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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Poor preparation, dissension in ranks cited as reasons for poor showing at Olympics

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Poor preparation and internal dissension were behind the failure of Ukraine's Olympians, especially its much-vaunted female biathlon squad, to win a single medal in Salt Lake City, said a leading Ukrainian sports official on March 6. The official also admitted that cross-country skier Iryna Terelia was guilty of using a banned substance before competing.

While Chairman of the State Committee of Physical Education and Sport Maria Bulatova and President of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine Ivan Fedorenko continued to refrain from commentary or analysis on Ukraine's poor showing at last month's Olympic Games pending a comprehensive review, Vladimir Platonov, vice-president of the NOC-Ukraine, was not so reticent. He criticized Ukraine's biathletes, their federation and their trainers for the poor performance in Salt Lake City, and took a verbal swipe at the International Olympic Federation as well. However, his main point was that Ukraine must get back to the basics in its

Olympic preparations.

"For the situation to improve, we have to start rebuilding the training bases and to concentrate on youth programs once again. Then there will be possibilities," explained Mr. Platonov, who is also the rector of the State University of Physical Education and Sport.

In an exclusive interview with The Weekly, in which the noted professor condemned the dissension within the ranks of the biathlon team and the way in which it went about preparing for Salt Lake City, Mr. Platonov called the performance of Ukraine's Olympians in Salt Lake City dismal.

"In a word, overall the results were unacceptable," explained Mr. Platonov. "But this is merely a general grade. There were bigger failures that even reached embarrassing levels. Here I mean the biathletes."

He underscored, however, that there were events where Ukraine's athletes exceeded expectations, including freestyle, luge, bobsled and the downhill events.

Mr. Platonov has written several books

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Political groupings charge violations of election law by pro-presidential bloc

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — With just under a month before parliamentary elections, political parties and blocs from various wings of the political spectrum are increasingly alleging violations of campaign election law by a pro-presidential electoral bloc.

Both the Our Ukraine election bloc, led by Viktor Yushchenko and Oleksander Moroz's Socialist Party said that certain government officials were impeding their campaign efforts. They blamed a rival election bloc for the problems.

Commenting on March 4 on a just-completed campaign swing through the central and eastern regions of Ukraine, Mr. Yushchenko criticized efforts by public officials to limit the impact of his political message.

"Some of Ukraine's regions are out of step with democracy," said Mr. Yushchenko. "The authorities there know only a very crude form of democracy and are not prepared for political debate."

Two days earlier in Berdiansk, a city located in southeastern Ukraine, Mr. Yushchenko said that many local offi-

cial had simply become campaign workers for the pro-presidential For a United Ukraine electoral bloc, headed by President Leonid Kuchma's chief of staff Volodymyr Lytvyn. He explained that "administrative resources," the use of government officials and the powers of the offices they hold, were being used to interfere with the Our Ukraine campaign.

Mykola Hryniv, assistant director of

(Continued on page 14)

Albright says Kuchma can be influenced to ensure fair elections

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — Former U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright says that Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma can be influenced by the United States and the West into ensuring that the campaign process leading up to the March 31 parliamentary elections, and the elections themselves, are conducted fairly.

"He does think — at least that's the way I read it — that what Washington thinks about him is important to him," Dr. Albright said on March 4, during a briefing about her visit to Ukraine in February as part of a pre-election monitoring mission of the National Democratic Institute (NDI), of which she is now chairman.

During her meeting with the Ukrainian president, Dr. Albright said, she was surprised about how "very concerned" he was about the resolutions in the U.S. Congress on the subject of elections in Ukraine.

(President Kuchma's concern may have been caused by a mistranslation of the resolutions, she said. The resolutions, which note that there is a new electoral law in Ukraine but that it needs to be carried out, were translated to say that Ukraine needed to pass a new electoral law.)

"And it made me really understand very vividly the importance of pressure from all of us," she said. "He could be made to understand the importance of his legacy before Ukraine and how he will be regarded by people that he does think are important."

"I think that he does care. He would like to see himself as one of the main reformers of the post-Soviet world, and I think he's beginning to see that he's not

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Sociologist examines latest wave of Ukrainian immigration to Canada

by Andriy Makuch

TORONTO — Prof. Wsewolod Isajiw, a prominent Ukrainian Canadian sociologist, recently revealed some preliminary findings from a groundbreaking study of the latest wave of Ukrainian immigrants to Canada. Speaking at the University of Toronto on January 28 at a seminar co-sponsored by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies and the Peter Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine, Prof. Isajiw addressed the topic "Fourth Wave Immigrants from Ukraine, 1991-2001: Results of a New Study."

The information presented at this event was gathered in the course of a wide-ranging study on the Fourth Wave of Ukrainian immigration to Canada." The research was undertaken by Prof. Isajiw, Robert F. Harney Professor Emeritus of Ethnic, Immigration and Pluralism Studies, University of Toronto; Prof. Victor Satzewich, Sociology, McMaster University, Hamilton; and Ewgen Duvalko, executive director, Canadian Ukrainian Immigrant Aid Society, Toronto; with the assistance of Iroida Wynnyckyj and Katya Duvalko. The Heritage Foundation of the 1st Security Federal Savings Bank of Chicago, whose president is Julian Kulas, provided funding for the project.

The subject of study of the so-called "Fourth Wave" are those Ukrainians who

came to North America from 1991 to 2001, and continue to arrive even today. Prof. Isajiw estimated their number to be approximately 18,000 to 20,000 in Canada and at least 100,000 in the United States. He added that, "technically," he would call this a "Fifth Wave" of Ukrainian immigration, as it was preceded by Ukrainian immigrants from Poland in the 1980s, but was amenable to considering it as the second phase of a "Fourth Wave."

The information gathered for the project came from 304 interviews, conducted in the Toronto area between November 2000 and January 2001. The interviews, consisting of 161 questions, were conducted by 10 research assistants, who themselves were mainly recent arrivals. The data from the study are still being analyzed, so that the seminar, as Prof. Isajiw emphasized, should be regarded as the results of a work in progress.

The study, and the seminar, addressed two major questions.

The first: How well are the new Ukrainian Canadians adapting to the Canadian economic system? This is examined within the context of Canada's immigration policy which, from the mid-1970s to late 2001 (a major overhaul of Canadian immigration policy was announced recently), sought to match immigrants directly with existing labor

needs.

The second: How well, if at all, do the new immigrants integrate into Toronto's Ukrainian community? This is considered through the prism of the theory posed by Louis Hartz, a sociologist best-known for his study "The Founding of New Societies," that new immigrants live for a long time by issues that were significant to them in their home country before their departure.

Getting into the subject matter proper, Prof. Isajiw provided a basic profile of the immigrants. Ninety percent were born in Ukraine, and 90 percent came as independent immigrants (the remaining 10 percent arrived sponsored). Just over one-quarter (26 percent) have taken Canadian citizenship.

They are divided almost equally between males and females. Most (78.6 percent) are married, while 11 percent are single and 9 percent divorced or separated. Their average age upon arrival was 35.4, while their average age at the time of being interviewed was 39, indicating that they had been in Canada, on average, for just over 3.5 years.

An interesting statistic, considering the Toronto housing market, is that 22 percent are homeowners.

Seventeen percent have no children, while 31.9 percent had one and 45 percent

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ANALYSIS

Opposition denied equal media access in parliamentary election campaign

by **Taras Kuzio**

RFE/RL Media Matters

Ukraine's parliamentary elections on March 31 come at a time when public trust in the media is relatively low. Ukrainians who fully trust the media range from a low of 11.6 to 15.5 percent, depending on the region, according to a January poll by the Center for Economic and Political Studies.

One reason the media is not trusted is because it is mainly controlled by the executive and oligarchs who are denying equal access for all 35 election parties and blocs – especially those in opposition to President Leonid Kuchma.

Recognizing this problem, the Verkhovna Rada last month approved a resolution "On Securing Citizens' Right to Information" during the elections.

The regular flouting of media legislation by national deputies and the executive is a second reason that there is a low level of public trust in the media. The honorary president of the television station Inter is Oleksander Zinchenko, head of the oligarchic Social Democratic Party (United) [SDPU] parliamentary faction and chairman of the parliamentary committee on Freedom of Speech and Information. Inter, which broadcasts mainly in Russian, regularly flouts Article 9 of the law "On Television and Radio," which states that 50 percent of programming should be in the state language, Ukrainian.

At a February meeting with the Central Election Commission, the National Television and Radio Council (NTRC) complained that the greatest number of legal violations had been undertaken by foreign (i.e., Western) media subleasing broadcast time from Ukrainian media and warned that the licenses of these Ukrainian media outlets would be revoked. This kind of official hostility to foreign media only applies to Western – not Russian – media.

The election law prohibits election campaigning by foreign media, although these articles have never been applied against the extensive Russian print and television media available in Ukraine. The NTRC did not threaten Ukrainian television stations, such as Inter, which re-broadcast Russian programs. Russian TV and radio programs support pro-Kuchma and oligarchic blocs and are not favorably disposed to the anti-Kuchma opposition or to former Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc.

The main target for the NTRC are Western radio stations, such as the BBC, Radio Liberty, Voice of America and Deutsche Welle. These stations are far more objective, more willing to expose election malpractices and, therefore, less positively disposed toward the "party of power" and the oligarchs.

Official media policies in general – and especially during elections – do not grant equal access to all political forces. Both the moderate and the radical opposition to

President Kuchma and to the oligarchs are at a great disadvantage in the current elections in obtaining access to the media. The authorities are using every method at their disposal to prevent Oleksander Moroz's Socialists and the Yulia Tymoshenko radical opposition bloc from obtaining access to the media in an effort to restrict popular support for these two blocs. Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc faces fewer media restrictions because it is only anti-oligarch, not anti-Kuchma, but it also faces severe problems.

The executive and the oligarchs control most of the country's media. The most popular television stations in Ukraine – which cover between 70 and 90 percent of the country – are 1+1 and Inter on channels 2 and 3 respectively. Both television stations are controlled by the SDPU and its ally, the oligarchic Democratic Union. The Labor Ukraine oligarchic party controls the ICTV and Era television stations.

In addition to restricting access to the media, the executive and oligarchs have undertaken a number of concerted actions against independent media or those sympathetic to the opposition.

In Odesa, 15 journalists on the Hot Line television station were fired after they openly stated their intention of maintaining neutrality in the elections. The decision was a warning to journalists that they should work only for pro-presidential parties.

In Luhanske the Efir-1 television company was closed by the City Council after it refused to endorse the dismissal of Mayor Anatolii Yahoferov, a sympathizer of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine.

In November 2001 presidential spokesman Ihor Storozhuk was appointed head of the National Television Company to ensure that the executive fully controlled this important station. The only Ukrainian-language newspaper in Crimea, Krymska Svitlytsia, stopped receiving state funds in November 2001 because it never hid its support for Mr. Yushchenko. Ivan Drach, a leading member of the Our Ukraine bloc, was replaced as chairman of the State Committee on Information, Television and Radio on February 7 by Ivan Chyzh, a defector from Mr. Moroz's Socialists. It was important to the executive branch that Mr. Drach and the Our Ukraine bloc have no influence over the State Committee during the election campaign.

Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Moroz, radical opponents of President Kuchma, have encountered the greatest difficulties in receiving media coverage of their programs.

In Cherkasy journalists of the Socialist newspaper Rubezh went on a hunger strike on January 30 because printing facilities had suddenly stopped being available to them. Ms. Tymoshenko had been unable to place a single paid advertisement on any state or commercial television station; on February 14 the Ms. Tymoshenko bloc sent an open letter to the heads of televi-

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

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Quotable notes

"My belief that the Ukrainian election will be fair and democratic is falling every day."

– Former Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko on March 2, as quoted by Interfax and cited by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.

NEWSBRIEFS

Rada urges more top-level probes ...

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on March 6 backed a non-binding motion asking the procurator general to bring criminal proceedings against President Leonid Kuchma in connection with allegations that Mr. Kuchma ordered an assassination attempt on lawmaker Oleksander Yeliashkevych, Ukrainian media reported. The previous day the Parliament had passed a similar motion, accusing the president of assisting former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko in plotting the murders of two lawmakers, Yevhen Scherban and Vadym Hetman. The Verkhovna Rada also asked the procurator general to launch criminal probes into the alleged role of lawmaker Oleksander Volkov in money laundering, as well as against presidential administration chief Volodymyr Lytvyn and State Tax Administration chief Mykola Azarov over alleged abuses of office. (RFE/RL Newsline)

... fails to address Melnychenko tapes

KYIV – National deputies on March 6 failed to pass a resolution on giving the floor to lawmaker Oleksander Zhyr, chairman of the temporary commission dealing with the murder of Heorhii Gongadze, who is expected to report on the results of a recent U.S. expert examination of audiotapes made in President Leonid Kuchma's office by former bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko, Interfax reported. The motion to address this issue was backed by 191 deputies, but the required majority is 226 votes. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Court refuses to re-register Hrach

SYMFEROPOL – The Central District Court in Symferopol has rejected the complaint of Crimean Parliament Chairman Leonid Hrach against its decision of February 25 to annul his registration as a candidate for a seat in the Crimean legislature, UNIAN reported. Mr. Hrach originally filed his complaint with Ukraine's Supreme Court, which subsequently returned it to Symferopol with a remark that the complaint should be filed through the court of the first instance, that is, the Central District Court. However, Judge Oleksander Opanasiuk from the Central District Court dismissed Mr. Hrach's complaint, saying that the February 25 decision on ousting Mr. Hrach from the election race was final and not subject to appeal. Mr. Hrach's supporters have pitched 15 tents on Symferopol's Lenin Square to protest his ouster from the election. An organization called the League of Officers of Crimea has pitched eight tents on the same square in protest against the

protest by Hrach supporters. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Chernomyrdin: West humiliates Ukraine

KYIV – Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin on March 5 said the "massive" visits of Western politicians to Ukraine in the run-up to the March 31 parliamentary elections are a "humiliation and insult" to the country, Interfax reported. "They have suddenly fallen in love with Ukraine, they have wanted transparency [in the election], and, especially, they have felt an urgent need for a strong Ukraine. As my grandson says, I am 'cracking up' from such pronouncements," Mr. Chernomyrdin said, referring to unspecified Western politicians. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine confirms European course

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh said at NATO headquarters in Brussels on March 1 that Ukraine confirms its strategic and irreversible course toward economic and political integration with European structures, Ukrainian and international media reported. Mr. Kinakh made this declaration at a joint press conference with NATO Secretary-General Lord George Robertson. Speaking about the key priorities of Ukraine-NATO cooperation, Mr. Kinakh said both sides should work toward strengthening Ukraine's borders in order to erect a barrier to illegal immigration, arms and drug trafficking, and international terrorism. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Parties want to cast Moroz out of election

KYIV – The leaders of six parties and election blocs – the National Rukh of Ukraine, the New Force Party, the Unity Bloc, the All-Ukrainian Party of Workers, the Popular Party of Depositors and Social Protection, and the Democratic Party and the Democratic Union Party Bloc – have appealed to the Central Election Commission to annul the registration of Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz as a parliamentary election candidate, the Ukrainianska Pravda website and UNIAN reported on February 28. The parties say Mr. Moroz baselessly accused "a number of officials of committing grave crimes, abuse of office and other offenses" in a Socialist Party campaign spot on Ukrainian Television on February 21. The spot featured former presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko and included excerpts of Mr. Melnychenko's tapes in which a voice resembling that of President Leonid Kuchma is heard using foul language and allegedly conspiring to get rid of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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INTERVIEW: Kateryna Chumachenko Yushchenko on life in Ukraine, and as a politician's wife

by Vasyl Zorya

KYIV — Kateryna and Viktor Yushchenko's apartment is like a small private museum in the very center of Kyiv — paintings on the walls, prehistoric artifacts on the shelves, an old grand piano among antique furniture, photographs everywhere.

Your first impression from this collection is that, in time, this may be the apartment-museum of a historical figure. The wife of former prime minister Viktor Yushchenko looks at this possibility with some humor. Her husband has long been called "the hope of the nation," but for her he always was and remains her "sweetheart."

Viktor Yushchenko thinks of his wife as one of the most precious treasures he has collected in recent years. Kateryna Chumachenko Yushchenko — a "person of the world" — was born in America, but considers Ukraine her homeland.

At this correspondent's request, Mrs. Yushchenko gave us a short tour of their home. She explained that, in his rare spare moments, her husband tries to spend time with their children, or create something with his hands. Instead of puzzles, he glues together ceramic shards to construct ancient Trypillian urns. He paints and sculpts, works with wood and iron.

What did it mean for Kateryna Chumachenko to fall in love and marry a man whom fate made a popular politician? It meant she would often find out about his achievements and problems from the evening news. It meant she would have to wait each day until her husband completed his public activity and only then could return to the family hearth.

From an outsider's point of view, this could look like sacrifice to which only an extraordinary and contemporary woman would agree. Still, her life today is building a foundation for the future, a future that will be fuller and brighter.

