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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Appropriations Committee proposes decrease in U.S. assistance to Ukraine

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — U.S. aid to Ukraine for Fiscal Year 2002 may be decreased by \$44 million for Fiscal Year 2002 from the amount proposed by the Bush Administration if the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee has its way.

On July 10 the House Appropriations Committee voted to cut Foreign Operations funding for Ukraine down to \$125 million from the 2001 level of \$170 million.

The Bush administration had requested funding of \$169 million in 2002 for programs to aid Ukraine in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. However, the House proposal to decrease the allocation must be approved by the Senate if it is to stand.

The reasons cited for the proposed cuts include Ukraine's slow pace of reform

Two injured in collapse in Kyiv's central square

by Maryna Makhnonos

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — Two workers were injured as a 60-ton concrete platform collapsed during construction in the capital city's central "Maidan Nezalezhnosti" (Independence Square) in Ukraine's capital Kiev, prompting fears that haste in renovations caused the accident.

The accident occurred on July 12, when a wave of sand hit two workers and then the platform slid onto them.

One worker was injured slightly but declined to be hospitalized.

Another worker was trapped by a layer of sand. A group of construction workers, most of whom were from the Donetsk coal-mining region and knew about mine collapses, dug him out in 10 minutes with shovels and their bare hands.

The worker was hospitalized with two broken legs.

Kyiv City Procurator, Yuri Haisynskyi, said there were no safety violations dismissing fears that the accident could be a result of the construction's fast pace.

"Any construction is a risky type of activity and isn't secured from similar tragedies," Mr. Haisynskyi told the *Den* daily.

He added that it's hard to determine fault, or whether somebody is guilty at all. The accident is being investigated while construction continues.

Independence Square has been under reconstruction since winter, but radical changes began in June in preparation for celebrations of the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence scheduled for August. The collapsed platform was the

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and the killings of two journalists, Heorhii Gongadze of Kyiv in September of last year and Ihor Aleksandrov of the Donetsk region in July.

Among those speaking out against the proposed cut is Mr. Gongadze's widow, Myroslava. Ms. Gongadze on July 17 wrote a letter to members of Congress stating that such an action would be a serious mistake.

"If Congress uses my husband's murder as justification to reduce U.S. aid to Ukraine, this will send absolutely the wrong message to those honorable people who are still working (and with whom I worked) so hard to build a democratic nation. Conversely such an approach will play into the hands of the anti-reformists who seek to thwart democracy and benefit from the perpetuation of the corrupt legacy of the Soviet system," Ms. Gongadze argued.

She concluded her letter by stating: "Condemn the actions and inactions of the Ukrainian executive power when appropriate, demand open and honest investigations, seek the truth about my husband's murder and cut off funding or restrict it if you deem necessary, but please — do not reduce the aid to Ukraine that is so important in the

(Continued on page 3)

Parties announce blocs in preparation for parliamentary elections in Ukraine

by Maryna Makhnonos

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — A dozen Ukrainian parties announced plans to join various political blocs in mid-July, beginning the election campaign almost a year before the parliamentary contest next March.

From atop Ukraine's highest peak, Hoverlia, in the western Carpathian Mountains, former Prime Minister Viktor Yushenko on July 15 announced the formation of the Our Ukraine (Nasha Ukraina) bloc, calling on both leftist and rightist parties to join.

About 2,000 people, including members of Rukh and the Reforms and Order Party, as well as journalists, climbed the mountain to mark the 11th anniversary of Ukraine's sovereignty.

On July 16, 1990, the Parliament of Ukraine adopted a resolution on state sovereignty as the Soviet Union was beginning to disintegrate. A year later, Parliament adopted an act proclaiming Ukraine's independence.

"We are talking about a democratic union that will not be dominated by narrowness or traditional views," Mr. Yushenko said. "We are talking about the consolidation of power, the organization of views and democratic powers, which can abandon

some of their positions, including ideological ones, in order to unite in a future bloc."

Mr. Yushenko said he had consulted with dozens of leftist and rightist movements that are ready to join the bloc, whose formal creation will come in August after members sign an official political declaration.

"It will be a joint initiative of all parties, and it will be defined by a political declaration whereby everyone will have equal ownership of the bloc's idea," Mr. Yushenko said, adding that he would be willing to lead the bloc.

The bloc's members are expected to gather at a forum to adopt its platform and form a list of candidates in the fall.

Mr. Yushenko's move came a week after another opposition leader, Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, took the helm of the Forum for National Salvation — an opposition bloc that sought Mr. Yushenko's participation.

One of the forum's leaders, Anatolii Matvienko, said that by creating his own movement, Mr. Yushenko has chosen a losing strategy that hinders the unification of democratic powers.

"There should be only one national bloc of all national-democratic parties and the

(Continued on page 2)

"Interned Madonna" recalls national internment operations

by Roman W. Zakaluzny

SPIRIT LAKE, Quebec — Twice during the last century Quebec's Abitibi region played host to Ukrainians. But only the second group, those who came decades after the first world war, wanted to be there.

January 13, 1915, saw the opening of one of the largest concentration camps ever to have existed in Canada. Known today as La Ferme, this tiny hamlet was where some 1,200 frightened and disoriented men, women and children were disembarked for a two-year confinement during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920. Many had been arrested in cities like Montreal or Toronto.

Eighty-one years after the cessation of the internment operations, a group of Ukrainian Canadian activists unveiled a memorial at the site to recall the suffering of the internees.

"It must have been terrible for these families," said Vasyl "Marcel" Lesyk, mayor of nearby La Morandiere. "To leave a big city like Montreal, to be transported 400 miles north into the deep bush. There was no civilization around here — little [town of] Amos was just starting. It must have been something terrible to live through."

If anyone knows the Ukrainian Canadian history of the region, it is Mayor Lesyk. Born in the 1920s in Quebec to Ukrainian parents, Mayor Lesyk was christened by Father Joseph Jean, a French Canadian convert to the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church. His family was part of the second group, those who settled here voluntarily.

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Detail of the statue "Interned Madonna" by John Bostel unveiled in Spirit Lake, Quebec.

Quotable notes

"Look at the map. Ukraine is in the center of Europe, it borders on many states, it has access to the sea. It is natural that a 50 million-strong country cannot be a neutral state; it has its own economic, geostrategic and political interests. At the same time, Ukraine belongs not to Western, but Slavic civilization and Orthodox culture. Hundreds of years of common history with Russia make Ukraine Russia's natural partner. The neutral status of such a state as Ukraine may essentially undermine its strategic interests. Ukraine is no Switzerland."

– *Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin in an interview with Nezavisimaya Gazeta on July 11, as quoted by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.*

* * *

"Kuchma is a declared European. He has three and a half years of the presidency remaining. I think that this is the kind of legacy he would like to leave behind, that [Ukraine] will be a democratic country [with] a European orientation, and there will be good relations with Russia. And, of course, he would probably like to behave a little like [former Russian President Boris] Yeltsin, that is, to have an influence upon his successor. Whether he will succeed I do not know, but he doubtless has such dreams."

– *Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski in an interview with Polish Radio on June 29, as quoted by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.*

Parties announce...

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opposition," Mr. Matvienko said.

Several days after Mr. Yushenko's announcement, four pro-presidential parties declared that they also plan to unite. The four include the Agrarian Party led by former Vice Prime Minister Mykhailo Hladii; the National Democratic Party led by Valerii Pustovoitenko, a former prime minister and current transportation minister; the Party of the Regions headed by Mykola Azarov, the chairman of the Tax Administration; and the Labor Ukraine Party led by former Economy Minister Serhii Tyhytko.

Bloc leaders hope that the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs led by Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh may also join the alliance.

According to Interfax, Mr. Azarov said one of the bloc's main aims is to fight corruption and money laundering. The bloc will elect its leader and form a coordinating council by the end of July, Mr. Pustovoitenko said.

President Leonid Kuchma praised the

Two injured in collapse...

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base for the statue of Archangel Michael, who is believed to protect Kyiv.

Meanwhile, the scale of the construction may have caused a tragedy for archeologists, who had battled to preserve parts of 11th century Liadski Gates that were discovered in the epicenter of the construction works early on.

Archeologists were given only a few weeks to research the site and preserve a portion of the gates, as well as dig out ancient crockery and other wares. However, the walls and the ancient artifacts were lost nearly a month ago after what workers said was an "unfortunate accident" destroyed the site.

The Liadski Gates were one of the three entrances to ancient Kyiv built by Prince Yaroslav the Wise who reigned in Kyivan Rus' in the 11th century. The structure remained unchanged until modernization in the 18th century and was buried under a fountain during the Soviet era.

Correction

In the story headlined "Ukraine confronts growing AIDS problem" (July 15) the sum of 351 million hrv was incorrectly converted to U.S. funds. The amount in U.S. dollars is approximately \$65 million.

creation of political blocs as long as they promote the people's interests, but criticized their platforms by noting that they all are nearly identical, the Interfax news agency reported.

"Reading these programs, it's impossible to understand how they differ from each other," Interfax quoted Mr. Kuchma as saying during a trip to the Kherson region on July 18.

President Kuchma added that, though parties declare protection of the people's interests, they defend their personal interests when passing bills.

Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk praised the formation of both the Yushenko and pro-presidential blocs, saying that "the more blocs are created, the more chances there will be for the creation of a progressive reformist majority in the future Parliament."

The campaign heated up on July 18 after influential Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz announced he plans to unite with the Social Democratic Party (United), the Green Party, the All-Ukrainian Laborers' Party and the Party of Protectors of Agrarian Interests.

Mr. Moroz, a tenacious foe of President Kuchma, had declined to join his one-time allies in the Tymoshenko opposition camp earlier in July, saying his leftist electorate would hardly understand his sympathy for nationalist partners. However, he said that his own bloc will be tolerant of other opposition parties and hoped to capture at least 52 seats in the 450-member Verkhovna Rada.

Mr. Moroz said that opposition powers may run in at least three separate blocs and later unite in a majority parliamentary coalition. He also noted that in the fall Socialists will start mass demonstrations aimed at protecting workers' rights.

According to a survey released on July 17 by the Institute of Politics, between 22 and 27 percent of voters are ready to support the Yushenko bloc, the Communist Party may receive 20 to 24 percent, the centrist bloc may win up to 14 percent, while the Tymoshenko bloc can gain up to 8 percent of the votes.

Mykola Tomenko, director of the institute, said that up to 15 blocs may participate in the elections, but that only six to eight parties will succeed in getting elected to the Parliament.

Ukraine has been suffering political instability since last year after President Kuchma threatened to limit the Parliament's powers by enforcing the results of a nationwide referendum. The pro-government parliamentary majority splintered after opposition groups accused Mr. Kuchma of involvement in the killing of an independent journalist in December.

NEWSBRIEFS

Congress seeks to reduce aid to Ukraine

KYIV – William Taylor, the U.S. coordinator for assistance to the newly independent states, said in Kyiv on July 12 that the U.S. Congress may reduce assistance to Ukraine because of concerns about the slow pace of reform and the killings of two journalists, Heorhii Gongadze and Ihor Aleksandrov, the Associated Press and Interfax reported. The previous day, the House of Representatives Appropriations Committee voted to put a cap of \$125 million next year on assistance to Ukraine under the Freedom Support Act, down from a cap of \$170 million for 2001. The move must be approved by the U.S. Senate. "A key component of the rule of law [in Ukraine] is, of course, the investigation into the Gongadze and Aleksandrov cases," Mr. Taylor noted. He added that Washington will continue to support independent Ukrainian media through training, legal assistance and monitoring programs. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine-Russia border to be unmarked?

KYIV – Ukrainian Ambassador at Large Oleksander Kupchyshyn told journalists on July 17 that the border between Ukraine and Russia will be delimited but not demarcated, Interfax reported. "We will only perform the delimitation: the border will be only on the map," Mr. Kupchyshyn said, adding that "it has been deemed inexpedient to demarcate the Ukrainian-Russian border at the current historical stage." Mr. Kupchyshyn said Kyiv and Moscow have already agreed on 95 percent of the common land frontier. He noted that both sides differ on how to define the border in the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait. Both sides have agreed to consider these basins as their "internal" waters. "Russia interprets the notion of internal waters as the complete absence of a frontier, while we think that it is necessary to draw a state borderline [across them]," Mr. Kupchyshyn said. Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Oleksander Chalyi explained on July 18 that Ukraine has not completely abandoned the idea of demarcation of its border with Russia. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada continues to press new election law

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on July 12 adopted an amended version of the recently vetoed election bill, Interfax reported. As previously, the bill calls for the election of 335 parliamentary deputies under the proportional party-list system and 115 in single-mandate constituencies. "If the parliamentarians once again passed the same law, then they must have some problems with their [mental] health," President Leonid Kuchma commented. Mr. Kuchma has already vetoed three election bills intended

to change the current law, under which 225 deputies are elected under the proportional party-list system and 225 in single-mandate constituencies. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine's GDP grows by 9.1 percent

KYIV – The State Statistics Committee reported on July 17 that the country's gross domestic product (GDP) increased by 9.1 percent in January-June 2001, compared with the same period last year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Major bank goes into liquidation

KYIV – National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Volodymyr Stelmakh on July 16 announced the beginning of liquidation procedures with regard to Bank Ukrayina, one of the country's largest banks, Interfax reported. Bank Ukrayina began to default on some of its payments to clients in June, reportedly because of a large number of bad loans issued under government guarantees. Mr. Stelmakh said the bank's liquidation fund will fully return the deposits not exceeding 500 hrv (\$93) to some 1.6 million depositors in the next three months. He added that Bank Ukrayina has some 100,000 clients whose deposits exceed 500 hrv. He did not specify the procedure for compensating those clients. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Chernomyrdin to expand economic ties

KYIV – Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin on July 16 said he intends to "seriously and thoroughly" tackle the issue of expanding trade and economic ties between Russia and Ukraine, Interfax reported. "It's very difficult for us to solve our Russian problems without Ukraine, because the technological links of our economies are very deep," Mr. Chernomyrdin said, adding that it is also difficult for Ukraine to live without "partner relations" with Russia. Ambassador Chernomyrdin said he is planning to visit several Ukrainian regions and some sections of Ukraine's pipeline system built by Gazprom. "Ukrainian companies should come to Russian markets more bravely, because Russia is attractive for investments," Mr. Chernomyrdin said, pledging to motivate Ukrainian businessmen to invest in Russia during his trips. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Paris Club OKs debt restructuring

KYIV – The Ukrainian government and the Paris Club of Creditors on July 13 signed an accord on restructuring some \$580 million of Ukrainian debts that were contracted by Kyiv before 1999, Interfax

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FOR THE RECORD

Congressmen's letter in support of maintaining aid to Ukraine

The letter below was sent by eight members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus to Rep. C.W. Bill Young, chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, in support of foreign aid funds for Ukraine. The July 10 letter was signed by Reps. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), Curt Weldon (R-Pa.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), James Greenwood (R-Pa.), Jack Quinn (R-N.Y.), Ben Gilman (R-N.Y.), Steve Horn (R-Calif.) and Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio).

Today your committee will vote on the Foreign Operations Bill to reduce funding to Ukraine by a minimum of \$44 million from the amount requested by the administration. We are writing to express our support to maintain level funding to Ukraine for FY 2002.

While we understand, share and appreciate many of the concerns that you have raised regarding the need for continuing reforms in Ukraine, we are respectfully concerned that this reduction sends the wrong message to those fighting for the very reforms you seek. Recognizing the importance that both the president and Secretary of State Colin Powell have afforded to Ukraine this year, we believe it is important that at this stage the message of the United States be one of expectant support, rather than one of dissatisfied penalty.

Since its independence in 1991, Ukraine has built a solid foundation for a strong democracy and a free-market economy. Ukraine's economy grew over 6 percent last year and it is growing at over 8 percent now. Inflation is in check, reserves are up, the budget is being managed well and the climate for small and medium enterprise has vastly improved.

Private cultivation in agriculture has increased from 25 percent to 75 percent of the land cultivated in just a year. A strong budget code just passed and the key portions of the civil code (which provides the legal underpinnings for commercial transactions) just passed. The government and Parliament are grappling with vast revisions to the tax code. Private businesses cite the current economic climate as perhaps the most promising thus far in Ukraine.

Next year is a parliamentary election year. This is a time when we should be increasing our outreach to non-governmental groups in Ukraine. With the vast majority of our assistance already focused on non-governmental groups and Chernobyl closure, budgetary ceilings as foreseen in the legislation will effectively reduce our outreach to NGOs and civil society.

Internationally, Ukraine successfully signed treaties with many of its neighbors (Russia, Poland, Romania, Georgia, Moldova, Azerbaijan, Belarus and Slovakia) and achieved a Distinctive Partnership with NATO. Ukraine has repeatedly stated its desire to unite itself with the West and to become a fully participating member of NATO and other international organizations aimed at supporting democratic institutions. Additionally, the international community persuaded Ukraine to relinquish its nuclear arsenal and cancel contracts with Iran.

