is not felt at the highest levels but at the middle echelons, between commanders of ships, among staff commanders, let's say. This is the most basic level of command, the spine of command.

And the reason for this is because the Russians sense that we are, nonetheless, the hosts here, and that their future, regard-

mined a course that makes Russia a strategic partner. But, as an officer and a citizen of Ukraine, I must emphasize that all aspects of our relations must develop on an equal basis, so that at no time will the state interests of Ukraine be defamed, debased or in any way disregarded. This is not only my attitude, but I believe that of all the officers, of my colleagues and brothers, as well as of a majority of ordinary citizens.

To what extent does a feeling exist among the sailors and officers in Sevastopol that it would have been better not to have divided the fleet? Understand here that I refer to the fleet, not to the two countries.

Even if a social survey were to be taken on the basis of that question, I don't believe you would get an objective answer because the issue is so sensitive with all sorts of subtleties. As far as I can say, however – and I believe I know the situation in Sevastopol and among the military personnel, and those within our institute – I think that practically 100 percent know and recognize that independent Ukraine exists, and that it must have the attributes associated with independence, including

the armed forces.

I have to say that I absolutely don't hear or see anything in the mass media about some loudmouth non-patriots or people obsessed with the idea of a single fleet. Yes, that was the case earlier. It existed and it will be in my second book on the subject. [Leonid] Kravchuk and [Boris] Yeltsin discussed the possibility of a joint command. Yes, a joint command. Then the idea was ruminated upon fully. It was debated on the pages of newspapers and in public meetings. Today the idea of a single Ukrainian-Russian fleet is not even heard.

Would you agree that the treaty signed between Ukraine's Minister of Defense Oleksander Kuzmuk and Russia's Minister of Defense Ihor Sergeev in January is a normal bilateral treaty for further military cooperation in 2001?

As you know, Ukraine supports normal and equal bilateral relations with all countries of the world. This goes for Germany, Western Europe, the United States, but I'll get to them later. Our president, Leonid Kuchma, has designated Russia our strategic partner and, therefore, what our defense ministers are doing [supports that policy], as was the case when Minister Sergeev was in Kyiv from January 17 to 20 of this year, at which time a treaty was signed that designates joint command/control over the movement of ships into and out of Sevastopol.

I just want to state that if it is within the realm of normal, civilized relations, then everything is fine; but if it is again a case where Ukraine's navy will be debased and made to play a secondary role, that is not normal.

But in my opinion, and I am not about to play politics here, Sevastopol belongs to us. Sevastopol is a Ukrainian city, it is the main base of the Ukrainian navy and the only master can be Ukraine, the command staff of the Ukrainian navy.

The Russians may take offense. If they do, that is their problem. But that is the only possibility; it is complete nonsense to accept that two masters can exist, even taking international norms into consideration. If there are two masters, then in reality no master exists.

As for relations between the two navies, let them remain as they are. You undoubtedly are aware that the rescue operation of

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Quotable notes

"I remember how I once 'sold myself' to [Leonid] Kuchma. It was on the eve of the second round of the presidential elections in 1994. There was some discussion of the presidential race in the building of the Union of Journalists, while Kuchma's election staff – in a building across the Khreshchatyk – just publicized a statement by their candidate on how the incumbent president, Leonid Kravchuk, was pressuring him and limiting his access to the media. I came with that statement to the Union of Journalists and asked what was their opinion about it. I heard from all sides: 'You have sold yourself for money to the red directors.' [Ed. note: Kuchma was a high-ranking party official and the director of a rocket-producing plant.] Members of the Union of Journalists hissed at any 'opposition' because they were assiduously working for the incumbent president. Several days later, those same people greeted me in a humble voice and looked attentively at me, trying to figure out whether I remember who of them was against Kuchma. Because he won."

– Independent Kyiv-based journalist Iryna Pohorelova, as quoted in the February 1 issue of the biweekly *Ukrainskyi Rehionalnyi Visnyk* and cited by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.

FOR THE RECORD: Kyiv violence a topic at State Department briefing

Following is an excerpt from the Friday, March 9, briefing at the U.S. Department of State, during which one of the topics raised was that day's violent clash between protesters and police in Kyiv. The briefing was conducted by the department's spokesman, Richard Boucher.

And on Ukraine, there have been some very violent protests there today. Do you have anything to say about that?

Mr. Boucher: This morning, the Ukraine police forcibly prevented about 200 demonstrators from crossing police lines. President [Leonid] Kuchma was preparing to lay a wreath at a monument of poet Taras Shevchenko.

There were reports that an opposition member of parliament was beaten and hospitalized. In the afternoon, there were about 150 demonstrators who clashed with police near the presidential offices, and there were reports of further injuries. Ukrainian officials have stated their

commitment to resolve political issues by constitutional means and to engage in a dialogue with the opposition. We think that the current political atmosphere presents Ukraine and its leaders with a test of their commitment to the rule of law, democracy and human rights. We call on all parties to exercise restraint, and of course we look to the Ukrainian authorities to carry out their pledge to solve things by constitutional means and dialogue.

Can we stay on the [sic] Ukraine, please? The Ukrainians are claiming that a former security officer for President Kuchma, who revealed some tapes implicating him in the murder of a journalist there, is currently hiding on a U.S. military base in the Netherlands under U.S. protection. Do you have anything on that?

Mr. Boucher: I hadn't seen that report. I'm not going to speculate on anything involving those tapes. I don't think we really have anything particular

to say on it.

Well, can you check and see if the U.S. is providing this man any kind of security protection, or is he applying for asylum or anything?

Mr. Boucher: I'll see if there is anything we can say on it, and we'll see if we can say no, or no comment.

Can I have a quick follow-up? Are you satisfied with the current pace at which the Ukraine leadership is investigating the murder of [Heorhii] Gongadze, given that seems to have been the key issue for the government – the U.S. administration in regards to Ukraine?

Mr. Boucher: We have commented and had a position on the importance of investigating, on the importance of investigating in a transparent and open manner. I don't think we have any judgment at this point on the pace. But certainly that is a crucial element in resolving the situation.



An elderly Ukrainian man asks policemen to let him go to the Shevchenko monument to place flowers on the occasion of the 186th anniversary of the poet's birth.



A girl sticks flowers in the shields of policemen who cordoned off the Shevchenko monument.

Protesters and police...

(Continued from page 1)

conspiracies.

National Deputy Taras Chornovil, who has become an active leader of the opposition movement and who walked at the head of the 18,000-person column that marched through Kyiv that day, said the people who initiated the rock and bottle throwing and hurled a Molotov cocktail and several smoke bombs towards a police security line were not participants of the demonstration.

"These people were obviously part of a plan to provoke the demonstrators to violence and make them look bad," said Mr. Chornovil.

Yurii Lutsenko, a co-leader of the Ukraine Without Kuchma civil organization, said he had reports that the person who threw the firebomb appeared from a side street and disappeared in the same direction afterwards.

Meanwhile, law enforcement officials, who were called on the carpet before the Verkhovna Rada on March 14 to explain the events of March 9, blamed the demonstrators for the violence. Deputy Procurator General Oleksander Dzyha said his officers had videotape that clearly shows who had provoked what. He said the militia had acted with adequate force to defend themselves and the Presidential Administration

Building, as well as the park where Ukrainian leaders took part in a ceremony earlier in the day.

Volodymyr Radchenko, in his first public appearance as the newly appointed head of the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU), told lawmakers it is possible that foreign agents were behind the March 9 violence. He did not specify whom his agency suspected, but asserted that those who had initiated the violence were paid to do so and coached on how to provoke a violent confrontation.

"Our preliminary investigation has established that those engaged in civil disorder were paid with money; they were instructed on how to attack the police and how to behave during interrogation in case they were detained," said Mr. Radchenko.

Mr. Chornovil and fellow National Deputy Taras Stetskiiv, both of whom belong to the Reforms-Congress faction in the Ukrainian Parliament, also accused the militia of indiscriminate use of arrest powers at the Kyiv train station the evening after the violent encounters.

Scores of young people – some leaving Kyiv after participating in the demonstrations, others after having taken part in a national congress of the For the Truth civic organization – were pulled from trains because they were wearing the civic organization's round black and white stickers with the word "truth" printed on them. The

emblem has become a common sight at anti-Kuchma rallies.

Law enforcement officials said on March 10 that they had detained 217 suspects in all. Mr. Dzyha explained that only those whom the militia had filmed breaking the law were arrested, as officials carried photos of the accused to make sure they nabbed the right people.

In addition to those at the railroad station, arrests were made at the Kyiv headquarters of the Ukrainian National Self-Defense Organization, an extreme right paramilitary organization whose members took an active part in the confrontations with law enforcement bodies. Among those arrested were the organization's leader, Andrii Shkil.

While the detained were being quickly processed and sent for court hearings immediately after the arrests, Mr. Chornovil and Mr. Stetskiiv scoured local jails looking to help those wrongly taken into custody. By Sunday afternoon 87 people remained in detention after receiving jail sentences ranging from eight to 15 days for minor hooliganism.

The day of bloody violence began on a holiday of sorts, the birthday of Ukraine's national bard, Taras Shevchenko, who in his 19th century poems gave voice to the concept of Ukrainian national identity.

The first of what were to be three encounters with law enforcement bodies that day took place in the morning near the huge memorial at Taras Shevchenko Park, located across the street from the main administration building of Shevchenko State University.

The scene was set when more than 3,000 state militia personnel and 100 members of the national guard gathered in the park in the wee hours of the morning. After searching the area with bomb-sniffing dogs, they secured it by forming a two-layered perimeter of militia and metal barricades. All ingress into the park was limited as the only entrance was through a single metal detector at the front.

During his March 14 report to the Verkhovna Rada, SBU Director Radchenko said the unusual step was taken because law enforcement agencies had received two threats of terrorist action and one bomb threat the previous day.

When a delegation of Socialist Party members from Vinnytsia, who had bused in to Kyiv for the demonstrations, attempted to lay flowers at the Shevchenko memorial at about 7 a.m., the first clash occurred. Several older women from the delegation, along with National Deputy Valentyna Semeniuk, aggressively insisted they be given access to the park. After officials refused them, they began pushing officers and trying to get around the barricades. In the ensuing scuffle Ms. Semeniuk was allegedly punched in the face.

Tensions rose further when 200 to 300 protesters, supporters of the various parties

and civic organizations that make up anti-Kuchma forces, but mostly UNSO activists, gathered near the park and marched on the militia lines. They also demanded access to the park, to commemorate Shevchenko's birthday and lay flowers at his memorial. After being refused access, they attempted to push their way through the security lines, at one point rushing at the militia in waves and lifting metal barricades to heave at the militia.

One female member of UNSO climbed atop a low awning of the university building with a pole she seemed ready to hurl into the crowd of militia when several officers came after her and pushed her from the building to the ground about 15 meters below, where other officers kicked and stomped her.

As law enforcement officials were finally achieving some success in containing the violence, the president's motorcade pulled up at the far side of the park and President Kuchma, along with Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko and First Vice-Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Viktor Medvedchuk, exited the vehicles and proceeded to the Shevchenko memorial where a brief wreath-laying ceremony took place.

As the official delegation departed, the thousands of law enforcement officials made an orderly retreat to awaiting buses, leaving the park to the demonstrators, who quickly tore apart the official wreaths. Mr. Chornovil went so far as to take a lighter to the blue-yellow ribbon that adorned the president's flower arrangement.

A small contingent of between 1,000 and 1,500 protesters then proceeded up Volodymyrska Street to the local Ministry of Internal Affairs headquarters, where they demanded and received the release of four individuals who had been arrested earlier. The protesters, in a bad mood even after this small victory, attempted to destroy the paddy wagon that brought the four arrested individuals out to the crowds.

After a noon rally that saw the crowd swell to more than 15,000, the demonstration organizers decided to march on the Ministry of Internal Affairs central headquarters and then the Presidential Administration Building.

At militia headquarters they knocked down construction barricades and pelted the face of the building with rocks, ice and eggs, while calling for the resignation of Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Kravchenko. The climactic final chapter of the day's events began when the column approached the Presidential Administration Building.

There, several hundred militia clad in riot gear and carrying large metal shields and batons readied for a confrontation. Leaders of the demonstration maintained that they had urged the crowd not to stop and to proceed to the Khreshchatyk for a final rally, but rocks and pieces of ice were lofted from the

(Continued on page 5)

FOR THE RECORD: Powell on developments in Ukraine

Following are excerpts from a joint "press availability" in Washington on March 6 with Sweden's Foreign Affairs Minister Anna Lindh and U.S. Secretary of State Colin L. Powell. The text was released by the U.S. Department of State.

Mr. Secretary, the European Union has called for a special effort, with the United States and Canada, to help Ukraine with its economic and political reforms. Can you tell us what concrete steps you're taking in this regard? And also could you comment about recent developments in Ukraine concerning a crackdown on political opponents and reports of corruption and a crackdown on media freedoms?

Secretary Powell: Obviously we are very concerned, and we discussed this during the course of our meeting about the situation in the Ukraine. There has been a crackdown on political opponents and dissidents. There has clearly been a crackdown on the

press, in a very horrible, potentially horrible way. And all of this has sidetracked economic reform, it has sidetracked the agenda of the prime minister, and it is a source of considerable concern.

The United States and the EU are standing by wanting to help Ukraine, but they've got to get these kind of political difficulties beyond them and show that they're worthy of that kind of investment. I think the foreign minister might wish to say another word on that.

Minister Lindh: I can just add that we were in Ukraine on a troika visit from the EU two weeks ago, and we could clearly see that there is a very difficult situation. We, of course, discussed the media situation and the Gongadze case, the disappeared murdered journalist. We got no good answers. So obviously they do have a lot of both political and economic problems, but at the same time it's important to continue to cooperate with Ukraine, not to let them fall down even deeper.

Protesters and police...

(Continued from page 4)

crowd in increasing numbers. Then the UNSO marchers attacked the militia line, beating several officers while grabbing their shields and the batons. At this point a Molotov cocktail flew into the crowd of militia, injuring three, followed by smoke bombs. After the 15-minute encounter, demonstrators who had taken part in the violence, numbering several hundred and led by the UNSO delegation, marched on while chanting a fight song and carrying their booty of several militia shields and batons.

One excited supporter raced down the street screaming, "We won, we beat the militia," as what remained of the huge column made its way onto the Khreschatyk, before dispersing.

With the aura of non-violence to which the demonstrators had remained committed until March 9 now broken, calls increasingly have been heard for negotiations between the anti-Kuchma forces and the president's administration to resolve the political crisis. On March 12 three political parties that support President Kuchma – the Social Democratic Party (United), the Democratic Union Party and the Green Party – criticized the opposition and condemned the violence of March 9, but called for talks between the two sides.

That same day Nina Karpachova, the human rights ombudsman in the Verkhovna Rada, called for both sides to sit down at a negotiating table for a "constructive settlement" of the situation. She said that Ukraine could well be on the verge of civil war.

Prime Minister Yuschenko called the events of March 9 a dangerous situation and said it would be a mistake to discount them. He also warned of the danger of ceding ground to forces that desire to gain political power through social unrest, but, nonetheless, said he believes the two sides must meet.

"The government, the Parliament and the president will profit from open political dialogue," said Mr. Yuschenko.

Polish President Alexander Kwasniewski, with whom Mr. Kuchma met in Warsaw on March 15, said two days before the Ukrainian president's arrival that he was willing to host and mediate talks between the opposing sides.

Meanwhile Volodymyr Chemerys, a co-leader of the Ukraine Without Kuchma movement, said he has been and continues to be ready to meet at any time.



Efrem Lukatsky

A wall of shields protects policemen gathered near the Presidential Administration Building from protesters.



Efrem Lukatsky

Opposition activists break down a barrier at the Presidential Administration Building during a clash with police.



Dima Gavrish

Riot police use tear gas against opposition activists near the Presidential Administration Building.



Efrem Lukatsky

Demonstrators surge toward police at the Presidential Administration Building.

Ukrainian diplomats, government officials and community members pay tribute to Shevchenko

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian Americans from the greater capital area and diplomats and government officials from Ukraine gathered in front of the monument to Ukraine's foremost poet, Taras Shevchenko, here on March 10 to honor his memory and the role his poetry played in the preservation and building of the Ukrainian consciousness.

After they placed flowers at the foot of his towering statue, the pastors of the local Ukrainian churches led them in prayer. Ukraine's ambassador and community leaders eulogized Shevchenko, Ukrainian Saturday school children in embroidered shirts and blouses recited his poetry, and all joined in singing songs written to the poet's words.

The annual event was raised to a higher level this year with the participation of several senior members of the government of Ukraine who were in Washington for talks with the World Bank, International Monetary Fund and U.S. officials. Among them were First Vice Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov, Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov and Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksii Berezhnyi, who until a few months ago had been the Washington Embassy's



Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko speaks about the need for cooperation in building Ukraine's future.

chargé d'affaires.

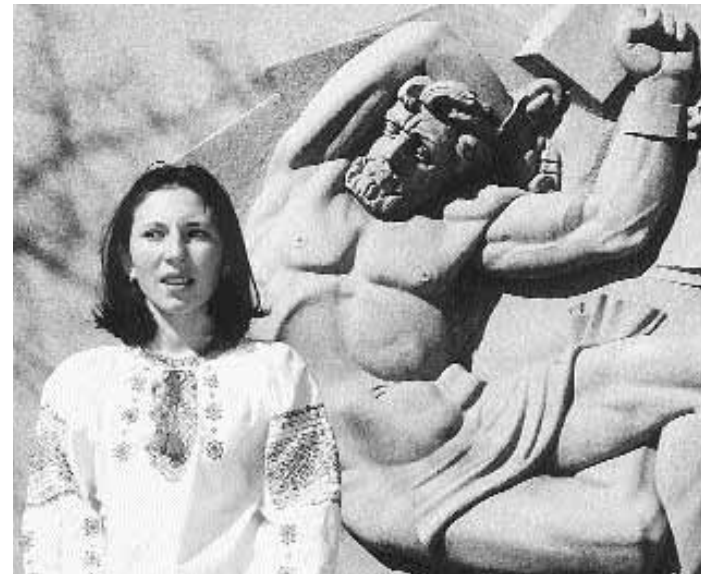
Ambassador Kostyantyn Gryshchenko in his brief remarks underscored the need "to move forward together in building the new, independent Ukraine and in expanding its ties with the United States."

The clash between demonstrators and police that marred a similar gathering in Kyiv the previous day, while probably on

the minds of many of those present, was not reflected in this gathering. One of the Washington Ukrainian studies school classes that recited a poem by Shevchenko, however, dedicated it to Heorhii Gongadze, the young Ukrainian journalist whose murder sparked the anti-government protests in Kyiv.

