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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Getting a U.S. visa: myth vs reality

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Myron Hnatkiv spent nearly four years trying to develop a private farm business. He took parts from broken-down tractors and combines he found in the former collective farm depot and patched together working units. He and several relatives then combined their lands into a single plot in the hope that together they could prod the earth to give them sufficient crops for a livable income. He also offered his services and his machinery for lease to neighbors who could not afford their own equipment. In the end, however, neither the land nor his leasing service provided enough to sustain a normal life.

With his two kids soon to enter high school, Mr. Hnatkiv decided it was time to chuck his dream. It was time to face reality and join scores of other family men in his village of Verbiv, Ternopil Oblast, and tens of thousands more like them in western Ukraine, and to look abroad for temporary work to provide for their families.

He had heard that a firm in Kyiv, with an address on Volodymyrska Street in one of the city's most exclusive districts, was asking \$450 for help in obtaining a job, a visa, shelter and transport to the United States. He was told the agency would pay his flight and housing costs from the money he eventually earned as a laborer in the "land of opportunity."

After hearing that several of his neighbors had visited the firm in Kyiv and came back impressed with the possibilities, Mr. Hnatkiv and a buddy made the trek to the Ukrainian capital to find out for themselves.

"When they told me that I needed to pay upfront I became suspicious, explained the 39-year-old farmer. "Then they pointed out that I would, of course, have to go to the Consulate myself to obtain the visa, that they could only help me with what to say, I knew that something wasn't right."

Mr. Hnatkiv was luckier than most, he did not immediately plop down what would have been a half-year's income to the shady operators and saved himself the emotional letdown of finding out that the U.S. consular office almost certainly would have rejected his application. A consular officer would quickly have seen through the canned story that the agency would have prepared for Mr. Hnatkiv.

In an interview with The Ukrainian

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## Ukrainian battalion of experts ready to deploy in Persian Gulf

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — A Ukrainian army battalion that specializes in the clean-up of chemical, biological and nuclear contamination is ready to perform what its commander calls "humanitarian" or "peacekeeping" work, should war break out in Iraq. However, it would be ready for deployment to the Persian Gulf only after the Verkhovna Rada's approval.

"As was shown during military exercises [held in December], the special unit is ready," said Lt. Gen. Viktor Lytvak, commander of the 19th Army Battalion, which is normally stationed outside of Sambir, Lviv Oblast, and is part of Ukraine's rapid deployment force.

During a press conference in Kyiv, Lt. Gen. Lytvak explained that his troops are in a state of high readiness and could deploy "even tomorrow." However, he noted that to be on their way the soldiers still would need a series of vaccinations against anthrax and smallpox, which could delay deployment for two to six weeks, as well as the parliamentary authorization to move out.

They also would need to know under whose auspices they would serve.

Ukraine agreed in early February to a U.S. request for the utilization of its nuclear, biological and chemical (NBC) clean-up capabilities and the 19th Battalion is ready to make good on that offer.



Ministry of Defense Press Service

Soldiers of the 19th Battalion stand alongside an armored vehicle used in handling hazardous substances produced during biological or chemical attacks.

However, if the authorization for war comes from the United Nations, as the United States has indicated it would like, then Kyiv would want an invitation from that international body as well. Also, several other countries with NBC clean-up capabilities are under consideration for the operation, including Poland, the Czech Republic, Romania and Bulgaria.

While they, too, have the technology and know-how to fight the aftereffects of a nuclear, biological or nuclear attack, Ukraine's battalion has the most extensive capabilities. Currently the unit consists of 531 soldiers, none of them conscripts and all of whom volunteered for service in the

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## Ukraine's ambassador to U.S. sees new opening in bilateral relations

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON — Ukraine and the United States appear to be turning the corner in their bilateral relationship, which, by most accounts, has been going through a difficult period, according to Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Kostyantyn Gryshchenko.

"Recently, I believe, we have been concentrating more on the positive side of things to be done, and that should help us to get away from what was the main theme of problems of the last year and into the new year of open opportunities," he said on February 27.

Ambassador Gryshchenko's assessment, made in remarks at a forum on U.S.-Ukraine relations sponsored by The Washington Group, an association of Ukrainian-American professionals, came two weeks after a senior State Department official signaled that Washington was willing to put aside the biggest irritant in their relationship — the allegation that Ukraine sold the Kolchuha air defense system to Iraq.

Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for European and Eurasian Affairs Steven Pifer said then that the Bush administration decided to "basically disagree" with

Kyiv on whether it sold the air defense system to Iraq and not allow the issue to push the relationship into what he called a "deep freeze."

Ambassador Gryshchenko said that by concentrating on positive bilateral interaction, such as Ukraine's decision to send a nuclear-biological-chemical (NBC) defense battalion to the Gulf region, adopt adequate measures against money-laundering, continue cooperating in the war against terrorism and in non-proliferation, the two countries can move away from concentrating on — though not completely ignoring — the negatives in the relationship.

The recent difficult period in U.S.-Ukraine relations was "a period of lost opportunities," Ambassador Gryshchenko said. It was also a period of "very difficult bilateral debate, of very frank exchanges" that now should serve both countries well as they move forward on a positive agenda.

One of the lessons learned was that "we cannot hide from problems," Ambassador Gryshchenko said. "If we do have a problem, we have to face it, and we have to be frank and open about it, because it will not fade away, and we cannot really run away from it."

"If it is Kolchuha, then we need to get to the bottom of it," he said. "And here

we have tried our best, and we continue on this path. We know that there are no Kolchuhas that Ukraine is responsible for in Iraq. We know that there are no contracts, that there are no deliveries, and we need to establish this as a fact."

He stressed that the Kolchuha and other unresolved issues must not be allowed to remain as a barrier to improving the bilateral relationship, which is important not only to the two countries but to the "dynamics of the political situation in Europe" as well.

"We need to re-establish trust, to reestablish confidence," he said. "It can only be done through practical steps — practical steps that we have demonstrated recently."

Looking over the last 12 years, Ambassador Gryshchenko underscored a number of "basic facts" in the U.S.-Ukrainian relationship, among them:

- United States is an important country and a major geopolitical force that consistently supported Ukraine's independence and movement toward the West. It was "crucial in helping us resolve many of the existential problems that we faced in our relationship with close neighbors and in setting our goals for the future," he said.

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## ANALYSIS

## Ukraine begins to deal seriously with Soviet past

by **Taras Kuzio**

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

On February 12-13, Ukraine for the first time held parliamentary hearings on the question of the famine of 1932-1933 that led to the deaths of 7 million people. The hearings were held in accordance with a resolution passed by the Verkhovna Rada on November 28, 2002.

President Leonid Kuchma first suggested at the annual convention of the Federation of Trade Unions on October 21, 1997, that the annual anniversary of the Bolshevik Revolution, November 7, be transformed into a day of understanding and reconciliation. Such a step, he suggested, should be undertaken by the Verkhovna Rada. The legislature, then headed by Oleksander Moroz, with the largest faction being Communist, turned down the draft law establishing November 28 as an annual day of understanding and reconciliation.

Left-wing factions were removed from control of Parliament only in early 2000 when the center and national democrats united for the first and only time. At this time, Communist symbols on the Verkhovna Rada were finally removed, though a statue of Vladimir Lenin still stands in Kyiv – one of 500 still standing primarily outside Western Ukraine.

Ukraine has long held an ambivalent attitude toward its Soviet past. Until now, only a small monument to the famine has existed in Kyiv next to the rebuilt

*Dr. Taras Kuzio is a resident fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto.*

Mykhailivskiy Sobor. A presidential decree dated November 28, 2002, supported the call by the Ukrainian diaspora to build a far bigger monument to the famine in central Kyiv on the 70th anniversary of the famine this year. The new monument will be part of a Famine memorial complex housing a museum and research center.

Ukraine's attitude toward the Soviet past rests upon the three-way division of political forces in Ukraine. National democrats have long held negative views of the Soviet past and what they call its crimes against humanity, such as the Famine and Stalinist terror. National democrats, whose primary base is in western-central Ukraine, hold analogous views to their counterparts in the Baltic states that Soviet rule was an occupation by foreign, i.e. Russian, forces. According to the national democrats, Russia, as the successor state to the Soviet Union, is guilty of Soviet crimes. During Russian President Vladimir Putin's visit to Ukraine in January to attend the CIS summit and to begin the Year of Russia in Ukraine, he and Russian Ambassador Viktor Chernomyrdin were asked by journalists if Russia would pay compensation to the famine victims along the lines undertaken by Germany after World War II. The Russian leaders refused to consider the matter.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) acknowledged only as late as 1990 that a famine had even taken place. At that time, Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU) parliamentary faction leader and former

(Continued on page 22)

## Yushchenko slams 'top-echelon criminals' for bogus letter aimed at discrediting him

by **Jan Maksymiuk**

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Our Ukraine head Viktor Yushchenko on February 21 charged that "criminals in politics who are in the top echelons of power" are responsible for preparing and disseminating a false message to voters that attacks fellow opposition politician Yulia Tymoshenko, the UNIAN news service reported.

According to Ukrainian media, unidentified persons and/or institutions disseminated on February 14 in western Ukraine (and in some other regions of the country in subsequent days) a bogus letter bearing the logo of Our Ukraine and a portrait of Yushchenko that touches upon Mr. Yushchenko's opinion of, and relations with, Ms. Tymoshenko, the leader of the eponymous opposition bloc. The purported letter begins with Mr. Yushchenko's assertion that he once was of a high opinion of Ms. Tymoshenko and ends with an unambiguous suggestion that her place now is in prison.

"I have always respected Yulia Volodymyrivna [Tymoshenko] as an experienced specialist in her branch [the fuel and energy sectors]. I have never refuted the undeniable fact that all the real successes of my government should be fully and completely accredited to Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko," the Ukrainska Pravda website quoted from the letter.

*Jan Maksymiuk compiles RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.*

Then the letter continues as follows: "It is quite obvious that for me, the recognized symbol and hope of the nation, it would be simply indecent to dig personally into the dirty 'sorting out' between our homespun oligarchs. Besides, it also wouldn't quite be safe. As for Tymoshenko, she was eager to launch a fight. After all the dirty work was done, Ms. Tymoshenko fully exhausted her usefulness [in the government]. ... What is more, she became a serious problem."

According to the letter, during her last month in Mr. Yushchenko's Cabinet, Tymoshenko was more concerned with creating her political image than pursuing "modest and quiet management work."

"Everyone to whom our Ukraine is truly dear ... will have to admit that for our struggle Ms. Tymoshenko was far more useful when she was incarcerated in the Lukianivskiy isolation prison [in Kyiv]," the letter states.

The bogus letter also suggests that Ms. Tymoshenko is now a "Trojan horse" among Ukraine's national-democratic forces, adding that her real aim is to prevent Mr. Yushchenko from becoming president.

"This is ignoble and primitive," Mr. Yushchenko said on February 21, adding that the message was concocted to sow discord among the leaders of democratic forces. "Our relations have never been, are not, and will never be base. We are political partners," Mr. Yushchenko said

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Opposition calls for deposing government

KYIV – A congress of opposition legislators of all levels in Kyiv on March 2 called on Ukrainians to take part in protests to depose the current ruling regime, the UNIAN news service reported. The congress, which attracted some 2,000 people (including 1,405 opposition deputies as delegates), was organized by the Communist Party, the Socialist Party and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. Deputies from Our Ukraine, including its leader Viktor Yushchenko, attended the congress as guests. Addressing the congress, Mr. Yushchenko – whose Our Ukraine avoids identifying too closely with the radical slogans of the Communists, the Socialists, and Ms. Tymoshenko's followers – called on opposition forces to unite "at any price." Ms. Tymoshenko told journalists that the problem of fielding a joint presidential candidate from the opposition will be tackled only after the official announcement of a presidential race. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Opposition leaders call for protests

KYIV – Speaking from the parliamentary rostrum on March 4, Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz and Oleksander Turchynov, a leader of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, called on "all honest Ukrainians" to take part in anti-presidential protests throughout the country on March 9, UNIAN reported. The Socialist Party, the Communist Party and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc are planning to restart the "Arise, Ukraine" campaign intended to force President Leonid Kuchma to resign. Specifically, the three opposition parties asked the Kyiv city administration earlier this week for permission to hold a 200,000-strong rally in the capital on March 9. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Yushchenko: stop political terror

KYIV – Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko on February 27 issued a strongly worded letter to senior political leaders calling on authorities "to carry out their constitutional duty ... and put an end to political terror" in the country, reported the Our Ukraine website (<http://www.razom.org.ua/>). The appeal was addressed to President Leonid Kuchma, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, according to the website. "Mysterious killings and unsolved murders of leading politicians and journalists, [as well as] violent attacks to intimidate political opponents, have become characteristic of the regime," the letter reads. Mr. Yushchenko cites the beatings

of two Our Ukraine regional activists – Volodymyr Lavryk in Sumy on February 21 and Vasyi Vasiuta in Mukachiv on February 25 – as the latest incidents in that terror campaign. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Miners strike over wages, reforms

KYIV – Miners from about 70 Ukrainian coal mines went on strike on March 4, demanding an increase in wages and an end to the government-led restructuring of the sector, ITAR-TASS reported. The Associated Press estimated the number of miners participating in the strike at around 2,000. The protest was launched by the Ukrainian Independent Trade Union of Miners, which is led by Mykhailo Volynets. Mr. Volynets told journalists that wage arrears in the coal-mining sector total 1.3 billion hrv (\$244 million). According to Mr. Volynets, the sector's ongoing reforms "may ruin the industry." The government decided in December to reorganize 18 state-owned coal-mining holdings and seven production associations into 21 joint-stock companies with an eye toward their eventual privatization. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Did Potebenko seek to close case?

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on March 4 asked Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun to investigate whether his predecessor, Mykhailo Potebenko, abused his position and asked the Security Service of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as SBU) to close its investigation into the September 2000 death of journalist Heorhii Gongadze, UNIAN reported. The motion follows an interview with Mr. Piskun in the February 28 issue of the 2000 weekly in which he said Mr. Potebenko, while serving as the country's top prosecutor, sent a letter to former SBU Chairman Leonid Derkach ordering him to halt the investigation into Mr. Gongadze's disappearance and presumed death. Mr. Piskun claimed that he has obtained the letter. Mr. Potebenko last month requested that the legislature move a vote of no confidence in Piskun. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### President of Ukraine honors Husar

KYIV – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on February 26 signed a decree to award Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, the order of Yaroslav the Wise for his significant contribution towards the restoration of spirituality, consolidation of the ideas of mercy and accord in society, and long-time fruitful religious work. Cardinal Husar cel-

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## Kuchma says he will move ahead with amendments to Constitution

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma announced on March 5 that he would move forward with a plan to amend the Constitution of Ukraine to reform the country's political system and shift the balance of political power towards a parliamentary system. He said the amendments were needed to bring the country into step with most other European systems.

"We need to go to a system that is like those found in Europe, a parliamentary/presidential system," said Mr. Kuchma.

The Ukrainian leader explained that while Ukraine had required strong presidential rule in its first years of existence to guarantee its sovereignty, peace and stability, now the country must "go further to strengthen the Constitution."

In a 15-minute address to the nation carried by all the major television networks, the president said he would soon submit a series of bills to the Verkhovna Rada to begin the process to make the needed Constitutional amendments. He pressed for widespread debate on the matter within Ukraine's Parliament and also in the media and on the streets.

For the most part, Mr. Kuchma repeated a proposal he had originally made last year on Ukrainian Independence Day, which called for changing the current system from one in which the president holds the advantage in the balance of power among the government branches.

Just as last August, this time the announcement also came days prior to a planned demonstration by the "Arise, Ukraine" political opposition movement bent on removing Mr. Kuchma from power for alleged corruption and criminal misrule, including accusations that he planned the disappearance of the Ukrainian journalist Heorhii Gongadze. Several of the political groups involved in the movement, including the Batkivschyna Party, have long called for parliamentary government rule.

President Kuchma offered a brief criticism of their attempts to bring about similar reforms on their terms, calling them "primitive" attempts to grab a share of power.

Mr. Kuchma linked the new, proposed Constitutional changes to ones that were apparently approved in April 2000, but have lain dormant for the past three years.