Editor's note: The interview below was conducted by free-lance journalist Vasyl Zorya of Kyiv exclusively for The Ukrainian Weekly. (Readers will note that the family's surname, previously rendered

in this newspaper as "Yuschenko," in accordance with the official transliteration system adopted by the government of Ukraine, now appears as "Yushchenko." According to Mrs. Yushchenko, this is the correct spelling.)

PART I

Whom do you consider yourself more — an American or a Ukrainian? Do your friends treat you like a real Ukrainian?

For me, this was never really an issue. Our parents taught us to love Ukraine, and to feel a great responsibility for her fate. I very much respect and value America for taking in my parents during difficult times, and for giving me an opportunity to receive an education and make a career.

I enjoy living in Ukraine. I consistently discover new things about this country. I am very glad when my American friends share my sincere interest in Ukraine. The year before last, my sister, Lydia, visited here for the first time. She was enchanted — with Kyiv, Crimea, the Karpaty. Last year her son, my nephew Danylo, married a Ukrainian girl from Kyiv.

After 10 years in Ukraine, people here rarely remember that I was born and raised abroad. Most of my friends do not feel any difference. It is only my husband's political competitors who occasionally remind me of my American roots, usually through the media.

In families with different cultural traditions there are often misunderstandings. How are you able to avoid them?

In our family, what is most important is that which unites us — love of country, love of God, love of family. As in all families, we have our differences. I am convinced, however, that they are not the result of differences between American and Ukrainian culture, especially since Ukraine is something we both consider sacred. They are more the result of being raised in different societies and families.

Cultural traditions are really very easy to unite. It is fun to watch how our family celebrates the winter holidays. First we celebrate Sviatoho Mykolaya, then Christmas



The Yushchenkos: Viktor and Kateryna with their daughters Sophia and Chrystyna.

by the new calendar, then the New Year, then Ukrainian Christmas and New Year by the old calendar. It is true that the children get a bit confused, and mix up Sviaty Mykolai, Santa Claus, Did Moroz and the snow man!

How did the introduction to your husband's family go?

Viktor's mother was afraid to meet me for quite a while. Like many in Ukraine, she thought that Ukrainian Americans were different, that I probably did not know how to cook "our" food, that I might not feel comfortable in her humble, rural home. Even my husband seemed to put off this first introduction.

My relations with Viktor's mother grew very warm very quickly. She became convinced that I was more Ukrainian than American, that there was no real difference. In his village, the people were surprised at how "simple" the American was — their greatest compliment. I remember when I was pregnant, half the village gathered to see how the "American" was digging up and peeling beets!

My parents also grew to love Viktor. They had always wanted me to marry a Ukrainian. They dreamed of communicating with their son-in-law and grandchildren in their native language.

On the one hand, my parents were proud that I returned to Ukraine, since we all dreamed that one day we would go back, but on the other hand, they were afraid for me. Their memories of life in Ukraine were complicated, difficult — they were associated with the Famine, repression, war.

What made you move to Ukraine?

I visited Ukraine in 1975 and 1979, when I was still in school. Even then I had the desire to live and work in Ukraine; I had a very romanticized view of it.

In 1991, before it became independent, my parents and I traveled to Ukraine. This was my father's first visit to his homeland since the war. It was a return to his youth, to his family — he had not seen one of his sisters for 50 years. It was a very emotional and moving trip. My father found his village ruined. He was disappointed that peo-

(Continued on page 4)

Yushchenko campaign confronts problems on the road in presenting its message

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko recently set off on a campaign trip to the provinces. But almost immediately he confronted problems in presenting his election bid. On February 13, Mr. Yushchenko blamed the Poltava Oblast authorities for detaining his election agents and not letting him address voters on regional television. Mr. Yushchenko described the regional authorities' behavior as a "humiliation" for the president and the whole country.

Local police detained nine young men from Mr. Yushchenko's canvassing group, who had been posting leaflets. Two of them were immediately released after the police took 20 hrv (\$3.70) from each. The other seven spent four more hours in the district police station. They were charged with violating Article 152 of the administrative offenses code, which prohibits sticking leaflets on architectural monuments. Next, local policemen announced that leaflets stuck on posts along the road hamper traffic.

"Why did the authorities not say a word to those who started posting advertising boards along all roads long before the election campaign [began]?" Mr. Yushchenko asked, referring to the canvassing by the pro-presidential For a United Ukraine bloc.

"The behavior of Poltava authorities surprises me very much. I could not contact regional leaders. The head of the Poltava Oblast State Administration ordered that no one should be put through to him but the presidential administration. I feel sad about it. This looks like the 1930s [Stalin times]," Mr. Yushchenko commented.

On February 16, Mr. Yushchenko was denied access

to local television and radio stations in Kirovohrad. "The authorities want not to unite but, on the contrary, to disunite society in Ukraine," Interfax quoted the former prime minister as saying in Kirovohrad. Mr. Yushchenko added, however, that despite all difficulties he faces in the election campaign he will remain "a democratic partner of these authorities."

The same day in Mykolaiv, Mr. Yushchenko could not lease a location in the center of the city for a meeting with voters. When he tried to address voters on local television, someone cut off electricity in the studio. He had to call the oblast state administration in order to have electricity restored and be able to air his election message.

The Ukrainska Pravda website, which is quite skeptical about Mr. Yushchenko's intention to garner votes of the democratic electorate and please President Leonid Kuchma at the same time, published a scathing comment on Mr. Yushchenko's problems in the provinces:

"Last Monday, the leader of Our Ukraine — who boasts of the position of top politician in popularity polls — set off to conquer the provinces. However, as early as the second day [of their trip], the tough boys from Kyiv confronted the stinking reality of elections in all its uniqueness. And at the end of the week, Our Ukraine's indefatigable press service began to release some suspicious messages. We particularly like one headline from Saturday: 'Yushchenko says actions of local authorities force him to take firmer political stand.'

"But emotions are one thing, while mentality is the other. Despite all this, Yushchenko believes in the existence of a good tsar. According to his press service, he is going to inform Mr. Kuchma about his adventures in the provinces. Well, good luck. However, it seems that last



Workers put up a Yushchenko poster in Kharkiv.

week's occurrences are quite sufficient to make him finally understand who is his main foe. But Yushchenko's style [remains unaltered] — nothing personal against Mr. Kuchma."

U.S. State Department report gives Ukraine less-than-passing grade on human rights

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – Ukraine received what appears to be a less-than-passing grade in the U.S. State Department's worldwide human rights review for 2001.

Although noting "improvements in a few areas," the authors of the report released on March 4 were blunt in their overall assessment: "The government's human rights record was poor," they said.

Acknowledging that the Verkhovna Rada adopted a progressive criminal code that went into effect in September, the report notes that detainees and prisoners continue to be tortured, beaten and at times killed by police and prison officials, who are rarely punished for their abuses.

Conditions in Ukrainian prisons "remained harsh and life-threatening, particularly because of exposure to disease," according to the report. It cited arbitrary arrests and lengthy pre-trial detentions "in very poor conditions" as a continuing problem, but added that the number of defendants released from confinement pending trial had increased during 2001.

The country's judicial system suffered from political interference and corruption, inefficiency, lack of sufficient funding and staff, according to the report.

The Ukrainian government continued to infringe on citizens' privacy rights, the report said, and its agencies "interfered indirectly in the political process through criminal and tax investigations of politicians, journalists and influential businessmen."

The news media and journalists were also the object of official intimidation via the application of libel laws, the report said. "Nevertheless," it added, "a wide range of opinion is available in newspapers and periodicals."

While the freedom of assembly, association and movement were in some cases restricted, the report noted the decision of the Constitutional Court rescinding as unconstitutional the Soviet-era "propyska" system, which limited the free movement of people within the country.

Also on the positive side of the ledger, the report said that the government continued to return properties expropriated during the Soviet era to religious groups and that, while "societal" anti-Semitism persisted, there was a continued decrease in anti-Semitic acts and publications, and an increase in government action against anti-Semitism.

"Anti-Semitic incidents continued to occur but, according to local Jewish organizations, declined in number and were concentrated in western regions of the country,"

the report said.

As in previous years, the Country Reports on Human Rights Practices painted a shocking picture of the plight of women in Ukraine, where violence against them was termed "pervasive." The report cited surveys that indicated that "between 10 and 15 percent of women in Ukraine had been raped, and that over 25 percent were abused physically during their lifetimes. And, according to a study by the International Helsinki Federation for Human Rights, 20 percent of Ukrainian women age 17 to 21 faced attempted rape in the previous year.

While there are no official statistics on prosecutions for wife beating, the Institute of Sociological Research reported that 12 percent of women under the age of 28 had been victims of domestic violence.

There are reports of "widespread sexual harassment in the workplace, including coerced sex," and women bear the brunt of increased unemployment resulting from the economic downturn. According to the State Committee on Statistics, of the 4.2 percent officially listed as unemployed in Ukraine, 65 to 70 percent are women.

The U.S. report also cited the increased harassment of some racial minorities as a growing problem in Ukraine: "The police routinely detained dark-skinned persons for arbitrary document checks, whereas document checks of foreigners of European descent are performed rarely."

The U.S. State Department prepares its worldwide report on human rights practices annually and presents it to the U.S. Congress. The preparation and presentation of the 2001 report was placed in the context of the global fight against terrorism following the terrorist attacks of September 11.

In his introduction to the report, Assistant Secretary of State Lorne W. Craner of the Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights and Labor underscored that "only through the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms can the international community be secure from the scourge of terrorism."

U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell stressed that countries which are potential members of the anti-terrorism coalition will not be given a free pass on their human rights record.

"The United States welcomes the help of any country or party that is genuinely prepared to work with us to eradicate terrorism," he said during a briefing March 4. "At the same time, we will not relax our commitment to advancing the cause of human rights and democracy."

The State Department's human rights reports can be seen on the Internet at <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2001/>.

Ukraine's steelmakers say U.S. tariffs will have little impact

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – According to a March 6 report by Reuters, Ukrainian steelmakers, currently ranked among the world's top steel exporters to the United States, said that the U.S. decision to impose heavy tariffs on steel imports would have little impact on its industry as it had already cut back exports to the U.S.

In what many analysts described as some of America's broadest and most sweeping federal action in two decades to protect a major industry, President George W. Bush imposed tariffs of up to 30 percent on most types of steel imported into the United States from Europe, Asia and South America.

According to *The New York Times*, the United States imports nearly a quarter of the steel it uses.

The tariffs, Mr. Bush said in an appearance with President Hosni Mubarak of Egypt on March 6, will last three years, giving American steel producers time to consolidate operations and stem layoffs.

Speaking through Reuters, a senior official from Ukraine's Industrial Policy Ministry said the ex-Soviet state's new export policy would minimize the impact of the U.S. move to put tariffs of up to 30

percent on a range of imports to protect its ailing industry.

Ukraine, which produced 33.5 million tons of steel in 2001, had massively reduced exports to the United States in 2001, favoring Asia and Europe, he said.

"But it is not a blow [to our industry] because our steel exports to the United States were cut by two-thirds in 2001," said Oleksander Peshkov, head of the Economy Ministry's foreign markets division. Mr. Peshkov then went on to acknowledge that "After this announcement we understand that we have finally lost the U.S. steel market."

Mr. Peshkov said that in 2001 Ukraine exported 505,491 tons of steel, "worth about \$114 million," to the United States, compared with about 1.5 million tons in 2000. Ukrainian officials in the United States could not be reached for comment on the matter.

The move would not affect Mexico, Canada and developing countries. However, those who would seem to take the brunt of the blow – America's European allies and Japan – said on March 6 that they would challenge President Bush's decision before the World Trade Organization.

Kateryna Chumachenko...

(Continued from page 3)

ple in Kyiv spoke only Russian, and also by the poverty. Once he saw an old woman at a bazaar selling what might have been her last sweater, after which he cried for an hour over what had been done to his people.

In the summer of 1991, his conclusion was quite harsh. Before returning to America he warned me: "This country will not be independent for a very long time."

Then, after the coup in Moscow, after the declaration of independence a month later, I called him immediately. I was jumping around the room screaming, "Tato, we're free!" That is how I remember August 24, my father and I over the telephone, both weeping. It was truly joyful.

Unfortunately, my father died in 1998. Per his request, he is buried in Kyiv, next to my mother's parents.

Have you ever regretted your decision to return to Ukraine?

No, I am happy with my family, our friends, and with the new interests and hobbies that I have formed in Ukraine.

Why have the diaspora and Ukraine never been able to form optimal relations?

I am convinced that since 1991 our diaspora has been more active in its attempts to help Ukraine than other nationalities that

traditionally promote ties with their historical homelands. Ukrainians from the diaspora have tried to cooperate with Ukraine at various levels – government, business, humanitarian.

There are many diaspora organizations that do operate effectively in Ukraine. I have worked with some of these directly – the Canadian organization Help Us Help the Children, UCARE from the United States, the US-Ukraine Foundation. And there are many others, such as the Children of Chernobyl Fund, and the various professional organizations.

And I believe that relations between Ukraine and the West were established quite effectively at the government level. The Ukrainian diplomatic corps is, on the whole, quite professional.

But, with time, the flow of "people's diplomats" to Ukraine significantly declined. The main reason is that Ukraine never created mechanisms to utilize the diaspora's abilities and resources effectively. Instead of promoting cooperation, the bureaucracy placed barriers in its way.

It is a shame that many in Ukraine did not welcome Ukrainians from the diaspora. I believe that a serious obstacle to good relations was old Soviet thinking. Representatives of the Ukrainian diaspora found it difficult to work in a business and humanitarian environment dominated by Soviet bureaucratic unreliability, a lack of professionalism and corruption.

Government of Ukraine to open Consulate in Michigan

WARREN, Mich. – The government of Ukraine will officially open its newly established Consulate in the State of Michigan on Saturday, March 23, at 6:30 p.m. with a gala event at the Ukrainian Cultural Center (UCC) in Warren.

Attending the opening will be Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, ambassador of Ukraine to the United States, and Dr. Borys Bazylevskiy, consul general of Ukraine in Chicago.

Various Michigan state officials, as well as members of Congress from Michigan have been invited to attend the event.

The program will feature the internationally renowned Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus which will perform songs from

its triumphant tour of Ukraine in 2001 during the celebration of the 10th anniversary of the independence of Ukraine. Its artistic director is Oleh Mahlay.

The Consulate of Ukraine in Michigan will be located in the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren. Bohdan Fedorak has been designated honorary consul of Ukraine in Michigan. Mr. Fedorak, president of the Ukrainian Cultural Center, is a highly respected Ukrainian American leader and promoter of Ukrainian culture and expanded economic ties between the state of Michigan and Ukraine.

The Consulate is charged with assisting Ukrainian citizens residing in Michigan and with facilitating trade,

cultural and academic programs and exchanges between Ukraine and Michigan. Ukraine will now join the large diplomatic corps located in Michigan, which includes 38 Consulates.

The Consulate will also serve as liaison between Ukraine and the large and highly organized Ukrainian American community in Michigan. There are approximately 200,000 Michiganians who trace their ancestral heritage to Ukraine, including a significant number of new immigrants over the last decade. The community is served by 40 organizations, many of which are based at the Ukrainian Cultural Center.

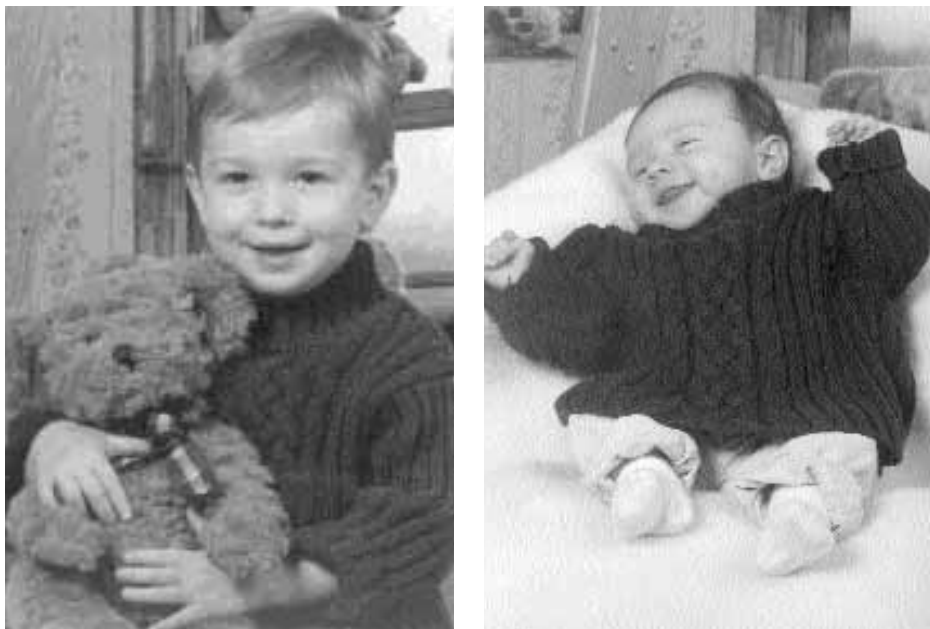
The chairman of the Committee in Support of the Consulate of Ukraine in

Michigan, Borys Potapenko, noted: "The officers and members of the committee constitute the leadership of the Ukrainian American community. It is our collective wish that Michigan, its officials and citizens share in this joyous event. For, whether it be on the local, state or federal levels, Michiganians have stood with the Ukrainian people in their centuries-long quest for independence and, since 1991, in the struggle to give tangible substance to their hard-won freedom."