Students of the Washington and Baltimore Saturday Ukrainian schools

recited or read Shevchenko's poetry during the program, at which Theodore Caryk, director of the Washington school, was the master of ceremonies. The opening and closing prayers were conducted by the Rev. Stefan Zencuch of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and the Rev. Taras Lonchyna, of the Holy Trinity Particular Ukrainian Catholic Church.



Tania Stadnyk of Baltimore recites Shevchenko's "Will we ever meet again?" in front of the bas-relief of Prometheus.

Canadian ambassador warns Gongadze case is harming Ukraine's image

by Christopher Guly

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – Ukraine's recent economic progress could be overshadowed by the scandal rocking President Leonid Kuchma's administration over the disappearance and murder of a prominent Ukrainian journalist, warned Canada's ambassador to Ukraine.

Ambassador Derek Fraser on February 27 told an audience at the University of Ottawa that the Heorhii Gongadze controversy, in which some Ukrainians

allege involvement by Mr. Kuchma and several Ukrainian law enforcement officials, could create a "blemish" on Ukraine, which has finally attained economic growth since gaining independence.

"One of the tragedies of the Gongadze case is that it could be harming Ukraine's image abroad," said Mr. Fraser, adding that the country's relationship with the West could suffer as a result.

"Certain people in Ukraine may underestimate the strength of Western reaction. I don't want to see this happen

with Ukraine," he continued.

Mr. Fraser, who previously served as Canada's ambassador to Greece and Hungary, said he has presented Canada's concerns over the Gongadze case to Ukrainian authorities.

Among those attending Ambassador Fraser's lecture, presented by the University of Ottawa's Chair of Ukrainian Studies, was Dr. Yuri Scherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to Canada.

Citing the "excellent democratic fashion" with which Canada has handled the four-decade-old, Quebec-independence issue as an example, Ambassador Fraser suggested that a proper resolution to the Gongadze case would depend on whether Ukraine follows a similar "democratic" approach.

According to Carl Schwenger, a spokesman for Canada's Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Canada believes that "media freedom is an essential element to democratic governance." He added that "Ukraine has responsibilities both under domestic law and international human rights instruments in this regard."

He said the Canadian government has "encouraged" the Ukrainian government "to carry out a fair and impartial investigation in accordance with these commitments."

Mr. Schwenger pointed out that Canada's technical assistance to Ukraine, which is administered by the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) and has totaled \$228 million (about \$147 million U.S.) to date, "assists in the development of democratic institutions and good governance" in Ukraine. "Part of that package is certainly media having a fair and free press," he explained.

"We expect Ukrainian leaders to demonstrate their commitment to openness and transparency by acting quickly and constructively to protect democratic norms," Mr. Schwenger underscored.

Canada also raised its concerns over the handling of the Gongadze case at a February 15 meeting of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, of which Canada and Ukraine are members.

Late last year, Jan Marinus Wiersma,

president of the European Parliament's Cooperation Committee with Ukraine, sent a letter to Verkhovna Rada Chairman Ivan Plusch expressing the Parliament's "deepest concern" over "possible attacks against the freedom of the media and the freedom of speech in Ukraine."

An outspoken political journalist and founding publisher of Ukraine's first web-based newspaper, *Ukrainska Pravda*, 31-year-old Mr. Gongadze went missing after leaving his Kyiv office on September 16, 2000.

On November 2 a beheaded corpse believed to be Mr. Gongadze's remains was unearthed in the town of Tarascha. Since then, Mr. Kuchma has faced accusations that he was personally involved in the journalist's disappearance, with thousands of Ukrainians taking to the streets to call for the president's removal from office.

The issue has also drawn attention in Canada, where a recent issue of the weekly newsmagazine *Maclean's* reported on President Kuchma's conversations, secretly taped by his former bodyguard, Maj. Mykola Melnychenko, now in hiding somewhere in Europe.

According to the *Maclean's* report, President Kuchma, who initially denied knowing the muckraking journalist harshly critical of him but later admitted it was his voice on the tapes, says: "Toss Gongadze, that little f— —r to the Chechens, in his f— —g underwear."

Though the Gongadze case has seriously affected Ukraine's domestic and international affairs, Canadian Ambassador Fraser argued the country has followed a "peaceful and democratic" path and has held "peaceful" presidential and legislative elections since declaring independence in 1991.

He also gave credit to Ukraine for "introducing steps" toward political and economic reform, highlighting the fact that the country's economy has grown — for the first time in the past decade — by 6 percent in the last year. "Carrying out aggressive economic reforms opens doors," Ambassador Fraser said.

But he warned that it is "going to take

(Continued on page 11)

FOR THE RECORD: Canada's Ps&Bs seek help for Melnychenko

Following is the text of a letter regarding Maj. Mykola Melnychenko that was sent to Elinor Caplan, Canada's minister of citizenship and immigration, by the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Federation. The letter, dated February 26, was signed by Oksana Bashuk Hepburn, UCPBF president.

Dear Minister:

Canada has often granted political asylum to those who, at great risk to themselves and their families, work for democracy. These actions signal Canada's commitment to high standards in the protection of human rights. A recent case is that of a retired Russian submarine officer who revealed dangers posed by spent nuclear materials improperly disposed of by the military. Subsequently charged by his government with treason, he and his family were granted political asylum by Canada.

It is with regret that we feel obliged to call your attention to an analogous situation in Ukraine. You will no doubt be aware of the brutal death of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. The case involves a newly retired member of the Ukrainian presidential security detail, Maj. Mykola Melnychenko. His secretly taped conversations from the president's office appear

to implicate the most senior levels of government, including the president, in improper and possibly illegal activities, including the disappearance of Mr. Gongadze.

Maj. Melnychenko has been charged with treason by the Ukrainian government and has gone, with his family, into hiding outside of Ukraine. Although the Council of Europe has asked its members not to extradite Maj. Melnychenko to Ukraine, he has good cause to fear for his safety and that of his family. According to media reports, he has asked, as yet without success, for political asylum in the West.

The purpose of this letter is to ask Canada to give positive and quick consideration to offering Mykola Melnychenko and his family asylum in Canada through appropriate channels. As there is no form of contact between our organization and the individual, we cannot say if he would accept the offer. Even if he were to decline, the very fact it was made would be a positive signal to those who support the rule of law, the integrity of political office, and freedom of the press in Ukraine. Also, it would further Canada's reputation as a champion of these principles.

We look forward to hearing from you on this critical matter.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

About those premium-due notices...

by Martha Lysko
National Secretary

The UNA will be mailing premium-due notices approximately three weeks before a member's premium due date. This gives you enough time to mail your premium payment to the Home Office, and it also gives the UNA sufficient time to process your premium in a timely manner. Premiums are processed on a daily basis, as they are received in the mail. Ideally your premium should be received in our office and processed before your premium due date.

Every premium-paying policy has a premium due date located on the bottom portion of your premium-due notice. This date also represents the day to which your policy is currently paid. For example, if your premium due date is January 28, 2001, your policy is paid to January 28, 2001. Your next premium will cover the next period.

If your payment is not received and processed by the premium due date, it is then considered late and will be treated as such. If payment is made on a timely basis, you will receive your next notice of premium due three weeks prior to the next due date.

If payment is not received and it is 45

days after the premium due date, a lapse notice will be mailed to the member advising that his/her policy is being lapsed due to lack of premium payment. Should all back premiums be paid, the policy will be reinstated and considered in good standing. However, this procedure depends on the type of policy you own. Term policies, since they have no cash value, cannot be reinstated after the grace period ends. The result is loss of insurance coverage and the potential of leaving your family unprotected from financial difficulties.

The notice of premium due states the frequency of payments per year you have chosen: annual, semi-annual, quarterly or monthly. Each premium pays for the next period of insurance coverage. For example, if your premium due date is January 28, 2001, paid annually, you will now be paying for coverage from January 28, 2001 through January 28, 2002. Another example, for quarterly payments, if your premium due date is January 28, 2001, you are paying for coverage from January 28, 2001 through March 28, 2001. Please remember that this letter contains examples only. For your premium due date and mode (premium paying period), please check your notice of premium due.

Soyuzivka camps: an explanation of new programs and fee increases

by Ulana Diachuk
President

In the past two weeks Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly carried announcements of all camps to be held at the UNA resort, Soyuzivka, during July and August.

Readers no doubt noticed that the camp listing is much longer than in the past. Due to the fact that the Ukrainian Fraternal Association's resort, Verkhovyna, will not be able to host dance camps and sports camps this summer, Soyuzivka stepped in and is offering these camps at the same time as they were usually held at Verkhovyna. In addition, all the camps that were held at Soyuzivka in prior years will be repeated.

Readers, especially those who are planning to send their children to one of the camps, have most likely also noticed the increased camp fees. We wish to explain the reason we could not hold the camp fees at the same level as that charged in the past.

In January of this year the UNA Executive Committee devoted several days to the review of all expenses associated with holding each camp at Soyuzivka. At the same time, a review was done of all other activities at the resort. This was necessitated by Soyuzivka's constant operating deficits, as a result of which the UNA supports the resort to the extent of about \$450,000 annually. That sum includes the subsidy given to all camps.

Since our organization is unable to

continue such extensive support, the UNA Executive Committee is striving to make adjustments in order to reduce the deficits to a manageable amount. If we do not succeed in that goal, the fate of our beloved Soyuzivka could be in jeopardy.

The UNA had to include in its calculations a variety of expenses connected with the running of the camps in order to come up with an average daily camp fee. In addition to the food that has to be purchased, cooked and served, we had to take into account also a very small portion of our energy costs, our administrative, housekeeping and maintenance expenses, salaries of employees involved in serving the camps, costs of the upkeep of the pool, as well as a portion of the fire and liability insurance premium, etc. An average daily fee of \$45 was established as the rate necessary to cover only our expenses. Campers who are UNA members are entitled to a discount.

The camp fees depend on the number of days the particular camp is held and the instructors' and/or counselors' fees charged by camp directors. Please bear in mind that the instructors' or counselors' fees are payable to the camp directors, as is the camp insurance in the case of some camps. Since both the owner of the resort (the UNA) and the camp directors must have their own separate camp insurance for protection, a camp insurance fee had to be instituted.

(Continued on page 19)

Young UNA'ers



Markian Gregory Lee (left) and Catherine Lee, children of Christiane W. and Todd Andrew Lee, is a new member of UNA Branch 13 in Watervliet, N.Y. He was enrolled by his parents.



Adriana Maria Teluk, daughter of Irina and Peter Teluk of Silver Spring, Md., is a new member of UNA Branch 358 in Baltimore. She was enrolled by her godfather, UNA Advisor Taras G. Szmaga Jr.

Maxim Alexander Kuropas, son of Roman Michael Kuropas and Tanya Karawan-Kuropas, is a new member of UNA Branch 20 of Warren, Mich. He was enrolled by his grandparents Roman Ivan Kuropas (secretary of Branch 20) and Tamara Daria Kuropas.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – JANUARY 2001

Martha Lysko, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 12/2000	7,145	15,029	3,511	25,685
Total Inactive Members – 12/2000	7,295	17,709	0	25,004
Total Members – 12/2000	14,440	32,738	3,511	50,689

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 1/2001

New members	8	31	0	39
New members UL	1	1	0	2
Reinstated	6	12	2	20
Total Gains:	15	44	2	61

Losses in 1/2001

Died	0	45	0	45
Cash surrender	11	20	0	31
Endowment matured	10	9	0	19
Fully paid-up	15	15	0	30
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	20	44	0	64
Certificates lapsed (active)	15	23	33	71
Certificate terminated	0	1	3	4
Total Losses	71	157	36	264
Total Active Members - 1/2001	7,089	14,916	3,477	25,482

INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 1/2001

Paid-up	15	15	0	30
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	20	44	0	64
Total Gains	35	59	0	94

Losses in 1/2001

* Died	1	57	0	58
* Cash surrender	4	13	0	17
Pure endowment matured	1	1	0	2
Reinstated to active	6	12	0	18
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	4	6	0	10
Total Losses	16	89	0	105
Total Inactive Members - 1/2001	7,314	17,679	0	24,993

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - 1/2001 14,403 32,595 3,477 50,475

(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

From bad to worse

On February 4 we editorialized about the ongoing scandal in Ukraine surrounding the Gongadze case and "Tapegate," calling on Ukraine's authorities to conduct a complete and transparent investigation into the entire affair and challenging President Leonid Kuchma to live up to his own words, i.e., that he "will continue to act in line with the law and consistently strengthen democracy in Ukraine."

Exactly one month later, we stated in an editorial that there were signs of regression in Ukraine, as noted in the U.S. State Department's annual report on human rights and underscored by recent actions in Kyiv when police forcefully dismantled the tent city set up on the Khreschatyk, beating and arresting protesters. National Deputy Yuri Karmazyn called the police action the beginning of a new stage in the government's handling of the opposition. Indeed, the use of force found favor with President Kuchma, who hailed the police action just days after he had reassured a U.S. congressional delegation that Ukraine would abide by the rule of law and principles of non-violence, and uphold civil rights. After the destruction of the tent camp, the Kyiv Post editorialized that "Kuchma essentially destroyed the last remaining shred of evidence that he has any respect for democracy." Our conclusion was that Ukraine's course must be reversed, and soon.

Since then, a second tent city was dismantled by the authorities, this time peacefully. But now things have gotten even worse, with violent confrontations in the Ukrainian capital on March 9 – each side blaming the other for provocations. Several leaders of the opposition activists demonstrating that day have said that persons who initiated violent acts were not part of their group. Meanwhile, law enforcement officials who resorted to force say they were compelled to defend themselves as well as government officials and buildings.

In the aftermath of the violence, dozens of young people were arrested – many of them wrongly – as they were pulled off trains and off the streets on their way home from the protest or from a congress of For the Truth, a civic opposition group.

Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko called the March 9 events a dangerous situation, while the human rights ombudsman in Parliament, Nina Karpachova, warned that Ukraine could be on the verge of civil war.

And thus, as the crisis continues, Ukraine continues to make headlines for all the wrong reasons. The only way out is wisely suggested in a resolution introduced in the U.S. Congress: an open investigation into the Gongadze case, respect for the rule of law and democratic freedoms, a genuine dialogue with the opposition, and the use of constitutional means to resolve this annihilative crisis.

March
23
1946

Turning the pages back...

Back in 1946 The Weekly reported on a speech before the House of Representatives delivered by Congressman Michael J. Bradley (D) of Pennsylvania, who turned his colleagues' attention to the situation facing Ukrainian displaced persons.

The congressman prefaced his remarks by speaking of the "deplorable situation which exists in Europe today with regard to the Ukrainian people," who "are being subjected to a relentless persecution on the part of the Soviet authorities which is unparalleled in the history of Europe." He said that "the Red authorities have been systematic in their efforts to liquidate the population of this region or to force the Ukrainian people to accept communistic ideologies. Hundreds of thousands of persons have been deported as slave laborers into the depths of Siberia. Wanton cruelty has been practiced, characterized by the absence of consideration for even the elementary principles of humanity."

He then proceeded to note: "... there is another serious problem confronting the displaced people of Ukraine who were seized by the Nazis when they made their drive to the east through Poland and across the Russian border. The German military authorities made captive hundreds of thousands of Ukrainians and placed them in labor camps in Germany and the occupied countries. Thousands of others fled from Ukraine to escape the horrors to which they were subjected by both the Nazis and the Communists. They are now scattered throughout France, Italy, Germany, Austria and Switzerland. The Soviet government is demanding that the United States and our Allies, who are in control of the various localities where these people have sought refuge, forcibly return these poor people to territory under the domination of the Russians. To force them to return to Ukraine or to any territory under the domination of the Communists is to condemn them to a fate worse than death."

"Neither our government nor our Allies should be a party to such an arrangement," Rep. Bradley argued. "To do so would be negative to everything for which we fought. ... They [Ukrainians] should be allowed to determine their own future and not be forced to accept the alternative of a firing squad or of an imprisonment from which death would be but a welcome relief. The American government has a responsibility at least for the Ukrainians who are present in the zone occupied by our troops and under no circumstances would we be justified in turning them over to the Soviet authorities or forcing them to return to Ukraine under conditions presently existing there," said Rep. Bradley.

"... There are over 1,000,000 Americans of Ukrainian birth or descent, thousands who have served in the armed forces of the United States and have fought for liberty and democracy. They have the right to expect that our government will make every effort to assist those of their blood who are resisting an aggression that is just as despicable and reprehensible as were the practices of the Nazis. I sincerely hope that the American government will continue to resist the demands of the Soviet that the Ukrainian refugees who are in American-controlled areas be returned to Russian-dominated territory and that our government will use its good offices with other nations to the same end."

Source: "Forced Repatriation of DPs Protested in Congress," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 23, 1946; also reprinted in "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000," Volume I (1933-1969) Parsippany, N.J.: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2000.

CONGRESSIONAL ACTION: A resolution aimed at Kuchma

Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio) on March 8 introduced a resolution "Urging the president of Ukraine to support democratic ideals, the rights of free speech and free assembly for Ukrainian citizens." The resolution is co-sponsored by Reps. Maurice D. Hinchey (D-N.Y.), Dennis J. Kucinich (D-Ohio), Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.) and Steny Hoyer (D-Md.). The measure was referred to the Committee on International Relations. The text of House Concurrent Resolution 58 follows.

Concurrent Resolution

Urging the president of Ukraine to support democratic ideals, the rights of free speech and free assembly for Ukrainian citizens.

