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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Controversy continues as itinerary for pope's visit to Ukraine is finalized

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — As controversy and protest continue to swirl around the visit of Pope John Paul II to Ukraine, organizers announced the pontiff's itinerary for his five-day stay in the country.

The first-ever official visit to Ukraine by the successor to St. Peter and the head of the Catholic Church will begin on June 23. It will revolve around four public masses to take place in Kyiv and Lviv, in the Byzantine and Latin rites, one each morning of his visit. The pope will meet with President Leonid Kuchma and other state officials, as well as the bishops of both the Ukrainian Catholic and Roman Catholic Churches. Also planned is a special meeting with Ukrainian youth during an open-air concert in Lviv.

On May 26 Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, the head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, announced from the Vatican that the pope had asked to meet also with the leaders of the three Ukrainian Orthodox confessions during his visit. Although invitations have been extended, nothing has been confirmed.

Accusations by the Russian Orthodox Church (ROC) in particular have precipitated a controversy that thus far has clouded the papal visit. Since the Vatican announced the trip early this year, the Russian Orthodox Church and its Kyiv Metropolia in Ukraine, officially called the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP), has vociferously attacked the trip as a threat to the universal ecumenical movement and Vatican relations with the Moscow Church.

Some 250 faithful of the UOC-MP marched from the Monastery of the Caves in Kyiv, one of the holiest sites of Orthodoxy, to the Verkhovna Rada building on May 25 in the latest protest against the papal visit. They called for the visit to be canceled.

On May 27, while on a visit to Azerbaijan, Patriarch Aleksei II, the head of the ROC, said the papal visit to Ukraine "will not bring soothing and pacification between religious groups in Ukraine, but will bring further aggravation," according to the Catholic News Service.

The Moscow patriarch made his remarks while Archbishop Jean-Louis Tauran, effectively the Vatican's foreign affairs minister, was in Moscow to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Catholic Church in Russia. Archbishop Tauran emphasized in statements made there that the papal visit to Ukraine was strictly a pilgrimage.

A few days later, during a press conference in Kyiv on May 29, the papal nuncio to Ukraine, Archbishop Mykola Eterovic, delineated a threefold mission for the pope's trip: to meet with the leadership of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which

"has deep roots and is very dynamic," as the archbishop explained, and celebrate its successful revival after persecution under Soviet rule; to develop contacts with the Ukrainian government; and to continue a dialogue with the Orthodox Church in Ukraine.

The comments by the Catholic Church officials, however, will hardly appease the Russian patriarch, who primarily fears that the visit by the charismatic if elderly current successor to St. Peter — even if it were to carry merely symbolic underpinnings — could be the beginning of a serious effort at proselytization by the Catholic Church, further weakening the Russian Orthodox Church in Ukraine.

The ROC has seen the loss of millions of its faithful over the course of the century just completed. It was initially disabled — although not annihilated as the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church was — during Soviet rule and then further debilitated in the last 10 years by several schisms, which have left the country with three Orthodox confessions: the UOC-MP, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP) and the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC). It also has recently suffered losses of faithful to several Protestant denominations and non-denominational groups.

The UOC-MP also is vexed that it was not invited by the Ukrainian government to plan the conditions and timeframe of the papal visit, but many here believe that its involvement only would have set the

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Verkhovna Rada confirms Kinakh as prime minister

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Parliament confirmed Anatolii Kinakh as the country's new prime minister with votes to spare on May 29 after the nominee received unexpected support from the Socialist Party.

After his victory, the new prime minister said he would continue to build on the reformist policies of his predecessor, Viktor Yuschenko, but would also work to be a consensus-builder.

"This will be an effective government ready for compromise when needed," said Mr. Kinakh. "We are ready to continue many of the policies of the Yuschenko government, but also to make changes where he erred."

Mr. Kinakh, 47, a husband and father of two daughters who has headed the League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, said he did not see himself as a temporary caretaker of the government until the parliamentary elections in March of next year but would strive to make the changes needed to move the country ahead.

President Leonid Kuchma had proposed on May 21 that Mr. Kinakh lead a new government. The new prime minister received expected support from nearly all the pro-business centrist factions, and none from the center-right national democratic forces, also as expected.

No one, however, had seriously considered that the 16 votes of the Socialist Party faction would put Mr. Kinakh over the top. Because it was clear that the sup-



AP/Viktor Pobedinsky

Ukraine's newly confirmed prime minister, Anatolii Kinakh.

port of the center was not sufficient to give Mr. Kinakh the 226 votes he needed for a majority, Mr. Kinakh had attempted to gain the support of the Communist Party and its 112 votes in Parliament. In the days after his nomination, Mr. Kinakh said he was open to proposals from the party, but none that would compromise his stand on democracy and market orientation.

In the end the Communists decided not to take part in the vote because Mr.

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Myroslava Gongadze speaks on cover-up of her husband's murder

by Andrew Nynka

NEW YORK — "I could not believe these types of things could happen. I was aware of corruption in government, of laws being bent, but when I heard the manner of Heorhii's death and the steps the government took to try and conceal it, I had to question just what type of president is steering this country."

These were the words of Myroslava Gongadze, wife of the late Internet journalist Heorhii Gongadze, speaking at a public meeting on May 22 at the Ukrainian National Home in New York City.

The event was hosted by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America in conjunction with the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

Ms. Gongadze spoke critically of the

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Andrew Nynka

Myroslava Gongadze addresses the public at the Ukrainian National Home.

ANALYSIS

Kuchma's new prime minister

by Askold Krushelnycky
RFE/RL Newsline

Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma nominated Anatolii Kinakh, a parliamentarian who is the leader of the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, as candidate for the job of prime minister on May 22. The nomination was approved by a vote of the Verkhovna Rada, with 239 deputies for, two opposed and 12 abstaining.

Mr. Kuchma has been seeking a candidate for the prime minister's job since April 26 when Viktor Yushenko lost a vote of no-confidence in the Parliament. The vote was the result of an alliance of Communists – the largest party in the Parliament – and parties loyal to the Ukrainian oligarchs.

The Communists opposed Prime Minister Yushenko's pro-Western and pro-market reforms, while many of the oligarchs were angered by his attempts to curb their business activities.

Mr. Kinakh is not a very well known politician in Ukraine, although he served for a time as vice prime minister in charge of the industry and fuel sector.

Analyst Volodymyr Polokhalo, the editor of Political Thought magazine, told RFE/RL that President Kuchma's overriding consideration in making the nomination was to select someone as prime minister who would be obedient and able to prepare for next year's general elections in order to secure a parliamentary majority for the president.

"The president has to have almost absolute trust in a person who will, in the first place, obey all his orders, including informal agreements, and in the second place look after the interests of the oligarchs," Mr. Polokhalo said. "[The nomination is] in fact about creating the conditions for forging a Parliament in 2002

which has a majority that will support the president and secure his political legacy and personal safety in the manner that was achieved in Russia for Boris Yeltsin."

Mr. Polokhalo said that Mr. Kinakh had worked closely with President Kuchma in the past, most notably when he threw the support of the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs behind Mr. Kuchma during the presidential elections in 1999. The analyst also said that although Mr. Kinakh had relations with the oligarchs, he was not closely associated with them or any other political grouping.

"Anatolii Kinakh delivered [to] the president the Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, which contributed greatly to Kuchma's victory in the presidential elections," Mr. Polokhalo said. "This Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs is extraordinarily influential in Ukraine. It unites the 'red directors' (Communists) and other industrial leaders who constitute a powerful economic and political force."

Mr. Polokhalo says that the 49-year-old Kinakh is a person who occasionally uses the language of reform but has not been able to break away from his past as part of the old Soviet nomenklatura. He says Mr. Kinakh retains many of the psychological traits and habits of that old Soviet elite.

Although the Communists and oligarchs united to get rid of Mr. Yushenko, they have shown little evidence that they are ready to vote for the same prime ministerial candidate. If Parliament repeatedly rejects Mr. Kuchma's nominee, then the president can appoint Mr. Kinakh as acting prime minister.

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Doubts remain in Gongadze case

by Askold Krushelnycky
RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Ukraine's internal affairs minister, Yurii Smirnov, recently announced that police had solved the murder of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze. The case of the journalist's death last autumn has become a national sensation. Allegations that President Leonid Kuchma might be involved in the murder have led to widespread demonstrations calling for Mr. Kuchma's ouster.

But on May 14, Mr. Smirnov said the killing had not been politically motivated. He said Gongadze's murderers were common criminals who later were murdered themselves. A map showing the location of Mr. Gongadze's grave had been found on one of their bodies, he added.

Mr. Smirnov went on to say that those responsible for the killings of the two murderers are now in custody. He also referred to the involvement of a mysterious crime boss nicknamed "Cyclops." He added that "as [internal affairs] minister, I consider the crime to be resolved. We have proof concerning the criminals, who have died, to our sorrow."

Mr. Smirnov's announcement, however, does not spell an end to the case. The Ukrainian press has reported that the Prosecutor-General's Office, in comments to the lawyer of Mr. Gongadze's mother, Lesia, called Mr. Smirnov's

statement "premature" and said that the matter has not yet been concluded. Deputy Procurator General Mykola Obikhod said his office will issue a full response to Mr. Smirnov's statement this week.

Many opposition politicians – as well as Mr. Gongadze's widow, Myroslava – have called Mr. Smirnov's announcement a deliberate attempt to confuse the public and deflect attention from President Kuchma's possible role in the murder.

Myroslava Gongadze says Mr. Smirnov's version of events is, in fact, a fabrication. "Right now we're witnessing the latest in a series of announcements which, in my opinion, Internal Affairs Minister Smirnov had no right to make," she said.

"[I say this] because the investigation is being conducted by the Prosecutor-General's Office, and only the Prosecutor-General's Office can say whether the matter has really been concluded and talk about the results of the investigation. Therefore, I have no reason to trust [Smirnov's] announcement. Actually, I haven't trusted him for a long time, and in the present situation I have even more reason to distrust him," she added.

The investigation into the disappearance and murder of Mr. Gongadze has been plagued by confusion and conflicting information from the start. The Internet journalist disappeared from Kyiv last September. The following month, a headless corpse – later identified as his –

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Askold Krushelnycky is an RFE/RL correspondent.

NEWSBRIEFS**Kinakh pledges to continue success**

KYIV – Anatolii Kinakh, the newly appointed prime minister, promised on May 29 that he will do everything possible "to consolidate" the achievements of the previous Cabinet of Viktor Yushenko, Interfax reported. Mr. Kinakh said he is going to form a new Cabinet as soon as possible, but mentioned no names. Meanwhile, Oleksander Volkov, leader of the Democratic Union parliamentary caucus, said the parliamentary groups that voted to approve Mr. Kinakh should propose their ministers for a new coalition Cabinet. "It cannot be otherwise, since then this country would have no future," the agency quoted Mr. Volkov as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma reappoints five former ministers

KYIV – Following Anatolii Kinakh's approval as prime minister, President Leonid Kuchma made five other Cabinet appointments. Mr. Kuchma appointed Oleh Dubyna, vice prime minister for industrial policy in the Yushenko Cabinet, as first vice prime minister. He also reappointed Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko, Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk, Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Smirnov and Minister for Emergency Situations Vasyl Durdynets. President Kuchma said establishing cooperation between the government and the Parliament will be a priority task for the Kinakh Cabinet. "If there is no parliamentary coalition on which the Cabinet could lean, we do not need such a Parliament or such a government," Interfax quoted Mr. Kuchma as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President introduces state secretaries

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree introducing the posts of state secretaries and deputy state secretaries for the Cabinet of Ministers and individual ministries, Interfax reported on May 29. The state secretaries are to be appointed for five-year terms. Mr. Kuchma's spokesman, Volodymyr Lytvyn, explained that the decree was necessitated by frequent Cabinet reshuffles which, he argued, threaten to "disorganize the executive branch" in the country's "period of transition and political structuring." The state secretaries are to deal with day-to-day running of the government and provide continuity between consecutive Cabinets. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Nominee in discussion with deputies

KYIV – Soon after he was nominated by President Leonid Kuchma for the position of prime minister, Anatolii Kinakh held consultations with parliamentary groups. Interfax reported on May 24 that the previous day Mr. Kinakh had spoken with the

Regions of Ukraine and Labor Ukraine caucuses, and commented later that the consultations were held in a "very constructive and professional atmosphere." Mr. Kinakh was expected to meet on May 24 with the Democratic Union, the Greens, Yabluko and Solidarnist deputy groups. Meanwhile, the Kostenko wing of Rukh called on the Udovenko wing of Rukh, Fatherland Party and Reforms-Congress parliamentary groups as well as on non-aligned legislators not to participate in the formation of a new Cabinet. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kinakh discloses his priorities

KYIV – Before his approval as prime minister of Ukraine, Anatolii Kinakh made known his priorities, Interfax reported on May 24. Mr. Kinakh told journalists that he would primarily tackle the problems of poverty, tax reform and energy security. He also said it is necessary "to rethink at a very essential level" the conditions of Ukraine's cooperation with the International Monetary Fund, but did not provide any details. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushenko consults on coalition

KYIV – Caretaker Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko, who was in the hospital with a back problem, conducted consultations on the creation of a broad coalition of democratic forces, his spokeswoman, Natalia Zarudna, told Interfax on May 24. Mr. Yushenko was scheduled to speak with Solidarnist deputy group head Petro Poroshenko and Rukh leader Hennadii Udovenko later in the day. Ms. Zarudna told the news agency on May 23 that Mr. Yushenko believes Verkhovna Rada Chairman Ivan Pliusch would be "the most harmonious follower" of the course of reforms in the post of prime minister. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Gongadze case not yet solved

KYIV – Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Smirnov told the Verkhovna Rada on May 25 that his previous statement on the successful outcome of the investigation into the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze was "premature," Interfax reported. Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko also told the Parliament he has "no grounds to state that the killing of Heorhii Gongadze has been solved." Earlier Mr. Smirnov had claimed that Mr. Gongadze was killed by two criminals who were later murdered. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Poland wants Ukraine to join EU force

WARSAW – Poland has suggested to the European Union that it could include a

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French and German students unite in support of a democratic Ukraine

by Kyrylo Horiszny

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

STRASBOURG, France – The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) met in Strasbourg on April 23, with one its goals being to discuss the authoritarian backslide of the Ukrainian government and the exclusion of Ukraine from its ranks. On this occasion, Ukrainian students of France and Germany protested against the threat of isolation of an entire country by calling Europe to support the pro-European and democratic forces in Ukraine.

Located in the Alsace region, Strasbourg has been a historic lynchpin of Franco-German discord. However, history can record that on April 23 the French and Germans held hands in Strasbourg. Truth be told, the students were probably not moved by this symbolic gesture, nor by the region's tumultuous past, but were concerned above all with the fate of their country of origin, Ukraine.

Now that Kyiv is racked by political crisis after the murder of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze, Europe has decided to react to the increasingly authoritarian Kuchma government. In early April a commission of the Council of Europe adopted a series of recommendations advising the exclusion of Ukraine from its ranks; the recommendations were adopted unanimously by the 20 commission members present.

Ukraine has already had six similar warnings since it joined in 1995, but this time the crisis has escalated and the ever-more-present specter of Moscow pushed the Ukrainian Student Union of France to proclaim its concern on the occasion of the opening of the Parliamentary Assembly.

Together with their German counterparts, almost 90 demonstrators gathered before the door to the Council of Europe to plead the cause of a "European Ukraine." This is a double-edged sword since, although closer ties to Europe have always been the battle cry of the current regime, the demonstrators insisted that the European Ukraine they dream of must have a more democratic dimension.

"By taking this action," said Vladimir Poselsky, one of the spokesmen of the demonstration, "we are acting on the hope that today a real possibility exists to change the situation and put Ukraine back on the track of democratic development, just like most of the other states of the former Communist bloc (from Poland to Serbia)."