Progress of this magnitude in Ukraine – which could transform the face of Europe for decades to come – should not be taken for granted but instead should be matched with tangible evidence of U.S. support. A severe cut in foreign assistance to Ukraine will, however, send a contrary message and jeopardize the important achievements made to date. As you know, only about 10 percent of our assistance benefits the Ukrainian government, the rest goes towards programs like exchanges, grants to NGOs, small business development, independent media, municipal development and Chernobyl closure.

Despite these encouragements, we are aware that much still needs to be done. Continued support from the United States would provide the best mechanism for addressing these concerns. The actions of the U.S. Congress will be instrumental in continued developments to promote governmental integrity, democratic ideals, and reduce corruption through initiatives in regional or local governments. Now is the time for the United States to offer a welcoming hand from the West, not a push towards less-democratic forces.

This August Ukraine will celebrate the 10th anniversary of its independence. After hundreds of years of oppression, unimaginable suffering and millions of deaths, the Ukrainian people will celebrate their first decade of freedom. As the Ukrainian government continues to undertake reforms of its structures, it is vital for U.S. foreign assistance to continue. Having established a strategic partnership between Ukraine and the United States, sustained foreign assistance will further the reform efforts in Ukraine and provide peace and stability within the region.

During the House Appropriations Committee proceedings, we encourage you to demonstrate your strong support for a continuation of Congress's successful assistance policy toward Ukraine for an additional year.

sage to those fighting for the very reforms you seek. Recognizing the importance that both the president and Secretary of State Colin Powell have afforded to Ukraine this year, we believe it is important that at this stage the message of the United States be one of expectant support, rather than one of dissatisfied penalty."

The actions of the eight caucus members notwithstanding, the committee report on H.R.2506, the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, stated: "The committee recommends that not more than \$125,000,000 be made available for Ukraine from this account. This recommendation is based on the completion of a long-term parameter display systems project in nuclear safety, the continuing setbacks to needed reform, and the unresolved deaths of prominent dissidents and journalists in Ukraine."

Myroslava Gongadze's message to U.S. Congress: don't cut aid

Following is the text of a letter written by Myroslava Gongadze, widow of the opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze. It was hand-delivered on July 17 to the leadership of both the House of Representatives and the Senate and to members of Appropriations Committees and relevant subcommittees. The text was released by the Washington Office of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council.

This letter is written to express my alarm about the level of funds provided for assistance to Ukraine in the Foreign Operations Appropriations Bill. I am the widow of Georgiy Gongadze, the Ukrainian journalist whose brutal, unsolved murder has received so much international attention and which led to my seeking refuge in America. As I understand it, the House Appropriations Committee reduced the president's recommendation for aid to Ukraine by \$44 million. I think this is a terrible mistake. Furthermore, the committee's proposal indirectly refers to my husband's murder to justify this reduction.

If Congress uses my husband's murder as justification to reduce U.S. aid to Ukraine, this will send absolutely the wrong message to those honorable people who are still working (and with whom I worked) so hard to build a democratic nation. Conversely, such an approach will play into the hands of the anti-reformists who seek to thwart democracy and benefit from the perpetu-

ation of the corrupt legacy of the Soviet system.

My husband sought the development of a free and independent media, of non-governmental and local organizations to build a civil society in Ukraine – these entities are the ones that desperately need America's help. The assistance provided in your bill goes to such programs to help the very people who need and should have American money and counsel, good people who will be isolated and alone without U.S. support.

As a lawyer who worked with such groups, I know that American assistance is the lifeblood of these programs – and it is there that the seeds of democracy must be sown.

I am sure that we share very serious concerns about the direction and actions of the executive branch of Ukraine. However, please do not let these concerns keep the United States from providing the level of aid needed by those that are making a real and valuable difference, especially at the grassroots level.

Condemn the actions and inactions of the Ukrainian executive power when appropriate, demand open and honest investigations, seek the truth about my husband's murder and cut off funding or restrict it if you deem necessary, but please – do not reduce the aid to Ukraine that is so important in the building of a normal, democratic society.

Thank you for your time and consideration of my concerns.

ACTION ITEM

U.S. aid to Ukraine

Urgent action is needed to persuade the U.S. Congress to restore the funds cut by the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations in the proposed Appropriations Bill for U.S. aid to Ukraine. The subcommittee cut the aid to \$125 million down from the \$169 million requested by the Bush administration. The matter is now being taken up by the Senate.

Please call Sen. Patrick Leahy's office at (202) 224-4242 to urge that his Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations approve aid to Ukraine to the full amount requested by the president.

There were three reasons given for the \$44 million cut: the House Appropriations Committee felt that: 1) Chernobyl has been "sufficiently" addressed; 2) reforms in Ukraine are lagging behind; and 3) "dissident" journalists have been repressed or killed.

It should be noted, however, that Myroslava Gongadze, the wife of slain dissident journalist Heorhii Gongadze, has gone on the record to state that it would be a grave mistake for the United States to cut aid to Ukraine. She has expressed this opinion to members of Congress.

Now is not the time to cut assistance to Ukraine. Most of it goes not to benefit Ukrainian executive powers, but to programs that help non-governmental organizations, municipal small-business development and the independent media, which help build democracy in Ukraine.

Please write, fax, call and/or e-mail members of the full Senate Appropriations Committee. For a list of these senators, see: <http://www.senate.gov/committees>.

Please also call your senators. For telephone numbers for members of both the Senate and House, call (202) 224-3121.

Following is a list of members of the Senate Appropriations Committee. For telephone and fax numbers, and for e-mail addresses, constituents may call (202) 224-3121.

- Democrats: Robert Byrd, West Virginia (chairman); Daniel Inouye, Hawaii; Ernest Hollings, South Carolina; Patrick Leahy, Vermont (chairman, Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee); Tom Harkin, Iowa; Barbara Mikulski, Maryland; Harry Reid, Nevada; Herb Kohl, Wisconsin; Patty Murray, Washington; Byron Dorgan, North Dakota; Dianne Feinstein, California; Richard Durbin, Illinois; Tim Johnson, South Dakota; Mary Landrieu, Louisiana; Jack Reed, Rhode Island.

- Republicans: Ted Stevens, Alaska (ranking member); Thad Cochran, Mississippi; Arlen Specter, Pennsylvania; Pete Dominici, New Mexico; Christopher Bond, Missouri; Mitch McConnell, Kentucky (ranking member, Senate Foreign Operation Subcommittee); Conrad Burns, Montana; Richard Shelby, Alabama; Judd Gregg, New Hampshire; Robert Bennett, Utah; Ben Nighthorse Campbell, Colorado; Larry Craig, Idaho; Kay Bailey Hutchins, Texas; and Mike De Wine, Ohio.

– submitted by Ihor Gawdiak, president, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, and Bohdan Korzeniowski, president, Ukrainian Federation of America.

Appropriations Committee...

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building of a normal, democratic society."

A week earlier, eight members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus sent a letter to support maintaining the same level of foreign aid for Ukraine to the chairman of the House Committee on Appropriations, Rep. C.W. Bill Young. The letter was initiated by Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.) and signed by Curt Weldon (R-Pa.), Sherrod Brown (D-Ohio), James Greenwood (R-Pa.), Jack Quinn (R-N.Y.), Ben Gilman (R-N.Y.), Steve Horn (R-Calif.) and Marcy Kaptur (D-Ohio).

The congressmen wrote: "While we understand, share and appreciate many of the concerns that you have raised regarding the need for continuing reforms in Ukraine, we are respectfully concerned that this reduction sends the wrong mes-

The Ukrainian Museum holds annual meeting, reports progress on building project

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – Olha Hnateyko, president of the board of trustees of The Ukrainian Museum, gave an upbeat, positive report on the status of the museum's new building project.

Speaking during the museum's annual meeting on June 3, Mrs. Hnateyko said: "We are very close to achieving our goal. Our attorney is reviewing the contract with the builder and as soon as all the details are ironed out we will sign it."

Her report was well received by the audience of more than 100 people present at the event, which provides a forum for the review of the museum's financial status, as well as an accounting of its activities in the past year. The meeting offers a platform for museum members and friends

to voice their concerns on various matters pertinent to the institution and the opportunity for members to vote on issues, as well as for proposed candidates to the board of trustees. This year's meeting was chaired by John Luchehko and recorded by Katria Czerwoniak.

The subject of the new building has been of interest to the museum community for many years. Held in abeyance for a time due to lack of funds, the project was restructured in the early part of 2000 with the idea of building a more modest museum facility, thereby scaling down the cost of construction. In December 2000, however, the project was brought back to its original architectural concept and fully revitalized upon the receipt of a major gift of \$2.5 million and a \$1 million Challenge Grant from Eugene and

Daymel Shklar, a California entrepreneur and his wife.

In her address during the meeting, Mrs. Hnateyko spoke about the events that led to the presentation of this magnanimous gift. She said that for a period of time the donors closely examined the structure, workings and essence of the Ukrainian Museum, in effect giving all aspects of the institution serious thought and consideration. She said she believes the donors have found the museum worthy of their help because of its long record of meritorious work, its accountability and the potential to be continually beneficial to both the Ukrainian community and the general public.

The board president said that precisely because of the museum's long-standing respected reputation, another donor, Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union, chose to give the institution a gift of \$500,000 to the Building Fund. This gift was presented to the museum during the 50th anniversary celebration of Self Reliance New York this spring.

To the donors of these extraordinary gifts, Mrs. Hnateyko expressed the deep gratitude and appreciation of the board, administration, staff and entire museum family. She also thanked all museum members and friends, for their constant and most generous support over the last 25 years. Their care sustained the institution on a daily basis, and because of this the museum was able to grow and develop, she noted. Mrs. Hnateyko particularly emphasized the tremendous financial and moral help received from the regional councils and branches of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the museum's founding organization.

Mrs. Hnateyko also brought up the future financial security of the museum. "When we build the new facility we also have to make sure that there will be funds available to maintain the building and cover the operational costs of the institution year after year," she said, explaining that, precisely because of these financial requirements, an Endowment Fund with a goal of \$10 million will be open to the museum.

The board president spoke about the involvement of young people in the museum in the past year, citing two events organized by groups of young individuals: one a lecture at the museum in conjunction with an exhibition, the other a fund raiser for the new building project. She pointed out how important it is for young people in the Ukrainian American community to take an active part in the life of the Museum, because eventually it will pass into their stewardship and that of their progeny.

In her report to the assembly, Maria Shust, director of museum, spoke about the work of the museum, specifically about those aspects which constitute the day-to-day responsibilities: conservation, care of collections, exhibition planning and maintenance, education and research. She also detailed the large network of activities – educational programs, community events, and fund raisers – which are part of the museum's agenda.

She described the past year and a half in the life of the museum as "historic," referring to the large donations and the Challenge Grant, as well as the fact that the year 2001 marks the museum's 25th anniversary.

Ms. Shust gave a comprehensive report on the state of the institution by enumerating many of these activities. She described new acquisitions to the fine arts collection, among them numerous watercolors and drawings by artist Mykola Krychevsky, and individual works by such artists as Alexander Archipenko, Alexis Gritchenko (Oleksa Hryshchenko), Liuboslav Hutsaliuk and Jacques Hnizdovsky.

Many excellent examples of Ukrainian

embroidery, including parts of folk costumes and rushnyky (ritual cloths) from the central regions of Ukraine were added to the folk art collection. In addition to many photographs, slides and documents, the archives were enriched by documents of historical value, namely the archive of the Philadelphia Branch of the Brotherhood of Veterans of the 1st Division of the Ukrainian National Army.

The director spoke about the museum's exhibition program, citing several memorable exhibits in the year 2000 and during the first half of 2001, among them: "The creative legacy of Vasyl Hryhorovych Krychevsky," "Pysanka, Safeguarding an Ancient Tradition," "Exhibition of Works of Halyna Mazepa" and "Three Generations of Cholodny Artists."

In conclusion Ms. Shust thanked Mr. and Mrs. Shklar, as well as Self Reliance New York, for their most generous donations, for having faith in the museum's mission and trusting in the ability of its leadership and staff to carry it through. She thanked all museum members and friends, volunteers and staff for their hard work and dedication.

Every year the museum publishes an annual report, which is distributed to the members attending the annual meeting and later sent to all members as part of the privileges of their membership. The annual report details the work and activities that took place in the institution during that year. The text is supplemented with photographs, thereby creating an important factual record for the historical annals of the museum. Provided also is a roster of current members and a financial section, which lists donors and the amounts of their donations, as well as financial statements.

Among those present at the annual meeting was Iryna Kurowyckyj, president of Ukrainian National Women's League of America Inc. She reaffirmed the UNWLA's commitment to continue the generous support its members provide to the institution and said she looks forward to the start of the construction of the new building in a very short time.

The state of the museum's finances was presented by Dr. Yar Mociuk, treasurer on the board of trustees, who urged all to review the financial accounts in the annual report. Wasyl Sosiak affirmed the veracity, accuracy and competence of the museum's financial accounting, based on the review of the books by the Audit Committee.

During the annual meeting five individuals were elected to fill vacant slots on the board of trustees by those present and eligible to vote. The board, which is the governing body of the museum, comprises of 25 people, each elected to a three-year terms on a staggered basis.

The new roster of the board of trustees of The Ukrainian museum follows:

The Executive Board members are: Mrs. Hnateyko, president; Mrs. Kurowyckyj, Tatiana Tershakovec and Maria Tomorug, vice-presidents; Dr. Mociuk, treasurer; Katria Czerwoniak and Orsya Woloszyn, secretaries; Orest Glut, Andrey Hankevych and Roman Hawrylak, members-at-large.

Board members are: Anna Alyskewycz, Ulana Baczynskyj, Sophia Hewryk, Ulana Kobzar, Lidia Krushelnytsky, Andrew Lencyk, Zenon Masnyj, Rostislav Milanytch, Maria Pazuniak, Maria Polanskyj, Roma Shuhan, Olga Stawnychy, Marta Skorupsky, Oksana Trytyak and Ireneus Yurchuk.

Members of the Audit Committee are: Mr. Sosiak, chair; Nadia Cwiach, Ihor Hayda, Yaroslawa Luchehko and Wolodymyr Magun, members

For information about The Ukrainian Museum and its agenda or the building project call (212) 228-0110; fax: (212) 228-1947; e-mail info@ukrainianmuseum.org; or log on to www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Ukrainian American flight nurse honored at D-Day ceremony

BEDFORD, Va. – Ukrainian-American World War II Flight Nurse Evelyn Kowalchuk was honored here at the D-Day Memorial dedication on June 6 attended by President George W. Bush.

A native of Newark, N.J., U.S. Army Air Corps 2nd Lt. Kowalchuk served 37 years ago in the 818th Medical Evac Transport Squadron, logging numerous missions tending the wounded as they were evacuated to English hospitals from the beaches at Normandy.

As a young nurse, she joined the Army in 1942. After completing military training at Bowman Field in Kentucky, she was transferred to an air base and hospital in England.

Even the most extensive training could not have prepared the soldiers and nurses for the horrors they would encounter. "They were scared," Mrs. Kowalchuk said of the wounded soldiers they picked up. "They didn't cry ... they

were just so glad to be on an American plane. There was this one time I let a young soldier, who was bleeding to death, just rest his head in my lap while I sang him an old Ukrainian lullaby. He just needed to feel that closeness," she said.

After the war, Mrs. Kowalchuk married and raised two sons, while serving as a public school and health nurse in New Jersey. She now resides near Bedford, selected for the site of the memorial because it suffered the largest number of deaths per capita in the D-Day invasion.

Now retired at age 81, she volunteers at the National D-Day Memorial Foundation and at a local hospital, knits sweaters for a relief agency and tutors elementary school children in reading.

Mrs. Kowalchuk is looking forward to hosting a reunion of 11 surviving flight nurses from her squadron in July.



President George W. Bush with Evelyn Kowalchuk at the dedication of the D-Day memorial on June 6 in Bedford, Va.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Andrew Nynka joins Weekly staff

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Andrew Nynka has officially joined The Ukrainian Weekly staff as an editor as of July 17. Mr. Nynka, 24, has been working on the editorial staff since mid-April.

The Weekly's new full-time staffer holds a B.A. in political science and economics from Muhlenberg College in Allentown, Pa., with additional studies in photography. He plans to pursue a master's degree in journalism.

His studies took him to Washington, where he worked under New York Gov. George E. Pataki, advising the governor and senior staff on legislative matters and implementing federal aspects of the governor's program.

Fully fluent in Ukrainian, Mr. Nynka also attended school abroad in Kyiv, Ukraine, where he lived for a year.

Once he graduated from college Mr. Nynka worked for ATT's Information Research Center in Basking Ridge, N.J., and then with Hughes Enterprises of Trenton.

Mr. Nynka is an active member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and its Chornomortsi fraternity. He was recently elected president of the fraternity's unit of "starshi plastuny" (young adults). In addition, he is active in organizing sea scouting camps and other camps for Plast youths.