Whereas in 1991, Ukraine became an independent, democratic country;

Whereas Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has met with members of the United States Congress, and committed to follow the rule of law, maintain the freedom of the press and assembly, and to use restraint in the use of force;

Whereas the United States and Ukraine have established a strategic partnership, encouraging economic, political, military and social cooperation between the two nations;

Whereas the United States has given Ukraine more than \$2 billion in foreign assistance;

Whereas recent political developments have given rise to concerns from Ukrainian citizens about the Ukrainian government and its possible participation in illegal acts;

Whereas an alleged example of this illegal conduct is the September 16, 2000, disappearance and murder of Heorhii Gongadze, editor of an Internet newspaper critical of the Ukrainian government;

Whereas members of the United States Congress have repeatedly offered,

with representatives of friendly international organizations, to help conduct a thorough and impartial investigation of such illegal acts to help restore public confidence in the rule of law in Ukraine; and

Whereas Ukrainian citizens gathered in Kyiv to protest and exercise their rights under Article 19 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to freedom of assembly, freedom of speech and freedom of the press:

Now, therefore, be it resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), that Congress:

(1) expresses the hope that the Ukrainian government will resolve the investigation of the disappearance and murder of Heorhii Gongadze in a serious, transparent manner that will maintain confidence in its credibility;

(2) urges the Ukrainian government to have a genuine dialogue with the opposition; and

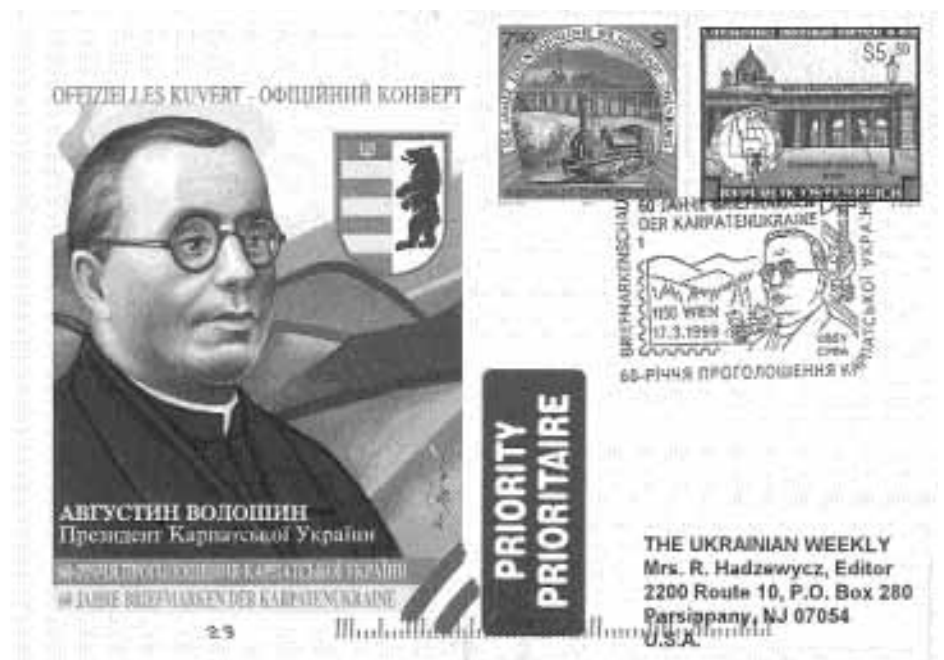
(3) encourages the use of constitutional, democratic means to resolve the current crises in a manner consistent with Ukraine's commitments to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), including the right to peaceful protest.

'Year in Review' now online

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian Weekly's "2000: The Year in Review," which appeared as a special 32-page section in the January 2, 2001, issue, is now available online on the newspaper's official website.

The Ukrainian Weekly Archives are located at www.ukrweekly.com.

1999 philatelic issue marks 60th anniversary of the proclamation of Carpatho-Ukrainian state



Until the end of World War I Carpatho-Ukraine belonged to the Hungarian part of the Austro-Hungarian monarchy. Later it became an autonomous territory within Czecho-Slovakia. On March 14, 1939, it declared its independence, a decision that was ratified by the provincial Parliament, and Msgr. Augustyn Voloshyn (depicted above) was elected president. But already on March 16 Hungarian troops occupied this territory. The first stamp of Carpatho-Ukraine was issued March 15, 1939. This official cover above was issued by the Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria in 1999 to mark the 60th anniversary of Carpatho-Ukraine. The art work is by Ivan Turetskyi of Lviv; layout is by Erhard Steinhagen of Vienna. A trilingual (Ukrainian-German-English) text appears on the back of the cover. A special bilingual (German-Ukrainian) cancellation also was used on the occasion of this historic anniversary.

Ukrainian studies scholars call on Kuchma to uphold rule of law

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — A group of 148 leading scholars and professionals in Ukrainian studies and related disciplines from more than 82 different universities, institutions and organizations in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia and Japan have called on the political leadership of Ukraine to uphold its commitment to the rule of law, due process, and freedom of the press, expression and assembly.

In a statement released on March 6, they expressed their serious misgivings regarding the handling of the investigation into the death of Heorhii Gongadze, the outspoken journalist who disappeared on September 16, 2000, and supported calls for an independent, full, transparent and credible investigation of Mr. Gongadze's murder and of all the evidence that has emerged from the case.

"Only an honest attempt to uncover the truth can restore the country's image and promise and help Ukraine avoid becoming a pariah in the world community," the group underscored.

The group also declared its deep concern about the state of civil rights in Ukraine. "We deplore the continuing reprisals, threats and implicit threats of reprisal against those media, journalists, students, teachers and other Ukrainians who dare to speak their minds openly and freely on the current crisis. The persistent efforts to prevent and obstruct peaceful demonstrations raise disturbing questions about the commitment to freedom of speech and assembly, which are guaranteed

in Ukraine's Constitution."

On March 1, just days after President Leonid Kuchma had promised a visiting delegation of U.S. congressmen that the conflict with the opposition would not be resolved through force, Ukrainian police tore down a tent camp in the center of Kyiv which had been erected by protesters demanding that the president resign over the mysterious death of the journalist. Mr. Kuchma was implicated in the case on November 28, 2000, after opposition politicians disclosed tapes in which a voice alleged to be the president's is heard giving orders to "deal" with the reporter.

The statement is notable in that it represents virtually the entire spectrum of Ukrainian studies, both senior scholars as well as junior faculty and graduate students, members of academic institutions as well as professional associations and émigré scholarly organizations.

The petition is part of a growing reaction in the West to the deepening political crisis in Ukraine. On March 1, in an open letter in the Financial Times, financier/philanthropist George Soros urged President Kuchma to step aside so that the investigation could go forward.

The statement is posted at www.ukrainianstudies.org/petition.htm. Any scholar or professional in Ukrainian studies who would like to add his/her name to the list of signatures should send an e-mail to UkrainianStudies@hotmail.com.

Among the signatories are Natalia

(Continued on page 23)

FOR THE RECORD

UCCA's open letter to Kuchma

Following is the text of an open letter to President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine from the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America. The letter is dated February 20, but was released to The Ukrainian Weekly on March 7.

Dear Mr. President:

Nearly 10 years ago, the Ukrainian nation rejoiced in the re-establishment of an independent Ukrainian nation. After 300 years of foreign occupation that suppressed even the most basic human rights, in 1991 the Ukrainian people once again bore witness to the re-establishment of democratic principles in their nation and finally gained the opportunity to live freely in their own homeland. We, Ukrainians who live in the diaspora, together with the Ukrainian nation, experienced moments of euphoria with the declaration of independence and have striven since then to support the Ukrainian nation in its establishment of a democratic society.

We are heartened that in the past year Ukraine has seen some measure of economic growth. We are, however, troubled by the current situation in Ukraine, which has reverberated negatively in U.S. government circles and within the mass media. On December 20, 2000, the chairman of the U.S. Helsinki Commission, Rep. Christopher Smith, stated that the mass media [in Ukraine] should operate in an independent and free manner, without any [outside] pressure, to inform the people since freedom of the press "is a fundamental element of

any democracy." The mass media continues to give detailed reports of the tragic situation in Ukraine and stresses its negative influence on economic and political relations between Ukraine and the West.

Our dream of Ukraine quickly becoming a strong democratic country, in which the rule of law protects the Ukrainian people, has not yet been realized. As the president of Ukraine, you, Mr. Kuchma, are the guarantor of the Constitution that protects the rights and freedoms of its citizens and ensures the rule of law within Ukraine. Notwithstanding the positive steps taken in the economic sphere, such as payment of pensions, the increase in the GDP and acquired foreign credits, the Ukrainian people are still concerned about their future and are losing faith in the current government structures.

After nine years of independence, economic and democratic reforms have not yet led to positive changes in Ukraine. So-called "oligarchic" control of the economy and politics, the perceived corruption of law-enforcement structures, the suffocation of the mass media, the deaths of journalists (including Heorhii Gongadze), the killings of political figures, as well as the lack of transparency in the actions taken by government officials in response to these issues give the impression that lawlessness, rather than the rule of law, governs Ukraine. This situation has led to anti-Ukrainian forces that are trying to create chaos within the

(Continued on page 19)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Is Kuchma guilty?

Is Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma guilty of ordering the murder of Heorhii Gongadze, a journalist? Thousands of demonstrators demanding Mr. Kuchma's ouster believe he is.

"Why should a president who had just won an election seek to murder an unknown journalist?" Mr. Kuchma asked recently.

Mr. Gongadze was hardly an unknown journalist. He was one of Mr. Kuchma's severest critics and, like other journalists who had the temerity to question government corruption, he vanished. Coincidence?

If President Kuchma is innocent, why are he and his government sycophants behaving as if he were guilty? Mr. Gongadze disappeared in September. In October Vice Minister Mykola Dzhuga asserted that Mr. Gongadze was heavily in debt. More recently, *Ukrainska Pravda*, reported that a state prosecutor alleged that he had learned from a Kyiv crime boss that two gang members had taken Mr. Gongadze into a forest in order to collect on their loan. Mr. Gongadze's headless body was discovered in November. DNA tests indicated with 99 percent certainty that the body was that of the journalist. Where are the two gang members? They, too, disappeared.

Ukraine's president denied any involvement with the disappearance until a tape, allegedly implicating Mr. Kuchma, was produced by Mykola Melnychenko, a former presidential bodyguard. According to the tape, the president of Ukraine, using Nixonian expletives, demanded that Mr. Gongadze be deported to Georgia or kidnapped by the Chechens. At first Mr. Kuchma said the tapes, reportedly some 300 hours in length, were lies. Later, he argued that they had been doctored to put Gongadze's name in his mouth. Mr. Melnychenko had given the first set of tapes to Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz, a political opponent of Mr. Kuchma, who released the references to Gongadze. The protests began within days.

Suspecting that some government employees may be associated with the protesters, Mr. Kuchma demanded blind allegiance to his person. "I invite every state servant, starting with Cabinet ministers who are in communion, sympathize, not to speak of act, with opposition formations, to decide (within a week)," declared Ukraine's presidents, "either they resign from their jobs in state organs or publicly dissociate themselves from anti-state formation."

Anti-state formations? I thought the demonstrations focused on Mr. Kuchma, not the state. Are we to think that Mr. Kuchma is now the state? Has he discovered the Führerprinzip, infamously tied to Adolf Hitler who adopted the principle (prinzip) that an all-knowing all-powerful leader (führer) was to be blindly obeyed because he embodied the German state?

In December a parliamentary commission established to investigate the Gongadze case requested that the International Press Institute in Vienna examine the authenticity of the Melnychenko tapes. After almost two months of scrutiny, the institute's report was inconclusive. "It is nearly impossible to detect manipulation with a nearly absolute level of certainty," the report read. At the same time, however, the report concluded that "the above-mentioned notion of uncertainty in the technical examination does not imply that the tapes are inauthentic."

And now the United States is becoming

involved. According to RFE/RL, Ukraine's ambassador to the United Nations, Volodymyr Yelchenko, asserted on March 7 that an "expert group" of FBI officials would be coming to Kyiv at the request of Ukraine's government to assist in the Gongadze murder investigation. We'll see.

Anti-Kuchma protests came to a crescendo on March 9 when a reported 18,000 people eventually materialized in Kyiv to protest Mr. Kuchma's participation in a wreath-laying ceremony honoring the 187th anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko, Ukraine's poet laureate. Bloody clashes with police ensued, and some 200 people were arrested. According to the Associated Press, President George W. Bush sent a message to Ukraine's president "warning that pressure on protesters is testing Kuchma's commitment to democracy." Implicit was the waning that Mr. Kuchma was jeopardizing U.S. aid.

Does Mr. Kuchma care? Apparently not. Big Brother Vladimir Putin is more than willing to help the beleaguered president in his hour of need. The Russian embrace couldn't come at a better time for Mr. Kuchma. Under President Bush, the United States is taking a second look at the billions of dollars squandered in Ukraine, the third largest recipient of U.S. aid after Egypt and Israel. Many Kuchma Klan members became rich during the last few years, but the American gravy train is grinding to a halt. Are Mr. Kuchma's personal pockets hurting? In an interview with The New York Times, Mykola Melnychenko alleged that Ukraine's president embezzled over a billion dollars. Does this mean that Mr. Kuchma has surpassed the embezzlement record of one-time Kuchma Klan member Pavlo Lazarenko?

President Kuchma can't understand what the fuss is all about. "Show me a Ukrainian politician who is without sin," he said. "Let him cast the first stone." There you go.

How corrupt is Mr. Kuchma? According to Mr. Melnychenko, Ukraine's president is so powerful that he was able to control prosecutors, tax collectors and intelligence chiefs who opened "criminal investigations" of businessmen who supported his opponents. Why is all of this so believable?

Support for Mr. Kuchma is fading fast. Disillusionment with his tenure has now gone far beyond the Gongadze case, reflecting a widespread dissatisfaction with government chicanery, money laundering, gang violence, theft, corruption and all the other ills that plague Ukraine after 10 years of increasing gangsterism. According to Kyiv Post, Mr. Kuchma's opposition now "unite over 30 political parties and movements, the largest of which are the Socialist Party, the Batkivschyna Party, the Reform and Order Party, the Sobor Party, the Forward Ukraine Party (all centrist parties, the Ukrainian Narodnyi Rukh and the UNA-UNSO (right-wing parties)." Calling themselves the Forum for National Salvation, their "main goal is to change Ukraine's form of government to a more parliament-based structure" at the expense of presidential power. Interestingly, the pro-Moscow Communist Party in Ukraine opted to remain out of the loop. Any guesses why?

Is President Kuchma guilty of ordering the murder of Heorhii Gongadze? We may never know. But one thing seems certain: Mr. Kuchma has not been good for Ukraine.

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Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.



Roman Woronowycz

Residents of the village of Popove prepare sandbags against more potential flooding. The river that runs through their village is a tributary of the Tysa.



Roman Woronowycz

A resident of the village of Soniashne stands in floodwaters that engulfed his village.



Viktoria Voronovych

A destroyed home in the village of Tekovo, where about a third of the structures gave way, including the village school.



Roman Woronowycz

Yulia Fozikosh, 70, before what remains of the house where she lived for more than 30 years before the flood destroyed it.

Floods devastate...

(Continued from page 1)

of terror the villagers experienced.

"It was like the ocean tide coming onto the beach, but it kept coming and coming," explained Maria Moshkola, 44, whose house was devastated by the floodwaters. "I don't think anyone in the village slept the whole night. We just kept running around trying to stay safe and wondering how it would all end."

Vasyl Serbak sent his wife, their two kids and her mother to relatives after the water entered his house that Monday evening. He decided to stay to do what he could to salvage the family's belongings and furniture, and to guard against thieves and scavengers.

He never expected that Mother Nature would claim his home.

At about 2 a.m., as water ran above his hips, Mr. Serbak said he began to look to move to a higher elevation when he heard a vibrating noise. He saw a great crack appear on the outer wall of his building. Then, beginning from the back of the house, the wall slowly buckled forward and fell, followed by the roof.

"I just ran – it scared me to my bones," said the 39-year-old farmer.

The next morning, truck driver Ivan Svaliavyn, who lives in Mukachiv, a city about an hour's drive from the epicenter of the devastation, arrived to help with rescue operations. He was amazed by what he saw.

"It was just unbelievable – carcasses of pigs, rabbits, rats, dogs, cats and even ducks, all floating down the street," explained Mr. Svaliavyn.

In the village of Tekovo alone the water destroyed 265 homes, flooded another 500 and left 600 people homeless. In Sasovo 220 houses succumbed to the ravaging waters, 345 were flooded and 497 people were left seeking shelter, while in Chornotysiv the water took 300 buildings, flooded 692 and displaced 120 individuals.

During two terror-filled days the raging waters of the Tysa River, engorged by a quick snow melt and more than half a meter of rain during the March 3 weekend, destroyed more than 1,200 buildings and flooded another 30,000 in 240 population centers of the Zakarpattia region. Nearly 15,000 people were evacuated or left homeless, about 14,000 relocated with relatives.

Fifty-two people have been hospitalized and six deaths are attributed to the flooding. Five of the victims were elderly and succumbed to heart attacks, while the body of one, believed to be a drowning victim, was found floating in the waters.

The flood also caused much damage to the region's infrastructure. Fifteen population centers were left without any electricity. Three bridges were destroyed and five others were damaged, while 14 roads remain impassable, as do eight rail lines. As of March 15, nine villages were still not accessible by conventional means.

While Hanna Romanenchuk, head of the press center of the Zakarpattia Oblast, said this flood and the devastation it wrought might match the 1998 one in terms of monetary damage, statistics show that the Tysa was easier on the region this year.

In 1998 roiling waters consumed 118 villages, along with the cities of Mukachiv, Khust and Tiachiv. The flooding caused 20 deaths and left 24,000 homeless. Although the Tysa River's water level rose higher this time, peaking at 13.47 meters above normal on March 10 near the border town of Chop, which surpassed the 1998 level of 13.26 meters, the new dams and the higher embankments built after 1998 helped to minimize the damage.

"If it wasn't for the new dams and the new bank reinforcements the force of the river had the ability to remove Zakarpattia from the face of the earth," said Ms. Romanenchuk.

The calamity began when warm weather followed a fresh snowfall on March 3. The next day a torrential rain dropped 40-cen-

timeters of water on the region in an hour and over half a meter (nearly two feet) in the course of 24 hours, causing the Tysa, a narrow and swift river that is the main waterway in the region, to swell and overflow its banks.

While most dams held, some of those that had not yet been completed as part of the rebuilding projects from 1998 failed, causing more problems, according to Ms. Romanenchuk.

A journalist from the region who wished to remain anonymous had another reason to add to the list of causes of the catastrophe. He suggested that an investigation should be conducted to determine the quality of the building materials that went into the six major dams that failed, which he said were Ukrainian-built.

"The ones built by the Hungarians and the Czechs held, but ours didn't," explained the reporter. "I just wonder whether all the concrete that was dedicated to the various dam projects found its way there. I have heard otherwise," confided the reporter.

The flooding problem was prolonged and the damage multiplied when Hungarian officials on March 11 ordered the bursting of a local dam to redirect waters away from several cities, including the Ukrainian border town of Chop, which caused flooding in several Ukrainian villages that earlier had not been affected. The part of Hungary that borders the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine also suffers from chronic flooding problems, and some observers here said this time the flooding on the Hungarian side was more severe, while in 1998 Ukraine took the harder hit.

The Ukrainian villages of Soniashne, Lypove and Dzvinkove were covered with water as a result of the Hungarian action, causing the dislocation of another 3,000 people. These villages, while inundated with water up to half a meter in depth, did not suffer the extensive devastation of the first villages flooded because the water did not surge in but dispersed through the area slowly, covering mostly agricultural land. However, many of the homes were lost anyway because the majority of them are built from mudpack and clay, which dissolves when left standing in water.

Residents of another village, Popove, on March 13 prepared for the arrival of water by packing sandbags to reinforce the banks of a small tributary of the Tysa that cuts through their hamlet. They were hoping that a shift in wind and a lack of rain might save their homes.

Ms. Romanenchuk said flooding is a perpetual problem for Zakarpattia with certain areas experiencing up to 15 minor floods annually. While some put a portion of the blame for the latest flood on weak dams, Ms. Romanenchuk said a major contributor was the last decade's uncontrolled deforestation of highlands, which has laid barren thousands of acres of mountainous watersheds. She also said that at some places the water simply climbed over the dams – at times by as much as a meter.