He announced that he would reinvigorate implementation of the results of a national referendum held then, which the Verkhovna Rada had since failed to bring to a ratification vote. He also suggested the changes might not need parliamentary approval. The president said the changes approved by the nation in 2000 and the current Constitutional amendment he was proposing complemented one another.

The 2000 plebiscite, widely considered within the country to have been manipulated by pro-presidential supporters, called for the development of a two-chamber Parliament, a reduction in the current number of national deputies from 450 to 300, transfer to the president of the right to dissolve the Parliament under certain conditions and revocation of the criminal immunity that lawmakers hold.

In the proposed changes that Mr. Kuchma repeated yesterday but first put forward on Independence Day, he called for the Verkhovna Rada to approve amendments to the Constitution that would give Parliament the authority to form a government and ratify a prime minister nominated by the president. It would require, however, that the Verkhovna Rada first establish a working parliamentary majority.

"Everybody will finally understand who is responsible for what," explained Mr. Kuchma during the television address. "If the government and its lawmakers cannot fulfill their promises, then I know you will vote them out next time."

Mr. Kuchma said the president would retain his role as guarantor of the Constitution, and guardian of the country's sovereignty and the integrity of its borders. The head of state would also retain responsibility for the country's foreign policy. In those roles, the president would remain the head of the armed forces and continue to appoint the ministers of internal affairs, foreign policy, defense and emergency situations.

Mr. Kuchma underscored the need for the Verkhovna Rada to cede some powers to the president, as approved in the national referendum, most importantly the power to dismiss the national legislature if it failed to form either a working majority or a government within a set period of time or could not pass a budget by a given deadline.

Mr. Kuchma outlined in more detail his vision for the changes that should occur

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## Judge Futey to testify before Rada committee

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – As the Legal Policy Committee of the Verkhovna Rada launches a series of hearings this month on legal reforms in Ukraine, among the witnesses testifying before the panel will be U.S. Federal Judge Bohdan Futey.

Since Ukraine gained its independence, Judge Futey, who sits on the U.S. Court of Federal Claims in Washington, has on numerous occasions served as adviser and consultant on judicial and constitutional issues to the legislative, judicial and executive branches of the Ukrainian government.

Judge Futey is scheduled to testify on the question of legislative priorities on judicial reform on March 13. The committee will also hear from representatives of Ukraine's Supreme Court, the presidential administration, the Ministry of Justice, the legal profession and non-governmental organizations, as well as international organizations.

His five-day visit to Ukraine, during

which he will also address and participate in other forums, is being made at the request of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, as part of the stated U.S. policy of assisting the democratization process in Ukraine.

Judge Futey has been actively involved in that process, working with the State Department as well as such organizations as the Judicial Conference of the United States, the American Bar Association, the International Foundation for Electoral Systems and the International Republican Institute. He has served as an official observer during Ukraine's parliamentary and presidential elections, conducted briefings for international elections observers and lectured on constitutional law at a number of universities in Ukraine and Western Europe.

The Ukrainian-born American jurist's assistance to Ukraine was acknowledged with two Ukrainian presidential meritorious awards, in 1995 and 1999.

## UWC urges diplomatic solution to Iraq crisis

The Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), as a representative organization of some 20 million Ukrainians residing in 30 countries around the globe outside Ukraine, is deeply troubled about the possible military invasion of Iraq. Our concern, in particular, is for the millions of innocent people who will be affected by a military conflagration.

Unfortunately, the Ukrainian people have first-hand experience in the consequences of military conflict on the innocent, having seen massive devastation several times within the past century alone. Ukraine was the pre-eminent battleground for two world wars in the last century. We are convinced that not only will the lives of soldiers be compromised in the event of a military intervention in Iraq, but also the lives of millions of civilians in Iraq, neighboring countries and even in remote areas.

Furthermore, we believe that an invasion of Iraq would escalate conflicts throughout the Middle East and spark or intensify confrontations that are currently being resolved in a peaceful manner. The political problems in that part of the world need to be solved through diplomatic means, not exacerbated by additional military conflicts. A war would intensify terrorism throughout the globe and might result in a clash of civilizations spurring extremists.

The world's economy today is quite fragile. The military option will cost billions of dollars directly for the conflict itself and much more for rebuilding. In addition, billions of dollars more in revenue from trade, business, etc. will be lost.

Finally, we concur with the view of countries opposed to military escalation that Iraq does not represent an imminent danger. In all likelihood Iraq does not possess nuclear weapons. Regarding weapons of mass destruction, they must be located and destroyed. In this regard, containment in the form of intensified inspections should address this problem adequately.

The use of military force should be a final option if Iraq does not comply with United Nations resolutions. It is the responsibility of civilized nations to exhaust all diplomatic channels. We believe that the international community has the capability of effecting compliance and ensuring peace.

March 3, 2003

For the Ukrainian World Congress:  
Askold S. Lozynskyj, President  
Victor Pedenko, Secretary General

## Ukrainian battalion...

(Continued from page 1)

unit. They have 165 pieces of machinery and equipment at their disposal, including laboratories, computers, machine guns and armored vehicles.

The battalion's mission, as explained by Lt. Gen. Lytvak, would be decontamination and de-gasification of areas affected by an NBC attack and the extension of specialized medical services to those affected. The battalion has NBC mobile laboratories that can be used to identify lethal materials and analyze biological matter, and computerized systems to analyze the battlefield situation and offer recommendations.

Lt. Gen. Lytvak admitted that much of the equipment was from the Soviet era, but asserted that all of it has been reconstructed and retrofitted with Ukrainian-built, current high technology.

The unit consists of slightly older military personnel who serve under contract: five of them took part in the Chernobyl clean-up, 15 percent have previous battle experience in Afghanistan and another 6 percent have peacekeeping experience.

It would cost the sponsoring entity – whether the United States or the United Nations – about \$1 million a month to maintain the battalion abroad in a state of high readiness, including monthly pay for each soldier in the amount of between \$600

and \$1,000. Should Iraq utilize NBC warfare requiring a clean-up by the Ukrainian battalion, salaries would double.

Ukraine has demanded and received assurance from the United States that the 19th Battalion would not see any direct combat, and Lt. Gen. Lytvak sought to underscore this during his meeting with journalists.

"If it is a force authorized by the United Nations, it will be a peacekeeping force to fight NBC decontamination; if it is an invitation from a specific country, it will be a humanitarian force invited by that country," explained Lt. Gen. Lytvak. "I repeat, this would not be a combat force. Its prime responsibility would be to maintain its own high level of safety."

While several Ukrainian state authorities, including Yevhen Marchuk, chairman of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC), which authorized the deployment last week, have said no Ukrainian soldiers would be deployed in Iraq, Lt. Gen. Lytvak said that such a development could not be excluded at the moment. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said on March 3 that he had heard Bahrain could be the site of deployment, but the lieutenant general explained that until an invitation is received nothing is certain.

Mr. Lytvyn said he expects a heated debate by lawmakers on whether to ratify the authorization for deployment.



A soldier decontaminates a helicopter after a simulated nuclear-biological-chemical attack at a military airfield near Novyi Kalyniv, Lviv Oblast. Ministry of Defense Press Service



## OBITUARIES

### Oleh Nyzhankivsky, opera and concert singer, 79

GENEVA, Switzerland – An opera and concert singer, helden tenor Oleh Nyzhankivsky, who had an established career performing as soloist in Swiss opera theaters from the mid-1950s to the end of the 1980s, died in Geneva on January 8 at the age of 79.

Mr. Nyzhankivsky was born in Vienna on July 25, 1924, into a prominent musical and artistic Galician family. After initial studies in Munich, he continued his education in Belgium at the Royal Music Academy from which he graduated with highest distinction. Upon coming to Switzerland, where his maternal uncle, the pianist and musicologist Omelian Nyzhankivsky resided at the time, he won the International Geneva Music Competition and, as laureate, was awarded a scholarship in voice. The scholarship enabled him to study in Milan with Prof. Fernando Carpi, a student of the famed Caruso. Mr. Nyzhankivsky's return to Geneva was marked by the development of his musical career, with the encouragement and support of the leading families involved in the musical and cultural life of the city.

In the mid-1950s, Mr. Nyzhankivsky appeared as soloist with the Geneva Philharmonic Orchestra under the direction of, among others, the world-renowned Ernest Ansermet and Hans Haug, as well as gave song recitals for Queen Marie-José of Belgium.

In the 1960s-1970s, at the height of his career, Mr. Nyzhankivsky performed in lead roles with the Geneva Opera in such operas as "Monsieur de Pourceaugnac" (after Molière) by noted Swiss composer Franc Martin, which had its world premiere in Geneva in April 1963, and in Martin's "The Tempest" (after Shakespeare) and the oratorio "Ven Herbe" (based on the "Tristan and Isolde" theme).

Mr. Nyzhankivsky also appeared in lead roles in the prestigious Opera Piccola of Geneva, and with the Collegium Academicum and the Menestrandi ancient music ensemble. Given his facility for languages, he was equally adept in singing classical and modern repertoire.

An active participant of the musical life of Geneva, Mr. Nyzhankivsky also promoted Ukrainian music in numerous concerts and recitals on tours throughout Europe, performing to the accompaniment of his uncle Omelian Nyzhankivsky, who taught at the Bern Conservatory, and his mother-in-law, the first Ukrainian woman composer Stefania Turkevych-Lukianovych, as well as in Swiss radio broadcasts and on the BBC in London.

Mr. Nyzhankivsky's repertoire often included art songs by his father, the composer and pedagogue Nestor Nyzhankivsky, and the song cycles of Dr. Turkevych-Lukianovych, who upon finishing her studies at the music academies of Vienna and Berlin, received her doctorate in composing in Prague, and whose oeuvre as composer includes four symphonies, one symphonietta, five ballets and five children's operas.

In addition to his operatic and concert commitments, Nyzhankivsky was a frequent adjudicator at vocal competitions and music festivals.

After a successful operatic and concert career, Mr. Nyzhankivsky turned to teaching in the mid-1970s, where his pedagogical skills served to inculcate students with his love and enthusiasm for music.

An active member of the Ukrainian community in Switzerland, Mr. Nyzhankivsky served as president of the Ukrainian Association of Switzerland. During his several-term tenure, special emphasis was placed on public relations in the sphere of culture.

While still a student, Mr. Nyzhankivsky was a co-founding member of the Burlaky Plast scouting fraternity and is credited with giving the fraternity its name. The fraternity exists to this day, with the newest members, from both abroad and Ukraine, forming a third generation of Burlaky.

Mr. Nyzhankivsky was able to return to Ukraine in 1991 for the first time after a 47-year absence, during which time he had occasion to meet with the doyen of Ukrainian composers and conductors, the then 88-year-old Mykola Kolessa, and visit the Musical Academy in Lviv as well as take part in the dedication of a monument to the noted Ukrainian composer Vasyl Barvinsky (1888-1963), with whom Mr. Nyzhankivsky studied piano.

His second trip, undertaken in 1996, was equally memorable and significant. On this trip Mr. Nyzhankivsky attended the reburial of his father, Nestor Nyzhankivsky (1893-1940), from Poland to the family crypt in Stryi. (The avant-garde composer died after falling ill during his flight from Soviet-occupied Galicia; Oleh was 15 at the time of his father's untimely death);



Oleh Nyzhankivsky in a photograph from the 1970s.

traveled to the village of Zavadiiv, where his grandfather, Ostap Nyzhankivsky a composer, was the parish priest; and visited the Nyzhankivsky Museum in Stryi.

A man who loved and appreciated all forms and expressions of art, Mr. Nyzhankivsky had a series of sculptures to his credit and was a fervent supporter of the art of his wife, Zoya née Lisovska, and daughter, Lada. (whose joint first exhibit in Ukraine was held in 1995 at the Ethnographic Museum in Lviv).

Mr. Nyzhankivsky's strong and energetic personality coupled with his personable nature marked by optimism and humor, brought him many friends among Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike who found in him a loyal friend and colleague. He was a man with strong ties to his homeland, Ukraine, and to the country of his settlement, Switzerland, which he held in the highest regard.

Oleh Nyzhankivsky is survived by his wife, Zoya; son, Roman; daughter, Lada; son-in-law, Christian and grandchildren Oleksander and Natalia.

Funeral services were held at the ecumenical chapel at St. Georges Cemetery in Geneva, with the Rev. Mitred Petro Kostyuk of Belgium officiating at the Ukrainian Catholic service which was attended by members of the Ukrainian community, including Ukraine's ambassador to Switzerland, as well as by numerous Swiss colleagues and friends of the deceased. As part of the service, adding to the poignancy of the moment, was the rendition by a young couple from Kyiv, the Tymokhyns, protégés of Oleh Nyzhankivsky, who performed, on the Waldhorn and organ, songs that are often sung at conclusion of the funeral service as a final parting, "Vydysh Brate Mii," and "Zasumui Trembitu," the latter a composition by the deceased's father, Nestor Nyzhankivsky. The service was followed by burial at St. Georges Cemetery.

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Oleh Nyzhankivsky came from a long line of prominent composers, musicologists, conductors and pedagogues.

His grandfather, Ostap (1862-1919), devoted much of his energies to the development of musical life in Galicia. A priest as well as a composer by calling, he organized choral concert tours throughout Galicia, founded the music publishing house Muzykalna Biblioteka (1885) and was conductor of the Boyan Society choir in Berezhany (1892) and of the Boyan choir in Lviv and in Stryi.

Apart from his dedication to music, he brought comparable energies to bear in the economic field as founder of the first cooperative dairy and as co-founder and first director of the Provincial Home and Dairy Union (later renamed Maslosoyuz) in 1907 in Stryi. He was elected to the Galician Diet in 1908-1913. In 1919

(Continued on page 25)

### Leonida Svitlychna, 79, wife of Ivan Svitlychny

*"At a time characterized by a general lack of moral fortitude, supplanted by never ceasing complaints with regard to the difficulties of everyday life and life's material deprivations, as well as endless whimpering and general national self-debasement, she stands out as some legendary figure — illuminated once and for all with the light of sublime Christian joy and happiness."*

— Yevhen Sverstiuk, in his eulogy for Leonida Svitlychna

KYIV – Leonida Svitlychna, a building engineer by profession and wife of the eminent Ukrainian poet, literary critic, human rights activist and political prisoner Ivan Svitlychny, died on February 18 at the age of 79.

Ms. Svitlychna, née Tereshchenko, was born in 1924 in Kyiv. She completed her studies in the department of engineering at the Institute for Mechanical Construction at the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, but her primary role was as partner and soul-mate to her husband, with whom she shared a life marked by disruptive KGB searches, provocations and arrests. Through these travails, she was a pillar of moral strength and a source of faith and conviction in the rightness of the cause of the Ukrainian dissidents in their struggle against the injustices of the Soviet regime.

The harsh reality of life did not afford the couple much time together, but their love and mutual respect enabled them to face the many difficult and trying moments that came to be an integral part of their life.

Tellingly, the couple's wedding anniversaries were noted down by Ms. Svitlychna in the following manner: "10th anniversary (1966) – Ivan in KGB custody in solitary confinement; 20th anniversary (1976) – Ivan in concentration camp; 25th, or 'silver', anniversary (1981) – Ivan in exile, at last we're together again; 30th anniversary (1986) – Ivan seriously ill, scant mention of an anniversary..."

In his eulogy the literary and social critic and former political prisoner Yevhen Sverstiuk, referred to Leonida Svitlychna, or as she was affectionately known, Lolia, as "the other half of Ivan Svitlychny," a woman whose life was marked by "an epoch of the destruction of churches and cathedrals, by famine and political arrests, terror, hard times and war. And all of this came as a prelude to her marriage to Ivan, whose fate and cause she came to share wholeheartedly."

"In her person," he continued "let us bow our heads before the wives of all political prisoners of the 60s Generation [Shestydesiatnyky] whose extraordinary patience, courage, steadfastness and fidelity sustained those who were driven by the quest for truth and justice."

Apart from her inordinate capacity to come to terms with suffering, Ms. Svitlychna provided for the family, was a sister of mercy, and ministered to her husband upon his

(Continued on page 5)



Leonida and Ivan Svitlychny.