Since joining The Weekly staff three months ago, Mr. Nynka has worked on a variety of stories revolving around the Ukrainian community and Ukraine.

His first byline came on April 22 with a story on the continuing life-saving mission of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund published in The Weekly's special section devoted to the 15th anniversary of the



Andrew Nynka

Chornobyl nuclear disaster.

His subsequent assignments included a news report on a conference about the Chernobyl accident held at the United Nations; a story on Ukraine's new consul general in New York, Serhiy Pohoreltzev; a feature on up-and-coming young photographer Joseph Sywenkyj; and an account of Myroslava Gongadze's appearance at a public meeting in New York. He also prepared an extensive photo report on New York City's Ukrainian Festival.

Most notably, Mr. Nynka has written a series of articles covering developments surrounding the proposed demapping of Taras Shevchenko Place in New York City.

Readers respond to UNA's appeal for aid to flood victims in Zakarpattia

In the month of March we received news about new flooding in the area of Zakarpattia, Ukraine. The result of heavy rains, the floods took the lives of six persons, and inundated thousands of homes and other buildings, destroying many of them.

Responding to the appeal of the Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association published in the UNA's official publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, many organizations and individuals sent donations to the UNA-affiliated Ukrainian National Foundation to help the flood victims.

The donors' names appear below.

The UNA Executive Committee thanks all contributors for their compassion toward the flood victims and understanding of the great needs of our brothers and sisters. The funds collected were transmit-

ted to the charitable organization Caritas Ukraine in Lviv. A complete report on the aid efforts will be published in the press.

To date, Caritas has purchased and distributed:

- 2,000 packages of food products to 500 families in the Rakhiv district of the Zakarpattia Oblast;
- 560 tons of coal to 170 families in the same area; and
- 150 sets of tools for construction.

As of today, Caritas Ukraine is working on a project to provide school supplies to children from needy families who fell victim to the floods. In August, 150 sets of work clothes are to be distributed to flood victims in the Rakhiv district who are now working on reconstructing their destroyed buildings. Thus, aid to flood victims in Zakarpattia is continuing.

Donations for flood victims in Zakarpattia

Contributions received from April 1 through July 10

Name	Address	Amount
Wronskij, Wolodymyr	Greenlawn, N.Y.	\$1,125.00
Choir St. Pokrova	Rochester, N.Y.	\$750.00
Zaporozka Sitch, UNA Branch 367	Rochester, N.Y.	\$500.00
UNA Branch 354	Omaha, Neb.	\$258.05
Wasylyszyn, Roman	Philadelphia, Pa.	\$250.00
UNA Branch 285	Rochester, N.Y.	\$250.00
Mackin, Mike	San Diego, Calif.	\$200.00
Kulczak, Petro	Omaha, Neb.	\$150.00
Trotch, Philip	Lakewood, Ohio	\$125.00
Misilo, Stephen	Short Hills, N.J.	\$100.00
Cap, W. and M.	Stratford, Conn.	\$100.00
Kachnij, M.	Warren, Mich.	\$100.00
UNA Branch 241	Woonsocket, R.I.	\$100.00
Stolarskyj, A.	Omaha, Neb.	\$100.00
Roman and Son Corp.	Ralston, Neb.	\$100.00
Ukrainian American Association Inc.	Omaha, Neb.	\$100.00
Diachuk, Ulana and Volodymyr	Rutherford, N.J.	\$100.00
Kaczaraj, Stefan and Swiatoslaw	Budd Lake, N.J.	\$100.00
Lysko, Martha and Wolodar	Morristown, N.J.	\$100.00
Cap, Gerald	Madison, Conn.	\$60.00
Sich, Dmytro	Alfred Station, N.Y.	\$50.00
Puszkydra, W. and A.	Floral Park, N.Y.	\$50.00
Chudoba, Michael	Souderton, Pa.	\$50.00
Kladko, Joseph	Sunnyvale, Calif.	\$50.00
Bolonka, Wasyl	Boothwyn, Pa.	\$50.00
Stolarskyj, W. and A.	Omaha, Neb.	\$50.00
Dziuba, P. and C.	Rochester, N.Y.	\$50.00
Szyjka, Marie	Albany, N.Y.	\$40.00
Kedrynsky, Alex	Jersey City, N.J.	\$30.00
Solanyk, V. and C.	Boulder, Colo.	\$25.00
Zinczenko, Iwan	Brunswick, Ohio	\$25.00
Jarocz, A.	Omaha, Neb.	\$25.00
Myers, T. and M.	Rochester, N.Y.	\$25.00
Kramar, W.	Chester, Pa.	\$25.00
Chechut, M.	Omaha, Neb.	\$10.00
TOTAL		\$5,223.05

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – MAY 2001

Martha Lysko, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 4/2001	6,875	14,429	3,307	24,611
Total Inactive Members – 4/2001	7,362	17,613	0	24,975
Total Members – 4/2001	14,237	32,042	3,307	49,586

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 5/2001

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
New members	10	18	0	28
New members UL	0	1	0	1
Reinstated	2	12	8	22
Total Gains:	12	31	8	51

Losses in 5/2001

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Died	2	40	0	42
Cash surrender	5	11	0	16
Endowment matured	16	13	0	29
Fully paid-up	9	17	0	26
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	28	47	0	75
Certificates lapsed (active)	8	4	55	67
Certificate terminated	1	2	2	5
Total Losses	69	134	57	260
Total Active Members – 5/2001	6,818	14,326	3,258	24,402

INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 5/2001

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Paid-up	9	17	0	26
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	28	47	0	75
Total Gains	37	64	0	101

Losses in 5/2001

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
* Died	0	31	0	31
* Cash surrender	6	9	0	15
Pure endowment matured	2	2	0	4
Reinstated to active	2	12	0	14
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	0	8	0	8
Total Losses	10	62	0	72
Total Inactive Members – 5/2001	7,389	17,615	0	25,004

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 5/2001 14,207 31,941 3,258 49,406

(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

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.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The wrong message

Last week we learned that the House Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, chaired by Rep. Jim Kolbe (R-Ariz.), had made a recommendation to cut U.S. aid to Ukraine. The Appropriations Committee adopted that recommendation and proposed that aid to Ukraine for Fiscal Year 2002 be cut from the \$169 million proposed by the Bush administration to \$125 million. The committee report ed that its proposal is based on the completion of nuclear safety projects, "continuing setbacks" to reform, and "unresolved deaths" of dissidents and journalists in Ukraine.

The latter is an obvious reference to, first and foremost, Heorhii Gongadze, whose murder case appears to be no closer to resolution than in mid-May, when Ukrainian law enforcement officials made the incredible claim that they had solved the case and that the murderers were dead. To be honest, Ukraine's officials, from the president on down, don't deserve any credit for the way they've handled the Gongadze investigation. But neither does all of Ukraine deserve to be penalized.

That point was made quite eloquently in a letter to members of Congress sent by Myroslava Gongadze, who stated that her husband's murder should not be cited as justification for cutting aid to Ukraine – a prospect that she characterized as alarming.

"If Congress uses my husband's murder as justification to reduce U.S. aid to Ukraine, this will send absolutely the wrong message to those honorable people who are still working (and with whom I worked) so hard to build a democratic nation. ... My husband sought the development of a free and independent media, of non-governmental and of local organizations to build a civil society in Ukraine – these entities are the ones that desperately need America's help."

Similarly, several members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus took issue with the House Appropriations Committee's reference to stalled reforms and called for maintaining the level of U.S. aid to Ukraine. "While we understand, share and appreciate many of the concerns that you have raised regarding the need for continuing reforms in Ukraine," they wrote, "we are respectfully concerned that this reduction sends the wrong message to those fighting for the very reforms you seek." The U.S. message should be one of "expectant support, rather than ... dissatisfied penalty."

The House members, led by Bob Schaffer of Colorado, underlined quite correctly that: Ukraine "has built a solid foundation for a strong democracy and a free-market economy. Ukraine's economy ... is growing at over 8 percent, ... Private cultivation in agriculture has increased from 25 percent to 75 percent of the land cultivated in just a year. ... Private businesses cite the current economic climate as perhaps the most promising thus far in Ukraine." They also cited Ukraine's many foreign policy successes during the first decade of its independence and its clear desire to align itself with the West, and pointed to the upcoming parliamentary elections, emphasizing that "we should be increasing our outreach to non-governmental groups in Ukraine."

We strongly agree with both Ms. Gongadze and members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus that now is not the time to cut aid to Ukraine. Though all is not perfect, there is progress in Ukraine – progress that should be acknowledged and must be supported by continuing a certain level of assistance. Otherwise, Ukraine will be pushed further into the embrace of Russia, which continues in various ways to entice Ukraine, whether by carrot or stick. Thus, U.S. assistance is critical, indeed vital, if Ukraine is to remain a strategic partner of the United States.

Two of our community organizations, the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council and the Ukrainian Federation of America, called for "urgent action" to save for U.S. aid to Ukraine. They urged readers to contact Chairman Patrick Leahy of the Senate Appropriations Committee's Subcommittee on Foreign Operations and all his committee members, who are to address the issue within a few days.

Our action must be immediate if we are to have any hope of succeeding.

July
23
1944

Turning the pages back...

July 23, 1944, marked the end of the Battle of Brody, a 10-day bloodbath that saw the demise of thousands of young Ukrainian soldiers of the Galicia Division, seen as a precursor to a Ukrainian national army.

The Galicia Division, a Ukrainian military formation organized by the German Army to fight on the Soviet front, initially mobilized in the spring and summer of 1944 to back up the Germans near Stanyslaviv (now Ivano-Frankivsk), where they could gain experience as a unit while keeping their distance from the superior and more experienced Soviet Army. However, the battles of Stalingrad and Kursk left the German Army on the defensive, with the Soviets gaining more momentum with every skirmish. Thus, the Germans deployed the division to serve as a reserve for the German 13th Corps to defend the front near Brody, where they expected a major Soviet offensive.

The German Army sorely lacked tank and air support along the Eastern front. According to Prof. Taras Hunczak, "the [German] 4th Panzer Army, as a whole, had around 50 tanks, which had only a limited amount of gas at their disposal. Even worse was the situation with the air force – there was almost none during the Battle of Brody." The Soviets, in contrast, had 2,200 tanks and 3,000 airplanes, and 1.2 million troops on the First Ukrainian Front.

On July 7, after surveying the situation around Brody and realizing their huge advantage in airplanes and artillery, the First Ukrainian Front submitted a plan of attack to headquarters; on July 13 the Soviets began their offensive. By July 1 the Soviets had advanced 50 to 80 kilometers and encircled eight German divisions. As a result, the Galicia Division was ordered to move from its defensive position to an area outside of Pidhirtsi, where it would stage a counterattack. That move, however, made it easier for the Soviets to enclose the Ukrainian troops; by July 18 the Galicia Division was surrounded. It was pounded by Soviet artillery and bombs for the next five days. Although only 3,000 of the 11,000 soldiers survived the debacle, those who did continued the fight for Ukraine's freedom either with the Ukrainian Insurgent Army or the remnants of the Division.

Source: "On the Horns of a Dilemma: The Story of the Ukrainian Division Halychyna" by Taras Hunczak. Lanham, Md.: University Press of America, 2000.

ANALYSIS

A painting, an artist and a case for restitution

by Nicholas Sawicki

Earlier this winter the German director Benjamin Geissler traveled to Drohobych to conduct research for a film about the life of the writer and artist Bruno Schulz. In the course of his visit he uncovered a mural that had long been thought to be lost, painted by Mr. Schulz during the last weeks of his life in 1942 after he and his family had been interred in the Drohobych ghetto.

In late May of this year Yad Vashem, one of the foremost institutions of Holocaust study and commemoration, sent its representatives to examine the mural. In the course of three days they removed approximately five sections of the mural, which was painted as a fresco, and transported them to the Yad Vashem museum in Jerusalem.

The story was closely followed in the Polish press as it was happening, and when The New York Times picked up on the report on June 20, a dynamic debate ensued that has thrust both Mr. Schulz and his native Drohobych out of their relative anonymity. It centers on both the legality and the ethics of the removal of the fragments from their original location.

Born in 1892, Bruno Schulz was the third child of a family of Jewish merchants in Drohobych, when the city was still very much a part of Austria-Hungary. His father was a tailor and operated a dry goods store on the market square, and it was in this street-level apartment of Baroque townhouse that Schulz lived for the early part of his life.

Trained first in architecture at the Lviv Polytechnic, Schulz became a teacher of art at the gymnasium in Drohobych after passing a series of examinations at the Academy of Fine Arts in Krakow in 1926. The teaching position took time away from his own work, but for financial reasons he never abandoned it. Working largely at night, he feverishly wrote and sketched.

The first of his two books of fiction, "Cinnamon Shops," was published by the Warsaw publisher Roj in 1933-1934,

Nicholas Sawicki is a doctoral candidate in art history at the University of Pennsylvania. He is currently living in Prague on a Fulbright grant.

and it was followed in 1937 by "Sanatorium under the Sign of the Hourglass." Both were written in Polish and earned substantial critical acclaim as soon as they appeared. As an accomplished graphic artist, Schulz showed his work frequently at exhibitions in Lviv, Krakow, and Warsaw.

In both his literary and artistic work, the realities of life in Drohobych are woven together with dreams. Behind the thick, ornate passages in his texts and the fantastical narratives of his drawings, much more is revealed about their creator than would have ever been flatly stated.

I first had a chance to study Schulz's artistic career in 1999 when I was conducting research in Warsaw and Lviv on a fellowship from the Shevchenko Scientific Society. My impressions then were very much as they are today: here was an artist who bore out, in pencil and paint, a number of very private anxieties. More specifically, much of his work dealt with the worry and unease of life as an assimilated Jew in interwar Poland. Torn between the reality of a public life that was largely Polish and close friendships with Polish intellectuals such as the dramatist and painter Stanislaw Ignacy Witkiewicz, Schulz was still quite conscious of the fact that many of his acquaintances regarded him as culturally different. And history suggests that they very well may have.

We are often told that ethnic divisions in this corner of the world were quite marked during this period, and there is a real ring of truth to this, particularly in the political and public arena. Yet if Schulz's work and that of many of his contemporaries is any indicator, the private understanding of this issue was for many people altogether different: that these divisions were not and could not ever be drawn in black in white. This was part of the problem then, and it is at the heart of the debate that surrounds the recently uncovered fresco today.

Whether or not Schulz can neatly be described as Polish or Jewish has everything to do with the claims of ownership surrounding the fresco, for it is along these lines that commentators in Poland and Israel have begun to argue for their right to the painting.

(Continued on page 23)



Some of the faculty members of the former Wladyslaw Jagiello gymnasium in Drohobych, c.1933. Bruno Schulz stands fifth from the left in the second row. (Photograph from the collection of the Adam Mickiewicz Museum of Literature, Warsaw.)

COMMENTARY

Education in Ukraine: dilemmas and concerns

by Myron B. Kuropas, Ph.D.

Of all the areas of endeavor hardest hit by the collapse of Soviet rule in Ukraine, education is definitely near the top. While economic, political and social issues are being addressed by government officials in Ukraine, albeit somewhat lackadaisically, education is all but neglected.

At a time of high unemployment, national disillusionment, government corruption and a growing crime rate, education is not a priority in Ukraine. Teachers are paid infrequently. New textbooks are lacking. Schools are in disrepair. Students no longer perceive higher education as a guarantor of financial success.

Part of the reason, of course, is the socialist moral inheritance. One of the great paradoxes of Soviet education is that despite the most intensive efforts by Soviet educators to change human behavior and to produce the "new Soviet man," a person who was highly moral, patriotic, humane and committed to a universal Marxist-Leninist brotherhood, the result was near total failure.

Rather than moral individuals, the Soviet educational system, with its "unified educational front" of schools, youth organizations (Young Pioneers, the Komsomol) and society in general, "all following the leadership of the Communist Party," produced not a new culture "perfected through socialist enlightenment," but a depraved, callous and insular society incapable, as Mikhail Gorbachev learned to his sorrow, of meaningful reform. As soon as students discovered that Soviet society did not reflect Soviet educational ideals, disillusionment distrust and cynicism set in. The fumes of the resulting disintegration still linger in Ukraine.

This is not to say that Soviet education was totally bankrupt. On the contrary, Soviet education excelled in mathematics and the physical sciences. According to Abdusalam Gusseinov, a cult of knowledge "in the schools based on the ideal of scientific determinism ... A person whose head was loaded with diverse and systematized knowledge was a typical product of the Soviet system of education." There was a great emphasis on technical expertise and pragmatic goals. In contrast to current American educational practices, "the Soviet curricula were unconditionally aimed at the strongest students. They set a standard for learning that treated all students as if they were highly gifted." Parents were expected to be involved in the education of their children or suffer consequences on the job. Expectations were high and the results were high. The average student was pushed to excel. The gifted student was energized to triumph.

