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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Ukraine at Salt Lake City Games: no medals, but some surprises

by Andrew Nynka

SALT LAKE CITY, Utah — With much of the 19th Winter Olympiad's competition completed and Ukraine's delegation earning no medals, the disappointment in the Ukrainian camp seems to have brought about, not only the firing of a biathlon coach and biathlon team leader, but questions regarding the reasons for Ukraine's poor showing.

However, the results have not been completely negative, said Vasyl Karlenko, team Ukraine's chief of mission.

According to Mr. Karlenko, with exception of Ukraine's biathletes, the group's athletes finished within what team trainers believe was their potential — even above expectations in the case of the men's Olympic ice hockey team and the men's freestyle aerials event.

It wasn't until the final three competitors in the men's freestyle aerials event that 24-year-old Stanislav Kravchuk of Ukraine was knocked out of medal competition. With the fall of the American gold medal favorite, Eric Bourgoust, in his final jump, Kravchuk completed his personal goal of finishing above sixth place. His fifth place result was better than most analysts predicted for the 1998 Nagano competitor who had finished ninth.

Kravchuk said of his second Olympic performance: "I feel I could have done better on my first jump — not by much, but better. My second jump, I've only attempted three times in my life. Today was the third time. This was my very first time in competition, especially attempting it in a competition like the Olympic Games, I'm very proud."

Born in Chirchik, Uzbekistan, Kravchuk qualified in 11th place and moved up to seventh after the first jump of finals competition. His second jump put him in first place after seven competitors but, with six competitors left, his score was not good enough to hold him a medal spot.

Despite a crushing 9-2 defeat by Latvia in the playoff for ninth place, Ukraine's hockey team was not expected to fair as well as it did against the likes of France and the preliminary round's Group B favorite, Switzerland. Had it not been for a 1-0 loss to Belarus in its first ever

Olympic game, Team Ukraine would have moved on to the next round of competition instead of Belarus.

In what many analysts have dubbed one of Olympic hockey's greatest upsets, going as far back as the United States' 1980 "miracle" win over the Soviet Union, Belarus eliminated Sweden on February 20 by a score of 4-3, putting Ukraine's neighbor in a semifinal showdown against Canada.

Regarding Team Ukraine's disappointing showing against Latvia, National Hockey League veteran Dimitri Khristich said, "I think we were too happy with our past performances and we took this game for granted." The Washington Capital continued, "It became obvious when the game started that not everyone came ready to play."

Ukraine's head coach, Anatolii Bohdanov said of the performance, "The first few minutes of the game [against Latvia] were difficult — it was like a boxer who takes several hits, it's difficult to stay on your feet. It was an unexpected surprise, this cold shower — the players didn't have time to rest after the game last night. The players needed to wake up and find their game. I wanted to keep the image of the team intact. This was a difficult game on

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Andrew Nynka

Skier Stanislav Kravchuk, who earned fifth place in freestyle aerials.

## Western diplomats come calling as parliamentary elections approach

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright and current European Union General Secretary Javier Solana headlined a virtual parade of Western diplomats who came calling to Kyiv in the last few days to get a closer view of how Ukraine's elections are shaping up.

The list of visitors included U.S. and European leaders, members of parliament and congressmen, who expressed various opinions as to how the Ukrainian elections to the Verkhovna Rada are proceeding. The elections, scheduled for March 31, are already fraught with controversy and mudslinging and much concern over alleged infractions of election law.

Dr. Albright, today head of the National Democratic Institute, an arm of the U.S. Democratic Party, attended a daylong forum of Ukrainian non-governmental organizations focusing on the pre-election situation on February 16. She told delegates that the United States is watching the election process with great interest, to see whether Ukraine is committed to democratic processes.

At a press conference the following day, after she had met with President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and the whole array of leading candidates and heads of the major political parties and blocs, Dr. Albright said there still is doubt about whether Ukraine is moving in the right direction.

"At this moment it is unclear whether the March 31 elections will mark a step forward for Ukraine's democratic future," said Dr. Albright.

She explained that while there had been improvements in the election law, there had also been far too many "credible reports of intimidation of journalists, denial of access to the media, unbalanced news coverage and abuse of power and illegal use of public funds and facilities."

Dr. Albright noted that in most cases only the government could fix the problems that had been observed. She explained that successful elections would significantly improve Ukraine's current image in the world and move the country considerably forward in strengthening its democratic institutions.

Meanwhile, Mr. Solana, who was in Kyiv on February 21 for a one-day visit — his fifth time in Ukraine — was less critical of the specific aspects of the electioneering currently occurring in the country. He underscored, however, that in a truly free and fair election everybody must have the ability to express an opinion and access the political process.

At the other end of the spectrum of critique, Canada's Secretary of State for Central and Eastern Europe Gar Knutson said on February 18 after meeting with

Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Anatolii Zlenko in Kyiv that he saw no problems thus far in the Ukrainian elections.

"We were following the elections with interest. There are no particular alarm bells going ... right now," explained Mr. Knutson, according to RFE/FL Report.

The visits by the three Western diplomats came less than two weeks after a stop in Kyiv by another U.S. diplomat, current Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky. A political appointee of President George W. Bush who is a member of the Republican Party, Dr. Dobriansky had met also with state and government leaders to discuss the parliamentary elections and to call for transparency in the processes and an even playing field for all the candidates and political parties.

Dr. Albright's trip was followed within a day by the arrival of U.S. Reps. Marcy Kaptur and Bob Schaffer. Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Steven Pifer, currently U.S. assistant secretary of state, was scheduled to follow them into Kyiv on February 22.

Another delegation of legislators, this

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## Congressional resolution focuses on Rada elections

WASHINGTON — Members of both the House of Representatives and the Senate have introduced identical resolutions "Urging the government of Ukraine to ensure a democratic, transparent and fair election process leading up to the March 31, 2002, parliamentary elections."

The House measure was introduced on January 29 by Reps. Louise Slaughter (D-N.Y.), Joseph M. Hoeffel (D-Pa.) and Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.); on the Senate side the resolution was introduced on February 7 by Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.), Sen. Christopher J. Dodd (D-Conn.) and Sen. Sam Brownback (R-Kansas).

House Resolution 339 now has 27 co-sponsors; it was referred to the Committee on International Relations. Senate Resolution 205 was referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations. Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-N.Y.) has joined as an additional co-sponsor.

The resolution urges the government of Ukraine "to enforce impartially the new election law, including provisions calling for: (A) the transparency of election procedures; (B) access for international election observers; (C) multi-party representation on election commissions;

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## ANALYSIS

## The case of Pavlo Lazarenko: a study of high-level corruption

## PART II

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Crime, Corruption and Terrorism Watch

Pavlo Lazarenko, former prime minister of Ukraine, is alleged to have stolen hundreds of millions of dollars via different criminal enterprises. U.S. procurators have not even begun investigating his activities in other countries, limiting themselves to money laundered into the United States. With President Leonid Kuchma protecting him, Mr. Lazarenko was busy hoarding money in offshore bank accounts. During this period it was not uncommon to see transfers of millions of dollars from account to account in different countries.

According to the second superseding indictment in the Northern District of California, San Francisco Division, Mr. Lazarenko received money arising from schemes to defraud committed by the owners and principles of United Energy International, Ltd. (UEIL), United Energy Systems of Ukraine (UESU) and Somolli Enterprises, Inc., which were related companies doing business in Ukraine and with Ukrainian state enterprises as follows: In his official capacity, Mr. Lazarenko promoted the operations of UESU and related companies by, among other things, ensuring that UESU had a near-monopoly right to distribute natural gas to certain commercial enterprises in the Dnipropetrovsk region of Ukraine and by arranging for the Ukrainian government to pledge to use state funds to repay the debts of UESU payable to RAO Gazprom, the supplier of natural gas to Ukraine.

UESU fraudulently diverted – to foreign bank accounts belonging to UEIL – payments from Ukrainian customers for natural gas delivered to UESU and subsequently failed to pay RAO Gazprom for the natural gas.

Between 1996 and 1997, UEIL transferred approximately \$50 million to Somolli Enterprises, a Cypriot company controlled by the same individuals who controlled UESU.

In 1996 Somolli Enterprises transferred the following sums: a) approximately \$50 million to account No. 024/10/61310/00 at AmerBank in Poland in the name of "ORPHIN, S.a."; b) approximately \$14 million to account No. 5451 in the name of "WILNORTH"; c) approximately \$23 million to account No. 21383 at Banque Populaire Suisse in the name of "ORPHIN, S.a."; and d) approximately \$14 million to European Federal Credit Bank correspondent account No. 1150-645039 at Pacific Bank in San Francisco for credit to account No. 151897 in the name of "ORPHIN, S.a."

All were accounts controlled by Peter Kirichenko.

The money was then transferred to accounts controlled by Mr. Lazarenko, including account No. 08-05785-3 in the name of "KATO-82" at Credit Lyonnais in Zurich, Switzerland; account No. 5353 in the name of "CARPO-53" at Bank SCS Alliance in Geneva, Switzerland; and to accounts at European Federal Credit Bank, among other accounts.

Prior to appointing Mr. Lazarenko the country's prime minister, President Kuchma was aware of his past and his sins. It is clear that Mr. Kuchma disregarded incriminating documents given to him by Hryhorii Omelchenko – the for-

mer head of a parliamentary committee on combating corruption and author of a 1999 book titled "Corrosion of Power" – and instead chose to have Mr. Omelchenko investigated instead of Mr. Lazarenko.

### Western pressure grows

By early 1997, President Kuchma was coming under intense Western pressure to have Mr. Lazarenko removed. Instead, he chose a course of passive resistance, one in which the procurator general dragged his feet in the investigation of Mr. Lazarenko. And Mr. Kuchma clearly had the right man for the job.

Mr. Vorsinov was a local procurator from Dnipropetrovsk who was already battling allegations that he participated in various illegal enterprises until one day he came to the attention of politicians in Kyiv. They immediately noticed his talents and brought him on board.

In 1993 the entire staff of investigators at the Procurator General's Office in Dnipropetrovsk had sent a letter to the procurator general in Kyiv asking that Mr. Vorsinov, the regional procurator, be removed for illegally terminating cases and abusing his position, as well as on moral and ethical grounds. In response to that letter, all the investigators whose signatures appeared on it were summarily sacked.

In October 1995 a parliamentary anti-corruption commission recommended that Mr. Vorsinov not be appointed procurator general. Despite that protest, President Kuchma chose him for this sensitive job.

It was among the methods the president employed in implementing his decree of August 1994 "on combating corruption." It was Mr. Vorsinov who was given the delicate task of dealing with the accusations against Mr. Lazarenko. He did so by stalling and prolonging the investigation, by spending more time investigating the whistleblower, Mr. Omelchenko, than the accused, Mr. Lazarenko. There is little doubt today that this entire scenario was cooked up by President Kuchma, who had been protecting, and possibly benefiting from, the protection being granted to Mr. Lazarenko from the very beginning.

On July 1, 1997, Mr. Lazarenko was relieved of his duties as prime minister of Ukraine. The pressure from the West had become too much for President Kuchma to bear. Mr. Lazarenko had become a liability and thus had to go.

In December 1997 President Kuchma fired Mr. Vorsinov and appointed Oleh Lytvak as Ukraine's acting procurator-general. On December 23, 1997, Mr. Lytvak formally charged Mr. Lazarenko with criminal activities.

But Mr. Lazarenko was a national deputy and, therefore, immune from prosecution.

### Lazarenko on the offensive

Angry at President Kuchma for having relieved him of his prime minister's post, Mr. Lazarenko went on the offensive. First he created his own political party, Hromada, which he stated was in direct opposition to Mr. Kuchma. Then he proclaimed that he would run for president in the next elections. Mr. Kuchma was beginning to take notice of Mr.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Divided Rukhs move to reunite

KYIV – On February 16 in Kyiv, the National Rukh of Ukraine led by Hennadii Udovenko and the Ukrainian National Rukh headed by Yuri Kostenko held a congress devoted to the reunification of their parties, Interfax reported. Rukh split acrimoniously in 1999 following the death in a car crash of its leader, Vyacheslav Chornovil. The congress adopted a declaration pledging "to restore the unity of Rukh." The two parties are planning to hold another congress in the autumn in order to elect a single Rukh leadership. The Udovenko and Kostenko Rukh factions are both members of former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko's election bloc Our Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma cancels Omelchenko order

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has annulled his decree of February 11 ordering Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko to take leave from his post as head of the Kyiv City Administration for the period of the election campaign, Interfax reported on February 19. Mr. Omelchenko is running for the Verkhovna Rada on the election list of the Unity Party he leads, as well as for the post of Kyiv mayor in the local elections, which will be held on the same day as the parliamentary balloting. Mr. Kuchma's decision followed a meeting with Mayor Omelchenko on February 18. The details of that meeting have not been made known. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Canadian official notes improvement

KYIV – Gar Knutson, Canada's secretary of state for Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East, met with Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko in Kyiv on February 18 to discuss bilateral relations, the Associated Press reported. "There's been a tremendous improvement over the last two years in terms of the potential that Ukraine offers for Canadian investment," Mr. Knutson said, adding that he will pass on this message to potential Canadian investors. Mr. Knutson also touched upon Ukraine's upcoming parliamentary elections, saying they will be an important step in the country's post-Soviet development. "We were following the elections with interest. There are no particular alarm bells going ... right now," Mr. Knutson added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma vetoes law on Cabinet

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has vetoed a law on how to appoint the

Cabinet of Ministers, the UNIAN news agency reported on February 15. Mr. Kuchma reportedly disagreed with the provision obliging the president to hold consultations with the parliamentary leadership and factions on candidates for a new prime minister. The president also objected to consulting the parliamentary leadership on the composition of the Cabinet of Ministers. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma to lead new party?

KYIV – Presidential administration chief Volodymyr Lytvyn, who leads the For a United Ukraine election bloc, told journalists on February 14 that President Leonid Kuchma has expressed his readiness to lead a planned For a United Ukraine Party, UNIAN reported. "Our agreement on the creation of the For a United Ukraine election bloc envisions two principal tasks: the creation of a parliamentary caucus and the creation of a pro-presidential party on the basis of the bloc. The president is ready to head the party in the stage of its formation," Mr. Lytvyn said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Russian Bloc for economic union

KYIV – Oleksander Svystunov, the leader of the Russian Bloc, said in an election campaign spot on Ukrainian Television on February 14 that Ukraine needs an economic union with Russia to ensure "cheap energy resources" and markets for Ukrainian goods. "We have no other choice than going together and building industrial society in both Ukraine and Russia," Mr. Svystunov argued. He criticized Ukraine's "village mentality" in its view of relations with Russia, saying that the Ukrainian economy is based on Russian oil and gas. He also said that the 10 years of independence brought more trouble to Ukraine than 300 years of Russian rule. Mr. Svystunov was speaking to the camera from a rostrum against the bloc's emblem featuring a troika of galloping horses and the slogans "Russian Bloc against poverty" and "Russian Bloc for the Russian language, unity and decent living." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Communists promise 'socialist reforms'

KYIV – The Communist Party published its election manifesto in Uriadovyi Kurier on February 14, pledging to make workers "the masters of life" and to implement "socialist reforms ... to restore the economy" after winning the March 31 parliamentary ballot. The

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## National Deputy Taniuk offers insight on state of Ukraine's book publishing

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Nearly two years after National Deputy Les Taniuk warned of the imminent demise of the publishing industry of Ukraine, new legislation has allowed for a resurgence, albeit minor, to occur within the sector.

The lawmaker, who chairs the Committee on Culture and Spirituality in the Verkhovna Rada, explained during an interview with *The Ukrainian Weekly* that before the development of a healthy publishing sector, however, much still needs to occur, including a change in the attitude of Ukrainians regarding the use of their language.

While it is still cheaper to print books in Russia, production in Ukraine is on the rise and the number of printing houses has increased. Today there are more than 400 publishers in the country – at least double the number of 15 years ago. In the past year the number of titles released in Ukraine rose to about 10,000 from 6,200 in 1999. Mr. Taniuk, who was a theater director before getting involved with politics, explained that whereas in 1999-2000 there were 56 Russian-produced publications for every Ukrainian one on the Ukrainian market, currently the ratio is down to 45-1.

The lawmaker attributed the improved situation to legislation passed in September 2000, which removed the 20 percent value-added tax (VAT) on the import of paper, printing machinery, equipment and ink into the country.

"This was a big thing," explained Mr. Taniuk. "The publishing industry won a big victory here."

However, the stifling tax remains on the sale of the finished products – the books, magazines and pamphlets – and until that tariff is removed Russian products will continue to remain cheaper.

Mr. Taniuk explained that the original draft of the 2000 tax exemption law on

Ukrainian book publishing also had excluded the sales tax, but lawmakers – even national democrats from the center right – didn't support it in the final version of the bill. In his estimation, without the VAT, Ukraine could have collected another 400 million hryvnia in sales.

Even without the burden of the VAT, book publishing has been a more expensive affair for Ukraine than for its northern neighbor. Ukraine has few paper resources of its own and, therefore, must import most of its cellulose product. Much of that comes from Russia, which has ample paper resources, and from Finland, but that paper is much more expensive.

The Ukrainian book industry, on the rebound through the late 1980s and early 1990s as the Ukrainian language underwent a renaissance, suffered a major setback in 1995 when Russia's Duma removed all taxes on the export of published materials. As Russian publishers began to accommodate the needs of Ukrainian readers, including the publishing of books in the Ukrainian language, Ukrainian output began to slip. By 1999 it had shrunk by 70 percent to 21.9 million books and brochures.

The move by Moscow, which Mr. Taniuk said was an overt and successful political attempt to maintain the domination of the Russian language in the CIS zone and especially in Ukraine, allowed Russian publishers to continue to produce in large quantities and to dump their product on the Ukrainian market. In turn, it kept their prices below what Ukrainian printers have been forced to charge in order to see a profit.