# TWG announces 2003 internship at Embassy of Ukraine in Washington

WASHINGTON – The Washington Group, in cooperation with the Embassy of Ukraine, is seeking candidates to participate in its annual summer internship program at the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington. The project is conducted under the auspices of the TWG Fellowship Committee, to provide the Embassy of Ukraine with an intern who could serve as a research assistant to the Embassy staff. In turn, the intern would gain valuable experience in learning how foreign diplomats in Washington work and how the Embassy interacts with various Washington individuals and institutions.

Candidates for the two-month internship should have completed at least two years of undergraduate studies and be proficient in English and Ukrainian. Applicants should possess excellent oral and written communication skills and be able to demonstrate excellent computer skills, including proficiency with the Internet. Candidates should expect to assist the Embassy with whatever

issues and needs may arise, including general office work.

Applicants should submit the following: a one-page essay explaining their interest in the internship, preferred starting date (in May or June), and how their work, educational and personal experience would help meet the goals of the project; copies of academic transcripts; one letter of recommendation; and two references

To be considered for this internship, candidates must submit this information to TWG no later than April 15. The Washington Group Fellowship Committee will provide the successful candidate with a stipend of \$1,500.

Application materials should be addressed to: The Washington Group Fellowship Committee, Ukrainian Embassy Internship Project, P.O. Box 11248, Washington, DC 20008.

For more information call Michael Drabkyk, (703) 442-7898; e-mail inquiries may be sent to drabkykm@aol.com.

## Leonida Svitlychna...

(Continued from page 4)

release and subsequent illness. Upon his demise she undertook the preparation of his writings for publication.

Ms. Svitlychna's memoirs came out in 1998 in Kyiv as a publication of Chas. In them she refers to the love and esteem her husband inspired as a man of personal and moral integrity in difficult times and under

harsh circumstances. Ms. Svitlychna equally inspired such love and esteem. Mr. Sverstiuk ended his eulogy, saying "We bow our heads in gratitude that two such people lived amongst us."

Ms. Svitlychna, who was predeceased by her husband, who died on October 25, 1992, was buried next to her husband during funeral services that took place on February 21 at the Baikove Cemetery in Kyiv.

# Self Reliance New Jersey is first donor to Copies for Congress project in 2003

CLIFTON, N.J. – Self Reliance New Jersey Federal Credit Union has become the first donor to The Ukrainian Weekly's 2003 campaign to solicit funds for the Copies for Congress project, which provides free subscriptions to the newspaper for all members of the U.S. Congress.

Along with a check for \$1,000, the credit union sent a letter signed by Michael J. Celuch, CEO, stating: "We believe it is vital that our representatives [in the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives] are kept aware of the events taking place both in Ukraine and the U.S., which influence not only Ukrainian Americans, but all citizens."

Self Reliance New Jersey is based in Clifton and has branches in Passaic, Whippany and Elizabeth. The donation was approved by the credit union's board of directors in January.

Distribution of The Weekly to members of Congress – which is part of the newspaper's founding mission of informing the world about Ukraine and Ukrainians – serves the entire Ukrainian American community, but the cost of the free subscriptions – more than \$30,000 per year – is borne by The Ukrainian Weekly. Though this project is a large expense, The Weekly's editorial staff feels very strongly that the newspaper should continue to reach U.S. senators and

representatives since The Weekly is the only newspaper that provides such information consistently, coherently and accurately.

The 535 members of the U.S. Congress have been receiving complimentary copies of The Ukrainian Weekly since 1987. Our newspaper frequently has been quoted in "The Congressional Record," and the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (Helsinki Commission) has cited The Weekly in reports, hearings and speeches, as have other Congressional committees and individual members of Congress. The Ukrainian Weekly's editorials and "Action Items" have informed U.S. legislators about Ukrainian American's concerns and rallied readers to insist on congressional action on issues important to the community.

The 2000-2001 Copies for Congress campaign raised \$7,250 in donations; during its second year, 2001-2002, the campaign received \$13,600 in contributions from credit unions, community institutions and organizations, and individuals.

The Ukrainian Weekly is now beginning its 2003 fund-drive for the Copies for Congress Project. As in 2002, each donation of \$1,000 will be acknowledged with a special sponsor's box on page 3 of The Ukrainian Weekly.



The Ukrainian American Institute is pleased to announce the Petrus Jacyk Symposium, *Dispersed and Homelands for the Transnational Ages: The Case of Ukraine*, March 20 - 21, 2003. The symposium will be held at the University of Toronto. To register or for more information, please contact the Ukrainian American Institute at (416) 978-2800. Please also refer to our website at <http://www.iaaia.com>.

### PETRUS JACYK SYMPOSIUM PROGRAM

Thursday, March 20, 2003  
Edison Room, Harold Padesky Club  
8:00 - 9:00 Opening Remarks and Guestings  
Aron Kuchynski, Director, Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

9:00-10:00 Welcome and Registration  
Petrus Jacyk Distinguished Fellow,  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

10:00-10:30 Lunch  
Nadia Anis, President, The Petrus Jacyk International Foundation

10:30 - 11:00 Keynote Presentation  
Transnationalism and Diaspora  
Mary C. Waters, Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

11:00 - 11:30 Break

11:30 - 12:30 Session 1: The View of the Diaspora from Ukraine  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

12:30-1:00 Lunch  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

1:00-1:30 Session 2: The View of the Diaspora from Ukraine  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

1:30-2:00 Lunch  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

Friday, March 21, 2003  
Edison Room, Harold Padesky Club  
9:00 - 11:00 Session 3: Diaspora and the New Wave of Immigration from Ukraine  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

11:00-11:30 Lunch  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

11:30-12:00 Session 4: Diaspora and the New Wave of Immigration from Ukraine  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

12:00-12:30 Lunch  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

1:00 - 2:30 Session 5: Diaspora and Ukraine: Transnational Influences  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

2:30-3:00 Lunch  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

3:00-3:30 Session 6: Diaspora and Ukraine: Transnational Influences  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

3:30-4:00 Lunch  
Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

4:00-4:30 Session 7: Diaspora and Ukraine: Transnational Influences  
Chair: Wacław W. Lipiński, University of Toronto and Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University

8:30 - 9:00 Reception  
Edison Room, Harold Padesky Club  
10 Quince Street, Cambridge, MA 02142



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### "The news from here"

Recently we at The Ukrainian Weekly received a telephone call from a reader who complained that our newspaper did not carry any "news from here." She asked: Why don't your reporters cover "the news from here"? Mind you, the caller would not identify herself, nor would she say where "here" was. (Come to think of it, she never shared with us the news that we were missing...) Nonetheless, her point was well-taken. Obviously, she had not seen news from her neck of the woods. That allowed us to provide an explanation of just how news from all over gets into The Weekly.

First off, we explained to our caller, we do not have our own reporters all over the United States and Canada. We have an editorial staff of 2.5 in house (we say .5 because one of our staffers is actually not a full-timer) – that's here at our headquarters in Parsippany, N.J. Plus we have one staffer in Kyiv, who reports from Ukraine. If you'd like to check, please see our masthead on page 2 of every issue of this paper. What you see is what we've got.

How then do we cover the news from various locations? Well, that's where local community activists come in – some of whom have become our regular correspondents. These activists want to share the news about happenings in their communities with fellow Ukrainians in North America, therefore, they send in stories, photos, features, items for "Notes on People" or "Preview of Events," letters, commentaries, etc. They call us, fax us, e-mail us, and yes, they even use good old regular mail. We are thrilled to place their stories, and we love to work with them. What they contribute to this paper is the local content – the news from their respective "heres" – news that their fellow readers otherwise would never know about.

Take this week's issue. We have stories from Cleveland, where an exciting new dance company has been formed; Washington, where Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S. addressed a local group of professionals; East Hanover, N.J., where a group of northern New Jerseyans have gotten together at a "Ladies' Night Out" to raise funds for a worthy cause; and Stanford, Calif., where Stanford University is planning to expand its Ukrainian studies program. Even the kids get into the act, as this month's UKELODEON section features a story about a Valentine's Dance written by a Newark, N.J., student. Upcoming issues will include news about a ski trip organized by the Plast branch in Boston; an art exhibit by Rem Bahautdyn in Wilmington, Del.; and a unique project by cultural activists in Portage La Prairie, Manitoba.

But, these activities are just the tip of the iceberg as far as our community is concerned. How do we know? Well, we occasionally receive publications, be they newsletters or more fancy magazines, that serve local communities. Someone is writing for these smaller publications, but why not to The Weekly?

For example, parishioners of St. Katherine Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Arden Hills, Minn., know about the grand opening last September of the Ukrainian Cultural and Education Center and Museum in their town because their bilingual parish publication called *Голос/Voice* carried a nice write-up. But does anyone outside their immediate community know about this accomplishment? The same goes for the Ukrainian Culture Institute in Dickinson, N.D., which publishes a journal-newsletter just full of interesting local happenings. A recent issue spotlighted the expansion of a local Ukrainian radio program and the placement of a Ukrainian flag at the International Flag Plaza at Dickinson State University. None of these stories appeared in The Weekly, yet all of them have a place on the pages of this paper. Turning farther north, to Saskatchewan, a newsletter called *Visnyk* is published by the Provincial Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. The province is abuzz with activities; some of them quite unique, like a joint project with the Ugandan Canadian Association of Saskatchewan. But you didn't read about it here.

All of the events mentioned in the previous paragraph were done locally and covered locally, without a sense of the bigger picture – that there's a huge Ukrainian community out there. And that community should be aware of each other's successes. Why? So we can all share and learn, and, yes, and even copy others' successes. And, most importantly, so that we are aware that we are part of a greater whole and that what we do does indeed have meaning and resonance beyond our immediate neighborhoods.

That said, Dear Readers, please consider this an open invitation to send us your

March  
9  
2001

### Turning the pages back...

Two years ago on this date, our Kyiv correspondent reported on a confrontation that occurred on the birthday of Taras Shevchenko. As is customary, President Leonid Kuchma and other leaders were to place wreaths at the Shevchenko monument. What was not customary was that 3,000 police and intelligence

service agents swept the park with dogs and cordoned off the area.

The first major confrontation took place when police tried to move back a large crowd of about 300 young demonstrators. Mr. Kuchma, along with other top government and parliamentary leaders, quickly went through a short wreath-laying ceremony before departing. With them and law enforcement officers gone, the demonstrators proceeded to tear apart the wreaths left by the delegation. The crowd, which had swelled to nearly 2,000, proceeded to the Ministry of Internal Affairs headquarters, then to the Khreschatyk, where some 18,000 gathered for a rally, and on to another Ministry of Internal Affairs building and the presidential administration for a final showdown with the militia that ended with Molotov cocktails being lofted at officers, and the militia hurling tear gas at the marchers.

The events had actually begun on March 1, 2001, when officials moved on the tent city erected by the Ukraine Without Kuchma movement seeking the resignation of President Kuchma in the wake of the disappearance of Heorhii Gongadze and other scandals.

Source: "The Gongadze case: a murder still unsolved" in "2001: The Year in Review," January 6, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 1.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Ukraine, Europe, and ... Albania

by Dr. Roman Solchanyk

What do Ukraine and Albania have in common? Not very much it seems. For one thing, Albania is on its way to joining the European Union (EU) and, by extension, becoming "European," and, by further extension, "normal." Ukraine, on the other hand, is not joining anything in Europe in the foreseeable future and is well on its way to becoming ... well, you get the picture.

For anyone who remembers the international political climate during the East-West confrontation of the 1970s and 1980s, Albania occupied a rather specific niche in that environment. Not unlike today's North Korea, no one really knew much about what was going on inside the country, which was widely perceived as being populated largely by goats and run by whackos who were pro-Chinese and anti-Soviet. Anyone who was vacationing on the Greek islands in those days could easily avail oneself of the distinct pleasure of tuning in to the Maoist gibberish offered by Radio Tirana on a daily basis.

Well, at the end of January, the European Union formally opened negotiations with Albania for a Stabilization and Association Agreement, which is the first step toward EU membership. European Commission President Romano Prodi was on hand in Tirana to launch the proceedings, effusively praising his hosts and expressing "great confidence in Albania." "The vitality you see here," said Mr. Prodi, "you don't see in many other countries."

This is the same Mr. Prodi who insists that Ukraine will never (repeat, never) be a part of Europe. Last October, referring to Ukraine, Russia and Moldova, among others, Mr. Prodi told *La Stampa* that insofar as these countries are concerned "you could link many things – but not institutions." Not long after, in an interview with a Dutch newspaper, Mr. Prodi posed the far from rhetorical question of where Europe should end. "The Balkan countries will join," he asserted, "they belong. Turkey is officially a candidate, that is clear. But Morocco, or Ukraine, or Moldova? I see no reason for that."

According to the EU leader, "The fact [that] Ukrainians or Armenians feel European means nothing to me. Because New Zealanders feel European, too."

What is both ironic and somehow amusing in a depressing sort of way is that earlier this year a Kyiv weekly extensively quoted Bruce Jackson, co-chairman of the non-governmental U.S. Committee on NATO, who admonished the Ukrainian leadership for failing to match its declarations about wishing to "rejoin" Europe with concrete initiatives that would make this a reality. Mr. Jackson was quoted as warning that if reforms were not set in motion fairly quickly "You could become one big Albania."

In all fairness, one must admit that Albania has made significant progress in its transition from the failed experiment with "socialism," specifically with respect to the economy. During the past three years, real GDP has grown on the average of about 7 percent. But Ukraine's economic performance has been quite respectable as well: real GDP growth was 5.9 percent in 2000; 9.1 percent in 2001; 4.1 percent in 2002; and is projected by the International Monetary Fund to be 5 percent this year.

Dr. Roman Solchanyk, a long-time contributor to the *The Ukrainian Weekly*, is a security analyst in Santa Monica, Calif.

Moreover, Ukraine is doing better than Romania and Bulgaria, where real GDP growth was about 3.5 percent last year. Anyone remotely familiar with Romania, where one-third of the population lives below the officially defined poverty level, would be hard put to disagree with the prevailing image of the country as characterized by a long-time observer: homeless street children, HIV-ravaged orphanages and packs of feral dogs loping around the streets of Bucharest. Yet, Romania (and Bulgaria) will be NATO members in 2004 and will join the EU in 2007 – i.e., they will be "Europeans."

The issue, therefore, seems to be something other than economic progress. As it turns out, for Mr. Prodi – and, one suspects, for most of the people who live in what used to be known as Western Europe – the issue is identity. In a speech to the European Parliament last December, Mr. Prodi made it very clear that the debate about where Europe ends is a debate about identity, and that "this is something we as Europeans [read: West Europeans], after listening to everyone, shall decide ourselves, without any outside interference."

Actually, the debate is more or less over, although most Eurocrats in Brussels are loathe to admit it. Mr. Prodi's speech in Strasbourg in December was titled "One Europe," which, he said, was for the most part an "accomplished" fact after the latest expansion of the EU, which will bring in 10 new members next year.

But the problem for Ukraine is not entirely one of Western Europe's seemingly arbitrary approach to who qualifies and who does not qualify as "European." Ukrainians themselves are far from united as to who they are and where they belong.

Last year, after more than a decade of independence, a Kyiv sociologist reported that only 41 percent of survey respondents considered themselves to be citizens of Ukraine; almost the same proportion saw themselves as "locals" of one sort or another; and nearly 13 percent felt that they were Soviet citizens.

A full 56 percent of the population preferred some kind of "Eastern" orientation for Ukraine: the Commonwealth of Independent States, Russia or an East Slavic bloc (Ukraine, Russia and Belarus). About 13 percent favored ties with the West and another 22 percent wanted to strengthen independence and rely on Ukraine's own resources. At the same time, in December of last year more than a third of Ukrainians felt that Stalin was a "great leader."

Ukraine's neighbors in what used to be known as Eastern Europe view NATO as a marker of being European and are stumbling over themselves to join what may well be an institution whose time is past. But last year more Ukrainians were anti-NATO than pro-NATO, 38 percent and 19 percent, respectively. More troubling perhaps is that about 43 percent had no clue. As for the EU, only 15 percent were against joining, while 44 percent wanted EU membership. But, once again, more than 40 percent were clueless.