Despite their extraordinary technological success, "the ideal of scientific rationality and the belief in the power of reason began to be distrusted." During the late 1950s and early 1960s, writes Dr. Gusseinov, "it appeared that the conveyor-like system of education that was developed from classical paradigms of determinism was difficult to adapt to the transmission of modern knowledge." By the end of the 1980s, "it became evident that

the Soviet system of education missed the computer stage of scientific-technological revolution."

There are other paradoxes and ironies as well. Despite the most brutally intense and unwavering efforts, Soviet education was unable to destroy two vestiges of "bourgeois ideology," namely religious belief and national consciousness. Religio-cultural awareness and ethnonational identity are presently the two pillars of Ukraine's national resurrection, especially in western Ukraine where the moral capital of the 1930s has not been totally obliterated by Sovietization. Religions help to restore the moral fiber of the Ukrainian people, and national consciousness restores Ukrainian pride. The situation in eastern Ukraine, where Communism reigned for 70 years and where a large Russian and Russified Ukrainian population lives, is much more problematic. Still, churches and synagogues are springing up all over Ukraine like mushrooms after a spring rain. And, despite complaints by a Russophile minority, the Ukrainian language, the bedrock of national cohesion, is being taught to the next generation along with Ukrainian history. Ukraine is slowly but perceptibly rising from the ashes.

Ironically, neither religious nor national education are supported by the European Union, the U.S. government and American foundations pouring money into Ukraine. Still surviving on the social capital of the Judeo-Christian moral foundations erected by past generations, as well as the national pride instilled by the historic struggles and victories of their ancestors, many educators in the West have become wedded to such socio-political trends as globalization and multiculturalism. Thinking Ukrainians struggling to literally redefine themselves as a nation see little difference between these concepts and the ideals of "internationalism" and "brotherhood" propagated by Soviet ideologues.

There are other problems as well. Ukrainian educators familiar with American education are not impressed with what they perceive American education to be. Visiting American inner-city schools on a short "lookie, lookie" tour sponsored by an American government agency does not exactly give a true picture. Nor do American B movies, American magazines and other distorted examples of "Americanism." One more paradox: at a time when Ukrainian educators are looking to the United States for direction, American educators offer little more than vapid slogans about "progressive education" and "self-esteem."

Is there anything Ukrainian educators can learn from American educators? Absolutely. First, they can learn from American mistakes and not repeat them in Ukraine. Second, they can follow the example of successful American schools which retain academic rigor while honoring the integrity of each individual student. Successful American schools do not follow the "cookie cutter" model common in Soviet schools nor do American educa-

(Continued on page 15)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas

**Ukraine and the University of Illinois**

Like most "Big Ten" schools, the University of Illinois at Champaign/Urbana has an attractive campus. Not the most beautiful (that honor belongs to the University of Indiana), but lovely none the less.

The University of Illinois is also the home of the annual weeklong Ukrainian Studies Conference which during the past 20 years has brought scholars together from around the world.

I've participated in many of these conferences and, while I could never devote an entire week to this endeavor, I found the time I did spend generally enlightening, usually enjoyable, but occasionally disappointing.

This year was no exception. The conference theme was "Ten Years of Independence of Ukraine." I was the moderator of a panel titled "Does Ukraine Need Education Reform?" I spoke in the affirmative, presenting a paper in which I outlined the pluses and minuses of the present system (see the article "Education in Ukraine" on the left). Among the minuses I emphasized were a rigid curriculum, little attention to individual student differences, poor classroom control, cheating on exams, put downs by teachers and an emphasis on the physical sciences over the social sciences.

With one exception, all the panelists – Ivan Holowinsky (Rutgers), Roman Gromiak (State Pedagogical University of Ternopil), Raisa Movchan (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine), Oksana Pachlovska (Universita di Roma La Sapienza) and Viacheslav Brioukhovetsky (National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy) either avoided the question or defended the status quo. The one exception was Prof. John Fizer (Rutgers) who declared that he honestly did not know enough about the situation to render an opinion. The entire session became rather heated with one Ukrainian American professor in the audience arguing that, given the problems in American education, Ukraine had nothing to learn from the United States; and a teacher from Ukraine suggested that, while the United States offered excellent technical support in terms of textbooks, videos, CDs, etc., Ukrainian teachers would continue to do what they've always done.

Was I disappointed? Yes. Should I have been? No.

During the early days of independence, Ukraine's leaders, especially educators, seemed open to new ideas and formulas from the West. Recently, however, education, like everything else, has begun to drift back to the future. One example: while most international universities follow the three-tiered program of higher education – bachelor, master and doctor – Ukraine elected in 1996 to retain the old Soviet system – bachelor, specialist, aspirant, candidate and doctor. The past is comfortable for Soviet-era bureaucrats who still dominate Ukraine's Ministry of Education.

Fortunately, the conference was not a total bust for me. One of the highlights was a dynamic presentation by Marta Zielyk of the U.S. State Department. As the Ukrainian interpreter for President Bill Clinton and Vice-President Al Gore during their visits with President Leonid Kuchma, Ms. Zielyk related a number of fascinating stories that were spellbinding. Like other Ukrainian Americans who have

served as interpreters, however, she also shared her disappointment with some bureaucrats in Ukraine's government. It seems that the longer Ukraine is independent, the less interest there is in speaking the Ukrainian language.

Another high point for me was resuming my acquaintance with Prof. Volodymyr Serhiychuk of Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv. In 1990, a year before Ukraine's independence, Dr. Serhiychuk invited me to his university to present lectures on the history of Ukrainians in the United States.

The first Ukrainian conference at the University of Illinois was held in June 1982, focusing on Ukrainian literature. Subsequent conferences were devoted to Ukraine's history (1983), 20th century Ukraine (1984) and Ukraine during World War II (1985).

As a result of initiatives by the Shevchenko Scientific Society and First Security Bank in Chicago, the Foundation for Ukrainian Studies at the University of Illinois was established at a meeting in Chicago in 1985. The foundation was headed by Dr. Paul Nadzikewycz until 1989; he was succeeded by Raisa Bratkiw, who serves until the present time.

Between 1982 and 1989 most presentations at the annual conferences were in English; this changed with the arrival of academics from Ukraine in 1989. Thus far, a total of 980 speakers from 24 different countries have presented papers at the conferences; 640 presentations were in Ukrainian and 340 in English.

The individual most responsible for the conferences is Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn who immigrated to the United States in 1950. He completed his Ph.D. studies in Ukrainian literature and library science at the University of Ottawa while working as the Slavic cataloguer in the university of Illinois library and an associate of the university's Russian and east European Center. Thanks in large measure to Dr. Shtohryn and the foundation's financial support, the University of Illinois now has some 70,000 volumes of selected monographs and periodicals dealing with Ukraine, making it one of the largest such collections in the western world.

A fellow academic who has been involved in the conferences since their inception is Dr. Bohdan Rubchak, an accomplished poet and since 1974 a professor of Ukrainian language, culture and literature at the University of Illinois at Chicago Circle. Today, the University of Illinois offers M.A. and Ph.D. programs in these Ukrainian subjects.

The conferences have been especially beneficial for professors from Ukraine who did not have an opportunity to meet with academic colleagues from universities in the West during Soviet times or to access many of the publications available at the University of Illinois.

As is usually the case in our community, a small group of enthusiasts have been able to accomplish what once appeared to be an impossible task. With very little funding from the outside (as compared to Harvard or the University Alberta), conferences now totaling 100 weeks of discussion and academic exchange on Ukrainian topics have become a reality in Illinois.

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Hollywood premieres "The Undefeated"



Gathered at the screening of "The Undefeated" are: (from left) Bohdan and Elanor Malaniak, Lesia Chopko, Director Oles Yanchuk, Zoryana Keske, Andrea Wynnyk, Nadine Hewko and Luba Keske.

by Bohdan Z. Malaniak

LOS ANGELES – The screening of Oles Yanchuk's film "The Undefeated" took place on May 5 at the Westwood Campus of the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA). Ukrainian Americans, as well as students and faculty from UCLA filled the theater to capacity.

Luba Keske, vice-president of Hollywood Trident Network and chairperson of California Association to Aid Ukraine (CAAU), and Mark Semotiuk, UCLA undergrad and president of the Ukrainian Students Club of UCLA, coordinated this special event, with the participation of the following Los Angeles-based Ukrainian organizations: Ukrainian Culture Center, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCLA), California Association to Aid Ukraine, Ukrainian Students Club of UCLA, as well as the Hollywood Trident Network which initiated the event.

The Hollywood Trident Network, of which Jack Palance is the honorary chairman, was formed to bring together enter-

tainment and media industry professionals in support of the following objectives: to support fellow members in their career pursuits in the entertainment and media industry in Hollywood and internationally; to facilitate contact among professionals working in the entertainment industry who are interested in Ukrainian affairs; and to conduct seminars, workshops and other educational projects for members.

As filmgoers entered the UCLA campus, they immediately noticed Ukrainian flags being waved by young members of the CAAU, who were also directing traffic toward the James Bridges Theater in Melnitz Hall.

Before the viewing of the film, Alexander Rivney, president of Los Angeles branch of the UCCA, welcomed all in attendance. Mr. Semotiuk then introduced Mr. Yanchuk, the award-winning director of the film "Famine '33." Mr. Semotiuk emphasized the fact that Mr. Yanchuk's "The Undefeated" is the true story of Roman Shukhevych, also

(Continued on page 15)

"The Undefeated" to be screened at Montreal's World Film Festival

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America announced that on July 16 "The Undefeated" was accepted to the internationally acclaimed World Film Festival, which will be held from August 23 to September 3 in Montreal.

The Montreal World Film Festival is the only competitive film festival in North America recognized by the International Federation of Film Producers Associations.

The World Film Festival, which ranks among the most prestigious festivals of the world, presents nine genres. "The Undefeated" will be screened in the "World Cinema: Reflections of Our Time" category.

The festival has become the largest publicly attended film festival in the Western world. Upon hearing the exciting news, Oles Yanchuk, the film's director and producer stated, "I am thrilled to hear that 'The Undefeated' was chosen to be screened at such an important world-renowned film festival."

"The Undefeated" was co-produced by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukraine's Ministry of Culture, the Dovzhenko National Film Studio and Oles Film Studio.

It is the true story of Gen. Roman Shukhevych, a genteel family man forced by brutal circumstances and his own sense of honor and duty to lead the fight against both the Nazis and the Soviets.

Mr. Yanchuk, hailed by both The New York Times and Time magazine for his heart-wrenching film "Famine '33," attracted an internationally renowned team of filmmakers and artists to bring to the screen the epic story of Roman Shukhevych. Against the backdrop of an underground war, Mr. Yanchuk explores the complex character of Shukhevych, his childhood revulsion at ethnic discrimination, his love of music and his genius in combat.

For further program details log on to the UCCA's website, www.ucca.org, or the World Film Festival's site, www.ffmpegontreal.org.

Ukrainian representative crowned queen of World Bazaar in Virginia

by Olena Boyko

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va. – Antonina S. Antosha, representing Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association (TUCA), was crowned queen of World Bazaar 2001 on June 8, in Virginia Beach. Each year in June the Multicultural Alliance of Virginia Beach sponsors the World Bazaar, a two-day multicultural, multiethnic festival of performances, exhibits, crafts and food on the boardwalk of world famous Virginia Beach.

In order to find an individual who will preside over the World Bazaar and represent the alliance, a queen's contest is held the previous evening. Candidates are judged in three categories: presentation, poise and quality of speech, display of native costumes and evening dress.

Ms. Antosha, lovely in a vivid Ukrainian costume and dazzling in evening wear, captivated the audience as she flawlessly delivered her speech, with humor and warmth, about Ukraine, the struggle for democracy, the difficulty of battling the Soviet legacy, and the unbelievable reality of being chosen as an exchange student. Among the youngest contestants, Ms. Antosha showed most poise and confidence in the presentation and display of her costume. Upon capturing the crown, Ms. Antosha exhibited her graciousness and infectious personality, thanking the organization, her sponsors, her host family and the Ukrainian community for giving her what she called "the best moment of my life."

Ms. Antosha, a resident of Konotop, Ukraine, is an exchange student at Kellam High School in Virginia Beach, finishing her junior year with high honors. The International 4-H Club and the Virginia 4-H Club sponsored her year-long stay. Freda Pohrivchak, teacher of Russian at Kellam High School, introduced Ms. Antosha to the Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association. Ms. Antosha spends her spare time on poetry, singing, drama and guitar. She also tutors fellow students in Russian and is fluent in three languages.

On Saturday, June 9, Ms. Antosha, with Lee Dydiw dressed as a Kozak and bearing the Ukrainian flag, led the Parade of Nations to open the World Bazaar. Ukraine was well represented, in addition to a cultural exhibit and artifact-selling table, Echoes of Ukraine, an artistic ensemble organized by Olga Cehelska, performed on the main stage. As director of OMC Studio, Dr. Cehelska not only provided the costumes but also taught her



Antonina (Tonya) Antosha takes the victory walk after being named queen of the World Bazaar 2001.

American piano students Ukrainian dances that they performed to much appreciation and applause.

This has been a walk-on-air experience for the TUCA organization, a cohesive group of dedicated members. A major focus of TUCA's mission is to teach students, visitors, medical and especially military personnel from Ukraine visiting in the Richmond, Williamsburg and Virginia Beach areas. The TUCA includes them in its activities, invites them into members' homes and exposes them to Ukrainian American lifestyles. For many visitors from central and eastern Ukraine, this unexpected meeting with Ukrainian Americans has crystallized their own sense of their Ukrainian identity. It has proven to be an enriching experience for all.



Leading the Parade of Nations on the boardwalk of Virginia Beach are: (from left) Tom Kropp, president of the Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association, Tonya Antosha and flag-bearer Lee Dydiw, at the opening of World Bazaar 2001.

Batkivschyna completes its journey through Mohawk Valley of New York

by Alexander Kuzma

UTICA, N.Y. – The near-legendary Ukrainian tall ship *Batkivschyna* navigated through the narrow channels of the historic Erie Canal, becoming the first international vessel to complete a journey through the picturesque Mohawk Valley of upstate New York. Enthusiastic throngs greeted the ship in several ports along the canal.

The largest welcoming party turned out at the newly constructed Utica Municipal Wharf on Saturday, June 16. The Topolia Women's Vocal Ensemble, under the direction of Halyna Kurylo, and a large contingent of supporters from the Binghamton-Johnson City area joined Ukrainian Americans from Utica to show their support for *Batkivschyna* and for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (CCRF).

"Our dream was always to visit the Mohawk Valley and to travel along the Erie Canal," said Capt. Dmitrii Birioukovitch. "This area was described so vividly in the novels of James Fenimore Cooper and it has retained much of its natural beauty."

Until late May, however, the captain and his advance team were uncertain whether they could travel along the canal. Heavy snowfall over the past winter had deposited large amounts of silt along several channels, creating numerous challenges for a ship that required depths of 9 or more feet. The schooner also had to lower its masts to sail through more than 20 locks and under numerous low bridges.

After extensive fact-finding visits by the ship's support team of John Nesklada, Mike Lamperelli and John Perry, the ship received permission from the New York Canal Authority to enter the waterway.

"We wish we could have given our Ukrainian American communities in upstate New York more notice of the ship's arrival," said Mr. Nesklada, who sailed aboard the *Batkivschyna* from Albany to Oswego. "We were pleasantly surprised by the large crowds that gathered along the shore, even in a small town like St. Johnsville."

In Utica, the ship's arrival received extensive coverage on local radio stations prior to its arrival, thanks to the advance work of the Rev. Michael Bundz, pastor of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church, and Taras Zenczak, chairman of the local organizing committee.

As the *Batkivschyna* pulled into Utica Harbor, several hundred onlookers anxiously awaited its arrival. Many were dressed in embroidered blouses and carried Ukrainian and American flags. The Topolia women's ensemble entertained the crowd with a series of traditional and



The Topolia Women's Vocal Ensemble of Binghamton sings "Mnohaya Lita" for the crew of the *Batkivschyna* at the Utica Municipal Marina.

popular Ukrainian songs. Accompanist Burt Mueller also performed original arrangements of Ukrainian melodies on solo guitar. A trio of dancers comprised of Oksana Czebiniak, Justina Veleha and Christine Zavalyj drew warm applause from the audience.

As master of ceremonies, Mr. Zenczak read a letter of greeting from Rep. Sherwood Boehlert (23rd District, New York) who was traveling with President George W. Bush in Europe. Mr. Boehlert wrote: "I regret that I cannot be with you in person to extend my sincere welcome to *Batkivschyna* and her crew on being the first foreign vessel to navigate the New York State canal system and to visit the Mohawk Valley. Your mission as goodwill ambassador for the deserving charity Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund ... is most commendable and worthy of recognition by all present." Mayor Timothy Julian issued a proclamation declaring June 16 "Batkivschyna Day" in Utica.

As storm clouds gathered, the ship was forced to sail four miles farther upstream to Lock 20 in Marcy because the shallows in Utica Harbor prevented it from docking safely. The crowd of supporters followed the ship to Marcy, where 6-year-old Kalyna Melnyk pre-

sented Capt. Birioukovitch with a bouquet of flowers. The revelry continued despite intermittent rainfall.