Most of what is sold in Ukraine today, Mr. Taniuk said, falsely passes for literature. He called it "recyclable paper." The most popular books are sleazy romance novels and bloody detective stories, badly written by overnight authors and published in cheap Russian printing houses for tax-free export to Ukraine and the

Commonwealth of Independent States.

He said that, unfortunately, suggestions to limit import of the low-brow offerings are rejected out of hand by politicians with the explanation that "today's trash is tomorrow's art."

Mr. Taniuk said that in his estimation only three, perhaps four, types of Russian-produced books should have a place on the Ukrainian market: Russian history and literature, books on high-tech topics and cer-

**An essential problem exists in Ukraine: Ukrainians simply do not read Ukrainian-language literature – books, magazines, newspapers, etc.**

tain specialized publications.

Mr. Taniuk explained that another, more essential and more dire problem exists in Ukraine, one that must be overcome if the country is to ever have a thriving book industry: Ukrainians simply do not read Ukrainian-language literature – books, magazines, newspapers, etc.

Even without inhibiting taxation, the 400 publishing houses that exist in Ukraine today would not produce in the quantities that would allow them to make comfortable profits and offer competitive prices. Whereas a normal print run for a Ukrainian book 35 years ago was 100,000 to 200,000 copies, today it is between 5,000 and 10,000 issues. There is little demand for more in today's market, explained Mr. Taniuk.

"The lack of a tax-free status is the com-

plaint, but there remains the problem of a lack of demand, a lack of high cultural interest in the Ukrainian product," he said.

During the cultural rejuvenation that began some 15 years ago when perestroika and glasnost were declared across Soviet territory, in Ukraine people sought Ukrainian historical, classical and contemporary literature. Today that has changed. In Mr. Taniuk's words, "the wave has passed," and today Ukrainian language books sit on bookshelves in bookstores gathering dust.

He said it is inconceivable as well that a country the size of Ukraine, with its culture and history, does not have the works of the internationally recognized classics of literature in the Ukrainian language – including a good portion of the writings of Shakespeare.

The lawmaker laid the blame for the shortcomings at the foot of Ukraine's intelligentsia, which he said has too often used the excuse that no financing exists to prop up Ukrainian book publishing, rather than take constructive steps to get people to read in Ukrainian.

Mr. Taniuk said lawmakers are at fault as well. In his opinion, they were so obsessed with political and economic matters that most of them didn't give much thought to the spiritual and cultural requirements for building a cohesive society. He added that many didn't have the education or ability to properly attend to these matters, even if they desired to do so.

Mr. Taniuk expressed a belief that the situation is far from hopeless, however. He said a new effort would get under way after the next Verkhovna Rada is seated in April to get tax exemptions for book sales.

He suggested, however, that a fundamental prerequisite for a strong Ukrainian book market would be the election of a leadership more attuned to the needs of Ukrainian cultural revitalization. He said

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## Women's parties seek to rally voters

by Taras Kuzio

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

In the late Soviet era, fixed quotas ensured that one-half of seats in local councils and a third of the seats in Ukraine's Supreme Soviet were allocated to women of the Ukrainian SSR.

In Ukraine's three parliaments elected in 1990, 1994 and 1998, women's representation initially declined and then slightly increased from 2.9 to 4.6 to its current 8 percent, but it still lags far behind that of the Soviet era. Nevertheless, women's issues continue to remain marginal to the concerns of mainstream politicians in Ukraine.

In the March 1998 parliamentary elections, only one party – the All-Ukrainian Party of Women's Initiative – campaigned on a gender platform. Its result of 0.58 percent of the vote placed it 22nd on the list of 30 blocs and parties competing in that ballot.

In contrast, Women for the Future, one of two election groups in the current election campaign with a gender platform, has scored far more impressive results in opinion polls, which have averaged between 6 to 7 percent. These figures ensure that the group will easily pass the 4 percent voting barrier to qualify for the distribution of 225 seats contested under a proportional system. According to a January poll by the Ukrainian Institute for Social Studies, 10 percent of women and 2 percent of men will vote for Women for the Future.

Within Ukraine's 130 registered political parties, five are devoted to women's issues. The Women's Initiative Party, registered in October 1997, is the oldest of these. It is also the only party based outside Kyiv, in Kharkiv. Three others also are small parties – the Women's Party of Ukraine (reg-

Taras Kuzio is a research associate at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto.

## Canada and Ukraine celebrate 10 years of relations

by Roman W. Zakaluzny

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – Canadians and Ukrainians on January 30 celebrated the 10th anniversary of diplomatic relations between the two countries at a special gathering in Ottawa.

More than 300 people crowded into the National Archives down the street from the National Parliament in the Canadian capital to mark the occasion.

Canada was the first country in the western hemisphere to recognize independent Ukraine, extending diplomatic recognition one day after Ukrainians voted on December 1, 1991, in a national referendum to break away from the Soviet Union. By January 27, 1992, Canada's secretary of state for external affairs at the time, Barbara McDougall, was in Kyiv to open the Canadian Embassy.

"As Canada's [representative] at that historic moment a decade ago, I am proud that our country was the first to extend diplomatic recognition to Ukraine," said Ms. McDougall in a speech read by Ian Wilson of the National Archives. Ms. McDougall was unable to attend the January 30 event due to a prior commitment.

"Canadians with Ukrainian roots were among those who were bursting with pride in their former homeland," she said. "And many, indeed, have since returned to help shape democracy and free markets as the country has developed."

"That period of development has not been without missteps and indeed, sometimes, mischief," she continued. "But there is no turning back, and we must never forget that momentous change is hard work."

In a letter to Canada's head of state, Governor General Adrienne Clarkson, President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine wrote that Canada will always be "a close friend" to Ukraine.

"Without exaggeration, [Canada's acknowledgment] paved the way for our state into the international community," said Mr. Kuchma. "It accelerated democratic reforms and the formation of a civil society in Ukraine."

Ukraine's independence was first recognized by its Western neighbor, Poland. But Ukraine's current ambassador to Canada, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, was quick to point out that Poland, located in almost the same time zone as Ukraine at the time, had the advantage of time in extending its acknowledgment. Ottawa was only eight hours behind, he argued, and its early recognition must not go unnoticed.

"I remember very well the time when foreign minister of Canada, the charming lady Ms. McDougall, promised us that Canada will immediately recognize Ukraine after the national referendum in December," said Ambassador Shcherbak. "We appreciate very much that her promise was fulfilled: on December 2, 1991, Canada was first among the Western nations who recognized Ukraine. The Consulate General of Canada was upgraded to the level of an Embassy and diplomatic relations were established January 27, 1992."

Jointly sponsored by the National Archives of Canada and the Embassy of Ukraine in Canada, the commemoration was attended by people from as far away as Montreal and Toronto.

The evening began with the singing of both countries' national anthems by Ottawa's Sophia Lega. The Ottawa-based Ukrainian dance group Svitanok performed two numbers at the start to warm up the crowd, and local bandurist Volodymyr Mota played and sang two traditional ballads for the crowd.

Brian Carey of the National Archives, who emceed the evening's event, said that the Archives building was a fitting location for the commemoration, as it is their

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## OBITUARY

### Lydia Smyk, 43, beloved teacher at St. John's School in Newark, N.J.

NEWARK, N.J. – Lydia Wasylenko Smyk, a beloved teacher here at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School, died on February 14 after a long battle with cancer. She was 43.

The daughter of Vera (née Romanenko) and Rostyslav Wasylenko, she was born in Toronto on December 6, 1958. She moved with her family to Ottawa, where she spent all of her childhood. As Mr. and Mrs. Wasylenko were actors and teachers, the young Miss Wasylenko performed regularly at school and Ukrainian community functions. She was very active in local organizations and youth programs, and was a member of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and a star dancer with the Dnipro Ukrainian folk dance troupe.

In high school Miss Wasylenko excelled academically and was known for her organizational skills: she skipped a grade in school and was voted president of her senior class.

At age 18 she went on to study at the University of Ottawa and later transferred to the University of Toronto, graduating with a degree in English literature.

After marrying George Smyk of Detroit, she moved with him to New York City, where Ms. Smyk worked in the archives of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences and then at the New York advertising offices of The Globe and Mail, Canada's national newspaper. (The marriage ended in divorce in 2001.)

Ms. Smyk became active in the Ukrainian community of the Newark, N.J., area after the Smyk family moved to nearby Orange. She was especially involved in the work of Branch 75 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, serving in various branch posts, including president, social welfare chair and special events chair. Ms. Smyk was especially known for her work in writing the script for the branch's annual gala fund-raiser, which featured a dance and humorous musical/floor show performed by the local "Soyuzianky" (UNWLA members), their spouses and friends.

It was in 1991 that Ms. Smyk found her true calling when she began teaching at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School. She taught at the parochial school for 11 years, during that time teaching fourth grade and kindergarten. She was known at the school also as the organizer of annual St. Valentine's Day dances and Halloween parties.

During the last three years Ms. Smyk also worked with the editorial staff of The Ukrainian Weekly on its UKELODEON section for children and youths. It was Ms. Smyk who came up with the name for the monthly section inaugurated on Valentine's Day 1999, illustrated the "Mykola Myshka" feature and prepared "Mishanyna," as well as articles bearing her byline.

Ms. Smyk taught at St. John's School through December 4, 2001, when, at the end of the school day, due to the severity of her illness she was admitted to the hospital. She remained hospitalized through January 18 and after that entered a hospice, where she died on February 14.

A parastas (memorial service) was offered at St. John the Baptist Church by the Revs. Bohdan Lukie (pastor), Leonid Malkov and Frank Szadiak (former pastor of St. John's) on Sunday evening, February 17, with many members of the St. John's School community, as well as friends and relatives from near and far, in attendance.



Lydia Smyk

A eulogy was offered in the name of both the Mothers' Club of St. John's School and Branch 75 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America by Ksenia Rakowsky. Roma Lisovich spoke on behalf of Ms. Smyk, who had asked that thanks be conveyed to the community for its nurturance and support.

The funeral liturgy was offered the next day at St. John's Church with the Revs. Lukie and Szadiak officiating. A final farewell on behalf of St. John's students, who participated in the liturgy, was delivered by Anna Skuza, an eighth grader, and fellow UNWLA member Olia Stashchynshyn and tenor Roman Tsybala sang "Ave Maria" during the service.

Burial was at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J., followed by a memorial repast, or "tryzna," attended by family, friends and colleagues of Ms. Smyk.

Surviving are Ms. Smyk's children, Dmytro, Roksolana and Larissa; her father, Rostyslav Wasylenko, with his wife, Ija; stepsister Roma Lisovich, with her children, Kira and Alexander; and a half-sister in Ukraine, Laryssa Shwed. Ms. Smyk was predeceased in 1991 by her mother, who also died on Valentine's Day.

Memorial donations may be made out to "Smyk Children's Fund," (Account No. 310199), and mailed to Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, 734 Sanford Ave., Newark NJ 07106.

### Illinois UCCA commemorates two January 22 anniversaries

CHICAGO – Over 350 people gathered on January 20 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago for the annual banquet sponsored by the Illinois Branch of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America to commemorate two historic dates of independence for Ukraine: January 22, 1918, when the Fourth Universal announced the country's independence, and January 22, 1919, when the Act of Union unified all Ukrainian lands.

Branch President Orest Baranyk, who took this opportunity to remind those in attendance that the upcoming Verkhovna Rada elections in March will have long-term, consequences for Ukraine, opened the event.

He stated that it is the obligation of the Ukrainian diaspora to take action to ensure that fair and transparent democratic elections, which reflect the will of the general population, take place. To achieve this, Mr. Baranyk indicated that a fund-raising effort would commence in the Ukrainian community to assist with proper monitoring of the election and establish a process for reporting violations to the Central Election Commission and the U.S. ambassador.

The Rt. Rev. Ivan A. Krotec gave the invocation. Mr. Baranyk then introduced Borys M. Bazylevskyi, consul general of Ukraine in Chicago. Mr. Bazylevskyi informed the audience that January 22, 1919, is now recognized as an official Ukrainian holiday, commemorating the unification of eastern and western Ukraine in one state.

UCCA President Michael Sawkiw, Jr., gave an address in which he discussed the many attempts of Ukraine to acquire independence. Although many of them were futile, the will of the people for freedom and sovereignty finally prevailed in 1991, he underlined, and since then Ukraine has achieved remarkable progress.

Despite the difficulties and problems that still exist in Ukraine, "one cannot deny that democracy already exists in Ukraine – it exists, but it is still young and has just started to grow roots after the long years of totalitarianism; however, it is absolutely necessary for Ukraine's further development," stated Mr. Sawkiw.

The UCCA national president also focused on the upcoming parliamentary elections in Ukraine, adding that, "We must support the democratic process, due to which the people of Ukraine will begin to partake actively in their own fortune and will understand that the elected officials are not kings of the land, but merely servants of the people."

Mr. Baranyk then presented the UCCA Illinois Branch's Man of the Year award to

Ambassador William Green Miller in recognition of his efforts on behalf of Ukraine. Ambassador Miller served as the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine for nearly half of its independence.

His address focused on many topics of great interest to those present, especially his analysis of the first 10 years of Ukrainian independence and his perspective on the importance of the upcoming elections. Ambassador Miller indicated he would be leaving for Ukraine in February on a three-week fact-finding mission leading up to the elections.

Mr. Baranyk and Lev Bodnar, branch vice-president, presented achievement awards to Vasyl Palahniuk for 25 years of service as the host of the "Ukrainian Evening Tribune" radio program. Oleh Koverko was recognized for 25 years of dedicated service in the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art.

The cultural entertainment for the event was provided by the Ukrainian Artistic Center's chamber orchestra, conducted by Zeonid Modrytzkyj, with vocal soloist Vasyl Matwiyiw. The banquet closed with the singing of the Ukrainian national anthem.

All who are concerned with ensuring the democratic process in Ukraine occurs were encouraged to make a contribution to the "Elections Fund 2002" through their local UCCA branches or by sending a check to: UCCA, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003. Contributions will support the UCCA's civic education and election monitoring initiatives in Ukraine.

### National Deputy Taniuk...

(Continued from page 3)

such a development would allow for introduction and passage of other required legislation to spark the publishing industry.

While acknowledging that Ukraine is currently in a "transformation period from Soviet anti-culture," the lawmaker underscored that where it is headed culturally remains a concern and needs continued study. He noted that the language problem in the country lies not only in continued intrusions by the Russian language, but also in recent strong English language incursions in the form of films, music and international business.

"We must also be concerned with the Americanization of society and culture, which today is competing with the continuing Russification process," Mr. Taniuk observed.

### Congressional resolution...

(Continued from page 1)

(D) equal access to the media for all election participants; (E) an appeals process for electoral commissions and within the court system; and (F) administrative penalties for election violations;

As well the resolution urges Ukraine "to meet its commitments on democratic elections" and "to address issues identified by the Office of Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR) of OSCE in its final report on the 1999 presidential election, such as state interference in the campaign and pressure on the media."

It also calls on Ukraine "to allow election monitors from the ODIHR, other participating states of OSCE, and private institutions and organizations, both foreign and domestic, full access to all aspects of the parliamentary election process."

### To The Weekly Contributors:

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

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

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## The Weekly's 2001 articles are now available online

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The full texts of all 52 issues of The Ukrainian Weekly published in 2001 are now available online at [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com), the newspaper's official website. The new addition is being unveiled, as has become tradition, on the anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian National Association, publisher of The Ukrainian Weekly. The UNA this year marks its 108th anniversary.

Included in the 2001 issues now online are 1,771 news stories and articles (not counting individual items in Newsbriefs) published during the course of the entire year. In comparison, in 2000 The Weekly published 1,740 stories. The Weekly's official website now contains 11,115 full-text articles.

The 2001 issues include the newspaper's special sections dedicated to the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence, as well as 32 Ukrainian National Association Forum pages and 74 articles in the UKELODEON section.

The Ukrainian Weekly Archive opened its official website on August 20, 1998. (Previously, beginning in July 1995 excerpts of each week's top stories were featured on the Tryzub website.)

The Weekly's website is dedicated to archival materials published in the newspaper since its founding in 1933, among them The Ukrainian Weekly's inaugural issue dated October 6, 1933. The website also contains the largest collection of

materials on the Internet dedicated to the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine. The section was unveiled in 1998 on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide.

Year-in-review issues of The Weekly published since 1976 when that feature was inaugurated (and the "Decade in Review" published at the end of 1979), as well as issues reporting on the Chernobyl accident (1986), Ukraine's declaration of sovereignty (1990), its proclamation of independence and national referendum on independence (both 1991) also are found on the archive site.

The archive now contains full texts of all issues published in 1996 through 2001, as well as excerpts of the top news stories published each week during the current year. All sections of the site are searchable.

The Ukrainian Weekly provides this website of archival materials as a community service. The site is maintained by the newspaper's production and editorial staffs.

The Ukrainian Weekly gratefully accepts donations to support work on its website; contributions will be acknowledged on the website as well as on the pages of The Weekly. Contributions may be sent to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

## "Copies for Congress" project supported by Ukrainian Institute and credit union

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian Institute of America has contributed \$1,000 to The Ukrainian Weekly's "Copies for Congress" project. The donation arrived at The Weekly's offices in early February with a note from UIA President Walter Nazarewicz.

Also received at that time was a donation from the Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union, based in New York City, with branches in South Bound Brook and Carteret, N.J. A check for \$100 for the "Copies for Congress" project was sent along with a letter from the credit union board signed by Vsevolod Salenko, chairman.

The Weekly's editor-in-chief had written to the Ukrainian American community's strongest financial institutions, its credit unions, as well as leading Ukrainian community institutions and organizations to solicit donations for the

"Copies for Congress" project, whose annual cost is approximately \$30,000.

Thus far, five Ukrainian American credit unions, one Ukrainian American institution (the UIA) and two individuals have responded to The Ukrainian Weekly's letter of November 16, 2001, soliciting donations for its "Copies for Congress" project, which provides free subscriptions to all members of the U.S. Congress. The Weekly has now received \$6,100 in donations to this project.