At the risk of offending the professional sensibilities of trained sociologists and other experts on contemporary Ukraine who are well-versed in the arts of theoretical and comparative analysis, I would hazard the guess that the main problem with Ukraine becoming "European" is precisely the fact that nearly half the population remains "clueless." That, by the way, is more or less the same proportion

(Continued on page 22)



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Another Ukrainian victim of 9/11

Dear Editor:

In your January 12 edition (2002: The Year in Review) you published a list of Ukrainian victims of 9/11. Newsday of Long Island, N.Y., published biographies of the victims on a daily basis for months. The stories were so personal that you felt you had to read each one to honor each victim. Enclosed is one of a young Ukrainian girl who survived Chernobyl only to become a victim at the World Trade Center.

**Betty Towner**  
Levittown, N.Y.

*Editor's note: According to the clipping from Newsday (undated) sent by our reader, Helen Belikovsky, 38, was an assistant vice-president of Fred Alger Management, an investment firm with offices on the 93rd floor of WTC Tower 1. She had arrived in the U.S. eight years earlier with her husband, Boris, and their son, Eugene (now 13), from Kyiv, Ukraine; they settled in Mamaroneck, N.Y. "Ironically, we survived Chernobyl," Mr. Belikovsky told Newsday, explaining that they were on their honeymoon and away from Kyiv at the time of the nuclear disaster.*

*Ms. Belikovsky is the 10th victim of the terrorist attack on the Twin Towers who is known to have Ukrainian roots.*

### News from Ukraine a depressing affair

Dear Editor:

Reading The Ukrainian Weekly, as well as the other sources of information about Ukraine, has become a depressing affair lately. This state of affairs is accentuated by the great but unfulfilled promises of national rebirth in 1991.

After nearly 12 years of independence, the ruling oligarchic cabal under President Leonid Kuchma is in full control of all social, economic, political and police levers in the country. And the cabal intends to keep a firm grip on the power into the foreseeable future.

On the opposing side of the equation, the inept actions of the democratic opposition can be best described as being full

of sound and fury, signifying nothing. And under the skillful and cynical manipulation of Russian President Vladimir Putin, the administration of the country is sliding back into the swamp of Soviet/Russian imperial past.

The situation does not look much better in the diaspora. Some in the ranks of our once proud and intellectually proficient academic elite have reduced their potential for positive accomplishments to recycling of Soviet propaganda about all things Ukrainian. One has to go no further than "Encyclopedia of Rusyn History and Culture" by Profs. Paul R. Magocsi and Ivan Pop, recently reviewed in The Ukrainian Weekly. The book parrots the Moscow line regarding Ukraine, and it is hard to say if this is due to the intellectual ineptness of the authors, or simply to the lack of original thought on their part. But that does not stop Prof. Magocsi, who holds the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Toronto, from adding insult to injury by proclaiming that: "The book is not written for Ukrainians." The audacity and arrogance of this statement implies that Ukrainians, to him, are some sort of a separate and intellectually inferior group, not capable of comprehending the pearls of his wisdom.

In this generally dismal and depressing landscape of our intellectual present it was refreshing to see a ray of sunshine and hope in a story celebrating the 132nd anniversary of Lesia Ukrainka's birth. It is the brilliance of Ukrainian culture reflected in the works of such literary giants as Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko and Lesia Ukrainka that has preserved our national consciousness and identity for so many centuries of foreign oppression. And it is the greatness of Ukrainian culture that will assure our continued existence as an ethnic entity for centuries to come.

**Ihor Lysyj**  
Austin, Texas

### Addendum

Donations to the Ukrainian Eye Project referred to in a letter to the editor headlined "Eye project seeks support" (February 24), may be sent to: Dr. William Selezinka, (Account No. 10896-03083), 12176 Sand Trap Row, San Diego, CA 92128. Tax-deductible donations will be acknowledged in writing.

## COMMENTARY

### Give peace a chance

by Andrew Kozak

We stand at a historic moment in time. The Soviet Union is fast becoming a faint memory in old people's minds. Nuclear arsenals have been disarmed and dismantled. Countries such as Kazakstan, South Africa, and Ukraine have voluntarily destroyed their nuclear weapons.

The old European powers desperately cling to the past and avoid their responsibilities to the future. In the former Yugoslavia, Russia backed its historical Serbian allies; Germany backed its historical Croatian allies. Sarajevo was subjected to a siege. Serb snipers targeted women and children. In Srebrenica, a Danish battalion stood aside as thousands of young men and boys were captured,

*Andrew Kozak is a professional engineer residing in Canton, Mass. He is a member of Plast. In World War II his father fought for a free Ukraine.*

tied up and executed. In Africa, the former French colonial rulers stood by and watched as a million Rwandans died.

U.S. aircraft bombed the Serbs into submission. When they surrendered, the Russians raced in with an armed convoy to defend the Serbs and, it seems, their right to commit genocide. Fortunately the U.S. got there, too, and our soldiers still keep the sides apart, and at peace.

Now there is an opportunity to shift, ever so subtly, the Middle East away from dictators, sheiks, mullahs, and terrorists, and toward democracy, equality and freedom. The results are not certain, and the road ahead will no doubt be difficult.

The French, Germans and Russians continue to protect their valued customer, Saddam Hussein, as they have for the past decade. They looked the other way as Saddam slaughtered his own people.

(Continued on page 20)

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### Making omelets at The New York Times

A recent Gallup Poll indicates that Americans believe the media is biased; 45 percent say the media is too liberal; 15 percent believe it is too conservative.

It is no secret that many American reporters and correspondents during the past 40 or so years were and remain politically left of center. This became obvious during the Cold War, when commentators were consistently willing to give the Soviet Union the benefit of the doubt.

All of this once had an effect on the Ukrainian American community. Ukrainians were constantly writing letters to various periodicals complaining of the one-sided portrayal of the Soviet Union. Rarely did such efforts change minds.

The Great Famine in Ukraine is a classic example of the leftist bias with which we had to deal. Although there were correspondents – Gareth Jones and Malcolm Muggeridge, for example – who wrote the truth, they were voices in the wilderness. Angered by the criticism, the media moguls retaliated. Muggeridge was vilified for his efforts and couldn't find work for a time.

Of all the foreign correspondents who betrayed their craft with blatant distortions and fabrications, none is more loathsome than the opium-indulging Walter Duranty, The New York Times foreign correspondent in Moscow during Stalin's genocidal destruction of Ukraine's peasantry in 1932-1933. Duranty is the father of the "give them a break" journalistic approach to communism.

It was Duranty who knowingly denied the famine in dispatches to The New York Times with descriptive euphemisms such as "serious food shortage," "mismanagement of collective farming," a conspiracy of "wreckers" and "spoilers" who had "made a mass of Soviet food production" (i.e. poor Ukrainian peasants who resisted collectivization) and the like. "There is no actual starvation or deaths from starvation," he wrote, "but there is widespread mortality from diseases due to malnutrition." There was suffering, Duranty admitted but "to put it brutally – you can't make an omelet without breaking eggs..."

Was The New York Times correspondent aware of his lies? Absolutely. During a trip to the British Embassy soon after returning from Ukraine in 1933, Duranty explained that "the Ukraine had been bled white. The population was exhausted ... it is "quite possible that as many as 10 million people may have died directly or indirectly from lack of food in the Soviet Union during the past year." Later, at a dinner party for Ann O'Hare McCormick, roving correspondent for The New York Times, Duranty repeated his estimate of millions dead.

"But Walter, you don't mean that literally?" asked Mrs. McCormick.

"Hell I don't" he replied. "I'm being conservative."

Despite certain reservations by the editorial staff of The New York Times regarding the accuracy of Mr. Duranty's dispatches, he was awarded the Pulitzer Prize for reporting that was "marked by scholarship, profundity, impartiality, sound judgment and exceptional clarity..."

Not shy about taking advantage of his popularity among the Soviet elite, Duranty was able to book passage on a Soviet ship bringing Maxim Litvinov to Washington to work out the final details of President Franklin Delano Roosevelt's recognition of the Soviet Union. Later, at a dinner hon-

oring Litvinov at the Waldorf Astoria, Duranty was introduced as "one of the greatest foreign correspondents of modern times serving a great newspaper of this city." He received a standing ovation.

According to Duranty biographer S.J. Taylor: "The Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933 remains the greatest man-made disaster ever recorded, exceeding in scale even the Jewish Holocaust of the next decade ... It was Walter Duranty's destiny to become, in effect, the symbol for the West's failure to recognize and understand it at the time."

Duranty was not the only Pulitzer Prize-winning New York Times correspondent to adopt the "omelet theory" of explaining Communist viciousness. In 1975, a week before the Cambodian government of Lon Nol fell, correspondent Sydney Schanberg wrote: "for the ordinary people of Indochina ... it is difficult to imagine how their lives could be anything but better with Americans gone."

Deciding to remain behind as the murderous Khmer Rouge evacuated everyone from the capital city of Phnom Penh – including children, the elderly, bedridden hospital patients and the physically handicapped – and mounted a campaign of wholesale slaughter of millions of Cambodians, Mr. Schanberg was torn between viewing the genocide "through Western eyes or what might be Cambodian revolutionary eyes ... Was this just cold brutality: a cruel and sadistic imposition of the law of the jungle which only the fittest will survive?" he asked. "Or is it possible that, seen through the eyes of the peasant soldier and revolutionizes, the forced evacuation of the cities is a harsh necessity? Perhaps they are convinced that there is no way to build a new society for the benefit of the ordinary man, hitherto exploited, without literally starting from the beginning; in such an unbending view people who represent the old ways and those considered weak or unfit would be expendable and would be weeded out."

In "The Killing Fields," a Hollywood movie in which Mr. Schanberg is portrayed as a hero struggling with a moral dilemma, the culprit is Richard Nixon, whose bombing of Cambodian sanctuaries of the Viet Cong, one is led to believe, precipitated the horrors visited on the people by an angry Khmer Rouge. Never mind that the Khmer Rouge did not actually take power until 20 months after the last U.S. bomb fell on Cambodia.

Between the Communist horrors of 1933 and 1975, The New York Times apparently learned nothing. In both cases, the newspaper of record decided to print stories that blamed the victims – "spoilers and wreckers" in Ukraine, the "weak and unfit" in Cambodia – rather than the perpetrators of the worst crimes (7 million Ukrainians, 2 million Cambodians died) in the history of the world.

Despite its abominable record on five continents, Marxism is still alive, still being taken seriously by politicians, columnists and academics throughout the world, and still creating confusion at American universities and in the media. Leftists just can't bring themselves to admit that for over 70 years their view of the world was and remains wrong, wrong, wrong.

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## SHEVCHENKO ANNIVERSARY: Bard revered by Roma (Gypsies) in Ukraine

by Adriana Helbig

In the past few years that I have been monitoring Roma (Gypsy) portrayals in the media in Ukraine, there has been a noted rise in positive attention towards the Roma and a movement away from portraying them as illiterate nomads. This is due in no small part to the efforts of Mykhailo Kozymyrenko, a well-known Roma poet who in 1996 first published his translations of selected poems

*Adriana Helbig is a doctoral student in ethnomusicology at Columbia University, where she teaches in the music humanities program. She was a 2001-2002 Fulbright Scholar to Ukraine, researching the role of musical culture in the Gypsy/Roma political movement.*



Roma poet Mykhailo Kozymyrenko.

from Taras Shevchenko's "Kobzar."

The 1,000 copies of his pocket-sized book titled "Dumy Moyi/Dumy Mire" in Ukrainian and in Romani, the language of Roma (Gypsies), turned heads among Ukrainian literary critics and the publication has done much to promote the image of Roma as educated citizens of Ukraine.

I met Mr. Kozymyrenko in Kyiv at a conference of Roma community leaders from various oblasts and had the opportunity to speak with the poet about his work. Mr. Kozymyrenko informed me that while there was hardly anything published in Romani at the time of the Soviet Union, the All-Russian Gypsy Union, established in 1925, oversaw early socialist initiatives to eliminate illiteracy among Gypsies. While most programs in Roma education lasted less than a decade and were liquidated entirely by 1938, the All-Russian Gypsy Union did establish a Romani alphabet and the late 1920s saw numerous publications by Roma in Romani in Moscow.

Stronger policies for Russification led to the closing of Romani schools, and presses for all minorities lacking a republic were shut down. The national presses that survived did so merely because they could be transferred from Moscow to a respective republic capital. Romani simply fell through the cracks, having neither republic nor capital.

Today Roma in Ukraine use the Cyrillic alphabet for written Romani, whose root language is Hindi, but the regional variations between dialects are so great that Roma living in various parts of Ukraine often have difficulty understanding each other. Mr. Kozymyrenko believes that the most important step in the Roma cultural renaissance in Ukraine

today is to codify a Romani literary language, which he foresees to be a fusion of the various dialects spoken in Ukraine.

Because Romani was historically an oral language, it numbers between 4,000 and 6,000 words in comparison to approximately 140,000 words in the Ukrainian language. In his translations Mr. Kozymyrenko is often forced to incorporate Ukrainian words where an appropriate Romani substitute cannot be found.

The importance of translations such as the "Kobzar" cannot be underestimated for the Roma population in Ukraine, which according to Roma leaders, numbers close to 350,000. The past 10 years have borne witness to a Roma human rights and cultural revival movement in Ukraine. Cities like Kyiv, Lviv, Odesa, Kharkiv and Uzhhorod have become centers for Roma organizations that have begun to promote Roma culture, language, education, protection of human rights and positive media representation.

Unfortunately, the majority of both rural and urban Roma communities in Ukraine still are not integrated into Ukrainian society at large. Historical negative stereotypes that view Roma as thieves, child stealers, manipulators and lazy beggars continue to guide perceptions of "tsyhany" among the majority of Ukrainian citizens. This cycle of stereotypes actively continues to keep Roma at the bottom of the social ladder – a cycle that a growing number of Roma intellectuals are striving to break.

Mr. Kozymyrenko speaks of another reason that keeps him at his task of translating Shevchenko. He says that the social themes that address freedom and equality in Shevchenko's poems hit close



Shevchenko's sketch "Tsyhan" (1851).

to home among Roma. Roma identify with Shevchenko's pain and the worry about the fate of his people. The poem "Vidma" (Witch), for example, does not romanticize the lives of Gypsies which was often the case in 19th century Russian and European literature and reality is depicted in his artworks "Tsyhanka-Vorozhka" (Gypsy Fortuneteller, 1841, and "Tsyhan" (Gypsy, 1851).

Shevchenko is considered by Roma to be one of the most important links between Roma and Ukrainian culture because through Shevchenko's poetry and paintings, Roma have found their place in Ukrainian history and are striving to have their voice heard in Ukraine's future.



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# SHEVCHENKO ANNIVERSARY: The death at Tarasova Hora

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

We never knew a thing about it. Even in Ukraine no one knew, it being 1978 and all. Only after independence did an article appear in *Literaturna Ukraina*, on February 20, 1992. And the full story came out as one chapter of the book "Sviatynia: Naukovo-Istorychnyi Litopys Tarasovoyi Hory" (Shrine: an Academic-Historical Chronicle of Taras' Hill," Kyiv: Rodovid, 1998) by Zinayida Tarakhan-Bereza, a researcher at the Shevchenko Museum in Kaniv.

During the night of January 21-22, 1978, a man set himself afire at the foot of Taras Shevchenko's grave at the museum preserve in Kaniv, on Chernoche Hora (Hill). By early morning, the militia and secret police had secured the site, and had ordered the few authorities involved to strict silence about the event. All the thousands of hand-written leaflets (almost all of them) that the man had strewn about the gravesite and the whole hillside preserve had been confiscated and destroyed.

The leaflets read: "Protest against the Russian occupation of Ukraine! Protest against the Russification of the Ukrainian nation! Long live the Independent Sovereign Ukrainian State! Soviet, but not Russian. Ukraine for Ukrainians! On the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the Declaration of Independence of Ukraine by the Central Rada. January 22, 1918 – January 22, 1978. As a sign of protest, Hirnyk Oleksa of Kalush self-immolated. Only in this manner can one protest in the Soviet Union!"