The oblast spokesperson said the Cabinet of Ministers is developing a project to build a hydroelectric dam along with a system of canals and reservoirs to reduce the pressure on the Tysa and its two main arteries, the Latorytsia and Borzhava rivers.

Minister of Natural Resources and Ecology Ivan Zayets said during a press conference in Kyiv on March 14 that Ukraine must work more closely with Hungarian and Romanian authorities to develop a complex international program of flood prevention. He also praised the relief work, which he said is much better organized than the emergency efforts of 1998.

President Leonid Kuchma traveled to the region on March 9. One of his stops was in Tekovo, where he reviewed the situation and the relief work, and called for domestic and international aid for the inhabitants.

There is a chronic shortage of food, water, bedding, clothing and shoes in the

(Continued on page 21)

NEWS ANALYSIS: Ukrainian Catholics' wait for the patriarchate

by Marta Kolomayets

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

ROME – With the visit of Pope John Paul II to Ukraine less than four months away, the issue of a Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Patriarchate is once again being openly discussed in religious and lay circles, both in Ukraine and abroad.

Whereas some political leaders fear that discussion of the creation of a Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Patriarchate could further strain the relationship between the Ukrainian Orthodox of the Moscow Patriarchate and Ukrainian Catholics, others believe that such a topic should not be explored in an environment of political instability for fear it may postpone or cancel Pope John Paul's visit to Ukraine in June.

However, most of the leaders of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church believe the time is ripe for these discussions, which had been sidestepped throughout the 1990s.

"The general feeling in Rome is that the idea of a Patriarchate is maturing, maturing in two senses: that the Ukrainian Catholic Church, with its own territory, with its own structure, with a young generation of clergy, monks and religious, is maturing as a Church, is strengthening. Of course, its greatest sign of maturing was its witness in martyrdom," said the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Lviv Theological Seminary.

"But, also, the idea of a Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate is becoming more normal in the eyes of the representatives of the Holy See. Twenty-five, 30 years ago, when Patriarch Josyf Slipyj was raising this issue, he was ahead of his time. Now time is catching up to this idea, and the strong resistance to this idea of the Ukrainian Catholic Patriarchate that was

evident in the 1970s and 1980s has lessened considerably," he added.

"Never in the recent past have I seen such a benevolent positive attitude toward the entire question of a Ukrainian Patriarchate," said the Rev. Dr. Iwan Dacko, who is responsible for the external relations of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. "Now is precisely the time we should do a lot of stirring about this – we should speak about it and try to have it realized."

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar is already lobbying Rome to allow him to take the Eastern title of patriarch rather than the Vatican appellation of major archbishop, reported Alessandra Stanley of *The New York Times*. Archbishop Major Husar told her that it would help his dialogue with Orthodox leaders if "we could be partners on an equal footing."

"If they are a patriarchate and we are not, then we will have to play the game according to their rules. But, if we are both recognized patriarchates, then we can work as partners or talk as partners toward a real union, a communion," said Cardinal Husar.

Cardinal Husar told reporters in Rome: "In practice and according to Church law, a major archbishop has practically all the rights of a patriarch. If there is any significant difference, it consists in this: that when the synod of all the bishops of a Church have elected a major archbishop, the pope has to approve the selection. When a patriarch is elected, then the Church simply notifies the pope the election has been made and he extends his communion and that is done in the form of a concelebration. This is the most visible, the most clear distinction, but in everything else the patriarch and the major archbishop have the same rights and powers."

Archbishop Major Husar was elevated to the rank of cardinal by Pope John Paul II at the Vatican during a consistory on February 21, but in the College of Cardinals he holds the rank of cardinal priest, the second of three orders, because the episcopal (or highest order) can be held only by Eastern rite patriarchs and cardinals that the pontiff assigns the title of a suburbicarian Church.

"You can even hear from very high-ranking prelates here in Rome that they speak of Cardinal Husar as a 'patriarch of Ukraine,' and if they speak privately about it, it means that they are thinking about it," commented Msgr. Dacko.

"This (patriarchate) is something our Church really needs and I see it not only as a contribution for Ukraine. We should present this as a vision for the entire Universal Church – Catholic or Orthodox – because I think that then our Church could become a model for other Churches," said the Rev. Dr. Dacko.

A vision for the Church

"The vision that was born in the times of Servant of God Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky and continued by Patriarch Slipyj is moving forward. There is a very positive trend toward the entire issue of the creation of a Ukrainian Patriarchate – and I am not talking so much in terms of a Greek-Catholic Patriarchate, but of one Patriarchate for all the children of the Christianity of St. Volodymyr of Kyiv, because we need one Patriarchate and we all want to pray in our sobor of St. Sophia. I am speaking of the communion of all the Churches of Ukraine, and I think with God's help, and a lot of humility and hard work, we can achieve this. This is our vision now," the Rev. Dacko explained.

Although the movers and shakers of the Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine



Andrij Wowk

Cardinal and Archbishop Major Lubomyr Husar during his recent visit to Philadelphia.

clearly agree on the separation of Church and state, they do believe that the Ukrainian government is interested in having a Ukrainian Patriarchate recognized.

In order to move this process along, some religious believe that it would be beneficial for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church to have a presence, not only of a cathedral, but also a liaison office of the Greek-Catholic Church. Currently, the Church has two parishes in Kyiv, one in a chapel at the historic Askold's Grave (Askoldova Mohyla) and the other in a bell tower, a remnant from the Church of St. Nicholas the Good in the Podil section of the city. Construction of a monastery for the Basilian Fathers is currently being completed, but there has been no groundbreaking for a cathedral in the Ukrainian capital.

"The Ukrainian government should not try to control ecclesiastical affairs, but it should be mindful of the needs of all its citizens, and the religious life of Ukrainians and the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church is very important," commented the Rev. Gudziak. "And support

for the Patriarchate on the part of the Ukrainian government would surely benefit the cause," he noted.

The papal visit

"I think that today the idea of a Patriarchate is still a dream, a great wish, but I am expecting a signal within these next four months, not only from the bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, but from these two big centers, from Rome and the Holy See – the Holy Father Pope John Paul II – and from the Ecumenical Patriarch, concretely from Patriarch Bartholomew," said the Rev. Dacko.

"Ukraine is enduring a time of political instability, social dislocation and economic crisis. And Ukrainians who suffered so terribly over the course of the 20th century are tired – there's a broad social depression in Ukraine. The pope has always been a sign of hope, a bearer of the good news that hardships are overcome in the Lord. My great hope is that he will spark a new ray of hope," concluded the Rev. Dr. Gudziak.

Quotable notes

Following is an excerpt from a February 23 article in *The New York Times*, "New Cardinal in a Clash of Creeds," by Alessandra Stanley.

Cardinal Husar, who turns 68 next week, said he wanted the Russian Orthodox Church and the Vatican to realize that Greek-Catholics belong to "a genuine Eastern Church, and not a Latinized version." ...

Cardinal Husar is already lobbying Rome to allow him to take the Eastern title of "patriarch," rather than the Vatican appellation of "major archbishop." He explained that it would help his dialogue with Orthodox leaders if "we could be partners on an equal footing."

The Vatican has so far resisted, fearful of further offending the Orthodox Church. "We are trying to persuade the Holy See that their reasoning is not so good, it has achieved no concrete results, and it has put us into a questionable position," he said.

... Cardinal Husar, along with the newly elevated Roman Catholic Cardinal Marian Jaworski, 74, archbishop of Lviv, will organize the pope's visit [to Ukraine]. But Cardinal Husar made it clear that he did not want to make compromises to ease Vatican diplomacy with Patriarch Aleksei of Russia. "We are not looking at the pope's visit as a dress rehearsal for Moscow," he said. "It is a visit to Ukraine."

Canadian ambassador...

(Continued from page 6)

time" for Ukraine to evolve. "Things never come easily. While it seems basic, democracy and market economies are not natural things."

He also told about 55 people attending what was dubbed the first "Ambassador's Lecture" series at the University of Ottawa that Canadian-Ukrainian relations remain strong and very personal.

"Ukrainians are a very warm, friendly and emotionally expressive people, especially to Canadians. Ukrainians feel appreciated and liked by Canadians who always give moral support for Ukraine and Ukrainian culture," Mr. Fraser explained. "We are happy in Kyiv. It's a pleasure to be there."

When asked by an audience member about Canada's financial commitment to Ukraine, the ambassador said that Canadian assistance, which totals \$312 million to date, is second only to the United States in contributions.

"We put our money where our mouth is," he said. "And if you want to cut through the rhetoric, this is a serious

commitment by the Canadian taxpayer."

Mr. Fraser said that Ukrainian immigration to Canada is also becoming more efficient, as over the past 18 months waiting times for interviews with Canadian officials have been reduced from 22 months to between eight and 10 months.

He explained that last year 1,350 Ukrainian immigration cases were processed by Citizenship and Immigration Canada, which this summer plans to expand its office in space it occupies at the Canadian Embassy in Kyiv.

Ukrainian Ambassador Scherbak is scheduled to be the next Chair of Ukrainian Studies lecture series speaker on April 18, when, during the second "Ambassador's Lecture," he will talk about Ukraine and the "challenge of globalization."

Natalie Kononenko, professor of Slavic languages at the University of Virginia, will deliver the 15th annual Ivano Franko Memorial Lecture. Contemporary Ukrainian rituals "celebrating marriage, birth and death" will be the topic of her presentation on March 16 at the University of Ottawa.

SUPPORT THE WORK OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY.

Send contributions to: The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054



An appeal for your assistance to help flood victims in Zakarpattia, Ukraine

Once again, the mountainous Zakarpattia region of Ukraine has been inundated by floods. Over 200 villages are submerged under floodwaters, and 13,000 people have been evacuated. There is a lack of fresh water and food; sewage contamination compounds the danger and makes the populace susceptible to disease.

The UNWLA's Social Welfare Committee, in cooperation with Soyuz Ukrainok of the Zakarpattia region, is seeking monetary contributions to purchase medicines for the flood victims. We ask the support of our UNWLA members organized in branches throughout the country, as well as of all people of good will in our communities and beyond. A written request for help is on its way to each UNWLA branch and to members-at-large. We hope you personally will be generous and will seek support for this humanitarian aid effort from your American neighbors as well as from the Ukrainian community.

Contributions to the UNWLA Social Welfare Fund are tax-deductible under provisions of the organization's 501(c) 3 status. Please send your contributions to:

UNWLA Social Welfare Fund – Floods
108 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003

Nadia Shmigel, Social Welfare Chair
Iryna Kurowycky, UNWLA President



TO UNA CONVENTION DELEGATES REGARDING THE BY-LAWS BALLOT

The Ukrainian National Association's Home Office is currently mailing a voting package to all delegates to the last UNA Convention, held in May 1998 in Toronto, and to current members of the UNA General Assembly.

The package contains proposed changes to the UNA By-Laws and a ballot that is to be returned via the mail.

Delegates and General Assembly members are being asked to vote by May 1 on whether they approve the proposed changes to the by-laws.

In the event that a delegate or a General Assembly member does not receive the packet, he/she is urged to phone the Home Office, (973) 292-9800, ext. 3018.

NEW YORK, NY, DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

cordially invites

Delegates of 34th Convention, Branch Secretaries, District Committee Officers, Branch Officers and all UNAers interested in the proposed Charter and By-Laws changes to a

MEETING

with UNA President Mrs. ULANA DIACHUK and Advisor TARAS SZMAGALA Jr., Chair of the By-Laws Committee

on Sunday, March 25, 2001, at 1:30 p.m. at Selfreliance Association, 98 Second Avenue, New York, NY

NY District Branches:
5, 6, 8, 16, 86, 130, 184, 194, 204, 205, 256, 267, 293, 325, 327, 361, 450, 489

District Committee:
Barbara Bachynsky, Chairperson
Motria Milanych, Secretary
John Choma, Treasurer

Please advise us of your attendance by Friday, March 23, by calling Barbara Bachynsky at (212) 533-0919

Bush names Dobriansky...

(Continued from page 1)

Clinton as a commissioner to the U.S. Advisory Commission on Public Diplomacy.

Dr. Dobriansky also served as senior international affairs and trade advisor at the law firm of Hunton & Williams, co-chaired the International TV Council at the Corporation for Public Broadcasting, and serves on the boards of several funds, endowments and councils.

Dr. Dobriansky received a B.S.F.S. summa cum laude in international politics from the Georgetown University School of Foreign Service and an M.A. and Ph.D. in Soviet political/military affairs from Harvard University. She is a Fulbright-Hays scholar, a Ford and Rotary Foundation fellow, a member of Phi Beta Kappa and a recipient of various

awards.

She has lectured and published articles and book chapters on U.S. human rights policy, East European foreign and defense policies, public diplomacy, democracy promotion strategies and on Russia and Ukraine.

The Office of the Undersecretary for Global Affairs, which she is nominated to head, coordinates U.S. foreign relations on a variety of global issues, including democracy, human rights and labor; environment, oceans and science; narcotics control and law enforcement; population, refugees and migration; and women's issues.

Dr. Dobriansky's father, Lev Dobriansky, who was president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America for more than 30 years, served as the U.S. ambassador to the Bahamas during the Reagan administration.

Foundation...

(Continued from page 1)

Gerald Orsek, Andrew Hailstone and L. Viglotti.

The plaintiffs were supported in court by the appearance of over 20 members of the Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian community.

After a full day of conferences involving the attorneys, the presiding justice and his legal staff, at the final hour a resolution was reached and incorporated into the court's order.

The two sides sought a settlement without going to trial as resolution of the case would have been prolonged and its outcome would have been uncertain. Mr. Dekajlo explained that Mr. Willner, a camp operator, had already made arrangements for summer camps on the Verkhovyna property, having hired counselors and staff for the campers, and wanted to proceed with the camps, while the UACF preferred not to take the risk of an extended court trial and further legal wrangling that might have resulted in the Ukrainian community's loss of Verkhovyna.

Among the provisions of the decision are the following points:

- The contract between the UFA and Mr. Willner dated December 5, 2000, is terminated and deemed null and void; thus, the property will not be sold to Mr. Willner.

- A new contract from the UFA to the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation is to be prepared by the UFA and signed before the end of this week.

- In order to prevent Mr. Willner from suing Mr. Oleksyn and the UFA for monetary damages based on the alleged breach of their contract of sale and Mr. Oleksyn and the UFA board for allegedly acting outside the scope of their authority (in contravention of previous decisions by higher bodies, i.e., the UFA Convention and Supreme Council), Mr. Willner will be allowed to lease the Verkhovyna resort for the summer of 2001 only. (The Barka residence will not be affected by the lease and is to be respected as having cultural significance to the Ukrainian community.) He is to vacate the resort no later than August 25.

- As Mr. Willner will operate a 2001 summer camp at the Verkhovyna resort, he will cure all violations at the resort, obtain all necessary municipal and governmental certificates and licenses, will keep the resort insured for this summer period for the benefit of the UFA and the UACF, and will make a security lease deposit to guarantee his obligations under the lease. In addition, he will repair and/or replace, as necessary, the refrigeration and cooking facilities, as well as the water supply and septic system of the resort.

- The Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation must close title on the purchase of the Verkhovyna resort within three months and pay the balance of the purchase price, which is \$1,075,000 – the same price that Mr. Willner was to pay. (Included in the purchase price is a one-family residence outside of the resort in the Glen Spey community.)

According to Mr. Dekajlo, the Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation must now undertake an immediate fundraising campaign to raise the balance of the money necessary to buy and operate the resort.

A contract for the sale of Verkhovyna was faxed to Dr. Stephan Woroch, president of the UACF, on March 14, and the signed document was to be delivered to Scranton, Pa., to the home office of the UFA on March 15. A deposit of \$107,000 was sent by overnight courier to the UFA. Mr. Dekajlo explained that the parties were to complete the contract by March 16. If all goes as planned, the closing will take place in mid-June.

A community meeting has been scheduled for this weekend in Glen Spey to discuss the latest developments in the Verkhovyna case.

UFA statement on settlement

Ukrainian Fraternal Association President Ivan Oleksyn faxed a statement to The Ukrainian Weekly offices on March 15. The full text of the UFA Executive Committee's statement reads as follows.

Ukrainian Fraternal Association is pleased to have cooperated with Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation to give it one more opportunity to acquire Verkhovyna.

Although UFA is under great pressure from Pennsylvania's Insurance Department to sell Verkhovyna, and although UFA made every effort to allow UACF to buy Verkhovyna last summer and fall, and although UFA was a party to a valid contract for the sale of Verkhovyna to David Willner, and although UFA's legal position with regard to UACF's lawsuit was correct, with Mr. Willner's cooperation UFA entered into a Stipulation in the Sullivan County, New York Court to allow UACF 90 days in which to raise the funds to acquire Verkhovyna and satisfy the Stipulation's requirements with regard to David Willner.

We wish UACF well.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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SPORTSLINE

Pole vaulting great Serhiy Bubka retires

After setting world records 35 times, winning six consecutive world championships and an Olympic gold medal, pole vaulter Serhiy Bubka officially retired on February 4 in his hometown in Donetsk, Ukraine, where in 1993 he had set the world indoor record of 20 feet, 2 inches.

The 37-year-old pole vault champion was honored at a ceremony at the Pole Vault Stars, a competition that he founded in Donetsk, according to Ukrainian News. There, among a crowd of supporters, an open letter from President Leonid Kuchma was read. "Thanks to you, the world learned about Ukraine in a new sense," President Kuchma said.



Serhiy Bubka

Mr. Bubka is a half-inch over six feet tall and weighs 176 pounds, and has strength, speed and gymnastic ability. As noted by the Associated Press, Mr. Bubka gripped the pole higher than most vaulters, giving him extra leverage.

"Technically, he is not that much different from the rest of us. It's the amount of force that he is able to generate," said Kory Tarpenning, once the leading men's vaulter in the United States. "He puts 10 or 15 percent more energy into the pole, and that's the reason he goes four to 12 inches higher than anyone else." Mr. Bubka might have added to his achievements were it not for a series of leg and Achilles' tendon injuries that have plagued him for the past several years.

Mr. Bubka's pole-vaulting career began in 1983 when he competed at the world championships at Helsinki, Finland, as the No. 3 vaulter on the Soviet team. After that he won the next five world titles, becoming the only athlete to accumulate six world championship gold medals. His performances at the Olympics were less dominant. He won the gold medal in 1988, but that was his only Olympic medal in four Summer Games.

Although he has left pole vaulting, Mr. Bubka will still be active in the world of sports. At the Sydney Olympics he was elected to the International Olympic Committee's executive board, and he is also a member of the Evaluation Commission for the 2008 Olympics.

FIGURE SKATING

At the European Figure Skating Championships in Bratislava, Slovakia, the

Russians swept all of the women's medals for the third year in a row.

The gold medalist was Irina Slutskaya, whose fourth title puts her in select company. Only four others, including Olympic medalist Sonja Henie and Katarina Witt, have won more, the Associated Press noted.