The credit unions that previously contributed to "Copies for Congress" include: Self Reliance (NY) Federal Credit Union, New York; Cleveland Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, Parma, Ohio; SUMA (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union, Yonkers, N.Y.; and Selfreliance Baltimore Federal Credit Union, Baltimore.

## The UNA-UFA merger: an update on negotiations

by **Ulana Diachuk**  
UNA President

In the previous issue of The Ukrainian Weekly (February 17), I had notified the UNA membership and the Ukrainian community at large that only a slim possibility exists that a proposal for merger of the Ukrainian National Association (UNA) and the Ukrainian Fraternal Association (UFA) will be on the agenda of the upcoming conventions of both fraternal societies.

As it stands today, such a merger proposal will definitely not be on the convention agenda. On Friday, February 15, UFA President John Oleksyn notified me that after polling all members of the UFA General Assembly, it is evident that for the merger of the UNA and the UFA to take place the new organization must have a new name.

At the January 11 meeting UFA President Oleksyn had insisted on almost the same terms as were presented for approval of the delegates of the UNA Convention in May 1998, namely:

1. The name of the new organization is to be changed to Ukrainian National Fraternal Association.
2. For the next four-year term one member of the Auditing Committee and two advisors will be designated by the UFA.
3. All honorary members of the UFA Supreme Council will become honorary members of the new organization's General Assembly, without any time limitation.
4. The UFA did not insist on creating the position of an executive vice-president on the Executive Committee to be filled by the UFA. This was the only major change from the terms demanded in 1998.

UNA representatives agreed that UNA delegates might approve inclusion of one auditor and two advisors designated by the UFA to the next General Assembly of the merged organization, and that all UFA honorary members will become without time limitation honorary members of the new organization because they had approved this at the past convention.

In addition, they agreed that the weekly newspaper *Narodna Volya* can continue its existence as an insert in *Svoboda*, and that *Forum* magazine will be published, too. All fraternal activities of the UFA presently in existence will be also maintained in the future and will be headed by present members of the UFA.

The stumbling block of the merger discussion became the UFA's demand to change the name of the new organization to "Ukrainian National Fraternal Association."

At the last UNA Convention that demand for a name change was presented for approval as a separate point. After a lengthy discussion on that point, the proposal did not receive the necessary two-thirds majority of votes as required and as a result was defeated. The separate proposal to merge with the UFA on the terms and conditions as presented did receive the necessary number of votes for approval.

At the UFA Convention of 1998, which followed the UNA convention by one month, UFA delegates rejected a proposal to merge with UNA because the name change did not pass at the UNA convention.

At the January 11 meeting with UFA representatives, UNA officers insisted that the name change proposal previously defeated at the UNA convention now has even less support in the UNA General Assembly and among UNA members than it had four years ago. Thus, it cannot and should not be a subject in the new merger negotiations. There is no good reason to once again put this question on the UNA convention agenda only to have it defeated again. Money has to be spent for legal and actuarial fees, and much effort has to go into many merger preparations, but there is no reason to expend both money and effort if there is no possibility of a positive outcome.

If both societies did decide to merge in 2002, and if the name change is of such major importance to UFA members, the matter can be taken up in four years at the next convention in 2006. Former members of the UFA will have a much stronger influence on former UNA members and, thus, it would be easier to win the approval of the delegates to the 2006 convention. Furthermore, in four years the delegates to the 2006 convention might prefer a different name for the new merged organization than the one being proposed at present.

At the January meeting the UNA's representatives also repeatedly stressed the many benefits of a merger to both UFA members and to the UFA as an organization. Among them was that UFA members would have access to all the new and very competitive UNA insurance policies and to several types of UNA annuities. After a merger of both societies their administrative expenses would be reduced by approximately \$400,000. These savings could be diverted to payment of dividends or to support of new fraternal benefits.

Evidently, the arguments for a merger without the name change were not important enough for the members of the UFA Supreme Council, because they rejected a merger without the name change.

## 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.

## A friendly reminder

If you have not yet sent in your remittance for the second volume of "The Ukrainian Weekly 2000," please do so as soon as possible.

The book's price is \$15. Please send checks for that amount (plus any additional sum you may designate as a donation to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund) to:

The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Ukraine's book market

National Deputy Les Taniuk, a long-time national democratic leader, explains in this issue of The Weekly that the situation in Ukrainian publishing has improved in the last two years after suffering a severe slump in the last part of the 1990s, and that hope exists for the future. He says a law passed by Ukraine's Parliament in September 2000 has helped to improve the status of the book industry in Ukraine, but that, by itself, the measure is not enough to make Ukrainian book publishing prosper.

Ivan Malkovych, founder and owner of A-Ba-Ba-Ha-La-Ma-Ha, the esteemed Ukrainian publishing house of children's books, said as much last month when he told The Weekly that he would be forced to publish the Ukrainian version of J. K. Rowling's beloved Harry Potter series of books in Russia. Mr. Malkovych explained that is necessitated by the fact that he could save nearly 30 percent of his overhead costs in doing so and that, from a business perspective, he has no other choice.

One of the issues that publishers like Mr. Malkovych have had to confront is the higher cost of paper and printing in Ukraine. Ukrainian publishers cannot compete with their Russian counterparts, especially given that Russia charges no export tariff for books going to Ukraine. What would even the playing field would be if Kyiv would make a special exemption for Ukrainian book publishers on the 20 percent value-added tax it slaps on each book sold. Thus far, the Verkhovna Rada has refused to do so, leaving Russian exporters with a decided price advantage.

Meanwhile, the Russian government, in an overt and successful political move to support the continued development of the Russian language – with the accent on Ukraine, has subsidized the Russian book publishing industry since 1995 via a 100 percent tax exemption on printing equipment, machinery, paper and, most importantly, the export of Russian books. The no-tax policy on its book exports has led to a large increase in all sorts of books on the Ukrainian market, most of it trash, from romance novels and detective stories to self-improvement guides and horoscope books.

The Rada finally came around on tax exemptions on the import of printing equipment and paper in 2000, which has led to an increase in the number of titles and the overall production of books in the country. But, Kyiv still needs to give Ukrainian publishers other advantages to even the playing field with the Russian competition.

The first step is for the Verkhovna Rada to review the law on taxation of the publishing industry and remove the VAT on sales. That's the only way the country's publishing industry can begin to prosper. All major countries protect certain products from foreign competition when an economic threat is perceived. But tax incentives alone will not take care of the problem completely, because it runs deeper. If no one reads Ukrainian books, then all the government support in the world will not help. Ukrainians have become so used to reading in the Russian language that Ukrainian books are not their first choice. Today a print run for a Ukrainian book is no more than 5,000-10,000 copies – a small number that makes each copy of a book more costly.

Though many believe policies introduced by the Yushchenko government in 2000 regarding the teaching of the Ukrainian language in schools should help develop a new generation of Ukrainian readers, Mr. Taniuk said it is time for passive Ukrainian intellectuals to stop complaining about the difficult task ahead and to get to work. Cultural leaders must spur interest in the Ukrainian language and Ukrainian books. In addition, Ukraine must support young intellectuals who will develop its literary culture. Likewise, national deputies need to put more emphasis on stimulating more extensive use of the Ukrainian language within society by effectively using the powerful legislative tool at their disposal. Mr. Taniuk said that a third item that is absolutely essential is a leader who cares and has the authority to coordinate the needed changes.

What is most important is to have the will to effect change. If that will is found, then we have no doubt that Mr. Malkovych will not publish across the border, but in Ukraine. And he will do so because it will be a sound business decision made to satisfy the demands of the Ukrainian marketplace.

Feb.  
25  
2001

### Turning the pages back...

One year ago, The Ukrainian Weekly reported that Ukraine's controversial Procurator General Mykhailo Potebenko had easily survived a sustained effort to remove him from office, with five different motions of no confidence failing to receive majority approval from the Parliament. Mr. Potebenko had found himself at the center of the storm surrounding the missing Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze, whose body was found in a shallow grave near the town of Tarascha two months after he disappeared; many accused the prosecutor of covering up and delaying the investigation surrounding the body.

The badly divided Verkhovna Rada did not come close to the 226 votes needed to carry any of the motions introduced on February 22, 2001, by the Batkivschyna, Left Center, National Rukh of Ukraine, Ukrainian National Rukh and Reforms-Congress. The most votes any motion mustered was 111.

The voting came a day after Mr. Potebenko ignored a request by the Verkhovna Rada that he appear to report on the workings of his government agency. Mr. Potebenko was to have appeared before the national deputies three weeks earlier, but his appearance was postponed after the procurator general took an unexpected two-week vacation. As the new date approached, Mr. Potebenko asserted in public statements that he had no responsibility to report to the Ukrainian Parliament. "The procurator general is appointed and dismissed by the president rather than by the Verkhovna Rada," said Mr. Potebenko in a letter addressed to the Parliament. He further claimed the Constitution makes no mention of the need for him to report.

That view was supported by President Leonid Kuchma, who said that the Rada's invitation to Mr. Potebenko was merely a political move "to unbalance ... the situation."

Source: "Divided Verkhovna Rada fails to remove procurator general" by Roman Woronowycz, Kyiv Press Bureau, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, February 25, 2001, Vol. LXIX, No. 8.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Shevchenko Scientific Society promotes Ukrainian studies

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – It is only natural that a decade of Ukraine's independence has engendered increasing interest on the part of scholars and students in the study of the Ukrainian language, literature, history and culture. In American academia, this has been accompanied by a gradual emancipation of Ukrainian studies from their second-class status within Russian-area departments in many (though not all) universities to a discipline that is accorded independent recognition.

Much of the progress in this regard can be attributed to the determined efforts on the part of Ukrainists, including scholars of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) of America, who by their active participation in mainstream American and international scholarly conferences have elevated Ukrainian topics to the level they deserve.

For example, NTSh, which is a member of a number of American scholarly organi-

zations, including the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies (AAASS), showed up in force at the latter's 33rd National Convention, which was held in Crystal City, Va., on November 15-18, 2001.

An annual meeting of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies also took place there on November 17. It featured two related keynote addresses which defined the major objectives of the Ukrainists: Borys Tarasyuk, the former foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, spoke on "What We Should Do for Ukraine," followed by the NTSh President Larissa Onyshkevych, who developed this theme into a detailed program of action in her address titled "What Can we, as Ukrainists, do for Ukraine?"

Furthermore, NTSh organized two panels at the AAASS conference: a roundtable

(Continued on page 17)

## BOOK NOTES

### A compilation of proceedings from 2000 conference in Ottawa

*Towards a New Ukraine III – Geopolitical Imperatives of Ukraine: Regional Contexts*, edited by Theofil Kis, Irena Makaryk, Natalie Mychajlyszyn, with Irena Bell. Ottawa: Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Ottawa, 2001. 178 pp. \$14 (softcover).

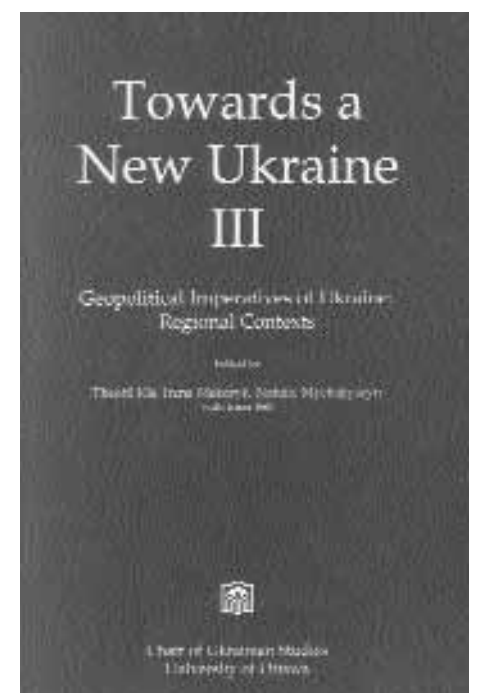
The Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa has published a book titled "Towards a New Ukraine III – Geopolitical Imperatives of Ukraine: Regional Contexts," containing the proceedings of its conference on October 27-28, 2000, by the same name. (See The Weekly, December 17, 2000).

The conference, the third of its kind, considered regional issues facing Ukraine, including its bilateral relations with Russia and Poland, its strategic objective of rejoining Europe, as well as its foreign and security policy challenges.

The book is a compilation of 10 papers presented at the conference. The keynote address for example, was a paper by Prof. Stephen Shulman of Southern Illinois University, highlighting the need for an orientation of Ukraine's foreign policy toward both East and West for the nation-building process. According to Prof. Shulman, a European-oriented foreign policy would strengthen Ukraine's autonomy and an ethnic Ukrainian identity, while an Eastern-oriented policy would strengthen Ukraine's unity and reinforce Slavic identity.

The next four sections bear the following headings: "Ukraine-Russia Relations: Present and Future"; "Ukraine-Poland Relations: Present and Future"; "Ukraine's Strategic Objective 'Rejoining Europe,' and Europe's Policy Towards Ukraine"; and "Ukraine's Foreign and Security Policy Challenge." There is also an epilogue concerning the impact of the oligarchs on the future of Ukraine.

Each section presents a pair of papers written from opposing perspectives. For example, on the topic of Ukraine-Russia relations, Dr. Deborah Sanders, Joint Services Command and Staff College, United Kingdom, focused on the Ukrainian perspective, outlining three phases in Ukraine's policy toward Russia: 1991-1994 characterized as confrontational; 1994-1999 characterized by peaceful co-existence; and the current phase since



1999 as a return to confrontation. She further argues that a more active Western engagement of Ukraine and the stabilization of its economy could help avoid a future of distrust and pessimism.

Meanwhile, Dr. Mikhail Molchanov tackled the Russian perspective, examining security and foreign policy, economics and trade, and Russian minorities. He pointed to points of tension where Moscow was concerned regarding these matters, such as Ukraine's double-standard security and defense policy, its economic debt to Russia and its policy of Ukrainianization.

"Towards a New Ukraine III" can be purchased for \$14 (\$20 Canadian) including shipping. It can be ordered by mail, Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Ottawa, 559 King Edward Ave., P.O. Box 450, Station A, Ottawa, Ontario K1N 6N5; by phone, (613) 562-5800, ext. 3692; by fax, (613) 562-5351; or by e-mail, ukrain@uottawa.ca.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### UNA should help students in Ukraine

Dear Editor:

I am a member of the Orphan Aid Society, which was organized in 1992 by Maria Jowyk in New York with the purpose of aiding Ukrainian orphans in Ukraine. The work of the organization is hard, but it is also rewarding, considering the beneficial results for helpless orphans. Our Orphan Aid Society provides help to over 1,000 children from age 3 to 18.

This is the reason I would like to appeal to the Ukrainian National Association for essential participation in bringing help to those many needy children.

These children are talented and deserve assistance in their continued education in Ukrainian institutions of higher learning, which they are not able to attend because of financial demands.

The UNA finances stipends for Ukrainian students in the United States and Canada, although there are possibilities in these countries for other sources of support, like grants, scholarships, loans, etc. Unfortunately, Ukraine does not provide this kind of assistance to its native students.

It is our sacred duty to help talented Ukrainian students in our old country to continue their education in order that in the future they become promising leaders of a new democratic crop, patriotic and idealistic, in the service of their reborn country. Ukraine needs enlightened, selfless and intellectual democratic leadership. Only well-educated patriotic youth can provide it.

The present Ukrainian government is uncaring and negligent in providing patriotic education for its citizens. Who else, if not Ukrainians abroad, can help talented students in Ukraine advance in their higher education? We appeal to the leaders of the Ukrainian National Association to provide stipends for worthy students in Ukraine.

**Myron Lucyshyn**  
Phoenix, Arizona

*EDITOR'S NOTE: As noted in last week's editorial, the Ukrainian National Association does offer grants to help disadvantaged youths in Ukraine further their studies on the university level.*

### "Ukrainian Madonna": a sacrilegious abuse

Dear Editor:

In the January 20 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly you dedicated two pages to a promotion of two female pop singers. The young ladies are striving for success described by one of them as: "to become world-renowned and tour internationally, to have an Oscar in [her] pocket, as well as a large Swiss bank account."

Obviously, they do not realize what arduous goals they set for themselves. Even the sexually provocative promo photo published in the paper will not help much. Western society is saturated with sexual pictures, and pop music originated in the West long ago. The Ukrainian imitation of this phenomenon started only as late as "1992, when Western styles and attitudes became all the rage in a Ukraine finally freed of Soviet society constraints," as stated by one of the singers. Hence, the Western public has ample

choice of regional acts.

As a parallel, in the past servant-maids liked to imitate the obsolete fashions of the mistresses they served. Similarly, Ukraine, finally freed from centuries of servitude, adopted not so much the positive moral values of Western democracies and cultures, but picked up much of the moral and cultural trash available in the West. Ukrainian pop music can hardly astonish Western audiences. Neither is the Ukrainian diaspora looking for Ukrainian second-hand mimicry of questionable Western values. It craves for and appreciates an authentic Ukrainian culture as it was presented more than a decade ago by the musical ensemble Vatra or lately by the Zankovetska Theater.

Nevertheless, let the young ladies of your article dream of "conquering the European continent, then North America and Hollywood and the silver screen, followed by the world ... [and] the Swiss bank account should take care of itself" – as one of them concluded. These are their own aspirations, which eventually and unavoidably, will lead to their disillusionment.

What strikes one most in this promotional interview, is the imitation of Western materialistic disrespect of religious values by one of these pop singers, who calls herself "the Ukrainian Madonna." The title "Madonna" is generally applied with deep devotion to the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of God. "The Ukrainian Madonna" can be referred to the Most Holy God-Bearer Virgin Mary venerated in Zarvanytsia by hundreds of thousands of worshippers – but not to a pin-up girl.