He was Oleksa Mykolayovych Hirnyk, born in Bohorodchany, living in Kalush. The investigation showed that he had doused himself with gasoline, lit the fire, and then stabbed himself in the abdomen. The official decision was that this was a suicide. But, as Tarakhan-Bereza writes, Hirnyk could have taken his own life any place, not so far from his home. He was not a drunk, nor deathly ill from cancer, nor insane, as the local authorities wanted the record to show.

As was later revealed, this act was the result of long, meticulous planning on Hirnyk's part. It was a clearly calculated, final, desperate political protest against Russian rule of Ukraine. As Tarakhan-Bereza relates, Hirnyk was not a famous government or community activist, nor a renowned writer, politician, nor an academic:

"He was one of the hundreds, millions of industrious, modest and not very talkative countrymen, upon whose shoulders rested the nation. While they may not have openly talked about their love for their homeland, they also never betrayed Ukraine, and never renounced the language, faith and traditions of their ancestors.

"They were simple in appearance, but saw further than the politicians, and understood much better than they that their nation should be as other nations of the world, having the right to freely speak their own language, to feel as masters in their own land, and not to fear anyone in their own home. They had learned from Shevchenko, that 'v svoiyi khati svoya pravda, i syla i volia' (in one's own home is one's own truth, power and freedom)."

These were the words with which he began so many of his leaflets.

Hirnyk could have been any one of our fathers, grandfathers or uncles of the time. He lived through the history and the horrors of the 20th century. Born in 1912 to a patriotic Ukrainian family in Bohorodchany, Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, he was the only one of five children to be able to attend the gimnazia (secondary school) in Stanyslaviv, graduating in

1933. Two years later he was conscripted into the Polish army and served in Zolochiv.

In 1937 he was arrested by the gendarmes and held until 1939. His offense was reading Ukrainian newspapers, and refusing to call himself a "rusyn" instead of a Ukrainian. This was taken to mean that he was a Ukrainian nationalist. He was incarcerated in Polish jails in Krakow, Drohobych and Tarnowa. Released when the Germans invaded Poland in September 1939, Hirnyk hoped for freedom for himself and his country.

But the Soviet "liberators" exposed the nationalists imprisoned by the Poles, and punished and tortured them even more severely. Hirnyk enjoyed a month and a half of freedom between the Polish and the Russian prisons. His trial was held in December 1940, with sentencing to eight years in the far labor camps [Kuibyshev oblast'], and subsequent five years of no right to vote. Tarakhan-Bereza writes that only after 50 years of his first unjust incarceration, and 10 years after his fiery death in Kaniv, did the Plenum of the Supreme Court of the Ukrainian SSR withdraw the sentence against him as "there was no evidence of a crime committed."

He returned to his village in 1948, with no one of his family left to await him. He was married at the age of 37 to Karolina Petrash, who also had been exiled to Siberia. Hirnyk still was not a free man, because of the taint of previous imprisonment. He finally found menial work in Stanyslaviv, where he lived with friends, visiting his home only on days off. People remember him as very industrious, one who loved gardening, beekeeping and pigeons. He provided his children with a higher education, and took care of his family.

Unfair imprisonment had a marked effect on his personality. He became melancholy, sensitive, quick-tempered, unfriendly and withdrawn. He never told anyone about his experiences in prison. Hirnyk found solace in the works of Taras Shevchenko; rereading the "Kobzar" and memorizing it healed his soul. He was especially interested in Shevchenko's work on Jan Hus, the Czech heretic who was burned at the stake in 1415.

Hirnyk had visited Kaniv with his wife in the 1960s, and was deeply moved by the shrine and all it symbolized. He was embarrassed that Ukrainians had not heeded Shevchenko's teachings.

Hirnyk's plan for the eve of January 22, 1978, began a few years earlier. He did not share it with anyone in his family. In 1973 he announced that he wanted to build a summer kitchen near his house. The family stated later, at the inquest, that while there was no need at all for such a structure, they helped him. He hid away in its attic, handwriting the thousands of leaflets he would later strew at Shevchenko's feet. The leaflets were on very thin paper, and were not all the same – the gist was the same, but each leaflet varied in the presentation of the message.

Hirnyk exhibited a deep knowledge of Ukrainian history, literature and philosophy, quoting Hrushevsky, Kostomarov, Kulish, Shevchenko, Franko, Ukrainka. He discussed the times of Khmelnytsky and Mazepa, and the events of the 20th century in Ukraine. He mentioned Khyvylovyi and Skrypnyk, who also committed suicide in protest against Russian rule.

The text of three leaflets is given in "Sviatynia." These are not rantings of a deranged mind, but the anguished epistles of a patriotic Ukrainian wondering why his country was not free and why it was so persecuted.



Photo and death certificate of Oleksa Mykolayovych Hirnyk.

"...According to your law (i.e., Russian), one is not even permitted to think about any independence of Ukraine. Let us live. Do not give us our own bread, like a master gives a dog. Don't build! Don't tell us that we already have all we need. We will build it ourselves, as good proprietors (hospodari), just let us live, leave us alone. ... Enough of you..." he wrote on one leaflet. In another leaflet he noted: "...A person in the Soviet Union is the cheapest being. You do with him/her what you wish. And with the labor of prisoners you built the White Sea Canal, the Moscow Canal, the northern railway and many, many other

construction projects... You sent people to Siberia, to Karaganda... throughout all of Russia... You made Ukraine Russian, and her cities Russian."

Hirnyk did not involve his family in his actions. His last note to his wife read, "I have gone to Lviv. Don't worry, I'll return in a day or two. To our sweet meeting. Oleksa. 19.1.1978." Back in Soviet prison he had told a fellow inmate: "For me, death for Ukraine, in defense of the Ukrainian people, would be good fortune for me."

The book "Sviatynia" is available from [www.Rodovid.net](http://www.Rodovid.net).

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

celebrated his 70th birthday on that day. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### Husar is most trusted hierarch

KYIV – Ukrainian TV channel “1+1” reported on February 26 that Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, is rated the most trusted hierarch among all the confessions in Ukraine. February 26 was the cardinal’s 70th birthday. As he was on a pastoral visit to England after his trip to Canada, the cardinal was to celebrate his birthday in Lviv with a divine liturgy on March 2, with the participation of Archbishop Nikola Eterovic, apostolic nuncio in Ukraine. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

### First group of Ukrainians leaves Iraq

BAGHDAD – A group of 41 Ukrainian specialists working in Iraq under Russian-Iraqi contracts on oil-production projects took a chartered airliner from Baghdad to Moscow on February 26, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry said the evacuation of the next group of Ukrainians from Iraq will depend on developments there. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Ukraine to be cited as market economy?

KYIV – European Commission official Timo Hammaren hinted that the European Union might recognize Ukraine as a “market economy” later this month, ahead of any such concession by United States, the Interfax news service reported on March 3. The move presumably would lead to trade benefits for Ukrainian exporters. Mr. Hammaren said the requirements of the EU with respect to “market economy” status are different from those of the United States. He said the EU might sign the relevant document by the end of March. “We promised Ukraine [that we would] give our answer in late March,” he said, according to Interfax, adding that there are grounds for Kyiv to expect a positive answer. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Anniversary of Stalin’s death marked

MOSCOW – Speaking in Moscow on March 2 at a gathering devoted to the 50th anniversary of the death of Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin, Communist Party leader Gennadii Zyuganov said that his party has failed to live up to Stalin’s legacy and “to preserve the great Soviet power,” the RTR news service reported. “But we should raise our heads high because Russia cannot exist without socialism and Soviet power,” he added. Mr. Zyuganov also attacked the U.S. position on Iraq and said that the U.S. administration wants to involve Europe in “a war against itself.” Moscow’s Communist Party leader, Aleksandr Kuvshinov, surprised the gathering by proposing cloning Stalin, RTR reported. On March 2 ORT and NTV broadcast documentaries about the death of Stalin. On ORT, Stalin’s adopted son, Artem Sergeev, and on NTV political scientist Anatolii Sudoplatov each said that Stalin’s inner circle – including Georgii Malenkov, Lavrentii Beria and Nikita Khrushchev – left Stalin to die without summoning medical help. After his rise to power, Khrushchev was particularly cruel toward Stalin’s son, Vasilii, who was imprisoned on charges of “betraying the motherland,” according to recently declassified documents. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Privatization chief resigns

KYIV – Oleksander Bondar, chairman of the State Property Fund (SPF), has ten-

dered his resignation, Interfax reported on March 1, quoting First Vice Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mykola Azarov. Mr. Azarov said the government deems the activities of the SPF to have been unsatisfactory, adding that the privatization process supervised by the fund “has failed to become an instrument for speeding up the economy and meeting fiscal objectives.” Mr. Azarov added that the privatization process in Ukraine has yielded “only” 6 billion hrv (\$1.12 billion) to date. Mr. Bondar has headed the SPF since October 1998. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### PM says all citizens must learn Ukrainian

KYIV – All Ukrainian citizens must have command of the Ukrainian language and agencies of power must create normal conditions for mastering it, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said as he answered by phone the questions from readers of a central Ukrainian newspaper. “We, all of us, must be able to speak Ukrainian,” Mr. Yanukovich said, stressing at the same time his government would be doing its best to help the citizens, especially children, learn other languages. Ukraine’s language picture is

mixed now. Data from the last national census indicated that 77 percent of all people living in the country are Ukrainians and 17 percent are Russians, while representatives of other ethnic groups made up 6 percent. Independent sources say that 40 percent of the population uses the Russian language in everyday life. (ITAR-TASS, FBIS)

### A third of Russians view Stalin positively ...

MOSCOW – Thirty-six percent of respondents in a national survey conducted by the Public Opinion Foundation on February 22 said that Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin did more to benefit Russia than to harm it, lenta.ru reported on February 27. The foundation surveyed 1,500 adults in cities throughout the federation. Twenty-nine percent of the respondents said Stalin did the country more harm than good, and 34 percent could not say either way. Those who view Stalin positively most often cited his role in the Soviet victory in World War II and the “law and order” he maintained in the country. Those who view him negatively blame him for ruling by means of mass terror, for unleashing genocide against his own citizens and for failing to prepare the

country for the Nazi invasion in 1941. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### ... as interest grows on 50th anniversary

MOSCOW – On the eve of the 50th anniversary of Stalin’s death on March 5, 1953, the Russian State Archive, the archive of the Federal Protection Service and that of the Federal Security Service (FSB) prepared a unique exhibition covering notable events of the Stalin era, the RTR news service reported on February 27. The exhibition will present for the first time recently declassified documents and medical analyses that purportedly refute the theory that Stalin’s entourage might have poisoned him. Other documents concern the so-called Doctors’ Plot, an anti-Semitic campaign launched in the last days of the Stalin regime, purportedly at the dictator’s personal behest. The exhibition will also present some of Stalin’s personal effects, gifts that he received, and letters from Soviet citizens expressing their feelings about his death. The state news agency RIA-Novosti will be selling rare digitized photographs of Stalin via its website (<http://www.rian.ru>). (RFE/RL Newsline)

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## Getting a U.S. visa...

(Continued from page 1)

Weekly, U.S. Consul General Lisa Vickers emphasized that the United States does not work through any third parties in issuing visas to Ukrainians, whether they are consulting firms, employment firms or travel agencies. She explained that all Ukrainian citizens desiring to travel to the United States need to be prepared for face-to-face interviews, and that honesty is the only way that the prospective visitor has a chance to obtain a visa.

"We want the message to get across that we absolutely do not have any agency with which we have a relationship," explained Ms. Vickers. "Every applicant is looked at on their own merits and no one can guarantee them a visa."

Ms. Vickers said she was familiar with the firm to whom the Ternopil farmers had turned, as well as with several others like it. She said that such operations are illegal both in Ukraine and the United States. Most importantly for applicants, consular officers often recognize the paperwork and that hurts the applicant's chances.

### Bogus documents

"With some of these agencies, because we see them so frequently, the documents they provide to the applicants we recognize," explained Ms. Vickers, "and we know they are not true."

She also said that the coaching the companies provide their "clients" often works to the applicant's disadvantage.

"For example, if I were to ask you where you work, would you tell me without looking at a piece of paper? They should, too," added Ms. Vickers.

She went on to explain that some applicants abandon their agency's canned stories and answer the consular officers questions truthfully. Some find, to their surprise, that they qualify for a visa on their own merits.



U.S. Consul General Lisa Vickers

But not before they have blown hundreds of dollars of their precious money for the agency's "services."

Ms. Vickers said that, contrary to popular opinion, the U.S. consular service wants to issue visas and is happy when it can do so because this is the most effective and straightforward type of cultural exchange. However, applicants must come for their interviews ready to answer questions honestly and to be upfront with their intentions. Potential visitors should remember that they have to convince the consular officer who reviews their request that they will return in a timely manner and give hard evidence that they have reason to return. Finally, they must support that they are going to the United States for the purposes stated on their application.

She also noted that a visa does not provide a guarantee that at the U.S. entry point customs officials might not turn away a visa holder who they deem is entering the U.S. for purposes other than what their visa allows. This means that if a person, who has fooled the system and obtained a tourist

visa while in fact intending to work, for instance, cannot adequately explain where he will be staying and who his hosts are to be, he could be turned away even once in the United States. Ms. Vickers underscored that in the post-9/11 era, customs and immigration officials are particularly wary of travelers' intentions.

### 16,000 visas in 2002

While there are those in Ukraine who are certain that the U.S. consular service rejects all Ukrainian applicants except for the very rich, on the contrary, last year 16,000 visas were issued to persons among 31,000 applicants, which means that slightly more than half of those who applied were successful in obtaining permission to travel to the United States.

"We issue to a wide variety of people, and yes, including to farmers," Ms. Vickers explained.

Nonetheless, she also pointed out that, unfortunately not everybody can meet the requirements. But that does not mean that Ukrainians are not continuing to try. While the number of applications dropped last year by 25 percent to 31,000 from a high of 42,000 in fiscal year 2000, this year the number of applications is up by 20 percent over last year and on pace to meet the fiscal year 2000 numbers.

As for Mr. Hnatkiv, the villager from Ternopil, he is happy that he did not waste his hard earned money on the misrepresentations of the fraudulent employment agency. And while he may never have need for the services provided by the U.S. Consulate – he has no chance of obtaining a visa because it would be obvious that he intends to travel to the U.S. in order to work illegally and does not have the necessary "proof of return" – he remains undaunted in his effort to find work to support his family, whether in Ukraine or abroad, legally or not.

For applicants desiring to travel to the United States with honest intentions the U.S. Consular Office is preparing to continue to improve and broaden its services to better accommodate them.

Later this year it will begin transferring to Kyiv some of the workload still carried out in Warsaw, where nearly 7,000 visas were extended to Ukrainians last year. In the first step, it will begin processing fiancé applications at the Kyiv office, which will allow Ukrainians to avoid traveling to Warsaw for their exit interviews and processing. Lottery visa winners and those who file for immigration visas for themselves or for adopted children and married spouses also will soon be able to

avoid the Warsaw trip and simply go to the Pimonenko Street consular offices in Kyiv to complete their particular requirements.

### Multiple-entry visas available

The consular section already has begun to issue five-year multiple-entry visas to Ukrainians who qualify via a reciprocal agreement with Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Ms. Vickers stated that, not only frequent visitors to the United States, but all those who could show "a good pattern of travel," could qualify for the extended visa.

"We will issue a visa even to a first-time traveler [to the U.S.] if their pattern of travel is good," said Ms. Vickers, which she explained meant that during previous travel abroad the person had returned on time, stuck to the requirements of his visa and did not violate the laws of the countries he had visited.

### Information for U.S. citizens

And, finally, Ms. Vickers said that the Consulate also continues to improve services directed at U.S. citizens living abroad. Recently it had held town meetings in several Ukrainian cities, most recently in Lviv and earlier in Kharkiv, Donetsk, Dnipropetrovsk and Odesa. The meetings are intended for public instruction, to better inform U.S. citizens of the support the consular section can provide.