Ukraine placed just below the medal contenders with Yelena Liashenko placing fourth and Galina Maniachenko in eighth place.

POLE VAULTING

Stacy Dragila, the first Olympic gold medalist in women's pole vaulting, has been called "the female Sergei Bubka" by The New York Times. At the recent Millrose Games at Madison Square Garden, Ms. Dragila cleared 15-2 1/4 inches to set an indoor world record.

This was Ms. Dragila's third Millrose title in four years. She beat Ukrainian pole vaulter Anzhela Balakhonova at 14-9. Ms. Dragila missed her first two attempts at 14-5 1/2, but recovered to clear the bar at 14-9 on her first attempt, while Ms. Balakhonova missed all three of hers.

Because women's vaulting has been recognized only since 1994, there is opportunity to set new world records at almost every competition.

BIATHLON

Olena Zubrilova of Ukraine won the bronze medal in the women's individual event at the biathlon world championships in Pokljuka, Slovenia, on February 6. Olena Petrova, also from Ukraine, placed fourth.

The gold medal in the 15k individual event was captured by the fourth-time World Cup Champion Magdalena Forsberg of Sweden and Liv Grete Skjelbreid-Poiree of Norway won the silver.

In the World Cup standing this year Ms. Zubrilova placed second with 586 points. Last year Ms. Zubrilova was the world champion in the 15k individual event and also the gold medalist in the mass start

(10k) competition.

In the men's 20k individual event at the biathlon world championships, Paavo Puurunen of Finland holds the gold medal, and Ukrainian Ruslan Lysenko came in sixth place.

BOXING

On January 27 after a minute and 51 seconds of the opening round, Ukrainian boxer Vitalii Klychko, 29, twice knocked down the former WBA cruiserweight world champion, American Orlin Norris, at the sold-out Rudi-Sedlmayer-Halle in Munich.

After the second knockdown, Mr. Norris complained to the referee and refused to continue, according to Ukrainian News. "He landed a good shot for the first knockdown," Mr. Norris admitted. "I'm very disappointed. I did not expect anything like this."

This was the 29th victory in 30 fights for Mr. Klychko and his 28th knockout. It was Mr. Norris' seventh loss in 58 matches.

Vitalii Klychko and his younger brother, Volodymyr (also a World Boxing Organization heavyweight champion), are reportedly considering a change in management, reported the Associated Press.

The two Ukrainian brothers had an ongoing dispute with Hamburg's Universum Boxing promotion and promoter Klaus-Peter Kohl. According to Ukrainian News, German newspapers had reported earlier that the brothers were dissatisfied with Mr. Kohl's ability to land them big-money fights against the top heavyweights. The two would like to fight in the United States.

According to the Klychko brothers, their contract with Universum ends on April 30 of this year; meanwhile, Mr. Kohl believes it ends April 30, 2004.

Volodymyr Klychko, 24, also holds an impressive record. He is 35-1 with 32 knockouts and is the 1996 Olympic super-heavyweight champion.

(Continued on page 15)

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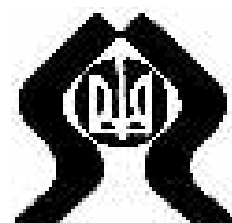
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Yonkers Ukrainians Krylati finish half-season in first place

YONKERS, N.Y. – The Yonkers Ukrainians Krylati men's soccer team is off to its best season start in recent history. Halfway through the season, the team is unbeaten in league play with a record of six wins and one tie. With 19 points, Yonkers Ukrainians Krylati is currently positioned atop the standings of the Eastern District Soccer League's First Division. During the season, the team scored 17 goals while allowing only seven (a league low).

Krylati also played well in the New York State Cup, where they made it to the quarterfinals before falling to Integral from Jamaica, Queens. (For complete league results, visit the EDSL website at www.edslsoccer.com.)

The team has benefited from the acquisition of some new players. Sammy Warycha is playing his first season on the first team after many years in the Krylati youth program. He has proven himself to be one of the team's best utility players, scoring some key goals in the striker position and also using his size and tenacity on defense. The club hopes that other young players will fol-

low Mr. Warycha's lead and make the successful transition to the first team.

Also new to the team are a group of players from Spring Valley, N.Y., led by Taras Strominsky, who have been playing together since coming to America two years ago. The Krylati club decided to join forces with these talented players after playing a friendly game against a Spring Valley-based team this past Memorial Day.

The team hopes to continue its success through the spring half of the season, which starts at the end of March. The team mix of Ukrainian- and American-born players has proven to be an effective one, with each group learning from the other.

Sergei Rayko, a former Dynamo Kyiv player, coaches the team, and Mark Howansky is the player/manager. Roman Hlushko is the president of the Krylati Sports Club, which operates under the auspices of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUMA), Yonkers Branch.

Interested players should contact Mr. Howansky at (201) 864-5751 or mhowansky@hotmail.com.

Pole vaulting great...

(Continued from page 13)

HIGH JUMP

Inga Babakova of Ukraine won the silver medal in the women's high jump at the Globen Galan indoor meet in Stockholm, Sweden, on February 15 with a height of 6-5 1/2 inches. Kajsa Bergqvist of Sweden took the gold with a jump of 6-6 1/4 inches.

TRACK

Also at the Globen Galan indoor meet, Ukrainian Anzhela Kravchenko took silver in the women's 60-meter dash.

TENNIS

Greg Rusedski, a Montreal-native Ukrainian Brit, upset Andre Agassi, the Australian Open champion, 6-3, 6-3, at the Synbase Open in San Jose, Calif.

Mr. Rusedski, the indoor tournament's eighth-seeded player, who earned his 10th career title, had not won a final since 1999 in Vienna, according to The New York

Times.

"The way I was thinking and serving out there, I was in command," the left-handed Mr. Rusedski said, after a booming serve reaching 139 miles per hour. In turn, Mr. Agassi, who had trouble with his first serves, lost for the first time this season, making his record 11-1.

Mr. Rusedski, ranked 13th, suffered from foot injuries last year. However, this season he has been overhauling his mechanics to prevent injury, The New York Times noted.

As a teen, Mr. Rusedski played at Soyuzivka during several Labor Day tournaments sponsored by the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada.

BODYBUILDING

Valentina Chepiga of Ukraine was named the Ms. Olympia Heavyweight champion for 2000. The competition is sponsored by the International Federation of Bodybuilding. Ms. Olympia Lightweight was Andriy Blanche of England.

PHILADELPHIA, PA, DISTRICT COMMITTEE

of the

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

SUNDAY, MARCH 25, 2001, at 1:00 p.m.

at the UUARC

1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

10, 45, 62, 83, 116, 128, 153, 154, 156, 162, 163, 173, 216, 231, 239, 245, 247, 248, 261, 268, 321, 331, 339, 347, 352, 362, 378, 397

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Martha Lysko – UNA National Secretary
William Pastuszek, UNA Auditing Committee Chairman
Stefan Hawrysh, UNA Auditor
Dr. Wasył Szeremeta, UNA Advisor

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Stefan Hawrysh, District Chairman
Paulo Prynko, Secretary
Nicholas Pryszlak, Treasurer
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2001 camps and workshops at Soyuzivka

BOYS' AND GIRLS' CAMP SATURDAY, JUNE 23 – SATURDAY, JULY 7

Recreational camp for boys and girls ages 7-12

featuring hiking, swimming, games, Ukrainian songs and folklore, supervised 24 hr.

Room and board: UNA members \$330.00 per week/non-members \$380.00 per week

Counselor fee: \$30.00 per child per week. Limited to 45 campers per week

Insurance \$15.00 per child per week

CHEMNEY FUN CENTER SUNDAY, JULY 8 – SATURDAY, JULY 14

Geared to exposing Ukrainian heritage to the English-speaking pre-schoolers, ages 4-6, and school age children 7-10, to their Ukrainian heritage

2 sessions per day 10 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 3 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Registration/counselor fee: \$90.00 if parents staying at Soyuzivka

Registration/counselor fee: \$140.00 if parents staying off premises

Insurance \$10.00 per child

Parents staying on premises pay room and board rates accordingly (not due prior to arrival)

TENNIS CAMP SUNDAY, JULY 8 – FRIDAY, JULY 20

Intensive tennis instruction for boys and girls, ages 12-18.

Instructors' fees \$75.00 per child

Room and board: UNA members \$485.00/non-members \$535.00 for full session

Insurance \$30.00 per child. Limited to 45 students

UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE WORKSHOP, SUNDAY, JULY 8 - SATURDAY, JULY 21

Traditional Ukrainian folk dancing for advanced students ages 15 and over

Room and board: UNA members \$580.00/non-member \$630.00 for full session

Instructor's fee \$140.00 per person, insurance \$30.00 per student

Instructors and assistants: Borys Bohachevsky, Andriy Cybyk, Krissi Izak, Orlando Pagan

UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE CAMP I – SUNDAY, JULY 22 - SATURDAY, AUGUST 4

UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE CAMP II – SUNDAY, AUGUST 5 - SATURDAY, AUGUST 18

Traditional Ukrainian folk dancing for beginners, intermediate and advanced

Room and board: UNA members \$580.00/non-member \$630.00 for full session

Insurance \$30.00 per child

Instructor's fee \$225.00; director: Roma Pryma Bohachevsky

****THE DIRECTOR MUST APPROVE ACCEPTANCE INTO PROGRAM, AND NO ONE WILL BE ACCEPTED FOR LESS THAN THE FULL SESSION, UNLESS IT IS WITH THE APPROVAL OF THE DIRECTOR****

Attendance limited to 60 students staying at resort and 10 students staying off premises.

UKRAINIAN SITCH SPORTS SCHOOL

CAMP I Sunday, July 22 - Saturday, July 28

CAMP II Sunday, July 29 - Saturday, August 4

CAMP III Sunday, August 5 - Saturday, August 11

CAMP IV Sunday, August 12 - Saturday, August 18 (this session depending on enrollment)

Sitch Sports School – swimming, soccer, tennis, volleyball for youngsters ages 6-18.

Room and board: UNA members \$265.00/non-member \$315.00 for full session

Instructor's fee \$100.00; sessions limited to 45 students

Insurance \$30.00 per child per week

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PAYMENTS FOR ROOM AND BOARD CAN BE MADE TO SOYUZIVKA BY CASH, CHECK, VISA, MASTERCARD, AMEX OR DISCOVER CARDS.

PAYMENTS FOR INSTRUCTOR/COUNSELOR FEES MUST BE MADE BY CHECK OR CASH. PLEASE MAKE CHECKS PAYABLE TO UNA ESTATE - CAMP FEE - UNLESS INDICATED OTHERWISE FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE MANAGEMENT OF SOYUZIVKA. THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANYONE BASED ON AGE, RACE, CREED, SEX OR COLOR.

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INTERVIEW: Radoslav Zuk comments on architectural design curricula in Ukraine

by Ika Koznarska Casanova

MONTREAL – Prominent Ukrainian Canadian architect Radoslav Zuk, professor of architecture at McGill University, who gained international recognition for his design of Ukrainian churches in North America, was invited by the Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture in Kyiv to serve as head of the State Examination Commission for diploma projects in the faculty of architecture last June. This was the most recent of several such engagements at the Academy in the past 10 years.

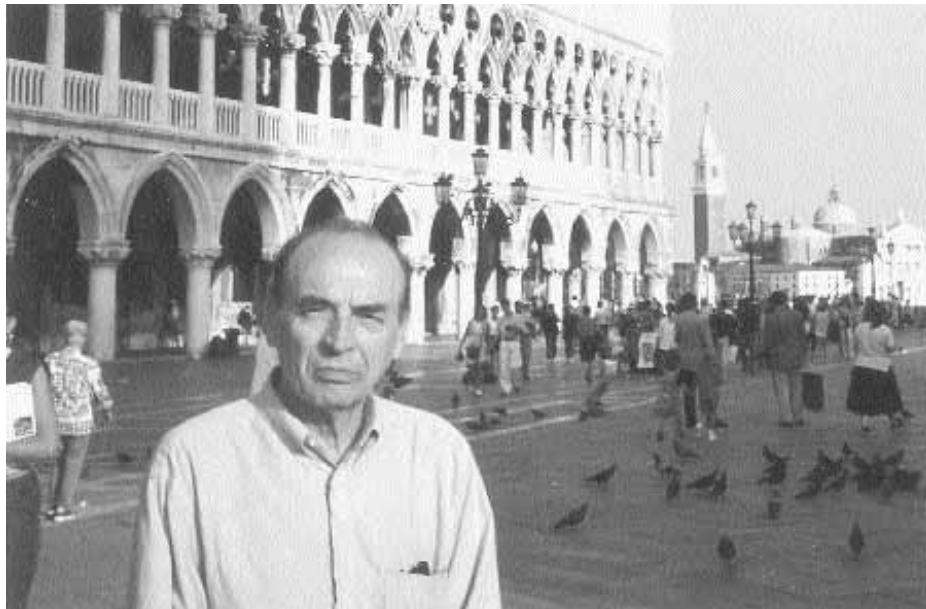
Throughout his career, Prof. Zuk has served on juries of architectural competitions and student project reviews at leading universities, among them Harvard, MIT, Pratt, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Rhode Island School of Design and Yale.

In 1992 he was awarded an honorary doctorate by the Ukrainian Academy of Art in recognition of "his significant contribution to the re-emergence of a national architectural school in Ukraine."

Prof. Zuk is a frequent guest lecturer in North America and abroad on design theory, cultural aspects of architecture and the relationship between architecture and other arts, topics on which he has also published a number of articles.

In August 2000 he was invited to present the opening address at the second annual Symposium on Systems Research in the Arts held in conjunction with the 12th International Conference on Systems Research, Informatics and Cybernetics in Baden-Baden, Germany. The motto for this symposium, whose topic was "Music, Environmental Design and the Choreography of Space," was taken from an earlier article by Prof. Zuk on the relationship between architecture and music.

In addition to his principal academic activity in Canada, he is also a professor of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, Germany, and an honorary professor of the



Radoslav Zuk in Venice, where since 1986 he has frequently conducted the McGill School of Architecture Summer Course Abroad.

Kyiv Technical University of Building and Architecture. In recent times he has been invited to present several guest lectures at the Technical University in Vienna, Austria, and the Middle East Technical University in Ankara, Turkey, as well as to act as a visiting professor at the Istanbul Technical University and Yildiz Technical University in Istanbul, Turkey, and the Summer School of Architecture of Ss. Cyril and Methodius University in Skopje, Macedonia.

Among topics of Prof. Zuk's recent public lectures dealing specifically with Ukrainian architecture are: "Place, People, Time and Architecture," Symposium on Modern Ukrainian Religious Architecture in North America, University of Manitoba, Winnipeg; "The Cultural Mission of the Diaspora," Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, Chicago; "Indigenous Constants and Stylistic Variants in Ukrainian Architecture," Harvard Ukrainian Research

Institute, Cambridge, Mass.; and "Ukrainian Architecture in the Context of European Culture," Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Ottawa.

Exhibitions of Prof. Zuk's design work, devoted predominantly to Ukrainian churches, have been shown in North America and Europe. In conjunction with the exhibition "Radoslav Zuk – Tradition and the Present – Ukrainian Churches in North America and Museum Projects in Ukraine," held at the prestigious Architekturgalerie in Munich in 1996, an exhibition catalogue was published, in German and English, as part of the gallery's monograph series. Most of the churches designed by Prof. Zuk for Ukrainian Catholic communities in North America in association with or as consultant to various architectural firms have been featured in leading architectural publications. Especially wide exposure has been given to

the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Kerhonkson, N.Y., near the Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka estate, which celebrated the 25th anniversary of its construction in September 2000.

Prof. Zuk's work in new Ukrainian church architecture was first shown in Ukraine at the National Museum in Lviv in 1990, and subsequently in major cities in Ukraine, including an exhibition at the Ukrainian National Museum of Fine Arts in Kyiv in 1992.

In a recent interview with Prof. Zuk, the following questions were posed to Prof. Zuk in his capacity as head of the examination commission for diploma projects at the Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture.

As head of the examination commission for diploma projects, would you give an overview of architectural design curricula in Ukraine?

In addition to my close association with the Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture, as well as the Technical University of Building and Architecture in Kyiv, I also had the opportunity to see student work at schools of architecture in Lviv and Kharkiv. My impression is that the curricula at these and other schools of architecture in Ukraine follow a similar norm.

Of course, each of these institutions has developed an individual profile of unique distinction, which is a function of the respective tradition and the current teaching staff.

An interesting feature of the curriculum of the academy is that teaching of architectural design is conducted in "master classes" – a tradition that dates back to the École des Beaux Arts in Paris and is still followed in the Academy of Fine Arts as well as the Academy of Applied Arts, both in Vienna,

(Continued on page 27)

Third volume of Yuriy Tarnawsky's selected works is released

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. – With the publication of "Ne Znaju" (I Don't Know), the Kyiv-based publishing house Rodovid has completed the three-volume set of the Ukrainian American author Yuriy Tarnawsky's selected works in Ukrainian. The earlier volumes were "6x0" (1998), Mr. Tarnawsky's collected plays, and "Yikh Nemaye" (They Don't Exist, 1999), collections of poetry from the years 1970-1999.

"I Don't Know" contains Mr. Tarnawsky's first novel, written in Ukrainian, "Shliakhy" (Roads, 1956), excerpts from his seven books of fiction written in English, and the memoir ("a short literary autobiography") "Bosonizh Dodomu i Nazad" (Running Barefoot

Home and Back).

"Roads" deals with the issues of growing up in post-World War II Germany. It is a declaratively existentialist work, and, when it first came out, was acclaimed as a bold new step in Ukrainian literature by such critics as Yuriy Lavrinenko and Ihor Kostetsky.

The best known of Mr. Tarnawsky's English-language books is the novel "Three Blondes and Death," published by Fiction Collective in 1993. It received wide coverage in American press and was praised for its uncompromising modernism. Harry Polkinhorn (American Book Review), for instance, compared it to a Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's or Walter Gropius' skyscraper

towering over the cottages of contemporary fiction. An earlier work, "Meningitis," was singled out for its unique and chilling use of language.

In "Running Barefoot Home and Back," Mr. Tarnawsky sketches out his development as a writer – from his early years of voracious reading in Ukraine, through the formative ones in DP camps and German high-school, to the Spanish and English-language influences in America. It describes the emergence of the New York Group of Ukrainian émigré writers, the author's career as a linguist/computer scientist and professor of Ukrainian literature at Columbia University, his sojourn in Spain, and his renewed contact with Ukraine and

the disillusionment to which it has led.