"Two conditions are necessary for this to take place," Mr. Poselsky continued, "the first and essential condition is internal in nature: democratic and pro-European forces of Ukraine should organize and form a unified democratic coalition. The second condition is external in nature: Europe, its institutions and its national governments should give stronger support to the Ukrainian democratic opposition."

He underlined: "This is the principal message that we wish to spread with our action. In this respect, we consider that excluding Ukraine from the Council of Europe is not a pertinent answer to the Ukrainian issue, because it does not distinguish the current government from the Ukrainian civil society that is being born."

Most of the students arrived from Paris and Reims by bus just a few hours before the demonstration began and were joined by other groups from Metz, Strasbourg, Fribourg, Munich and Belgium. Ukrainian flags and signs sprang up before the Council of Europe, while the public chanted: "For a European Ukraine!"

Large bilingual streamers were held up for curious onlookers, with slogans such as, "A democratic Ukraine happens through Europe" and "Tarasyuk, Yushenko, Holovaty = European Ukraine" (the latter a reference to three reformers of the current Ukrainian administration who were considered overzealous by some powers).

Serhii Holovaty made his way through the crowd to salute the demonstrators before going inside the Parliamentary Assembly hall. A staunch pro-European, the former minister of justice and current liberal deputy in the Ukrainian Parliament was one of the most important people behind Ukraine's joining the Council of Europe.

Enthused by this demonstration abroad, he could not help but deplore the escalation of the dispute and consequently its origin. "This is the first time that I see this many Ukrainian flags before the Council of Europe," he remarked somewhat bitterly.

Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko also greeted the demonstrators. At the head of the

Ukrainian delegation in Strasbourg, Mr. Zlenko, the former Ukrainian ambassador to France, stated to the crowd, "You are right in giving your support for an independent Ukraine" – to which the demonstrators added "independent and democratic!"

Surrounded by a human chain of placid French State Security Police, the cohort of demonstrators sang traditional Ukrainian songs and shouted pro-European slogans, while three students in Ukrainian shirts distributed leaflets to the stream of European deputies at the entrance to the hall.

The press also was present, including journalists from the RFI, Reuters, AFP and BBC news services.

At 12:30 p.m., armed with petitions, representatives of the Ukrainian demonstrators left to present their requests to the general secretary of the Council of Europe, Walter Schwimmer of Austria. The delegation consisted of Mr. Poselsky and of the presidents of the two respective student associations, Stefan Mironjuk of Germany and Cyril Horiszny of France. Mr. Schwimmer was not indifferent to the doubts raised regarding the efficacy of sanctioning a whole country in distress.

During the meeting Mr. Schwimmer said he felt "sensitive to the actions made by a rising generation, and to its message for the democracy." Afterwards, the students paused with Mr. Schwimmer for a souvenir photo on the steps of the assembly.

The verdict came three days later: the exclusion of Ukraine was unanimously rejected – that despite the initial recommendation of the Parliamentary Assembly's commission.

Mr. Schwimmer said he believes that "the serious warning" given by the Parliamentary Assembly was not without effect, because Ukraine's foreign affairs minister felt it worthy to travel to Strasbourg to plead his country's cause, before declaring without ambiguity (as stated in an AFP report): "We wish for the Ukrainians to remain in the European family, which is for us a challenge."

Nevertheless, PACE deputies adopted two amendments offering a further two months to Ukraine to make "substantial progress" – failure to do which would result in its parliamentary delegation being expelled from the next session in Strasbourg.

Although the impact of the student action on the Council of Europe's decision cannot be determined, the majority of European deputies seem to have discerned the counterproductive effect of the isolation of Ukraine.

FOR THE RECORD: Ukrainian students' declaration

Following is the text of the declaration of the Union of Ukrainian Students in France and the Union of Ukrainian Students in Germany united under the banner "For a European Ukraine."

We, the Ukrainian students of France and Germany, wish to express our complete solidarity with the pro-European forces of Ukraine and especially with the Ukrainian students and young intellectuals in Ukraine who are peacefully defending their right to live in a democratic country. Like other countries of Central and Eastern Europe, from Poland to Serbia, Ukraine wants to and will become a prosperous and democratic European country. It is these young Ukrainians who most aspire to be part of Europe and respect the universal values of democracy.

With the persistence of certain members of the old nomenklatura in command of the country during the first 10 years of its independence, Ukraine offered a sad image of political immobility, economic quagmire and social inertia. The assassination of an opposition journalist, Heorhii Gongadze, in autumn of 2000, and subsequent revelations of recordings implicating President [Leonid] Kuchma, shattered this disastrous status quo, inciting many Ukrainians to demand their president's resignation.

Government propaganda is trying as hard as it can to present the members of the opposition as "extremists of the left and the right" or as a "brown plague," although the opposition is a grouping of various moderate political forces. The Forum for National Salvation, the opposition's coordinating group, aims to introduce a legislative procedure to limit Ukrainian presidential power in order to create a more democratic, balanced and transparent political institution.

On the occasion of a new debate on the situation in Ukraine in the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, on April 24, 2001, we wish to let the European people know of our concern in the face of the increasing authoritarianism of a clannish and corrupt regime. The pro-European forces of Ukraine need the support of the Council of Europe and the European Union, of the governments, political and intellectual elite, as well as of European public opinion.



Ukrainian students of France and Germany gathered in front of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, where they demonstrated in support of a European Ukraine.

OBITUARY: Walter Y. Sochan, UNA executive officer and community leader

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Walter Y. Sochan, former supreme secretary of the Ukrainian National Association, who served the organization as an executive officer for 28 years, died on May 23. He was 77.

He died in St. Michael's Hospital in Newark, where he was hospitalized since suffering a heart attack 10 days earlier.

Mr. Sochan was a civic and community activist who was involved in Ukrainian community life from the local to the international levels, the American fraternal movement and local Jersey City affairs.

Born on November 7, 1923, in Khodoriv, Ukraine, he emigrated to the United States in 1949 and became a U.S. citizen in 1954.

Mr. Sochan completed the Ridna Shkola elementary school in Khodoriv, then attended the Ukrainian Academic Gymnasium in Lviv and graduated from secondary school in Khodoriv. World War II interrupted his subsequent studies at the

Lviv Polytechnic Institute, where he was majoring in mechanical engineering. A youth member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, along with his parents and two brothers he became a political refugee from the advancing Soviet Red Army. The Sochans fled in July 1944 to Austria, where the patriarch of the family, Antin, was killed in December 1944 during U.S. bombing of Tulln.

The family was later relocated to a Displaced Persons camp in Landshut, Bavaria. While in Germany, Mr. Sochan studied political economy and journalism in Regensburg.

Mr. Sochan arrived in the United States in March 1949 with his mother, Olha (née Lewycky), and brother Ihor. Older brother Oleh, then studying medicine in Munich, arrived several years later. The family settled in Jersey City, where Mr. Sochan found employment with the Ukrainian National Association, then headquartered there.

At the UNA Home Office he met Neonila Merena, an employee of the Svoboda Press administration. The two married in November 1952.

Mr. Sochan took life insurance and computer courses, and worked his way up from an employee of the Recording Department to assistant to the department chief. He introduced the first IBM keypunch, sorting and tabulating machines to the UNA Home Office in 1952, and later, in 1984-1985, was responsible for introducing the UNA's first IBM 036 computer system. As well he prepared new life insurance ratebooks for the UNA.

In 1966 Mr. Sochan was elected an executive officer of the UNA, first serving as vice-president and recording secretary and later as supreme secretary. During that period he was responsible for introducing new classes of insurance and annuities.

He retired in 1994, and was elected an honorary member of the UNA's General Assembly in recognition of his 45 years of service to the fraternal society – 28 of them

as an officer on the UNA Executive Committee.

He was involved also in the work of the local UNA district, today known as the Northern New Jersey District Committee, as well as UNA Branch 287, Sons of Ukraine.

Mr. Sochan was active in the New York and New Jersey Fraternal Congresses, serving as president of the New Jersey body in 1974-1975, and was the UNA's delegate to the National Fraternal Congress of America.

He was a member of the Secretariat of the Ukrainian World Congress and was a member of the initiative group that laid the groundwork for the international organization's establishment in 1967. Mr. Sochan was a delegate at the first two World Forums of Ukrainians held in Kyiv in 1992 and 1997.

Mr. Sochan also served as vice-president of the National Council of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council; was a member of the board of directors of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine, of which he was a founder; and was vice-president of the Selfreliance Association of Ukrainian Americans. He was a co-worker and supporter of the forthcoming Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora. In the past he had represented the UNA in the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, and served on its by-laws and nominations committees.

On the local level he served on the Jersey City Board of Adjustment in the 1970s and was active with the Ukrainian National Home. He was president of the Ukrainian Republican Club of New Jersey, and was repeatedly recognized for his contributions by the Republican National Committee.

He was involved also in journalism. He was a correspondent for the U.S. Information Agency's Voice of America in the 1960s-1970s, interviewing diverse personages and filing many reports on Ukrainian institutions in North America;

served as sports editor of the Svoboda Ukrainian-language daily newspaper for 25 years; and was a member of the Ukrainian Journalists Association of America.

An active athlete during his youth in Ukraine, in the United States Mr. Sochan was a member of the Ukrainian Sports Club (USC) and Sitch soccer teams, as well of the USC and the Plai Sports Club volleyball teams. He was a founding member of the Ukrainian Sports Association of the U.S.A. and Canada, in which he served on the executive board.

In 1998 Mr. Sochan received the Ukrainian President's Award for Merit medal presented in Washington by Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, in recognition of his many years of "personal contribution in promoting Ukrainian-U.S. cooperation and his activities in Ukrainian American institutions."

Reporting on that distinction, the Kyiv-based newspaper Literaturna Ukraina quoted from a letter Mr. Sochan had written to a colleague in Ukraine: "We are far from Ukraine, beyond the oceans, but in our hearts and through our emotions we are always with her. We use all means possible – financial, political and cultural – to try to help Ukraine."

Surviving are Mr. Sochan's wife, Neonila; son, Taras; daughter, Romana Olha Hadzewycz, with her husband, Andrew, and their children, Markian and Paul; and two brothers, Oleh and Ihor, with their spouses; as well as six nieces and nephews with their spouses.

Requiem services were offered on May 24-25 at the McLaughlin Funeral Home in Jersey City. The funeral liturgy was offered on May 26 at St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church in Jersey City, N.J., and burial followed at Holy Cross Cemetery in North Arlington, N.J.

The family has requested that memorial donations be made to St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School, 746 Sanford Ave., Newark, N.J. 07106.



Walter Sochan

Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

Kinakh "had not clearly declared whether he would support the Communist Party's program," according to RFE/RL News Service.

The real surprise came when the Socialist Party faction, led by Oleksander Moroz, the staunch and outspoken opponent of President Kuchma, decided to support the president's nominee, long-time associate and confidante.

After the vote, Mr. Moroz told reporters he believed the Kinakh candidacy was the best of any of the realistic alternatives. He explained that the president would closely control whoever sat in the prime minister's seat this time, anyway. The Socialist Party leader also stated that in his opinion the president had nominated Mr. Kinakh believing he would not be confirmed, which would allow for a caretaker government to run the country until parliamentary elections next March, a scenario the president preferred. Realizing this, the Socialist Party members decided to vote contrary to their ideological inclination in order to thwart the president.

"The president is probably in shock right now," explained Mr. Moroz. "He did not expect that this candidacy would be approved."

President Kuchma, however, seemed very pleased with the results of the vote. He immediately received the newly confirmed prime minister in his offices and signed the decrees relieving the acting government of Prime Minister Yuschenko and installing Mr. Kinakh.

"For the people, for Ukraine," said Mr. Kuchma as he congratulated Mr. Kinakh on his confirmation.

The vote by the Socialists caused some consternation in the corridors of the Verkhovna Rada. National Deputy Oleksander Turchynov, a leader of the Batkivschyna Party, who is just as vocal in his criticism of the president as Mr. Moroz, said after the vote that the action by the Socialists could threaten cooperation between the two parties.

"It is rather sad," explained Mr. Turchynov. "I lost some respect for [Mr. Moroz]."

The national deputy said he believed that Mr. Moroz and Mr. Kinakh had struck a "personal" deal, but would not elaborate. In fact, several days before the vote, Mr. Moroz had said he could support Mr. Kinakh if they found agreement "on certain points."

With the surprising support of the Socialists, Mr. Kinakh easily obtained the required parliamentary majority in the first vote call by a margin of 239-2, with 12 abstaining and 26 not voting. Not registering for the vote were the national deputies from the center-right, who had declared earlier they would not support the new prime minister's nomination as a show of support for Mr. Yuschenko, whose resignation was orchestrated and supported by the same pro-business factions that supported Mr. Kinakh.

The three center-right factions, Reforms-Congress, Ukrainian National Rukh (UNR), National Rukh of Ukraine, along with the Batkivschyna faction, all have said they will be in opposition to the new government.

After the prime minister's confirmation UNR leader Yurii Kostenko said his faction would only support those issues that would extend democracy in Ukraine and support economic reforms. He also said that while the so-called business clans, represented by the centrist factions who supported Mr. Kinakh, may have won this political battle, it will be a short-lived victory.

"The clans that today think they have captured Ukraine, will find out after the parliamentary elections that they were wrong," said Mr. Kostenko.

Mr. Kinakh's confirmation came after he had given a bland 30-minute address on his goals and priorities, which was marked chiefly by the disregard the national deputies gave the nominee during his presentation by talking and joking among themselves.

A central aspect of the new prime minister's speech was his commitment to open and constructive consultations and relations between the executive and legislative branches, including with individual parliamentary factions. Leading members of the centrist factions have said that Mr. Yuschenko's insolence in not maintaining communications with them was the prime reason they organized and supported his downfall.

Mr. Kinakh also underscored his commitment to tax reform and administrative reform, as well as social protection programs for the population, economic protectionism for domestic producers in the domestic and foreign market and development of the energy sector.

In an interview with the Russian newspaper Izvestia on May 30, he said he would propose tax reduction policies, and would

seek energy alternatives to reduce Ukraine's dependence on Russian gas and oil.

Most political experts believe that Mr. Kinakh will support the policies that President Kuchma is pushing and will have much less room to maneuver politically than his predecessor, Mr. Yuschenko.

The first and most obvious evidence of the tighter control of the president over the prime minister appeared immediately, as the president's office and not the prime minister announced the new ministerial appointments.

In the two days following Mr. Kinakh's confirmation the president appointed three new members to the Cabinet of Ministers and announced he would retain 10 others. The new appointments are: Oleh Dubyna as first vice prime minister, a promotion for him from his position as the vice prime minister of industrial policy in the Yuschenko government; Volodymyr Semynozhenko, a national deputy who was minister of science and technology in 1996-1998, as vice prime minister of humanitarian affairs; and Yurii Bohutskyi, formerly a deputy chief of staff in the presidential administration, as the minister of culture.