Although the aspiring Ukrainian singer was referring to the American performer Madonna, it still shows great disrespect to the religious term "Madonna." The act of one does not justify the other. We have very little influence on the blasphemous adoption of the divine titled by a Western woman of questionable moral standards. But the readers of The Ukrainian Weekly generally still cherish religious values and traditions. Therefore, I was amazed and offended by the sacrilegious abuse of the holy title of "Madonna," which undermines the seriousness of your paper.

**The Very Rev. Ihor Monczak, Th.D.**  
Montreal

### A merger: what are fraternalists waiting for?

Dear Editor:

I was not surprised, but saddened to read the front-page article in the January 27 edition about the UNA and UFA merger. The merger was first discussed in 1988? And now four years later they still are discussing a possible merger? What are they waiting for?

Both appear to be in financial distress to a greater or lesser extent, yet they continue to bicker. I guess it will take the threat of a Chapter 11 or its equivalent for them to take action. Sad, but quite typical of our organizations.

**Arnold Rudakewych**  
Philadelphia

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Please see page 5 for an update on this matter written by UNA President Ulana Diachuk.*

**The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies.**

**The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.**

## PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



### Three cheers for Kharkiv

Last month at a reception at the Ukrainian Museum-Archives (UMA), Cleveland's Ukrainian community welcomed a large group of businesspeople from Kharkiv. Wandering around the UMA, one of the guests came across the multi-volume set of eyewitness testimony the Congressional Commission on the Ukraine Famine compiled in the mid-1980s. He was visibly moved.

"My grandmother lived through the Famine," he said, "but she never talked about it. God bless the United States for compiling these accounts."

Others I spoke with were also aware of the Famine. How could they not be? Kharkiv was Ukraine's capital in the 1920s and center of the nation's cultural renaissance. Most of the leading literary journals, publishing houses, theaters, art studios and cultural organizations were located there. The creative energy generated in Kharkiv, rivaled that of Paris or New York.

It all changed in 1929, when Joseph Stalin ordered the collectivization of agriculture and declared war on Ukrainian culture. Artists and intellectuals were arrested and murdered by the thousands. So were their audiences and patrons. As for the surrounding countryside, it became a man-made Hell, stripped of every scrap of food. No one's done a survey, but surely most of Kharkiv's citizens must be descended from Stalin's victims.

In 1934, with nearly all of Kharkiv's political and cultural leaders dead or imprisoned, Stalin moved the capital of Soviet Ukraine to Kyiv. Tragically, the city's suffering did not end with the Terror and Famine. Only a few years later, the Germans and the Soviets fought bitter battles the entire length of Ukraine. During a 22-month occupation of Kharkiv, the Nazis executed 100,000 of its inhabitants and deported another 60,000 to work as slave laborers. By the end of the war, the city's population had fallen to fewer than 200,000.

Today, with 2 million inhabitants, Kharkiv is Ukraine's second largest city and first among industrial centers. The surrounding area is still largely agricultural and most of the rural enterprises remain collective and state-owned. The right to own land, so basic to prosperous economies, is still fiercely contested in Ukraine's Parliament where the Communists do whatever they can to block or delay land reform.

As far as I could tell, there were no Communists among the Kharkivites visiting Ohio. They were uniformly young – ranging from their mid-20s to the early 40s – and they all seemed comfortable with the concept of free enterprise. With slick brochures and impressive power-point presentations, they had an easy, friendly manner about them. Most seemed well aware of how much they didn't know and were eager to learn about Western business practices.

Half of them spoke Ukrainian. Some spoke English. Amongst themselves, they spoke Russian. Nearly all displayed Ukraine's blue and yellow in some manner, whether on business cards, brochures or lapel pins.

This visible but low-key patriotism reflects Kharkiv's vote in the independence referendum in 1991. The city is heavily Russified – indeed half the population is of Russian heritage – yet given an unequivocal choice, they voted better than 9 to 1, along with the rest of Ukraine, to sever ties with Moscow and go it alone. "Experts" were

astounded. "Who would have thought?" they asked.

I can't tell for sure, but I bet the Famine was a subtle but decisive factor in the vote. During the era of Soviet censorship, people were only vaguely aware of how it had happened, but somehow everyone knew. Call it the collective unconscious or whatever, but, given a choice, Ukrainians overwhelmingly opted for the uncertainty of independence over continuing a relationship that had brought so much suffering and horror.

So how is Ukraine doing now? A week before the Kharkiv delegation came to Ohio, Moody's Investment Rating Agency upgraded Ukraine's bonds two notches and bank deposits one notch, citing "a sharp improvement in the country's macroeconomic indicators over the past two years." The U.S. Agency for International Development reports that Ukraine's GDP grew by 5.8 percent in 2000 and "a remarkable 9 percent and [perhaps] as high as 9.5 percent in 2001 with every indication that this growth will continue through the near term." In fact, JP Morgan's Emerging Markets Bond Index Global lists Ukraine as the top performer last year, returning more than 55 percent on investments.

After nearly a decade of dismal news, Ukraine's economy is showing very positive signs.

The United States has played a major role in all this, providing direct economic assistance and high-level political support: until recently, Ukraine was the third largest recipient of U.S. foreign aid. In addition, a steady stream of U.S. officials, including President Bill Clinton and Vice President Al Gore, visited Ukraine numerous times, encouraging, cajoling and speaking eloquently about Ukraine's historic travails and her enormous potential.

Supporting Ukraine makes good strategic sense. Ukraine's independence transforms Russia, freeing it to pursue a democratic course instead of an imperial one. But the United States also owes Ukraine. Upon achieving independence, Ukraine voluntarily dismantled its nuclear arsenal – the third largest in the world at the time – thus contributing more to American security than just about any other country.

America also owes Ukraine a heavy moral debt. In 1933, when millions were dying from a deliberately induced famine, virtually no one spoke out in protest. Instead, President Franklin D. Theodore Roosevelt extended formal recognition to the Soviet Union that year, while America's leading newspaper, The New York Times, used its pages to help the Soviet Union conceal the Famine. America's journalistic establishment then rewarded Stalin's collaborator, Walter Duranty of The New York Times, with the Pulitzer Prize.

Given its tragic past, it's a miracle that Kharkiv survived at all. Now, having met businesspeople from that city, I have every confidence that Ukraine is on the right track. Its economic growth is fueled by the energies of tough, resilient, intelligent people like these Kharkivites who are gamely working to enter the global market. In the 1920s, their city was the center of Ukraine's cultural renaissance.

In the 1930s, it became ground zero for Terror and Famine. Now it's the 21st century. For one of the few times in their history, Ukrainians are enjoying freedom, peace and stability. I can't wait to see what the good citizens of Kharkiv will do with those kinds of tools.



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# Ukrainian Hopak a favorite in repertoire of BYU folk dance ensemble

by Andrew Nynka

PROVO, Utah – The Brigham Young University International Folk Dance Ensemble is a cultural dance troupe composed of university students whose dances have been included in the Winter Olympic's evening medal ceremonies, presentations at the athletes' village, as well as other Olympic-related venues and activities.

But what makes this cultural dance troupe interesting, according to its artistic director and producer, Edwin G. Austin Jr., is the exceptionally high number of requests the group gets to perform its Ukrainian dances – specifically the Hopak, the national dance of Ukraine, which highlights dancers' ability as they perform flamboyant physical and artistic feats in a type of "show-off" dancing style.

The group also held performances at the Light of the World cultural festival sponsored by the Church of the Latter-Day Saints in Salt Lake City. According to the Mormon Church, the festival was intended to celebrate the different cultures of the Winter Games and, therefore, the group was selected to perform its Ukrainian pieces.

Along with the Hopak, the group also performed the "Poltavskiy Duet," described as "a humorous character dance illustrating the frustrations and antics of a taller woman dancing with an unlikely and possibly unlucky partner."

The ensemble showcased more than a dozen other cultures, including those of Eastern and Western Europe, the Middle East, Asia and North America. Mr. Austin explained: "Audiences will be very familiar with some of the dance styles presented in the program. The Riverdance style of Irish hardshoe, our own American clogging, and Kozak dancing from Ukraine are all perennial favorites."

"We don't just do one kind of dancing, so we have to learn the subtleties of each

country," said Sarah Bateman, a recent BYU graduate from Alameda, Calif., and one of the team members that has been doing BYU folk dance for four years.

In order to become more familiar with these subtleties, the ensemble also traveled to Luhansk, Ukraine, in order to become better acquainted with the customs of Ukrainian dance as well as participate in the Luhansk international dance festival.

### A last-minute change

The group was set to perform the Hopak at the opening ceremonies of the 19th Winter Games but their performance was changed, eliminating the Hopak at the last minute.

Colleen West, full-time faculty member and costume research and design coordinator for the troupe, explained that the choreography of the opening ceremonies was constantly evolving.

According to Ms. West, organizers had originally intended to highlight Irish and Ukrainian folk dances at the opening ceremonies but later told her that they decided to use the dance ensemble to highlight a western American motif.

The ensemble, established with only four couples more than 35 years ago, has taken part in numerous world folk dance festivals and, according to Mr. Austin, was excited to share its energy and talents at many different Olympic venues.

The troupe, which currently boasts over 40 musicians, singers and dancers, has been touring abroad since 1964. The past four years alone have seen the group in Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, Germany, Switzerland, France, Vietnam, Indonesia, Thailand, China, Australia, Tasmania, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, North America and Ukraine.

### Ukrainian program is special

"There's something special about the Ukrainian part of the program," said Ms.

West. "People specifically wait for the Ukrainian portion of the presentation and you can see the looks on their faces during the performance – they love the energy and acrobatics of it."

Founded in 1956 by Prof. Mary B. Jansen of BYU, who also brought the Hopak to BYU, the folk dance program, according to school representatives, is currently the largest and most versatile program of its kind in the United States.

Members of the International Folk Dance Ensemble are chosen by audition from among the most skilled performers in a BYU dance program involving more than 200 students. The group is part of the Department of Dance of the College of Health and Human Performance, and members must be full-time students with a grade point average of 3.0 or higher.

Although some of the dancers are dance majors, many major in political science, international finance, linguistics, zoology,

health science, law, accounting and many other fields.

Ms. West, who grew up in Edmonton and Calgary, traveled to Ukraine in order to research the costumes, as well as the history and culture of the various Ukrainian dances the group performs.

Her family, the Waschuks, originally emigrated from Datyn, northwest of Kovel in Volyn, western Ukraine, in the early 1900s.

Ms. West's research interests are ethnic costume design; Ukrainian dance, music and costumes; and history of choreography of rhythm tap dance. Along with choreographing the Hopak, the "Poltavskiy Duet" and the "Offering of Bread and Salt," Ms. West designed Poltava-region Hopak costumes for the male and female dancers of the ensemble. She received a research grant from the college to conduct research on culture, costumes and dance history during a folk arts tour of Ukraine in August 2000.



Clayton Dorny and Shane Wright of BYU's dance ensemble, perform the Hopak.



## 2002 Summit of Ukrainian American Organizations



"Engaging the Younger Generation in Ukrainian American Organizations"

March 15 - 17 at Soyuzivka in Kerhonkson, New York

Sponsored by the following organizations:

**Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America, Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, Ukrainian National Association**

### Summit Schedule

**Friday, March 15**  
 9:00 to 12:00 Pre-Summit Cocktail Party

**Saturday, March 16**  
 8:00 to 9:00 Breakfast  
 9:00 to 10:00 Registration  
 10:00 to 10:15 Opening Address  
 10:15 to 12:15 Panel Discussion 1  
 12:15 to 1:15 Lunch  
 1:15 to 3:15 Panel Discussion 2  
 3:15 to 5:15 Break-out Sessions  
 5:15 to 5:30 Closing Address  
 6:00 to 8:00 Dinner  
 9:00 to ??? Social Reception

**Sunday, March 17**  
 8:00 to 10:00 Breakfast  
 10:00 to 12:00 Summary Panel

The Summit will consist of moderated panel discussions which will encourage audience participation. There will also be individual organizational booths to provide opportunities for one-on-one discussions with organizational representatives. The weekend's atmosphere and attire are intended to be "casual."

See [www.uesa.org](http://www.uesa.org) for the latest Summit info.

### CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Profession: \_\_\_\_\_  
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 Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Please provide a brief description of topics that you would like to see addressed during the discussions:  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_  
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Will attend activities on: March 15 \_ March 16 \_ March 17 \_

Registration fee: Students - \$20; Professionals - \$30  
 (make checks payable to Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America)

SUMMIT REGISTRATION:  
 By Mail: 2002 Summit, c/o Marco Shmerykowsky, 15 West 39th Street, 2nd floor, New York, NY 10018  
 By Fax: (212) 719-4822  
 Soyuzivka Room Reservations: Call (845) 626-5641.  
 (see [www.soyuzivka.com](http://www.soyuzivka.com) for directions.)

## Team Ukraine's results

### • Saturday, February 9

**ICE HOCKEY – MEN'S**  
Belarus vs. Ukraine, 1-0

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – WOMEN'S 15K**  
10. Iryna Terelia, 40:39.4  
22. Valentyna Shevchenko, 42:16.0  
45. Vitalina Yakymchuk, 45:26.7

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – MEN'S 30K**  
52. Roman Leibiuk, 1:18:52.3

### • Sunday, February 10

**SPEEDSKATING – WOMEN'S 3,000-METER**  
31. Olena Miahkykh, 4:24.64

**ALPINE SKIING – MEN'S DOWNHILL**  
49. Mykola Skriabin, 1:47.65

### • Monday, February 11

**ICE HOCKEY – MEN'S**  
Ukraine vs. Switzerland, 5-2

**FIGURE SKATING – PAIRS**  
15. Olena Savchenko/Stanislav Morozov  
16. Tetiana Chuvayeva/Dmytro Palamarchuk

**BIATHLON – MEN'S 20 K**  
23. Viacheslav Derkach, 55:01.3 (1 penalty)  
24. Ruslan Lysenko, 55:02.1 (2)  
27. Andrii Deryzemlia, 55:14.8 (1)  
68. Oleksander Bilanenko, 59:34.4 (4)

**BIATHLON – WOMEN'S 15 K**  
24. Olena Petrova, 51:05.7 (1)  
27. Oksana Yakovleva, 51:22.2 (2)  
29. Oksana Khvostenko, 51:34.4 (0)  
34. Olena Zubrylova, 52:10.7 (3)

### • Tuesday, February 12

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – WOMEN'S 10K**  
13. Iryna Terelia, 29:38.5  
14. Valentyna Shevchenko, 29:42.7  
43. Olena Rodina, 31:07.4

**SPEEDSKATING – MEN'S 500 METERS**  
29. Andrii Fomin, 1:12.64 (36.26, 36.38)

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – MEN'S 15K**  
32. Roman Leibiuk, 39:50.9

### • Wednesday, February 13

**ICE HOCKEY – MEN'S**  
Ukraine vs. France, 4-2

**LUGE – WOMEN'S SINGLES**  
6. Lilia Ludan, 2:54.499  
20. Oryslava Chukhlib, 2:56.281

**ALPINE SKIING – MEN'S COMBINED**  
25. Mykola Skriabin, 1:56.26

**BIATHLON – WOMEN'S 7.5K SPRINT**  
31. Tetiana Vodopianova, 23:03.8  
47. Nina Lemesh, 23:37.4  
48. Olena Petrova, 23:40.9  
59. Olena Zubrylova, 24:33.2

**BIATHLON – MEN'S 10K SPRINT**  
36. Viacheslav Derkach, 27:05.3  
38. Andrii Deryzemlia, 27:11.1  
53. Ruslan Lysenko, 27:43.1  
76. Roman Pryma, 29:16.1

### • Thursday, February 14

**ICE HOCKEY – MEN'S**  
Latvia vs. Ukraine, 9-2  
(Latvia earns ninth place, while Ukraine takes 10th.)

**CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – MEN'S 10K PURSUIT**  
12. Roman Leibiuk, 50:23.2  
(No. 8 in classical, No. 22 in freestyle)

### FIGURE SKATING – MEN'S

18. Dmytro Dmytrenko  
(No. 21 after short program, No. 18 in free skate)

### • Friday, February 15

**LUGE – MEN'S DOUBLES**  
11. Oleh Avdeyev/Danylo Panchenko, 1:27.327

### CROSS-COUNTRY SKIING – WOMEN'S 5K PURSUIT

12. Iryna Terelia, 25:33.6  
(No. 14 after classical, No. 7 after freestyle)  
23. Valentyna Shevchenko, 26:11.4  
(No. 17 after classical, No. 36 after freestyle)  
Olena Rodina and Maryna Pestriakova took 58th and 59th in the classical leg, failing to qualify for the freestyle leg.

### • Saturday, February 16

**FREESTYLE SKIING – WOMEN'S AERIALS**  
15. Tetiana Kozachenko, 151.23  
(did not qualify for finals)

**FREESTYLE SKIING – MEN'S AERIALS**  
22. Enver Ablayev, 156.84  
(did not qualify for finals)

### BIATHLON – WOMEN'S 10K PURSUIT

26. Tetiana Vodopianova, 34:23.0  
Nina Lemesh, DNS  
Olena Petrova, DNS  
Olena Zubrylova, DNS

### ALPINE SKIING – MEN'S SUPER-G

29. Mykola Skriabin, 1:27.84

### SPEEDSKATING – MEN'S 1,000 METERS

37. Andrii Fomin, 1:11.04

### BIATHLON – MEN'S 12.5K PURSUIT

40. Viacheslav Derkach, 36:56.8  
Andrii Deryzemlia, DNS  
Ruslan Lysenko DNS

### • Sunday, February 17

**BOBSLED – MEN'S TWO-MAN**  
34. Oleksander Ivanyshyn/Oleksander Streltsov, 3:18.42

**SPEEDSKATING – WOMEN'S 1,000 METERS**  
35. Olena Miahkykh, 1:20.13

### • Monday, February 18

**FIGURE SKATING – ICE DANCING**  
9. Olena Hrushyna/Ruslan Honcharov, 19.0  
21. Yulia Holovina/Oleh Voiko, 43.4

**BIATHLON – WOMEN'S 4x7.5K RELAY**  
10. Olena Zubrylova/Olena Petrova/Nina Lemesh/Tetiana Vodopianova, 1:32:00.6

### • Tuesday, February 19

**FREESTYLE SKIING – MEN'S AERIALS**  
5. Stanislav Kravchuk, 246.30

**SPEEDSKATING – MEN'S 1,500 METERS**  
43. Andrii Fomin, 1:51.02

### • Wednesday, February 20

**BIATHLON – MEN'S 4x7.5K RELAY**  
7. Viacheslav Derkach/Oleksander Bilanenko/Roman Pryma/Ruslan Lysenko, 1:27:02.2.

**ALPINE SKIING – WOMEN'S SLALOM**  
30. Yulia Siparenko, 2:00.50

**SPEEDSKATING – WOMEN'S 1,500 METERS**  
38. Olena Miahkykh, 2:05.32

### At press time:

• In women's figure skating, Ukraine's Halyna Manichenko and Olena Liashenko were 15th and 16th, respectively, after the short program skated on Tuesday, February 19. The long program was to be skated on Thursday evening, February 21, as this issue of The Weekly was completed.