On Sunday morning, June 17, the St. Volodymyr parish in downtown Utica hosted a Father's Day luncheon in honor of the *Batkivschyna* (which means "Land of our Fathers" in Ukrainian). The Rev. Bundz thanked the members of the organizing committee: Mr. Zenczak, Dr. Roman Melnyk, Kristine Lykthey, Prof. Bohdan Rabij, Vasyl Rybalsky and other

members of the parish for their support of the ship's mission. Capt. Birioukovitch also thanked everyone present for their support and shared some of his most notable experiences during the ship's historic voyage from Ukraine. Many parishioners made generous contributions to help defray the costs of the journey and to support CCRF's medical mission.

In the afternoon, large crowds returned

(Continued on page 14)

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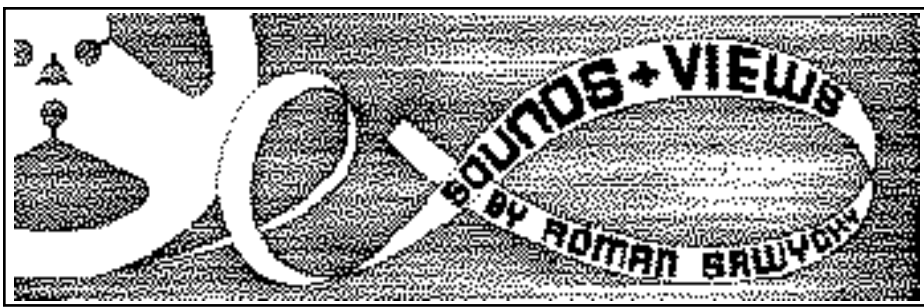
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Kalyna Melnyk of New Hartford, N.Y., presents flowers to Capt. Dmitrii Birioukovitch upon the arrival of the *Batkivschyna* at Lock 20 on the Erie Canal.



Symposium pays tribute to Wytwycky

A recent symposium at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York focused on the life and contributions of Dr. Wasyl Wytwycky (1905-1999), composer, conductor, educator, lecturer, editor and the most prominently productive musicologist of the Ukrainian diaspora.

Wytwycky's early research on Chopin's Ukrainian influence and his monographs on Vasyl Barvinsky, Mykhailo Hayvoronsky and Maksym Berezovsky are only a few examples of his noted firsts in Ukrainian musicology.

The March 31 symposium was conceived last fall and moderated by musicologist and attorney Dr. Andriy Szul, who spoke of Wytwycky's musicology as an upholder of culture. A guest speaker from Kolomyia, Wytwycky's birthplace, violinist and teacher Liubomyr Lekhnyk, reviewed Wytwycky's published memoirs of 1989 as an important source of 20th century music history. Mr. Lekhnyk came to this country to study Wytwycky's writings and music preserved at the family archives in New Jersey, as well as by friends and associates.

Dr. Ihor Pasichnyk, rector of the University of Ostroh Academy in Ukraine, extended greetings to the assembly. Arriving by fax was a statement of solidarity with the symposium proceedings, penned by Dr. Yuri Yasynovsky, head the musicology department at Lviv's Music Academy, and signed by other prominent musicians of that academy and members of Lviv's Shevchenko Scientific Society.

More personal remarks came from Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky, who characterized his father as generous and shared little-known but illuminating details in the life of his parents.

Recordings of Wytwycky's timeless instrumental music from the collection of this writer were played between speakers, as was Barvinsky's "Dumka" in a heart-felt rendition by the late pianist Daria Karanowycz. It should be noted this composer was especially close to both Wytwycky and Karanowycz.

Spanning East and West

Whereas, composer-patriarch Stanyslav Liudkevych is credited with spanning the 19th and the 20th centuries in the progress of Ukraine's classical music, Wytwycky bridged the gap between East and West through his writings and music.

The Wytwycky bridge, built with the power and drive of his intellect, extended from past traditions of Eastern Europe to



Dr. Wasyl Wytwycky

contemporary Western ones, constituting a creative and organic synthesis of two distant worlds.

Wytwycky's years of study in Prague and Krakow provided strong early impressions that introduced him to the rest of Europe and helped develop his outlook and views as a composer, scholar and educator. Always an observant commentator, he pointed to devious Soviet policies, mixing politics with the arts in a pungent exposé "Music and Politics," published by the Paris-based Polish magazine *Kultura*. At the same time he steadfastly pioneered the idea of improved relations between the Ukrainian and Polish communities.

Perhaps singularly lucky in his creative longevity spanning the century, at 94 Wytwycky had outlived colleagues who left life's stage much earlier: Barvinsky at age 75, Zenowij Lysko at 74, Antin Rudnytsky at 73, Roman Sawycky Sr. and Nestor Nyzhankivsky, respectively, at a mere 52 and 48. And Wytwycky's good fortune extended into his legacy, which survived almost intact, while a vital part of the music, writings and letters by others was lost in the winds of war.

On a personal note

My association with Wasyl Wytwycky started in 1960 with correspondence, after the demise of my father, pianist and educator Roman Sawycky Sr. His own relationship with the musicologist was a long and fruitful one. Wytwycky lived in Detroit and was instrumental in many musical successes due to his own leadership and the backing of the City Councilwoman and Acting Mayor Mary Beck. Always a dependable letter-writer, Wytwycky helped me often as consultant on matters of the day. He generously gave moral support and expertise; I welcomed his wise council and guidance.

After the passing of Lysko (1969) and Rudnytsky (1975), Wytwycky remained almost alone as a guardian of music in the original Ukrainian version of Volodymyr Kubijovyc's "Entsyklopediia Ukrainoznavstva." He complimented me by suggesting I check the finished entries

(Continued on page 21)

REVISITING THE PAST: David Burluk, father of Ukrainian Futurism in America

by Alexander Capitonenko

The an avant-garde painter and poet David Burluk, widely known as one of the founders of Russian futurism, traces his roots to a Kozak family. He was born in the Sumy region of Ukraine, studied in Ukraine, Russia, Germany and France, and worked in Ukraine, Russia, Japan and the United States. His paintings and archives today are kept in the art collection at Syracuse University.

Born on July 22, 1882, in Semyrotivka near the village of Riabushky (now Lebedyn District, Sumy Oblast) in Ukraine, Burluk attended gymnasias in the cities of Sumy, Tambov and Tver. Between 1898 and 1902 he studied in the art schools of Kazan and Odesa.

Later he and his younger brother, Volodymyr, left their homeland for a year of study with Anton Azbe in Munich, and six months with Eugene Cormon in Paris. Returning to Ukraine in 1905, Burluk intermittently continued his formal training at the Odesa Art School and the Moscow Institute of Painting, Sculpture and Architecture until 1913.

A prominent figure in Ukrainian and Russian avant-garde, he exhibited in 1907-1909 with the Wreath and Link groups.

Alexander Kapitonenko is a researcher of the life and creative legacy of David Burluk. He is also a founder and co-chairman of the David Burluk Foundation based in Symferopol, Ukraine. The foundation is preparing to mark the 120th anniversary of David Burluk's birth in July 2002 and is gathering materials in American, Russian, Japanese, German, Cuban, British and French museums and private collections for a monograph on the artist. The foundation's mailing address is: 1 Rosa Luxemburg St., P.O. Box 1471, Symferopol, 9500; Ukraine; e-mail, dbf@crimea.com.

Between 1910 and 1918 he was active in the Jack of Diamonds movement, helping stage numerous public demonstrations whose ribaldry challenged that of the spectacles of the Dadaists and Italian futurists.

Invited by Wassily Kandinsky to exhibit with Der Blaue Reiter," group, he contributed an essay "Die Wilden Ruslands" to their "Almanac" in 1912.

Burluk also avidly defended and wrote futurist poetry, which stressed sound over sense. In 1911 in Moscow he met Volodymyr Mayakovsky, with whom he organized lectures and manifestos, including "A Slap in the Face of Public Taste" (1912). With his colleagues he toured Ukraine and southern Russia in winter of 1913-1914 to promote modern art and poetry.

During the years of the Russian revolution, Burluk moved eastward: he lived in the Urals, traveled across Siberia and the Far East.

In 1919 he gathered his family in Vladivostok, then left for Japan aboard a Japanese warship. Burluk lived on the Japanese Islands for only two years, from 1920 to 1922, and during that stay spent the winter of 1920-1921 in the Bonin Archipelago. Nevertheless, he managed to organize exhibitions there.

Arriving in New York in September 1922, Burluk soon caused a sensation in the city's art world because of his exotic vests and earrings.

Burluk published many pamphlets on art, became an American citizen in 1930, and from 1923 to 1940 made his living as a proofreader and art editor for the New York daily paper *Russkii Golos*.

He exhibited annually at the ACA Gallery in New York City and devoted himself fully to painting.

From 1937 to 1966 Burluk and his wife, Marussia, published *Color &*

(Continued on page 21)



David Burluk with a model in his studio.

Addendum

The photo caption printed along with last week's article about the International Horowitz Competition for Young Pianists at the Kyiv Philharmonic did not mention the names of all jury members seen in the accompanying photo. The jury members are: (as seen in the photo, from left) Ireneus Zuk of Canada, Pascal Gallet of France, Valeriy Kozlov of Ukraine, Nadia Sternberg of Israel, Ivan Karabyts of Ukraine (chair), Sergei Usanov of Russia and Volodymyr Nekhayenko of Belarus.

THE ART SCENE: Ukraine at the 49th Venice Biennale

by Olesya Ostrovska

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – One of the largest international festivals of contemporary art opened on June 9 in Venice: the 49th Biennale. Fifty countries were represented, among them Ukraine.

The Ukrainian Weekly has already published two articles on the preparation of the Ukrainian presentation. To sum up: in September of last year, Ukraine's Ministry of Culture and the Arts accepted an invitation to present Ukrainian art at the Biennale; Evhen Karas was appointed the commissioner; Yuri (Jerzy) Onuch, director of the Center for Contemporary Art (CCA) in Kyiv, was selected as the curator; and in September a working group of which I was a member began the preparations. The Masoch Fund (founded by Ihor Podolchak and Ihor Diurych) were chosen as the participating artists. From the moment of Mr. Onuch's appointment as curator, another group of artists, headed by Valentyn Rayevsky, began protesting his appointment on the grounds that Mr. Onuch is not a Ukrainian citizen (he has dual Canadian and Polish citizenship).

At the beginning of March of this year, Mr. Rayevsky and his colleagues, including his wife Olha Malentii, Arsen Savadov, Oleh Tistol and Yurii Solomka, were joined by the Artists' Union of Ukraine and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts in their demands for Mr. Onuch's replacement, also referring to his non-citizen status. In mid-March, less than three months before the Biennale opening, through the personal intervention of then Vice Prime Minister Mykola Zhulynskyi, the commissioner was replaced by Oleksandr Fedoruk, head of the government Agency for the Control of the Transfer of Cultural Treasures across the Borders of Ukraine, while Mr. Rayevsky was appointed curator. The new list of artists for the national presentation was composed of Mr. Rayevsky, Ms. Malentii, Mr. Savadov, Mr. Tistol, Mr. Solomko and Serhii Panych.

It was no wonder that the preparations of the Ukrainian presentation evoked widespread interest. Thanks to a grant from the Renaissance Foundation, at the beginning of June a group of 20 journalists and art critics, including this writer, set off from Kyiv for Venice to take part in the official opening week for guests and the press.

The fact that over 50 countries were represented at the Biennale – where just the International Exhibition (separate from the national pavilions) was 3.5 kilometers in length – and the fact that there were 3,500 accredited journalists, partly explains why the participating countries tried to present universal and generally accessible projects. Most national pavilions did this – few presented groups of artists or works focused on the local context, which would be unintelligible to an international audience.

But the Ukrainian pavilion, curated by Mr. Rayevsky, was assembled according to its own principles.

Ukraine does not have its own pavilion in Venice, as most national pavilions were built in the first half of the 20th century. Countries which do not have their own buildings rent premises outside the Giardini di Castello, where the national pavilions are located. This was done by countries such as Estonia, Latvia, Taiwan, Croatia and others.

The Ukrainian delegation decided to compensate for the absence of its own pavilion by the concept of the exhibit itself. Outside the fence of the Giardini di Castello, an army tent was set up, inside which, according to the Biennale catalogue, there should have been a panorama of a Ukrainian landscape and works by the participating artists. What I saw, on the official opening day, was the following: installed inside the tent was a diorama with a landscape containing village cottages, high wire electrical towers and, at one end, the smokestacks of a factory, which, on closer inspection, turned out to be the Chernobyl reactor. The other end of the diorama ended with a decorative woven wooden fence and sunflowers.

As explained by participating artist Mr. Savadov, the intention was ironic and the irony resulted from the fact that, unlike other countries, whose pavilions were built in the Giardini, the Ukrainian tent stood outside the fence of the rich world. There was a conceptual framework to the contents of the tent as well: such artists as Mr. Savadov or Mr. Tistol, who are famous in Ukraine, had refused to

Olesya Ostrovska is assistant to the director of the Center for Contemporary Art, Kyiv. She was in Venice during the opening week of the Biennale. The article above was written in Ukrainian and translated by Oksana Zakydalsky.

exhibit in their own individual style and had ordered the preparation of a diorama from an art collective – a remnant of the old Soviet art infrastructure.

According to the artists involved, all this was supposed to underline the underground aspect of their art. This claim was included in the description provided in the English-language brochure of the Ukrainian exhibit: "At the crossroads of the epochs, the everlasting dialogue of the art with the society, and the encounters of the orthodox 'official' art with the underground, within which we all function to date, have melted into a fascinating conglomerate. The principle of cosmic energy pulsation, which forms arrhythmic construct with explicit space and time 'hinges', is also in effect within this framework."

The brochure also listed the institutions that provided support to the presentation: Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, Ministry of Culture and Arts, Artists' Union of Ukraine and the Ukrainian National Academy of Arts.

Oleksander Roitburd, from Odesa, who participated in the International Exhibition, had this to say about the Ukrainian presentation: "These artists have committed artistic suicide."

The Kyiv art historian Oleksii Tatarenko, in an interview in the newspaper *Den*, described his opinion of the Ukrainian exhibit as follows: "My impression was one of a total misreading of the context and a completely senseless organization of our participation."

Natalia Filonenko, a Kyiv curator, was harsher in her assessment: "This pseudo-cynical course is not cool at all. In the context of the Biennale, our tent looks pathetic."

On the other hand, the official press announcement by the government information agency, printed in the June 12, issue of *Uriadovyi Kurier* sounded a positive note:

"An elevated atmosphere reigned over the official opening ceremony of the 49th Venice Biennale. The well-known artist-curator of the Ukrainian project, Valentyn Rayevsky, noted that the presentation of Ukrainian art in Venice was a fact. 'We don't as yet have our own pavilion here, but the resolution of this question will be the following step in our integration into the new artistic and cultural space. We have a competitive project; it contrasts strongly with the other projects at the Biennale because it does not show modernist achievements. It is a very warm and lively program – an army tent of huge proportions in which we show a diorama of a Ukrainian landscape. It is a sign of home, a symbol of our culture. In six windows, on the outside of the tent, six television screens demonstrate the realities of our life, the realities of the socio-political character and art of six artists, participants of the Ukrainian project – V. Rayevsky, A. Savadov, O. Tistol, Yu. Solomko, O. Malentii, S. Panych. The first Ukrainian project lives and is successful,' noted Valentyn Rayevsky."

After several critical articles appeared in *Den*, Mr. Rayevsky contacted the newspaper and gave the following explanation of the project he curated: "In the last 10 years I have been observing the development of this event and can point to the total absence of progressive tendencies both in the Biennale itself and in the world space that is represented here – there is an interruption in



The Invitation to the "Ukrainian Pavilion" exhibit to be held in Kyiv in December given out in Venice.