The cycle of six plays "6x0" is patterned on classical Greek drama, and deals with the topic of the death of love, which is treated in a manner analogous to the death of the hero in Greek tragedy. One of the plays, "Not Medea," was staged at New York's Mabou Mines theater in a laboratory production directed by the well-known Ukrainian actor and director Hryhoriy Hladiy (Gregory Hlady) in 1998. In his review of the staging that appeared in The Ukrainian Weekly, the composer and critic Leonid Hrabovsky called it a decisive step in the history of Ukrainian theater and the play a living proof of the vitality of Ukrainian drama.

"They Don't Exist" contains 10 separate collections and constitutes Mr. Tarnawsky's second volume of collected poetry; the first volume, "Poems About Nothing and Other Poems on the Same Subject," which contains nine separate collections, came out in 1970. The new book includes the cycle "This Is How I Get Well," which first appeared in a bilingual English/Ukrainian edition in 1978, and "U ra na," published as a book in Ukraine in 1992, that in a personal way deals with Ukraine's history. It ends with another book-length poem "Misto Kyiv ta Yam" (The City of Sticks and Pits), which is related to the cycle of plays "6x0."

The artwork for all three books was done by Oleksander Dubovyk, one of the outstanding contemporary Ukrainian artists who resides in Kyiv. The books are available directly from the publisher at 18000 S. Mullen Rd., Belton, MO 64012; fax, (816) 322-4228; e-mail, rodovid2@aol.com. For more information see the website at www.rodovid.net.



The three-volume set of Yuriy Tarnawsky's selected works in Ukrainian; coverdesign by Oleksander Dubovyk.

Gennady Parfenioug's sculptures: bridging two different worlds

by Ika Koznarska Casanova

CLAVERACK, N.Y. – If the work of every artist is a reflection and a response to the particular circumstances of time and place, then the work of Gennady Parfenioug, a recent émigré sculptor from Ukraine, spans and bridges two different worlds.

Originally from Kyiv, where he completed his studies at Kyiv University and the Kyiv State Art Institute (known today as the National Academy of Art), Mr. Parfenioug has been residing in the United States since 1992, and since 1996 in the village of Claverack in the Hudson Valley, where he is affiliated with the Institute of the Philosophy and Psychology of Art.

Mr. Parfenioug's work was recently shown as part of a group exhibit titled "Spheres: An Examination of the Sphere in Art and Life," held (September 4 - December 15, 2000) at the Museum of the Imagination in Hudson, N.Y. The exhibition, featuring a sculptural installation consisting of artwork by contemporary artists, focused on the representation and role of the sphere in art as manifested through time and various cultures, as well as in nature and science.

Mr. Parfenioug's early work, dating to his student days in the early 1980s, deals predominantly with monumental sculptures as well as sculptural portraiture.

Significantly, the sculpture "Yaroslav Mudryi, Budivnyk Derzhavnosti" (Grand Prince Yaroslav the Wise, Founder of the Nation), executed as Mr. Parfenioug's diploma work in 1983 at the Kyiv Institute of Art, was not only awarded a gold medal but received the distinction of being acquired by the Museum of the History of Kyiv, where it is permanently installed.

Representative of this early phase are such works as "Osvita" (Education), a composition that takes the form of a draped, sensuous lithe figure of a young woman, with village children at her side, commissioned by the Ukrainian Museum of Pedagogy in Kyiv; "Borotba" (Hockey Melee), which captures the dynamics and sense of extreme tension in the interaction of players as they give their all to win.

The memorial sculpture "Maty Ukraina," commemorating those who perished in World War II, takes the form of a standing figure of a young woman, who, with



The diptych "Annunciation" and "Pietà," 1990, bronze, 2 feet high, from the sculptor's private collection.

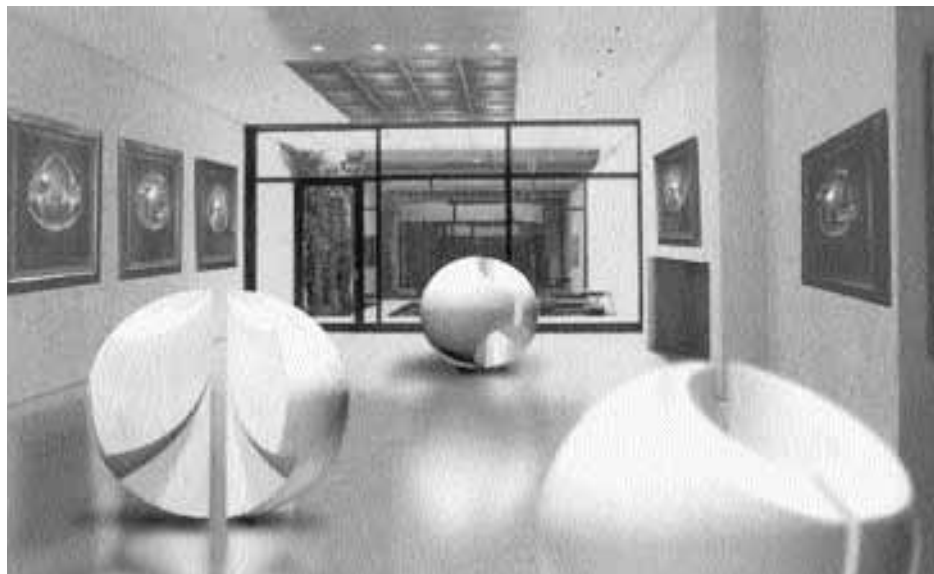
head slightly bowed and downcast eyes, holds up an icon as she mourns her fallen sons and daughters. The evocation of grace in strength as represented in the female figure is reinforced by the laconic and calm expression of stoic grief. The sculpture, which is in Pereiaslav-Khmelnytskyi, was the last important work by the artist before he left Ukraine.

Mr. Parfenioug also has a series of sculptural portraits of prominent individuals from the Soviet era who have made significant contributions in various fields,

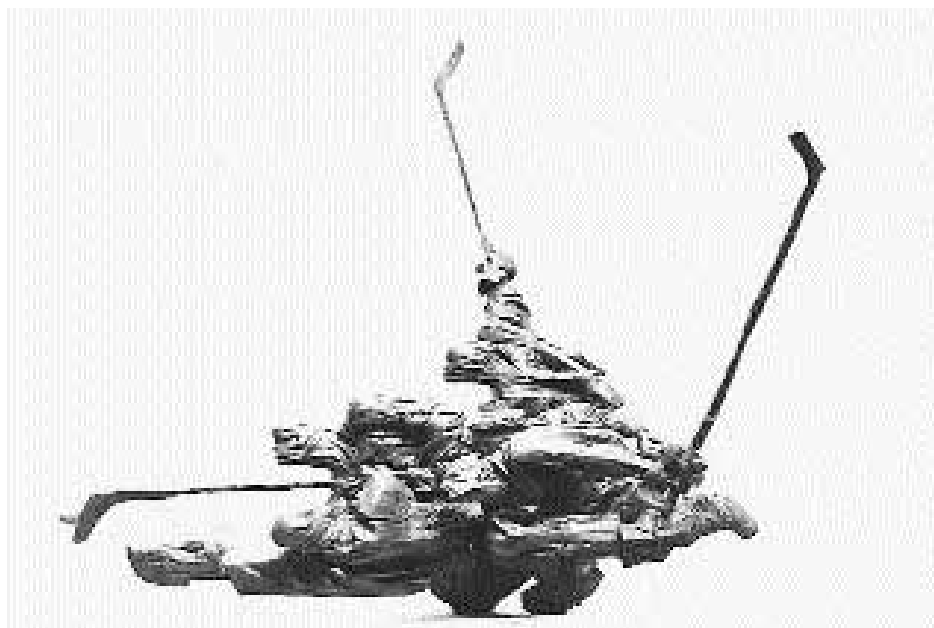
including the arts, academia, literature and sports.

A clear transition to a modernist aesthetic, characterized by a general simplification and abstraction of form, is found in works dating from 1989 onward. This direction is represented by the diptych "Annunciation" and "Pietà," where the theme of the birth and death of Christ is articulated, using contre-relief, as a carrying of a child within the womb (the incarnation of Christ) and

(Continued on page 29)



"Metaphysical Architectural-Sculptural Synthesis," a work that forms part of Gennady Parfenioug's conceptual space project. The work was shown in the group exhibit "Sphere: An Examination of the Sphere in Art and Life," which opened at the Museum of the Imagination in Hudson, N.Y., in the fall of 2000.



"Borotba," (Hockey Melee), 1988.



A bronze sculpture of "Yaroslav Mudryi," grand prince of Kyivan Rus', holding a maquette of the 11th century Cathedral of St. Sophia. The work was executed as the sculptor's diploma work at the Kyiv Institute of Art in 1983 and was acquired by the Museum of the History of Kyiv, where it is on permanent exhibit.

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Naval officer...

(Continued from page 3)

the steamship Pamiat Mercuria, in which many people perished, involved rescue teams of both the Ukrainian navy and the Black Sea Fleet. That is a normal situation.

But, I underscore, let no one forget or misinterpret the fact that there is a Ukrainian state, we are its representatives and we are the masters of our land. This is most vital.

Will the common Russian-Ukrainian command/control over navigation around Sevastopol Bay give Russia de facto additional powers in the area?

Given the fact that the treaty is a done deal, I can only hope that the interests of our navy will in no way be compromised. It is not a secret that during these nine years - it will be nine years in April since the president signed the order creating the Ukrainian naval forces - the Black Sea Fleet still carries pre-eminence among the people. Sure, it does have its heroic history, which especially the elderly, those who fought and those who lived there, cannot forget. The attitude that the Black Sea Fleet is number one dominates.

Let me give you an example. When parades take place [in and around Sevastopol], the parade units of the Black Sea Fleet go first, and then the parade units of the Ukrainian navy - this on the territory of Ukraine, mind you. People wonder: Why is that so? Don't think they don't - sailors, plebes, guests and Ukrainians in general.

Fine, we did it once; they were our guests after all. But after they have lived here for years, they are no longer guests. Tradition, respect for national interests, laws, and simple common sense and self-respect demand that the situation be changed. But that has not yet happened, unfortunately.

This is not a straightforward situation, but it is what I believe needs to be changed. Let it happen gradually, calmly, but firmly forward. The authority and image of our Ukrainian navy in the Crimean-Sevastopol region must be raised.

Is there a danger to Ukraine in cooperation with Russia on the joint development of new defense technologies? Could this negatively impact the development of Ukraine's armed forces in some way?

This is a very delicate question. Many countries are working on new technologies, new weapons systems, including Ukraine, for example the new [T-82] tank. And we definitely need new ships and other military technology.

I read some of the treaty signed between the Russian Federation and Ukraine. It includes common training and exchanges, and visits of high-level military officials. There is even mention of exchanges of basic supplies, such as supplies of footwear, for example.

But when it comes to general defense, this is a question of national security. There cannot be identical rockets, identical missiles in two neighboring countries. In the end, each country must have something that is uniquely its own because, after all, this is defense.

Let's take this example: You put five locks on your door and I put five locks on mine. I give you my keys and you give me your keys. Now tell me, does that give us security? As long as we maintain friendly relations everything is fine, but if something happens? As I said, it is a very delicate situation.

I think that Ukraine must take care to ensure that the security of Ukraine remains with Ukrainians and, first of all, the armed forces of Ukraine.

Pysanka, the herald of spring, arrives at The Ukrainian Museum

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – The pysanka, or Ukrainian Easter egg, is the first herald of spring at The Ukrainian Museum. Traces of snow may still be on the ground and winter winds may fiercely whip around the corners in our city, but at the museum the glorious colors of spring emerge with the unpacking of pysanky, in preparation for this eagerly awaited annual exhibition.

The pysanka exhibition will open at The Ukrainian Museum on March 18 and will be on view through June 31. Featured will be hundreds of beautifully decorated traditional pysanky, representing various regions of Ukraine.

The story of the Ukrainian pysanka is one that had its beginning in antiquity. The egg, because of its life-giving capacity, was a mystery to the ancients and the source of their many myths. It was used in worship and was considered a symbol of the sun and the universe.

The ancient people believed that the egg itself possessed great mystical power. They also believed that when they decorated it with symbolic designs and colors, in a specific, prescribed manner, it assumed additional power as a talisman and a protector against evil. With the advent of Christianity in Ukraine in the 10th century, the decorated pysanka, became a part of the Easter tradition.

The ornamentation on the pysanka consists mainly of geometric motifs,

with some plant and animal elements. An important motif is the stylized symbol of the sun, seen as a triangle, a star or an eight-pointed rosette. Other popular motifs are endless lines. Similar motifs that transcend regional boundaries are believed to be the oldest. Elements such as the cross, church and fish were introduced with the Christian influence.

Pysanky are traditionally decorated with the wax-resist method. Symbols are drawn on the egg with melted wax using a "kistka" – a special writing instrument. The egg is then dipped in the desired dye, from the lightest to the darkest. After a succession of dyes, the wax is melted off on the flame of a candle.

Due to the egg's fragility, there are no surviving examples of the earliest pysanky. But the strong tradition of decorating eggs has remained with the Ukrainian people to this day. Most of the symbolic meanings of the designs have been lost through time, nevertheless Ukrainian artisans continue to practice this beautiful craft, employing the symbols, colors, tools and methods as prescribed long, long ago. Today, the pysanka is the quintessential representative of the unique and rich Ukrainian folk art culture.

In conjunction with the pysanka exhibition, the Museum Gift Shop features beautifully decorated eggs for sale, as well as kits to decorate the eggs. The museum is also offering Ukrainian Easter egg decorating workshops. Adults and children from the age of 12 will have the opportunity to learn this beautiful craft in the traditional manner on March 25 and 31, and April 1 at 2-4 p.m. Reservations are required.

Fee for each session: adults, \$15; seniors and students, \$10; children age 12-16, \$3; museum members, 15 percent discount.

Another program will feature demonstrations of pysanky-making by experienced artisans and viewing of the award-winning film "Pysanka" by Slavko Nowytski. This presentation, scheduled for Saturday, April 7, will be held at the museum at 2-5 p.m. Fee: adults, \$4.50; seniors and students over 16, \$3; under 16, free. Museum members, 15 percent discount.

For information contact The Ukrainian Museum, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003; telephone, (212) 228-0110; fax, (212) 228-1947; e-mail, info@ukrainianmuseum.org; webpage, www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Soyuzivka camps...

(Continued from page 7)

Judging by the camp fees we have been charging in the past, we have come to the conclusion that they were heavily subsidized by the UNA (and similarly by the UFA at Verkhovyna) over the duration of many years. Unfortunately, such generous subsidies will not be possible in the future. The new Soyuzivka camp fees were established with the intention only of covering the expenses necessary to run them. Our camps are small – not more than 45 or 60 participants, depending on the camp – and the ratio of counselors to campers is low.

We sincerely hope that parents will accept our explanation for the increase in the camp fees and will once again make it possible for their children to enjoy the summer at our beautiful resort, Soyuzivka, and to reap the benefits of the outstanding professional instructors these camps provide.

UCCA's open letter...

(Continued from page 9)

society in order to destabilize the reform efforts.

All of these instances undermine the authority of Ukraine within the Western world. The Ukrainian diaspora is troubled by the recent political reorientation of Ukraine, which has created closer ties with Russia while moving further away from Europe. Commenting on these events, The Financial Times wrote on January 22 that Ukraine "is changing its foreign policy priorities in the sphere of security towards Russia rather than the West." We believe that such instances will lead Ukraine back into the tragic 1654 Pereiaslav Treaty. An independent Ukraine is important not only to the Ukrainian nation, but also to the Western world, which believes that an independent and democratic Ukraine is the guarantor of stability on the European continent.

We [Ukrainians in the diaspora] would like to accentuate that the diaspora always has stood in defense of the Ukrainian nation and will do so in the future as well. But, we are disturbed by the recent events in Ukraine which are detrimental to the Ukrainian nation and its further development. Taking into account these issues, the Ukrainians in the diaspora demand that the government structures in Ukraine rectify the situation in accordance with the law. We are convinced that only through determined means of all government structures, in accordance with constitutional provisions and the laws of the country, transparency and coherency, can the current crisis be overcome and steer unlimited support from the Western world to Ukraine.

Michael Sawkiw Jr., President
Marie Duplak, Secretary
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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

routinely ignored her requests to investigate and prosecute individuals involved in stealing large amounts of money in the energy sector. She added that the president also ignored the government's privatization efforts in the sector and is now preparing accords to hand energy enterprises over to Russia in exchange for political support for his regime. "My only 'crime' has been to fight the corruption, shadow economy and totalitarianism that have been created by this president of Ukraine," Ms. Tymoshenko concluded in the letter. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rally demands Tymoshenko's release

KYIV – Some 1,000 activists of the political association Ukrainka Pravysia staged a rally at a Kyiv prison on March 8 to demand the release of former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and "all political prisoners" Interfax reported. "Yulia Tymoshenko has proved through her life that she is capable of leading the country and even taking a solitary stand against the criminals that have divided the country among themselves," lawmaker Oleksander Turchynov from Tymoshenko's Fatherland Party told the crowd. Ms. Tymoshenko was placed in solitary confinement on January 13, and is facing charges of bribery, smuggling, tax evasion and document forgery. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President calls for help to flood victims

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has called on authoritative bodies, political and public organizations, and all citizens to help the residents of Zakarpattia, which has been flooded by the rising rivers Tysa and Latorytsia, Interfax reported on March 8. The flood inundated some 200 settlements, forced nearly 13,000 people to leave their homes and killed six people. Some 40,000 people on both sides of the Ukrainian-Hungarian border are working to repair damage and prevent the situation from worsening. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russia to help flooded region

MOSCOW – The Emergencies Ministry told ITAR-TASS on March 12 that the Russian government has decided to dispatch 150 tons of foodstuffs and other supplies to flood-ravaged regions of western Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma: Kyiv must accept Russia's claims

MOSCOW – Sergei Shishkarev, the vice-chairman of the Duma International Relations Committee, told ITAR-TASS on March 11 that Ukraine can secure the restructuring of its debts to the Paris Club only after recognizing Russia's right to all Soviet property abroad. After the collapse of the Soviet Union, Russia assumed all former Soviet debts in return for acknowledgment by non-Russian republics of Russia's ownership of Soviet property abroad, but despite that accord, Mr. Shishkarev said, Ukraine has continued to make claims on some of that property. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Georgia acclaims Ukraine's mediation

TBILISI – After meeting in Tbilisi on March 7 with visiting Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko, President Eduard Shevardnadze characterized Kyiv's participation in international efforts to resolve the Abkhaz conflict as equally important as those of the group of countries known as Friends of the U.N. Secretary-General, ITAR-TASS reported. He said that during their talks Mr. Zlenko had made "interesting proposals" on how to resolve the conflict. Mr. Zlenko said that during its chairmanship this month of the United Nations Security Council, Ukraine will devote special attention to the Abkhaz conflict, to which a special session will be

devoted on March 21. Mr. Shevardnadze further expressed appreciation for Ukraine's willingness to host a confidence-building meeting between Abkhaz and Georgian delegations in Yalta on March 16-18. After his meeting with President Shevardnadze, Minister Zlenko traveled with U.N. Special Representative for Abkhazia Dieter Boden to Sukhumi, where the two met with Abkhaz Prime Minister Vyacheslav Tsugba. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Patriarch promises to protect Russians