Mr. Potapenko added: "We look forward to working closely with Honorary Consul Fedorak and his staff in fulfilling the Consulate's mission."

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



John Francis Hillen IV and his younger brother, Christopher James, children of Maria and John Hillen, are new members of the UNA. They were enrolled into Branch 172 of Whippany, N.J., by their grandparents Lydia and Orest Ciapka.



Joseph, Emma, Cole, Zachary and Andrew Kachmar, seen above with their grandparents Alex and Joanne Kachmar, are new members of UNA Branch 486 in San Francisco. They were enrolled by their grandparents.



Maxim Peter Bilyk, son of Petrusia and Andre Bilyk, is a new member of UNA Branch 16 in Spring Valley, N.Y. He was enrolled by his grandparents Nadia and Peter Howansky.

MARCH NEWSLETTER: Pre-convention branch meetings

by Martha Lysko
UNA National Secretary

Branch meetings

All UNA branches should hold annual meetings and elect branch officers for the year 2002. This year, the UNA will hold its 35th Regular Convention and in accordance with the UNA By-Laws, branches should hold branch meetings to elect delegates and alternate delegates to the convention.

All credentials for delegates and alternates should be sent to the national secretary no later than the end of March. A list of all delegates will be published in our official publications by April 24. Branches holding annual or branch meetings may place free ads in our official publications.

Branch officers' list

All branches have received a Branch Officers' List. After holding their annual meetings, all branches should send to the Home Office a list of branch officers for the year 2002. Names, telephone numbers and addresses of all branch officers

must be submitted annually. We need the information when working with our branches and districts, for the use of our membership, and for reporting to the insurance authorities.

As a fraternal benefit society we must have branches and branch officers. Each branch is expected to plan some fraternal activity during the year. This activity may be planned with another branch, a district, or some other local organization.

Delegates

Only premium-paying members who pay fraternal dues or have single-premium policies may be elected delegates to the convention. Social members, who have reached the age of 65 and have paid-up policies, may pay the annual \$3 fraternal dues annually and vote in the branch or be elected as delegates.

Delegates play an important role at the convention. The decisions they make at the convention bind the Ukrainian National Association for the following four years. It is the duty of elected delegates to be present at all sessions of the

(Continued on page 18)

Parma activists erect traditional ice cross



PARMA, Ohio – The annual construction of a seven-foot ice cross on the occasion of Theophany was carried out once again this year at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Parma, Ohio. This project was undertaken by three generations of the Dobronos family, who are members of Ukrainian National Association Branch 348. Under the guidance of Michael K. Dobronos, patriarch of the family, the cross was erected by sons Michael G. and Stephen, and grandson Michael A. Also assisting were Eugene Boyko and William Dobransky. The ice cross was blessed by the parish clergy following the Theophany divine liturgy on Saturday, January 19. The cross annually draws the attention of thousands of motorists who pass the cathedral daily.



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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

For elections free and fair

Only three weeks from now, Ukraine will hold the third parliamentary election since its re-established its independence in 1991. Most observers agree that Ukraine is at a crossroads: these elections will demonstrate whether Ukraine is moving ahead on the path toward democracy and integration with the West, or sliding backwards.

Gerard Stoudmann of the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (ODIHR/OSCE) stated: "The upcoming elections will be an important indication of the progress Ukraine has made in consolidating the democratic process. They will provide an opportunity to assess where Ukraine stands within the family of European democracies."

Significantly, however, the National Democratic Institute (NDI), in a statement released last month in Kyiv, said: "At this moment it is unclear whether the March 31 elections will mark a step forward for Ukraine's democratic future." The NDI's observers and others have cited intimidation of journalists, denial of access to the media, abuse of power, illegal use of public funds and other problems in Ukraine's election campaign. And then there are such matters as government employees being pressured to work on certain campaigns or to join certain blocs.

One of the largest issues to emerge in the 2002 contest is the use of what is called "administrative resources" – that is, unfair use of various resources controlled by the presidential administration and those in power, including the broadcast media – much of it controlled by the state or by persons affiliated with "the party of power." For example, the OSCE-ODIHR noted that the state-owned television station UT-1 was devoting 40 percent of its prime time news to the pro-presidential bloc and 25 percent to the president himself. Those administrative resources also encompass such seemingly mundane things as meeting halls, local newspapers and even utilities.

The OSCE/ODIHR, for one, says there still is time to remedy such shortcomings and to guarantee equal treatment for all parties and candidates, and thereby "to increase trust and confidence by the electorate in the election process." The NDI explains that the responsibility for addressing many of the problems "lies disproportionately with government authorities." The government, the NDI says, should compel officials and state institutions "to comply with the letter and spirit of provisions of the law that require strict impartiality toward all political parties, blocs and candidates, that prohibit interference with the election process and that bar the use of state resources for the advantage of particular electoral contestants."

As Ambassador William Green Miller, who characterizes the U.S.-Ukraine relationship as that of friends, pointed out at a recent briefing sponsored by the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe: "Friends point out crucial problems when they see them. Ukraine's international reputation is at stake, and we have to be honest if we truly want to help Ukraine's democratic evolution."

And so, we, as friends of Ukraine, add our voices to those calling on President Leonid Kuchma and the government of Ukraine to ensure free and fair elections on March 31. Give all parties and candidates a level playing field, give voters the information they need to make informed choices, and guarantee citizens that their ballots will be counted accurately. That would be evidence of Ukraine's commitment toward true democracy that would back up all the fine words emanating from Kyiv.

March
15
1998

Turning the pages back...

Four years ago, just two weeks before the parliamentary elections of 1998, The Weekly published an editorial commenting on what it called a "high-stakes election." Following are excerpts.

* * *

If politics can be likened to a game of chance, the game being played in Ukraine today is poker. It is not a penny ante, neighborhood game among friends. The stakes are high: Ukraine's future political direction.

There are 30 political parties at the table. The one holding the best cards is the Communist Party, generally believed to have assured itself of anywhere from 11 to 17 percent of the vote, depending on what poll one believes. It is by far the largest electoral support for any single political party.

Rukh, which had been a strong player early on — at one time with double digit support among voters in some polls — has seen its percentages dwindle to about five.

The Green Party of Ukraine, on the other hand, has come on surprisingly strong, thanks to a steady and effective stream of television advertising.

The political center has a good broad-based foundation of support among the electorate, but it is divided among almost a score of parties, most of which will be able to garner at most a percentage point or two of voter support on March 29.

However, what will probably mark this election season in history (if it's not the landslide victory of the political left, which is still a real possibility) will be the scale of political mud-slinging, fighting and backstabbing. ...

Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller, speaking in Washington recently, said the election season has produced "an enormous amount of recriminations, threats of exposures of corruption ... a messy campaign." But Mr. Miller also said that "it is a very healthy, democratic campaign."

... only time will tell whether the elections will turn out to be truly democratic. International election observers who are now arriving in Ukraine will tell us more about that after March 29. ... We would actually like to think that these will be the elections that remove the old guard from power. But even a diehard gambler wouldn't take that bet.

We also hope that Ukraine's electorate will understand that it alone is responsible for making the political changes needed to set Ukraine firmly on the track toward becoming a law-abiding democratic state. Sadly, polls show that one-third of Ukrainians have not decided whether they will vote or have decided it is not worth the effort. ...

Source: "High-stakes elections" (editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 15, 1998, Vol. LXVI, No. 11.

THE BARD'S 188TH ANNIVERSARY

Rediscovering Shevchenko and his lasting relevance

by Eugene Melnitchenko and Helena Lysyj Melnitchenko

In March we again celebrate the birth of Taras Shevchenko. Although this is the 188th anniversary of his birth, his message and ideas continue to retain their perpetual freshness and relevancy. They still have the power to remind us of who we are and where we came from, and offer us a moral compass for the future.

Our introduction to Shevchenko came through our parents, who read this "Kobzar" every day — as one would read the Bible. It was their way of holding on to their identity. In their exile, they understood his. We memorized his poems before we could read and write.

And then, later in the makeshift schools of displaced persons' camps, dressed in shirts and blouses embroidered by our mothers, we recited them on Shevchenko's day. Still later, in our new country, we recited and sang them on stage. And we shared the familiar lines with each other and with friends and family.

Shevchenko's lyrical poetry was always a part of our life, yet our understanding of it was incomplete. Our parents and teachers withheld the unbearable sadness and rage of his poetry.

We memorized "The Cherry Orchard," but did not know the rest of the story, the contrast of the nightingale's song in far-away Ukraine with the conversation of Shevchenko's keepers as they guarded him in prison.

We learned a few lines of "The Princess," the idyllic "village, like a pysanka," but did not know of the unspeakable crime of the princess's father.

We sang the first few stanzas of "Prychynna," so familiar to every Ukrainian, without understanding even the title, which we were to learn later meant the "madwoman." We read it now, comparing it to "Romeo and Juliet," and it touches our hearts more than Shakespeare ever could.

As children, we knew Shevchenko had a short and hard life and that he was a serf and an orphan, but we could not begin to understand his incarceration, what it meant to a poet and a painter who was forbidden to write and paint.

He barely reached his 47th year, dying the day after his birthday, on March 10. Of his short life he spent 24 years as a serf, 10 in hard labor in Siberia, four under police supervision and only nine as a free man. Despite the severe pressure on him to write in Russian, he wrote in Ukrainian, unlike Mykola Hohol (1809-1852), who is better known in world's literature.

Nonetheless, the "Kobzar" can be found in almost every Ukrainian home throughout the world.

Rediscovering Shevchenko in our mature years, after our study of Western literature and philosophy is a gift. His poetic genius, his profound effect on all Ukrainians, his contribution to the making of a nation is immeasurable. He was



Woman places flowers at Shevchenko's grave in Kaniv.

Ukraine's Dante, Lincoln and Gandhi combined. All of his life, he sought truth and justice, and, despite moments of despair, he believed they would prevail.

He was also a man of his time. The 19th century was a time of great upheaval and great repression. While it was the Romantic century in literature and art, it also revered the Renaissance. Shevchenko fused Renaissance thinking with Romantic sensibilities. He was more than a poet; his first talent — the one that got him noticed and opened up educational opportunities to him — was as a painter.

As a bard, he has been compared to Homer, and as a dramatist, to Shakespeare. He read the Scottish writers, Sir Walter Scott and Robert Burns, and felt a kinship with their lyrical retelling of Scotland's tragic history. He admired Ivan Kotliarevsky (1769-1838) for his inspired use of the Ukrainian language, but chided him for using foreign subjects in "Eneida."

Ukrainians continue to make a pilgrimage to Shevchenko's final resting place near Kaniv, and we made that pilgrimage on our first trip to Ukraine. It was somewhat adventurous, as we did not go with a group and made our own arrangements to travel from the capital by the Dnipro River. It seemed appropriate, knowing how much the great river had inspired the poet. Its strength and beauty, its sheer size, made us understand and appreciate even more those first stanzas of "Prychynna."

Ukraine's best kept travel secret, the gleaming hydrofoil that glides smoothly over the Dnipro's waves, would have been foreign to Shevchenko, yet he would have felt at home among its passengers, babtsi with their bags, and young men and women who eyed us warily, not knowing what to make of us. As this was in August, in the first year of independence, the honeyed smell of apples and pears mingled with the earthy smell of fresh bread. A pair of geese in a large straw basket protested loudly.

From the river, Shevchenko's "mohyla" (burial mound) can be reached by a long

(Continued on page 15)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Odesa broadcasters arrive in Texas for a look at American news media

by Natalia Lysyj

AUSTIN, Texas – The International Hospitality Council in Dallas, under the auspices of Project Harmony Educational and Professional Exchanges and United States Department of State Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs, has been hosting groups of interns from Russia and Ukraine. This internship program is funded by the U.S. Department of State.

The most recent group of 10 media people comprised four women and six men, radio/TV broadcasters and journalists from Odesa. They were placed with host families in Dallas for four weeks to gain the American life experience and to job-shadow with media people in the Dallas metroplex area. As part of their media exposure these interns were brought for a visit to Austin, the capital city of Texas, on January 31 through February 3.

Upon their arrival in Austin, visitors were received in the Office of the Secretary of State in the Capitol Building by Director of International Protocol Clarke Straughan.

During the reception Mr. Straughan explained the duties of the secretary of state and presented a commemorative certificate to each visitor with his or her name inscribed on it.

In return, the spokesman for the visiting Ukrainian group presented Mr. Straughan a book about Odesa, a videotape about the city, dubbed in English, and a letter for transmittal to the mayor of Odesa, Texas, from the mayor of Odesa, Ukraine, Ruslan Bodelan, with an invitation to enter into a sister-city relationship.

The press secretary for the governor, Kathy Walt, held a conference for the visitors in the governor's reception area at the State Capitol. Here the visitors had an opportunity to ask questions about freedom of press, methods of disseminating Gov. Rick Perry's programs and the role of journalists in reporting that information and opposing views. Ukrainian media people were especially interested in learning that the state and federal governments do not own radio and TV stations as they do in Ukraine. This opened a lively discussion as to how people in power can propagate their messages and deflect their opposition, as well as on the duties and responsibilities of the free press.

The Ukrainian visitors varied in age from 24 to 47, representing a wide range of journalistic and media levels of experience. Among these were: S.V. Komar, deputy director and chief editor, Odesa Oblast State TV and Radio Company; T.A. Dobrynya, director and editor, Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiy Radio News "Piddestrovia"; I.L. Lytovchenko, general director, Radio "World Harmony," music/cultural programming; V.P. Chenusha, head editor TV/Radio "Kiliya Contact"; S.P. Usatenko, news editor, TV and Radio "Art"; N.V. Nahorna, editor of TV/Radio "Art"; O.S. Suslov, TV journalist; and I.V. Kryshchak, TV journalist of "Riak-Info." Two younger women and one seasoned journalist spoke some English. Most men in the group spoke fluent Ukrainian. Among themselves visitors spoke in Russian.

The visitors were interested in learning about the workings of American television and radio, exploring such topics as freedom of speech, journalistic ethics,

legal relations, authors' rights, professional team-building and settling of conflicts. They were interested also in enhancing their computer skills in the everyday work environment of broadcast stations, financial management of commercial and non-commercial programs, as well as the use of modern broadcasting technology, which is largely absent from local and regional TV and radio stations in Ukraine.

The following day's sessions included visits to three TV stations. During the morning session at Fox TV, Vice-President and General Manager Danny Baker offered a detailed presentation on the process of obtaining commercial sponsors, outlining how broadcast programs with commercials are put together. Visitors were interested in all financial operations of the station, from reporters' employment contracts and benefits to annual net profits of the station.

A visit to Austin Community Access Center, a community TV station open to the citizens of the community to produce their own television programs, followed after the lunch break. This TV station presented a different aspect of the media, where the public has access to recording equipment and can air privately recorded events of community and international interest. Under the leadership of Jon Wright, coordinator for producer relations, the Ukrainian broadcasters had a hands-on opportunity in handling cameras and other equipment.

The third tour of the day was held at the CNN affiliate, News 8 Austin, a 24-hour, seven-day-a-week local news channel. The newest high-tech set-up of the station greatly impressed the visitors in its instantaneous news gathering capabilities and the incredible pace of programming around the clock, with individual producers responsible for separate one-hour segments. News Director Kevin Benz and his staff showed the visitors how each hour's program is formatted, with flexibility afforded each individual producer to choose feature news items for his hour of production. Ukrainian media people were astounded to learn about the pace and the average number of 40 news items covered each day, compared with Odesa operations, which average two news items each day.

Several members of the group raised a question about the specialization of reporters, which apparently is practiced in their own operations as a reporting task is subdivided and performed by separate people. They were surprised to learn that many TV field reporters work as a one-person production team from writing copy to recording, filming and editing prior to submitting the news item.

This writer was contacted by the director of the Dallas International Hospitality Council, Monica DeLorenzo, to act as interpreter for the Ukrainian visitors. In this capacity I had the opportunity to chat with the visitors and to get some feedback. After the group was briefed about the existence of Ukrainian communities in most major cities in the United States and Canada, copies of The Ukrainian Weekly were passed around to acquaint them with the content of the newspaper.

An initial query to the whole group about the upcoming elections in Ukraine and the candidates was met with some reluctance in responding. A spokes-

(Continued on page 21)



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

A new journal about Ukrainian folk art

The National Union of Folk Art Masters of Ukraine unites the best folk artists, who through their creative work have preserved and are continuing to develop the artistic traditions of the Ukrainian people.

So what more do you want to know about Ukrainian folk art? You have the stuff around the house, you have read the entries in the five-volume Encyclopedia of Ukraine and in Ukraine: A Concise Encyclopedia, and you have read the wonderful catalogues of the various exhibits at The Ukrainian Museum in New York (of course, these are so much more than mere catalogues). You have browsed through the books from Ukraine – some being coffee-table albums with little text and many illustrations and plates, others having much text and few pictures. Some of these may be about the older, historical aspects of folk art. What about the folk art being made now, or the fine art being created based upon folk art? How about new information on individual artists, about specific aspects of historical folk art, or new designs?