Andrew Nynka

Stanislav Kravchuk competes in freestyle skiing.



Olena Savchenko and Stanislav Morozov run through their figure skating routine.

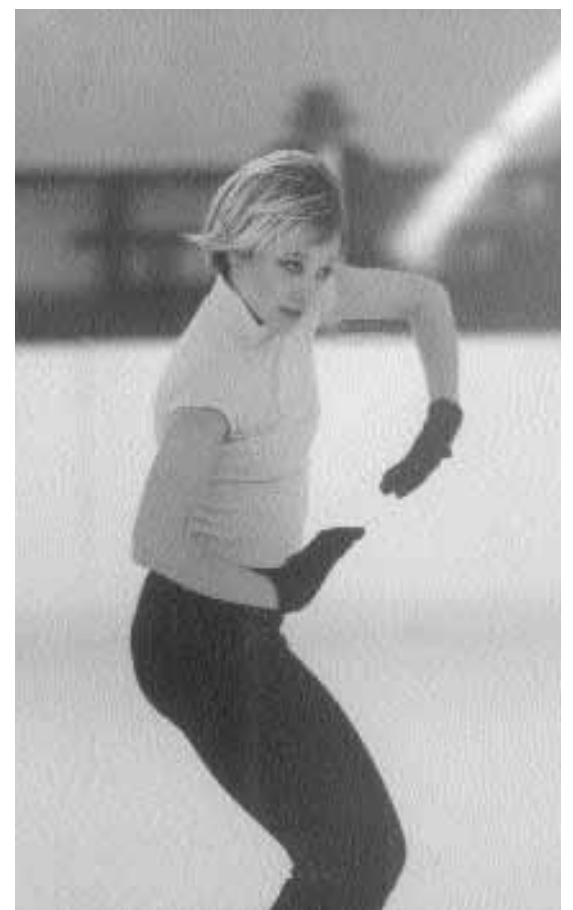


Figure skater Halyna Manichenko at practice.

## Ukraine at Salt Lake...

(Continued from page 1)

many counts. A bad game for us."

"I just tried to put my focus on this game," said Ukrainian goalie Kostiantyn Simchuk. "It was not easy. I was not prepared for this. We have a good team, we stay so close to each other. Our success is because of this. It was just a bad game for us."

Khristich also explained to The Weekly that there is no significant camaraderie among Ukrainian players in the NHL, but he emphasized that he was elated just to play with Team Ukraine.

Sergei Varlamov of the NHL's St. Louis Blues also said that, although he is aware of other Ukrainians playing in the NHL, "We don't know each other. We are spread out all over the country and we don't really get an opportunity to interact with each other."

### Questions re: biathlon

Questions have abounded over Ukraine's disappointing performance in the biathlon – a winter sport that is considered to be Ukraine's strongest

With a case of flu hitting the biathlon and cross-country teams, including with 1998 Nagano Silver medalist Olena Petrova just days before Olympic competition team officials seem to attribute a portion of the team's showing to poor health.

There have been questions also about the delegation's greatest medal hopeful, 28-year-old biathlete Olena Zubrylova. Conflicting reports out of the Ukrainian camp referred to her heart condition, with some team officials claiming that recent tests had revealed a clean bill of health while others have stated that the Kyiv native may have minor heart palpitations.

Also in question was the effect of altitude on the team.

Biathlon team leader Roman Bondaruk chose to keep the biathletes in Park City, away from the Olympic Village atmosphere and closer to the Soldier Hollow venue, in order to ensure what he believed would be proper training conditions.

However, Ukrainian TV analysts have commented that the higher altitude of nearly 7,000 feet in Park City, as opposed to the 6,000 feet at the Soldier Hollow venue, could have adversely affected the team's results.

In reference to the altitude, Zubrylova later said she felt something was holding her back and simply did not feel strong during her competitions. It was very evident, however, that her breathing had affected her shooting, which is normally a strong point for the two-time Olympian who, in arguably one of her strongest events, the 7.5-kilometer sprint, missed an uncharacteristic four out of 10 targets.

Sources close to the NOC-Ukraine said that team leader Bondaruk was released due to his ultimate responsibility for the poor performance of the biathlon squad. According to these sources, who wished to remain anonymous, Mr. Karlenko gave team leaders a general preparation plan for the 19th Winter Olympiad and only those team leaders, sources said, who meandered from the plan did not perform well and, therefore, were released.

Asked to comment, the chair of the State Sports Committee of Ukraine, Maria Bulatova, and the president of the NOC-Ukraine, Ivan Fedorenko, both refused to comment, saying only that they would hold any remarks for a press conference upon their return to Kyiv.

In other biathlon news, Nina Lemesh, Petrova and Zubrylova all sat out the women's 10-kilometer pursuit event. Delegation officials stated that the three missed the competition so they could be well rested for the women's 4x7.5-kilometer relay.



Andrew Nynka

The hockey teams of Ukraine and Latvia at the conclusion of their playoff for ninth place.

### Other Ukrainian results

In the women's aerials competition, Ukrainian hopeful and 1998 Nagano fourth-place finisher Tetiana Kozachenko did not qualify for the finals after blowing out her knee. The 21-year-old Rivne native finished the event in 15th place.

Dmytro Dmytrenko took 18th place in the men's figure skating program, while first-time Olympian Halyna Maniachenko and 1998 Nagano ninth-place finisher Olena Liashenko, took 15th and 16th places, respectively, after the short program in ladies figure skating.

In ice dancing Olena Hrushyna and Ruslan Honcharov took a respectable ninth place ahead of 21st-place finishers Yulia Holovina and Oleh Voiko.

In women's speedskating Ukrainian Olena Miahkykh took 38th place in the 1,500 meters and a 35th place finish in the 1,000 meters while men's speedskater Andrii Fomin finished the 1,000 in 37th and the 1,500 in 43rd.

In the men's doubles luge competition the team of Oleh Avdeyev and Danylo Panchenko took 11th place, while the two-man bobsled team of six-foot, 216-pound Oleksander Ivanyshyn and six-foot-two-inch, 205-pound Oleksander Streltsov took 34th place.

In the women's 10-kilometer biathlon pursuit, 29-year-old Tetiana Vodopianova finished in 26th place, missing four total targets; in the men's 12.5-kilometer biathlon pursuit Viacheslav Derkach missed three targets and took 40th place.

The women's 4x7.5-kilometer biathlon relay team of Zubrylova, Petrova, Lemesh and Vodopianova earned a strong 10th place finish behind the shooting of Zubrylova, who did not miss any targets and whose time of 22:04.0 put her only 31.6 seconds behind the day's best time.

On the men's 4x7.5-kilometer biathlon relay, the group of Derkach, Oleksander Bilanenko, Roman Pryma and Ruslan Lysenko finished in a very strong and respectable seventh place.

In cross-country skiing news, Ivano-Frankivsk resident Roman Leibiuk took 12th place in the 10-kilometer cross-country pursuit, featuring both freestyle and classical legs, in a field of 83 competitors.

In the women's 5-kilometer cross-country pursuit Iryna Terelia finished in 12th and Valentyna Shevchenko took 23rd, after both legs of the event, while teammates Olena Rodina and Maryna Pestiakova took 58th and 59th places,



NHL veteran Dimitri Khristich at a post-game press conference with Team Ukraine Coach Anatolii Bohdanov.

respectively, in the classical leg, failing to qualify for the freestyle leg.

In skiing news, Lviv native Mykola Skriabin took 29th place in the men's super-G and 25th in the combined events (downhill and slalom), while 21-year-old Yulia Siparenko of Kyiv took 30th in the women's slalom.

Stanley Haba of the Canadian Friends of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine said of Ukraine's Olympic performance to date, "It's a shame Ukraine has yet to win a medal. But [even] if

Ukraine were not to win a medal, we should remember that it's competing as an independent country under the blue-and-yellow national colors."

Mr. Haba, whose Canadian Friends of the NOC-Ukraine raised over \$40,000 for the biathlon and cross-country teams, urged the Ukrainian diaspora communities to donate what they could to the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine. He cited poor funding as a major reason for a disappointing Ukrainian performance at the Salt Lake City Games.



Maria Bulatova of the State Sports Committee with (from left) NOC-Ukraine President Ivan Fedorenko (center), a translator, and Chief of Mission Vasyl Karlenko.

## Forum editor lectures on "mystery" of ancient Scythians

TORONTO – "The Mystery of the Scythians" was the title of a lecture presented by Andrew Gregorovich at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Toronto on February 1.

Sponsored by the Ucrainica Research Institute, this is the first of several lectures announced by Ihor Steciw, president of the institute. He introduced the guest speaker as a former department head for 30 years in the University of Toronto library system, a former member of the Academic Board of the University of Toronto, the editor of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association's Forum magazine and now the senior researcher at the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center.

"I have been studying the Scythians for 35 years," said Mr. Gregorovich, "and I would like to share with you some of my ideas on the mysteries of the ancient Kingdom of Scythia which existed in Ukraine between 700 and 200 B.C."

Mr. Gregorovich is the author of "Scythia and Scythian Gold," published as Forum magazine No. 103-104 in 2001 and the "Scythian Bibliography" of 675 entries published in 2002.

The Scythians are considered the world's first horsemen. They also were to be among the finest ancient warriors and archers, because in 513 B.C. they defeated mighty King Darius the Great of Persia.

Herodotus, the ancient Greek "Father

of History" visited Scythia (Ukraine) in about 460 B.C. and dedicated his Book Four to ancient Scythia. Mr. Gregorovich said that Herodotus, and especially the research of archeologists in this past century, have given us a window on Scythia.

Since the Scythians ruled the Middle East (Israel and Babylon) for 28 years, they are mentioned in the Bible three times. Mr. Gregorovich said that there may be a relationship between the Scythians and the Scots. He offered a brief comment on the discovery of Amazon graves, which proves that the ancient Amazons actually existed on present-day Ukrainian territory and are more than a Greek myth. He also noted that the world's first horse ridden by a man was in Dereivka, Ukraine, in about 4,350 B.C., in the center of the future Scythia.

It was thought for over 2,000 years that the Scythians were a short, yellow, Mongol people who had come from Central Asia, Mr. Gregorovich related, but archeologists now know that "The Scythians were a tall, white European people whose kings were 2 meters (six feet, six inches) tall."

Scythian gold artifacts found in hundreds of kurhan burial mounds – one such kurhan had 1,200 gold artifacts – are made of exquisite gold. The mystery has been to determine who created them. In the past century it was thought that Greek craftsmen made all of them, but



Andrew Gregorovich points to the 2,400-year-old Solokha Comb found in a kurhan (burial mound) in Ukraine. It shows three Scythian warriors, one of whom is wearing a captured Greek helmet.

Mr. Gregorovich suggested that some researchers now think they are the work of Scythian craftsmen.

The greatest work of Scythian gold art, the Kyiv pectoral from the Tovsta Mohyla kurhan found in 1971, according to Mr. Gregorovich must have been created by a Scythian artisan goldsmith. He calls the piece the Kyiv pectoral because it is on exhibit in the Pecherska Lavra Museum in Kyiv.

The greatest mystery remaining today about the Scythians is whether there is any relation between the ancient Scythians of 2,500 years ago and modern Ukrainians. Mr. Gregorovich said that we will soon know the answer to this question once DNA research is done and gives us definite scientific proof. It is his opinion that there is likely to be some Scythian ancestry found among the population of Ukraine today.

## Ukrainian Canadian awarded Emmy for sound mixing

TORONTO – Ukrainian Canadian Orest Sushko received an Emmy award for outstanding sound mixing at the 2001 Emmy Awards presentation in Los Angeles. It was his second nomination for an Emmy in the past three years.

Mr. Sushko won for a mini-series he mixed titled "Nuremberg," starring Alec Baldwin. It was a complete surprise and a great honor for Mr. Sushko to be recognized by his peers in the industry. He is a lead re-recording mixer for Toronto-based AllianceAtlantis Communications, a company that produces and distributes feature films and television in Canada and abroad.

His craft involves mixing the movie soundtrack, which comprises dialogue, music and sound effects, working closely with the director and producers. He is currently mixing the



Orest Sushko with his Emmy.

upcoming David Cronenberg film "Spider."

Mr. Sushko has been with AllianceAtlantis since 1994. Prior to that he worked as a recording engineer at Master's Workshop after graduating from McMaster University in Hamilton, Ontario and finishing his studies in Toronto in the late 1980s. He has recorded and mixed numerous music projects for such artists as Sarah McLachlan, Barenaked Ladies, Kim Mitchell, Cowboy Junkies, Beautiful South and James.

His work has also included film scores, live productions, television shows, commercials, variety specials and feature films. In that time he has been nominated for nine Gemini and two Genie awards that honor both Canadian television and film.

Mr. Sushko still works as a freelance music engineer in both the mainstream and in the Ukrainian community. It helps keep him connected to the folklore and culture he grew up with. He has worked with Toronto's Vesnivka women's choir for the past 10 years, in which time they released two CD projects, as well as with the Bortniansky Music Project "Sacred Dnipro." In 1990 Mr. Sushko spent several weeks in Kyiv working with a local recording studio.

He is the son of Orysia and Makar Sushko of Hamilton, and brother to Roman, Halia and Oksana. While growing up, he was an active participant in the Ukrainian community, specifically St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral. He graduated from Ukrainian school in Hamilton, danced with the St. Vladimir dance ensemble and played in the Vodohray

(Continued on page 14)

## Vesnivka Choir's Christmas concert features debut of male chamber choir

by Nykola Parzei

TORONTO – The joyous songs of Christmas on January 13 filled a Toronto church and the hearts of music lovers attending the annual Vesnivka Choir carol concert.

More than 500 people poured into Humbercrest United Church, where the award-winning women's chorus, conducted by director Kvitka Zorych-Kondracka, presented a spiritually uplifting program of traditional, contemporary and rarely heard Ukrainian carols and New Year's songs.

Introducing new or lesser-known works is a long-standing tradition for Ms. Zorych-Kondracka, and Vesnivka audiences have come to look forward to hearing these musically innovative and often challenging compositions that are an important part of the choir's vast repertoire.

"In most organizations or in schools, Ukrainians are accustomed to singing the same carols each year," said Ms. Zorych-Kondracka who established Vesnivka 37 years ago and is the choir's artistic director. "Ukrainians have a very rich repertoire of many beautiful Christmas carols. Many of these pieces would not be heard, especially by our younger audience, if Vesnivka did not sing them at these annual Christmas concerts," she added.

The audience heard more than new music. The concert featured the recently formed Ukrainian Male Chamber Choir, a most welcome addition to Toronto's vibrant choral community.

The ensemble was established this past summer by Ms. Zorych-Kondracka, who has long dreamed of forming a male chorus. She was inspired to make the dream a reality after Vesnivka performed a powerful and moving concert of Ukrainian liturgical music last year with Toronto's renowned Amadeus choir. "We realized how wonderful it is to sing in a mixed choir," she commented.

The Ukrainian Male Chamber Choir made a good first impression, performing two challenging works and proving just how much can be accomplished in a short time when a talented conductor joins forces with a group of people who clearly love to sing. That same magical formula has helped the Vesnivka Choir earn a host of prestigious international and national awards for excellence.

The highlight of the afternoon was when the choirs came together performing a varied program of works including a medley of "koliadky" and "schedrivky" by composer Mykola Lysenko and a contemporary arrangement of a Lemko carol by R. Tsysh.

The concert ended with a spirited new work, "Veselaya Nam Novyna," by composer Lesia Dychko, after which audience members were invited to join in the singing of "Boh Predvichnyi."

The concert was both rewarding and exhilarating for Roman Hurko, a member of the new chamber choir. He said he sees a bright future for the ensemble which he predicted will grow quickly, attracting new members.

"Ukrainians have a long tradition of choral singing and have some lovely male choirs," he said after the successful concert. "However, it is time for younger men, born in Canada to take over the baton from the older generation. That is what I see happening here with the new Male Chamber Choir. I encourage other young men who enjoy singing to join."

Vesnivka continues its busy 2002 season on April 21, when the choir will showcase works by contemporary composers from Ukraine. The concert will feature selections by Stankovych, Stetsenko and Nekrasov, composers from Donetsk. Special guest artists will be pianist Luba and Ireneus Zuk. The concert will be held at the University of Toronto MacMillan Theatre. For further information visit the choir's website at [www.vesnivka.com](http://www.vesnivka.com).

# NEWS AND VIEWS: An insight into librarianship in Ukraine

by Dr. Christine Sochocky

The large public library of the Lviv Oblast was located in the city center, adjacent to the Halytskyi Rynok. The 18th century mansion was charming, but it was obvious to this visitor in February of 2000, that it was crumbling. Inside, the electric wiring looked particularly dangerous. On a subsequent visit, I saw all the books in bundles, tied with rope, ready to be moved. Where would they be going? I was told that it was up to the city and the oblast administrations to decide. Upon my third visit, in April 2002, I found the gate to the building grounds locked.