MOSCOW – Moscow Patriarch Aleksei II told a group of Russians from the former Soviet republics that "you are flesh of flesh and blood of blood of our people," adding that "we see it as our duty to take part in all actions aimed at consolidating the unity of our compatriots living abroad," Interfax reported. The patriarch also condemned efforts to separate Orthodox congregations in Estonia and Ukraine from the Russian Orthodox Church and said that it is not yet time for Pope John Paul II to visit Ukraine, the news agency reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Patriarch notes conditions for papal visit

MOSCOW – In an interview published in the newspaper Segodnia on February 15, Patriarch Aleksei II said that Pope John Paul II could eventually visit Russia, if the leaders of the two denominations could agree on the division of Church property and a ban on Catholic missionary activities in Russia. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Soviet passport holders now stateless

MOSCOW – As of March 1, individuals who have only Soviet passports and who have arrived in the Russian Federation from former Soviet republics are to be considered stateless and must seek residence permits and undergo naturalization procedures, Izvestia reported on February 28, citing a Foreign Affairs Ministry announcement. Meanwhile, Russian and Georgian diplomats continued to discuss visa arrangements between the two countries, Tribuna reported the same day. Approximately 300,000 Georgians want to remain in Russia and most will do so illegally, the paper said, noting that "Russia doesn't need 300,000 illegal aliens." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russian census to ask ethnic question

MOSCOW – The special commission charged with conducting the all-Russian census in 2002 has confirmed the program for that process, Interfax reported on February 28. The basic census will include 14 questions, including native language, citizenship and nationality. An additional eight questions will be given to every fourth Russian family. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian ship detained with arms cargo

KYIV – The Ukrainian-registered vessel Anastasia, which sails under the Georgian flag, was detained by Spanish customs close to the Canary Islands on February 27 with an undeclared cargo of 640 tons of arms and ammunition, Caucasus Press reported on February 28. According to Georgia's Transport and Communications Minister Merab Adeishvili, Georgia cannot be held responsible as the vessel does not belong to the Georgian merchant marine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

More on failure to oust Potebenko

KYIV – National Deputy Anatolii Matvienko, leader of the opposition Sobor Party, said he believes the failed attempts on February 22 to pass a vote of no confidence in Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko testify to the fact that an "oligarchic majority" has been formed in the Verkhovna Rada. Addressing the Parliament on February 22, Mr. Matvienko

(Continued on page 21)

ZAKARPATTIA FLOOD RELIEF EFFORTS

UUARC announces fund drive

PHILADELPHIA – The United Ukrainian American Relief Committee here has been notified by its Lviv office that Ukraine's Zakarpattia region is experiencing devastating spring flooding caused by a sudden thaw followed by torrential downpours lasting for days.

At least 200 villages have been submerged and the death toll has risen to five as of March 8. Monumental efforts are under way to stem the flooding with sandbags. The Tysa River near the town of Chop has risen to 43.56 feet, which is just 2.3 inches short of the record, and the water levels are the highest in more

than a century.

The UUARC is calling on everyone to rally to the assistance of the poor people of Zakarpattia. Donations marked "Flood Relief" may be sent to the address below. The UUARC will send aid directly to those most needing help. Each donation is crucial, so that these families can have disaster relief now, the UUARC underlined.

Contact: United Ukrainian American Relief Committee Inc., 1206 Cottman Ave., Philadelphia, PA 19111; telephone (215) 728-1630; fax, (215) 728-1631; e-mail, uuarc@bellatlantic.net.

UNWLA aims to provide medicines

NEW YORK – The Social Welfare Committee of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, in cooperation with Soyuz Ukrainok of the Zakarpattia region, is seeking monetary contributions to purchase medicines for the flood victims in that western region of Ukraine.

UNWLA President Iryna Kurowyckyj and Social Welfare Chair Nadia Shmigel

are asking the support of UNWLA members organized in branches throughout the country, as well as of all people of good will in Ukrainian communities and beyond.

Contributions to the UNWLA Social Welfare Fund are tax-deductible under provisions of the organization's 501 (c) 3 status. Please send contributions to: UNWLA Social Welfare Fund – Floods, 108 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003.

Floods devastate...

(Continued from page 10)

area. Neighboring Hungary, which has sent 15 truckloads, and Russia, which has sent 30, are leading the international humanitarian relief effort, while about a dozen other European countries have dispatched one and two truckloads.

An official at the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv said the United States would allocate aid through the U.S. Agency for International Development. In the past the agency has funneled financing through a trustworthy charitable organization, which then distributed the aid to those affected.

While in the Zakarpattia region, President Kuchma also reviewed the work of the more than 1,000-strong Ministry of Emergency Situations (MES) relief force that has descended on the area, bringing with it five helicopters and scores of bulldozers and tractors. In general, the MES workers are responsible for rebuilding embankments and dams, rejoining rail track, fixing roads and helping to rebuild the infrastructure.

In Tekovo the work took on a more personal quality as the workers, dressed in army fatigues, helped homeowners take down their unsalvageable buildings and dig out those that could be saved. They also helped distribute humanitarian aid, includ-

ing bread and water.

Local charitable projects also were evident. Volunteers from the Mukachiv Baptist Church drove down Tekovo's only thoroughfare on March 13 to distribute donated clothing. The villagers warmly greeted the van with its red cross pasted on the windshield and accepted the gifts, which included a Bible for each family.

For many it was the knowledge that help was available and on the way that kept them from utter despair.

Yulia Fozikosh, 70, stood outside of a flattened house, which for 30 years had been her home, and with raised arms cried her woes. She said that when the water came rushing in, she had refused to leave, even as a neighbor insisted that she do so. But as the water rose she finally agreed to climb into a rowboat and travel to safety, only to watch her house collapse. She explained that she has no one to help her rebuild her home and her life.

"I must put my fate into the hands of God and these people. I am by myself and do not have the strength to go it alone," said Ms. Fozikosh.

UCCA council seeks donations

NEW YORK – The Council on Aid to Ukrainians, which functions under the aegis of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, is calling on the community to provide immediate assistance to these regions of Ukraine.

The most needed items include canned and non-perishable food, blankets, clothing, shoes and household items. As in the case of the floods of two years ago, the UCCA's Council on Aid to Ukrainians is cooperating with the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine to assist those affected by the flood.

In addition to those items listed above, the people in the affected regions need medical equipment and medicine, which

will be purchased by the UCCA's representative in Ukraine. Donations may be sent to: UCCA-Karpaty, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003.

The UCCA has also asked Ukrainian clergy for permission to use church halls for collecting and storing donations on Saturday, March 31, and on Sunday, April 1. Organizations in the New Jersey and New York area are asked to send their donations to Meest - Karpaty, 609 Commerce Road, Linden, NJ 07036

New or slightly used clean clothes should be packed in boxes clearly marked as men's, women's or children's clothing. For information contact Ivan Burtyk, (973) 779-4063.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 20)

congratulated Rada Chairman Ivan Plusch on the formation of that majority. "I warn you against a threat of losing [our] independence. The hundred [lawmakers] who voted [for Potebenko's ouster] are part of the [real] opposition and pro-Ukrainian force," Mr. Matvienko added. The no confidence resolutions were either boycotted or opposed by the pro-presidential caucuses Labor Ukraine, Revival of Regions, Solidarity, the Social Democratic Party (United) and the National Democratic Party, as well as by the Greens and Yabluko. The Communist Party caucus also refused to vote. Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko commented: "We do not intend to defend Potebenko, but we will also not participate in settling scores between clans." (RFE/RL Newsline)



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Ukrainian studies...

(Continued from page 9)

Pylypiuk, president of the Canadian Association of Slavists, and Robert De Lossa, president of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies.

Following is the full text of the statement signed by scholars and professionals in the field of Ukrainian studies.

We, the undersigned, scholars and professionals working in the field of Ukrainian studies and related disciplines in the United States, Canada, Europe, Australia and Japan, all of us sharing a profound concern for the well-being of Ukraine and its citizens, its institutions, its record on human rights, freedom of the press, and its overall standing in the community of democratic and law-abiding nations, feel it essential to express our views on the present crisis there. We know that this crisis can only be solved by the citizens of Ukraine, but we believe that overarching moral issues, the need for solidarity with our Ukrainian colleagues and friends, and our own

involvement in Ukraine oblige us to speak out.

We are deeply troubled by the murder of the journalist Heorhii Gongadze and the handling of the investigation into his death. The long delay in determining and admitting the identity of the victim and, with it, the very fact of the crime, has raised serious questions about the independence and the impartiality of the investigation.

We are concerned that this murder is only the most visible instance of violence against and harassment of independent journalists, politicians and other prominent Ukrainians. The questions surrounding the murders of Vadym Hetman and Yevhen Scherban, as well as the deaths of Vadym Boiko, Vyacheslav Chornovil, and many others remain unanswered, with little or no known progress in their investigations.

We are disturbed that anti-corruption legislation continues to be enforced selectively, mostly against government opponents and low-level officials.

We deplore the continuing reprisals, threats and implicit threats of reprisal against those journalists, students, teachers and other Ukrainians who dare to

speak their minds openly and freely on the current crisis. The persistent efforts to prevent and obstruct peaceful demonstrations raise disturbing questions about the commitment to freedom of speech and assembly, which are guaranteed in Ukraine's Constitution.

We are deeply concerned that Ukrainian political and economic independence and sovereignty, already endangered by widespread corruption, may be further degraded as national interests are sacrificed to narrow self interests.

We fully support all calls for an independent, full, transparent and credible investigation of Gongadze's murder and of all the evidence that has emerged from this case. Those responsible, no matter what their position, must be held to account.

We also express our strong support for attempts to reform the political process and strengthen civil society, to establish a genuine separation of and balance between the executive, legislative and judicial branches of government, as well as a truly open, honest and accountable system of governance.

We reject the claim that the current political crisis has done nothing but

besmirch Ukraine's image. On the contrary, it has given the world – and us – the hope that Ukraine is capable of mature self-reflection, strong and honest criticism where necessary, and meaningful reform. We are convinced that only the rule of law, due process, and genuine freedom of the press, expression and assembly without fear of reprisal – combined with serious political dialogue – can help lead Ukraine out of this crisis. Only an honest attempt to uncover the truth can restore the country's image and promise and help Ukraine avoid becoming a pariah in the world community.

We express our solidarity with all those in Ukraine who are struggling for these goals and we extend to them our deep moral support. Democracy, as they have reminded us, is a process – and sometimes a very difficult one – not just an empty platitude.

We call on the president, the prime minister, the parliament, and the Supreme Court of Ukraine to take meaningful steps towards ensuring the full integrity of this process. And we urge our own governments to support Ukrainians at this critical moment in the history of their young democracy.

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UNWLA Chicago Branch 29 celebrates 40 years of service

by Irene Pyskir Oleksiuk

CHICAGO – Branch 29 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America in Chicago celebrated 40 years of its charitable good works in the Ukrainian community with a jubilee banquet and program at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, on January 20.

The Jubilee Committee headed by Julia Kokorudz organized a fine dinner, program, jubilee book and awards, and created a friendly ambiance. Other committee members were Olexandra Diachenko Kochman, Daria Jarosewich, R. Halibej, Emilia Wyshnytzky, Katherine Iwasyszyn, Eva Zelenko-(branch president), Irene Pyskir Oleksiuk, O. Diachenko and Maria Hrynewycz.

The master of ceremonies Ms. Jarosewich, read the many congratulations and gifts sent by other branches, absent members, founding member L. Jarosewich, and other community organizations. The Pisia Trio sang several lovely songs attired in dress bearing a Trypillian design. Songstresses Natalka Masnyk, Liusia Oleksiuk and Vera Dzulynski were a welcome addition to the great event; Orysia Pokorna was the talented accompanist.

Next, Ms. Jarosewich switched roles and became part of the entertainment along with Ms. Pyskir Oleksiuk as they read their lighthearted composition about the able and talented members of Branch 29. Each one of the 47 members had a stanza written about her role in the organization; smiles abounded and there was laughter at the comic references to many members.

The original and founding members of Branch 29 present that evening were especially honored. All members are listed in the Jubilee Book compiled by Ms. Diachenko-Kochman and the anniversary committee. Photographs and memorable events can also be found here. (The book is available for purchase.) Ms. Diachenko Kochman explained the intricacies of publishing the text and choosing the materials, and gave a brief history of the branch.

Chairperson Ms. Kokorudz outlined the founding principles and work of the branch in its early stages 40 years ago. The president of the "youthful" branch, Ms. Zelenko spoke of some of the significant aspects of its

(Continued on page 27)



Members of UNWLA Branch 29 of Chicago during their anniversary celebration.

Branch proud of contacts with local, state officials

CHICAGO – It is very beneficial to have contact with city and state government officials, as such contacts can benefit the Ukrainian community. Eva Zelenko, president of UNWLA Branch 29 makes sure that there is good communication between the organization and Chicago and Illinois officials.

At the invitation of Corinne Wood, Lieutenant Governor of Illinois, Ms. Zelenko has joined several committees dealing with health, immigration and education.

As the Lieutenant Governor wants to have close relations with ethnic communities in the city of

Chicago, she established an Ethnic Advisory Council that meets to discuss, seek solutions, and contribute input on problems encountered in ethnic communities.

Ms. Zelenko invites other members of Branch 29 to help her attend meetings and special events arranged by Lt. Gov. Wood. Meetings and receptions are very informative and give many ethnic groups opportunities to participate in decision-making, networking, socializing and sharing experiences that can be brought to ethnic organizations.

– Irene Pyskir Oleksiuk

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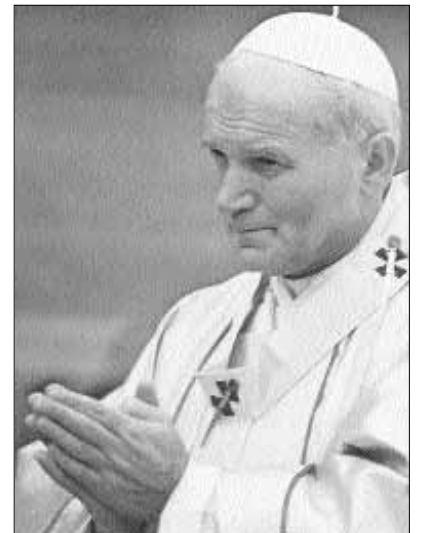
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Radoslav Zuk...

(Continued from page 16)

where a group of students works with the same professor, i.e., "atelier" master throughout their academic career.

Do the curricula differ in any significant way from programs offered in North American or Western European universities?

Judging by the work produced in the diploma projects in Ukrainian schools of architecture, the respective curricula lead to similar results as in Western schools of architecture. Of course, in North America the strong autonomy of each academic institution has resulted in rather unique formal curricular structures, but in essence they cover similar aspects of the domain of architecture, and thus are a part of world culture of architectural education.

What is noticeable at Ukrainian institutions is a strong emphasis on the ability to plan complex projects, to carry them through to a high degree of completion and to present them with highly competent graphic means, lately also with the help of computers. Moreover, graduands who exhibit exceptional graphic talent receive the title "architect-artist." One can say that the command of pen-and-ink, watercolor and other media at the Kyiv Academy is on an extremely high level, almost unparalleled in the West.

Do opportunities for student exchange programs with Western institutions exist?

The Academy of Fine Arts and Architecture in Kyiv has ties with several Western European schools of architecture, in Belgium and Spain, among others. These

exchange programs allow for small groups of students, together with an instructor, to periodically visit and study at the respective institution.

In general, the students in Ukraine seem to be very much aware of the current stylistic trends in the rest of the world and are able to incorporate them into their own work. The exchange programs provide the additional opportunity to come into direct contact with significant architecture abroad.

A number of alumni have also undertaken graduate studies at various institutions outside Ukraine.

Would you comment on the range of projects?

The diploma projects tend to tackle very ambitious topics – large-scale urban projects as well as smaller projects of specific type such as cultural and community centers. The large projects include government and civic buildings, e.g., museums or concert halls, housing projects, sports installations, commercial centers, etc.

Do they address current public and private needs?

Diploma projects based on public programs usually address given needs. It should be noted that the practice of recommending the best among such projects by the state examination commission for execution still exists. Whether under the current economic conditions these projects can be realized is another question. Some of the smaller projects are undertaken as a response to actual programs proposed by private or quasi-private clients, such as church groups or associations or, indeed, even individual sponsors. There is optimism that some of these will be realized in the near future.

Chornobyl, orphanages, and the needy in Brazil, Poland and Ukraine.

All members were presented with a memorable work of art by Natalia Guchenia and her husband, Yuri Guchenia. Members were delightfully surprised with this picture of a beautiful young girl, dressed in Ukrainian costume, and an inscription reading "Jubilee 40, 29th Branch UNWLA, Chicago 1960-2000."

The president of the Chicago Regional Council, Luba Kalin (also a member of Branch 29), congratulated all and presented the branch with a certificate of honor from the UNWLA headquarters in New York. The evening came to a close with happy memories and a pleasant atmosphere.

UNWLA Chicago...

(Continued from page 25)

charitable work in the past 10 years.

Past presidents and members who made significant contributions since the 30th anniversary were honored with framed certificates.

The young women who organized themselves in 1960 had as their goal a preschool for children of the Ukrainian community. The goal was met very successfully for 25 years. Other goals and objectives also were met, including the publications of books for children, sponsorship of scholarships, art exhibits, cultural events, and donation of funds and material goods to young victims of



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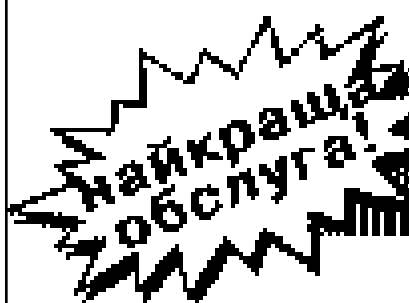


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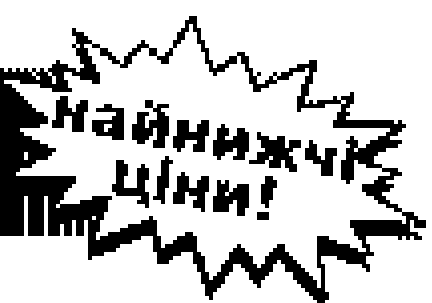
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NEW RELEASE: "Soundscape" by Dunai

AJAX, Ontario – High energy, versatility and an extensive repertoire are the key ingredients to the success of the Dunai band of Ontario. For over a decade the band's popularity has taken its members from dances in the United States to festivals in western Canada – and weddings everywhere.