For all of us who can never have enough of Ukrainian folk art (it is an incurable syndrome), there is an exquisite, fairly new publication called Narodne Mystetstvo (Folk Art). This journal was founded in 1997 by the Union of Folk Art Masters of Ukraine. It is edited by Volodymyr Priadka, with an editorial committee of academics and experts in folk art. So far, eight issues have appeared.

This is a large, glossy, colorful quarterly magazine, full of photographs and illustrations, and in-depth articles. Summaries in English were first inserted on a separate sheet, but now they are included in columns alongside the relevant article. Sometimes the translation is quaint, but certainly much better than some of the "translations from hell" that surface around the world. Often there are notes to the text, and the authors' credentials are listed.

The illustrations are clearly labeled with additional information on the artists and the works, and are so lush that, even without the English text, they are a delight to see and save. The covers are eye-catching, especially the latest issue – a basketful of exquisite Trypillian-design pysanky.

Before 1991, the only folk art serial from Ukraine was Narodna Tvorchist ta Etnohrafiia, which included folk art, material culture and all aspects of ethnography. In earlier times, certain topics were taboo or were colored with the usual Soviet brush. Since independence, religious topics have been included more often, as are articles on earlier persecution of artists (e.g., kobzari) and other aspects of hidden history. Too often, topics on crafts include kitschy items. Somehow, to this writer at least, embroidered icons and samplers with verses are not examples of folk art. This magazine's forte remains the wealth of articles on people, traditions and songs, and reviews of books.

Narodne Mystetstvo has taken the high road. Its articles are about traditional and new folk art – without

the kitsch. Where to begin? The obvious branches of folk art are well-represented: weaving, embroidery, costume, pottery, glass, folk painting, folk architecture, folk iconography and wood carving. Within these areas, there are articles on specific aspects of these subjects, as well as on individual artists, museum collections and new trends. For example, you can read about Hutsul pottery, pottery from Volyn, Opishnia, Poltava, Podillia, as well as the ancient yet very modern dymlena/smoked pottery.

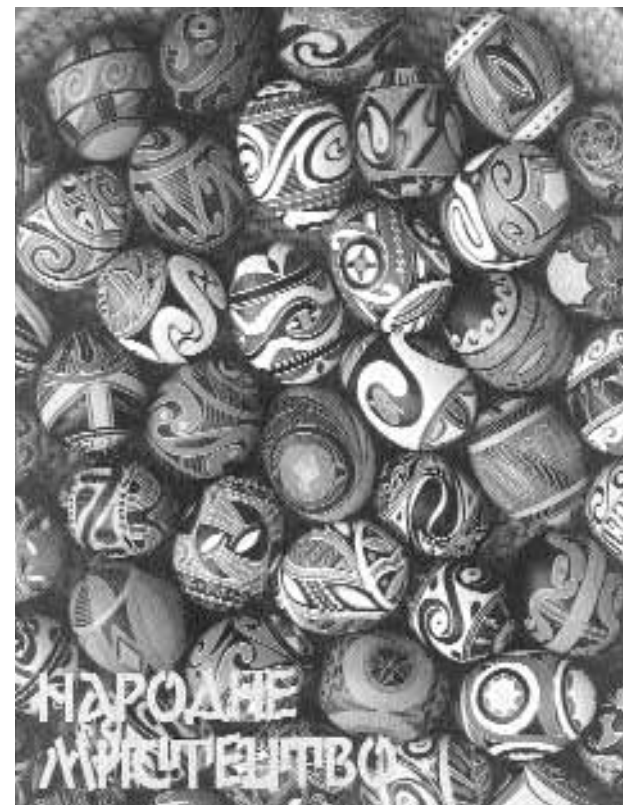
The Ukrainian Dictionary of Folk Terminology for Artistic Wood-Processing was serialized over a few issues. Some articles cover folk art's ties to antiquity and prehistory. There are reviews of books and exhibits, and theoretical discussions on the direction of folk art and its essence.

If you are interested in more esoteric examples of folk art, there are articles on carved wooden pipes and spoons, woven straw hats and "pavuky" (straw "spider" decorations), glass-painting, furniture, toys, and dolls. A surprise for me was coming across a well-illustrated article on toys and dolls. I had just seen "The Phenomenon of the Ukrainian Avant-Garde 1910-1935" at the Winnipeg Art Gallery, where one case contained the exact same dolls illustrated in this article. These particular traditional fabric dolls from the central Dnipro region do not have regular faces. Black or red thread is wrapped around the head, forming a cross instead of facial features.

The dolls were included in the avant-garde exhibit because they were an inspiration for Kazimir Malevich (1878-1935) from his childhood. Later, as a prominent reformer and innovator of 20th century art, he painted abstracted figures with faces lacking eyes and mouth, but marked with crosses, coffins or the hammer and sickle. In his autobiography, Malevich wrote about the "powerful effect the [local village] homes, clothing and rituals" had upon him.

FYI, the exhibit is on its way to the Art Gallery of Hamilton, Ontario, for February 9-April 7, along with an Alexander Archipenko exhibit, and then possibly to the Edmonton Art Gallery. A catalogue of

(Continued on page 15)



Cover of the most recent issue of Narodne Mystetstvo.

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UPDATE: News from the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute and the Department of Classics honored Ihor Sevcenko, the Dumbarton Oaks Professor of Byzantine History and Literature emeritus on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Prof. Sevcenko, a Byzantinist of world reputation, has for many years taught at Harvard and was a co-founder of HURI. A reception to celebrate his work and his place in the field was held at the Ticknor Lounge of Boylston Hall on the University campus.

Among those in attendance (about 50 people) were HURI Director Prof. Roman Szporluk, Chair of the Department of Classics Prof. Richard Thomas, HURI faculty members Michael Flier and George Grabowicz, other scholars, as well as colleagues and former students of Prof. Sevcenko.

Prof. Flier, chair of the Slavic department gave a brief overview of Prof. Sevcenko's biography and scholarly career. Greetings from all over the world – written in almost as many languages as Prof. Sevcenko speaks – were read at the reception. In his letter of greeting, Prof. Jerzy Akser of Warsaw University noted that Prof. Sevcenko continues to play a very important role in the activities of the Center for Studies of Ancient Tradition in Warsaw. Among the scholars who work at this research institution there are also Ukrainian academics.

Prof. Szporluk noted on the occasion of Prof. Sevcenko's anniversary that "the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is honoring Mr. Sevcenko as a scholar of world import, as specialist in Ukrainian history in the context of world history, particularly in its connections with the world of Byzantium and Western Christianity."

He continued: "At the same time we see in Prof. Sevcenko an eminent historian of Ukrainian culture of both earlier times and the modern era, in particular of the 16th-17th centuries. In his works, he demonstrated how fundamentally important for the formation of Ukraine were its ties with Greek and Byzantine civilizations. He also emphasizes the great significance of its ties with the world of Western Christianity, with political and cultural institutions and movements of Europe. The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is honoring Prof. Sevcenko as a man who, alongside Prof. Omelian Pritsak, was instrumental in establishing our Institute and in making it, from its very inception, a serious research institution."

A letter of greeting from Prof. Pritsak also was read at the reception. Prof. Pritsak reminisced about his personal and professional relationship with Prof. Sevcenko over many decades, and especially their collaboration at HURI.

The 2002 Maria and Vasyl Petryshyn Memorial Lecture will be delivered by Dr. Natalia Yakovenko, a historian from Kyiv. Dr. Yakovenko, senior research associate of the Institute of History at the Ukrainian National Academy of Science, a recognized authority on early modern Ukrainian history, is best known for her book "Ukrayinska Shliakhta z Kintsia XIV do Seredyny XVII Stolit: Volyn i Tsentralna Ukraina" (Ukrainian Nobility from the End of the 14th to the mid-17th Centuries: Volhynia and Central Ukraine).

Her articles have appeared in such noted journals as *Suchasnist*, *Kyivska Starovyna*, *Krytyka* and *Nash Rodovid*. Dr. Yakovenko's latest work, "Narys Istoriyi Ukrainy z Naidavnishykh Chasiv do Kintsia XVIII Stolittia" (Survey of



At a reception at Boylston Hall, (from left) are Prof. Ihor Sevcenko, Prof. Richard Thomas and Prof. Michael Flier.

Ukrainian History from the Earliest Period through the 18th Century), Kyiv, 1997, was recently translated into Polish. Her presentation will take place at 4 p.m. on April 22, in the Thompson Room of the Barker Center, 12 Quincy St., Cambridge, Mass.

In December 2001, Prof. Sevcenko was awarded an honorary doctorate in letters by Warsaw University. The awards ceremony took place at the university amidst an elaborate set of rituals that included an installation, reception and other events around Warsaw. Members of the university community, as well as representatives of the Polish and Ukrainian governments, were in attendance.

Prof. Sevcenko noted that not only did the award have personal significance for him, but also was important for Ukraine, since precedents were set for the awarding of a doctorate honoris causa.

Though he retired from active teaching in 1991, Prof. Sevcenko keeps an intensive academic schedule. A Ukrainian translation of his latest book

"Ukraine between East and West" was published in Lviv in 2001.

HURI Director Szporluk, the Mykhailo Hrushevskiy Professor of Ukrainian History, received the 2001 Antonovych Prize for his contribution to Ukrainian studies, with special recognition for his book "Ukraine, Russia, and the Breakup of the Soviet Union" (Stanford: Hoover Institution Press, 2000). The first printing of the book quickly sold out, and in January 2002 the book saw its second printing.

Prof. Szporluk received the award before 150 people at the Expocenter in Kyiv. In his remarks he emphasized that the fundamental nature of Ukrainian independence was not abrupt or unexpected, but represents an arc that spans the entire 20th century.

In his analysis, he stated that the declaration of independence of 1991 was the natural outcome of earlier Ukrainian history – a point that specialists on Ukraine should remember, rather than positing Ukrainian independence as somehow

"unnatural."

The Omelan and Tatiana Antonovych Foundation has awarded its annual prize for 20 years. It is given to individuals who have made significant contributions to Ukrainian culture and society.

In February, HURI announced plans to launch a website devoted to the first Ukrainian translation of "Animal Farm." On April 11, 1946, a 25-year-old Ukrainian displaced person wrote to George Orwell, "Dear Mr. Orwell, About the middle of February this year I had the opportunity to read 'Animal Farm.' I was immediately seized by the idea that a translation of the tale in Ukrainian would be of great value to my countrymen."

Thus began a remarkable correspondence between the young Ihor Sevcenko and Orwell that would lead not only to a Ukrainian edition of "Animal Farm," but would also give the world Orwell's only account of the genesis of this landmark work – which appeared in the special introduction that he wrote for the Ukrainian edition.

Published in 1947 under Prof. Sevcenko's pseudonym "Ivan Cherniatynskiy," the book has long been a collector's item. It is well-known among serious Orwell scholars. Prof. Sevcenko's letters to Orwell are among the handful of non-Orwell letters included in the critical edition of his writing, since the connection with the East European intellectual circles was important to him and his cause of opposing Stalin's tyranny.

Mindful of the importance to world intellectual history of this encounter and honoring Prof. Sevcenko on the joyful occasion of his 80th anniversary, HURI is launching an ongoing project to make Prof. Sevcenko's translation available on line.

As part of the project, both the original version and a reviewed version that Prof. Sevcenko worked out with Orwell and that has never before been published, will eventually be made available, along with correspondence and analysis from

(Continued on page 19)

Helmut Kohl receives rector of Ukrainian Free University

BERLIN – Helmut Kohl, former chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany, in a special audience held in Berlin on February 14, received Leonid Rudnytsky, rector of the Ukrainian Free University (UFU).

The occasion was the presentation of a commemorative booklet containing photographs and speeches from a ceremony held on December 4, 2000, during which Chancellor Kohl was awarded an honorary doctorate from the Ukrainian State University of Forestry and Wood Technology in Lviv, currently headed by Rector Yuri Tunytsia.

Following the presentation, which took place in the chancellor's office in the presence of his staff and his personal friend, the German parliamentarian and Ukraine expert Dr. Hansjürgen Doss, Dr. Kohl had a lengthy conversation with Prof. Rudnytsky concerning life in contemporary Ukraine and the work of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich.

Prof. Rudnytsky used the occasion to present Dr. Kohl with an album titled "Faith and Hope," which was published by the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, U.S.A., on the occasion of the 400th anniversary of the Union of Brest. The work contains valu-



Former German Chancellor Helmut Kohl (center) with Dr. Hansjürgen Doss (left) and Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky.

able documents, photos and articles on the history of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the status of religion in contemporary Ukraine.

Dr. Kohl, who knows the Ukrainian situation quite well, having visited the

country as early as the 1970s, expressed great interest in the latest activities of the UFU, especially in its cooperative efforts with various academic institutions in Ukraine and Germany, and wished the rector success in all these endeavors.

Albright says Kuchma...

(Continued from page 1)

regarded that way," Dr. Albright added.

NDI and other monitoring groups have repeatedly expressed concern about a number of abuses during the election campaign: about the media being subject to harassment, journalists being intimidated, the state-controlled media openly demonstrating a pro-government bias, opposition candidates being denied access to the media as well as to public resources which were being used to help the pro-government party.

In addition to the NDI briefing, the coming elections in Ukraine also were the subject of a briefing on March 1 organized by the U.S. Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE).

Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine, William Green Miller, who accompanied Dr. Albright to Ukraine and took part in both briefings, said he thinks President Kuchma understands the connection between the perception of the election and the international reputation of Ukraine as a nation and his leadership.

"The difficulty is that he is in the middle of a power struggle, in which his interests may require – in his own mind – the kind of actions that are taking place in this election," he said.

The outcome of the election is becoming more and more apparent, Ambassador Miller said, with the polls – which he



NDI panel at a briefing on elections in Ukraine (from left): Ambassador William Green Miller, NDI President Kenneth Wollack and NDI Chairman and former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright.

sees as a very important component in the election process – consistently showing former prime minister Viktor Yushchenko's coalition in the lead, followed by the Communists and the two oligarchic factions in the third position.

NDI President Kenneth Wollack said what he found most striking were polls showing that more citizens of Ukraine believe that the upcoming election will

not be credible as opposed to those who believe that it will be credible.

"And under these situations in transitional environments all over the world, when you have large segments of the population that have lost faith in the political processes, then extraordinary steps are necessary to build or rebuild confidence in elections," he said.

"While the law has been improved, the

question is: How are the laws being applied and how are the laws being followed? And if there is the sense that the law has just become a facade for the same type of pre-election abuses that have taken place in other elections, the real damage to democratic development before, during and after this election, I think, is going to be quite detrimental," Mr. Wollack noted.

Former congressman Sam Gejdenson, who also accompanied Dr. Albright in Ukraine, said he witnessed some of the reported abuses during his visit. He likened the situation there to what has happened in other former East-bloc countries and former Soviet republics, where there has been a consolidation of power, and those in power are using government resources to stay in power.

Dr. Albright said that the West should make clear its disapproval of certain behavior by Ukraine. "But I am not for isolating Ukraine," she added. "I think that would be a mistake. There needs to be a constant flow of information and people and Western discussions there, and a constant need to include them and push them."

"I think that one has to be very nuanced with Ukraine, because we do not want to kind of push it into a Belarusian situation," she said.

In response to a question, however, Dr. Albright said that the various political leaders with whom she met did not express any concern about a Russian influence in the election.

Poor preparation...

(Continued from page 1)

and manuals on the subject of Olympic training, including, "The General Theory of Athletic Preparation for Olympic Competition," which has been published in German and Spanish, as well as Russian.

He lambasted the biathletes for competing in paid World Cup events at a time when they should have been involved in intensive final preparations for the Olympics.

He said several members of the team spent December and part of January in Europe attending the professional competitions, one of which offered a Volkswagen automobile as first prize, instead of training at proper altitudes in the United States after which they were forced to play catch-up.

Mr. Platonov explained that in the two months before the Olympics the commonly accepted training regime is 40 days of intensive training in conditions similar to those at the Olympic site, followed by a 20-day period of winding down and resting.

"While others were either not taking part in these commercial competitions or using them as controlled training competitions with the accent on the training, our biathletes were going all out to capture the grand prizes," said Mr. Platonov.

He said chaos and dissension within the ranks of the federation also had caused a decline in the performance of the biathletes after they had achieved much success at the Nagano Games in 1998.

"There is a lack of good will; internal

conflicts and misunderstandings exist," said Mr. Platonov, who added that the worst part is that no one within the federation seems ready to face up to the problems and make the required changes.

"The lack of a desire to analyze the situation, the need to keep the status quo, that's the real tragedy," he said.

The problems began after the biathlon team reached the top of the sport with its world championship in 1999. Then the federation's president, Ivan Biekov, who had directed it since 1991 and led it to the top spot in the world, was replaced. To help in raising badly needed funds, the new federation head asked businessmen to get involved in the federation's activities. The businessmen, however, put the accent on developing their commercial projects at the expense of the federation's successes, explained Mr. Platonov, and the squad's downhill slide began. As a consequence, many of the leading trainers that Mr. Biekov had retained left as well.