Retaining their posts are: Finance Minister Ihor Mitiukov, Justice Minister Suzanna Stanik, Economy Minister Vasyl Rohovyi, Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko, Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Smirnov, Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk, Agricultural Policy Minister Ivan Kyrylenko, Labor and Social Policy Minister Ivan Sakhn, Minister of Health Vitalii Moskalenko and Emergency Situations Minister Vasyl Durdynets.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

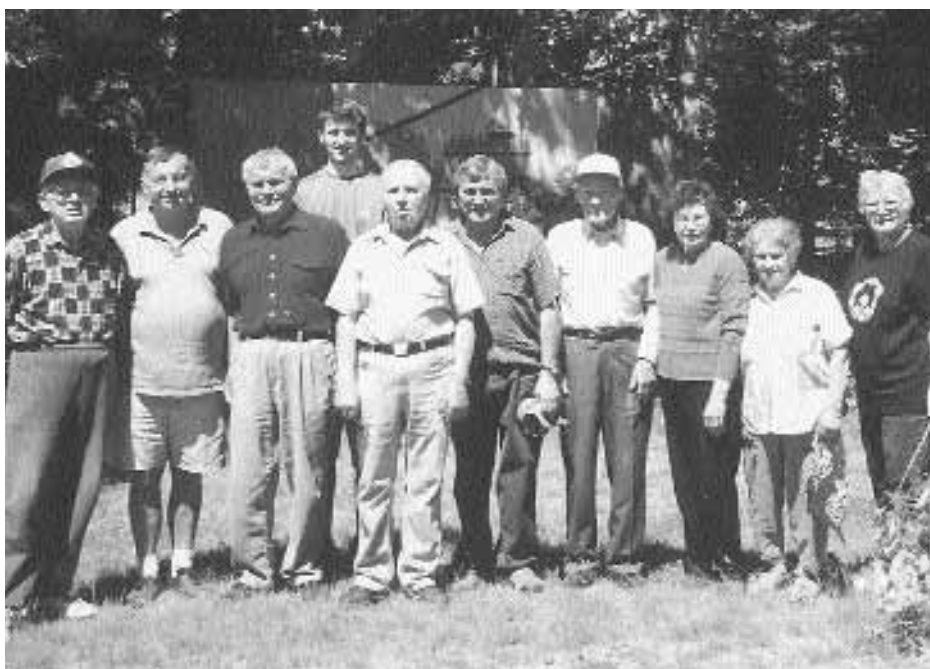
New Yorkers discuss by-laws



Roman Forostyna

NEW YORK – A recent meeting of the UNA New York District Committee was addressed by Taras Szmagala Jr., UNA advisor, who spoke about the proposed changes to the UNA By-Laws. Seated (from left) are: Motria Milanytch, district secretary; Mr. Szmagala; Ulana Diachuk, UNA president; Mary Dushnyck, honorary member of the UNA General Assembly; standing are: John Choma, district treasurer; Yuriy Kostiw, district vice-chair; Nadia Sawczuk, first vice-chair; Oksana Lopatynsky, Ukrainian press chair; Olga Liteplo, organization chair; Sam Liteplo, organizing committee; Barbara Bachynsky, UNA New York District Committee chairperson; and Dr. George Soltys, Organizing Committee.

Detroiters "join hands" at Dibrova



DETROIT – The spirit of "Join Hands Day" was in full evidence on May 19, when members of the Detroit District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association and the Dibrova Estate spent the day beautifying the grounds of Dibrova in preparation for the picnic season. Seen above are some of the members who participated in the project.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

EULOGY: Walter Sochan, longest serving former supreme secretary of the UNA

by Martha Lysko
UNA National Secretary

In the history of an organization there often is a person who is so closely related to it that his name becomes identified with it. In the history of the Ukrainian National Association the name of Walter Sochan, former UNA supreme secretary, became synonymous with the UNA.

This is not surprising since Mr. Sochan worked for the Ukrainian National Association from his earliest days in the United States. He started in the Recording Department of the UNA on June 20, 1949, and tirelessly worked in our organization until his retirement on June 30, 1994.

During his 45 years of work for the organization he held many offices. In 1958 he was an assistant to the then Supreme Secretary Jaroslaw Padoch. From 1966 to 1974 he was elected to serve as supreme vice-president and recording secretary. At the UNA Convention of 1974 he was elected supreme secretary, a position he held for 20 years.

Mr. Sochan was known for extreme dedication to his duties. He strived to satisfy every branch secretary, every member and anyone with whom he came in contact. Service to the secretaries and dedication to the organization were his hallmark.

In the years after World War II the UNA was growing rapidly and membership was reaching an all-time high. Many new branches were being formed, and older branches needed to be revitalized. The branches needed new secretaries, and Mr. Sochan was there to help them get started.

To this day, many branch secretaries remember working with him on a very personal level. For every branch secretary and for many members it soon became the norm to call Mr. Sochan if they needed anything from the UNA. He was a man who always avoided confrontation and controversy. All who worked with him in the Home Office remember him as an easygoing and understanding boss.

During his tenure as supreme secretary Mr. Sochan made the first attempts to modernize the UNA's vast record keeping. He was also instrumental in introducing

new rate books, which were required to comply with the new mortality tables. He took life insurance and computer courses to help guide the operations of his department. Mr. Sochan was also active in the New York and New Jersey fraternal congresses, serving as president of the New Jersey Congress. He was a delegate to the National Fraternal Congress.

After retiring in 1994 Mr. Sochan was elected an honorary member of the UNA General Assembly, and he actively participated in meetings of the General Assembly and the local UNA district committee, today known as the Northern New Jersey District. Mr. Sochan never lost his love for the UNA, and he continued to be keenly interested in everything that went on in the UNA and often shared his views on many issues facing our organization.

His interests were varied and during his long career he was a correspondent for the Voice of America in the 1960s-1970s and a sports editor for Svoboda. His love of journalism continued throughout his life; he cherished the UNA's publications and followed them with great interest.

Besides his professional activities Mr. Sochan was always active in Ukrainian community life.

He was a member of the Secretariat of the Presidium of the Ukrainian World Congress, vice-president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, a founding member and board of directors member of the Coordinating Committee to Aid Ukraine and vice-president of the Selfreliance Association of Ukrainian Americans. He served as the UNA representative to both World Forums of Ukrainians held in Kyiv, in 1992 and 1997. He was also one of the founders of Ukrainian Sports Association of the U.S.A. and Canada and served on its executive board. In 1998 Mr. Sochan was presented with the Ukrainian President's Award for Merit medal by Ukraine's ambassador to the United States.

Walter Sochan will always be remembered as the longest serving supreme secretary of the Ukrainian National Association. His life was dedicated to serving the UNA and the entire Ukrainian community.



Walter Sochan at the UNA Home Office in Jersey City in 1980, when, as supreme secretary, he received a sculpture of a UNA pioneer – a miner standing atop a chunk of coal. Sculpted entirely from coal, the memento is the work of the late Joseph Sedor, secretary of UNA Branches 90 and 426, of Centralia, Pa., who intended his work as a tribute to the founders of the Ukrainian National Association.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Welcoming Pope John Paul II

As the date for Pope John Paul II's visit to Ukraine is drawing near, it can be stated with absolute certainty that the first visit ever by a pope to Ukraine is sure to be historic. That is all the more so because this is the pontiff who is credited with the defeat of atheistic communism and he will be visiting a country where the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church was outlawed by Soviet Communist authorities, its leaders and faithful persecuted, tortured, and killed. During his visit Pope John Paul will beatify 27 martyrs of that Ukrainian Church – martyrs whose life stories are nothing short of incredible. For the record, 26 of them succumbed to persecution at the hands of Soviet authorities, and one was murdered by the Nazis.

The papal visit is sure to be the subject of much media interest, and the news coverage is certain to have a global impact. Approximately 450,000 pilgrims are expected to arrive in Kyiv from all over Ukraine, as well as Russia, Belarus, Poland and the Baltic states for the papal visit, another 2 million or so could be on hand in Lviv.

But, there are some who would rather the visit never take place.

The Russian Orthodox Church (which, as we know well from history, well, how does one put it ... served two masters) and its Kyiv-based subordinate, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, have been quite vocal in expressing their displeasure with the pontiff's trip. They have attacked the trip as a threat to both the ecumenical movement and the Vatican's relations with the Moscow Church, and they have gone so far as to stage protests in Kyiv, at the Pecherska Lavra, to demand that the visit be canceled. As our Kyiv correspondent reports this week, Patriarch Aleksei says the visit by Pope John Paul II will only aggravate tensions between religious groups in Ukraine. But, what he really fears, according to observers, is that the papal visit will further weaken the Russian Orthodox Church in Ukraine, which has lost significant numbers of faithful – many of them in the decade since Ukraine's independence as its members have joined other Churches legalized since the USSR's demise.

Among others protesting (are we surprised?) are members of the Communist Party faction in the Verkhovna Rada who, according to ITAR-TASS, called on the pontiff to cancel his visit, saying it was "untimely and undesirable." The Communists claim the visit would infringe on the rights of Orthodox believers, who comprise a majority in Ukraine. How, we don't know. Furthermore, the faction's statement said the pope's planned meetings with dissenting Orthodox clergy constitute "a rude interference into the internal affairs of the Orthodox Church in Ukraine." Again, we don't know how, but we can guess that this is a reaction to the fact that the two other Orthodox Churches in Ukraine – both independent of Moscow – have already agreed to meet with Pope John Paul during his visit to Ukraine.

But there is another sticking point here. Perhaps at the heart of the matter is a basic difference in, shall we say, perspective. Moscow Patriarch Aleksei has said that the reason for differences between Rome and Orthodoxy is the existence of Eastern-rite Catholics. But Cardinal Husar says the opposite is true: Greek-Catholics should be the bridge between the Catholic and Orthodox Churches.

Even political leaders see benefits in the papal visit. For example, Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatolii Zlenko said the visit would not only help in the development of relations between Kyiv and the Vatican, but would contribute to the intellectual development of the Ukrainian nation and its integration into Europe. "I have a feeling that, after the visit of His Holiness, we will be more conscious, united, self-assured and better as a whole," he said, adding that opposition to the papal visit for the most part is "over-politicized and groundless."

Our position: Pope John Paul II, acknowledged around the world as a great churchman, humanitarian and leader, is welcome in Ukraine. And his visit – a truly historic moment – can benefit all of Ukraine and all the country's citizens.

As Cardinal Husar stated recently in an interview published in *The Weekly*: this pontiff's visit is significant on several levels: he is a Slavic pope visiting fellow Slavs, he is "a person who has lived through the same history and whose experience [as a victim of communism] is similar to our people's," and "he is a bearer of hope."

And, hope, as we all intuitively know, is something that is in short supply in today's Ukraine.

June
9
1974

Turning the pages back...

On June 9, 1974, a record-breaking crowd well in excess of 8,000 – an unprecedented feat in the history of the state of New Jersey – was present at the first Ukrainian Festival staged at the Garden State Arts Center.

People of all ages and walks of life from virtually every center of Ukrainian life on the Eastern Seaboard, as well as many non-Ukrainians, filled to overflowing not only the 5,000-seat amphitheater – which was sold out two weeks in advance – but also the grassy knolls surrounding the huge arena.

Blessed with fine, sunny weather, the festival comprised a morning program on the mall, daylong exhibits of folk arts and crafts, as well as modern Ukrainian painting, and an afternoon program of music, songs and dances on the huge stage of the amphitheater.

Among those featured in the program were: Voloshky, the folk dancing ensemble from Philadelphia; the vocal trio Troyanda; Jersey City's Cheremosh dancers; as well as a show of historical costumes of Ukraine by SUM and Plast members.

The four-hour program had the festival-goers lingering around the spacious Garden State Arts Center long after it was over. The large crowd of people dispersed only reluctantly, wanting to stay around and share in the buoyancy that the day had generated.

It was late into the evening when the last of the thousands of cars took to the now crowded Parkway. With Ukrainian stickers on the cars and Ukrainian festival banners flying in the wind it was a Ukrainian-dominated tollway, as was the Arts Center earlier that day.

Source: "Ukrainian Festival in New Jersey Is a Smashing Success; Show of Ukrainian Culture Attracts Record Crowd of Over 8,000," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, June 15, 1974.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Foundation and Congressional Ukrainian Caucus sponsor discussion on Ukraine as "marketbasket"

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus on May 9 sponsored the roundtable discussion, "Ukraine: From Breadbasket of Europe to Marketbasket for the World," in the Russell Senate Office Building in Washington.

The event kicked off the foundation's 10th anniversary celebration of its founding as well as the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence. The roundtable, focusing on the challenges and successes experienced in Ukraine's developing food systems sector, represented the first in the foundation's planned 10th Anniversary Conference Series for Washington and Kyiv with the aim of impacting U.S. and Ukrainian economic development.

Some of the roundtable participants included Rep. Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio), Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.), Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, Ambassador and Coordinator of U.S. Assistance to the NIS Bill Taylor, U.S. Department of Agriculture Deputy Administrator Mary Chambliss and President of the Western NIS Enterprise Fund Natalie Jaresko.

Also participating were: Chief Financial Officer of WJ Group David Holpert, John Shmorhun of DuPont, former U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Jack Block, World Bank economist Iain Shuker, Chairman of the CIME Endeavor Group Richard Shriver, AVK Confectionery Chairman Volodymyr Avramenko, Citizens Network President John Costello, CEO Andrei Hartt of United Spirits Import Company, former USAID Agriculture Specialist Harry Walters, Consultant to AGCO Corporation Jim Asher, Brad Beeler of the Ohio Farm Project, Senior Vice-President of ACDI/VOCA Dennis DeSantis, Dr. Ihor Stebelsky of the University of Windsor (Ontario) and U.S.-Ukraine Foundation President Nadia K. McConnell.

The conference moderator was E. Morgan Williams, president of Ukraine Market Reform Group. The conference coordinator was Douglas Campbell; the exhibit coordinators were Richard and Sophika Smith.

The day long event featured Ukrainian foods during lunch and coffee breaks, and an exhibit on food systems producers and their respective products.

Sen. Lugar on U.S.-Ukraine relations

Following is text of the speech on the current state of U.S.-Ukraine relations delivered by Sen. Richard G. Lugar.

The 10th anniversary of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation provides us with an opportunity to celebrate and review the important achievements Ukraine has accomplished since its independence just a decade ago.

Ukraine occupies one of the most important geo-strategic locations in the world. It is truly a bridge from the West to the East. I believe stability in Ukraine is in the national security interests of the United States. I have taken a keen interest in Ukraine's emergence from the former Soviet Union as a responsible member of the international community.

I remember my first visit to Kyiv in 1992, just after the dissolution of the Soviet Union. Boryspil Airport was full of broken windows and roving packs of dogs. Kyiv was a depressed city. There was very little foreign investment, and the people displayed little hope for the future. The United States did not have an ambassador in place, and we did not have an embassy. In fact, our diplomatic presence consisted of a lone foreign service officer working out of his apartment.

That first visit to Ukraine convinced me of the need for the United States to seriously consider our relationship with this very important country. When I returned to Washington, I visited with Secretary of State [James] Baker and informed him of the conditions in Ukraine and the need for a strong diplomatic presence as well as American assistance. There was little doubt that foreign aid and investment would be essential to the future of the country.

The testing of nuclear weapons by India and Pakistan shocked many around the world. The nuclear aspirations of regional powers and rogue nations highlight the important decision made in Ukraine. When the Soviet Union collapsed, Ukraine became the third largest nuclear power in the world. Kazakhstan and Belarus inherited the fourth and

eighth largest nuclear arsenals. The addition of Ukraine, Kazakstan and Belarus would still have thousands of nuclear weapons. Instead, all three countries are nuclear weapons-free. Many have forgotten the wise and brave choice Ukraine made in becoming nuclear-free. There were many in Kyiv who advocated the maintenance of these weapons. The people and the leaders of Ukraine wisely chose a nuclear-free status.

While debates over the future of Ukraine's nuclear arsenal were going on in Kyiv, Russian President [Boris] Yeltsin was expressing great concern over the possibility of a nuclear neighbor. My partner, former Sen. Sam Nunn and I visited with President Yeltsin in November of 1992 and explained our plans to travel to Ukraine and offer substantial amounts of American assistance in meeting the requirements of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty.

In Kyiv we met with President [Leonid] Kravchuk to discuss Ukraine's nuclear future. I explained that the United States was willing to provide \$150 million in assistance if Ukraine agreed to dismantle its nuclear weapons. President Kravchuk quickly called a press conference and announced that I had offered Ukraine \$175 million in foreign assistance. Fortunately, President [George] Bush agreed to this alteration of U.S. policy.

I am proud of the role the United States played in Ukraine's decision and the role of the Nunn-Lugar program in facilitating the removal of thousands of nuclear warheads. In Ukraine Nunn-Lugar has provided more than \$500 million to dismantle hundreds of SS-19 and SS-24 intercontinental ballistic missiles, silos, long-range Bear and Blackjack bombers, and nuclear-tipped air-launched cruise missiles. Work is expected to continue through 2005.