She also noted that she was trying to develop a wider network of wardens of consular services – volunteers who disseminate information to U.S. citizens who live near them. This could include providing travel advisories and worldwide warnings or simply informing the Americans about specific consular services. For instance, in Lviv one of the points of the gathering was to explain that the consular section now has a tax advisor to help with tax filing questions and paperwork as the April 15 income tax filing deadline nears.

Ms. Vickers said that a warden's main responsibility is to develop a list of telephone numbers, e-mail and mail addresses, or simply methods of contact to disseminate information. She requested that interested U.S. citizens living in Ukraine e-mail or telephone the Consulate if they want to volunteer.

For detailed information on consular services and requirements, applications, interview appointment schedules and telephone numbers, readers may go to the website of the U.S. Embassy and Consular Section in Ukraine: [www.usembassy.kiev.ua](http://www.usembassy.kiev.ua).

## Kuchma says...

(Continued from page 3)

as a result of the 2000 national referendum. He said that one chamber of the new Parliament structure would retain the name the Verkhovna Rada and would consist of lawmakers elected based on a proportional electoral system. The other chamber would be called the House of Regions and would consist of seats reserved for both elected and appointed officials: oblast chairmen, local represen-

tatives of the presidential administration and mayors.

In a radical break with the consensus among politicians for the three years since the national referendum was approved, the president suggested that parliamentary ratification was not needed to implement the four proposals.

"The referendum should not have to be ratified by a government body," declared Mr. Kuchma. "The voice of the people should not be subject to further approval."



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# SPORTSLINE

## Boxing

• With his November 23 win against Larry Donald, the World Boxing Council's No. 1 heavyweight contender, Vitalii Klitschko, earned the right to fight for the WBC belt, currently held by Lennox Lewis. However, the 31-year-old Ukrainian has been unable to nail down the highly anticipated fight with the WBC heavyweight champ.

Klitschko started proceedings recently with the WBC to force Lewis to fight him by June, Klitschko's camp said on February 6. The WBC has the authority to order a Lewis-Klitschko fight, as Vitalii is the mandatory challenger.

The AP reported that Vitalii, who says he has a signed contract for a bout with Lewis, wants the WBC to strip Lewis of his last remaining title if he doesn't make the mandatory defense against the No. 1 challenger.

"We should receive the final answer from the WBC's management by March 15 at the latest," Klitschko said of a fight with Lewis that was initially scheduled for mid-April but now may happen some time in June.

In a similar situation, Lewis lost his International Boxing Federation title because he did not want to fight a mandatory bout against Chris Byrd.

If Lewis refuses a bout with Klitschko, the title would become vacant and Klitschko would fight against the WBC's No. 2 ranked boxer, Evander Holyfield, to determine who would hold the WBC title.

Klitschko's camp said they signed a contract with Lewis manager Adrian Ogun for a fight originally scheduled for April 12, in Las Vegas, or April 19, in New York City.

The contract for a fight between Lewis and Klitschko was apparently signed by Klitschko, Hans-Peter Kohl and Lewis's business manager Adrian Ogun but not by Lewis himself.

That apparent loophole has allowed the world heavyweight champion to sidestep the challenge and concentrate instead on a contest with Tyson, which would earn him more than double the purse he would earn in a fight against Klitschko.

"There can only be one answer," Klitschko said recently. "Namely, that the WBC tells Lewis to go ahead with the fight against me. Either Lewis is to defend his championship title in a fight with me, or, otherwise, the title will have to be taken from him and declared vacant."

Lewis's trainer, Emanuel Steward, said on January 30 that Lewis will fight both Klitschko brothers, Vitalii and Volodymyr, after his rematch with Mike Tyson and then retire.

Reuters reported on January 21 that Vitalii confirmed he would fight Lewis in Las Vegas on April 12. But prior to that, the BBC reported that Lewis appeared to be wavering about fighting the elder Klitschko.

Britain's Observer newspaper said that Lewis would earn \$10 million from a Klitschko-Lewis fight, while the British boxer would earn around \$25 million for a Lewis-Tyson bout.

Lewis last boxed on June 8, 2002, against Mike Tyson, defeating the former world champion by knockout.

• In other news, Vitalii Klitschko's younger brother, Volodymyr will defend his World Boxing Organization title on March 8 against Corrie Sanders. The fight will take place in Hanover, Germany, at the Preussag Arena.

Sanders, who was World Boxing

Union world champion from 1997 to 2000, is regarded as one of the most dangerous boxers in the heavyweight division. The South African, who is 6 feet 3 inches tall, also has an impressive fight record at 38 wins and two losses. Sanders has won 18 of his 28 knockout victories in the first round.

## Soccer

• Turkey and Ukraine played to a 0-0 draw in Izmir, Turkey, on February 12. The match was the last tune-up before Ukraine faces a critical Union of European Football Associations (UEFA) European 2004 qualifier against Spain on March 29 in Kyiv's Olimpiyskiy stadium.

The Ukrainian men will then move on to the Ukraina Stadium in Lviv for their next home qualifier against Armenia on June 7, before welcoming Northern Ireland to Donetsk's Shakhtar stadium on September 6.

"This is the first time in history Ukraine will play in three different cities across the country," said Ukraine's head coach, Leonid Buriak. "The arenas in the country are getting better and now fans outside of Kyiv can see the national team as well."

Ukraine is also scheduled to play friendly matches against Latvia on April 2 and Denmark on April 30. Additionally, an agreement has been reached to play a return friendly game between Ukraine and Turkey on April 26 or 27, 2005.

## Ice Skating

• Sasha Cohen, the 18-year-old American figure skater who has a Ukrainian mother, beat Irina Slutskaya in the Grand Prix Final in St. Petersburg, Russia, on March 1. Cohen won the final free skate portion of the competition, worth 50 percent of the total. She won the short program and placed second, on February 28, in the first of two free programs.

Ukrainian Olena Liashenko came in fifth place, while Russia's Viktoria Volchkova took third.

For Cohen, who finished fourth at the Olympics in 2002 and at the world championships last year, the result marked her first victory in a major international competition. Slutskaya is the defending world champion and was the leader going into the event's final free skate.

The six competitors in the Grand Prix final, which gathers the top scorers from the six Grand Prix series events held in the fall, were required to do two programs on February 28 and perform a different long program on March 1. Cohen won two Grand Prix events to qualify as the top scorer.

Fellow Americans Michelle Kwan and Olympic champion Sarah Hughes did not take part in the competition. The next major challenge for Cohen is the world championships, which begins on March 24 in Washington.

• Ukraine's Olena Hrushyna and Ruslan Honcharov came in fourth place in the pairs ice dance event at the Grand Prix, while Russians Irina Lobacheva and Ilia Averbukh took first place and Tatiana Navka and Roman Kostomarov took second place. The Bulgarian team of Albena Denkova and Maxim Staviyski took third place.

• Hrushyna and Honcharov also came in fourth in the ice dance event at the European Figure Skating Championships held in Malmö, Sweden, on January 23-25.

Lobacheva and Ilia Averbukh of Russia took first place at the event while

Albena Denkova and Staviyski of Bulgaria took second place. Navka and Kostomarov took third place.

• In the women's event, Ukraine's Liashenko took sixth place while her teammate, Halyna Maniachenko, finished in seventh place. Russia's Slutskaya took first place and her teammate, Elena Sokolova took second place. Hungary's Julia Sebestyen rounded out the medal podium with her third-place finish.

• In the pairs competition at the European Championships, Ukraine's Tetiana Chuvayeva and Dmytro Palamarchuk, who finished in 10th place, were beaten by teammates Tatiana Volosozhar and Petro Kharchenko, who took seventh place.

The Russian pair of Tatiana Totmianina and Maxim Marinin took first place, while their teammates, Maria Petrova and Alexei Tikhonov took third place. France's Sarah Abitbol and Stephane Bernadis took second.

## Track and field

• Anatolii Dovhal of Ukraine won the men's 60-meter race at the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) international indoor meet in Budapest, Hungary, on February 8, with a time of 6.63 seconds. A photo finish saw Gabor Dobos of Hungary take second place with a time of 6.64. Andrea Rabino of Italy was relegated to the third spot with his time of 6.64.

• Ukraine's Anzhela Kravchenko and Germany's Gabi Rockmeier, who both finished their 60-meter race in 7.20 seconds, shared second place at the Erdgas indoor athletics meet in Chemnitz, Germany, on February 8. Karin Mayr took first place with a time of 7.17.

• Zhanna Block, who officially dropped the Pintusevich from her name, set the fastest time in the world this year in the 60-meter event at the Flanders Indoor Energizer international indoor meet on February 9 in Ghent, Belgium.

Block, the reigning world outdoor 100-meter champion, won in 7.09 seconds to beat 42-year-old Merlene Ottey, who clocked 7.18 and took second place. Muriel Hurtis of France took third place in 7.20. Ukraine's Anzhela Kravchenko took the fifth spot with a time of 7.30.

Block decided to drop her maiden

took second place in 3:44.83, and Belgium's Jurgen Vandewiele took third place with a time of 3:44.96.

## Basketball

• Ukraine will play in Group B with Belgium, Spain, the Slovak Republic, Russia and Hungary at the 29th Women's European Basketball Championship in Greece. The 16-team tournament, which runs from September 19 to 28, features a first round of round-robin competition to determine the match-ups for the following rounds of single elimination play.

The top three teams from the Women's European Championship will qualify for the 2004 Olympics. Greece qualifies automatically for the Olympics as the host nation, therefore, if Greece finishes in the top three of the European Championship, the top four teams will qualify for the Olympics.

## Marathon

• Tatyana Pozdnyakova, a 47-year-old Ukrainian, became the oldest woman to win a big-city marathon, prevailing in Los Angeles. Pozdnyakova finished the race in 2 hours, 29 minutes and 40 seconds while Lioudmila Kortchaguina of Russia took second place with a time of 2:30:18 and Zivile Balciunaite of Lithuania took third place with a time of 2:33:22.

With her win Pozdnyakova received \$28,000 plus a 2003 Honda Accord EX V-6.

## Skiing

• Mykola Sκριabin of Ukraine came in 31st place in the men's combined event at the Alpine skiing world championship in St. Moritz, Switzerland, on February 7, with a time of 3 minutes and 34.06 seconds. Bode Miller of the United States took first place with a time of 3:18.41. Lasse Kjus of Norway took second place, finishing just .07 seconds behind Miller. Kjus's teammate Kjetil-Andre Aamodt took third place with a time of 3:18.54.

## Biathlon

• Andrii Deryzemlia of Ukraine won the 15-kilometer mass-start event in Antholz, Italy, on January 26, earning him his first ever World Cup victory.



Andrew Nynka

Ukraine's Andrii Deryzemlia pictured during a training session in Sun Valley, Idaho, prior to the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

name, Pintusevich, and race under her married name of Block. The original purpose of using Pintusevich-Block was to allow the public to get used to Block before settling on Block alone.

• Ukraine's Ivan Heshko took first place in the men's 1,500-meter event, finishing the race in 3 minutes and 42.75 seconds. Germany's Wolfram Muller

Deryzemlia's time of 37:00.26 beat Russia's Pavel Rostovtsev by 0.7 seconds and Germany's Ricco Gross by 1.2 seconds. Deryzemlia's teammate Viacheslav Derkach finished the race in 11th place, 51 seconds behind the gold medalist.

(Continued on page 16)



## MoMA symposium and publication on art of Eastern Europe excludes Ukraine

by Ika Kozmarska Casanova

NEW YORK – The Museum of Modern Art in New York has organized a symposium titled “East of Art: Transformations in Eastern Europe,” exploring the region’s historical, political, and artistic contexts.

Presented by the MoMA’s international program and the department of education, the symposium takes place on March 11 in conjunction with the museum’s recently published “Primary Documents: A Sourcebook for Eastern and Central European Art Since the 1950s.” The work serves as an introduction for English-speaking readers to the region’s major artistic and critical movements of the latter half of the 20th century.

Moderated by co-editors Laura Hoptman and Tomas Pospiszyl, symposium panelists include Boris Groys, Katarzyna Kozyra, Bojana Pejic and Slavoy Zizek – cultural historians and artists whose writings appear in the book.

With its emphasis on primary source material, the publication brings together an array of texts and manifestos by artists and critics, as well as poems, lectures,

photo essays and interviews in English translation.

The result of a three-year collaborative editorial effort in consultation with curators, scholars, and artists, the book incorporates materials from the majority of post-Communist European countries, including Bulgaria, Croatia, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and Slovenia, as well as Russia. Excluded are Ukraine, along with, as noted by a MoMA representative, Belarus, Moldova, Albania and East Germany.

The omission of Ukraine is all the more glaring and acute given that in the introduction to “Primary Sources” the co-editors state that the overriding reason for publishing these essays and texts was to provide a much-needed context for the English-speaking readers to comprehend and appreciate the art of the period in question, which evolved under specific historical and political conditions. To this end, the book provides translations of “original historical documentation, primary source materials for serious academic research on the subject of Eastern

European visual culture.”

According to the editors, “the criteria for inclusion were straightforward: we chose landmark texts that labeled movements, challenged received ideas, and changed the way art was made and thought about by influential writers respected in their communities and nationally.”

When the question was raised as to the reason for Ukraine’s omission from the list of countries under consideration in the publication, given its status as one of the largest post-Communist countries with an indigenous artistic tradition and vibrant cultural presence, Joanna Raczkiwicz, assistant to the director of the International Program at MoMA, noted “The publication was not meant to be a comprehensive or encyclopedic account of the art production of the period; rather, it was intended to introduce to an English-speaking audience the context, and pivotal ideas that shaped art in this region. Because of this, and because of the circumstances of the collaboration,

some countries were unintentionally omitted (such as the [sic] Ukraine, Belarus, Moldova, Albania, East Germany).”

A response from the co-editors was not received by the time *The Weekly* went to press.

The symposium will be held on Tuesday, March 11, at the MoMA Gramercy Theater, 127 E. 23rd St. (at Lexington Avenue), at 6:30 p.m.

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Symposium admission: \$7; MoMA members \$5; students with current ID, \$3. Tickets are available at the MoMA QNS Lobby Ticketing Desk, 33rd Street at Queens Boulevard, and at The MoMA Design Stores, 44 W. 53rd St. and 81 Spring St., Manhattan. Any remaining tickets will be available at the door on the evening of the program. Tickets may be used as same-value vouchers when purchasing the publication at the event. For information call (212) 708-9476 or e-mail joanna\_raczkiwicz@moma.org.

### Lecture series kicks off program to expand Ukrainian studies at Stanford

STANFORD, Calif. – A series of seven distinguished lectures titled “Ukraine: Emerging Nation” kicks off a program-building effort in Ukrainian Studies at Stanford University this spring. Sponsored by the Center for Russian, East European and Eurasian Studies, the series features political scientists, historians and public figures speaking on various aspects of Ukraine’s current development.

As part of the series, Prof. Michael McFaul (February 10) of Stanford University is joined by Prof. Olexiy Haran (February 24) of the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and Adrian Karatnycky (June 2) of Freedom House in addressing Ukraine’s domestic and international political situation. Prof. Laada Bilaniuk (April 21) of the University of Washington, an anthropologist, will address the politics of language, while historian Dr. Frank Sysyn (March 10) director of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta sketches the background to modern Ukrainian nationalism in examining the ideology of Bohdan Khmelnytsky. Ukraine’s ambassador to Canada Yuri Shcherbak (April 7) addresses international issues, and George Chopivsky (May 19), CEO of Ukrainian Development Corp. and an entrepreneur active in Ukraine, will speak on the current business climate.

The series inaugurates Stanford’s drive to expand teaching and research in Ukrainian studies. The university has significant resources already in Ukrainian studies. The Hoover Institution Archive has valuable archives and is expanding its collection through cooperative agreements with archives in Ukraine. Stanford’s Green Library has an excellent collection of monographs and current journals in Ukrainian history, literature and current events.