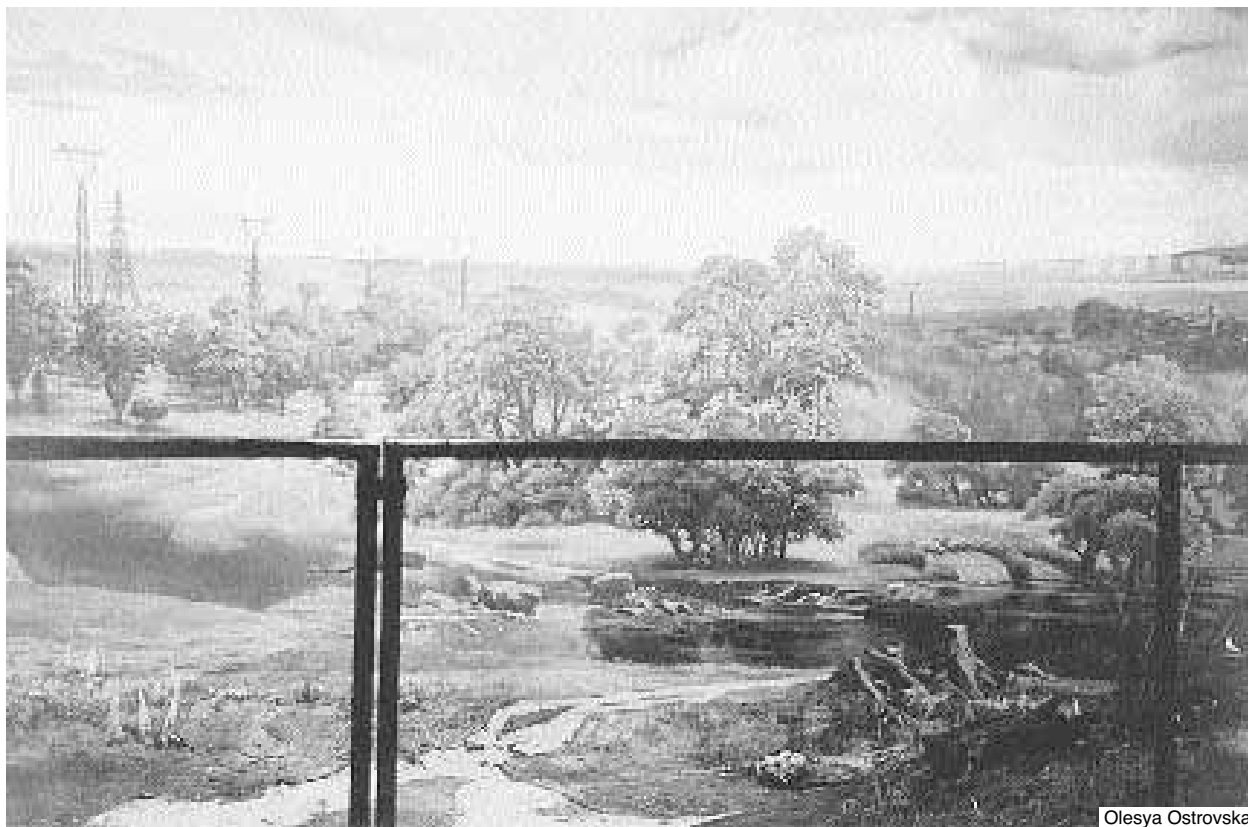
the development of the language of culture, a development such a large scale event should have represented. In my opinion, our project is a welcome contrast to the rich, glittery pavilions of the developed countries. Its energy comes from its eclecticism, incompatibility of premises and conflict on several levels: first of all – on the internal one – between the army tent and the idyllic landscape inside; secondly – on the external one – the significance of the object against the background of the Biennale. The aim was to create exactly such a dramatically accented situation, and we achieved it successfully."

After the publication of Mr. Rayevsky's comments, Oleksander Soloviev, one of Ukraine's best known art critics, said: "The Ukrainian presentation missed the point of the Biennale, but neither was it marginal in the true philosophical meaning of this word. It turned out to be merely archaic, another example of aggressive incompetence."

Yuri Onuch and the Masoch Fund artists – Messrs. Diurych and Podolchak – were present at the opening of the Biennale. They are now working on the production of the exhibit originally slated to be the Ukrainian presentation at the Biennale, which will now be shown in Kyiv at the CCA gallery under the title "Ukrainian Pavilion." International art critics, curators and journalists have been invited to the opening in December.

According to Mr. Onuch, this exhibit will be an

(Continued on page 14)



A view of part of the diorama in the Ukrainian tent at the Venice Biennale.

Olesya Ostrovska

SUM and Plast youngsters find common ground in time spent together



SUMivtsi and Plastuny pose for a photo after the volleyball tournament.

by Andrew Nynka

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – Marking almost 10 years since the Ukrainian youth scouting organizations SUM and Plast last met officially, 40 Plast members, age 14-16, and five counselors traveled to Ellenville, N.Y., on July 12 at the invitation of their SUM counterparts in order to promote dialogue among organizations and give the youngsters an opportunity to learn about each other.

“There seems to have been this divide between organizations,” said Dania Nauholnyk, head educational counselor for SUM “vyshkilnyi” camp. “We thought this would be an excellent opportunity to bring the two groups together and have them learn from each other, to see the differences and similarities that exist between both groups. I believe it’s important for these kids to understand that even though we have differences we can still do things together and learn from each other.”

Ms. Nauholnyk noted that the idea to bring both organizations together came from Andrij Bihun, director of SUM summer camps 2001, Ellenville, N.Y., as well as Halyna Shepko and Lesya Palylyk.

On Friday evening the Plast party arrived by bus to 80 eagerly awaiting members of SUM’s “vyshkilnyi” camp, age 14-17, who stood ready to greet the Plast entourage. The Plastuny were treated to a barbecue dinner cooked by SUM Camp’s Second Kurin (group) “Tykhyi Lis” (quiet woods).

After finishing dinner and unpacking, the SUM and Plast groups retreated to a bonfire, where they were joined by 15 members of SUM’s practical “river camp” entitled “Temnyi Bir” (dark forest) for songs, skits, and roasted marshmallows.

Commenting on the bonfire, Markian Kuzmowycz, a 14-year-old Plastun, said: “Their skits for the bonfire were different, but it was something new. It was nice to see something different.”

Wasyli Liber, a 16-year-old SUMivets, who built the bonfire along with fellow SUMivets Mark Kozicky, Matey Vitvitsky, Steve Frycz and Steve Schur, commented on the outcome of the evening, saying: “It was interesting to see what Plastuny did differently, which was almost nothing. It seemed that we do a lot of things similarly.”

Lesia Drozd and Oksana Czebiniak, who prepared and implemented the program for the bonfire, explained to the listening Plastuny what their SUM camp is all about and introduced its counselors and leadership. The second in command of the Plast group, Peter Steciuk, gave the SUM listeners insight into what occupies Plastuny at their camps and introduced their counselors and leadership.

The next morning Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress, greeted both groups and spoke about the Ukrainian diaspora and its worldwide distribution. Mr. Lozynskyj mentioned his awareness of American influence on today’s younger generation of the Ukrainian diaspora, but stressed the need to maintain ethnic roots.

“This is something that will bond you together forever. You are among a very rare breed of Americans who can communicate with people from Kazakstan, Siberia, Germany, Argentina and many other places around the globe. This you’ve gained because of your unique Ukrainian background,” explained Mr. Lozynskyj.

Next, Mr. Lozynskyj introduced the screening of Oles Yanchuk’s film concerning Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) Commander Roman Shukhevych titled “Neskorenyi” (“The Undefeated”), which portrayed the general’s life throughout the period 1939-1952, giving viewers a sense of the Ukrainian nation’s struggle. The film drew applause from the youngsters and a general sense of increased awareness among the audience of almost 150.

“We got a chance to sit and talk a little about each other – who we are, what we like,” remarked Yustyna Valega, a 17-year-old SUMivka. “It was nice because during lunch we didn’t sit separately. Both groups mixed together and talked to each other. We talked a little bit about our differences, but in the end it seems that we’re not all that different,” Ms. Valega continued.

The campers also competed in a volleyball tournament composed of six SUM teams and six Plast teams. Although competition was not the purpose of the event—an atmosphere of friendship and connection between the two groups was stressed—the tournament concluded with two SUM teams in the final.

Christina Duzyj, head counselor for the Plast girls age 11-16, noted: “Of course this was a worthwhile trip. We had some healthy and not so healthy competition, but it gave us an opportunity to learn about each other. I believe it’s important to plant the seed. This is the first time something like this has been done in quite some time and there’s always got to be a first.”

“This was an important first step and if we can continue to do things like this perhaps we can develop greater communication between both organizations,” she said.

“The trip was fun, I’d like to see them come to our camp and see what our facilities are like,” Mr. Kuzmowycz mentioned, “I think I’ve seen some of these same people at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, N.Y., but I’ve never approached them. I feel more comfortable about it now. If I see them again I would definitely approach them now.”

“Their campground was very different. Their focus is more on academics. They spend more of their time inside learning, while we’re always outdoors. The volleyball was fun, but they were a little older and probably much better than us. But it was more for the experience than the competition,” observed 14-year-old Plastunka Alexandra Paslawsky.

Upon departing for East Chatham, Ms. Duzyj thanked all the SUM organizers and participants for their warm and welcome hospitality, and expressed her wish that the following year could repeat the experience giving the Plast group a chance to host the SUM group. Volodymyr Kohut, head counselor for the SUM “vyshkilnyi” camp bid the departing Plastuny a safe trip and expressed his wishes to see the group again the following year.



Askold Lozynskyj talks with the Plast and SUM groups about the Ukrainian diaspora.



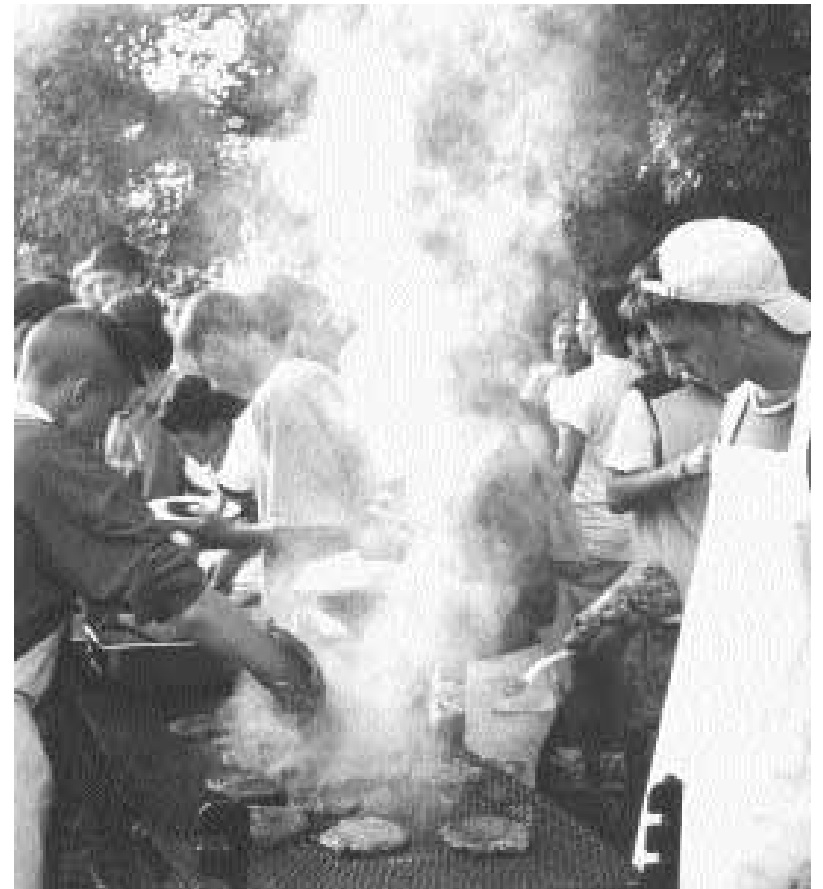
SUM teams compete during the volleyball tournament.



Plastuny and SUMivtsi bid each other farewell and express thanks for shared activities.



Plast girls perform during the evening bonfire.



SUM boys barbecue for all the trip participants.



Representatives of SUM and Plast light the bonfire.



Anna Latanyshyn, Bohdana Horodyska and Anna Kovalska take a break from kitchen work.

Photos by Andrew Nynka and Andrij Bihun.

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Ukraine at...

(Continued from page 11)

attempt to bring part of the aura of the Venice Biennale to Ukraine and give international art professionals a chance to become acquainted with the Ukrainian art community. After what he saw as an unsuccessful presentation in Venice, he said it is necessary to strengthen direct contacts between international art circles and the Ukrainian art community, without recourse to old, post-Soviet art institutions.

With the opening of the "Ukrainian Pavilion" exhibit, the CCA is planning to arrange a gathering, to be called the Ukrainian Art Forum which, it is hoped, will become a coalition of artistic, non-governmental institutions and will serve as a spokesman for their interests. The situation around the Biennale, where the fate of the Ukrainian presentation was decided by the intrusion of the Artists' Union and the personal interference of Vice Prime Minister Zhunlyskyi, shows the weakness of Ukrainian non-governmental institutions. The formation of a coalition to protect their interests should aid in the development of a Ukrainian third sector (that is, non-governmental and non-commercial) in the sphere of culture.

The director of the Ukrainian Mime Center, Oleksander Chaika, commented: "Through many years, the situation in the field of culture has remained unchanged, leading to entropy - talented, creatively active personalities are dissipating in search of a future abroad or in business. The necessity of creating an association that will speak for the interests of independent artists and art institutions has been obvious for a long time."

If such a body is set up, there will be some public scrutiny of the actions of the Ukrainian government and government-dependent institutions with respect to culture. And the next Ukrainian presentation at the Venice Biennale could be organized in less strained circumstances and without the personal interference of the nomenclatura, resulting in a more positive reception.

[Note: The official catalogue of the Venice Biennale contains four pages and several photographs of the "Ukrainian presentation." The photos show works of the participating artists, mostly installations, with an army tent background, making it appear that these installations were in Venice. In fact, the photos are digital constructions; there was no art in the Ukrainian tent in Venice other than the diorama. The tent was very small; it became crowded with three people in it. Only after the official opening were six television screens installed to show previous exhibits of the participating artists. - Oksana Zakydalsky]

Batkivschyna...

(Continued from page 9)

to Marcy, where they toured the ship, purchased specially designed Batkivschyna T-shirts and invited the captain and his crew to their family picnics. Among the visitors was Oneida County Executive Ralph Eannace, Jr. and a television crew from the local CBS affiliate WUTR-Channel 20.

Historic re-enactor Petro Vashchuk, a member of the Batkivschyna expedition dressed in full Zaporozhian garb, regaled the crowds with kozak ballads and folk songs, accompanied on the accordion and various Ukrainian folk flutes (sopilky). The festive atmosphere continued, and many visitors did not disperse until nightfall.

The next morning, the ship continued its voyage on the Erie Canal and arrived in Oswego, N.Y., on June 19.

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Education in Ukraine...

(Continued from page 7)

tors demand lock-step discipline. From the earliest grades American educators create a climate of democratic self-discipline in the classroom based on mutual respect. Third, Ukrainian educators can address the needs of all children, not just the average and gifted. American schools have succeeded in developing programs which offer something for all children, even the most severely handicapped. School counselors and specially trained personnel as well as social workers are an integral part of American schools. It's expensive but it is a model that Ukrainian educators may wish to emulate in the future.

Ukrainian universities can also learn from such innovations of American higher education as adult education and the community college experience which encour-

Hollywood premieres...

(Continued from page 8)

known as Gen. Taras Chuprynska, who led the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) against the Nazis and Soviets, both enemies of the Ukrainian people.

The lights dimmed, the opening credits came on – and as the film began, the background music, sound effects and scenery overwhelmed the audience.

For this writer the film was personally touching as my entire family and I were close friends of the Shukhevych family since the early 1930s. We lost touch with them when we left Lviv, right at the time the German Army began its retreat from the advancing soviet forces. (We corresponded with surviving members of the family throughout the Cold War period, and we continue to be in touch and whenever possible visit with them.)

The scene in which Shukhevych bids farewell to his wife, Natalka, and accepts her decision not to leave Ukraine, was exactly what I remember from reminiscences with my family. During the time that Roman Shukhevych was being hunted down by the Nazis, his son, Yuriy, lived with my family in Lviv and he shared many things with us about his father. Thus, the scene in the film between Yuriy and his father seemed unbelievably real to me. (Incidentally, during that period of time, Yuriy and I were getting ready to join the ranks of the UPA; he was 12 years old and I was almost 15.

As the end credits rolled on the screen, the entire audience, many with tears in their eyes, gave the performers and the director a well-deserved standing ovation.

It was an unforgettable event: a remarkable part of Ukrainian history had just been shown on the big screen.

The audience then was invited to attend a reception in the theater lobby, where it had an opportunity to meet and speak with Mr. Yanchuk, and enjoy the delicious buffet prepared by the ladies of the Ukrainian Culture Center.

ages lifelong learning. Most important of all, Ukrainian graduate degrees need to be reviewed and tightened so that they are more in line with international standards. The idea that the "aspirantura" degree is equivalent to the Ph.D. is misleading, particularly since it requires no additional course work (the Ph.D. degree demands a minimum of three years of study after the bachelor's degree plus a dissertation) and can often be obtained with bribes and pay-offs, especially in the social sciences. During Soviet times higher degrees in the social sciences were obtained under questionable, quasi-political circumstances contributing to the perception in the West that they are academically worthless.

Despite all of these problems, I am confident in Ukraine's educational future. I am most impressed, for example, with the caliber of students at Ostroh Academy and the professors who teach there. Three of the professors have taught a semester at Northern Illinois University (NIU) and four of them have received their M.S. Ed. degrees within 18 months. They were hard workers who wrote their theses in English on Ukrainian themes. Two of the theses have been translated into Ukrainian, and one has been published by Ostroh University Press.