To date, the Nunn-Lugar scorecard is impressive. Nunn-Lugar has facilitated the destruction of 422 ballistic missiles, 367 ballistic missile launchers, 83 bombers, 425 long-range nuclear air-

(Continued on page 18)

COMMENTARY

Regarding "Brzezinski's Plan" for Ukraine, or who threatens democracy and stability?

by Olexiy Haran

The present crisis in Ukraine has provided additional opportunity for Russian President Vladimir Putin to gain control over Ukrainian politics. And he is not going to miss it.

On May 15, two very characteristically titled articles appeared on the well-known Russian website strana.ru, which is controlled by Gleb Pavlovski, Mr. Putin's ideologist and image-maker. The first, "Money of American taxpayers is used for giving Ukrainian fascists publicity," was without a signature and resembled the form of a memorandum. The second was an interview with a Ukrainian political scientist, Mykhailo Pohrebinsky, was titled "Leaders of the Ukrainian opposition play super-active on U.S. money." [The titles are cited as they appear in the English version of strana.ru.]

It doesn't appear to be a secret to Ukrainian political beau monde that Mr. Pohrebinsky is collaborating with the influential Ukrainian clan that is attacking reformist Viktor Yushchenko and the "nationalists." These articles reveal the goal of Russian policy towards Ukraine, a goal that is shared by certain circles in Ukraine, which are ready to lean towards Russia and to use Russian support in the domestic political struggle.

The fundamental arguments of both articles are the same. They coincide with the already published article "Brzezinski's Plan," which appeared on the strana.ru website on March 15 and which alleged that there is a plan to destabilize Ukrainian-Russian relations. The principal idea of the first analytical article is that as a result of the work of Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski and "Brzezinskiites," American dollars are supporting nationalists (Yushchenko), fascists, anti-Semites (radical Ukrainian National Assembly) and the corrupted (Yushchenko). It is further alleged that the organizers of the "Ukraine without Kuchma" movement "listened to 10 hours of taped presidential telephone conversations and arranged pieces containing abuse Kuchma heaped on the journalist [Heorhii Gongadze]. Thereupon they killed the poor man and put the blame on Kuchma."

The interview with my colleague Mr. Pohrebinsky, to whom I relate with sincere sympathy, left me particularly astonished. I have known Mykhailo since the elections of 1989. I had no doubts that this was a person with liberal and democratic worldviews. Of course, we could disagree. In particular, Mykhailo was one of the ideologists and organizers of the SLOn bloc during the course of the 1998 elections, which aimed to create "a third force" between the left and the "nationalists." SLOn used slogans to "defend" the Russian language and culture and support an alliance with Russia but did not overcome the 4 percent barrier.

Mr. Pohrebinsky knows well the history of the democratic movement in Ukraine – all the more reason his line of arguments aroused astonishment, since they clearly do not correspond to the facts. Nevertheless, they are addressed toward the Russian reader, who poorly knows the situation in Ukraine.

Mr. Pohrebinsky works out in detail

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some points about the "clandestine activity" of Brzezinski, Freedom House, etc.

And so, there is thesis No. 1: "It is well-known that the nationalist organizations, which are having a new lease of life in Ukraine, exist solely thanks to Western financial aid. ... Among them are the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists, People's Rukh of Ukraine, Reforms and Order."

Yes, of course, Rukh is not experiencing the best of times right now. But it is well-known that this broad opposition movement in 1990 numbered almost 600,000 members. What does this have to do with American money? Moreover, the financial and political means of the Ukrainian diaspora and its political structures are highly restricted, and in no way comparable, to say, the Jewish or Polish diaspora. The radical nationalists have only two seats out of 450 in the Ukrainian Parliament. Just to compare: moderate national-democrats (including Rukh) have a stable electorate of 15 to 20 percent and together with Yulia Tymoshenko's Batkivshchyna faction, which supported Prime Minister Yushchenko, about 75 seats.

Thesis No. 2 concerns Western grants which are "above all, of American origin, and most of them land in organizations with Ukrainian nationalist leanings, and nearly none of them go to organizations which are neutral in that respect."

This also does not jibe with the facts. During the course of several years, Pohrebinsky's Center published good surveys of the situation in Ukraine. As mentioned in these surveys, this was done with German money. It is well-known that Western money permits the fulfillment of independent research in Ukraine, while doing this with Ukrainian money is, for now, practically impossible. Everyone who is familiar with the activity of these funds knows what a large part of Western means go to non-political projects, ecology, social assistance, the reduction of potential societal conflict, including interethnic tension, and the support of science, culture and the arts.

Furthermore, a large part of American non-governmental aid (from the Carnegie Corp., Ford Foundation, MacArthur Foundation, etc.) goes to Russia, and not to Ukraine. For instance, the European University in St. Petersburg, Pro et Contra (an excellent journal published in Moscow) and many other projects are completely financed by the West. These are projects Ukraine can only dream about.

In this article, I have intentionally left out of the picture the negative tendencies in the activity of the "third sector" (there are enough "grantsuckers" in Ukraine, as well as in Russia and Eastern Europe), and discord among the Ukrainian opposition, as well as the irritation in U.S. politics regarding relations with Russia, about which much has already been written.

The key point is the fact that a purposeful – and I would even say aggressive – campaign in Russian and oligarch-controlled Ukrainian media is gaining ground in discrediting the Ukrainian democratic opposition, Mr. Yushchenko and Western politics. This is hardly conducive to creating an authentic and long-lasting stabilization of Russian-Ukrainian relations.

However, it appears that this does not bother the initiators of the campaign, neither those in Russia, nor in Ukraine.

As a result of the present crisis and insistent President Putin's policy, Kyiv may again become Moscow's vassal. It is time for the West to understand this unpleasant truth, and to react wisely and decisively.



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

The kalyna in Ukrainian folk medicine and folklore

The kalyna has been an integral part of the natural Ukrainian landscape and Ukrainian tradition since time immemorial. Its beauty cannot be denied; its status in Ukrainian folk life is irreplaceable.

The kalyna is not just a plant because it has become a symbol, a legend – so deeply has it been intertwined into Ukrainian culture and into folklore. In literature, especially in poetry, few authors can get by without mentioning the kalyna. (H. Hordiienko)

The Viburnum opulus – the guelderrose or high-bush cranberry – is a bush, up to 5 meters in height, which has flat white flowers and deep red berries. In Ukrainian folk medicine it is used for a number of ailments. But this is one plant which has become much more than its ordinary self – to every Ukrainian, it symbolizes beauty, love, purity and Ukraine itself.

The kalyna grows in the woods, in the bush in meadows and along riverbanks – across all of Ukraine. It grows both wild and as a cultivated, ornamental bush. In Ukraine's continental climate, it blooms in May-June, and both the white flowers and their red berries are collected.

The bark of the kalyna also is collected, in the spring, before the leaves unfold. Strips of bark are removed carefully, and are sundried, or put in a place with good ventilation. The medicinal properties of the bark are good for four years.

The flowers, which produce much nectar for honey, are gathered and dried quickly in the shade. The berries can be collected in September-October, but are best after an early frost. The fresh berries are so very tart that even birds and animals do not eat them until the frost mellows their tartness.

The kalyna's bitterness is cited in both folksongs and poetry ("My love for you is filled to the brim with the bitterness of the kalyna" – Liubov Zabashta). In a kalyna tea, the bitterness is sweetened with honey ("My heart senses the scent of the ripened steppe, and the strong tea smells of kalyna" – Mykola Synhaivskiy). The distance from tea to medicinal potion is indistinguishable ("People! Do not burn the trees! The red kalyna heals the heart, the forest and grove heal the soul" – Stepan Kryzhanivskiy).

The bark of the kalyna contains a mixture of flavonoids, commonly known as viburnin, tannic substances, phytosterines, oil of ether, viburnit alcohol, A-amyrin and B-amyrin, over 6 percent tar (including various acids). The berries contain sugar, flavonoids (astragalol, quercetin, kaempferol, peonidin and others), biflavolyn, amentoflavolyn, tannin, pectin and other substances, vitamin C and beta-carotene, organic acids and microelements. The flowers contain flavonoids, organic acids, vitamin C and oil of ether.

Teas and infusions of the bark, flowers or berries were, and still are, used for many illnesses and medical conditions. The bark infusion is especially effective in stopping hemorrhages – after birth, during menstruation and other female bleeding, as well as stopping hemorrhoidal bleeding. Because it has a tranquillizing effect on the muscles of the uterus, the bark is also used to stop spontaneous abortions and as a bath for vaginal problems.

The bark is also a diuretic. An infusion of the flowers is used in folk medicine for coughs, colds, asthma, sclerosis, tuberculosis of the lungs, and for stom-

ach problems. It is also used as a throat gargle and to wash wounds.

But the berries are used the most – in juice, jam and in baking. They help against nervous anxiety, hypertonic illness, arteriosclerosis and spasms of the blood vessels. Berries cooked with honey are eaten for cough, laryngitis, asthma, liver illness, jaundice and diarrhea. Kalyna juice with honey is used in folk medicine for treating cancer of the breast, as a prophylactic for stomach cancer in hyperacidic gastritis. It is believed that systematic use of the berries improves the health of those suffering from severe intestinal swelling.

An infusion of kalyna berries is drunk as a vitamin-rich, strengthening, sweat-inducing and relaxing agent against furuncles, carbuncles, eczema and various skin problems. In dermatology and cosmetology, fresh kalyna juice works against blackheads, pimples, acne and pigmented spots on the face; and helps wounds and skin irritated by eczema.

While the finished product is tasty though tart, the smell of cooking kalyna berries is something else – really a strong unpleasant smell which one of my sons compared to someone's very old socks.

As a medicinal plant, the kalyna is ordinary – one of very many other healing plants. But in Ukrainian culture, as a symbolic special plant, it is extraordinary. It would take a thesis to investigate the origins of that symbolism.

Hordiienko's theory is that in ancient times, the habitat of the kalyna was the gathering place of people worshipping pre-Christian gods. During the feast of Kupalo, at midsummer's night, young people spent the night pairing up and merrymaking. The young women wore wreaths of fresh flowers, including the kalyna, which blooms at that time. Eventually, Hordiienko thinks, the flower came to symbolize a maiden's beauty, as well as her innocence. Numerous folk songs compare a chervona [red] kalyna to a beautiful maiden.

From beauty it is not far to love – in all its aspects. First love, especially making love and losing one's virginity, are part of many folksong lyrics, but they are couched in such beautiful symbolism that Ukrainians today do not realize how raunchy the songs really are. Kalyna is another word for the hymen, so to lose one's wreath [of kalyna], or to break the kalyna means to lose one's virginity (no matter whether inside or outside marriage).

The kalyna was part of almost every wedding song, especially after the couple's first night, when proof of the bride's virginity on her nightshirt was paraded around to show the guests. This red stain on the shirt looked very much like a crushed kalyna berry and was called "kalyna." To break the kalyna also meant lovemaking. "O, I did not break the kalyna alone, my lover broke it, too, while I bent it down" (Lemko folk song).

The mythical "kalynovy mist" [bridge made of kalyna branches], mentioned in songs and poetry, is the symbolic Rubicon between single and married life. Therefore, it also symbolizes all that will never return. The kalyna also represents a child, or children (either because of their beauty or because they are a result of "breaking the kalyna"). It also symbolizes children born out of wedlock. "The maiden gave birth to a son, and laid out his bed with periwinkle

(Continued on page 19)

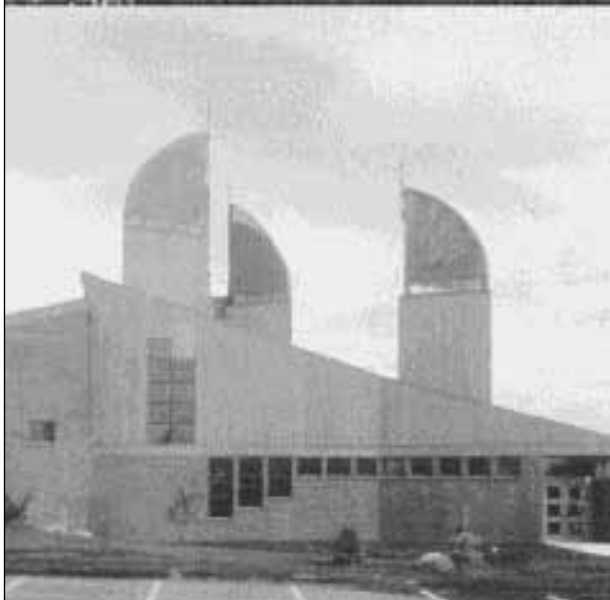
Radoslav Zuk lectures at Cambridge University

CAMBRIDGE, England – Radoslav Zuk, professor of architecture at McGill University, Montreal, and an honorary professor of the Kyiv Technical University of Building and Architecture, appeared as guest lecturer at Cambridge University, where an exhibition of his work was held concurrently at Clare Hall.

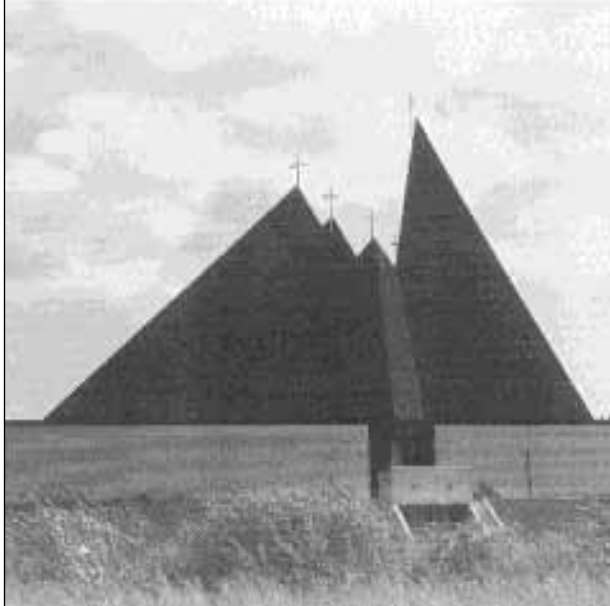
The exhibit "Radoslav Zuk – Reinterpreting Tradition: An Exhibition of Ukrainian Churches in North America and Museum Projects in Ukraine," opened April 26 at the Clare Hall Art Gallery, where it was on view through May 11.

On May 1, Prof. Zuk delivered a lecture titled "Cultural Identity in Contemporary Architecture: A Challenge in the Age of Globalization," in which he discussed cultural transformations of prevailing historical styles in European architecture, including Ukrainian developments, e.g., Byzantine,

(Continued on page 19)



RADOSLAV ZUK
Reinterpreting Tradition: Ukrainian Churches in
North America and Museum Projects in Ukraine
April 26 to May 11, 2001 Mondays to Fridays, 10:00 am to 5:00 pm
Clare Hall CAMBRIDGE



Poster of Radoslav Zuk's exhibition at Cambridge University.

Orthodox Church dedicates memorial mausoleum/museum

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – With the initiation of fund-raising for the Ukrainian Orthodox Church's Historical and Educational Complex, church leaders have taken the first step in realizing Patriarch Mstyslav's dream of creating a resource "to preserve the treasures of the national-spiritual creativity of our Ukrainian people, especially those which are of ancient origin."

On September 25, 1966, then Archbishop Mstyslav and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church dedicated the Memorial Church Museum located beneath St. Andrew Memorial Church in spite of the fact that the space below the church was initially intended as a mausoleum.

Thirty-five years after the initial dedication, Church leaders realized atmospheric conditions and other factors were destroying precious articles, some of which were over 500 years old. Many of the artifacts were moved to a temporary location inside the Ukrainian Cultural Center in order to protect them from any further deterioration.

On April 21, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church hosted an opening and blessing of the temporary museum exhibition in the Ukrainian Cultural Center. In the museum, Prof. Raisa Zacharchuk-Chuhaj gave a lecture on the significance of the museum collection titled "Our Museum – A Unique Treasure of Spirituality and Culture of the Ukrainian People."

On April 22, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church consecrated the finished Holy Resurrection Mausoleum and Museum devoted to the life of Patriarch Mstyslav. The mausoleum is located beneath the Memorial Church.