The university has been teaching undergraduates and training graduate students in East European and Russian

studies since the 1920s, and has a significant commitment to international studies. Prof. Nancy Kollmann of the history department twice served as the Chair of the Visiting Committee to the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (1998, 2002); Prof. Amir Weiner’s recent book, “Making Sense of War: The Second World War and the Fate of the Bolshevik Revolution” is based on the historical archival research in Kyiv, Vinnytsia and other Ukrainian collections; and political science Prof. McFaul is engaged in a research project on comparative post-Soviet political transitions, including Ukraine, funded by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

The goals of the program-building effort are to establish endowed teaching positions in Ukrainian studies, to fund fellowships for Ph.D. students in disciplines including history, political science and anthropology, and to enhance the teaching of Ukrainian subjects through visiting professors. The teaching of the Ukrainian language is also targeted.

The center director Prof. Kollmann, said, “Students are really interested in issues such as economic, social and political change in Eastern Europe, and Ukraine offers an excellent focus of study. We would like to integrate further the study of Ukraine into our curriculum, so that students interested in modern cultural trends, modern international politics and other such issues will automatically consider Ukraine one of the important players in this dynamic, expanding part of the world.”

For additional information, access <http://www.stanford.edu/dept/CREES/UkrainianStudies.html>, or phone CREEES (650) 723-3562.

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All lectures will take place at Hartley Conference Center, except for the April 7 lecture, which will be held at the SIEPR Conference Room A, Landau Economics Building (corner of Galves and Serra streets). Lectures begin at 4:15 p.m.

### Slava Modern Dance Company debuts at Cleveland Public Theater

by Nadia Tarnawsky and Michael Flohr

CLEVELAND – As the lights slowly come up in the intimate hall, the sounds of cello and voice combine as a trio of dancers enter into the space. A distant village comes to life as the orchestration builds. Strong vocals, sung in Ukrainian, fill the hall as dancer/choreographer Natalie M. Kapeluck becomes a bride preparing to leave her family and friends. The dance motifs represent the braiding of the girl’s hair, the placing of the yoke upon the bride and groom, the parting of a young girl and her childhood friends. She is not a part of them anymore.

These dance images were seen at Cleveland Public Theater in December 2002, when Ms. Kapeluck and members of the newly formed Slava Modern Dance Company performed as part of the Theater’s Vaudeville Night. Upon completion of the piece, the audience cheered and applauded enthusiastically for these performers. This was not the first time that Cleveland audiences had warmly received Ms. Kapeluck’s choreography.

Ms. Kapeluck served as choreographer and dancer for MN2 Productions’ “Shadows of Our Forgotten Ancestors,” a dance-theater piece based on the Mykhailo Kotsiubynsky novel of the same name which premiered at Cleveland Public Theatre in January of 2002. Ms. Kapeluck was also instrumental as choreographer and dancer in the premiere of “Ancestral Voices,” another MN2 Production, which took place at INSIDE Gallery in 2000.

She serves as resident choreographer at Pittsburgh’s Southwest Ballet and is in her seventh season as a dancer with the Mary Miller Dance Company. Ms. Kapeluck has also created choreography for the Kyiv Ukrainian Dance Ensemble since her appointment as director. With all of this experience behind her, she decided to channel her artistic energies into a company of her own – the Slava Modern Dance Company.

*Nadia Tarnawsky is a faculty member at the Cleveland Institute of Music. Michael Flohr is a freelance director and union musician. The couple resides in Cleveland.*

Ms. Kapeluck wanted a name for her company that reflected her beliefs and heritage – not just another company named after its choreographer and founder. She is proud of her Ukrainian heritage, and “slava” is a word that embodies her feelings about her culture, beliefs and life work. She added that it is also a word that reflects all that she desires her ensemble to be. “Slava” is a Ukrainian word that means “glory.” This word serves a dual purpose. It is a testament to Ms. Kapeluck’s ethnic heritage, as well as a reflection of the depths and strength of her Ukrainian Orthodox faith. Ms. Kapeluck strives for her work to be a means of giving glory to God. This work will come to fruition in an evening of dance choreographed by Ms. Kapeluck at Cleveland Public Theater.

It is fitting that Cleveland Public Theater is the venue for this dance concert. Cleveland Public Theater, or CPT, has become a space known for contemporary theater and dance events. It is a space that continues to renovate and open new theaters, all the while pushing the boundaries of theater and dance in Cleveland.

The works to be presented originated as three separate pieces that were set on dancers with Pittsburgh’s Southwest Ballet Company. These modern dance works have been reworked and expanded for the dancers of Slava as a further development of the choreographer’s vision. “Gracias a la Vida,” “Static” and “Miranda” will be performed. MorrisonDance, a Cleveland based modern dance company, will present two works in the concert: a work in progress by Sarah Morrison, director of MorrisonDance, and a work choreographed for MorrisonDance by Ms. Kapeluck.

Much like the young bride preparing for a new life with her husband, Ms. Kapeluck has taken the first steps in her life with this new company. The Slava Modern Dance Company will begin this journey with two concerts on Saturday, March 15, at Cleveland Public Theater’s Mainstage Theater at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m. CPT is located at 6409 Detroit Ave. in Cleveland. Tickets are \$15 for general admission, \$12 for students and seniors and may be reserved by calling (216) 749-0060 or by sending an e-mail to mn2productions@yahoo.com.



## DATELINE NEW YORK: Filmmaking, writing and directing 101

by Helen Smindak

Art exhibits and other events are making their bid for attention, but films and filmmakers are in the forefront of Ukrainian cultural activities in this round-up of arts and entertainment news in the Big City.

Lisa Cholodenko's latest feature film, "Laurel Canyon," opened in New York and Los Angeles this past Friday. Brooklyn-based filmmaker Roxy Toporowych has begun work on a documentary about folk dancing that focuses on the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dancers. Hollywood filmmaker Paul Maslak, whose work was discussed in the January 26 "Dateline," tells us how he got into filmmaking and offers tips on breaking into the film business.

### "Laurel Canyon"

Set against a background of sun-bleached southern California landscape and Brit-pop band music, a rigorously honest exploration of relationships between people with wildly divergent world views is the focus of Lisa Cholodenko's second feature film "Laurel Canyon."

Ms. Cholodenko, a Manhattan-based writer and director whose grandparents came from Ukraine, says this film is about fidelity, all aspects of it – fidelity between parents and children, and fidelity between lovers. She notes that there's a connection between "Laurel Canyon" and her first feature film, "High Arts," since both deal with the complications of intimacy.

The new film, released by Sony Classics, stars the eye-catchingly attractive actress Frances McDormand as Jane, a veteran record producer with a carefree lifestyle who's trying to come up with a hit single for a British band whose lead singer, Ian (Alessandro Nivola), is her much younger lover.

Her serious, conservative son, Sam (Christian Bale), and his equally conservative fiancée, Alex (Kate Beckinsdale), both recent graduates of Harvard's medical school, are thwarted in their plans to live in Jane's soon-to-be vacant home when Jane decides to continue her work with the band in her home recording studio. Alex begins to feel seduced by Jane and Ian, while Sam becomes vulnerable to the attractions of fellow medical resident Sara (Natascha McElhone).

The film takes its name from its California setting, Laurel Canyon, a hippie area between Hollywood and the San Fernando Valley that Ms. Cholodenko describes as "attractive to people who are less conventional or are interested in being identified with a culture that is less conventional. It held an endless curiosity for me when I was a kid."

Ms. Cholodenko is familiar with California; she was raised in Los Angeles and worked as an assistant editor on studio features before moving to New York in 1992. She made short films, including "Dinner Party," which won the UK's Channel 4 TX prize, while working for an MFA in screenwriting and directing at Columbia University.

"High Art," screened at the 1998 Director's Fortnight at Cannes, won several awards that year, including The Jury Prize at Deauville, France, and the Waldo Salt Screenwriting Award at Sundance. The film received several Independent Feature Project (IFP) nominations, and its star, Ally Sheedy, won the IFP Best Actress award and other honors.

Ms. Cholodenko has directed episodes of NBC's "Homicide," HBO's "Six Feet Under" and ABC's "Push, Nevada."

### A documentary on dance

Independent film writer/director Roxy Toporowych, who hails from Parma, Ohio, and now makes her home in New York City, has started work on a documentary

film about the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dancers of New York.

Ms. Toporowych, 26, who's been involved with ballet and Ukrainian folk dance since age 5 (she was a member of Cleveland's Kashtan dance group), has started work on a feature-length documentary that will bring "one of the most beautiful, exciting and spirited dance forms in the world" to mainstream audiences in the U.S. and abroad. Film festivals, cinemas and public television broadcasters such as PBS and BBC will be the screening targets.

She is excited about showing the world the beauties and variety of regional Ukrainian dance forms and the emotions registered in folk dances, from the clownish "Povzunets" to the celebratory "Hutsul Wedding" and the glorious "Hopak." From her years with the Kashtan dance ensemble and the past 18 months as a Syzokryli dancer, Ms. Toporowych is well acquainted with the exuberance as well as the footwork and movements involved in Ukrainian dancing.

Embracing the history of Ukrainian dance here and abroad, the film will include the founding of Syzokryli by renowned prima ballerina Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, Ms. Bohachevsky's career, Syzokryli workshops and dance camps, and the participation of Ukrainian dancers in various professional productions of the Christmas classic "The Nutcracker." Ukrainian dance classes in public schools will also be covered.

Almost 24 hours of footage has been shot at rehearsals and performances since September, and more work will be done this spring and summer at the Ukrainian Festival in the East Village and at various dance camps and workshops. Interviews and shadowing of individual dancers will be scheduled.

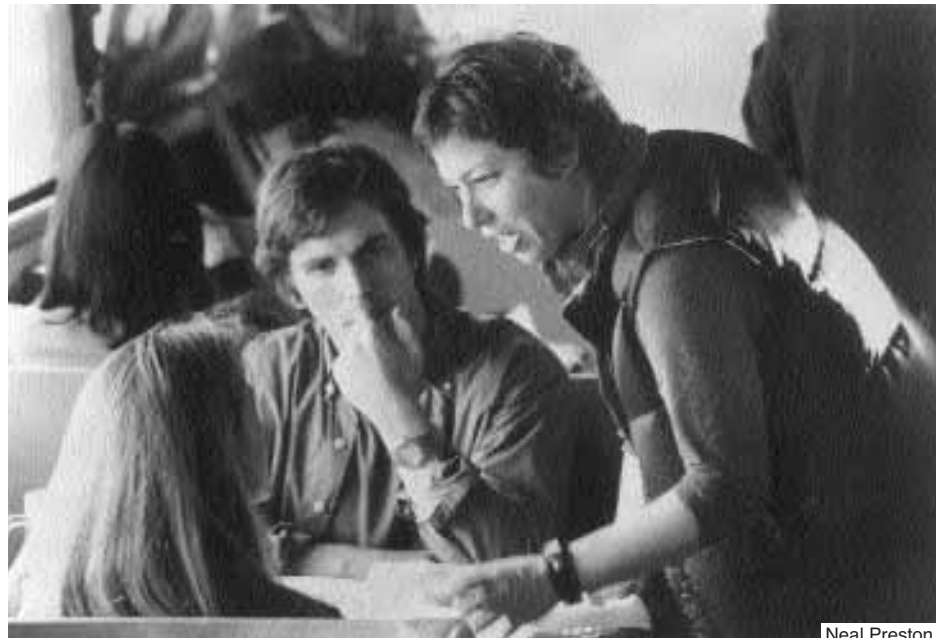
Ms. Toporowych has turned to two friends for assistance in her yearlong project – Michael McDonough does shooting if the necessary equipment is provided for him, and Eric Gold is planning to put together a five-minute teaser to screen to potential funders.

She estimates that the documentary will cost about \$8,000, covering everything from DV tapes to rental of additional equipment and post-production editing, and says she is looking for financial assistance. "Maybe someone works at Apple computers and can get me a discount on equipment; perhaps I'll throw a fund-raising party with Soomska vodka supplying the drinks," she muses. Neither she nor her friends are receiving any payment for their work.

Ms. Toporowych has just opened a non-profit status account at the Selfreliance Federal Credit Union of New York so that anyone interested in helping to fund this ambitious undertaking can lend a hand. Checks should be made payable to Ukrainian Chorus Dumka Inc. ("Syzo Documentary" may be included in the memo section) and mailed to Roxy Toporowych, 73 N. Eighth (No. 5), Brooklyn, NY 11211. All donations are tax-deductible; a receipt with the tax-deductible ID number will be mailed to all donors.

The Ohio native, who became involved in making short films and videos during her high school years, came to New York to study and graduated from New York University's Tisch School of the Arts in 1998 with a B.F.A. in film and television. Her student films were shown at independent festivals, including Johns Hopkins University Fest and the Athens International Festival.

Following several months of travel across Europe and Eastern Europe, with



Neal Preston

Lisa Cholodenko directs Christian Bale and Natascha McElhone in her latest feature film "Laurel Canyon."

extended stops in London and Prague, Ms. Toporowych began work in the art department of NBC's "Saturday Night Live" show. She also pursued art department/set decorating work on feature films such as "Party Monster," starring Macaulay Culkin and Seth Green (to be released this spring) and worked on post-production editing at New York Times Television on the shows "Code Blue" and "Trauma: Life in the ER."

She's now writing her second screenplay (set in 1950s Cleveland), and continues to do freelance work on feature films while working on the Syzokryli documentary.

### The film business

"Dateline" introduced filmmaker Paul Maslak in the January 26 issue of The Weekly but failed to provide his Ukrainian background (as noted in a recent e-mail from a reader) or his film training. Reason: the information, through no fault of Mr. Maslak, arrived too late to be included in the story.

To make up, this "Dateline" is offering information about Mr. Maslak's Ukrainian ancestry and his early career, and for good measure, is presenting his views on how to break into the film business. He says there are roughly three ways.

One (usually the best way) is through the front doors of a major studio, talent agency or entertainment law firm, by getting hired as a youth into some entry-level administrative or clerical job, then working your way up through the ranks.

Another way: have a relative or mentor in the business who uses his/her influence to open a door for you (usually the easiest way). Witness all the offspring of entertainment families who became filmmakers – Sigourney Weaver, Rob Reiner, Jane/Peter/Brigitte Fonda, Ron Howard, Sean/Michael/Chris Penn, Charlie Sheen, Gwyneth Paltrow and Kate Hudson.

A third way is to break in through any and every unorthodox manner you can find, such as a fad cycle of specialty films that let in people from new fields. Examples of this method include dance movies, which gave entry to Fred Astaire and Gene Kelly; musicals, to Shirley Jones and Julie Andrews; comedies, to first vaudevillians like W.C. Fields and stand-ups like Jim Carrey. Muscle-man movies served Sly Stallone and Arnold Schwarzenegger, while martial arts movies paved the way for Bruce Lee, Steven Seagal and Paul Maslak.

Mr. Maslak says he did not start out to be a filmmaker. "I drifted into an opportunity by dumb luck (perhaps that's providence) and only then decided to give it a

try."

With a B.S. in business and public administration and a minor in journalism/English from the University of Maryland, he moved to California to be near his brother in the San Francisco area and began working in the manufacturing operations of an aerospace and computer electronics company. On the side, he wrote a theoretical book on martial arts, "Strategy in Unarmed Combat," analyzing the effectiveness of different fighting styles relative to physical stature, and freelanced magazine articles.

The book led to an offer to edit Inside Kung-Fu magazine on an after-hours basis, allowing Mr. Maslak to take a day job at Disney in San Francisco as a project planner on EPCOT and Tokyo Disneyland. During this period he met and interviewed many of Hong Kong's New Wave filmmakers, including Jackie Chan, as well as American filmmakers like film star Chuck Norris, director Hal Needham and screenwriters Joe Hyams and the late Sterling Silliphant.

He also set up a system of ratings for martial arts competition, which brought him a job as martial arts casting director when the Hong Kong producer who made Mr. Chan's first film decided to produce in the United States. Mr. Maslak helped cast Jean-Claude Van Damme's first theatrical film "No Retreat No Surrender."

With that experience, he began to work as a freelance story analyst, principally for HBO/Tri-Star Pictures. He started taking film school courses and screenwriting seminars, and audited acting classes. Using a few industry contacts, he began to find positions for friends from the martial arts world, a project that evolved into a management business.

Mr. Maslak joined forces with an established partner, Neva Friedenn. As managers, they developed screenplay projects for clients to help them get more work: they sold the story idea, a star or two and possibly the script at one fell swoop. Ultra-busy film executives were more likely to buy a story idea or a script when most of what they needed came in a package, saving them time and work.