As part of their internship experience all four spent a semester in American elementary and secondary schools in a typical American community. They were able to observe and to comment on the pluses and minuses of American education and to bring back ideas that were relevant to the Ukrainian educational experience. The goal of the NIU/Ostroh program is to establish a department of psychology and education which can offer an M.S.Ed degree in education in such neglected foundations subjects as educational philosophy, educational psychology, history of education and social foundations of education.

The need for such courses and textbooks is great. A survey of some 225 teachers in the Rivne and Kyiv regions was conducted by NIU sociologists three years ago. The results were disappointing. They strongly suggested that most teachers had little faith in the Ukrainian government and in Ukraine's future as a democratic republic. It is disheartening indeed to think that these same disillusioned and discouraged teachers are charged with the responsibility of educating the next generation of Ukrainians.

It is my hope that American governmental agencies and foundations will eventually realize that there are no short-term, quick-fix solutions to the reconstruction of Ukrainian education. Teachers need to be retrained and new exuberant teaching cadres imbued with the idea that the teaching profession is a national calling that will determine the future of Ukraine. This is a long-term process. It is also my hope that the Ministry of Education in Ukraine will adopt a more dynamic approach to education and shed its Soviet-style mindset regarding new programs and ideas. All of this is a tall order, but it can be done with the right people in charge and the right attitudes among educators.

Oksana Folwarkiw, M.D.



Friday, June 15, 2001, the Ukrainian community and Chicago's medical fraternity lost a valued and productive member, Dr. Oksana Folwarkiw, who passed away after a long illness at the age of 79.

Dr. Folwarkiw was born in 1922 in Kolomyia, Ukraine, into the family of Prof. Vasyl and Maria Cheredarchuk. Educated in Lviv, she began her medical studies there, but was interrupted by the turbulent events surrounding the Second World War. Despite these obstacles, she obtained her medical degree from the University of Munich, Germany, in 1948.

In 1949, Dr. Folwarkiw emigrated to the United States, starting her internship and residency at the Veterans Administration Hospital in Washington, DC, and eventually serving at Mount Sinai Hospital in Chicago. She obtained her Board Certification in pathology in 1958, and held the position of Senior Pathologist at the Veterans Administration Hospital at Hines, Illinois, until her retirement in 1985.

Dr. Folwarkiw was married and widowed twice, first to Dr. Roman Folwarkiw who died of a heart attack in 1979, and then to Mr. Yuriy Sokolohorskyj, who died of illness in 1990. Mr. Sokolohorskyj's children were with her in the last difficult months and years of her life.

Members of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Illinois Branch, mourn the loss of a long-time active supporter, gifted physician and devoted friend and grieve along with the Ukrainian American community the passing of a trusted, kind and giving human being.



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Friday, July 27

10 p.m. – MIDNIGHT BIGUS at Trembita Lounge

Saturday, July 28

8:30 p.m. – DUMKA

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by MONTAGE

Saturday, August 4

8:30 p.m. – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Recital

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by SWITANOK

Sunday, August 5

UNWLA Day

Saturday, August 11

MISS SOYUZIVKA CONTEST

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by TEMPO

Saturday, August 18

8:30 p.m. – Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Dance Recital

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by FATA MORGANA

Saturday, August 25

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by THE LEGEND

Friday, August 31

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by VECHIRKA

Saturday, September 1

8:30 p.m. – Yunist Dance Ensemble, Yonkers

10:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Zabava – music by TEMPO, VECHIRKA

Sunday, September 2

9:30 p.m. - 1:30 a.m. – Zabava – music by ZOLOTA BULAVA

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“Interned Madonna” ...

(Continued from page 1)

Unbeknownst to this second group, a lot of land had already been improved by people whose only crime was having immigrated to Canada with an Austro-Hungarian passport. At the start of World War I, some 5,000 of these “men in sheepskin coats” were arrested as “enemy aliens” and their property seized, as they were interned in 24 concentration camps spread from Nanaimo to Amherst. A further 80,000 had to register with the police. Their civil liberties were suspended as a result of the War Measures Act – the same law used to intern Japanese Canadians in 1941 and French Canadians in 1970.

“I had been told it was a German camp,” said Mr. Lesyk. “And even my parents never knew there were Ukrainians there. So we were quite surprised when we looked at the names and saw so many Ukrainians had been interned.”

On Saturday, June 16, the Corporation du Camp Spirit Lake, a group dedicated to preserving the memory of the internees at Spirit Lake, in association with the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, the Canadian Race Relations Foundation and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko, unveiled a statue by Kingston sculptor John Boxtel, which was then blessed by the Revs. Lev Chayka and Ihor Kutash of the Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox Churches, respectively.

Titled “Interned Madonna” and based on a surviving photograph, it features a Ukrainian mother holding her swaddled infant son as her daughter clings to her petticoats. “By chance our family happened to see another internee statue by Boxtel, near Banff,” said Ihor Turjansky, of Toronto, explaining why he drove 1,500 kilometers to attend the unveiling. “We were driving along the Bow Valley Parkway when we saw it near Castle Mountain. We stopped to remember the men held there. Standing there you realize that what was done to them wasn’t right, so we just had to be here for this unveiling.”

To date 15 trilingual plaques and three statues have been placed by UCCLA and its supporters at internment camp sites, without federal assistance, despite Prime Minister Jean Chrétien’s 1993 promise that he and the Liberal Party of Canada would support redress to the Ukrainian Canadian community for the injuries done to it during this period.

“Today’s ceremony went really well,” said Ghislain Drolet, coordinator of the Spirit Lake Corp. “It just goes to show that people are more and more interested in see-

ing a Spirit Lake camp interpretative center developed.” And Anne Bouchard, representing local Bloc Quebecois MP, Francois Gendron, said “Clearly what happened here must be remembered.”

Following the unveiling ceremony, attendees took a 20-minute hike through the bush to the location of a hidden cemetery. Found in the middle of a muddy forest, infested with insects and overgrown with vegetation, the cemetery would be virtually unmarked today were it not for some sympathetic French Catholic nuns who 30 years earlier had erected wooden crosses and a sign to commemorate the “German” dead laid to rest there.

“One of most moving parts of today’s event was seeing the cemetery,” said Mr. Turjansky. “It raises a lot of questions. Who are the people buried in the cemetery? Do their relatives still look for them? Are they gone and there’s no more to be said about them? Does anyone care or even remember that they were once alive, and in this place?”

His wife, Anna, was very moved by the sight of this decaying cemetery, and particularly troubled that the land it sits on was sold by the Canadian government to a private farmer. “I was very saddened to see the crosses that had fallen down, thinking as I did about how these poor people came to this land to better themselves only to end up being interned, then buried in such a remote place, now almost forgotten,” she said.

“I don’t believe we’ve learned much as yet about what happened here,” said Mr. Drolet. “That’s one dimension we will pursue in our proposed museum. Civilians can have their civil liberties suspended just like that in times of war. Remembering what happened to these people at Spirit Lake can be an important lesson in what can occur when we don’t learn the lessons of our past.”

Ihor Turjansky has a request of Ottawa as well: “Our government shouldn’t forget about these internees. They weren’t here because they did something wrong. They were forced to be here and they were made to work, against their will. They were robbed of whatever chance they believed they had of bettering themselves when they immigrated to Canada. The government should acknowledge that and help us ensure that what happened here is not buried along with the bones of the innocent men, women and children of Spirit Lake.”

Roman Zakaluzny, a journalism student, represented the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association at the unveiling of the “Interned Madonna” statue at Spirit Lake, Quebec, on June 16. To learn more about Canada’s First National Internment Operations and the UCCLA’s efforts to seek restitution, visit www.infoukes.com/uccla.



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TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 421

Please be advised that Branch 421 will merge with Branch 444 as of August 1, 2001.

All inquiries and requests for changes should be sent to Mr. Al Kachkowski.

Mr. Al Kachkowski
 126 Simon Fraser Crescent
 Saskatoon, SK S7H 3T1
 (306) 374-7675

ANNUAL MEETING

Branch 414 in New Haven, Conn, will hold its Annual Meeting on Sunday, July 29, at 11:30 a.m., at St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 563 George Street, New Haven, Conn. Participation of all Branch members is requested. A snack will be served.

Gloria Horbaty, Branch Secretary

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Orest Fedash named manager extraordinaire

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – Orest Fedash, the manager of the Ramada hotel in East Hanover, N.J., was recently honored with Ramada's General Manager Extraordinaire Award. This award, given annually to the general manager who "consistently goes above and beyond the call of duty," is Mr. Fedash's latest accomplishment in a 21-year tenure that has been marked by continued service to the Ukrainian community.

Born in Ukraine, Mr. Fedash's family was forced to resettle in Poland in 1947 as a result of Akcja Wisla, an operation executed by the Polish government to destroy Ukrainian communities lying within its borders at the time. He completed his studies there, earning a master's degree in economics and management at the University of Lodz.

Mr. Fedash then moved to the United States in 1972. He earned another master's degree from Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck, N.J., this time in accounting and marketing.

While at Fairleigh Dickinson, Mr. Fedash began working part-time in the hotel business, becoming the general manager of a Holiday Inn in 1976. Four years later, Mr. Fedash took over his current position as general manager of the Ramada in East Hanover.

It is in this capacity that Mr. Fedash garnered professional recognition, his being the only one of the 1,000 Ramada Inns to be selected as a finalist in three annual award categories: "Inn of the Year," "Food and Beverage of the Year" and "Renovation of the Year."

Said Ramada President and CEO Steven Belmonte, "Through his generous support and tireless dedication, Orest has earned the admiration of the entire Ramada chain and continues to be a source of inspiration to all."

Throughout his years at the Ramada, Mr. Fedash has remained active in the Ukrainian community. He serves on the board of directors of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and the Carpathian Ski Club. In addition, he belongs to the Ukrainian Institute of America, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) and



Orest Fedash

Ukrainian National Association Branch 25. He is also a member of Plast and belongs to the "Chornomortsi" fraternity.

Ever since Mr. Fedash took the reigns, the Ramada Inn has been what he calls a "home away from home" for many Ukrainian organizations.

The hotel has hosted formal dances in the ballroom for the Ukrainian community since 1980, including an annual ball organized by the Chornomortsi the Friday after Thanksgiving. The conference rooms and banquet halls regularly serve as the sites of luncheons, conferences, performances and fund-raisers for such organizations as Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, The Ukrainian Museum, the UCCA and others.

As Mr. Fedash explained, "It is my pleasure to be able to help serve different Ukrainian organizations through my position and work as manager. It is very important to me to be highly active in the Ukrainian community."

The General Manager Extraordinaire Award was especially meaningful, said Mr. Fedash, because it capped off what he called a "triple crown." This year, Mr. Fedash and his wife, Adia, saw their son, Darian, graduate from River Dell Regional High School in Oradell, N.J., while their daughter, Talia, received her bachelor's degree from Georgetown University.

Connecticut resident recognized for bravery

WINSTED, Conn – Rep. Nancy L. Johnson addressed the U.S. House of Representatives last fall in order to publicly recognize Wolodymyr Luchkan for his bravery during World War II.

The 91-year-old Ukrainian native is now an American citizen and a resident of Winsted, Conn. He is a member of Ukrainian National Association Branch

According to the account in the Congressional Record, Rep. Johnson said of Mr. Luchkan's heroism in April of 1945: "Mr. Luchkan, seized by the Germans into forced labor, overheard

the impending attack against an American tank force approaching the city of Swizel [Germany]. Mr. Luchkan commandeered a boy's bicycle and pedaled through German lines, risking his life to reach the Allied forces. Without his timely warning, the loss of American lives would have been considerable."

Rep. Johnson continued, "I present Mr. Wolodymyr Luchkan as a spokesperson for freedom whose stage for heroism was made possible by the great audience of men and women who gave their lives in service of our country and those who, thanks to the efforts of people such as Mr. Luchkan, have survived to share in the quality of life that only this great nation can afford."

Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person's UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.

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40	\$13.19	\$20.00	\$21.44	\$34.25	\$29.69	\$48.50
45	\$17.19	\$27.00	\$28.44	\$46.50	\$39.69	\$66.00
55	\$34.19	\$57.00	\$58.19	\$99.00	\$82.19	\$141.00

MALE NON-SMOKER						
AGE	\$100,000		\$175,000		\$250,000	
	UNA	COMPETITOR	UNA	COMPETITOR	UNA	COMPETITOR
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35	\$12.19	\$19.00	\$19.16	\$32.50	\$27.19	\$46.00
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55	\$45.19	\$100.00	\$77.44	\$174.25	\$109.69	\$248.50

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For more information on term life insurance please contact your local branch secretary or call the home office directly at 1-800-253-9862 x 3013.

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Tryzub celebrates milestone and hosts 25th annual golf tournament

HORSHAM, Pa. – A bright sunny morning greeted 56 golfers at the Tryzub Ukrainian American Sports Center's 25th annual golf tournament. This year's outing was held on June 9 at the nearby Limekiln Golf Club. Golfers from Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Delaware and Pennsylvania competed.

An awards ceremony and banquet followed the brisk competition. During the dinner a power-point presentation showed photos from 25 years of Ukrainian golf at Tryzub. Flashed on the screen were fragments of that history, as the players reminisced about the tradition of Ukrainian golf at Tryzub. The presentation was prepared from pictures furnished by the golfers, and produced by Orest Lesiuk and Bohdan Anniuk. The festivities were organized by George Tarasiuk, who celebrated his 10th anniversary as chairman of Tryzub's golf committee, and committee members.

The Rev. Phillip Sandriuk, the golf tournament's chaplain, opened the dinner with a prayer, which was followed by a moment of silence for golfers who have passed away: Ihor Zajac, Dan Maxymiuk, Gene Maruszczak, Roman Hentisz, Joe Greenday, John Jarema and others.

Tryzub President Eugene Luciw delivered the keynote address and acted as master of ceremonies. Former President Ihor Chyzowych, who won the first Tryzub golf tournament, also spoke about the golfing tradition at Tryzub. Roman Jarymowycz served as head scorekeeper. The godfather of Tryzub golf, Mr. Anniuk, presented handsome trophies to the winners.



Participants of Tryzub's 25th annual golf tournament held at the Limekiln Golf Club in Pennsylvania.

- Low gross winners: 1. George Baer – 78, 2. Bohdan Anniuk – 79, 3. Roman Jarymowycz – 81.

- Hetman Flight winners: 1. John Fedyna, 2. Joe Homick, 3. Steve Nahomiak.

- Kozak Flight winners: 1. Michael Andrushko, 2. John Feeney, 3. Peter Shtompil.

- Scramble format team winners: Roman Wolczuk, John Perry, Eugene Luciw and Charlie Taggart.

- Longest drive: Taras Midzak.

- Closest to the pin: John Kamischak.

Tryzub's was the first organized Ukrainian golf tournament; it is the longest continuously held tournament. The club's golfers have competed in and

won other Ukrainian tournaments in New Jersey, Connecticut, Chicago, Florida, Hawaii, Australia and this year in Spain.

The Tryzub golf tradition also encompasses two Ukrainian Diaspora Olympic competitions and the Ukrainian Sports Jamboree in 1988, 1995 and 2000, and recently has expanded to a winter outing in Myrtle Beach, S.C.



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By Appointment

SPORTSLINE

Track and field

• Three Ukrainian athletes placed in the top three in their respective events on July 4 at the Athletissima Grand Prix track and field event in Lausanne, Switzerland.

Ukrainian Inga Babakova placed first in the high jump after clearing a height of 6-8, handily out-jumping second- and third-place finishers Venelina Veneva of Bulgaria and Hestrie Storbeck-Cloete of South Africa by more than two inches.

Tetiana Tereschuk-Antipova took second place in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 54.35 seconds. Tereschuk-Antipova trailed Nezha Bidouane of Morocco, who finished in 54.02 seconds. Coming in third was Yulia Nosova of Russia who logged a time of 54.45 seconds.

Ukrainian sprinter Zhanna Pintusevych-Block finished third in the 100-meter dash behind Marion Jones of the United States, who finished first, and Chandra Stirrup of the Bahamas, who came in second. Pintusevych-Block finished with a time of 11.10, while Jones' winning time was clocked at 11.04.

• The Paris Grand Prix held in Saint-Denis, France, on July 6 also saw three Ukrainians coming home with top-three finishes. Pintusevych-Block this time finished second, again behind Jones of the United States. Although the Ukrainian improved her time to 10.96 seconds, she still failed to beat Jones, who ran the fastest 100-meter dash of the season, recording a blazing 10.84 seconds.

Tereschuk-Antipova won first place in the 400-meter hurdles with a time of 54.01 seconds, beating out silver medalist Debbie-Ann Paris of Jamaica and bronze medalist Nosova of Russia.

Ukrainian high jumper Viktoria Palamar won third place with a jump of 6-6. First- and second-place finishers were Veneva of Bulgaria and Kajsa Berqvist of Sweden.

• Although some of Team Ukraine's finest athletes were missing from the Nikaia Grand Prix track and field event in Nice, France, on July 9, two Ukrainians still managed to secure top placings.