The Church has drawn up plans to create a Historical

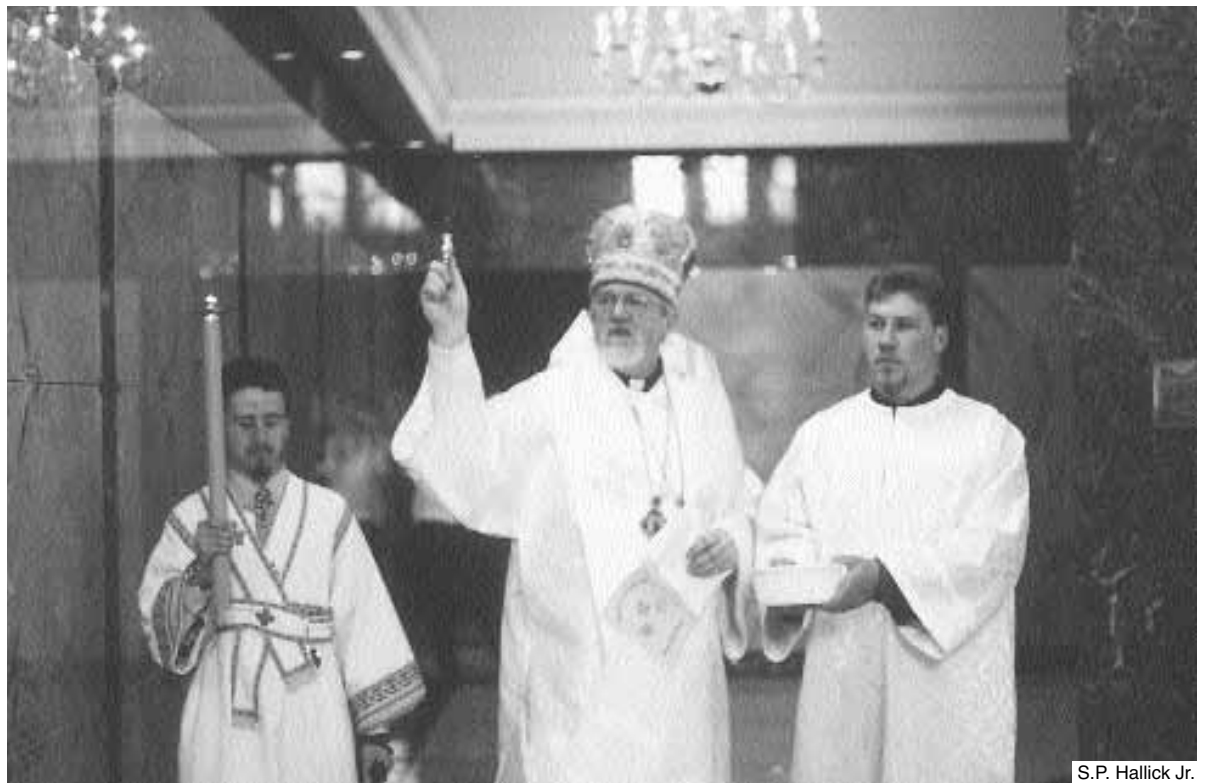


Prof. Raisa Zacharchuk-Chuhaj (left) speaks at the opening of the temporary museum exhibition in the Ukrainian Cultural Center at St. Andrew Metropolis Center of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

and Educational Complex that will be an annex of the current Consistory/Library building at St. Andrew Metropolis Center and will give the museum artifacts a permanent home. The complex will include state-of-the-art museum display areas, a permanent Famine memorial, and a museum lounge, library, lecture room and reading area.

The groundbreaking of the Historical and Educational Complex is scheduled for late 2001, but Church officials are uncertain of a completion date.

For information about either Holy Resurrection Mausoleum or the Historical and Educational Complex of the UOC of USA, contact Natalia Honcharenko, The Office of the Consistory, P.O. Box 495, South Bound Brook, NJ 08880; telephone, (732) 356-0090; e-mail, uocofusa@aol.com; fax, (732) 356-5556.



Archbishop Antony blesses the mausoleum/museum located beneath St. Andrew Memorial Church.

Ukrainian film festival awards presented in Kyiv

by Ihor Vynnychenko

KYIV – An unusual event in the cultural life of Kyiv took place in March in Kyiv's Turyst Hotel with the presentation of the laureates of last year's international cinema competition and festival "Our Blossom – Across the World".

The directors of three of the winning entries, Oleksii Naumenko who directed "Distant Native Land," Eduard Zaniuk, director of "Vision of Petro Jacyk," and Oleksander Mukhin, who made the animated piece, "Lira," were on hand to receive prizes and recognition for their works.

Another festival prize-winner, "The Never-

Changing Face of Plast," by co-directors Zenia Brozyna, Adia Fedash and Xenia Piaseckyj, received a commemorative medal from the Association of Ukrainian Officers of Ukraine.

The audience also had a chance to view the winner of the festival's grand "Kuban Kozaks. Already 200 Years," by Valentyn Sperkach, and a runner-up, "Appia Antica," by Viktor Chernyshuk.

The head of the festival's organizing committee, Ivan Drach, who is also the director of the State Committee on Information, explained to the crowd the importance of such an annual festival not only for Ukraine but for

(Continued on page 21)

Jersey's Ukrainian activists meet to draw up plans for independence celebrations

by Walter Bodnar

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Plans for celebrating the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, which falls on August 24, were initiated on May 17 here at the offices of Halibej Realty located in the Ukrainian National Association Corporate Headquarters building. Thirteen representatives from Ukrainian American organizations in New Jersey discussed methods of organizing a non-partisan working committee to set the wheels in motion.

Attorney Jerry Kuzemczak chaired the meeting, and Bozhena Olshaniwsky was recording secretary. After introductions, a lively discussion ensued and the purpose of the anniversary celebration was addressed with such questions as: What approach should we use? For whom is the program intended? How do we implement our idea? The affair could be internal for the edification of Ukrainian Americans, or perhaps it should reach out to include public officials and involve representatives of the government of Ukraine.

A variety of suggestions were made such as: a banquet with children's groups participating, speeches and participation of local and state American politicians, speeches and participation of members of Ukraine's government and Parliament, bilingual (Ukrainian and English) press releases and paid ads, a special section in the Star-Ledger's "World of Wonders" page regarding Ukraine's independence for the August 23 edition, a blood drive, funding by credit unions, use of the Internet, cooperation with the "Fourth Wave" of immigrants from Ukraine, coordination with the Ukrainian Embassy and Consulate, etc. Several individuals promised to survey the availability of facilities, hotels, dates, performers and prices and to attempt to co-opt as many helpers as possible.

The following executive working committee was chosen: Michael Koziupa (Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union and Whippany Branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association), chairman; Martha Lysko (UNA), vice chairman; Jaroslawa Mulyk (UNWLA), treasurer; Ms. Olshaniwsky (AHRU), secretary; John Burtyk (UCCA), Ukrainian press; Walter Bodnar (UNCHAIN), English press; Mr. Kuzemczak (UCCA), member at large.

In addition to the members of the executive committee, also attending were: Hryhorij Dobusz (Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine), Michael Halibej (UCCA), Alex Pidwerbetsky (Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons of New York and New Jersey), Roman Pyndus (Chornomorska Sitch and Plast), Kvitka Semanyshyn (UCCA, Newark) and Andre Worobec (UNA, Northern New Jersey District).

Meeting participants decided to include as many organizations in New Jersey as possible on the committee. The next meeting of the 10th anniversary committee will be held on Thursday, June 7, at 7 p.m., Suite 206, Halibej Realty, UNA Corporate Headquarters 2200 Route 10, Parsipany, N.J.

Working from a list supplied by the UCCA and the by UNA, Mr. Kuzemczak apologized for any organization that might have been overlooked and invited inquiries via phone at (973) 644-4920.

New York Metro Chapter of UMANA holds elections

NEW YORK – The New York Metro Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America held its first elections in a decade at the historic Ukrainian Institute on Museum Row in Manhattan.

Gathering in the city where the UMANA was founded in 1950, an eager and energetic assemblage of medical and dental professionals all agreed to continue and vastly expand the work sustained by its immediate past-president, Dr. Adrian Baranetsky. Following on the heels of a rousing 50th anniversary celebration reunion here last year and guided by a reborn and streamlined national office led by Dr. Roman Goy, the New York Metro Chapter has taken on the challenge of affirming its deserved relevance among Ukrainian professional groups.

A mix of veteran members and newcomers debated issues pertinent to the New York Chapter, as well as the UMANA's role in the larger medical sphere and relationship to contemporary Ukraine, including a gesture of support for flood relief in Zakarpattia.

After much illuminating debate, the following slate of officers was elected: President Alexandra Kushnir, M.D., Vice-President Arthur Hryhorowych, M.D., Secretary Marta Kushnir, M.D., Treasurer George Kryzaniwsky, D.D.S., Lectures and Special Events: Ihor Magun, M.D., and Members-At-Large Ronald Liteplo, M.D., Olenka Saikewycz, M.D., and Lesya Muraszczuk, D.D.S.

The collective presence of so many interested individuals on April 28 re-energized the membership and lent a sense of medical community and connectivity in the Big Apple.

President Kushnir, responding to the positive aura demonstrated by her colleagues, proposed conferring with the new officers within three weeks after the elections meeting to maintain momentum and plan the activity and direction for the upcoming term of office.

For further information on the New York Metro Chapter of UMANA, contact the chapter's secretary, Dr. Marta Kushnir, at (508) 855-2245.



Dr. Alexandra Kushnir, president, and Dr. Arthur Hryhorowych, vice-president, of the UMANA's New York Metro Chapter.

War veterans' social service continues aid to needy

by Jaroslaw Kaczaj

PHILADELPHIA – For almost 50 years the Social Service of Ukrainian War Veterans located in Philadelphia has been helping needy Ukrainian veterans here and abroad and, since its independence, in Ukraine.

To realize this noble work, patriotic Ukrainians respond with generous donations to the so-called "Lystopadova Zbirka" fund-raising drive during the month of November each year. Among them is Catherine H. Popiel, from Pittsburgh, who donated \$5,000 for veterans in Ukraine.

The collected funds are transferred once a year to veterans in Ukraine with the help of devoted veterans in the United States. The board of directors of the Social Service of Ukrainian War Veterans recently singled out two members of the 1st Division of the Ukrainian National Army, Yuri Ferencevych and Yarema Bachynsky, for their support and dedication, recognizing them with certificates of appreciation.

Donations may be sent to: Social Service of Ukrainian War Veterans, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046.



Yuri Ferencevych (right) and Yarema Bachynsky receive certificates of appreciation for their support of Ukrainian war veterans.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, etc. – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, **no photocopies or computer printouts**) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must **provide a daytime phone number** where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- ✦ Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

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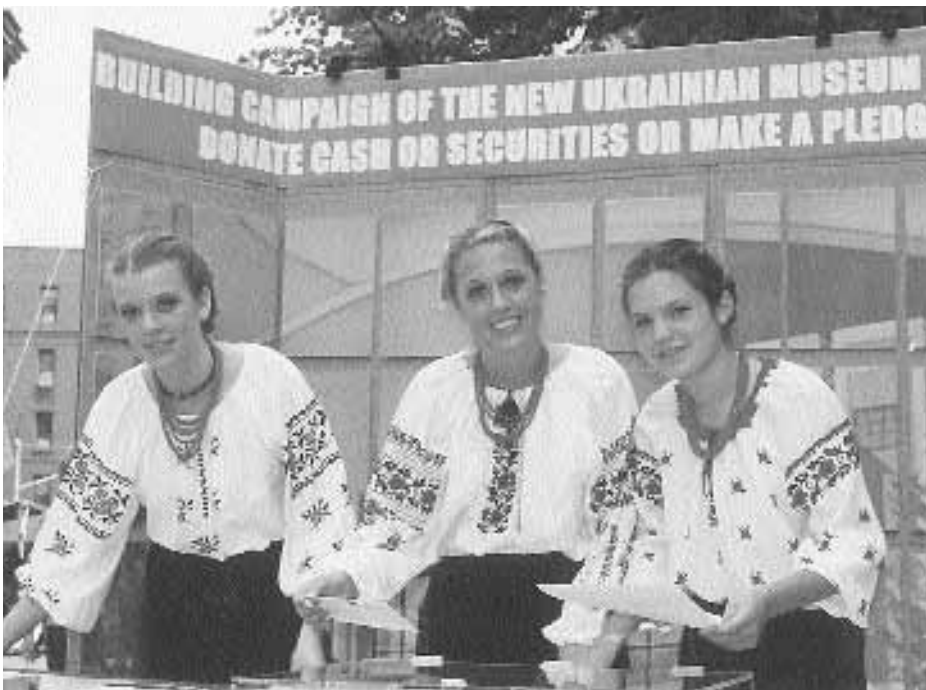
PHOTO REPORT: Sights of the Ukrainian Festival



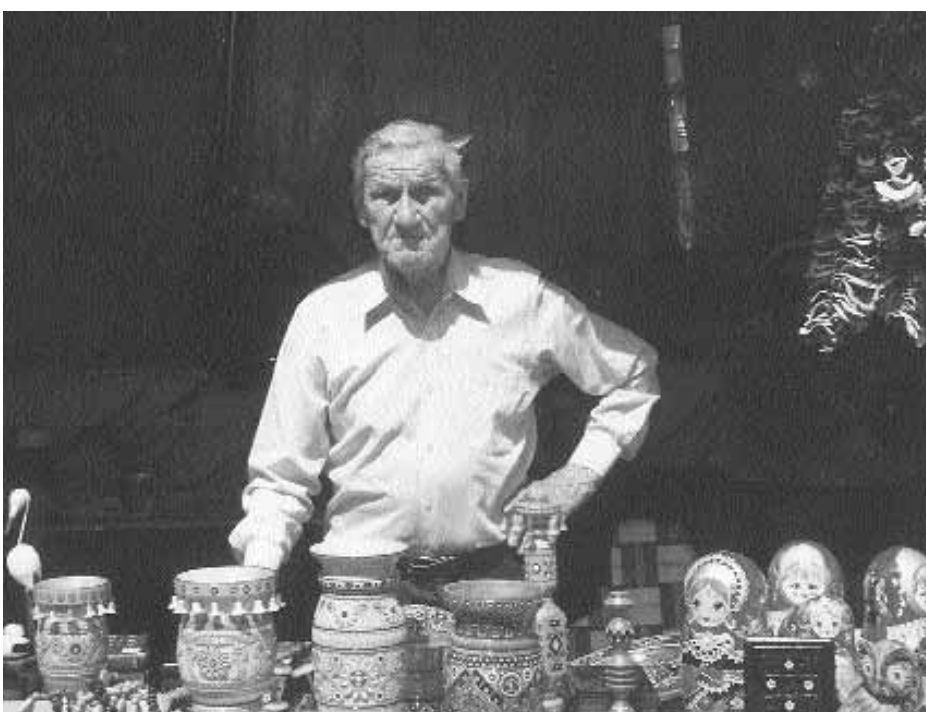
Ukrainian Festival participants enjoy the afternoon dance program on May 19 next to St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church on the corner of East Seventh Street and Taras Shevchenko Place in New York City.



Larissa Ruebsamen of the Ukrainian dance ensemble Syzokryli in the Pryvit (Welcome) dance.



Adrienne Burachinsky, Tania Huk and Melanie Nycz help The Ukrainian Museum generate donations for construction of a new museum building on Sixth Street.



A festival vendor sells traditional Ukrainian folk art at the Ukrainian Festival held in the East Village on the weekend of May 18-20.



Onlookers watch the afternoon dance program on the corner of East Seventh Street and Taras Shevchenko Place, which is threatened with demapping.

All photos in this series by Andrew Nynka



Oksana Kozyra of the Syzokryli.



Younger dancers take part in the afternoon program.



Rosalie Ezekiel performs with the Ukrainian dance troupe Syzokryli.