The collection now has a new home, and its story may serve to illustrate that libraries in Ukraine are among the worst victims of economic stagnation. One has to wonder how they operate on the totally inadequate government support and how librarians survive on meager salaries, if and when they are paid at all. I would tell my students that it was not our duty to cultivate plants in the library, as I would try to instill the concepts of professionalism, yet in my heart I was grateful for all the greenery in the library. When collections cannot be replenished with new materials and economic constraints impede productive development, that greenery is important.

In Soviet times libraries were officially held in esteem, sharing the same general reverence a Soviet citizen professed for culture in general. Although Soviet claims regarding the complete eradication of illiteracy and UNESCO statistics indicating that Soviet citizens read more than anyone in the world were exaggerated, it is true that books were cheap and that Soviet citizens did read a lot. Since then, the prevalence of television and the unsubsidized price tags attached to books have undermined the well-being of libraries. It is paradoxical that today, given the new realities and possibilities of our information age, Ukrainians read less than before. (Laws that prohibitively tax Ukrainian publishing and favor imports of Russian publications constitute another key factor with which libraries and readers have to contend, but this matter warrants separate consideration.)

A very positive development in librarianship in Ukraine is the enhancement of professional education. Whereas librarianship formerly was relegated to the institutes of culture, the field is now usually offered as a university program. In Rivne, for example, the former institute of culture since 1988 has been a part of the Rivne Liberal Arts University (Rivenskyi Humanitarnyi Universytet) and the four-year program has some 90 matriculated students. In 1999 the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv set up a library science section within the department of philology. In Kharkiv, the traditional center of education for librarianship and of professional publication, Dr. Natalia Kushnarenko heads the department of librarianship and information at the State Academy of Culture, and is a recognized authority in the field.

Although there still are programs offered by certain establishments "to prepare village and school librarians," the level of library education in Ukraine is rising and the profession will gain in quality and prestige as a result.

The Ukrainian Library Association was established in March 1998 and is headed by Valentyna Pashkova. The most authoritative journal, the *Bibliotechnyi Visnyk* (The Library Herald) places emphasis on the improvement of services and marketing. The latter constitutes a new concept for libraries, which, like other cultural institutions, were previously fully funded by the government and thus their existence was fully assured, regardless of the degree of public patronage.

Today government support is insufficient. Possibilities of charging fees for certain services are being discussed. While everyone believes that library technologies will revitalize libraries, these remain a dream for most libraries. However, it should be noted that a U.S. special grant of \$400,000 was recently designated for the computerization of libraries in Ukraine and this should help considerably.

Reorganization would also solve some problems. Lviv, for example, has many libraries of all types and some amalgamation would be an efficient, cost-cutting measure. However, given that the libraries function under various, often competitive, governing bodies, most library directors would likely be reluctant to join forces with anyone. Nevertheless, there are some libraries that, in the near future, will probably form consortia and share materials as cooperatively as modern technology allows.

Two very active and growing libraries in Lviv are the venerable Stefanyk Research Library of the Academy of Sciences and the newly created library of the Lviv

*Dr. Christine Sochocky taught library science at the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv and at the Liberal Arts University in Rivne as a Fulbright scholar in 1999-2000.*



The first students to study library science at the Ivan Franko National University in Lviv, 1999-2000. Pictured are: Solomiya Voloshyn, Romana Lomok, Olena Komarniak, Lesia Mekheva; (standing): Oksana Shubert and Marianna Romanets, with guest librarian Jennie Dienes (seated center) of the University of Kansas, a specialist in cartographic materials.

Theological Academy. Both have very dedicated directors and both have received considerable financial help from the diaspora. Such is the case also with the library of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv. It is relatively well-endowed, technologically sophisticated and optimally used. The renowned Vernadsky Library of the Academy of Sciences and the Library of the Parliament of Ukraine enjoy visible government support.

The recent amalgamation of the Pedagogical Institute Library in Kyiv and the Central Library of the Ministry of Education into the State Scientific Pedagogical Library, under the directorship of Paula Rohova, should prove to be most effective. These institutions will be the first to enjoy the sharing and enrichment that new technologies facilitate.

About half of Ukraine's 45,000 libraries are under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Education, and public libraries are administered by the Ministry of Culture. The network of libraries that belong to the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine form a category unto themselves and enjoy the highest prestige. The humblest and poorest are the school libraries, and they are the ones in need of the most radical changes. As teaching in schools will change from the single textbook basis, school libraries will need to provide materials to support the curriculum, and school librarians will become directly involved with the programs.

Although the Spetskhrany (special collections) have opened, access to materials and forthcoming service to patrons do not come spontaneously to librarians who only recently were instruments of state ideology and guarded, rather than dispersed, information. Furthermore, there is the belief that scholarly bibliographers represent the highest echelons of the profession and that the functions of librarianship as a service profession were lowly and modest.

Today libraries will have to study the communities they serve, market their services and change into more active, outward-oriented institutions. Eventually, the traditional

centralization and government control will weaken, giving way to more diversity and creativity. The profession is slowly rising to the challenge and, as it does, so will its prestige.

Many aspects of librarianship in Ukraine are problematic. Libraries are not a high priority of the government, and they are too weak to be independent of government support. This state of affairs is most ironic in our information age.

The Ukrainian Library Association (Ukrainska Bibliotechna Asotsiatsia) is a member of the International Federation of Library Associations (IFLA), and Ukrainian librarians occasionally participate in international conferences, as well as go abroad for periods of study. The general profile of the profession, however, is lowly and self-effacing.

In the last decade, Ukraine, or more specifically Crimea, has regularly hosted a series of international conferences that have gained importance in international librarianship. These, however, do not actually represent a measure of achievement of Ukrainian librarianship as the conferences are organized on the initiative of the Russian Library Association, which also reaps the resulting professional and financial profits. Ukrainian librarians play only a minor, if any, role in these conferences.

As difficult as the overall situation is, the enthusiasm and vision of some of the individuals in the profession bodes well for a promising future. In Rivne I had the opportunity to give a kind of "how we do it in America" speech to a large audience at the oblast library. The atmosphere was collegial and many questions were asked. Yet I admit that I was at a loss to answer one particular question for, indeed, I do not know how many American librarians would continue to work if they had not been paid for months.

I still feel the energy and good will of that audience, and I know that they will do great things when given half a chance.

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## UNA NOTICES

### Meeting of UNA Br. 133

Sunday, March 3, 2002  
 Newark, NJ

The annual meeting of UNA Br. 133 will be held at 11:30 a.m. at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church hall, 719 Sanford Ave, Newark, NJ. All members are asked to attend.

Jaroslaw Leskiw, Secretary

### Meeting of UNA Br. 125

Sunday, March 3, 2002  
 Des Plaines, IL.

The annual meeting of UNA Br. 125 will be held on Sunday, March 3, 2002 at 12:00 noon in the library of the Black Ram Restaurant, 1414 Oakton Street, Des Plaines, IL. 60018. Many interesting and informative topics will be discussed, as well as the election of a delegate to the Convention will take place. All members are asked to attend.

Barbara Paschen, Recording Secretary

### Meeting of UNA Br. 377

Sunday, February 24, 2002  
 St. Petersburg Fl.

The annual meeting of UNA Br. 377 will be held on Sunday, February 24, 2002 at 12:00 noon at Ephany Church hall, 434 90th Ave., St. Petersburg Fl. On the agenda, election of an officer, pre-convention plan - new insurance ideas, updates. Interested persons welcome.

John Gawaluch, Secretary  
 (727) 791-4040

### Meeting of UNA Br. 277

Saturday, March 2, 2002  
 Hartford CT.

The annual meeting of UNA Br. 277 St. John society will be held Saturday, March 2, 2002 at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford, 961 Wethersfield Avenue, Hartford CT.

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## Western diplomats...

(Continued from page 1)

one consisting of German members of Parliament, met with their Ukrainian counterparts on February 13-15 and came away with several less than shining observations regarding Ukraine's political development, including one by MP Gert Weiskirchen, who said that Ukraine's political parties do not represent the interests of society and the needs of the people, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

Although Ukrainian politicians have always listened warily when Western politicians have offered unsolicited advice, the surge of foreign politicians raised the ire of several, including leading members of the Socialist and Communist parties, who offered critical comments of their own, which amounted to calls to lay off.

However, a February 7 move by the U.S. Senate on a resolution regarding the Ukrainian elections, calling for transparent, free and fair democratic elections to Parliament, was met with an outright rebuke from the entire membership of the Verkhovna Rada on February 20. The various factions of the legislative body issued a common statement in which they demanded that the U.S. Congress not tamper in the internal affairs of the country and in the election process itself.

The visits by the foreign guests, and the discussions and the criticisms of various sorts did not change one thing: five weeks before Election Day Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine political bloc continued to remain in a close race with the Communist Party of Ukraine for Parliament seats. Most significant surveys reported that each political organization had between 17 to 20 percent favor among respondents.

Another four groups, the Social Democratic Party (United), the Green Party, the Women for the Future political union and the For a United Ukraine political bloc had between 4 and 8 percent support.

Most political analysts are naming the six political organizations as likely winners in the March 31 elections.

However, three other groups are given an outside chance of crossing the 4 percent barrier of voter support needed to gain parliamentary seats. They are: the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Natalia Vitrenko Bloc and the Socialist Party. All three currently have 2 to 3 percent support.

## Ukrainian Canadian...

(Continued from page 12)

orchestra and local bandura ensembles.

He is past president of the Hamilton and Eastern Canada branches of the youth organization SUMK. He also danced with both the Ilarion dance ensemble and Desna ensemble in Toronto, and played the trumpet with the Bukovyna brass band. While attending school in Toronto he lived at St. Vladimir Institute and was actively involved in its cultural programs.

Mr. Sushko is well-known throughout North America for his superb tsymbaly playing. He performed at the Caravan in Toronto for many years, including at countless festivals, and continues to entertain audiences in many locales.

He is currently working with the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus based in Detroit, and this spring will be recording its upcoming CD of the divine liturgy. This is a family tradition, since Mr. Sushko's father, Makar, is a past member of the chorus and his grandfather, Paul Stepowy, crafted banduras, many of which have been played by members of the UBC over the chorus' 80-year history.

## The case of...

(Continued from page 2)

Lazarenko's new face.

Then the offensive grew. Mr. Lazarenko wrote in October 1998: "I want to state, and place on the record, that the 'case of the Swiss bank accounts' and 'Lazarenko's dacha [vacation home],' and all the other, I am convinced, affairs which will be concocted by the masters of political intrigues in the Cabinet of Ministers and by the procurator general are an open attempt to discredit the opposition, nothing but a commissioned political affair. Knowing our Procurator General's Office, I would not be surprised if I am to be accused of murdering the Russian emperor, Nikolai II, or taking part in the murder of Trotsky." (Holos Ukrainy, October 28, 1998).

Mr. Lazarenko ("Pasha," as he was called by his cronies from Dnipropetrovsk) knew his topic. He had himself witnessed many such perversions of justice by the Procurator General's Office. Interestingly enough, Mr. Lazarenko did not go after President Kuchma in this article. It seems that he still had hope that President Kuchma would not press for his imprisonment and that a deal could be cut.

Neither did Mr. Kuchma press for a drastic solution to the problem. If anything, the president sought to delay the Lazarenko case and keep Parliament from a vote on lifting his immunity. It is now clear that President Kuchma was afraid of provoking Mr. Lazarenko into naming how much money he might have given him.

Mr. Lazarenko felt that he was still powerful enough to conduct his businesses. On December 2, 1998, he was detained while attempting to enter Switzerland by car and using a Panamanian passport he had obtained by "investing money into the Panamanian economy." He was accompanied in the car by a man of Russian citizenship. On December 4, he was formally arrested by Swiss authorities for money laundering in criminal case No. P/2489/98, which was being investigated in Geneva.

Mr. Lazarenko apparently was going to check on his accounts in Switzerland, or transfer money into other, new accounts. By this time, he did not trust any of his closest cohorts to do so for him – including his closest co-conspirator, Mr. Kirichenko. He needed to transfer money to California, where he had purchased a mansion in Novato (near San Francisco) for \$7 million, and where his wife and children were living. The maintenance and taxes alone on the house were not insignificant, and he needed to provide for his family. Normally, he would have entrusted these tasks to Mr. Kirichenko, but for some reason he did not.

Mr. Lazarenko spent 13 days in a jail cell in Geneva. Then on December 17, bail in the amount of 4 million Swiss francs was posted by an unknown benefactor, and Mr. Lazarenko was allowed to go free, provided that he would return to Switzerland to stand trial on money-laundering charges.

### CONCLUSION

This final installment about the activities of former Ukrainian Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko is largely based on information published on the independent Ukrainian website Criminal Ukraine (<http://www.cripo.com.ua/>) in 2001. It shows the web of connections between members of the Ukrainian ruling elite and their families in activities which are improper at best and most likely illegal.

Meanwhile, the trial of Mr. Lazarenko is scheduled to begin in San Francisco in November.

In March 1997 a closed tender was

held in Kyiv to allocate frequencies for the GSM-900 system of telecommunications. The winners were announced at a press briefing by the committee that conducted the tender. The winners were three companies; the first two were well-established joint-venture companies operating in Ukraine for a number of years: Ukrainian Mobile Communications and Ukrainian Radio Systems. The third winner was an unknown company called Kyiv Star that had neither an address nor a phone number in the capital.

A few days after the results were announced, Motorola, one of the joint-venture partners of Ukrainian Radio Systems, angrily announced that it was leaving the country after having invested \$500 million into its operations there. Nobody seemed to care that Motorola was leaving the market. Some were pleased by this turn of events, especially people in President Kuchma's administration and in Prime Minister Lazarenko's Cabinet of Ministers.

For weeks prior to the announcement of the winners, the head of the State Committee on Communications, which was responsible for the tender, had not been able to get a good night's sleep. He was being bombarded on a daily basis by telephone calls from the president's administration and from the Cabinet of Ministers with very explicit instructions on which companies were to be awarded the tender. His recently appointed first deputy and head of the committee on licensing radio frequencies was Oleksander Hneletskyi.

Mr. Hneletskyi had come to Kyiv from Dnipropetrovsk, the hometown of both Messrs Kuchma and Lazarenko. In Dnipropetrovsk Mr. Hneletskyi had headed the local telephone network. Soon after the tender ended, Mr. Hneletskyi returned to his former job in Dnipropetrovsk. He had accomplished his mission in Kyiv.

Many people wondered where Kyiv Star had come from; it had never placed a telephone call for anyone anywhere. Soon an announcement was made. It seems that Kyiv Star had been formed in 1994. Its founding entities were the State Committee on Communications, the Energy Ministry, the Ukrainian State Railroad Company, British Telecom, Teller International and the Luxembourg-based company Impeks Group. But the company was dormant. It made its first mobile telephone call only on December 9, 1997, eight months after winning the GSM-900 tender.

In 1997 Kyiv Star underwent a total reorganization. It went from being a public stock company to a closed shareholders company under the name Kyivstar GSM with start-up capital of \$28 million. The company officially claimed that 51 percent of the shares belonged to Ukrainian entities, which consisted of the companies Storm (21 percent of the shares) and Omega (30 percent); 14 percent belonged to the U.S.-based investment fund Sputnik; and 35 percent belonged to the Norwegian company Telenor. The CEO of Kyivstar GSM was identified as Yuri Tumanov.

Soon it became known that Mr. Tumanov was also the CEO of Storm and, furthermore, that he was the brother of the Ukrainian first lady, Liudmyla Kuchma. His daughter, Svetlana, also was a leading member of the company. It was also discovered that Storm owed 31 percent of the shares of Kyivstar GSM, and not 21 percent as was claimed publicly.

The Omega part of Kyivstar GSM was registered in Dnipropetrovsk in October 1996 and in fact held 20 percent of the shares and was, until recently, headed by a member of the Ukrainian Parliament, Natalia Donets, a leading member of Mr. Lazarenko's Hromada Party and a close

friend of Mr. Lazarenko's wife. Presently, Omega is headed by Konstantin Avdeyev, the former personal bodyguard for Mr. Lazarenko.

Among the founding members of Omega are Nataliya Pushanko and Anatolii Donets, Natalia Donets' husband. The founding capital for Omega arrived in 1998 from the company Nemura Industrial Group Ltd., which is registered in Antigua.

The Nemura Industrial Group Ltd. is not an unknown company in Ukrainian politics. On July 11, 1997, a Ukrainian-Antiguan joint venture called SP Pravda Ukrainy was formed by the Kyiv company Puls, which was owned by the collective of the newspaper Pravda Ukrainy (a newspaper that was the official voice of the Hromada Party) and the Antiguan company Nemura, whose address was the same as the Nemura Industrial Group Ltd. The founders of Nemura were Mr. Lazarenko and Mr. Kirichenko. The bank account of the company was in the European Federal Credit Bank in Antigua, through which Messrs. Lazarenko and Kirichenko were laundering vast sums of money.

The third part of Kyivstar GSM consisted of two Sputnicks: Sputnik 4 LP, registered in the U.S. state of Delaware, and Sputnik 5 Holdings Limited, registered in Cyprus. Both Sputnicks listed their representative as one Gregory Bedrosian. Many in Kyiv suspect that both Sputnicks are companies owned, in fact, by Mr. Lazarenko. The "LP" at the end of Sputnik 4 gives it away, they

claim. Mr. Lazarenko had the habit of inserting his name, initials, the names of his daughters, the town he was born in and other similar facts onto his accounts.

By 1998 the leading personalities of Kyivstar GSM consisted of the following people: Mr. Tumanov (President Kuchma's brother-in-law), chairman of the board; Yelena Frantsuk (Mr. Kuchma's daughter), who headed the marketing department; and Irena Yuriyivna Kravchenko (the daughter of former Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Kravchenko).