Asked to comment on the dismissal of an assistant trainer and a team coordinator of the biathlon athletes as the Olympics were held, the respected academic said that it was an unprecedented, unprofessional and badly timed move. He explained that plenty of time had existed before the Games to make specific personnel decisions.

"You just don't do it during the Olympics," emphasized Mr. Platonov.

The university rector also explained that while Olena Zubrylova, the 1999 world champion in the 15-kilometer pursuit has had her share of health problems, her descent from the top of the biathlon world can in part be blamed on a decision

by the IOC's medical commission in 2000 to ban a substance that she had been using to enhance her performance.

The "pharmacological preparation," as Mr. Platonov called it, had been developed by Ukrainian sports pharmacist Vyacheslav Popov and in many ways was instrumental in the success of Ms. Zubrylova and her teammates. Mr. Platonov attributed the decline in the level of performance of each of the athletes after 2000 to a large degree on the decision to stay within IOC guidelines and to not continue to administer the drug to the athletes.

That does not mean that either he or the NOC-Ukraine agreed with the decision. Mr. Platonov offered that performance-enhancing drugs, those that can be established to be safe for the user – and he emphasized that anabolic steroids can never be considered safe – should be allowed in the Olympics. He explained that they are as instrumental in reaching peak potential as is the choice of equipment.

"Italian cyclists use bicycles that have been aerodynamically designed and put through extensive wind tunnel testing. They use helmets that give peak aerodynamic efficiency. Americans have a different set of skis for every kind of snow imaginable," explained Mr. Platonov. "We do not have those advantages. We have, however, a highly advanced pharmacological program, which unfortunately is not treated the same as other technical aspects of Olympic preparation."

He said that all athletes use some sort of pharmacological substances during their training, most of them legal, but some of them not. He underscored that he

would never propose either a substance harmful to an athlete or one that is banned by the IOC.

The Olympic expert admitted that cross-country skier Iryna Terelia, who, along with Russian cross-country skier Larissa Lazutina was disqualified from the cross-country relay on the final day of competition, had indeed taken a banned substance, which had enhanced her red blood count. He called the incident unfortunate and explained that neither her federation nor her coaches sanctioned her action.

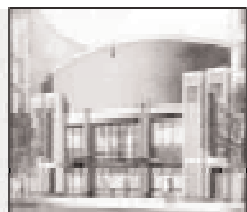
Mr. Platonov explained that in the months before the Olympics Ms. Terelia had trained extensively with the Russian team. "It seems that she may have adopted some of their training methods," he said.

What was inexcusable, according to the academic, was the way in which the athletes were tested for banned substances in the minutes right before the event. He said that testing specific individuals 15 minutes or even a half hour before they compete gives them a marked disadvantage because it disrupts their pre-competition focus.

While Mr. Platonov offered an apology to Ukrainians at home and in the diaspora alike for Ukraine's poor showing – stating that those who didn't train properly "deceived us, the diaspora and the trainers" – he repeated that the hope for better results in the future depended on going back to the basics.

"It still comes down to the lack of a central training complex, like the one we used to have in the Carpathians," explained Mr. Platonov. "Today there is no foundation, no children's schools, no trainers, no facilities."

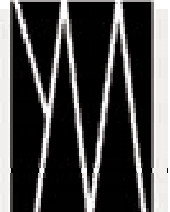
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Ukrainians among groups continuing opposition to Cooper Union plan

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Although the New York City street named in honor of Taras Shevchenko is seemingly no longer a potential target of The Cooper Union, local community organizations, together with the Shevchenko Preservation Committee acting on behalf of the East Village's Ukrainian community, have stepped up their opposition to the school's development plan in a Joint Task Force Position Statement.

Ukrainian residents of the Village, many of whom have lived in the neighborhood for over 50 years, argue that much of the school's plan, centered on increasing the retail and commercial space in order to ease their financial difficulties, will create a corporate environment that will push long-time residents out of the area.

Currently, the school is waiting for the Department of City Planning (DCP) to certify the school's application as complete. The hold-up, said Robyn Stein of the DCP's press office, is the completion of the environmental review.

Clair McCarthy, director of communications for The Cooper Union, said the school still has some loose ends to tie up regarding the environmental review and once this is taken care of school officials can go ahead with the certification of the application.

Once this certification is complete and the paperwork filed and tagged with a specific application number, the community boards and borough presidents of the affected areas submit their recommendations on the matter and the procedure for zoning changes begins.

Although the clock on the process has yet to start ticking, community officials have gone ahead and, by a unanimous vote of two community boards – with one

member abstaining – upheld the Task Force Position Statement.

The one abstention came from Community Board 3, which voted on February 19 to support the statement, while the unanimous vote of Community Board 2 came on February 21.

The Cooper Square Committee and the Good Ole Lower East Side (GOLES) organizations also joined the Coalition to Save the East Village in opposing the school's current development plans.

The task force has consistently made it known that its opposition centers on the school's current plan and the process the school has taken to make its plan public.

The Draft Analysis of The Cooper Union GLSDP, approved by the Joint Task Force of Community Boards 2 and 3 on February 4, said, "The community is unanimously in favor of the continued existence and success of Cooper Union as an educational institution." However, the draft continued, the current plan "is a scheme more suited to midtown development and totally inharmonious to the Village and Lower East Side neighborhoods."

"We recognize that the basic premise of zoning law is to rezone property due to changing land use and conditions or for redevelopment purposes. Enhancing a private developer's bottom line is not part of this equation. We feel it would well serve all concerned if the City Planning Commission would convey these principles of zoning to Cooper which has failed to recognize them in our months of intense dialogue and review," the draft continued.

Ms. McCarthy declined to comment on the Task Force statement.

But the draft went further than simply criticizing the GLSDP; it gave school officials four points which the community

boards consider necessary in order to "arrive at an alternative plan acceptable to the Task Force."

Key among them was the proposal to use the Astor Place parking lot site located on the corner of Lafayette Street and Astor Place, not the Engineering site located on the corner of Fourth Avenue and Eighth Street, in the GLSDP – a move the school had opposed in the past, saying that the Astor Place site was not part of their development plans.

The school had Astor Place set aside as the proposed site of a new hotel development project until plans fell through in late June.

The Task Force statement also called for: the zoning of the Engineering site retained at its current level and any development on the site setback to at least the original roadbed of Stuyvesant Street; a restrictive covenant included in the approval of the GLSDP prohibiting the development or sale of air rights using the unused Floor Area Ratio (FAR) from the Foundation Building located on the corner of Third Avenue and Eighth Street; and no change in the current lease restriction at the Hewitt site – thereby prohibiting The Cooper Union's proposed retail use on the Third Avenue frontage.

Anna Sawaryn, chair of the Coalition to Save the East Village, which encompasses various East Village organizations – among them the Shevchenko Preservation Committee – stressed that the issues facing the Ukrainian community go beyond Taras Shevchenko Place. According to Ms. Sawaryn, the many Ukrainian shops and residents of the neighborhood would be adversely affected if The Cooper Union's GLSDP was accepted as it currently stands.

UCCA opens Kyiv bureau

by Tamara Gallo

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America has received two donations totaling \$45,000 towards its work in Ukraine. The benefactors, responding to a UCCA appeal, include Arkadi Mulak-Yatzkivsky of Los Angeles, who donated \$20,000, and an anonymous donor who contributed \$25,000.

The donations will cover the operating costs for the UCCA's newly opened Kyiv Office, which is staffed by a citizen of Ukraine, for at least a two-year period, as well as help alleviate expenses related to the UCCA's 2002 pre-election campaign.

The UCCA executive board had passed a motion at its regular board meeting on December 16, 2001, to create a UCCA bureau in Ukraine's capital.

The UCCA Kyiv Office's immediate responsibility is to carry out "The Power of One" civic education program, which promotes greater citizen involvement in civic decision-making by encouraging voter participation in the upcoming parliamentary elections, and educates the people about their inalienable rights as citizens of a democratic country.

Following the elections, the bureau, located at Myzeinyi Provulok No. 8; (telephone, 044-228-4580) will function similarly to the Ukrainian National Information Service in Washington by monitoring and disseminating information and by serving as the UCCA's voice in Kyiv. Additionally, the Kyiv office will assist the UCCA's Council on Aid to Ukrainians, which conducts humanitarian aid projects.

Sociologist examines...

(Continued from page 1)

have two. Eighty-nine percent are working full-time, although only 43 percent use specific skills acquired in Ukraine in their work.

The principal area from which they emigrated was "Greater" Ukraine (i.e., Central and Eastern Ukraine, 50 percent), with western Ukraine (Halychyna and Bukovyna) following at 41 percent, and southern Ukraine (and "other" regions) coming in at 9 percent. Significantly, 26 percent of all those who emigrated from Ukraine to Canada came from Kyiv and 24 percent from Lviv.

Later in the seminar, Prof. Isajiw noted the high educational achievement of the immigrants: 12.8 percent had degrees from an "uchylyshche," or a "tekhnikum," 37 percent from an "instytut," and 36.1 percent from a university. As well, he noted their religious affiliation (at the time of emigration) as being split among Ukrainian Orthodox (37 percent), Russian Orthodox (16 percent), Catholics (27 percent) and non-believers (11 percent).

Prof. Isajiw noted that while Ukrainian immigrants are fairly well integrated into the Canadian economy, they generally tended to be overqualified for the work they were doing. As such, Canada has done very well by Ukrainian immigration.

A host of statistics preceded this conclusion. Regarding employment before and after emigration, Prof. Isajiw noted that the field of computing became significantly more important for immigrants (with the ratio of their employment in this field rising from 15.2 percent while in Ukraine to 20.1 after arriving in Canada). Business and entrepreneurship also saw a rise, from 3.4 percent to 6.4 percent.

On the other hand, engineering (an astonishing decline from 22.4 percent to 0.7 per-

cent) and "professional" work (12.1 percent to 3.7 percent), as well as work in the humanities (13.8 percent to 2.0 percent) and management (7.6 percent to 2.7 percent) took sharp dives. Unskilled manual labor, meanwhile, experienced a temporary spike from 0.0 percent (in Ukraine) to 19.1 percent as a first job in Canada to a current level of 4.0 percent.

The speaker also examined the issues of "difficulty finding work" (where lack of Canadian contacts and Canadian experience, as well as a lack of English fluency were cited as major problems) and "attitudes and opinions" (in which it emerged, in unrelated questions, that almost half of the respondents felt that they were overqualified for their current jobs, yet over half were generally satisfied with their jobs).

Prof. Isajiw then turned to the integration of the new immigrants into the Ukrainian community, the other major question addressed by the study. The conclusion was unequivocal: new arrivals have not linked up with the "hromada" in any significant way. Their active participation in existing Ukrainian organizations stood at 9 percent and in Ukrainian organizations for new arrivals at 4 percent. Their attendance of activities sponsored by Ukrainian organizations was 8.0 percent "very often"; 23.7 percent "time to time"; 20.1 percent "rarely"; and 48.2 percent "never."

Even informally the new immigrants have maintained a certain social distance from local Ukrainian Canadians: less than 27 percent agreed or strongly agreed that it was "easy to make friends with Ukrainian Canadians" (compared to just over 41 percent for making friends with non-Ukrainian Canadians).

Nevertheless, the new arrivals by and large are interested in Ukrainian matters. A full 92.3 percent indicated that they feel it is important to pass on a sense of Ukrainian culture to their children, 50 percent send

their children to a Ukrainian school, and 24 percent send their children to dance lessons. Almost 82 percent read Ukrainian Canadian newspapers often or from time to time, while 66.8 maintain a strong interest in Ukrainian politics.

In conclusion, Prof. Isajiw reiterated his major findings and revisited some of his statistics on language (which are not mentioned in this report) and cultural identification. He also noted that the Russian Ukrainian language mix among the recent arrivals – to some degree an object of derision among local Ukrainian Canadians – is still very common and unlikely to change in the foreseeable future.

Several significant matters were raised during the subsequent question-and-answer session. The first question asked how representative a sample was the group studied, given the fact that the name list for possible interviewees was generated from a Canadian Ukrainian Immigrant Aid Society list. Prof. Isajiw replied that the fact that the list includes over half of the "Fourth Wave" immigrants renders it fairly neutral in scope and that the names were picked at random from it.

Another query focused on what the results for a comparable survey in the United States might yield. The speaker remarked that there were numerous differentiating factors between Canada and the United States, so that it is not realistic to speculate on this matter. At the same time, he added that the backers of this undertaking were interested in the possibility of extending this examination to the situation in the United States.

One commentator subsequently suggested that the larger numbers of new Ukrainian immigrants to the United States and the relatively weaker condition of community organizations in that country rendered them more likely to be taken over by recent arrivals. Conversely, the very



Prof. Wsewolod Isajiw

strength of Toronto's Ukrainian community may well mitigate the successful integration of recent immigrants from Ukraine, insofar as they are unable to assume dominant positions (i.e., take them over or enter the scene on their own terms).

Finally, socio-linguistic and regional questions were raised. Questions were asked about the recent immigrants' relations with the large Russophone population in the Toronto region, as well as the impact of the close Galician/Ukrainophone identification upon the survey results. Regarding the former, Prof. Isajiw noted that the matter was simply never explored; as for the latter, he added that the data are still very fresh and had not yet been examined.

Andrij Makuch is research coordinator of the Ukrainian Canadian Program at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

Skiers, snowboarders compete at annual KLK races in upstate New York

WINDHAM, N.Y. – The Carpathian Ski Club's (KLK) annual ski races were held Saturday, February 23 at Ski Windham. Close to 60 skiers competed in the race held annually in the Catskill Mountains of New York state.

Near perfect weather greeted the skiers, and onlookers; there was plenty of snow and lots of competition. Trophies were awarded for first place in each division, second- and third-place finishers received medals. Special traveling trophies were presented for the fastest time posted among men and women competitors. (Fastest time trophies are passed on from year to year to each successive winner, with no repeat winners allowed.)

This year's winner in the men's division was Taras Popel, with a time of 28.55 seconds. His father, George, sporting a leg cast from an earlier skiing accident, awarded his son the trophy.

For the first time a trophy was awarded to a female posting the fastest time. The inaugural recipient was Roxanna Kobziar, with a time of 29.74 seconds. Her father, Yuri, whose name appears on the traveling trophy as a past winner of that award, presented the award to Roxanna.

This year's KLK races introduced snowboard racing in a separate category, and six athletes of various ages competed on snowboards.

Awards were presented that evening during a banquet for skiers, their families and guests, held at Hunter Mountain in nearby Hunter, N.Y. KLK leaders Erko Palydowycz, Orest Fedash and Zenon Stakhiv conducted the evening's program.

Below are the KLK ski and snowboard race results. Letters in parentheses stand for gold, silver and bronze medals awarded by NASTAR to skiers based on the course time posted by pacesetters, as well as the gender and age of each racer.

SKIING

Girls 6-7

Katia Palydowycz, 39.92 (S)

Girls 8-9

Natalia Hryhorowych, 38.30 (G)

Girls 10-12

Tania Hryhorowych, 36.61 (B)
Orysia Kucher, 36.61 (B)
Melanie Siokalo, 36.82 (B)
Larysia Kobziar, 37.33 (B)

Girls 14-16

Roxanna Kobziar, 29.74 (S)
Larysia Rybak, 32.60 (B)
Alexandra Kachala, 34.27 (B)
Lydia Doll, 34.72 (B)



A skier, Lydia Doll, and snowboarder, Markian Rybak, display their form during the races on the NASTAR course.



George "Kuba" Kupchynsky congratulates the victors in the boys age 10-11 group, (from left) Justin Stasiuk, Alex Hryhorowych, Marko Kochan and Paul Hadzewycz.



Roxanna Kobziar receives the women's best-time trophy from her father, Yuri Kobziar (left), and Erko "Hetman" Palydowycz.

Deanna Kochan, 36.84 (B)

Girls 17-18

Melasia Doll, 32.84 (B)
Dianna Shmerykowsky 37.96

Women 19-29

Talia Fedash 31.84 (S)
Wanda Dubon-Vena, 37.59

Women 30-39

Marybeth Palydowycz, 45.62

Women 40+

Zoriana Siokalo, 36.38 (B)

Romana Hadzewycz, 38.59
Christine Kochan, 38.84

Boys 6-7

Peter Iwasiwka, 42.80 (B)

Boys 8-9

Nicholas Siokalo 35.08 (G)
Erko Palydowycz, 36.65 (S)

Boys 10-11

Justin Stasiuk, 37.81 (S)
Alex Hryhorowych, 38.67 (S)
Marko Kochan, 41.73 (B)
Paul Hadzewycz, 42.85

Boys 14-15

Adrian Rybak, 30.26 (S)
Adrian Kochan, 30.43 (S)
Andrew Hrubel, 36.52

Boys 17-18

Markian Hadzewycz, 31.58 (B)

Men 19-22

Darian Fedash, 32.63 (B)
Damian Holyntskyj, 33.51

Men 23-29

Damian Vena, 28.26 (S)

(Continued on page 18)



Some of the younger female competitors, most of them skiers and one snowboarder, plus a guest, enjoy the camaraderie during the awards banquet: (from left) Orysia Kucher, Lana Denysyk, Melanie Siokalo, Larysia Kobziar, Tania Hryhorowych and Sofia Klapischak.