Dancers Joey Sywenkyj, Peter Fil and Andrij Dobriansky perform with the Syzokryli.



Members of the Iskra ensemble from Whippany, N.J., relax after dancing during the afternoon program.



Members of the Ukrainian dance troupe Yunist from Yonkers, N.Y., on stage during the evening program.



FOCUS ON PHILATELY

by Inert Kuzych, Roman Dubyniak and Peter Cybaniak

The Hutsul Battalion

During the early years of the 20th century, two of the western provinces in the Austro-Hungarian Empire – Halychyna (Galicia) and Bukovyna – were both populated with large Ukrainian populations. For the most part these East Slavic subjects (referred to as Ruthenians) in this multi-ethnic empire were satisfied with their lot as Austrian citizens. When World War I broke out, Ukrainians in the empire rallied to the Austrian cause in the hope that victory might allow for the liberation of their countrymen under Russian autocracy.

Initially the fighting did not go well. During the early months of World War I (August to November 1914), Russian troops occupied all of Eastern Halychyna and Bukovyna. The Austrian army stiffened, however, along the Carpathian Mountains. With German aid, the combined forces were able to counterattack and drive the Russian troops from Bukovyna in February of 1915. Chernivtsi was liberated on February 18 and the local military took control.

In Eastern Halychyna in 1914, a Ukrainian Legion of volunteers was formed – the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen (Ukrainski Sichovi Striltsi) or Legion USS. Their bravery in battle against the Russians earned them the respect of the Austrian authorities as well as the civilian Ukrainian population in Halychyna. The USS are frequently credited with being the only Ukrainian unit in the Austrian army, but such was not the case. A smaller, less well-known formation also was organized. Hardly ever mentioned in any Ukrainian encyclopedias or textbooks, we have had to reconstruct much of its existence from alternate sources.

Putting the pieces together

The story of this military unit begins with the outstanding diplomat Mykola Vasylo (1868-1924), who was both a member of the local Bukovynian Diet and the Parliament in Vienna (1898-1918). In early 1915, with the aid of a Maj. Fischer, he obtained permission from the military authorities in Vienna to form a Bukovynian Legion of volunteers comparable to the USS unit from Galicia.

This new legion was formed into two battalions reflecting the two main ethnic groups of Bukovyna province: a Romanian one and a Ukrainian one. The latter was given the epithet of the Hutsul Battalion, its full name was: K. k. ruth. Kriegsfreiwilligenbaon (Huzulen).

At that time in the Austro-Hungarian army a battalion was composed of four companies, generally of about 250 men each. So the full complement of the Bukovyna Legion, with its two battalions, would have been about 2,000 men. The Hutsul Battalion was stationed in Chernivtsi.

Little is known of the Hutsul Battalion, its date of formation, its exploits in battle or its final fate. From two surviving postcards we know the names of a few of their leaders: Lt. Baron Stefan Vasylo (Wassilko), the addressee on the earliest known Hutsul Battalion item sent on May 1, 1915 (Figure 1) and Platoon Commander Ihnat Hurban (of the 3rd Company of the Hutsul Battalion), who mailed a card two days later (Figure 2).

From the published war orders of the Austro-Hungarian Army during the years 1914 to 1918, several brief mentions allow us to piece together a sketchy chronology of the Hutsul Battalion. The first reference to a Bukovyna Legion is an army order dated

May 1, 1915, that shows two volunteer battalions (Hutsul and Romanian) as part of the Infantry Brigade Obstlt. (Oberstleutnant) Papp. (It was customary to name army formations after outstanding military officers.) This brigade was part of the XI Corps, itself a component of Army Group PflanzerBaltin, which changed its name to the 7th Army on May 8, 1915, while retaining its commander.

Five months later, on September 1, 1915, mention is made that the Brigade Oberstleutnant Papp was now composed solely of a Volunteer Division (Freiwilligen Abteilung) of Ukrainians and Romanians formed into three companies, i.e., some 750 men. What happened to the other 1,250 or so volunteers? They were possibly casualties (killed, wounded, or missing in action) or they could have been transferred to other units.

From June 4, 1916, is the note that the Infantry Brigade Obstlt. Papp consists of a Volunteer Battalion (Freiwilligen Baon). However, which battalion (Hutsul or Romanian) is not specified, perhaps the two were merged.

The final mention in the War Orders about the Volunteer Battalion in the Infantry Brigade Obstlt. Papp is from June 28, 1916. No subsequent traces have been located in these sources.

The above chronology would seem to indicate that the size of the Obstlt. Papp Brigade continued to shrink over time. Whether this was due to simple reorganization, attrition in battle, or both, is unclear.

Brief references in Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia would seem to show that at least some remnants of the Hutsul Battalion survived to the end of the war in November of 1918. Mention is made that a battalion composed of volunteers from Bukovyna fought on the side of the Ukrainian Galician Army (Ukrainska Halyska Armia) – the military formation of the Western Ukrainian National Republic – which functioned from November 1918 to June 1919.

Does anyone have any further information they can supply regarding this enigmatic military unit?

Mystery of the fieldpost card

The fieldpost card in Figure 1 has an interesting history. It was sent by Baroness Rosa Vasylo to Lt. Baron Stefan Vasylo on May 1, 1915 (whether Stefan was related to Mykola Vasylo, who helped organize the Bukovyna Legion, is unknown but possible; Mykola belonged to the Vasylo line of nobility in Bukovyna). The baroness wrote from Vienna, but addressed the card to Chernivtsi, Bukovyna, recently liberated from the Russians. The card was redirected to the Territorial Division Office (Fieldpost No. 52) where on May 25, 1915, it was marked with the cryptic statement: “unsuitable, return to sender.” Why so?

A strong and ultimately successful counteroffensive of Austrian and German troops into Eastern Halychyna began on April 19. Army records show that from May 16 the 7th Army, which included the XI Corps and the Brigade Papp, was part of a supporting deployment to retake the remainder of Bukovyna (Figure 3). So, had something befallen Lt. Vasylo, or could he just not be reached? The answers to these poignant questions remain to be resolved.

If any reader can help provide answers to some of the queries raised in this article, please contact Inert Kuzych at P.O. Box 3, Springfield VA 22150 or at ingert@starpower.net.



FIGURE 1. An Austro-Hungarian fieldpost card sent by Baroness Rosa Vasylo to Lt. Baron Stefan Vasylo on May 1, 1915. Mailed to the headquarters of the Papp Brigade in Chernivtsi, it was redirected, in blue crayon, to the Territorial Division Office at Fieldpost No. 52, where on May 25 it was marked in red crayon “unsuitable, return to sender.” A one-line “K.k. ruth. Kriegsfreiwilligenbaon (Huzulen)” (Ruthenian Volunteer Battalion-Huzul) unit handstamp was applied in violet together with a one-line violet censor marking ‘mlt. überpruft’ (local military censor).



FIGURE 2. An Austro-Hungarian fieldpost card sent by Platoon Commander Ihnat Hurban to Mr. Director J. Nirschy in Vienna on May 3, 1915. Note the same two handstamps as on the previous card.



FIGURE 3. A postcard showing Austrian troops (the Hutsul Battalion?) holding off a Russian attack in the mountains of Bukovyna.

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DATELINE NEW YORK: Ukrainian dancers – they're absolutely tops

by Helen Smindak

Whether born in Ukraine or in the United States, Ukrainian dancers have one thing in common: they are superlative performers who enthrall New York audiences with their talent, grace and vitality.

Maxim Belotserkovsky and Irina Dvorovenko have been soaring across the Metropolitan Opera stage these past weeks in the American Ballet Theatre's spring-season productions. Olena Krutsenko has been twirling around the Gershwin Theatre stage since early March with the Moscow Folk Ballet in the current run of the Irish extravaganza "Riverdance on Broadway." Natalya Povorozniuk received high marks from critics during the Eifman Ballet's two-week run at City Center in May.

The Syzokryli Dancers gave a four-star performance at the Ukrainian Festival in the East Village. Andriy Cybyk was one of four Ukrainian dancers in the final-curtain performance of the ALLNATIONS Dance Company last week.

Do you get the picture? Now let me give you the details.

Let's begin with ABT, one of the world's premier companies, and its quartet of dancers from Ukraine: Mr. Belotserkovsky, Ms. Dvorovenko and a third principal dancer, Vladimir Malakhov, plus corps de ballet member Vladislav Kalinin. A recent Associated Press story, describing the first two, said: "Two current, Ukrainian-born soloists are Mr. Belotserkovsky and his wife, Irina Dvorovenko, whose artistic fire is coupled with grand jeté leaps that seem to cut through the air like javelins." In another paragraph, Mr. Belotserkovsky is said to be "suspended for the briefest of seconds like Superman" as he leaps high into the air.

The husband-wife couple has been cast together romantically in several full-length ballets this season – "Cinderella," "Giselle," "Don Quixote" and "Swan Lake." Individually, they are also scheduled to give performances in "The Merry Widow," "Onegin," "Theme and Variations," the Grand Pas de Deux from "The Nutcracker" and the Rose Adagio from "The Sleeping Beauty."

The New York Times' dance critic Anna Kisselgoff, reviewing their May 14 performance in "Giselle," wrote: "Irina Dvorovenko and Maxim Belotserkovsky, who have dazzled audiences in the Petipa classics, were seen for the first time in New York as Giselle and Albrecht ... Mr. Belotserkovsky's Albrecht was more ardent (than dancer Ethan Steifel's), a romantic so in love that he virtually forced himself upon Giselle. Together he and his partner offered a fresh and lively first act, although Ms. Dvorovenko's splendid technique sometimes overshadowed her characterization. She sailed through the turns and balances of Act I as others do not, and in Act II she seemed magically suspended in the air as she raised one foot to her ankle during her leg beats."

Ms. Kisselgoff added: "Ms. Dvorovenko has a lyrical side, and greater fluidity in Act II will give her the depth she seeks in 'Giselle.' Mr. Belotserkovsky's integration of dancing and acting is already perfect: his elegant style was not at odds with his portrayal of an anti-hero who allowed passion to get the best of him."

Seven years after leaving Kyiv, where they danced with the Ballet Theater of Kyiv, the two have become the darlings of the ballet world here, adored by ballet fans and dance critics. They were recently characterized in Dance magazine (and were featured on its cover) as a unified team that brings an old-world glamour and the purity of the famous Vaganova technique to ABT. During times off, they dance as guest artists with companies like the Australian Ballet, Finland Ballet, Hamburg Ballet and the Asami Maki Ballet.

Pictured on Pointe magazine's May/June cover, the two stars are making a noontime appearance on Sunday, June 3, at Barnes & Noble Booksellers, 240 E. 86th St., to sign copies of Pointe for fans and store patrons. They will also draw the winning names in an in-store raffle for free tickets to the June 11 performance of "Don Quixote," in which they star.

Mr. Malakhov, who has already given performances this season in "Giselle," "Onegin" and "La Bayadère" and was scheduled to dance the role of Lensky in the company premiere of John Cranko's "Onegin" on June 1, will perform the role of von Rothbart in the season's first performance of "Swan Lake" on June 15. The next day he will reprise the role as he joins Mr. Belotserkovsky and Ms. Dvorovenko in this timeless tale of love and redemption, choreographed by Kevin McKenzie after Petipa and Ivanov and set to a score by Tchaikovsky. A globe-trotting star, he is a principal dancer with ABT and the Stuttgart Ballet, as well as a guest artist with the Vienna State Opera Ballet and the State Opera of Berlin.



MIRA

Irina Dvorovenko and Maxim Belotserkovsky in the American Ballet Theatre's production of "Giselle."

Mr. Kalinin, a native of Ukraine who joined the corps de ballet in 1993, includes in his ABT repertoire the Bronze Idol in "La Bayadère," a Stepsister and the Jester in "Cinderella," Sancho Panza in "Don Quixote," the Peruvian and the Dancing Master in "Gaieté Parisienne," and other roles. He was praised by Ms. Kisselgoff last year as a marvelous Gremio who "becomes a doddering dolt without overdoing anything" in "The Taming of the Shrew."

Riverdance

Ukrainian dancers in an Irish music and dance extravaganza, you ask? That was my question also when I learned that two former members of the Virsky Ukrainian Dance Company, Olena Krutsenko and her husband, Sergiy Yakubov, have been performing in "Riverdance on Broadway."

They've been touring with the Irish company since 1996, and Ms. Krutsenko has been in the much-ballyhooed Broadway show since it opened at the Gershwin Theater last March. Her husband, who injured a tendon in his foot back in March, has been sitting impatiently on the sidelines while his foot heals and looks forward to returning to active duty soon.

The two are part of the eight-member Moscow Folk Ballet Company whose performance heightens the impact of the stupendous Irish production with dazzling Russian/Ukrainian folk dance steps and movements, cleverly woven into the tapestry of Irish, Afro-American and flamenco dancing that portrays the American immi-

grant experience in the show's second half. The Moscow folk dancers (only six are onstage at any one time), in stylized Russian costumes, present a dance of utter abandonment called "The Russian Dervish," and later join the Irish dance troupe, singers and drummers in a number called "Ri Ra" (Ri Ra in Gaelic means brouhaha or commotion). When the show comes to an explosive finish, they take their bows in the front ranks of the Riverdance company.

And yes, the Slavic dancing is done to wild Gaelic music. The juxtaposition is not so surprising when you consider the resemblance of many Ukrainian dance tunes to lively Irish bagpipe and fiddle melodies; both cultures echo an ancient mysticism and reflect a turbulent past.

Ms. Krutsenko, 30, whose specialty is turns and endless twirls and pirouettes, performs astonishing acrobatic stunts as she is lifted into the air by her partner. She dances in the Moscow Folk Ballet's four appearances – in the first half of the show she appears with the Riverdance Singers in a demi-classic, jazz number "Shivna;" in the post-intermission program, she dances in the "Dervish" and "Ri Ra" numbers and the finale.

Born in Volgograd, Russia, she moved to Kyiv in 1991 to dance with the Virsky company and met Sergiy two years later when he returned from a stint with the Moiseyev Dance Company. The two were married in Toronto in 1998, while on tour with Riverdance.

When Riverdance was invited to perform at the United

(Continued on page 17)



Joan Marcus

Olena Krutsenko (foreground, left) and her husband Sergiy Yakubov (leaping) in the national tour of "Riverdance."

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Doubts remain...

(Continued from page 2)

was found in a woods south of the city.

Mr. Gongadze had been an outspoken critic of President Kuchma, who he claimed was involved in corrupt business dealings.

A former Kuchma bodyguard then came forward with audio recordings he said he had secretly made of conversations between the president and his advisers. The recordings appeared to show that Kuchma had wanted action taken to silence the outspoken journalist.

President Kuchma has consistently denied the authenticity of the recordings. But his political opponents - and thousands of ordinary Ukrainians - are convinced the recordings prove the president's involvement in Gongadze's death. Mass demonstrations have followed, with protesters calling for Mr. Kuchma's resignation.

The official investigation into the Gongadze murder also has been criticized by Mr. Gongadze's relatives and a number of Ukrainian politicians. Some Western governments and entities, such as the Council of Europe, have also expressed doubts that the investigation is being conducted in a proper and transparent manner.

Ukrainian authorities at varying times have alleged that the corpse found in the woods outside Kyiv is not Mr. Gongadze's, and for months refused to allow the journalist's relatives to examine the remains.

Oleksander Kryvenko, a spokesman for the opposition Forum for National Salvation, described Mr. Smirnov's version of the murder as a "fairy tale." He said it is obvious that criminals murdered the journalist, but that in itself does not exclude a political motive.

Mr. Gongadze's widow, who is now in the United States after being granted political asylum last month, said the police in the past had deliberately muddled the investigation into her husband's death and continue to do so now.

"The fact is that, in this matter, the Procurator General and the police have distinguished themselves with many statements which later have not been substantiated and where, in a normal society, they would have had to be corrected. From the very beginning there were announcements that it was not a politically motivated matter, and then that the corpse that was found had been reburied there, and so forth. The police made these announcements, and when the Procurator General's Office investigated, they could not substantiate the police claims," Mrs. Gongadze told RFE/RL.