The money illegally received for Mr. Kuchma's Kyivstar GSM began in Kyiv in the offices of Prime Minister Lazarenko, then made its way to Switzerland, then to Antigua, then back to Dnipropetrovsk and Kyiv. The circle closed upon itself.

Postscript: On August 15, 2001, Hryhorii Omelchenko, a member of the Verkhovna Rada and head of the parliamentary Committee on Corruption, called a press conference and announced that President Kuchma had received a \$3.7 million bribe from Mr. Lazarenko and that this bribe was in the form of capital to form the company Kyivstar GSM. Earlier, in the fall of 2000, Mr. Omelchenko had sent a request to Ukrainian Procurator General Mykola Potembenko, asking that Kyivstar GSM be investigated to show if any money stolen by Mr. Lazarenko had made its way to the company. Thus far, no answer has been received.

### In Memoriam

To commemorate the Fifth Anniversary of the  
unexpected death of my sister

**Rosalie Chuma Polche**  
on March 3, 1997

a Memorial Liturgy will be celebrated at the

**St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church**  
22 East Seventh Street  
New York, NY

Sunday, March 3, 2002, at noon

Natalie Chuma

### DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Thanks to the generosity of the people and organizations listed below, we were able to finance the following charitable programs in Ukraine:

1. Humanitarian programs: free daily meals for the elderly in seven cities of Ukraine and St. Nicholas' visits to orphans and poor children in sixteen cities of Ukraine.
2. Assistance to Seminaries – primarily to the Kyiv Theological Academy.
3. Assistance to the Kaniv Parish, in memory of the late Oksana Voronin.
4. Action for the return of St. Michael's Cathedral art treasures from Russia to Ukraine.
5. Missionary work among the members of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

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- \$1,385.00: St. Mary Protectress Cathedral, Southfield, MI.
- \$600.00: Assoc. Ridna Shkola, N. Royalton, OH; V. Rev. A. Limonczenko.
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- \$250.00: M./A. Heretz; J./H. Reshetar;
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### 2a. V. Rev. Dr. W. Lewytskyj Scholarship Fund

- (Established by Panimatka Halyna & Family in 2000 with donation of \$43,900)
- \$500.00: Anonymous; Dr. J. Kerelejza; J./H. Reshetar.
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- \$100.00: J. Lasky; Fr. S./N. Nowytski.
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- \$20.00: A./E. Bello; S. Bozhenko; S./L. Golub; M. Lylyk; O./A. Rosputko.
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- \$20.00: A. Pittmanec; C. Nawrocky.
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### 4. St. Michael's Cathedral Art Treasure Return

- \$5,000.00: Chopivsky Family Foundation.
- \$500.00: Dr. J. Kerelejza.
- \$300.00: Dr. A. List.
- \$250.00: S. Boychuk; Dr. V./O. Bakum; A./S. Pulym.
- \$100.00: D. Bednarsky; M./A. Heretz; S./M. Jarosz; W. Kreiden; A. Nikorovich; O. Nikorovich-Trabocco; A. Onuferko; A. Petriwsky; A./S. Skop; M. Sorokolit.
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- \$10.00: N. Revenko.

### EXPENDITURES

Humanitarian projects	\$15,850
Assistance to theological schools	14,125
St. Michael's Golden-Domed Cathedral Church in Kaniv	5,700
Missionary and other projects	4,000
Fund raising (printing & postage)	1,696
Administrative costs	3,782
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$46,622</b>

### LIABILITIES:

Restitution of Ukrainian Art Church in Kaniv and other projects	\$8,313
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,865</b>
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES &amp; LIABILITIES</b>	<b>\$56,800</b>

On behalf of the beneficiaries, as well as all the members of St. Andrew's Society and its Executive Board, we wish to express our deepest gratitude to all contributors for their understanding and support. May the Lord reward them a hundred-fold for their kindness.

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## Kharkiv Oblast trade delegation takes home results from U.S. visit

by Jan Sherbin

CINCINNATI – A trade delegation from the Kharkiv Oblast has completed its swing through Ohio, making many contacts that are expected to result in increased trade, as well as educational exchanges.

Representing both private business and government economic development units, the delegation pitched the Kharkiv Oblast in Columbus, Cleveland and Cincinnati between January 28 and February 2. The delegation made the Ohio trip via the Kharkiv Partnership, a program designed to accelerate the creation of private businesses and new employment opportunities in the Kharkiv Oblast.

Delegates participated in small trade shows in each of the three Ohio cities and also met with business and government leaders. Private businesses represented the fields of agriculture, aviation, chemicals, energy, optics, clothing and accessories, food processing and information technology. Possibilities explored for linkages included distributing Ukrainian products in the United States and U.S. products in Ukraine, outsourcing labor, and identifying lower-cost sources of products and components.

Kharkiv Oblast Chairman Yevhen Kushnariov pointed out the region's commercial strengths, such as natural resources, educated labor force, inexpensive energy and transport junctions. He said information brought by the delegation could help Ohio businesses evaluate the attractiveness of the Kharkiv oblast and could lead to increased jobs and income for Kharkiv Oblast residents.

Furthermore, the city of Kharkiv, the capital of the Kharkiv Oblast, operates under a special investment policy that allows income tax breaks for foreign companies, as well as duty exemptions on raw materials and construction parts.

Mr. Kushnariov kicked off the trade

mission by meeting with Ohio Gov. Bob Taft. Both officials signed a Protocol of Intent for Cooperation, which outlines a broad program of commercial, academic and cultural efforts to be promoted in Ohio and the Kharkiv Oblast. Much of the program builds on groundwork laid by the Cincinnati-Kharkiv Sister City Project since 1989.

The trade delegation brought a logo proclaiming "Our time is now." In a speech directed to Ohio businesspeople and officials of Ohio's Department of Development, Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Anatoli Vokh explained why the group is making this claim.

"Only seven years ago, Mr. Kushnariov and I had the opportunity to speak with a McDonald's executive in Washington with the intent of attracting franchises to Ukraine. 'Impossible,' he said. 'We wouldn't have any customers, and it's not safe in Ukraine.' Today, Ukrainian McDonald's are some of the most profitable franchises in Europe. In Kharkiv alone, there are five very busy restaurants," Mr. Vokh said.

"We hope that after this week Ohio will see the Kharkiv Oblast as a natural and beneficial partner for economic development, for educational and people exchanges, and for the promotion of universal peace in a complex and troubled world," the Parliament member underscored.

The trade mission's Ohio program was organized by Cincinnati's Center for Economic Initiatives and Kent State University. The United States Agency for International Development (USAID) funded the mission.

Details about the Kharkiv Oblast trade delegation, such as companies interested in doing business in the United States and their products and services, are on the website of the Center for Economic Initiatives: [www.ukrainebiz.com](http://www.ukrainebiz.com).

conventions. Earlier in the year, at the sixth world convention of the ASN, held at Columbia University, NTSh sponsored a roundtable on "Identity in Ukraine," which was chaired by Prof. Procyk. Papers were presented by NTSh members: Prof. Danylenko ("Linguistics and Identity"), Taras Hunczak ("History and Identity"), Eleanore Solovey ("Literature and Identity") and Oleksander Zaytsev ("Politics and Identity").

That meeting also featured a second NTSh panel, titled "Dilemmas of Minority Language Policies in East Central Europe." It was chaired by Dr. Onyshkevych, with the following speakers, all of whom focused on the status of the Ukrainian language: Martha Trofimenko on "International Standards and Policies Regarding Linguistic Rights"; Lubica Bobotowa on "Language Policies in Slovakia"; Prof. Znayenko on "Language Policies in Poland"; and Dr. Berezovenko on "Language Policies in Russia." Other NTSh members who presented their individual papers at this convention were Oleh Wolowyna and Yaroslav Bilinsky.

NTSh plans to intensify its promotion of Ukrainian studies worldwide in a variety of ways, among them by expanding its collaboration with colleagues in Ukraine, by enabling their participation in joint as well as international conferences, by continuing to offer prizes to outstanding specialists in the Ukrainian language, by sponsoring scholars and students from Ukraine, and by coordinating efforts to educate a pool of specialists in the Ukrainian language, literature and culture.

## Shevchenko...

(Continued from page 6)

discussion on the topic "Current Ukrainian: Rules vs. Usage," which was chaired by Anna Lisa Crone, with papers presented by Andriy Danylenko, Assya Humesky, Dr. Onyshkevych and Svitlana Rogovyk, and another, titled "Western European Thought in 19th-Century Ukraine," chaired by Dr. Onyshkevych, with papers by Prof. Danylenko, Prof. Humesky and Anna Procyk, with Tamara Hundorova as the discussant.

In addition, NTSh members participated in a number of other sessions, in particular the roundtable devoted to the Anthology of Contemporary Ukrainian Poetry, chaired by Catherine Wanner. Here NTSh was represented by Antonina Berezovenko, Olha Luchuk, Michael Naydan and Myroslava Znayenko. Ukrainian themes were also explored in a session dealing with the beginnings of modern Ukrainian history. In other sessions, individual papers were presented by NTSh members Natalie Kononenko, Marianne Rubchak, Mark von Hagen, Dr. Wanner and Maria Rewakowicz.

At the conclusion of the conference, NTSh hosted a reception for all the AAASS participants interested in Ukrainian studies.

The AAASS Convention was not the only forum where NTSh promoted Ukrainian studies in 2001. As a founding member of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (ASN), NTSh traditionally holds panels at the ASN national and world

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Communists promise to ensure comprehensive support for domestic producers; restore the "uninterrupted operation" of the fuel and energy sector; support agricultural producers with preferential credits; prevent the massive purchase of land by the nouveau riche and foreigners; guarantee equal legal conditions for the operation of enterprises and businesses with different forms of ownership; stop tax pressure and abolish the value-added tax; stop "the criminal grabatization" [privatization]; and "get rid of the dictatorship and the services of the U.S. administration, the IMF [International Monetary Fund] and other financial-political octopi." The Communists also promise to turn Ukraine into a "parliamentary-presidential" country. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Five Ukrainian miners die in blast

KRASNOARMIISK – A methane explosion killed five miners at a coal mine in Krasnoarmiisk, Donetsk Oblast, on February 14, Interfax reported. Some 40 miners have died in accidents at Ukrainian coal mines so far this year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Court asks CEC to review bloc's rejection

KYIV – The Supreme Court has obliged the Central Electoral Commission to reconsider its decision not to register the For Yushenko election bloc led by Oleksander Rzhavskiy, UNIAN reported on February 12. Many Ukrainian observers see Mr. Rzhavskiy's election initiative – using the name of popular politician Viktor Yushenko without his approval – as a dirty election technique intended to confuse the electorate and take away some votes from Yushenko's Our Ukraine bloc. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kyiv, Belgrade pledge to expand ties

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh said after his meeting

with Yugoslav Foreign Minister Goran Svilanovic in Kyiv on February 12 that the two countries intend to continue developing and strengthening bilateral political, economic and cultural relations, Interfax reported. According to Ukrainian official sources, the trade turnover between the two countries in January-November 2001 amounted to \$75 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Tymoshenko bloc airs campaign ad

KYIV – The Yulia Tymoshenko election bloc on February 11 aired its state-sponsored election spot on Ukrainian Television, in which Ms. Tymoshenko accused the authorities of plotting to discredit her. "I will not defend myself against every allegation the authorities make. As soon as some allegations are cleared, they will come up with others to set society against me and all those around me," she said in a video recorded before her recent car crash. Ms. Tymoshenko appealed to viewers to vote for her bloc as well as for Viktor Yushenko's Our Ukraine and Oleksander Moroz's Socialist Party. She added that the three will cooperate in the new Parliament. Meanwhile, Mr. Yushenko said on February 13 that he does not cooperate with Ms. Tymoshenko in the election campaign because hers is an "opposition" bloc while his is a "constructive" one. He added that his aim is to unite forces around a "non-militant, non-opposition, non-radical program." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Rejection of Melnychenko bid explained

KYIV – The Justice Ministry has concluded that former presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko does not fall into the category of individuals resident in Ukraine in the last five years and, therefore, may not be registered as a candidate in this year's parliamentary election, UNIAN reported on January 31. The ministry's state secretary, Oleksander Lavrynovych, told journalists that, indeed, the definition of permanent residence in the election law covers

Ukrainian citizens' stay abroad under active international treaties signed by Ukraine. Mr. Lavrynovych added, however, that the ministry analyzed all of Ukraine's international treaties and reached the conclusion that this clause applies only to businessmen and tourists. Mr. Melnychenko's stay abroad, according to the ministry, cannot be categorized as such. The Central Election Commission refused to register Mr. Melnychenko, and the Socialist Party election bloc has filed a complaint to the Supreme Court. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Energy company loses suit in court

KYIV – A court of arbitration in Moscow has ruled that a Ukrainian company must pay 452 million rubles (\$14.7 million U.S.) to the Russian Defense Ministry in debt for supplied gas, New Channel Television reported on January 31. The defendant in this case was the Ukrainian company Bosfor, while the third party in the claim was the industrial-financial corporation United Energy Systems of Ukraine (UESU). The debt arose from gas supplied by Russia to UESU in 1996-1997. The Ukrainian companies are accused of failing to deliver under a barter agreement signed with the Russian Defense Ministry in 1996, when the UESU was run by Yulia Tymoshenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Oil deposit discovered in Poltava region

POLTAVA – The Ukrnafta oil company has discovered a new industrial oil deposit in Poltava Oblast, Ukrainian Television reported on January 30. The new deposit was revealed at the Reshetniakivske oilfield, where oil has been extracted for the past 30 years. "At this oilfield we successfully used horizontal drilling in veins that had been left untapped in previous years. This enabled us to find new oil reserves," an Ukrnafta official said of the discovery. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Newspaper forced to change print shop

KYIV – Ukraina Moloda reported on January 26 that the Kyiv-based newspaper Vecherniye Vesti, which is linked to opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko, has been forced to look for a printing house in Lviv since the editorial staff could not find a printer in the capital. "Print shop directors spoke to us in a normal manner by phone until we named ourselves. The name of our newspaper automatically meant an end to the conversation. Some promised to call us back, but it was obvious that they would not," Vecherniye Vesti Editor-in-Chief Oleksander Liapin commented. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Iraq opens embassy in Ukraine

KYIV – The Embassy of Iraq was opened in Kyiv on January 24 in response to the opening of the Embassy of Ukraine in Baghdad last year, Ukrainian media reported. According to 1+1 Television, the opening ceremony was ignored by prominent Ukrainian politicians, whereas the Ukrainian government was represented by the deputy secretary of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Volodymyr Yelchenko. Mr. Yelchenko said current Ukrainian-Iraqi cooperation does not contradict international laws and U.N. sanctions imposed for Iraq's 1990 invasion of Kuwait. Ukraine and Iraq have not yet exchanged ambassadors. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kremlin spokesman warns RFE/RL

MOSCOW – The Kremlin's spokesman on Chechnya, Sergei Yastrzhembskii, said in an interview published in Gazeta on

January 28 that the Russian government will carefully monitor Radio Liberty broadcasts to Russia and could revoke RFE/RL's broadcasting license in Russia if its coverage is deemed to have taken a "biased and prejudiced form." The comments were an apparent response to RFE/RL's plans to open a North Caucasus Service in late February, which will broadcast in the Chechen, Avar and Circassian languages. Mr. Yastrzhembskii said the Constitution of Russia and laws impose "certain restrictions on the mass media in Russia, of which the lawyers and journalists of RFE/RL are well aware," which provide for an official warning from the Media Ministry and the possible revocation of the broadcasting license should that warning go unheeded. Mr. Yastrzhembskii said the Media Ministry and Department of Information of the presidential administration will be tasked with monitoring RFE/RL's "behavior." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Moldova responds to Kyiv initiative

CHISINAU – In response to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's calls for the resumption of negotiations between Chisinau and Tiraspol, the Foreign Ministry on January 28 said it "appreciates" Kyiv's "efforts as a mediator," but rejected the initiative in practice, RFE/RL's Chisinau bureau reported. The ministry said that "taking into consideration the well-known intransigent position of the Tiraspol leadership and the fact that the negotiations between Moldova and Ukraine on strengthening controls at borders and at custom points have not been finalized," Moldova believes it is "more opportune" to convene "as soon as possible" a meeting between the Ukrainian and Moldovan presidents. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Romanian, Ukrainian PMs sign pact

BUCHAREST – Visiting Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and his Romanian counterpart, Adrian Nastase, signed an agreement in Bucharest on January 30 on economic cooperation, Romanian radio reported. Mr. Kinakh said trade between the two countries increased by a significant 25 percent in 2001 and amounted to \$600 million. Mr. Nastase said Romania is interested in continuing participation in the construction of the Kryvyi Rih ore-dressing plant in Ukraine, and that the two countries are cooperating on hydroelectric projects on the Tysa River and on connecting their respective natural gas-transportation pipelines. He hinted that the dispute over the Black Sea shelf and Serpents' Island remains unsolved, saying that in the future "sensitive points" in Romanian-Ukrainian relations will be "important tests" that must be "approached from a European perspective." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kinakh on dispute with Romania

BUCHAREST – Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh said on January 30 that he hopes the dispute with Romania over the Black Sea shelf and Serpents' Island will be solved in negotiations by the two countries' experts before President Ion Iliescu pays a scheduled visit to Kyiv in the first half of 2002, Mediafax reported. "Prime Minister [Adrian] Nastase and I agreed that the problem must be solved in a constructive manner and its solution must be in line with international legislation, territorial integrity and [earlier] bilateral agreements," Mr. Kinakh said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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# Hartford's "Viktory Skate" celebrates the city at Christmas

by **Natalka K. Pollock**

HARTFORD, Conn. – The city of Hartford for the first time ever installed a temporary skating rink in Bushnell Park during the 2001-2002 holiday season, and since Thanksgiving an estimated 2,000 skaters per week, mostly children, have been enjoying the ice at the foot of the State Capitol to the sounds of the latest pop music hits. On January 6, area resident and Olympic gold medalist Viktor Petrenko was on hand to skate with them.