The Nikaia GP did not include the women's 400-meter hurdles, a race in which Ukrainian team member Tereschuk-Antipova has been especially dominant this season. Also missing from the proceedings was the women's high jump, in which Ukrainians Palamar and Babakova have been perennial contenders.

The only Ukrainian to bring home a first-place victory was long-jumper Aleksei Lukasevych, who leaped 26 feet, 7 1/4 inches to secure victory over second-place finisher Savante Stringfellow of the United States. Kevin Dilworth, another American, earned third place with a jump of 25-9 1/2.

Ukrainian triple-jumper Olena Hovorova was the only other team member to win a medal at Nikaia. Her 46 feet, nine inches earned her second place behind Tatiana Lebedeva of Russia, who leaped 48-8.

• Babakova and Palamar placed first and second, respectively, dominating the women's high jump competition at the Bislett Games in Oslo, Norway, on Friday, July 13.

Tereschuk-Antipova also took home a gold medal at the Bislett Games, beating out Nezha Bidouane of Morocco and Tonja Buford-Bailey of the United States.

Pintusevych-Block of Ukraine again took second behind her perennial rival Jones, who extended her winning streak to 51 races in the women's 100-meter dash on July 13. Pintusevych-Block, who came close to upsetting Jones earlier this season, finished in 11.05 seconds, while Jones ran a 10.94. Chryste Gaines, also from the

United States, came in third with a time of 11.08 seconds.

Lukasevych, the only Ukrainian male athlete to place in the top three, won a silver medal in the long jump behind Dilworth of the United States. Lukasevych's jump of 26 feet, 8 1/4 inches was just shy of Dilworth's 26-9.

• Ukraine's world class track team will meet with fans at 2 p.m. on Sunday, July 29, at the Ukrainian Youth Unity Complex in Edmonton.

After a brief introduction, the Ukrainian athletes will talk about training, traveling and competing and will gladly answer any questions from the audience.

The event, which costs \$15 for adults and \$7 for children under 12, will include refreshments and a light lunch, and allows opportunities for plenty of autographs and pictures. For tickets call (780) 414-1624.

Volleyball

• Ukraine's national men's volleyball team defeated Team Canada in the 2001 International Challengers Cup, winning two of three matches held in Winnipeg's Investor's Group Athletic Center on May 22, 24 and 25.

Led by power hitter Oleksii Gatin, Team Ukraine won the first match 3-1 before a crowd of 2,400 on Tuesday, May 22.

On Thursday, the Ukrainian Team swept the Canadians 3-0 and clinched the series, much to the delight of the Ukrainian fans.

Team Canada won the first two games of the third match, but the Ukrainians tied it up at 2-2, forcing a fifth game. Canada bounced back to win the match after a 15-9 triumph in the fifth.

Soccer

• Ukraine took silver at the UEFA European Futsal (indoor soccer) Championship, losing to Spain 2-1 in overtime in the final at the Luzhniki Sportshall, Moscow, on February 28.

The Ukrainians took an early lead in the 27th minute, after Heorhii Melnikov's successful attempt from 12 meters. Teammate Serhii Koridze nearly added another moments later, but his shot, which had beaten Spanish goalie Luis Amado, rebounded off the base of the goal post.

Ukrainian goalie Vladyslav Kornieiev made two saves as Spain increased its offensive pressure, but the Spaniards equalized in the 33rd minute after Alberto Riquer capitalized on a botched clearance.

The game remained scoreless until overtime, when Spain's Javi Sanchez buried the "golden goal" from short range.

Boxing

• Ukrainian boxing phenom Volodymyr Klychko dominated American fighter Derrick Jefferson, successfully defending his WBO world heavyweight title in front of 8,000 spectators at Munich's Rudi-Sedlmayer Arena on March 24.

In the first round, Klychko delivered a left hook that knocked Jefferson to the mat and left the 260-pound American with a swollen left eye.

The heaviest knockdown came in the second round, when a confident Klychko landed a big right, crushing Jefferson and all hopes of a comeback. After watching the defenseless Jefferson get knocked down again in the same round, referee Rudy Battle called the fight with 51 seconds left in the second.

The fight was Klychko's 36th victory in 37 fights, with 33 knockouts. Jefferson lost for the third time in 27 professional contests

- compiled by Andrew Olesnycky

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Qualifications: This competition is open to any player whose club is a member of USCAK. - Singles matches are scheduled in the following division: Men, Women, Women (35 and over), Junior Vets (35-44), Senior Men (45- 55), Junior (Boys and Girls). Juniors are persons aged 18 and under, while seniors are those over 45 years of age.

Registration for tennis matches, including name, age divisions and the fee of \$15.00 should be sent to:
Mr. George Sawchak
724 Forrest Ave., Rydal, PA 19046

Registration should be received no later than August 27, 2001. No additional applications will be accepted before the competitions, since the schedule of matches will be worked out ahead of time.

TOURNAMENT COMMITTEE:
G. Sawchak, Z. Snylyk, G. Popel, G. Hrabec.

Schedule of matches:
Saturday, September 1, Soyuzivka, 8:30 a.m. All players must contact the Tournament Committee: They will be informed of the time and place of their first matches, as well as matches in subsequent rounds. In case of rain, all players meet in the Main House.

Because of limited time and the large number of entries, players can compete in one group only; they must indicate their choice on the registration blank.

Players who fail to report for a scheduled match on time will be defaulted.

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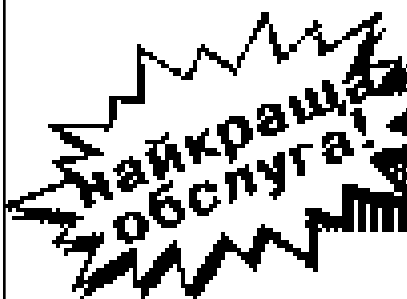


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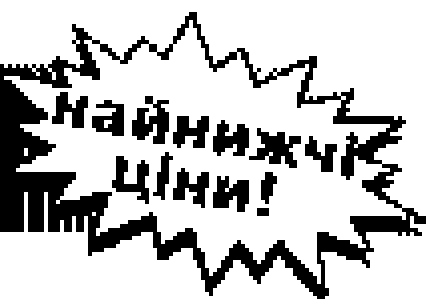
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David Burliuk...

(Continued from page 10)

Rhyme, a periodical primarily concerned with charting Burliuk's activities.

Inspired by periodic trips to California, Mexico, Florida, Europe, and the Soviet Union, Burliuk continued to paint prolifically until his death in Southampton Hospital on Long Island, N.Y., on January 15, 1967.

There is no trace of the late Burliuk at Hampton Bays on Long Island. According to the prominent futurist's will, his ashes were dispersed over the Atlantic. But there is a Memorial museum and house at Hampton Bays, which now belongs to Burliuk's granddaughter, Mary Holt.

Many paintings by Burliuk are dispersed all over the world; they can be seen in the most prestigious museums, galleries and private collections, including the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the Hirshhorn Museum, the Whitney

Museum, the Parrish Museum, the Grosvenor Art Gallery and the Yale University Art Gallery.

According to available data, 63 works by Burliuk and his archive are also kept in the Syracuse University Art Collection and its research library.

In 1909 Burliuk painted a portrait of his future wife, Marussia, on a background of flowers and rocks on the Crimean coast. Many times thereafter he would set the image of his wife to canvass. Without question two dreams possessed his heart all his life: the face of his wife and the portrait of his homeland – first Ukraine and then his adopted country, the United States.

Vassily Kamenskiy, a poet, painter, and fellow futurist, once said of the artist: "The name of David Burliuk was, and always is, an international name. Like the sun in the heavens." That's why the 120th anniversary of the birthday of the "Father of Ukrainian Futurism" will be marked internationally in July 2002.

Symposium pays tribute...

(Continued from page 10)

before they went to print; gradually I also started to contribute to "EU" on subjects he deemed important as references.

It proved to be extremely interesting work, but it was also a grueling task of precision. Despite health problems, Wytwycky kept on course, devoting himself fully to the cause. Between 1984 and 1993 the updated English version of the "Encyclopedia of Ukraine" was released in five large volumes. Many of its articles could not have been finished without Wytwycky's skills applied full time.

At some point in our busy correspondence, he suggested we dispense with titles and suddenly Dr. Wytwycky, the

diaspora's greatest musicologist, became for me simply "Pan Vasyl." It was a special gesture made in the American spirit in lieu of the more formal associations, once customary between Ukrainian musicians. It drew us even closer together.

In summary, Wytwycky sought better ways of doing things; he advanced with the times, but did not sever his ties to the past. His agile intellect embraced a healthy kind of revisionism intent on building bridges from the past to modern times and towards a better tomorrow.

Wasyly Wytwycky strove for full independence for Ukraine's culture, which would serve as an international passport for the nation. His was a mind to prize, to remember and emulate.

(Note: see also this column's "Musician for All Seasons," February 20, 2000.)

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

reported. Under the accord, Ukraine is to pay the restructured sum in 18 equal installments over a period of 12 years. As of May 31, Ukraine's foreign debt was equal to \$9.75 billion, down by \$2.65 billion since the beginning of 2001. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada adjourns for summer recess

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of the third convocation on July 13 ended its seventh session and adjourned until September 4, Interfax reported. Parliament Chairman Ivan Plusch said the Rada adopted decisions on 560 bills and legislative issues during its seventh session. The Parliament is to gather on August 22 for a one-day session to mark the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence. National deputies of the Verkhovna Rada of the first and second convocations have been invited to attend the gathering. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine denies drilling violates treaty

KYIV – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Serhii Borodenkov on July 17 denied that Ukraine is violating the 1997 basic treaty with Romania by drilling

for oil and gas in the vicinity of Serpents Island (Zmiinyi Ostriv) in the Black Sea, Interfax reported. Mr. Borodenkov was responding to a "verbal note" from Romania's Affairs Foreign Ministry saying that Kyiv has no right to drill in the area as long as both countries have not demarcated the continental shelf around the island. Mr. Borodenkov said Ukraine is conducting the drilling under the "development of mineral resources" clause included in an additional accord to the treaty. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Romania, Ukraine spar on demarcation

BUCHAREST – The Romanian Foreign Affairs Ministry on July 15 said the most recent round of talks held in Kyiv over the demarcation of the continental shelf in the Black Sea has revealed "the persistence of significant differences" on interpreting the provisions of the basic treaty in regard with the delimitation of the continental shelf border in the Black Sea, the Mediafax news service reported. The next round of negotiations is to be held in Bucharest on October 1-3. The ministry also said that the Ukrainian response to its "verbal note" earlier this month on the illegality of Ukrainian drilling for gas and oil in the vicinity of Serpents Island shows that Ukraine has no intention of abandoning the drilling. (RFE/RL Newsline)



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A painting, an artist...

(Continued from page 6)

For many Polish observers, Schulz is still very much a Polish artist and author. Since the 1950s the vast majority of his manuscripts, letters and drawings were collected by the Polish poet and critic Jerzy Ficowski, and the largest collection of Schulz's work is today housed in Warsaw.

For officials at Yad Vashem who stated in a news release that they believe the museum has a "moral right" to the painting, the fact that Schulz was a Jewish artist and created the painting during the Holocaust is sufficient defense for having removed the work and transported it out of Ukraine. The museum has a sizable collection of art created during the Holocaust, and under normal circumstances there is no reason to believe why such work, when it is found, should not be considered for inclusion in the collection. Yet these are far from ordinary conditions, and they are largely aggravated by the uncertain legality of the export of the painting and the ethical defense offered by Yad Vashem, which opens a Pandora's box of enormous dimensions.

Allowing the fresco to remain in Jerusalem would set an unworkable precedent, in which irresolvable and competing claims of moral and ethical right threaten to dislocate the world's cultural and artistic monuments. Although not overtly stated, implicit in Yad Vashem's case for keeping the painting in Jerusalem, is an opinion that has been voiced by many commentators in the last several weeks: that Ukraine and its eastern neighbors are not capable of caring for their monuments, much less those of ethnic or religious minorities.

It is now largely believed that fragments of the Schulz fresco were removed illegally, in defiance of Ukrainian laws preventing the movement of cultural artifacts created before 1945 across its borders. Yet officials at Yad Vashem maintain that they received clear approval in Drohobych for the removal of the painting; both from the office of the mayor, as well as from the owners of the home in which the painting was found.

Indeed it is hard to imagine that the fragments of the fresco could have made their way out of Drohobych without a series of implied agreements, and these could not have come without a price. The removal of the painting was in some way permitted to happen, even if not explicitly, and here I think is where we arrive at what is a fundamental issue, if the safe return of the fresco to Drohobych is to be discussed with any plausibility.

Although the Ukrainian government has made inroads in controlling the movement of stolen art across its borders, the situation on the local level looks very different. Artwork is regularly looted from museums and churches and transported out of the country to be sold abroad. A recent government register of items seized at Ukraine's borders in the last year lists over 60 cases of apprehension, but this is mere window dressing. (Of the items seized, icons, manuscripts and Jewish religious art predominate).

This sad reality has cost museum professionals in Ukraine their credibility, and it threatens to unravel the decades of collective effort they have expended in the struggle to preserve cultural artifacts in Ukraine - first in the face of their destruction and annexation to collections in Moscow and today in the face of commercial looting.

To complicate matters, many smaller museums in Ukraine today remain closed, and those that are open operate on a shoestring budget, without the state, commercial and private support enjoyed by their neighbors in Poland, Hungary

and the Czech Republic, or for that matter, in the years under communism when the upkeep of museums was much more of a state priority.

For anything more than a hollow case for the restitution of the painting to Ukraine to be made, much more needs to happen. For one, Ukraine's already fragile government must ensure the international community that political uncertainties need not affect certain fixed ethical commitments. This seems like a rather implausible mandate, yet I think it is worth revisiting. For it is precisely by demonstrating that the protection and study of cultural and religious monuments within Ukraine's borders is a universal cultural priority which it shares with its Western neighbors, that some kind of ethical continuity can be foreseen. Legislation and enforcement are certainly critical here, but tangible deeds play an important role.

I can think of several possibilities, all equally consequential and none which has yet been adequately explored: the reopening of a long closed museum; the founding of a new museum to house the vast collections of Jewish religious art in western Ukrainian museums; providing tax incentives for those who wish to contribute their income to cultural institutions, or to those willing to restore historical buildings in their own community; opening Ukraine's borders to allow for greater tourism in beleaguered Zakarpattia and western Ukraine, such as is already thriving just outside its borders, or inviting western institutions to form direct partnerships with museums and institutions in Ukraine.

This latter alternative seems to offer the most for our present quandary, and it has been proposed by several commentators, although to my knowledge not from the Ukrainian side. Indeed, the return of the Schulz fresco to Ukraine will be prudent and valuable only if it is entrusted to a working and reliable institution that will care for it. A museum to Jewish art and culture in Drohobych? This is not a far-off possibility. Drohobych was home to several prominent artists besides Schulz, including the graphic artist Efraim Moses Lilien and the painter Maurycy Gottlieb, a student of Jan Matejko.

By announcing its wish to create such a museum, Ukraine could open the door to international cooperation and rightfully place a measure of accountability in the future of its cultural monuments on the shoulders of those who must play a role in bearing it collectively: Yad Vashem and the number of other museums which have benefited from the annexation of collections once belonging to Ukrainian institutions.

Whether the removal of these objects was or was not legal is important, but it is not in my opinion the most critical aspect of the debate concerning these works, or the recently uncovered Schulz painting. For foreign museums to devote collective professional attention in the areas of fund-raising, research, publication and exhibition planning to their neighbors in Ukraine is just as essential as the return of looted or spuriously acquired artifacts, and maybe even more. For their part, the fragments of the Schulz fresco have every reason to be returned to Drohobych, and I write this not only because of the symbolic value of the painting or of the artist himself, whose work embodies the brilliance, dismay - and I would argue, historical reality - of this part of Europe.

Looking back at the last decade, the spotlight of international visibility which the painting offers is one of the first clear opportunities for Ukraine and the international community to set a precedent for a new and bilateral commitment to culture in the region.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Friday-Sunday, August 3-5

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: The eighth annual exhibit of paintings by Edward Kozak and Yarema Kozak will be held in the library of the Main House at Soyuzivka, the resort of the Ukrainian National Association. Art works will be on display and available for purchase. For more information call (518) 263-4156.

Saturday-Friday, August 4-10

KERHONKSON, N.Y.: A scuba diving workshop offering participants the opportunity to learn diving and get certified will be offered at Soyuzivka. This is a PADI Open Water Scuba certification course that will allow you to scuba dive anywhere in the world. For more information and to register (pre-registration required) contact George Hanushevsky: by mail, 77 Ontario View, Rochester, NY 14617; telephone, (716) 342-7571; fax, (716) 544-6437; or e-mail, ghanush1@rochester.rr.com. For accommodations contact the Soyuzivka estate management: telephone, (845) 626-5641; fax: (845) 626-4638. Space is limited and registration is on a first-come basis.

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