George Popel (left) has just presented awards to skiers in the group of men age 50-60, (from left) Orest Fedash, Andrew Hadzewycz, Zenon Stakhiv, Joseph Vena, Oleh Kolodiy and Andrei Kachala.

All photos in this series by George Stasiuk

Plast youths conquer challenges at winter mountaineering camp near Lake Placid

by Andrew Olesnycky

LAKE PLACID, N.Y. — A burning cold crept into Pavlo Jarymowycz's outstretched arms. Four metal spikes, none of which lodged more than a few inches into the ice, provided the only friction that kept him stuck to the 40-foot frozen waterfall.

Little by little, Mr. Jarymowycz climbed the face, swinging his tools into the ice, then advancing his feet as he pulled up with his arms. But 30 feet up and facing the crux of the climb, his body told him that they had had enough.

"I think I'm done!" he yelled to his belayer, the sound muffled by the collar of his jacket, which partially covered his mouth to keep the lower half of his face from freezing.

He sat back on the rope to be lowered, but had attracted too much attention. The nine other campers and seven counselors of Zymovyi Mandrivnyi Tabir (ZMT), Plast's winter mountaineering camp, were now hollering words of encouragement, insisting that he continue to the top.

Mr. Jarymowycz realized that with this audience cheering him on, getting down would be harder than continuing forward. Reluctantly, he shook out his arms to get his blood flowing and dug his tools into the ice, showing his friends that he wasn't giving up.

With what little energy he had left in his frozen arms, he pulled himself to the top, move after move, never hurrying, never slowing down. Reaching the top for Mr. Jarymowycz was as much of a relief as it was a triumph; and as he was lowered, a smile barely broke through the exhaustion on his face.

Mr. Jarymowycz's climb was a metaphor for ZMT: at times arduous and painfully cold, but in the end extremely gratifying.

On December 26-31, 2001, the fifth annual ZMT, organized by the Lisovi Chorty fraternity of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, took place in Adirondack State Park near Lake Placid, N.Y. The 6-million-acre park is the biggest in the contiguous United States and boasts 43 mountains over 4,000 feet. It offered the camp an unparalleled playground for teaching winter hiking and mountaineering.

The participants, age 15 and up, hailed from New Jersey, New York and Rhode Island, as well as Hamilton and Toronto, Ontario.

By day two, the 10 campers and seven counselors had hiked eight miles in sub-zero temperatures, skied cross-country at an Olympic training center and climbed a frozen waterfall. In the evenings, the counselors taught the requisite skills for the next day's events, giving lessons on wilderness first aid, winter camping techniques, cross-country skiing and ice climbing.

"I have a lot of faith in the counselors,"



ZMT campers post for a final photo at the end of their winter mountaineering experiences in the vicinity of Lake Placid, N.Y.

Mr. Jarymowycz explained, "They've been doing this for a long time and really know what they're doing."

Four of the seven counselors had three or more years of experience at ZMT, where they learned the many skills associated with winter mountaineering, as well as attained an intimate familiarity with the terrain.

New to the camp this year were two observers from the Ukrainian Youth Association (SUM), Myroslav Baran and Matthew Bochnowycz, who came to scout out a place for a future SUM camp and who served as instructors for cross-country skiing.

"The camp gets more professional every year," Deanna Yurchuk, the camp's leader, said. "This has been my fifth ZMT, and with each year I am impressed with how much more is accomplished because of more experienced instructors and better equipment."

This was the first year that ZMT's ice climbing outing was set up with the help of an outside professional guide service, which outfitted every camper with excellent climbing gear and provided a guide to ensure safety.

On the third day, the scouts donned their fully loaded backpacks for a multiple-day hike further into the wilderness. ZMT's home base was moved from Weizel Trails Cabin, which had access to amenities like water and electricity, to Camp Peggy O'Brien, a tiny, primitive lodge a day's hike from any trailhead. From Peggy O'Brien,

the group rose at 4 a.m. the next morning for a summit attempt of the 4,736-foot Gothics Mountain, the 10th highest mountain in Adirondack Park, and widely considered to be the area's most challenging hike.

It was completely dark when the group took its first steps on the Ore Bed Trail at 5 a.m. The Ore Bed would take them all the

way to the summit, more than 3,000 feet of elevation gained in a few short hours.

During the 2000 ZMT, the scouts had climbed nearby Mount Marcy, New York's highest peak. If some of the returning campers had thought that Gothics would be a step down from the more renowned

(Continued on page 15)



Andrew Olesnycky



Markian Hadzewycz

Among the activities at Plast's Zymovyi Mandrivnyi Tabir were winter hiking (left) and ice climbing (right).

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UNA NOTICES

Meeting of UNA Br. 441

As of March 1, 2002, the secretary's duties of
 Branch 441 were assumed by Mrs. Susan Soldan.
 We ask all members of this Branch to direct all
 correspondence regarding membership and insur-
 ance to the address listed below:

Mrs. Susan Soldan
 190 Wolverine Cres
 Thunder Bay
 Ontario, Canada
 P7C 5Z1
 (807) 475-4550

Meeting of UNA Branch 327

Monday, March 25, 2002
 Uniondale, NY

The annual meeting of UNA Branch 327 will be held
 on Monday, March 25, 2002, at 7:00 p.m. at St.
 Vladimir Parish Center, 226 Uniondale Avenue,
 Uniondale, NY 11553.

PERSONALS

Attractive Ukrainian girl (30, pharmacist, lives
 in Ukraine) will meet a man (28-42) for seri-
 ous relationship. Divorced need not write nor
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(315) 363-7175 or,
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Hello! Friendship from Norway!

My name is Nils, I am 47 years old, 182 cm. tall, 85
 kg. Never married. I enjoy movies, travelling, read-
 ing, music. I don't smoke, but enjoy a glass of wine
 with dinner. I am looking for a really neat, attractive
 young lady to be my best friend, companion, play-
 mate, and wife. If you are looking for a nice person
 and a family man, please write and send a photo.
 English language.

Nils Herlander
 PO Box 698
 6801 Forde, Norway

MISCELLANEOUS

Ena Huminilowycz is searching for
 Orest Huminilowycz from Kalush, Halychyna,
 presently living in New York. Write to:

Ena Huminilowycz
 282 Lockwood Street
 Winnipeg, MB R3N 1S2
 Canada

Political groupings...

(Continued from page 1)

Our Ukraine, said that at campaign stops
 its candidates, including Mr.
 Yushchenko, were refused access to halls
 they had booked and denied airtime on
 local television stations for interviews
 and advertising clips. In one town, Mr.
 Yushchenko was confronted with a sud-
 den and never explained power outage as
 he spoke, explained Mr. Hryniv.

The Our Ukraine campaign official
 also alleged more serious actions against
 his political organization, including
 break-ins and robberies of local cam-
 paign offices of the Our Ukraine bloc
 and even beatings of individuals associ-
 ated with the campaign.

Meanwhile, Socialist Party leader
 Moroz said during a press conference in
 the Verkhovna Rada on March 5 that his
 organization also had been subject to dis-
 ruptive practices, mostly by oblast and
 county level officials. He said some
 Socialist Party candidates had been
 threatened if they did not withdraw their
 candidacies. He told of a female candi-
 date to the oblast council in Sumy who
 cares for about 10 foster children in a
 foster home she had developed. Mr.
 Moroz explained that local authorities
 had left her no choice but to quit the race
 after they threatened to block the sub-
 stantial government funding she was
 receiving to support the children.

Anatolii Tolstoukhov, assistant direc-
 tor of the For a United Ukraine bloc,
 replied to the accusations on March 7 by
 saying that, if concrete allegations exist,
 the political organizations of Mr.
 Yushchenko and Mr. Moroz should pur-
 sue the charges in a court of law.

"If you want my response to allega-
 tions that somewhere somebody is turn-
 ing off the lights on purpose, then the
 people affected should determine the rea-
 sons for it and then turn to the local
 authorities," said Mr. Tolstoukhov. "If it
 is being done in connection with the
 election campaign then they should turn
 to the courts, that's what I recommend."

Leaders of Our Ukraine said they
 expected that in the weeks remaining
 before the March 31 elections the accent
 might turn from government support for
 certain campaigns to mudslinging and
 smear tactics, what Mr. Hryniv called
 "black P.R."

Mykola Tomenko, a political analyst
 who is working with the Our Ukraine
 bloc, said that on Election Day govern-
 ment and election officials could be plan-
 ning still more illicit tactics, which
 would amount to outright vote fraud. He
 said certain election officials could try to
 illegally manipulate the votes of certain
 segments of society vulnerable to such
 attempts. He included in the group the
 hospitalized, who would not be allowed
 to go to the polls; and soldiers, prison
 guards and police officers who he said
 were people "who essentially had no free
 choice in the way they will vote."

Mr. Tomenko also said he had
 received information that in Luhansk
 election officials had returned to the
 voter lists some 30,000 to 40,000 names
 of individuals who had died between
 1998 and 2002. Meanwhile, in the west-
 ern oblasts election officials had identi-
 fied those people who had gone abroad
 to work and would mark their ballots for
 them, alleged the political analyst.

Mr. Tomenko said he believes conclu-
 sive evidence of voter fraud in Ukraine
 would be determined by how exit polling
 and the final official tallies compared.

"Historically the accuracy of exit polls
 have been shown to be off by no more
 than 1 percent," explained Mr. Tomenko.
 "If they are way off on March 31, it will
 only prove that the elections were fraud-
 ulent."

Plast youths...

(Continued from page 13)

Marcy, they inevitably learned that the steep and technical faces of Gothics were different from the endless slog up Marcy's gentler slope.

After the three-mile approach to the mountain's base, the Ore Bed Trail shoots straight up the west face of Gothics under the cover of trees, gaining more than 1,000 vertical feet in less than a mile. To keep from sliding off the steep face, the expedition leader, counselor Andriy Kolos, kicked steps into the deep snow, and every subsequent hiker followed the footprints, forming a giant staircase up the mountain.

The group took a short rest before ascending above the tree line, where the winds could reach 40 miles per hour on an average day. The high winds blow the snow off the exposed rock near the summit, depositing some of it in deep snowdrifts, through which the group had to navigate.

It took the scouts nearly an hour to fight up half a mile of rock, ice and snow to reach the summit. The peak itself was a thin ridge no more than 50 feet wide, with winds so high the group took no more than a few minutes to congratulate each other and snap a few pictures before retreating to a lower elevation.

Although the summit of Gothics was more harsh than spectacular, with barely

enough visibility to see the adjacent mountains, most of the campers recalled it as their favorite part of ZMT.

Ms. Yurchuk said she would like to see ZMT someday change locations so campers can explore more terrain outside Adirondack Park. More than half of the camp's participants this year had taken part in previous years, and six had been involved with ZMT for two years or more.

"In the future, we'd like to change locations to New Hampshire's White Mountains or even somewhere out west," Ms. Yurchuk said. "With so many people returning year after year, we'd like to go somewhere where we can experience a whole new mountain range. However, the beauty of Adirondack Park keeps luring us back."

Wherever ZMT takes place next year, it will be sure to attract its regular devotees. Every year, the regulars come into camp with the anticipation of a child opening up a Christmas present, wondering what peaks they will climb, how far they can possibly push themselves. But what makes ZMT different from other Plast camps is the relationships the scouts create in helping each other through physically demanding and uncomfortable situations.

"ZMT is great because it's different every year, but you can always expect to have a good time," Mr. Jarymowycz said. "The same people also show up every winter, so the more you go, the more you want to go back to be with your friends."

Rediscovering...

(Continued from page 6)

staircase built into the hill. Halfway up the stairs we had to pause to catch our breath at the incomparable view of the river. His statue looms large on a tall obelisk. Even on weekdays, the granite Mohyla itself is full of freshlycut flowers. We added our own and wrote in the visitors' book: "It finally happened!"

A lone bandurist in an intricately embroidered shirt and wide sharavary played and sang the poet's songs. He told us he was from Poltava and came to pay his respects to the bard. Two buses of

German tourists surrounded him and listened as their guide tried to translate and explain the songs. Descending the steep steps to catch the hydrofoil back to Kyiv, we heard "Dumy moi, dumy moi, lykho meni z vamy..." echoing in the distance.

Shevchenko's poetry continues to echo in our hearts. He taught us the power of the word, and his immortal words remain as relevant as when he first wrote them, his message as clear.

The words of the poet who never gave up his vision of a free Ukraine, who was instrumental in its independence, should give all Ukrainians pause at a time when the country seems to stand at a crossroads.



It is with great sorrow that we inform you that

NEIL SAMUEL GHISO, M.D.

passed away on February 11, 2002, at the age of 31,

after a long battle with brain cancer. Beloved son of Larissa Ghiso of Royal Oak, MI and Saad Ghiso, with his wife Shirley, of Franklin, MI.

dear brother of Alex Ghiso, and his wife Luz, of Chicago, and Darren Ghiso of Franklin, MI.,

grandson of the late Dr. Wasyl Wytwycky and Odarka Wytwycky,

nephew of Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky and his wife Bohdanna, and cousin of Stephan and Mark Vitvitsky. Also survived by many aunts, uncles and cousins.

The funeral was held in Brookline, MA, on February 14, 2002.

Dr. Ghiso was diagnosed with a brain tumor in November 1997, while a student at Harvard Medical School. During his treatment, he underwent numerous surgeries, several chemotherapies and radiation. Though fortunate to have had access to some of the best medical care in the world, Neil discovered, through his unique, simultaneous journey as a student and a patient, that the most critical component of patient care is compassion. He received his M.D. in June 2001.

Donations in his memory may be made to the:

**NEIL SAMUEL GHISO FOUNDATION,
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The foundation is dedicated to fostering compassionate care for chronically and terminally ill patients and their families through medical education and training.

A new journal...

(Continued from page 7)

the exhibit is available from the Winnipeg Art Gallery Gift Shop at www.wag.mb.ca.

Not only Ukraine's folk artists are covered in this journal; the diaspora is well-represented, too. The first issue, with Kozak Mamai on the cover, has an article about embroiderer Myroslava Stachiw of New Jersey. She created the famous "embroidered map" of Ukraine, showing the country's regional designs and stitches. Mrs. Stachiw also embroidered samples for "Ukrainian Folk Costume," the bilingual book published by the World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations in 1992. An article on woodcarver Mykhailo Korhun of Troy, Ohio, is in the same issue. Tania Osadca, pysanka-writer supreme, has an article on researchers of pysanky in issue No. 1-2 of 2001.

I look forward to future issues and more fascinating articles and illustrations. My only reservation is about the editor's per-

sonal beliefs which, while given in a column clearly labeled as opinion, include quotes from the dubious Vles Knyha, and reflect the "native religion" ("rynvira") leanings. One article mentions the "Dazhbozhi zori" instead of just zori (stars).

To continue and to succeed, this journal needs subscribers – not only from Ukraine but from around the world. The publisher hopes to make the journal a quarterly. E. Morgan Williams of ArtUkraine, an enthusiastic promoter of all aspects of Ukrainian art, is the contact for subscriptions. Additional information is available on the website www.ArtUkraine.com.

The covers of all eight magazines and the table of contents for each issue are shown. There is a special price for the readers of The Ukrainian Weekly this spring, 2002, for a set of all eight issues, including all postage and handling to the U.S. is \$ 48, and to Canada, \$ 56. All prices are in U.S. dollars. Checks should be made out to E. Morgan Williams, and mailed to P. O. Box 2607, Washington, DC 20013. Please mention The Ukrainian Weekly special.

ПОДЯКА

З невимовним болем повідомляємо приятелів і знайомих, що в День Святого Валентина, 14 лютого 2002 р. відійшла на 43-му році життя незрівняна МАМА, люба ДОНЯ, взірцева УЧИТЕЛЬКА, ентузіаст шкільного та громадського життя



бл. п.

ЛІДА

ВАСИЛЕНКО-СМИК

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в українській католицькій церкві св. Івана Хрестителя в Ньюарку, Н.Дж., 17 лютого 2002 р. Парастас-Панахида, 18 лютого Заупокійна Літургія. Похована на Православному цвинтарі св. Андрія Первозваного в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н. Дж. майже поруч біля своєї Мами, яка теж померла в День Святого Валентина 10 років тому від того ж страшного рака.

Складаємо велику сердечну подяку парохіві церкві св. Івана Хрестителя о. Богданові Лукію за грандіозні похоронні відправи та глибокі вдумливі слова на Парастасі та Літургії, дякуємо отцям Леонідові Малкову і Франкові Шадяку за сослужіння та диригентові Михайлові Стащишину, а за божественне виконання „Аве Марія“ під ніжні звуки сопілок дякуємо солістам Олі Стащишин та Романові Цимбалі. Дякуємо Пластунам за почесну стійку біля домовини. А нечисленним співчутливцям дякуємо за замовлені Служби Божі під час важкої Лідиної хвороби, письмові та телефонічні співчуття. В раковому корпусі шпиталю хвороба була від початку і до кінця під професійним наглядом Зені Лесько, за що родина складає подяку. Рівнож дякуємо адвокатуві Мирославові Смородському за сумлінну юридичну працю для Покійної та дітей, а Божені Полянській – за соціальну опіку над родиною.