Under the auspices of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, Mr. Petrenko spent about an hour and a half skating and clowning on the ice with different groups of fans. He posed for countless photographs and signed autographs. Over 400 people came to catch a glimpse of the star – some standing in line for over an hour before he arrived to shake hands with them.

"I am happy to say hello to my Hartford area friends and to thank them for supporting the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund," Mr. Petrenko said. He was introduced by local radio personality Ray Dunaway, who also recognized former Mayor Mike Peters for his efforts in lighting the park with Christmas lights, now an annual event.

On hand were representatives of the Greater Hartford Arts Council, Dr. Ramon Rojano of the recently elected Mayor Eddie Perez's new administration, and Leadership Greater Hartford, a new promotional arm that was responsible for bringing the rink to the park.

Although this event was originally planned as a closing ceremony for the skating rink, Kathy Hanaway of Leadership Greater Hartford took the opportunity to officially announce the extension of skating hours until January 20, and to reveal the city's intent to bring it back next year.

An especially touching moment hushed the crowd as a handful of children pulling little red wagons filled with toys made their way to Mr. Petrenko. Amy Barzach, founder and director of Boundless Playgrounds, and its corporate sponsor, Hasbro, donated 50 toys to Mr. Petrenko and CCRF for distribution to children in Ukrainian orphanages.

Boundless Playgrounds is a locally-based non-profit organization that assists communities across the world with the design and installation of playground accessible to the handicapped. Ms. Barzach and CCRF Executive Director Alex Kuzma discussed the possibility of working on a joint project in Ukraine.



**Olympian Viktor Petrenko at microphone with (from left): former Mayor Mike Peters; radio personality WTIC 1080 Ray Dunaway; Arther Miller, Hartford director of public works; and Ken Kahn of the Greater Hartford Arts Council.**

## Canada and Ukraine...

(Continued from page 3)

duty is to record all pertinent Canadian events for posterity.

"To paraphrase Taras Shevchenko, the great Ukrainian poet, "Think, read and learn about other people, but do no forget your own," said Mr. Carey. "Archives fits right in, and we are pleased to host this evening's celebration."

Canada's new secretary of state for Central and Eastern Europe and the Middle East, Gar Knutson, said that Canadians of Ukrainian descent made large contributions to the development of Canada, noting that links between the two countries go back much further than 10 years.

"Ukraine has gone through a historic development in this time," added Mr. Knutson, noting the many treaties Ukraine and Canada have jointly signed on such far-ranging issues as the banning of landmines, as well as trade and commerce.

Mr. Knutson joined Prime Minister Jean Chrétien's trade delegation to Russia this past week, but split off from the Team Canada mission to go to Kyiv on February 17-20. "I am going to increase our presence in that part of the world," Mr. Knutson underscored.

Dr. Shcherbak said that in 1991 there were just 14 foreign consulates in Kyiv. Today there are more than 170 countries with representatives in the Ukrainian capital, and Ukraine counts more than 80 foreign embassies from around the world.

"And we are looking forward to opening a new Ukrainian consulate in Alberta," added the ambassador.

After the speech-making, the Embassy showed two short films. The first showed the military parade in Kyiv last August 24 on the 10th anniversary of independence; the second was a government production called "Picturesque Ukraine." The evening concluded with a reception featuring wine and Ukrainian food.

Canada's deputy prime minister sent along his greetings as well. John Manley could not attend, but asked Ukrainian Canadian parliamentarian Walt Lastewka to read a letter he had prepared.

"I believe that we are embarking on a time of great hope for the world community, where real priorities have never been viewed so clearly, and our common values never put so firmly into play," wrote Mr. Manley. "True friendships and genuine commitments count more than ever – and such is the bond between Canada and Ukraine. A toast to the future!"

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ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

Saturday, March 2, 2002, at 2:00 p.m.

at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church Rectory  
635 North River Street, Wilkes-Barre, PA

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

**164, 169, 282, 333, 409**

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Ulana Diachuk, UNA President

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Henry Bolosky, District Chairman

Genet H. Boland, Secretary

Giselle Stefury, Treasurer

Tymko Buetrej, Honorary District Chairman

DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF UNA BRANCHES OF CLEVELAND, OH

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

Saturday, March 9, 2002, at 2:00 p.m.

at Pokrova Ukrainian Catholic Church  
6810 Broadview Road, Parma, OH

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

**102, 112, 166, 180, 222, 233, 240, 291, 358, 364**

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Martha Lysko, UNA National Secretary

Taras Szmagala Jr., UNA Advisor

Taras Szmagala, Honorary Member of UNA General Assembly

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Luba Mudri, Secretary

Natalie Miahky, Treasurer

DISTRICT COMMITTEE OF UNA BRANCHES OF BUFFALO, NY

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

Saturday, March 2, 2002, at 5:00 p.m.

at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall  
308 Fillmore Ave., Buffalo, NY 14206

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

**127, 304, 360**

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Martha Lysko, UNA National Secretary

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Osyp Hawryluk, District Chairman

Wasył Sywenky, Secretary

Maria Bodnarskyj, Treasurer

Roman Konotopsky, Honorary District Chairman

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# Minneapolis continues to help ailing children from Ukraine

by Dr. Peter Popadiuk

MINNEAPOLIS – Ten years have passed since the Ukrainian community in Minneapolis first sponsored a seriously ill Ukrainian child for a free medical care.

Thanks to the initiative of local physician Dr. Michael Kozak, and the parishioners of St. Constantine's Church, where the Rev. Stephen Knapp was pastor, a committee was organized to help children who were suffering as result of the Chernobyl nuclear explosion. Shortly thereafter \$5,000 was collected and donated to the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund based in Short Hills, N.J.

Dr. Kozak then established contact with various local medical establishments and secured free medical care in Minneapolis for the ailing children of Ukraine. At first, there were some financial difficulties with transportation and room and board. However, this obstacle was quickly overcome thanks to the generosity of many local Ukrainians, as well as non-Ukrainians.

The first child provided with help was Olha K., who was seriously ill and required highly specialized medical care. She was unable to receive such care in her native Ukraine because of lack of proper medical technology and drugs.

Olha arrived in Minneapolis with her mother in the fall of 1990. Their lodging was provided at a house owned by St. Constantine's Parish. Olha received free medical care at North Memorial Medical Center, and living expenses were covered by the recently established temporary fund. To obtain those funds, a group of parishioners under the leadership of Dmitro Tataryn organized a series of social events.

It was not long before the local news media reported the arrival of Olha and her mother from Ukraine. This caused wide interest in her medical struggle and many physicians freely offered their medical skills. Transportation for many weekly hospital treatments and visits to doctors was provided by Dr. Kozak's wife, Lidia.

In the early 1990s the Rev. Knapp retired and the Rev. Michael Stelmach took his place. The Rev. Stelmach showed great interest in the care of these children and always took great care to make their stay in Minneapolis as comfortable as possible.

With the arrival of more children, it became necessary to establish a permanent foundation at the local Ukrainian credit

union under the sponsorship of St. Constantine's Parish.

Deep appreciation is due to Ukrainian publications – The Ukrainian Weekly, Svoboda, America and The New Star – for publishing appeals for donations. There was tremendous response on the part of several organizations and many individuals. Great financial support was provided by the local choir, Dnipro, under the direction of Kira Tsarehradsky, the Ukrainian Church Ladies Association, under the leadership of Nina Chorewych and Claudia Korsun, The Chernobyl Committee of Washington, under the leadership of Danusia Wasyliwskyj, attorney Arthur Belendiuk of Washington and many others. The Shriners Temple provided tremendous financial support under the guidance of John Dennis and his colleagues.

In the fall of 1996, Mykola Megits, a newly arrived immigrant from Ukraine, suggested that the local Ukrainian community honor Dr. Kozak and his colleagues with a banquet recognizing their kind efforts. The banquet was held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, with over 300 guests in attendance. A special recognition award was presented to Dr. Kozak by a representative of the Consulate General of Ukraine in Chicago. Proceeds from this event substantially increased the funds available to take care of the living expenses of the children and their mothers who arrived in Minneapolis for medical treatment.

Children who required facial plastic surgery were treated at North Memorial Medical Center, and those with orthopedic problems at Shriners Hospital for Children. To date, 20 children have been successfully treated. Their stays varied in duration from six to 12 months. Some of them had to return a year later for follow-up care.

Local activists are happy to report that the first patient, Olha K., and the children who followed her, are doing very well.

There are still many children waiting for the opportunity to receive medical care in Minneapolis. Unfortunately, because of a change in rules regarding foreign patients, no new admissions will be provided to Shriners Hospital.

At present, a 10-year old girl from Odesa will soon undergo facial surgery at a local hospital. Dr. Kozak continues to find new resources to provide more free medical care for the needy children of Ukraine.



Olha M. with her mother after plastic surgery.

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## Women's parties...

(Continued from page 3)

istered in March 1997), the Women's National Party United (September 1998), and the Solidarity with Women Party (December 1999).

Women for the Future's rise to third place in popularity among the 35 election blocs and parties has been meteoric. Its registration on March 30 of last year was suspiciously only a day before the deadline for parties to be registered to ensure they could compete in the March 31 parliamentary elections. Within less than a year, Women for the Future has managed to allegedly attract 320,000 members within 500 branches – an impressive figure when compared to the Communist Party's 140,000 members.

Women for the Future is led by individuals with ties to the former Soviet Ukrainian nomenklatura and to Leonid Kuchma when he was prime minister in 1992-1993. According to Prof. Alexandra Hrycak, a Western expert on gender in Ukraine, the ideology of Women for the Future is Soviet and not in tune with gender issues and the women's rights movement in the West. Women for the Future does not oppose the Soviet-era stereotype of women's role in politics being confined to areas such as maternal and child-welfare issues.

Valentyna Dovzhenko, the head of Women for the Future, also heads the All-Ukrainian Voluntary Fund of Hope and Good Will. She is also the former head of the now-defunct Ministry of Family and Youth Affairs, which was established in 1997. She is currently the head of the parliamentary Committee on Family and Youth. The head of the controlling committee of Fund of Hope and Good Will and the president of another NGO, the National Fund for the Social Defense of Mothers and Children, is Liudmyla Kuchma, the first lady. The Fund of Hope and Good Will was established by the Soviet-era Union of Ukrainian Women led by Maria Orlyk, a leading member of Women for the Future.

The answer to the question of why the Women for the Future party has managed to become so popular so quickly lies in its access to "administrative resources."

"Administrative resources" or closeness to centers of power, such as the executive, ensure high popularity and victory in Ukraine's elections. Independent, and thereby genuine, women's parties, such as the four women's parties other than Women for the Future, stand little chance in the elections when Women for the Future has executive support and – more importantly – the backing of the country's first lady.

The only other registered gender party for the elections, the Women's Party of Ukraine, has no access to these resources and has been unable to attract any popularity.

Women for the Future was created especially to ensure that another pro-presidential faction would exist in the next Parliament.

Therefore, it will play the same role as the Greens in the 1998 elections, who were able to win 5.43 percent of the vote by targeting floating voters, the undecided and those disillusioned with party politics. In this sense, Women for the Future campaigns on a platform of hostility to the very idea of the worthiness of party politics. The platform of Women for the Future and its traditional campaigning style appeals to women between the ages of 30 and 40 and centers on such issues as women's rights, health (e.g., breast cancer) and domestic violence.

Women for the Future's closeness to Ukraine's first lady has also drawn comparisons to the Yugoslavian United Party of the Left led by Slobodan Milosevic's wife, Mira Markovich.

Women for the Future has been defined as an "albino" by the weekly Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia because it is devoid of any ideological platform. The party's popularity has not grown because of advertising or rousing speeches in defense of women's rights, its members have instead traveled around Ukraine distributing material assistance at schools, military bases and factories.

In the Sumy and Kharkiv oblasts, food-stuffs have been distributed free of charge. In all raions in the Chernivtsi Oblast, "Photos for Mother" actions were undertaken in each school, kindergarten, library and cultural club – free photos were made of children standing next to Women for the Future party symbols. Afterward, presents were distributed free of charge to poor and needy families. Ms. Dovzhenko has denied that this is tantamount to drawing on "administrative resources" or that there was anything immoral in doing this.

According to the Committee of Voters of Ukraine, a third of the distribution of free assistance by election blocs in Ukraine is undertaken by Women for the Future. Grandiose concerts by Ukrainian and Russian pop stars in towns and villages throughout Ukraine organized by the party cost some \$100,000, according to Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia. Yet, the party is vague about the sources of the funds to finance the high cost of running such a brash campaign by Ukraine's newest women's party.

Women for the Future is likely to enter the next Verkhovna Rada. But, this is not likely to advance women's rights – in the sense understood by women's movements in the West – because of the Soviet ideological influence on the party. Instead, Ukraine will obtain another pro-presidential faction in Parliament that differs little from other oligarchic factions led by the opposite gender.

Postscript: The authorities would only like one women's party representing the party of power to be allowed in the elections. The Central Election Commission on February 11 annulled its previous decision to register the Women's Party of Ukraine. The commission's decision followed a ruling by a Kyiv court that the resolutions of the party's congress that proposed party-list candidates for the election were illegal. In addition, the court said the party has not paid an election security deposit of some \$48,000. This followed the refusal to register Larysa Skoryk's Women for the Future of Children Party, which will now enter the elections as the All Ukrainian Party of Inter-Ethnic Understanding.

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### TO: ALL UNA MEMBERS

From January to March 2002, branches of the Ukrainian National Association hold their annual meetings as mandated by the UNA By-Laws. It is very important that all members attend these meetings. This year, in preparation for the upcoming UNA Convention, branches will hold meetings for election of delegates. Branch meetings are announced in both The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda.

Participation of UNA members is important to the future of our organization.



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The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

# Wedding Announcements

will appear in the March 24th issue.

**For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by March 11, 2002.**

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

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

**Rates for announcements and greetings:**

- One-column wedding announcement: \$100
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- Wedding greeting: \$75

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Visit [www.ukrweekly.com](http://www.ukrweekly.com) to view a wedding announcement sample page.

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Monday, February 25**

**NEW YORK:** The Harriman Institute at Columbia University presents a lecture by Anatoliy Rusnachenko, visiting scholar at Harriman, titled "The Unknown War in the Soviet West: Ukraine and the Baltics, 1940s-1950s." The lecture will be held in the International Affairs Building, Room 1219, at noon-2 p.m. For more information contact the institute, (212) 854-4623.

**Tuesday, February 26**

**NEW YORK:** The Harriman Institute at Columbia University presents the second roundtable in the "Series on Language Policies and Language Planning in Ukraine." Featured will be poet Vasyl Machno, who will speak on the topic "Breaking Taboos: The Language of New Ukrainian Poetry," with Anna Frajlich-Zajac, Slavic department, Columbia University, discussant. The roundtable will be held in the International Affairs Building, Room 1219, at 6-8 p.m. For more information contact the institute, (212) 854-4623.

**Monday, March 4**

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will present a lecture by Olena Boriak, senior research fellow, Institute of Art Studies, Folklore and Ethnology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and Fulbright scholar at the University of Virginia. The lecture, titled "The Midwife in Ukrainian Traditional Culture: Ritual, Folklore,

Mythology," will be held in the institute seminar room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For more information contact the institute, (617) 495-4053, or [huri@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:huri@fas.harvard.edu).

**CHANGES OF VENUE**

The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) lecture by Amir Weiner, assistant professor of Soviet history at Stanford University, titled "Wild West, Window to the West: The Soviet Frontier, 1939-1989," slated for Thursday, February 28, will not be held at HURI. Instead the lecture will be held in Room 2 at Coolidge Hall, 1737 Cambridge St., at 4-6 p.m. For additional information contact HURI, (617) 495-4053, or [huri@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:huri@fas.harvard.edu).

**ADVANCE NOTICE**

**Friday-Sunday, March 15-17**

**KERHONKSON, N.Y.:** The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA), the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) and the Ukrainian National Association (UNA) invite the community to take part in the 2002 Summit of Ukrainian American Organizations at the UNA estate, Soyuzivka. The theme of the summit will be "Re-engaging the Younger Generation." A pre-summit cocktail reception will be held Friday, March 15. The main panel discussions will be on Saturday, March 16, followed by a summary panel on Sunday, March 17. For more information see the UESA website ([www.uesa.org](http://www.uesa.org)), or send e-mail to [nj@uesa.org](mailto:nj@uesa.org) or [nyc@uesa.org](mailto:nyc@uesa.org).

**PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:**

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$10 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be **no more than 100 words long**; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$10 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.



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## Soprano Oksana Krovtytska to perform in Europe after New Jersey appearance

NEW YORK – After three appearances in New Hampshire with the New Hampshire Symphony in Beethoven's "9th" (January 19-20), soprano Oksana Krovtytska will appear with the Opera Orchestra of New York in the title role of Francesco Cilea's "Adriana Lecouvreur," a new role for her. Ms. Krovtytska is slated to perform it in New Jersey in St. Leon Armenian Church (12-61 Saddle River Road, Fairlawn, N.J.) at 8 p.m. on Friday, March 1.

Subsequently, Ms. Krovtytska leaves for Europe where she will perform as soprano soloist in Krzysztof Penderecki's

oratorio "Seven Gates of Jerusalem," with the renowned RTVE Orchestra of Madrid under Maestro Penderecki's direction on March 7 and 8.

From Spain Ms. Krovtytska goes to Monaco where she takes on another new role, that of Lucrezia in Verdi's "I due Foscari," which will be performed in a gala concert on March 24 by L'Opera de Monte Carlo and features the famous Italian baritone, Leo Nucci.

Upon her return to the United States, Ms. Krovtytska will appear in the title role of Puccini's "Madama Butterfly" in Madison, Wis., on May 10 and 12.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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