Ukraine's Internal Affairs Ministry was reluctant to comment on the Procurator General's continuing investigation into the case. A ministry spokesman, who preferred to remain anonymous, said Mr. Smirnov is not prepared to issue any more details regarding the Gongadze case.

"The minister said that he is not going to discuss the details. That's probably because the Procurator General is still investigating. [There are] probably still some outstanding matters [that] need to be cleared up," the spokesman told RFE/RL.

The spokesman denied that there are any serious differences between the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Procurator General's Office. "I can't make any conclusions. You as a journalist have to draw your own conclusions. There has been a concrete announcement by Mr. Smirnov. As for the Procurator General's Office, I don't know, because I don't work there," the spokesman noted.

Myroslava Gongadze...

(Continued from page 1)

authorities currently controlling Ukraine. "This is a president who doesn't think. He is the continuation of the old system and so long as he is in power we will continue to have these problems," she explained. "It is a different logic that works there. It's a logic of corruption, bribery and irrationality."

After graduating from Ivan Franko National University in Lviv with a degree in law, Ms. Gongadze worked for national democratic parties as a public affairs and media relations expert.

A person familiar with media and journalism, Ms. Gongadze said she believes that one of the most important things Ukraine can do in the coming months is "to ensure a free press."

"This is something that the current government is desperately trying to deny. Kuchma's government wants to ensure his version of the truth," stated Ms. Gongadze. "My friends call this an epidemic of lies, but I would add that these are lies and lack of professionalism."

"There have been many other journalists who have lost their lives battling against our government. We know and understand the tragedies of Borys Derevyanko, Volodymyr Ivanov, Marianna Chorna and others," Ms. Gongadze commented. "None of these crimes has yet been resolved or the criminals punished."

Kuchma's new prime...

(Continued from page 2)

Parliament Chairman Ivan Pliusch said on May 21 that it will be difficult for any presidential nominee for prime minister to win parliamentary approval.

He said that Ukraine's parliamentarians were not prepared for the dismissal of Mr. Yushenko: "Yushenko has been sacked, and now they have realized that they are not ready to take logical steps in order to appoint a new prime minister and form a government."

Like analyst Mr. Polokhalo, Mr. Pliusch said the parliamentary elections scheduled for the spring of 2002 are a far more important issue for political parties than the need to form a full-fledged government. He added that he thinks President Kuchma will have to settle for an acting prime minister.

Mr. Polokhalo said that the way the Communists vote on Mr. Kinakh's nomination would be crucial. Last week the Communists were adamant they would only vote for one of their own nominees.

"I'd put his chances at 50-50," Mr. Polokhalo explained, "if Anatolii Kinakh has managed to strike a deal with the Communists – and today they are an active political player, being the largest grouping in Parliament – while there is a split between the right-wing and oligarch groupings and an absence of any agreement among the most powerful political elites. Therefore, the Communist Party can now play an important role in whether Kinakh will be acting prime minister or prime minister."

"These were people who died trying to give the public an understanding of government and how it works in Ukraine," she said of the slain journalists.

When asked whether her husband should be looked upon as a hero, Ms. Gongadze remarked: "hero or not a hero – I will not say what Heorhii was – there has to be a transparent investigation. We must know what happened before we can say such things."

Ms. Gongadze stressed that "today it was Heorhii, tomorrow it could be any other journalist," adding that, "until Ukraine develops a free press capable of holding public officials to task, Ukraine's government will run by continual corruption."

In an effort to learn the whereabouts of her husband, Ms. Gongadze contacted Ukraine's Ministry of Internal Affairs after learning that a headless corpse was found in Tarascha (near Kyiv) on November 2, 2000, that matched the description of her husband. Ms. Gongadze wrote several letters to the Ministry of Internal Affairs as well as to President Kuchma, but was repeatedly denied access. "I would write a letter to the ministry and they would say, if you really want to see the body, write another letter," she related.

Asked to elaborate, Ms. Gongadze responded: "It has been this way all along. I cannot get a clear answer. It is obvious that the government wants to move attention away from themselves in regard to this matter."

Recently the Ministry of Internal Affairs declared that the Gongadze murder case was solved and is now closed. Ms. Gongadze was asked to comment on the differing conclusions reached by Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Smirnov on May 15 and Mr. Smirnov's assistant, Mykola Dzhyha, a day later.

Ms. Gongadze replied: "I believe that the statements of the new minister of internal affairs, Smirnov, have been the continuation of lies that have come from the mouths of officials in the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Procurator General's office for the last six months."

Currently Ms. Gongadze plans to stay in the United States, where she will work for the International Republican Institute based in Washington. Ms. Gongadze, who has been granted asylum in the United States, noted that she continually fears for the safety of her 3 1/2-year-old twin daughters, but seeks to help Ukraine's journalists in their pursuit of truth.



Andrew Nynka

Myroslava Gongadze with children Nana and Solomia.

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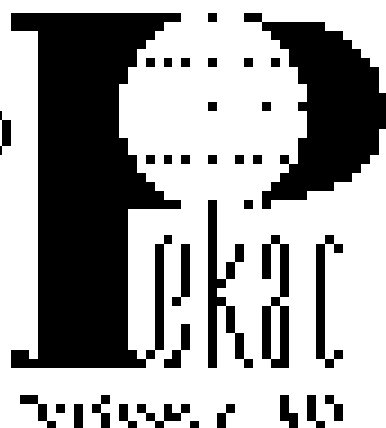
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Ukrainian dancers...

(Continued from page 13)

Nations commemoration of Chernobyl this past April, Ms. Krutsenko specifically asked to be included in the eight-member performing group because "I know a lot of people from Chernobyl, and Sergiy visited Chernobyl after the disaster and witnessed the terrible effects of the explosion." Ms. Krutsenko and a Moscow Ballet colleague, Svetlana Malinina, were the soloists for the "Ri Ra" number, backed by two Russian male dancers and two couples from the Irish dance troupe.

Before his injury, Mr. Yakubov, 32, was an outstanding performer of the breathtaking leaps, jumps and toe-touching splits in the air executed by the men of the Moscow troupe – dance movements familiar to practitioners and audiences of Ukrainian folk dance.

Born in the town of Shpola in Ukraine's Cherkasy region, he has lived most of his life in Kyiv. He danced for two years with the Virsky company, then spent two years as a dancer with the touring Ukrainian Army Song and Dance Ensemble (he was seen with the ensemble in Regis Wargnier's sumptuous, moving film "East-West," which played in New York in April 2000).

Following his return to Kyiv, he danced with the Virsky troupe in Kyiv and the Moiseyev company in Moscow, teamed up with some 20 of Ukraine's best dancers to form the "Hopak" ensemble which toured in Canada and the United States in 1993 and spent a couple of years in Spain. He was invited to join the Riverdance company in 1996.

A point of interest: Mr. Yakubov danced in the Virsky ensemble with Irina Dvorovenko's father, Ihor Dvorovenko, and Ms. Krutsenko studied with Ihor Dvorovenko for a short time at the Virsky dance studio. Both Mr. Yakubov and his wife are well acquainted with juggler Viktor Kee of Cirque du Soleil's Dralion show and violinist Roman Popadiuk, a Ukrainian who now lives in Toronto. It would seem that Ukrainian performers like to stick together.

More dance stars

The Eifman Ballet of St. Petersburg, which wrapped up its American tour of 2001 with a two-week run at the City Center in May, included in its roster two Ukrainian dancers, Natalya Povorozniuk, a native of Vinnytsia, and Nina Zmievets of Kyiv. Both ballerinas joined the Eifman company last year.

Dance critic Anna Kisselgoff, who described the company's dancers as extraordinary, commended Ms. Povorozniuk for her sharp differentiation of the double roles she performed in Boris Eifman's new ballet "Don Juan & Molière" – that of Molière's feckless young wife Armande and a fictional character, Donna Anna.

The Syzokryli Ukrainian Dancers and the ALLNATIONS Dance Company are two distinct and separate entities, but they have one highly important element in common – dancer Andriy Cybyk. Mr. Cybyk, Syzokryli's assistant artistic director, took part in the Syzokryli dancers' fabulous show at the Seventh Street Ukrainian Festival on May 20. A former member of the Duquesne University Tamburitians and a graduate of the Virsky School of Academic Folk Dance in Kyiv, he is Ukrainian by parentage and a gypsy at heart, dancing for years with the ALLNATIONS company and appearing with the Anglo-American Ballet, Nai-Ni Chen company and Michael Mao's modern dance ensemble. Mr. Cybyk is scheduled to appear with the Michael Mao dancers at Symphony Space on upper Broadway at 95th Street on June 8.

Bringing the street festival to a rip-roar-

ing climax late Sunday afternoon, the Syzokryli dancers marched on stage to present a series of heart-stirring dance numbers that brought to mind joyful holiday celebrations in Ukraine and the heroic exploits of the Zaporozhian Kozaks. Outstanding among the fleet-footed maidens were Larissa Ruebsamen and Suzi Myers; Mr. Cybyk, Andriy Dobriansky and Peter Osyf shone in the men's acrobatic leaps, prysidky and sword play. With the stunning Hopak finale came a hail of applause and cheers from the audience, and director Roma Pryma Bohachevsky was invited on stage to take a bow with her protégés.

During the three-day festival, as Shevchenko Place supporters lined up at the Shevchenko Preservation Committee booth to sign a petition urging the city to save the East Village street that honors Ukraine's illustrious bard, several groups of Ukrainian dancers delighted spectators with their youthful energy and colorful costumes. Among them were the Yunist Dance Ensemble directed by Hryhoriy Momot, the Vesna ensemble of Hempstead, N.Y. directed by Orlando Pagan, the Zoloty Promin ensemble from Hartford, Conn., Zorepad from Albany and Iskra from Whippany, N.J. and the troupe based at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark and several children's groups – the St. George Academy Dancers directed by Daria Genza, and the Barvinok ensemble from Astoria, Queens.

Four days later, Mr. Cybyk was back on stage, this time with the ALLNATIONS company at International House in upper Manhattan, with an amazing display of dance expertise, agility, expression and endurance. Unruffled by speedy costume changes, he performed barefoot and hard-shoe in Mexican, Phillipine, Argentine, Greek, Ukrainian, Russian gypsy and American dances (the Charleston of the 1920's) with poise and dramatic flair.

The fascinating show of dances from around the world – the company's closing performance after 35 years of touring the globe – also revealed the talents of Anna Mikhaylenko of Kharkiv, Ganna Makarova of Odesa and Alex Rudoy of Lviv.

Ms. Mikhaylenko, a ballet and character dance graduate of the Kharkiv Choreographic Institute, began her professional dance career in the United States after winning a full scholarship to the Martha Graham School of Contemporary Dance.

Ms. Makarova, who began her dance training at the age of 6 with the world-renowned Moiseyev Dance Studio and trained as an actress at the Moscow Academy of Performing Arts, recently graduated magna cum laude from Long Island University with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree.

Mr. Rudoy, a dancer, choreographer and artistic director of the Europa Dance Company in New York, performed throughout Ukraine and across Europe after training with the Druzhba and Mazlov folk dance companies in Lviv.

Strutting their stuff in various dances during the evening, the trio teamed up with Mr. Cybyk for a flirtatious, foot-stamping Ukrainian dance "Boikivski Zabavy" (Boiko Games) that drew bravos and cheers from the enthusiastic audience.

At a reception following the show, special acclaim for years of devoted service went to all the dancers and to Sophia Janusz Pachecano, a former Voloshky Ukrainian Ensemble dancer in Philadelphia and an ALLNATIONS dancer who served for 14 years as the company's associate director, and Herman Rottenberg, the company's producer and founder.

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Sen. Lugar on U.S.-Ukraine...

(Continued from page 6)

launched cruise missiles, 308 submarine missile launchers, 184 submarine launched ballistic missiles and 18 strategic missile submarines. It also has sealed 194 nuclear test tunnels. Most notably, 5,336 warheads that were on strategic systems aimed at the United States have been deactivated. To put this into perspective, Nunn-Lugar has dismantled more nuclear weaponry than the countries of Great Britain, France and China currently possess in their stockpiles and arsenals combined.

Ukraine has also exhibited great leadership and far-sightedness in another area of nuclear concern. The world was relieved by Ukraine's decision to close the nuclear power plant at Chornobyl. I am pleased the U.S. and E.U. cooperated with Ukraine to provide the funding and technical assistance necessary to secure the closing. Unfortunately, our relief is offset by the knowledge that many other similar reactors are still in place and operating in states of the former Soviet Union. Through programs such as the International Nuclear Safety Program at the Department of Energy, the U.S. hopes to complete safety upgrades for all 65 Soviet-designed nuclear power plants in nine countries by 2006.

I am pleased that Ukraine has established good relations with all of its neighbors, as well as with NATO. Ukraine's membership in NATO's Partnership for Peace and the signing of the Ukraine-NATO Charter on Distinctive Partnership are important steps in Ukraine's emergence as an effective partner and international leader. In both instances, Ukraine has been an active member hosting military exercises and participating in SFOR and KFOR peacekeeping missions in the Balkans. They are making progress towards their stated goal of integration into European and Euro-Atlantic security structures.

Ukraine has correctly set its long-range sights on membership in the European Union. I am pleased by the signing of several EU-Ukrainian agreements, including most-favored nation status and other trade advantages.

I would recommend to our colleagues in the European Union that they provide Kyiv with a light at the end of the tunnel. An EU signal that future membership is possible would make a tremendous impact on Ukrainian commitment to market reforms. Just as the open-door policy under Article 10 of the North Atlantic Treaty provides nations with hope and incentive for future NATO membership; so should the EU give states the encouragement to continue economic reforms.

Ukraine has been viewed as a model for former Soviet states. But for progress to continue and its emergence as a democratic and economic power be assured, its pro-Western stance in relation to NATO and the EU must be maintained and expanded.

Ukraine has had mixed success in economic reform. Despite lapses, progress on monetary and fiscal policies have dramatically lowered inflation and permitted the establishment of a Ukrainian currency.

However, corruption and structural reform must be addressed, only then will the groundwork be laid for long-term growth.

Ukraine must legislate and implement necessary economic reforms. I believe former Prime Minister [Viktor] Yuschenko's ambitious reform program was a proper model. Unfortunately, various parties and cliques in the Rada were less than enthusiastic in legislating and implementing many specific reforms, including: tax reform, accelerated privatization of industry, land privatization and bureaucratic reductions. Only upon the resumption of reforms will the foundation be laid for long-term Ukrainian economic stability.

The U.S. must remain committed to assisting Ukraine in pursuing market economic reforms. The American-Ukrainian partnership and economic cooperation must be renewed and expanded. Not only must Ukraine be prepared to make difficult choices and implement challenging economic policies, but the U.S. must be prepared to expand its role in assisting in reform implementation.

Over the next two years, Ukraine will hold parliamentary and presidential elections. It is unclear if a governmental solution will be found to move forward until then. But it is clear that the cooperative coalition between the president, the prime minister and the Parliament must be refurbished. Only with all three units of government operating towards the same ends, namely economic and structural reform, will Ukraine take the steps necessary to maintain its western orientation and complete economic reforms.

It is telling that Western observers point out that few Ukrainian political officials are particularly well-liked or admired. Former Prime Minister Yuschenko is generally regarded as the exception to this rule. I am hopeful this popularity has less to do with his personality and more to do with his strong support for economic and governmental reform. I am hopeful that in the coming elections the Ukrainian people will choose the proper path and the government delivers.

Many in Washington are concerned that Ukraine may slide backwards rather than continue its forward progress. Ukraine must recommit itself to the freedom of the press, religion and the importance of human rights. Only by reinforcing the basic tenets of democratic governance will Ukraine shield itself from future threats on its march to a democratic, market economic state.

The murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze remains a high hurdle to progress in Ukraine. It is difficult to see how the reform agenda can be pursued until the investigation is concluded. It is in the best interests of Ukraine to swiftly bring the case to justice. The government must show its commitment to the rule of law and order. Requests for American and European cooperation and assistance would go far in reassuring the Ukrainian people that justice will be served.

Your meetings come at a very important time. As a friend of Ukraine, I am concerned by the recent political developments in Kyiv. Ukraine has made such important progress that we must all redouble our efforts to ensure that Ukraine does not lose ground during this time of political upheaval.

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The kalyna in Ukrainian folk...

(Continued from page 7)

[another symbolic wedding plant]. Girls, don't go picking the kalyna, don't wake my baby."

The kalyna also stands for companionship, loyalty and true love. When Kozaks or other soldiers went off to battle, their young women promised to plant a kalyna bush on their grave should they die. Very many songs are about the kalyna growing on a grave, with birds coming to eat her berries and bringing news from home to the soldier lying underneath. And it was up to the woman to plant the kalyna, unless he died in battle, in which case his comrades planted it. In time, the kalyna was also planted on the graves of women. "Who will cry over me like my own child? Who

will plant a chervona kalyna on my grave?"

Leaping from the 1600-1700s to the first half of this century, the kalyna's symbolism carried it from representing home to a dying soldier, to representing Ukraine and its freedom. "In the meadow the chervona kalyna bent / bowed down. Our famed Ukraine has become sad. We will pick up the chervona kalyna, we will make Ukraine happy again." The anthem of Ukrainian soldiers of World War I, "Oy, u luzi chervona kalyna," clearly shows the connection. The plant with the red berries even became their emblem.

Over the decades, in the poetry of writers of all generations, the kalyna and Ukraine are synonymous. Especially when writing about their childhood, poets recall:

I know: in the land of the kalyna, the kalyna rocked me [in my cradle] with her thin arms, and the kalyna blood, as a singular song, burns in my heart with bitter stars.

(Ivan Drach)

Radoslav Zuk lectures...

(Continued from page 8)

Renaissance and Baroque and then demonstrated, by referring to his own work, how similar transformations can occur in our times.

On May 9, The Martin Center for Architectural and Urban Studies at Cambridge University, presented Prof. Zuk in a lecture titled "Architecture and Non-Harmonic Structures in Music."

In music, such elements as melody, harmony, rhythm, texture and timbre are recognized as distinct structural components which make up the totality of a musical work. While studies in music/architecture analogies have emphasized the relationship between harmony and proportion, in his lecture Prof. Zuk demonstrated by analytical examples that other structures which pertain to functional, perceptual and tectonic aspects of architecture, respectively, can also determine decisively the nature and quality of the built environment.

Emigre poets especially long for the kalyna – and for home:

Do the poplars rustle near the house? Is my kalyna still alive / growing? Here there is everything, even freedom .. but I have never come across a kalyna.

(Zoya Kohut, Australia)

There must be something to it. Even though I have no reason, I am drawn to this plant. I have planted a few bushes in our yard and look forward to seeing them bloom. But I will skip the berry cooking, at least until I can figure out how to eliminate the cooking smell.

While the sunflower and the poppy are both "Ukrainian" flowers (with some symbolism attached), it is the kalyna which, for Ukrainians, represents so much more than simple physical healing.



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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Ukrainian military battalion in a Polish brigade to serve in the EU's rapid deployment force, the PAP news service reported on May 15. "Poland has presented the EU with a report on the matter, which mentions the possibility of including one Ukrainian unit in the Polish EU brigade and agreements reached in this respect with Ukraine. The report has been approved by several EU countries, among them Sweden, now chairing the EU," Polish Defense Minister Bronislaw Komorowski said in Brussels the same day. Poland's EU brigade is to number between 1,500 and 2,500 troops. The EU rapid deployment force – some 60,000 troops with air force and naval support – is to be operational in 2003. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Prosecutor charges judge

KYIV – Kyiv City Prosecutor Yurii Haisynskyi has launched a criminal investigation of Judge Mykola Zamkovenko for abuse of office, Interfax reported. In March, Judge Zamkovenko had canceled a warrant for the arrest of former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, President Leonid Kuchma's most outspoken opponent, and released her from a remand prison. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Court withdraws warrant for Tymoshenko

KYIV – The Supreme Court on May 15 ruled that prosecutors acted illegally when they imprisoned former Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, now a leading opposition politician, in advance of her trial on charges of corruption, tax evasion, smuggling and document forgery, Reuters reported. The Supreme Court ruling followed an appeal in a lower court by prosecutors seeking to rearrest Ms. Tymoshenko. Ms. Tymoshenko must still comply with travel restrictions that prevent her from leaving the country until her trial. No date for the hearing has yet been set. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma praises Russian press

MOSCOW – In an ORT television program on May 14, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma said that the Russian press covers developments in his country objectively, adding that there is no reason to say that the Western media could do better, ITAR-TASS reported on May 15. Meanwhile, Interfax reported that, at a conference in Kyiv on Russian-language media, Mikhail Seslavinskii, Russia's first vice minister, said that Moscow is prepared to provide material support for the Ukrainian-language press in Russia. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian film festival...

(Continued from page 8)

the Ukrainian diaspora as well. He noted that in the process of nation-building the world community of Ukrainians needs to develop vehicles – and the festival is one such vehicle – that will bind them and clarify their unique common experience.

Last year's cinema contest drew 16 video film submissions. Four of the six prize-winners were films produced in Ukraine. This year already there are several submissions, among them pieces on Ukrainians in Poland, Israel and the United States, but all are domestic-made as well.

The non-participation of certain Ukrainians involved in cinema abroad is rather puzzling, reflected Mr. Drach, referring specifically to the work of the Canadian director Yuri Luhovy. The lack of projects by better-known Ukrainian directors of the diaspora is especially glaring, he noted, given that some of the submissions the festival organizing committee has received stand out only for their lack of production professionalism.

The festival's organizing committee has been forced to turn to the leading Ukrainian television companies and producers to request any available diaspora

materials they could provide. Some already have agreed to submit packages.

For this year, the festival committee also is working in conjunction with the National Journalists Union to organize a parallel contest to determine the domestic publication that has best covered diaspora themes and to award a prize to an individual journalist for the most outstanding article with a diaspora theme. It is hoped that the winners will be announced in Kyiv during the Third World Forum of Ukrainians in August.

The "Our Blossom – Across the World" cinema awards for 2000 were financed by the festival's partners, the Svitlytsia Society, Intertrans State Co., Enran Trading House, Dobrynia Insurance Co., the Association of Cities of Ukraine and the Svitoch Candy Co.

The festival committee has asked the Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union to open an account for charitable donations to help support future contests. Those donations can be specified as to purpose (e.g., the contests for journalists or newspapers).

For more information on the projects of the "Our Blossom – Across the World Festival" contact the organizing committee at: telephone, (044) 244-2911; fax, (044) 513-7132; e-mail; ukr-svit@iptel-com.net.ua; website, www.ukrsvit.kiev.ua.

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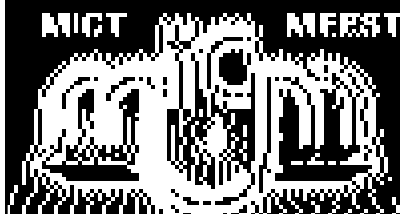
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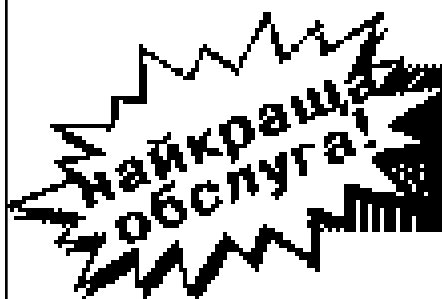


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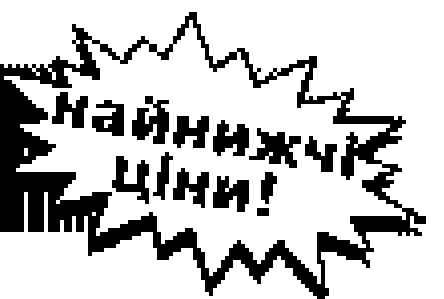
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Tryzub holds tennis tournament

HORSHAM, Pa. – The first Ukrainian tennis tournament of the 2001 season was held at Tryzubivka during the week-end of May 5-6. The tournament was played in the men's group only, single elimination, with a full feed-in format.

George Sawchak won the tournament when finalist Jerry Tymkiw had to withdraw due to injury, with the score being 6-2, 1-0 in Mr. Sawchak's favor.

In the semifinals Mr. Tymkiw defeated last year's champion, Pavlo Rehulyk, 6-4, 6-1, and Mr. Sawchak beat past champion Steve Sosiak 6-1, 6-2.

The feed-in final went to Mr. Rehulyk

by a pro-set score of 8-5 over Mr. Sosiak, thus earning him third place in the tournament.

At the conclusion of play, trophies were presented to the champion, finalist and feed-in finalists.

The next Ukrainian tennis tournament will be USCAK-East, sponsored by the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, which will be held at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y., during the weekend of June 30-July 1. The tournament will be played in singles, doubles and mixed doubles, and in all groups having four or more participants.

Controversy continues...

(Continued from page 1)

date back indefinitely.

Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma has thrown aside that particular criticism, repeatedly asserting that neither the UOC-MP nor any other religious group has a right to determine the conditions of the pope's visit because it is officially a state visit by the head of the Vatican under the aegis of the Ukrainian state.

While leaders of the UOC-MP have said they would not meet with the pope, leaders of the UOC-KP and the UAOC had stated earlier that they would not refuse an invitation. The pope is scheduled to meet with the All-Ukrainian Council of Churches and Religious Organizations, of which the UOC-MP is a leading member, on the second day of his visit. It is expected that a private meeting with Ukrainian Orthodox leaders could take place afterwards.

Whereas state leaders previously had stuck to terse statements of support for their decision to invite the pope to Ukraine in order not to rile up the Orthodox faithful, lately they have moved to expansive declarations. On May 23 Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatolii Zlenko said the papal visit would not only help in the development of relations between Kyiv and the Vatican but would contribute to the intellectual development of the Ukrainian nation and its integration into Europe.

"I have a feeling that after the visit of His Holiness, we will be more conscious, united, self-assured and better as a whole," said Mr. Zlenko, who said the concerns and complaints surrounding the papal visit for the most part are "over-politicized and groundless."

President Kuchma said on May 30 that, "the visit is necessary for all of Ukraine, rather than simply for the president, the Parliament or the government," and stated that under no conditions would he call it off as some Orthodox have been demanding.

The controversy and the issues that concern certain Orthodox leaders may have been successfully overblown by a publicity campaign aimed at derailing the papal visit. Most sociological polls have shown

that the majority of Ukrainians, whether Catholic, Orthodox or of other confessions, either support the visit of Pope John Paul II or are indifferent to his presence in Ukraine – a fact that prompted Cardinal Husar of the UGCC to comment that the UOC-MP leadership was artificially fomenting the discord.

"A clear distinction must be made between the people and the [Orthodox] hierarchy," explained Cardinal Husar, the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic primate. "The people very much desire to meet the holy father, whereas the hierarchy is more divided; some are favorable but others, those more closely linked with Russia, are contrary."

Up to 450,000 pilgrims are expected to descend on Kyiv from the outlying regions of Ukraine, as well as Russia, Belarus, Poland and the Baltic states, to see and hear the pope. Nearly 2 million could be on hand in Lviv. Although President Kuchma has criticized the slow pace of preparations and the relatively low level of publicity in Ukraine regarding the event, most organizers expect that all will be ready by June 23.

In Kyiv the pope will attend two divine liturgies at the Chaika Aerodrome on the outskirts of Kyiv. The first mass will be in the Latin rite, followed the next day by a Byzantine rite liturgy. The same order will be followed for the two divine liturgies to be held at the Lviv Hippodrome.

The order of the services has brought some criticism from Ukrainian Greek-Catholic laity over why the Latin rite, with only a million adherents, will have predominance over the Byzantine rite used by the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, which counts nearly five times that number in Ukraine.

Archbishop Eterovic said the most important divine celebrations are to be the final one in Lviv during which 28 Ukrainian martyrs for the faith will be beatified. That service will be in the Byzantine rite.

He said the pope has been extended the courtesy of having the first service to be held in Kyiv in the Latin rite because he will serve that mass. In the Byzantine rite services he will take part merely as an observer.

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PREMIERE PERFORMANCE:

Saturday, June 9, 2001 – 6:00 p.m.

Sunday Metinee, June 10, 2001 – 3 p.m.

At The Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center

700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 19046

Tickets: \$15.00 adults,

\$12.00 seniors and students,

\$5.00 children to age 16

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на Союзівці

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday, June 8

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club presents "Architecture of the Hetman Period (17th-18th centuries)," an evening featuring a slide presentation by Levko Maystrenko, who will discuss the development of the kozak baroque style in Ukraine. The evening will take place at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor, at 7 p.m. Donation: \$7. The "Sacred Spring" exhibit will be on view through June 10. Gallery hours: Friday 6-8 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144, visit the Website <http://www.brama.com/mayana>; or e-mail ukrartlitclub@aol.com.

Sunday, June 10

NEW BRUNSWICK, N.J.: The Garden State Sinfonia, under the direction of E. Michael Markwis, will perform a concert of chamber music titled "Polonaises to Polkas," featuring the music of Poland and Ukraine at the United Methodist Church, George Street and Livingston Avenue, at 4 p.m. Admission: \$10; \$5, seniors and students. The program is sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the New Jersey State Council on the Arts. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund. For further information call (732) 227-1087 or (732) 828-7421.

Monday, June 11

TORONTO: Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, director of research, Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, will address the topic – "What the Ukrainian Canadian Community Needs to Know, and Do," in a public lecture to be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 83 Christie St., at 7 p.m.

Saturday, June 16

AMOS, Quebec: A statue by Kingston

sculptor John Boxtel, titled "Interned Madonna," will be unveiled at 11 a.m. at the site of the Spirit Lake concentration camp, where Ukrainians and other Europeans were imprisoned as "enemy aliens" during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920. The sculpture, depicting an interned mother, her swaddled infant son and a young daughter, hallows the memory of all the innocent men, women and children held at Spirit Lake.

Sunday, June 17

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Tryzub Ukrainian American Sports Center invites the public to attend its annual Father's Day festival, picnic and zabava-dance. The festivities begin at noon. A stage performance featuring the Voloshky Dance Ensemble, the Sribly Struny Bandurist Ensemble, the Dnipriany Orchestra and more will begin at 3 p.m. A zabava-dance will follow to the music of Dnipriany. Traditional Ukrainian ethnic foods, standard picnic fare and refreshments will be served throughout the day. Tryzubivka is located at Lower State and County Line roads. For more information call the sports center, (215) 343-5412.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Thursday-Saturday, June 28-July 2

TORONTO: The Ukrainian schooner Batkivshchyna, which received wide acclaim during last year's OpSail 2000 tall ship festival on the Eastern seaboard of the United States, will take part in Toronto Harbor's "Parade of Lights" festival. The schooner is scheduled to arrive and dock behind the Harbour Castle Hilton, next to the Toronto Island Ferry docks, on Thursday afternoon, July 28. For additional information visit the festival's website at www.parradeoflights.com.

REMINDER REGARDING REQUIREMENTS:

There is a **\$10 charge per submission** for listings in Preview of Events. The listing plus payment must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. There is also the option of prepayment for a series of listings.

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Information sent by fax should include a copy of a check, in the amount of \$10 per listing, made out to The Ukrainian Weekly. The Weekly's fax number is (973) 644-9510.

The Ukrainian Weekly

**Wedding
Announcements**

will appear in July 2001.

**For a wedding announcement to be included in the July issue,
all information must be received in our offices by July 6.**

Along with wedding announcements, we will include greetings from friends, family members, bridesmaids and ushers – from all those who wish to share in the excitement of a new marriage.

We hope you will announce your wedding in The Ukrainian Weekly, or send a greeting to your favorite newlyweds.

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