Батько померлої з дружиною та дітьми складають глибоку подяку всім співчутливцям-приятелям, що були з хворою в шпиталі та госпісі вдень і вночі, місяцями, а отці Богдан, Леонід та Андрій молитвами біля хворої облегшували її біль. Відвідувачі були завжди біля Ліди, перерахувати всіх неможливо, а майже тисячна присутність людей на Парастасі, вся школа з директоркою Сестрою Евелін та сотні людей на похороні стверджують слова о. Богдана „Вона віддала себе всю, все що мала, дітям, громаді. „She had a Zest for life“. В некролозі „The Ukrainian Weekly“ за 24 лютого 2002 р. редактор Рома Гадзевич всесторонньо і вдумливо подала життя і працю Покійної, за що ми щиро і сердечно дякуємо.

Жалібні промови Ксені Раковської, Роми Лісович, інж. Дмитра Олійника, Юрія Романенка заслуговують на нашу вдячність. Розкішні квіти від сповнених жалем сердець проводжали нашу Лідочку у вічність, і над могилою в той момент пролетів кур-личучи великий ключ канадських гусей...

Дякуємо присутнім з Оттави Наталі Барретт, д-р Надії Желем, з Торонто журналістці Марті Онуфрив-Гошуляк, ведучій телепрограми „Світгляд“ Ірині Корпан, а з Чи-каго Людмили та Юрієві Романенку.

Українська школа св. Івана Хрестителя, де Ліда пропрацювала 11 років, була всім чим вона жила. Вона любила дітей і батьки та діти любили її. Ми вдячні організаторам „Smyk Children's Fund“ (Асс. No. 310199-000, Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, 734 Sanford Avenue, Newark, NJ 07106). Від імени дітей і родини ми безмежно вдячні всім жертводавцям на цей Дитячий Фонд.

Дякуємо за відбуті та замовлені заупокійні Богослуження у багатьох Церквах, а церкві св. Тройці в Ірвінгтоні, Н.Дж. дякуємо за відслушення Панахида на дев'ятий день.

*І ось Тебе вже, донечко, немає
Ні в школі, а ні дома. Промінь згас.
Лиш трьох дітей Твоїх нам Бог лишає
І через них Ти будеш серед нас.*

*Спокійно спи... Позаду всі терпіння,
Всі болі, операції, весь жах,
За муки ті Бог в небі дасть спасіння,
А янголи у рай покажуть шлях.*

*Як боляче дивитися на Доню,
На Маму у труні, де вічність вже.
Холодні ручки і холодні скроні,
Та спокій, що Всевишній береже.*

*Прощай навіки Лідочко кохана,
В серцях у нас лишаєш вічний щем,
Твоє життя було суцільна рана,
Про Тебе Вічну Пам'ять збережем.*

У невимовному горі:

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Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus elects officers for two-year term

DETROIT – The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus elected and confirmed a new set of officers at its 26th biennial meeting on February 16, in Detroit. Anatoli W. Murha was elected to a second term as president of the executive board, which will guide the chorus through its sixth decade of perpetuating bandura and choral music in North America.

Newly elected board members are: First Vice President Arnold Birko, Second Vice-President John Kytasty, Secretary Bohdan Pryjma, Treasurer Wolodymyr Murha, Archivist Dr. Ivan Kernisky, Chorus Elder Bohdan Sklierenko, and Associate Members Andrij Sklierenko, Ihor Kuszniir, Roman Skypakewych and Mykola Schidowka.

The membership also unanimously agreed to retain Maestro Oleh Mahlay as artistic director and conductor, with Oleh Moroz, Orest Sklierenko, and George Metulynsky completing the Artistic Council.

The meeting highlighted chorus projects over the past two years, which included joint Christmas concerts with the

Vesnivka Choir of Toronto, a sacred music concert series, and a short tour of Ukraine during the country's 10th anniversary of Independence. The UBC officially represented the Ukrainian American community at various concerts in Kyiv.

For more information on the bandura and the chorus readers may visit their website at www.bandura.org, or call (734) 658-6452.

The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus was formed in Kyiv in 1918. It survived both the Soviet and the Nazi occupations of Ukraine, and since 1949, has enjoyed the freedom of artistic expression in the United States of America. This male chorus is based in Detroit, but has members throughout North America: Alberta, Ontario, Maryland, Michigan, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, and Pennsylvania. The Chorus has preserved and promoted the art of the bandura by amassing an extensive discography, and by touring North America, Europe and Australia. The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus is a laureate of the Shevchenko State Prize, Ukraine's highest cultural award.

Ukrainian film festival announces winners

KYIV – Domestic Ukrainian filmmakers took top honors in the second annual Our Blossom – Across the World Film Festival, a competition that emphasizes Ukrainian diaspora themes and experiences.

The three films document life across Ukraine's western borders in Ukrainian settlements in Poland, the Czech Republic and the Baltic states. Two of them address historical themes.

One film, by Petro Midrihana and Vasyl Riabunets of Rivne, offers a glimpse at life today for Ukrainians and their offspring who were forcibly moved onto lands in western Poland during Akcja Wisla, a resettlement program Polish authorities undertook in 1947.

A second winner, by television journalist Maksym Drabka considers Ukrainian life in the Baltic states and analyzes the problems the diaspora living there must confront.

This year's third laureate, by Kyiv filmmakers Vasyl Shenderovskiy, Nadia Dovhych and Anatolii Vasianovych, investigates the life of Ukrainian Czech expatriate and noted scientist Ivan Puliuj, and his contribution to the discovery of the X-ray.

The judges reviewed nine submissions in all before making their decision. No diaspora entries were received this year, which, according to the film festival's organizing committee was a major disappointment.

Ihor Vynnychenko, director of the Institute of Diaspora Studies, which organizes the festival, said that it is unfortunate that the event had not stirred more interest in the United States and Canada, or within any of the other diaspora communities.

"We thought we would get a reaction after last year's presentation, during which Ivan Drach said he would really like to see Yuriy Luhovy's film on the issue of Ukrainian Canadians in World War I internment camps submitted, and more films from the West in general," said Mr. Vynnychenko.

While the lack of a monetary prize stifles

interest in the competition – a problem Mr. Vynnychenko said he well understands – he said he believes that with time the level of participation will rise as filmmakers began to understand the value of showing their films in Ukraine.

The Institute of Diaspora Studies, a non-profit organization affiliated with the Ukraine-World Society, has organized the Our Blossom – Across the World competition for two years running as a vehicle to initiate more interaction between Ukrainians home and abroad. Last year's winning entries were shown during special screenings at cinemas throughout Ukraine and on the country's government television channel, UT-1.

Last year's winners included a movie on the life of Ukrainians in the ethnically Ukrainian Kuban region of Russia and a film documenting the history of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

Filmmakers, amateur or professional, wishing to take part in the 2002 Our Blossom – Across the World competition are asked to submit projects having a Ukrainian narrative (dialogue can be in any language), no longer than 30 minutes in length, with at least 50 percent of the material directly related to the topic, "Ukrainians in foreign lands."

It is not necessary that the footage be of a highly professional level, only that it tell a story and have a definite beginning, middle and ending. Although the organizing committee would prefer that entries be on Super VHS or Betacam SP videotape in PAL format, they will accept other types of standard videotape.

Please send contest submissions to: Our Blossom – Across the World, Ukraine 01034, Kyiv, a/c 126.

For more information go to the Institute of Diaspora Studies website at: <http://idd.ukrsat.com> or phone 011-380-44-244-2911..

TO: ALL UNA MEMBERS

From January to March 2002, branches of the Ukrainian National Association will 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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Plishka, Hrynkiw to perform benefit recital



Paul Plishka

NEW YORK – A special benefit recital for the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) to be held Thursday, March 21, will feature the world-renowned Metropolitan Opera soloist Paul Plishka and the internationally acclaimed concert pianist Thomas Hrynkiw, presenting a program ranging from familiar selections from opera to classical Ukrainian compositions, with works by Lysenko, Vytvytskyi and Nyzhankivskyi, and current American compositions. The event is sponsored by India House, located at One Hanover Square in Lower Manhattan, and will be held in the Marine Room.

Mr. Plishka's extraordinary voice and impeccable artistry combine to make him one of the world's foremost singers, praised by critics for his smooth, beautifully produced bass and polished dramatic skills.

A leading member of the Metropolitan Opera roster since 1967, Mr. Plishka appears regularly with major opera companies in North America and Europe.

Hailed as a pianist of "dramatic power and poetry," Mr. Hrynkiw has been making appearances since he was 13, when he won a competition in which the first prize was a performance of the Tchaikovsky Concerto with Leopold Stokowski conducting. Critics acclaimed this as a "stunning performance."

In 1967 Mr. Hrynkiw won the gold medal at the Geneva Competition, and later the Frank Huntington Beebe Award, the



Thomas Hrynkiw

Harold Bauer Award and the National Music Teachers Association Award. He has also received grants from the International Institute for Education.

The benefit begins with a cocktail reception at 5:30 p.m., the recital is at 7 p.m., with a champagne reception to meet the artists to follow. Dinner reservations (not included in the ticket price of \$150) may be made at either Bayard's or Harry's at Hanover Square, both located at India House, following the recital.

Of the ticket price, \$120 is tax-deductible; checks delivered to India House should be made payable to the Shevchenko Scientific Society (in the amount of \$150). For additional information and reservations for the recital, and as well travel directions, please contact India House Club Manager Peter Schaffer or Club Membership Director Heather Minton at (212) 269-2323 or 269-5453.

An important landmark building in Lower Manhattan, India House, since its inception, has been a gathering place for those engaged in foreign commerce. It is also the home of one of the finest marine art collections in the world, which sets much of the tone of its heritage as a private club. India House, and the private and public dining institutions it houses, is also known for hosting a variety of cultural activities, including the performing arts.

Leontovych Quartet's concert marks its 30th anniversary



Mary E. Pressey

NEW YORK – The Leontovych String Quartet, composed of (from left) Peter Krysa, Oleh Krysa, Volodymyr Panteleyev and Borys Deviatov, performed at Carnegie's Weill Recital Hall in celebration of the 30th anniversary of the quartet's founding in Kyiv in 1971. The concert, sponsored by the Ukrainian Institute of America, was held on January 27; the program featured works by Antonin Dvorak, Valentyn Silvestrov and Peter Tchaikovsky.



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Intensive tennis instructions for boys and girls, ages 12-18.
Instructors' fees \$80.00 per child
Room and board: UNA members \$510.00/non-members \$560.00 for full session
Insurance \$30.00 per child per week
Instructors: George Sawchak and Lida Sawchak-Kopach. Limited to 45 students
Supervisor: Olya Czerkas – 24 hrs supervised

BOYS' AND GIRLS' RECREATIONAL CAMP, AGES 7-12, SATURDAY, JULY 6 – SATURDAY, JULY 20

Featuring hiking, swimming, games, Ukrainian songs and folklore, supervised 24 hr.
Room and board: UNA members \$330.00 per week/non-members \$380.00 per week
Counselor fee: \$30.00 per child per week. Limited to 45 campers per week
Insurance \$15.00 per child per week
Instructor and supervisors: Olya Czerkas

CHEMNEY FUN CENTER, SUNDAY, JULY 7 – FRIDAY, JULY 12 & SUNDAY, JULY 14 – FRIDAY, JULY 19

Geared to exposing the Ukrainian heritage to the English-speaking children, ages 4-8,
Daily sessions: 9:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
Registration/counselor fee: \$135.00 if parents staying at Soyuzivka and pay the regular room rates.
Registration/counselor fee: \$175.00 if parents staying off premises
Registration fee includes T-shirts, child's lunch, and insurance fee of \$10.00 per child.

SOYUZIVKA SPORTS CAMP, SUNDAY, JULY 21 - SUNDAY, JULY 28

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Swimming, soccer, volleyball for boys and girls, ages 8-14.
Room and board: UNA members \$265.00/non-member \$315.00.
Instructor's fee \$100.00 per child; session limited to 45 students.
Insurance \$15.00 per child.
Instructors: Serge Nalywayko, Victor Cymbal, Andy Cymbal, Eugene Kruchowy

TRADITIONAL UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE CAMP, SUNDAY, AUGUST 4 - SATURDAY, AUGUST 17

Ukrainian folk dancing for beginners, intermediate and advanced students, ages 8-16
Room and board: UNA members \$580.00/non-member \$630.00 for full session
Insurance \$30.00 per child per week
Instructor's fee \$235.00 per child; Director: Roma Pryma Bohachevsky
Instructors fee for dance camp is to be made payable to: UCDA INC. and forwarded to Soyuzivka along with payment of room & board fee. **The director must approve acceptance into dance camp program, and no one will be accepted for less than the full session, unless it is with the approval of the director attendance limited to 60 students.

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FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT THE MANAGEMENT OF SOYUZIVKA. THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION DOES NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST ANYONE BASED ON AGE, RACE, CREED, SEX OR COLOR.

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Skiers, snowboarders...

(Continued from page 12)

Taras Popel, 28.55 (S)

Men 30-39

Severin Palydowycz, 27.49 (G)
Peter Strutynsky, 29.52 (S)
Andrey Sonevytsky, 30.44 (S)
Marco Shmerykowsky, 34.25 (B)

Men 40-49

Yuri Kobziar, 24.91 (G)
Yuriy Kucher, 30.62 (S)
Peter Siokalo, 32.75 (S)
Vlodko Temnycky, 33.61 (B)
Roman Iwasiwka, 35.97

Men 50-60

Orest Fedash, 32.46 (G)

Zenon Stakhiv, 32.98 (S)
Andrew Hadzewycz, 33.22 (S)
Andrei Kachala, 34.07 (B)
Oleh Kolodiy, 36.42 (B)
Joseph Vena, 39.34 (B)

Men over 60

John Shmerykowsky, 36.08 (B)

SNOWBOARDING

Women

Adrienne Burachinsky, 41.70
Lana Denysyk, 1:03.87

Men

Markian Rybak, 36.14
Danylo Peleschuk, 39.20
Mykola Stasiuk, 55.65



Zenon Stakhiv presents awards to winners in the men age 30-39 category, (from left) Peter Strutynsky, Andrey Sonevytsky and Marco Shmerykowsky.



Erko Palydowycz presents awards to women age 40 and up, (from left) Zoriana Siokalo, Romana Hadzewycz and Christine Kochan.

Pre-convention...

(Continued from page 5)

convention in order to familiarize themselves with the many issues before the convention that will be decided. Anyone primarily interested in visiting relatives in Chicago, or sightseeing should not become a delegate.

One of the biggest responsibilities of a delegate is to elect members to the General Assembly. Officials elected at the convention will be responsible for the financial well-being and growth of our organization for the next four years. Every delegate should read the reports of all outgoing executives and advisors to

see what they have done in the last four years.

Every delegate should familiarize himself with the candidates running for office to see what their qualifications are and what they plan to do for the organization. When choosing delegates to the convention, please keep this in mind. The UNA needs well-informed delegates to make good choices at the convention.

Pre-convention membership campaign

Please participate in the pre-convention campaign announced in January. All branch secretaries, delegates, organizers and members of the General Assembly should participate in this organizing campaign.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Visit our archive on the Internet at: <http://www.ukrweekly.com/>

News from Ukrainian Research...

(Continued from page 9)

Prof. Sevchenko's personal archives.

A growing interest in Ukraine and the ever larger number of Ukrainian specialists at Harvard have created the need for an additional discussion forum to supplement the long-standing Seminar in Ukrainian Studies. To satisfy this need, HURI has formed the "Ukraine Study Group" (USG).

While the Seminar in Ukrainian Studies meets usually on Mondays at 4 p.m. for formal presentation and critique of research papers, the USG gathers weekly on Thursdays or Fridays for preliminary reports on work in progress, discussion of methodology and debate of more contemporary issues.

Presenters in the fall term included Borys Tarasyuk, former minister of foreign affairs of Ukraine, who spoke on Ukraine's foreign policy over 10 years of independence; Volodymyr Kulyk, a Shklar fellow at HURI, who spoke political parties, parliamentary factions and voting blocs in Ukraine; Lubomyr Hajda, HURI associate director, who covered the history of Ukrainian studies at Harvard; Oleksander Riabchenko, national deputy of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine, who spoke on privatization efforts and potential in Ukraine, and Larry Wolff, professor of history at Boston College, who reported on methodologies for studying the 18th century history of the Slavs.

The Ukraine Study Group continues with an expanded program in the spring 2002 semester. The USG is lead by Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, HURI's associate director.

On February 11, HURI held a book presentation and reception for Patricia Kennedy Grimsted's trailblazing study "Trophies of War and Empire: The

Archival Heritage of Ukraine, World War II, and the international Politics of Restitution" (Cambridge, Mass.: HURI, 2001). On this occasion, Dr. Grimsted presented an update on the recently published volume.