Dunai has worked with a number of charitable organizations over the years in supporting their worthy causes. A few years ago the group added its support to the "I Am Alive" CD benefiting the children of Chernobyl with the song "Wild Tonight."

Dunai's notoriety is far-reaching; the group has played at weddings for members of many Ukrainian bands such as Veseli Chasy, Burya, Solovey, Veselka, Nove Pokolinnia, Trubka, Bukovyna Brass and Trembita.

Dunai's first compact disk "I've Searched the World," has received critical acclaim from audiences in North America, Europe and Australia. With the

release of Dunai's second CD "Soundscape," audiences will once again experience the unmistakable sound of this band.

To order Dunai's new recording send \$15 (U.S.) for a CD or \$10 (U.S.) for a cassette to: Dunai, 66 Harland Crescent, Ajax, Ontario L1S 1J9.

For information visit the website at <http://www.dunai.com>.

Gennady Parfeniuk's...

(Continued from page 17)

ultimately, the loss of the child (the death of Christ), with the outstretched hands of the grieving figure, a prefiguration of the crucifixion of Christ.

Mr. Parfeniuk has also been drawn throughout his career to such timeless themes as the relationship between man and woman, and the female figure. A series of bronze sculptures, rendered in what the artist refers to as a modern impressionist mode, are dedicated to this theme, among them, such works as "Adam and Eve," "Nostalgia" and "Unfinished Painting."

Since his emigration to the United States, Mr. Parfeniuk's work has been marked by a tendency toward symbolic abstraction. His foray into abstract philosophical expression is represented by his current project dealing with conceptual space and the study of the sphere.

Irrespective of any particular style or subject matter, Mr. Parfeniuk conceives of the role of the artist as that of intimating depths of meaning beyond what meets the eye, and of opening up new dimensions of reality and, in the process, engaging the viewer in reflection and critical thinking.

Often drawing inspiration from the inner workings of his psyche, he conceives of art as a manifestation of an inner search and of creation as something

above and beyond the self.

Apart from the group exhibit at the Museum of the Imagination, Mr. Parfeniuk's work was shown in New York at the Mimi Ferzt Gallery and the Alex and Edmund Galleries, both in Soho; the Kristal Gallery, Sugar Bush, Vt.; as well as in an exhibit sponsored by Marvel International Inc., of Princeton, N.J., and at the Fusion Art Distribution Gallery in Pittsburgh and New Orleans.

In 1991 he took part in a benefit auction of fine arts from the USSR held in Los Altos Hills, Calif. Prior to emigrating to the United States, Mr. Parfeniuk took part in numerous international exhibits in Scandinavia.

His latest work may be seen on the website: www.museumimagination.bizland.com.

The Museum of the Imagination, where the artist's latest exhibit was held, is located in Hudson, N.Y., a town that has gained regional recognition as a growing antique and arts center in New York state's Hudson Valley region. The museum is located at 217 Warren St., second floor, Hudson, N.Y.; telephone, (518) 671-6711.

The museum is affiliated with the Institute of the Philosophy and Psychology of Art, founded in 1981 by the renowned Russian artist Mihail Chemiakin, whose studio attracts both recent émigrés from the former USSR and American artists.



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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

SUM's young(est) debutantes enjoy a special "society affair"

by Andriy Bihun

GOSHEN, N.Y. – At the Ukrainian American Youth Association's (SUM) annual debutante ball, where young ladies formally enter into society, the minimum age is 16. But some young gentlemen and ladies of Goshen, N.Y., just couldn't wait that long ...

Sure, they only had about 10 years to wait for their turn, but instead they decided to host their own "society affair."

It all started with the announcement that one of Goshen SUM's own would be taking part in the debutante ball at the White Plains Crowne Plaza Hotel this year. But what exactly is the deb all about? For the group of 4- and 5-year-old SUM youngsters, showing was better than explaining.

The "Vedmedyky" (bear cubs), as their group is called, were summoned one afternoon in February by counselors Marianka Wasylyk and Halyna Shepko for a special treat. While the girls learned to make gorgeous frilly flowers from



A debutante and her escort.

colored paper for their costumes, the boys were led to the wardrobe, where they donned top hats and learned their part for the occasion.

Soon, ladies in long evening gowns and their escorts made their appearance amid an audience of parents, friends and spectators. And what a sight it was!

One by one, each of the



Some of the SUM youngsters and counselors at the gala affair.

"Vedmedyky" was presented by master of ceremonies Chrystia Bihun, and even the slight shortage of escorts to accompany the abundance of young debutantes went unnoticed as the crowd applauded and cheered.

The celebration continued as moms and dads accompanied their respective junior partners in a

series of dances, and even the older children decided to join in. As the couples twirled away and the evening drew to a close with a tasty buffet organized by Marika Stroynick and company, the "Vedmedyky" now knew what the debutante ball is all about.

You'll see them all there at their real ball in the year 2012.

Passaic school marks Catholic Schools Week with diverse events

PASSAIC, N.J. – From January 28 to February 3 St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School here observed Catholic Schools Week.

The celebration began on Sunday with a divine liturgy for the students and their families, followed by a breakfast to mark Parent Appreciation Day.

The rest of the week's activities

included: a Grandparent/Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, which was served by the eighth graders and included a beautiful program by the students; Parish Appreciation Day during which the Rev. Bohdan Danylo visited each classroom to speak on vocations; a talent show; a Community Appreciation Day, during which the students performed "acts of

kindness"; a Student Appreciation Day which is also known as "Fun Sport Day" prepared by the eighth graders and a presentation by the "Lizard Guy" in the afternoon; and a Faculty/Staff Appreciation Day in which the eighth graders again were busy, teaching a lesson to the other classes.

The special week ended on

Saturday with another divine liturgy, followed by a successful night of Family Bingo.

This full week of festivities could not have been possible without the help of the faculty, staff, students and many parents who realize the gift of Catholic schools in general, and St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School in particular.



The school choir sings at the Grandparent/Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon.



Schoolchildren are enthralled by the presentation of the "Lizard Guy."

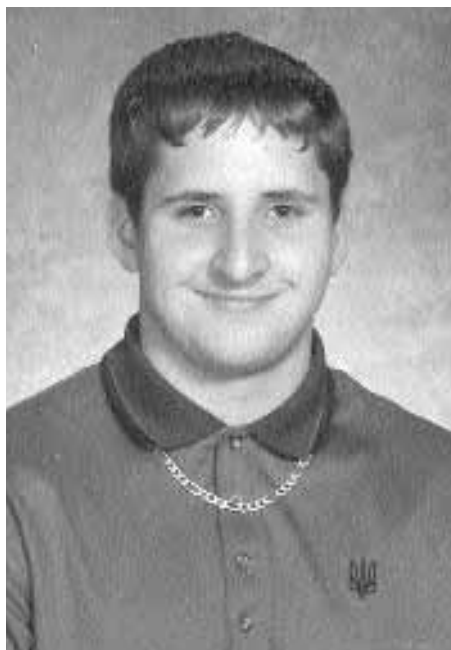
Stamford youth off to Washington

STAMFORD, Conn. – Stephen Frycz of Stamford, Conn., has been selected to attend the National Young Leaders Conference on March 13-18 in Washington.

The NYLC is a unique leadership development program for high school students who have demonstrated leadership potential and scholastic merit. Stephen will be among 350 outstanding national scholars from around the country to attend the conference.

The theme of the NYLC is “The Leaders of Tomorrow Meeting the Leaders of Today.” Throughout the six-day conference, Stephen will interact with key leaders and newsmakers from the three branches of government, the media and the diplomatic corps.

Highlights of the program include welcoming remarks from the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives and a panel discussion with promi-



Stephen Frycz

nent journalists at the National Press Club. Stephen will also meet with senators and representatives or an appointed member of their staff to discuss important issues facing the nation.

From our clippings files ... for all kovbasa lovers

EDMONTON – The Edmonton Journal reported last year that the city of Mundare in Alberta will soon be home to a colossal kovbasa (or kubassa, or kolbassa as it is known in these parts) monument.

Plans currently call for the statue to resemble a 14-meter garlic ring. It will be erected on a small podium surrounded by a small park and picnic tables (appropriate, eh?) and will be lit at night with floodlights. The kovbasa will be located near the highway.

The sausage statue idea was originated by Alec Bendera. “This will be a tribute to sausage-making in the area in the last 100 years,” noted Mundare’s economic development chief, Tracy Jordan. “Every other community has something.”

“Andrew’s got the duck, Vegreville’s got the egg [pysanka], Glendon’s got the perogy [varenyk],” Mundare Mayor Ed Stawnichy told the Journal, listing some of the giant icons in nearby

towns.

Mr. Stawnichy just happens to be the proprietor of Stawnichy’s Meat Processing and is described by the Edmonton Journal as “perhaps the most famous sausage maker in the area, having implanted the phrase ‘Mundare sausage’ into the lexicon of north and central Alberta.”

He has built his father’s company so that it ships about \$4 million worth of pork garlic coils, bologna, pepperoni and wieners from a plant about to be doubled in size and, in Mr. Stawnichy’s words, to “go national.”

Mayor Stawnichy said he has distanced himself from council discussions about the statue, which will cost \$40,000. About \$14,000 has been collected by Stawnichy’s Meats from suppliers, while another \$6,000 has been committed in goods and services from volunteers.

The rest, Mundare hopes, will be provided by the federal government’s Millennium Fund.

Mishanyna

U	K	R	A	I	N	E	R	A	Z	B	O	K	T	Z
I	A	A	N	Y	R	E	T	A	K	H	C	R	A	M
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A	I	I	R	O	H	Y	R	H	T	O	D	I	S	O

To solve this month’s Mishanyna, finds the words that appear capitalized in the text below.

Mykola Myshka has been very busy during the month of MARCH. He is learning the “ZAPOVIT” for his school’s CONCERT in HONOR of Taras SHEVCHENKO, Ukraine’s greatest poet. Do you know what a “zapovit” is? It’s a last WILL that spells out the wishes of a person to be carried out after they die. In his will Shevchenko wrote that he wanted to be buried in UKRAINE on the banks of the Dnipro River.

Did you even wonder what Taras Shevchenko was like as a CHILD? Well, Mykola’s teacher told the class that TARAS was born in a village called MORYNTSI on March 9. Taras’ father, HRYHORII, was a serf. Taras had a SISTER named Yaryna and a BROTHER named Yosyp.

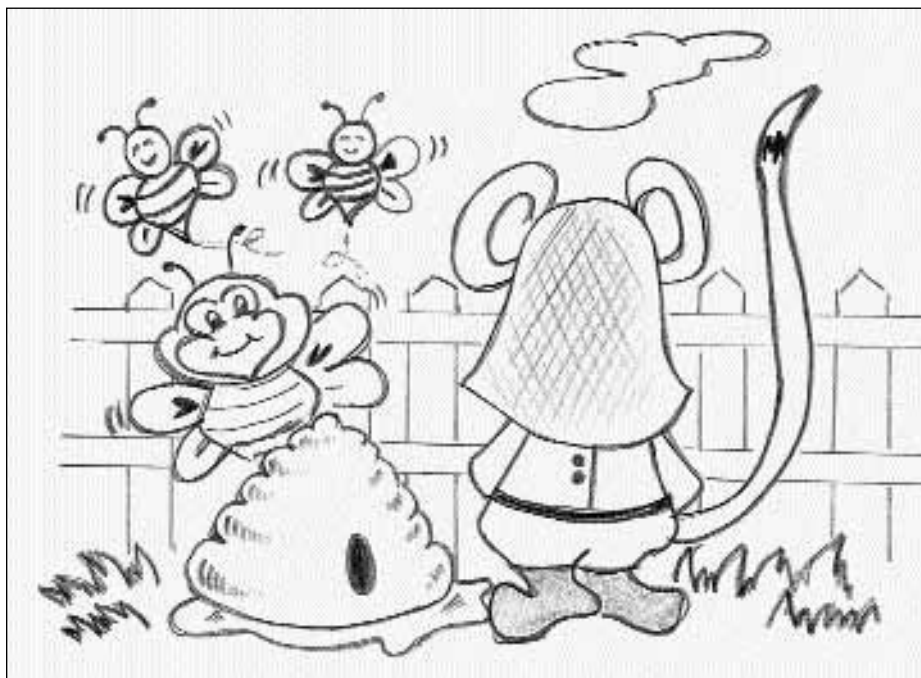
When Taras was a year old his family moved to a village called Kyrylivka. Taras had a hard childhood. His mother, KATERYNA, died when he was 9 years old, and his father died two years later. When Taras was a youngster he thought the sky was supported by PILLARS. Even though at age 13 Taras was a shepherd, he realized that he really wanted to PAINT.

Did you know that Shevchenko was an extremely talented ARTIST as well as a POET? Many children know of him only as a writer. Ask your parents to show you a BOOK of Shevchenko’s art. You will be surprised!

Well, back to Mykola ... He is hoping that he will RECITE well at the school concert. If you, too, will be performing, he hopes you do well.

PS: Do you know what Taras Shevchenko’s famous collection of poetry is called? If you do, find the title in Mishanyna.

A Myshka beekeeper?



Donning the outfit of a beekeeper, or apiarist, Mykola Myshka is going to collect some fresh honey for his mother, who will be baking. He has asked her to make some honey cake. Do you know what this kind of pastry is called in Ukraine? (Note: Ukraine has already issued three stamps showing bees and beekeeping.)

The first person to send in a correct answer to our question will win a special philatelic prize courtesy of The Ukrainian Weekly’s philatelic columnist, Dr. Inger Kuzych. (A heartfelt thanks to Dr. Kuzych for his stamp donations. Hopefully, one of our UKELODEON readers is a future philatelist.)

OUR NEXT ISSUE:

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated April 8, please send in your materials by March 30. (Please include a daytime phone number.)

Send in your articles, letters, photos, etc. to: The Ukrainian Weekly, UKELODEON, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; telephone, (973) 292-9800; fax, (973) 644-9510; e-mail, staff@ukrweekly.com.

OUR EDITORS:

UKELODEON is prepared by the editorial staff of The Ukrainian Weekly working in conjunction with Lydia Smyk, an elementary school teacher at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark, N.J.



Easter Greetings

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to continue your tradition.

Send best wishes to your family and friends, colleagues and clients on the occasion of Easter with a greeting in *The Ukrainian Weekly*.

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1/4 page – \$100; 1/2 page – \$200; full page – \$400	

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Thursday, March 15- Sunday, April 1

NEW YORK: La MaMa Experimental Theater and Yara Arts Group present "Obo: Our Shamanism," an original theater piece created by Virlana Tkacz, Sayan and Erzhen Zhambalov, featuring traditional Buryat music performed by Battuvshin and the soaring vocals of Badmahanda Aiusheyeva performing Buryat songs and Mariana Sadovska performing ancient Ukrainian songs. Set and lights are by Watoku Ueno, costumes by Kateryna Nemyra and video by Andrea Odezynska. Showtimes are Thursday-Sunday, 8 p.m., plus Sunday, 3 p.m. Tickets: \$15. La MaMa Etc. is located at 74 E. Fourth St. near Second Avenue. For more information call (212) 475-7710 or visit the website <http://www.brama.com/yara/>.

pysanky supplies, Easter basket covers, icons, ceramics, cookbooks and imported Ukrainian items. There will also be good Ukrainian and American food. Parking and admission are free. For more information and directions call (570) 874-3777 or e-mail pdspotts@prolog.net.

Thursday, March 29

NEW YORK: The Harriman Institute of Columbia University presents Adrian Karatnycky, president, Freedom House, who will speak on the topic "The Freedom of Speech and the Current Political Situation in Ukraine." The presentation will be held in the International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St., 12th floor, Room 1219, at 6-8 p.m.

Friday, March 30

NEW YORK: The Harriman Institute of Columbia University continues its series roundtable discussions on "Language Policy and Language Situation in Ukraine," chaired by Dr. Antonina Berezenko and presents Dr. Pritt Jarve, European Center for Minority Issues, Germany, who will talk on "Comparative Analysis of Language Policy in Ukraine and the Baltic States." The presentation will be held in the International Affairs Building, 420 W. 118th St., 12th floor, Room 1219 at noon-2 p.m.

Friday, March 23-Sunday, April 1

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and Mayana Gallery present an exhibit titled "Images of Ukraine: An Intimate Portrait of Ukraine's People and Landscapes," featuring photographs by Yuri Lev, which were made during his visits to Ukraine in 1985, 1994 and 1998. Bearing an ethnographic slant, the photos give a sense of the past in the present in their portrayal of the people's everyday life. The exhibit will open at 7 p.m. with an evening of music and visual poetry in a program that will include a performance by bandurists Julian Kytasty and the Makarenko Quartet, as well as an introduction by the artist. Donation: \$7. Gallery hours: Friday, 6-8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m. The Mayana Gallery is located at 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144; visit <http://www.brama.com/mayana/> or e-mail mayanagallery@aol.com.

TORONTO: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto is holding a lecture by Oleksander Pavliuk, EastWest Institute, Kyiv Center, titled "The International Aspect of the Ukrainian Revolution." The lecture will be held at University College, 15 King's College Circle, Room 256, at 4 p.m.

Sunday, April 1

WASHINGTON: The 18th annual pysanka Workshop, Easter bazaar and buffet will take place at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine, 4250 Harewood Road NE, at 2-5 p.m. The workshop includes a slide show and personal instruction. Registration is at 1-2 p.m.: adults, \$10; children under 12, \$5. Buffet (from noon until the food is gone): adults, \$7; children under 12, \$3; under 5, free. The bazaar is at noon-4 p.m. There will be many vendors offering traditional Ukrainian art and gifts, pysanka kits and supplies, how-to books, videos and traditional Ukrainian foods, including a variety of smoked meats and freshly baked goods. For information, contact Sophika, (301) 946-6588, or Jurij, (301) 649-6558.

Sunday, March 25

EAST HANOVER, N.J.: Branch 86 of Ukrainian National Women's League of America invites the public to a program honoring Taras Shevchenko featuring the distinguished Ukrainian actor of theater and cinema, Ivan Bernatskyj, based on Pavlo Zaitsev's book "Taras Shevchenko: A Life." Program will begin at 2 p.m. Admission: \$10.

FRACKVILLE, Pa.: The South Anthracite Council of the League of Ukrainian Catholics is sponsoring a Ukrainian Cultural Exhibit. The exhibit will take place at St. Michael's Church Hall on West Oak Street in Frackville, at noon-4 p.m. There will be pysanky,

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ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 320, BALTIMORE

will be held on

Saturday, March 24, 2001, at 6:00 p.m.
at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church hall,
2401 Eastern Avenue, Baltimore.

All members are encouraged to attend.

Paul Fenchak, President

ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 76, "ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST SOCIETY"

will be held on

Sunday, March 25, 2001, at 1:00 p.m.
at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church hall,
Sandford Avenue and Ivy Street, Newark, NJ

Election of new executive board will take place.
All members are asked to attend.

Andre J. Worobec, Secretary