Dr. Konstantin Akinsha, author of numerous important studies of cultural trophies, was the discussant.

The event, attended by Harvard faculty, associates, and students, as well as by specialists from area libraries and museums, was yet another "Trophies" book launch in addition to the ones already organized or planned in Kyiv, Amsterdam, Paris and Washington.

Dr. Grimsted's book has been very well received over the six months since its publication. It has had the most review requests of any HURI book and has already won advanced praise from specialists in such diverse fields as archival studies, history, the Holocaust, restitution studies and international law.

The first review, a glowing tribute to the book was published in the noted Kyiv-based journal Arkhivy Ukrayiny (Archives of Ukraine) just a few months after its publication. Officials from the State Committee on Archives of Ukraine indicated that they would like to have the book translated into Ukrainian as soon as possible.

The University of Toronto on February 22, hosted Dr. Volodymyr Kravchenko, Shklar Fellow at Harvard University, and Head of the Department of Ukrainian studies at Kharkiv University, Ukraine, who delivered a lecture titled "The Ukrainian National Movement in Kharkiv in the 19th and Early 20th Centuries."

The lecture took place at the Munk Center for International Studies and was co-sponsored by the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (Toronto Office).

Attention! Attention! Attention!

UNA BRANCH SECRETARIES, ORGANIZERS, ADVISORS, MEMBERS AND ELECTED DELEGATES TO THE 35TH UNA CONVENTION. THE UNA IS ANNOUNCING A PRECONVENTION ORGANIZING CAMPAIGN FROM JANUARY 2002 TO APRIL 30, 2002.

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Odesa broadcasters...

(Continued from page 7)

woman for the group stated that they did not wish to discuss politics – only culture. However, individually, some male journalists were willing to discuss political issues.

According to the Ukrainian broadcasters, TV and radio stations in Odesa are not connected to any network in or outside the city and focus only on the local news. These stations on occasion receive news items from Kyiv, which they then include in their local broadcasts.

On the question of use of the Ukrainian language, journalists said that the Ukrainian government mandates that at least 50 percent of all TV and radio programs be broadcast in the Ukrainian language, but this mandate is neither observed nor enforced. According to Mr. Chenusha, head editor of "Kiliya" Radio/TV, all government documents are written in the Ukrainian language, which forces non-Ukrainian speaking journalists and others to study the official language.

In response to a question about the dangers of being a journalist in Ukraine, the visitors said that they personally have not received any threats, and that local authorities are watchful of threats against journalists. Mr. Chenusha mentioned that his local chief of police visits him periodically to check on whether he has been threatened in any way. The visitors felt that they did not need to arm themselves with guns with rubber bullets. A question about Yulia Tymoshenko, a prominent opposition leader apparently being persecuted by the authorities, was dismissed with a wave of the hand and a comment that "she's a thief."

On election procedures and oversight issues, the visitors claimed that elections are supervised properly in their areas. On the issue of Ukraine's possible union with Moscow versus remaining an independent state, they said that it was only Communist Party members who were

pushing for the union and thus their return to power. Otherwise, people in their region are enjoying the improved state of the economy and free enterprise.

Issues of social relevance also seem to be receiving greater attention. According to Ms. Dobrynina, she has been instrumental in raising the issue of abused women and children by documenting abuses on film and by interviewing victims. Under her leadership a women's shelter for abused families, claimed to be the first of its kind, is opening in Bilhorod-Dnistrovskiyi. The issue of family abuse is scheduled for discussion shortly in the Ukrainian Parliament, and she is hoping for official government recognition and support of this rising social problem, due to rampant alcoholism and other social problems manifesting themselves in widespread abuse of women and children.

On a lighter note, the visitors were bemused with what they saw as the "American preoccupation" with the weather and environmental issues, brushing these aside with comments that people in the States like their "comfort." It was pointed out to them that the weather reports generally televised in four segments in a given hour by most TV stations, are of great concern to national and international air travel, mail deliveries, and land transportation and movement.

According to the visitors, there are approximately 28 radio and TV stations in the Odesa region, many of which are private, start-up operations. One of their goals is to make these profitable. A shortage of money for equipment and personnel is the most pressing problem in their operations.

Finally, it was interesting and encouraging to hear that people in the Odesa region are experimenting with setting up private news broadcasting operations and studying to improve existing ones, especially in making these profitable, and with a goal of eventually joining with other media networks, including CNN.

Opposition denied...

(Continued from page 2)

sion stations complaining of an "information blockade" because of Ms. Tymoshenko's opposition to President Kuchma.

Kyiv printing houses canceled their contracts to print Ms. Tymoshenko's Slovo Batkivschyny and Vechirni Visti newspapers, and she had to relocate their printing operation to western Ukraine. Serhii Pravdenko, editor of the parliamentary daily newspaper Holos Ukrainy and a candidate for the Ms. Tymoshenko bloc, was accused of misusing funds and a criminal case has been launched against him.

The STB and Novy Kanal TV stations, which cover only 23 to 28 percent of Ukraine's territory, are sympathetic or neutral to Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine, while other television stations controlled by the executive or oligarchs provide negative coverage. On a tour of Poltava, Mykolaiv, and Kirovohrad earlier this month Mr. Yushchenko was barred from appearing on oblast-level state television and radio. When he finally managed to insist on his right to appear on Mykolaiv Oblast state television, the electricity was cut off.

Our Ukraine activists have been arrested for distributing and putting up leaflets "in the wrong place" by the militia in eastern Ukrainian cities. The militia does not apply these rules to the pro-Kuchma For a United Ukraine and SDPU election blocs, whose posters are to be found everywhere.

Thus, it is clear that all 35 parties and

blocs active during the current political campaign are not being granted equal access to the media during the run-up to the Ukrainian parliamentary elections. Such unequal access to the media particularly applies to those election blocs that are anti-oligarch and/or anti-Kuchma. Preventing equal media access also contravenes President Kuchma's stated promise to Western governments and international organizations to allow free and fair elections.

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51st Annual Membership Meeting

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In the St. George Academy Auditorium 315 East 6th Street, New York City

Proposed Agenda:

1. Opening remarks
2. Verification of minutes of the previous Annual Meeting
3. Reports: Management
Credit Committee
Supervisory Committee
4. Discussion and approval of reports
5. Election of three members to the Board of Directors
6. New Business
7. Adjournment

Board of Directors

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A nominating committee comprised of the following members has been appointed: Mr. Mykola Halim, Mr. Oleh Lopatynsky and Mr. Charles Podpirka. Nominations for the positions on the Board can be forwarded to:

SELF RELIANCE (NY) F.C.U.
186 Second Avenue
New York, NY 10003

Attn: Nominating Committee

Members are required to bring their regular share passbooks.

UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

UKELODEON bids final farewell to our collaborator, Lydia Smyk

Dear Readers:

It is our very sad duty to inform you about the passing of our dear colleague, Lydia Wasylenko Smyk, who worked with the staff of The Ukrainian Weekly on these UKELODEON pages since they first began appearing in 1999, on Valentine's Day of that year.

Ms. Smyk, who had been seriously ill in the last several months, died on February 14, having lost a long battle that she so bravely fought against cancer. She was 43 years old. (A complete obituary about Ms. Smyk appeared in this newspaper two weeks ago.)

Our UKELODEON co-editor continued working on these pages for our youths even while she was hospitalized. Thanks to the help of family and friends, she never missed a deadline. Her last submissions appeared in the UKELODEON issue for February.

Ms. Smyk, who majored in English literature while a college student in Canada, where she was born, and then worked in the very different fields of historical archives and advertising in the United States, found her true calling in September 1991. It was then, at the age of 32, that she began teaching at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School. At various times she taught kindergarten and fourth grade classes.

She took to her new career with dedication and passion, as well as fun. She was known at the school for her portrayals during the annual Halloween parties of the "vidma," or witch. She was known also as the chief organizer of annual St. Valentine's Day parties for the school community.



Lydia Smyk with the fourth grade class of 2000-2001 at St. John's School.

Ms. Smyk had created the character of Mykola Myshka even before she began her collaboration with The Weekly and came up with the name UKELODEON when she was approached to work on the paper's new youth section. Her students at St. John's knew Mykola before UKELODEON's readers did, and they were thrilled when their favorite Myshka appeared in print in this newspaper. Ms. Smyk also was the initiator of the "Mishanyna" feature, and the author of numerous articles on these pages.

The funeral service for Ms. Smyk was attended by hundreds of people, among them her friends and colleagues in the Ukrainian American community that she loved and served, and the entire student body of St. John's.

Ms. Smyk leaves behind three children, Dmytro, Roksolana and Larissa. A special "Smyk Children's Fund," (Account No. 310199) has been established at Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, 734 Sanford Ave., Newark NJ 07106.

St. Nicholas students celebrate special week

by Eugenia Merkoulou

PASSAIC, N.J. – During Catholic Schools Week 2002, St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School celebrated a week dedicated to the theme "Faith and Knowledge Meet in our School." There were many exciting activities planned for the week.

One included a luau for the students on Tuesday – "Faith and Knowledge Meet In Our Students Day." There was Hawaiian food, Hawaiian dancing and party games such as the limbo. On Wednesday – "Faith and Knowledge Meet In Our Nation Day" – the students formed a human flag and sang patriotic songs, showing love and support for our country. On Thursday – "Faith and Knowledge Meet In Our Heritage Day" – The students dressed in the colors of their heritage, and played games such as the "spiderweb."

Eugenia Merkoulou is an eighth grader at St. Nicholas School.



St. Nicholas students form a human flag of the United States.

Parish youths welcome Metropolitan Stefan Soroka



MATAWAN, N.J. – Youth from St. Wolodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church in Lincroft, N.J., welcome Archbishop Stefan Soroka, metropolitan for Ukrainian Catholics in the United States, at a special divine liturgy held at the Basilian Fathers Monastery in Matawan, N.J. Speaking on behalf of the parish youth, Robert Matthew Cheloc greeted the metropolitan.

OUR NEXT ISSUE:

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated April 14, please send in your materials by April 5.

Our *UKELODEON* is envisioned as a public space where our youth, from kindergartners to teens, can come to learn, to share information, to relate their experiences, and to keep in touch with each other. Its contents will be shaped by the young readers of the next generation.

Please drop us a line:

UKELODEON, c/o The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510. Call us at (973) 292-9800; or send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com. (We ask all contributors to please include a daytime phone number.)

Mishanyna

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

To solve this month's Mishanyna, search for the capitalized words below.

During the month of MARCH we traditionally honor TARAS SHEVCHENKO (born March 9, 1814; died March 10, 1861), the NATIONAL BARD of Ukraine.

Shevchenko was born in the village of MORYNTSI, located in the Kyiv region of Ukraine. He was a SERF, a person who is owned by a lord and is bound to the land on which he works – in effect, a slave. He was orphaned as a young teenager and grew up in terrible poverty. When he was 14 he was tapped to serve as a houseboy for his owner, Paul Engelhardt, who recognized that Taras had a definite talent for art.

Engelhardt sent Taras to work as an apprentice with an artist in ST. PETERSBURG, Russia. There Shevchenko met fellow Ukrainians and Russians with whom he worked and associated. Thanks to a earnings from a painting by one his new colleagues, Shevchenko's FREEDOM was bought in 1838. He then enrolled in the Academy of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg.

Shevchenko published his first collection of poems in 1840 under the title "KOBZAR." Earlier we referred to Shevchenko as a "bard." A quick look at a dictionary will tell you that a bard is a lyrical POET; another def-

inition refers to bards as minstrel poets who composed and recited verses about legendary exploits of heroes. Indeed, Shevchenko did that in his POEMS, among them EPIC poems, his BALLADS and his DRAMAS. His works have been translated into over a HUNDRED languages. Among his most famous works are the epic poem "HAMALIA," about Kozak raids on the Turks, and the ballad "HAIDAMAKY," which recalls the struggle of Ukrainian rebels against Polish oppression.

Shevchenko's work also included SATIRE and political commentary on the enslavement of his nation by tsarist Russia. Not only did he speak out against Ukraine's misfortune under Russian rule, he also encouraged his people to stop serving foreign overlords and to realize their own potential. In Kyiv Shevchenko joined a secret society called the Ss. CYRIL and METHODIUS Brotherhood, which opposed tsarist rule. For his membership in the group and his poems critical of the tsar, Shevchenko was sentenced to military duty in faraway ORENBURG, near the Caspian Sea. TSAR Nicholas I ordered that Shevchenko was to be prevented from writing and painting. Nonetheless, Shevchenko continued his work in secret. Even after he completed his sentence, Shevchenko was not allowed to live in Ukraine.

Shevchenko's "ZAPOVIT," or "TESTAMENT," written in 1845, is considered sacred by Ukrainians around the world as it calls on Ukrainians to arise and break the chains of oppression. In fact, when that work is sung, much like a hymn or national anthem, you will notice that the public stands in respect to the author and his message.

Though today we recall Shevchenko primarily as a poet, he was equally talented as an ARTIST. A total of 835 of his art works survive; another 270 are known, but appear to have been lost. Many of Shevchenko's works, ranging from self-portraits and portraits to landscapes and paintings of Ukraine's architectural monuments, may be found in museums.

Shevchenko died and was buried in St. Petersburg, but his body was transferred two months later for burial to KANIV, on the banks of Ukraine's mighty Dnipro River, in accordance with the poet's wishes as expressed in his "Zapovit." His grave is visited by countless numbers of Ukrainians annually who come to pay tribute to their beloved bard.

Source: "Shevchenko, Taras," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Volume IV*, Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993.



Taras Shevchenko, depicted on an ex libris, or bookplate, by artist O. Miklovdya, published in Ukraine in 1988.

Easter Greetings 2002

Continue your tradition.

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

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, March 10

NEW YORK: Plast, New York City Branch, invites the public to its annual "Novatska Kostiumivka," whose theme this year is "Princess of the Sea." The children's costume play will begin at 2 p.m. in the auditorium of St. George Ukrainian Catholic School, Taras Shevchenko Place, between Sixth and Seventh streets. There also will be games, a lottery and a delicious buffet. Everyone who attends is sure to have a good time!

Thursday, March 14

WASHINGTON: The Embassy of Ukraine and The Washington Group Cultural Fund present "Cultural Trophies, Ukraine and World War II: An Update on Restitution Politics," featuring Dr. Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, associate, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, and Dr. Konstantin Akinsha, associate editor, ARTnews. The presentation will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M Street NW. Registration is required for this event by March 12. Please call the Embassy at (202) 349-2920. For more information contact Larysa Kurylas, (202) 797-8236.

Saturday, March 16

NEW YORK: A presentation on the occasion of the publication of the 14-volume "One Thousand Years of Ukrainian Social and Political Thought," will take place at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 3 p.m. Taking part in the presentation are Prof. Taras Hunczak, editor-in-chief; Oksana Slipushko, executive secretary for the publication; and Prof. Lubomyr Wynnar, historical documentation. There will also be a video screening of the presentation held in Kyiv on January 18. The public is invited to attend.

PLAINSBORO, N.J.: The Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission's Folklife Program for New Jersey brings Olga Kobryn's Pysanka Workshop to the Plainsboro Public Library, located at 641 Plainsboro Road. Two 2-hour workshops are scheduled for March 16 at 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m. and are available for a \$5 materials fee. Seating is limited to 15 per workshop, so please register early. To register contact Middlesex County Cultural and Heritage Commission, (732) 745-4489. All cancellations should be called in to accommodate those on waiting lists. Those with hearing impairments may dial (732) 745-3888 (TTY), or 711 via the New Jersey Relay Service.

Monday, March 18

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will present a lecture by Serhii Plokhly, associate director

of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, adjunct professor of history and classics at the University of Alberta and Jacyk Distinguished Fellow at HURI. The lecture, titled "The Nationalization of the Past: Mykhailo Hrushevskyy and the Deconstruction of the Russian Imperial Narrative," 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.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Friday, April 5

WASHINGTON: Ukrainian Hockey Night, under the informal aegis of The Washington Group, is back by popular demand. Come and see Peter Bondra (RW), Steve Konowalchuk (LW) and Dmitiri Khristich (RW) of the Washington Capitals take on Curtis Leschyshin of the Ottawa Senators (D). The battle on ice at the MCI Center starts at 7 p.m. Tickets: \$32 per ticket. Last day to purchase tickets is March 21. Tickets may be purchased by sending a check or a money order with a stamped self-addressed envelope to: Yaroslav Voloshin, 4250 Harewood Road NE, Washington, DC 20017. For more information call Yaroslav, (202) 269-0522, or e-mail voloshin@gwu.edu.

Saturday, April 6

MURFREESBORO, Tenn.: The International Service of Middle Tennessee State University headed by Dr. Tech Webniah is sponsoring a banquet, to be held at 202 Cope Administration Building at 5:30 p.m. on the occasion of the institution's 12th anniversary. The featured entertainment will be the Dnipro Ukrainian Dance Company of Milwaukee, Wis., under the direction of Chris Bertrand. Financial support is by ACE Machine of Nashville. For banquet tickets call Sandy, (615) 898-2300.

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), or send e-mail to nj@uesa.org or nyc@uesa.org.

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