His martial arts clients, who often had trouble with inexperienced independent directors who were unable to shoot a proper fight scene, asked him to show the directors a sensible approach. Using the knowledge he had picked up from director Yuen Kwai on "No Retreat No Surrender" and from interviews with other Hong Kong filmmakers, Mr. Maslak began teaching the directors about montage theory, camera

(Continued on page 19)



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## SPORTSLINE

(Continued from page 13)

• Oleksander Bilanenko of Ukraine won the men's individual 20-kilometer event at the European Championships, held from February 25 through March 2, in Forni Avoltri, Italy. The 25-year-old Ukrainian completed his run in 53 minutes and 12.1 seconds to take the victory.

Bilanenko left Hungary's Alexei Aidarov 25.4 seconds behind for the silver medal and Germany's Marco Morgenstern took the bronze medal, finishing 1 minute and 10.3 seconds behind Bilanenko. Ukraine's Ruslan Lysenko came in 15th place, 3 minutes and 16.6 seconds behind the gold medalist.

Bilanenko competed at the 2002 Winter Olympic Games in Salt Lake City where he finished 69th in the 20-kilometer individual event. Deryzemlia's best finish at the 2002 Winter Olympics also came in the men's 20-kilometer event where he finished in 27th place.

## Swimming

• Ukrainian Yana Klochkova won the 200-meter individual medley at a world cup meet in Berlin on January 27. Klochkova set a world cup record with her time of 2 minutes, 8.44 seconds. Gabrielle Rose of the United States took second place with a time of 2:11.30 and Canada's Elizabeth Warden took third place with her time of 2:11.37.

• Klochkova also won a gold medal in the 400-meter individual medley. Her time of 4:34.80 beat Japan's Maiko Fujino, who came in second with a time of 4:35.85, and Canada's Warden, who took the third spot with a time of 4:37.23.

• In the women's 200-meter butterfly Klochkova came in sixth behind gold medalist Yu Yang of China who finished the race in 2:04.90. Germany's Annika Mehlhorn took second place with a time of 2:05.98, and Australia's Felicity Galvez took third place with her time of 2:07.34. Klochkova finished the race in 2:08.04.

• Oleh Lysohor won the men's 50-meter breaststroke with a time of 26.59 seconds, beating Russia's Roman Sloudnov, who finished in second place with a time of 26.96. Great Britain's James Gibson took third place with a time of 27.17.

• Lysohor also took a bronze medal in the 100-meter breaststroke, finishing in 58.64 seconds. Russia's Sloudnov took first place with a time of 57.96, while Japan's Kosuke Kitajima took second place with a time of 58.56.

• Ukraine's Serhiy Fesenko took third place in the men's 400-meter freestyle event, losing to Russia's Yuri Prilukov, who took first place with a time of 3:41.87. Romania's Dragos Coman took second place with a time of 3:42.55.

## Ukraine's ambassador...

(Continued from page 1)

• The Ukraine has a "well-established track record of being responsive" to U.S. "policy priorities and specific requests on strategic issues," such as nuclear disarmament, non-proliferation, active participation in conflict resolutions, as in Kosovo, in combating terrorism and in rebuilding Afghanistan.

Asked about the absence of bilateral contacts at the highest levels, Ambassador Gryshchenko said that Ukraine, of course, would like to see them return, but not just for the sake of such visits or contacts themselves. They are important in pushing through new initiatives and as signals about the state of relations, he explained.









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## DVOU organization completes first humanitarian project in Donetsk

PHILADELPHIA – The Disabled and Vulnerable Orphans of Ukraine (DVOU) has completed its first humanitarian project to support severely mentally disabled orphans in Torez, in the Donetsk region of Ukraine. DVOU was able to execute its first task to help Torez's orphanage through a partnership with the Ukrainian charity organization Dobrota in the Donetsk city. The DVOU-Dobrota relationship was formed to assist the Donetsk region's orphanages for special-needs children through humanitarian aid, medical relief and children's rights advocacy.

Dobrota effectively assisted in project management, which included orphanage assessment, cost accounting, plus monitoring and control of the distribution of goods. DVOU contributed \$837 to the Torez orphanage, and more than \$300 was donated by Dobrota for a total of over \$1,100. Various items purchased with DVOU funds included food, medicines, clothing (diapers and hats) and miscellaneous items such as towels, lamps, switches, basins and plug sockets. Monetary contributions were used to locally purchase needed supplies for the Torez orphans, instead of buying and shipping items from the United States.

"In addition to supporting the special-needs orphans in Ukraine with donations, we feel that purchasing goods near the orphanage assists in stimulating the local economy," explain Lillian Horodysky, DVOU's executive director.

Greg Higgins of Newtown, Conn., an American Peace Corps volunteer working at Dobrota, was present at the con-

tract signing between Dobrota and the orphanage, ensuring the accuracy of the amount of purchased goods and its distribution. Mr. Higgins also assisted with supplies packaging at the warehouse in Donetsk, where the materials were organized and stored just before delivery.

Dobrota is a charity organization in Donetsk whose mission is to combat poverty through charitable social partnerships in the Donetsk community as a means for solving the most urgent social problems in the area. The foundation financially supports and aids local educational, health care and social protection institutions, in addition to public organizations for the sick, disabled, families with many children, needy families and individuals.

For more information on Dobrota and its activities, visit the website at [www.dobrota.donetsk.ua](http://www.dobrota.donetsk.ua) and click on Donetsk city charitable fund "Kindness" for the English version.

DVOU, a non-profit, 501(c)(3) organization located in Philadelphia, aims to identify and resolve critical issues and emerging areas of need in the lives of special-needs orphans suffering from HIV/AIDS, cerebral palsy, Down Syndrome, tuberculosis and other diseases. Services offered include humanitarian aid, health care, advocacy, education and training.

DVOU may be found online at [www.dvou.org](http://www.dvou.org). For more information, please write to: DVOU, 1245 Rhawn St.,

(Continued on page 25)

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# Dateline...

(Continued from page 15)

speed and angles, best lenses and specialty camera moves.

This activity was noticed by famed "King of the B's" director Roger Corman (the "entry" door to the film industry for more than 60 Academy Award winners), who invited Mr. Maslak to work with him as an associate producer and direct fight sequences. Other independent producers followed suit and Mr. Maslak eventually directed entire films. But the story's not over yet.

Deciding that his temperament was better suited to producing, Mr. Maslak and his partner released their management clients and formed a production company in 1994 to produce the HBO World Premiere Movie "Red Sun Rising." They have been producing films together ever since then.

Mr. Maslak's conclusion: "I found that my background in manufacturing production control provided a more practical understanding of how to run a film production than did a film-school only background for other producers."

Oh, yes, his Ukrainian background. He is the son of the late Samuel Maslak, a first-generation Ukrainian American and onetime senior manager at the U.S. Census Bureau in Suitland, Md. His mother, Mary L. Maslak, a retired realtor and homemaker who lives in Raleigh, N.C., is from a Pennsylvania Dutch family whose forebears, originating in southern Germany, came to America about 1710.

## Around town

• Opening the 45th annual Grammy Awards at Madison Square Garden with Gwen Stefani and No Doubt on February 23, aerialists Tatyana Petruk and four other members of New York's Team AntiGravity performed on ropes hung from the ceiling. The five women dropped down simultaneously in a fantastic plunge, amazing the audience. Ms. Petruk, who also performed at Pinky's pre-Grammy party, says the hardest part of the performance was having to wait nine minutes, suspended from the ceiling, before the start of the act.

Grammy producers selected the women of AntiGravity for the Madison Square Garden show after seeing their stunning poses in an eight-page photo editorial in the February issue of Shape Magazine. Ms. Petruk, who was pictured at the Grammy Awards in last week's People magazine, tells me she and the other girls spent a full day with photographer Richard Corman shooting the Shape Magazine spread.

• Gogol Bordello, the Gypsy punk band led by the gruff and extravagantly mustached Ukrainian singer, Eugene Hutz, performed its songs at Northsix in Brooklyn's Williamsburg section on February 28 and 29. Roaming the New York night club scene, the band translates Eastern European cabaret and works up to a frenetic oom-pah that's the makings of a rowdy party, says Jon Pareles in The New York Times.

• Mariana Sadovska, well known to New York's Ukrainian audiences as a collector and singer of varied and evocative Ukrainian folk songs, was in New York last month. In mid-February she and Israeli singer Victoria Hanna joined forces with Fringe Theater director Ruth Kanner to create a new work-in-process titled "Callings" at the Jewish Community Center in Manhattan. Ms. Sadovska appeared with musicians Anthony Coleman and Doug Wieselmann at the Club Europa in Brooklyn's Greenpoint section on February 28, reprising ancient music from Ukraine.

• Surrounded by photos and posters displayed in the "Renaissance of Kyiv" exhibition at the Ukrainian Institute of America, Prof. Taras Hunczak spoke to a large audience about Kyiv's historic past on February 23. In addition to a hearty buffet, the afternoon event included a surprise: a newly arrived video, sent to UIA president Walter Nazarewicz by Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko, showing the "Man of the Year" dinner, press conference and other events attended by the mayor when he visited New York in December. The exhibition, as well as the video, can be seen through the end of this month. Call (212) 228-8660 for information on viewing hours.

Helen Smindak's e-mail address is [HalinaSmindak@aol.com](mailto:HalinaSmindak@aol.com).

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# Give peace...

(Continued from page 7)

They argued against the embargo. Now they argue for more inspections – business as usual.

They fear U.S. success. They fear risking a shift to freedom and progress for the peoples of Iraq and possibly the entire Middle East. They cannot seem to imagine a Middle East without Yasir Arafat, without Hezbollah, without suicide bombers, without the Saudi royal

family showering money on Al Qaeda operatives living in the United States. They cannot imagine mosques that preach peace and love rather than jihad and hatred. They cannot imagine the world, speaking with one voice, telling Saddam to disarm, to get out of Iraq.

The French, Germans and Russians claim there is no smoking gun, no crater in New York City that can be tied directly to Saddam, and that no force of arms can be justified. However, in Iraq, the stock market is up, land prices are climbing

and the average citizen can imagine what a new future can bring. They cannot wait for U.S. liberation, for the end of European colonialism and Saddam's dictatorship.

A century ago Europe was on the path to the slaughter of World War I. Later, Europe tried to give peace a chance and they got Hitler. They backed their old allies and got Milosevich and Srebrenica. If it were not for the United States there is a good chance they would all speak Russian. By giving Saddam a way out, do we really give peace a chance, or do we sentence future generations to the task of dealing with terrorist regimes, dictators and nuclear catastrophe?

The threat of a U.S.-led war has pushed Saddam to make gestures of compliance. The lack of credible commitment by our "friends" has given him hope that gestures alone are sufficient. The French, Germans and Russians are hoping to further extend a deadline that passed over a decade ago. By denying the world the united voice needed to convince Saddam to disarm, they are forcing the U.S. toward war. Our soldiers stand prepared to make the ultimate sacrifice, while the French, Germans and Russians continue to pursue their own narrow self-interests.

When Libya ordered the destruction of a Pan Am airliner over Lockerbie, Scotland, the French denied U.S. planes overflight rights from bases in the United Kingdom. Libya was also a good customer of France. The French have repeatedly made it clear who their friends are. Their actions make peace less likely; they put our soldiers lives at risk.

Our soldiers deserve our support. It is time we each took personal action, made some small sacrifice. If in the end we speak with 280 million voices and wal-

lets, we will be heard. So here is what I will do and I urge you to commit to similar actions.

I will tell my friends, my family and my children that the hands of the French, the Germans and the Russians are stained with the blood of mankind and will soon be stained with the blood of our soldiers.

I will not purchase their products. I will not visit their countries. I will not buy a Volkswagen, BMW, or Mercedes. I am sure most of us will never buy a Renault and certainly not a Lada. I will not take that ski trip to Chamonix. The Paris museums have no signs in English and are not worth the effort. I will urge our friends not to return to Martinique.

By paying attention to what we buy we can all help our own local economy, ourselves and the future of our children. Look at the label. Buy a few less items, but spend a little more when it says "Made in America." Invest the rest. U.S. companies will then be able to afford more research and development. Your kid may one day have a job with them.

I will ask my congressman why drugs discovered and manufactured in this country should cost less outside of it? Should it not be the other way around? German and French consumers should pay a premium for these drugs, not get a discount. Their health care systems are built on the backs of our innovation and investment.

I wish the world was a different place and that our soldiers did not have to fight. But, if they fight, I want them to win 100-0. Those Iraqis who surrender should have an opportunity to rebuild an ancient and once-great nation. To those who believe in Saddam, I wish a speedy meeting with Allah.

When this is over we should never forget who our real friends were.



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## USCAK officers gather to plan general meeting

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEWARK, N.J. – Executive officers of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) met at the home of the Chornomorska Sitch sports club here on February 13 to plan USCAK's next general meeting.

Myron Stebelsky, president of USCAK, reported receiving 18 replies to his questionnaire about the planning of USCAK's general meeting, which had been sent to all Ukrainian sports and youth organizations in North America. Replies came from nine organizations and nine individual activists.

The clubs that responded were: Chernyk, Detroit; Chornomorska Sitch, Newark; Lviv, Cleveland; Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization; Poltava, Rochester, N.Y.; SUM-Krylati, Yonkers, N.Y.; Tryzub, Philadelphia; Ukraina, Montreal; Ukrainian Sports Club, New York.

In accordance with the preferences expressed by the majority of the respondents, it was decided to hold the general meeting of USCAK on Saturday, May 24 (during the Memorial Day Weekend), beginning at noon at the Ramada Hotel at 130 Route 10 West, East Hanover, NJ 07936. Detailed information will be mailed to all declared participants. Following the afternoon meeting, the program envisions a banquet in the evening, with a keynote address and entertainment. Irenaeus Isajiw, a vice-president of USCAK, is in charge of the evening program.

In preparation for the elections, a nominating committee was formed, chaired by Omelan Twardowsky, president of Sitch. The proposed committee members are Yaroslav Kozak (Tryzub), Dr. Volodymyr Hnatiuk (Chernyk), Mark Howansky (SUM-Krylati) and Roman Kucil (USC Rochester).

In addition, officers heard reports on the sports federation's latest activities. For the third time, USCAK has sponsored an international chess tournament in Lviv dedicated to the memory of Stepan Popel.

The bilingual book "USCAK and Sports in Ukraine," published in 2002, is being distributed free of charge to major libraries and sports organizations in Ukraine. In the U.S. it may be ordered for \$30 (shipping included) from USCAK, 680 Sanford Ave., Newark, NJ 07106.

### Position at The Ukrainian Museum Curatorial assistant/educator

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Please send cover letter, resumé and three professional references to: Maria Shust, Director, The Ukrainian Museum, 203 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003 • 212 228-0110  
E-mail: info@ukrainianmuseum.org

## Second "Ladies' Night Out" benefits Plast camp



A view of participants of the second "Ladies' Night Out" held at the Ramada Hotel in East Hanover, N.J.

by Sonia Slobodian Bokalo

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – For the second time, an informal fund-raising event now known as "Ladies Night Out" was held here at the Ramada Hotel. On January 17, 75 women of all age groups coming from across the tri-state area filled a comfortable room at what is affectionately called "The Hromada Inn." The goal of the evening was to socialize, network, catch up with old friends and generally enjoy oneself in an atmosphere of congeniality and camaraderie. A by-product of this event was \$1,800 raised for Plast Ukrainian Scouting

Organization's Vovcha Tropa camp.

The evening began with a cocktail hour during which the ladies had an opportunity to renew old friendships and establish new ones. Good humor was abundant as evidenced by the mirthful sounds emanating from the group. As dinner was served the conversations continued, interrupted only by a few words from the organizers of the evening and a 50-50 raffle, which was won by Ksenia Salewycz and generously donated to Vovcha Tropa.

The Ramada Hotel's General manager, Orest Fedash, paid attention to every detail,

ensuring that everyone present was comfortable and nothing impeded the enjoyment of the event. Even after the conclusion of dinner, no one was in a rush to leave and many attendees continued their conversations long into the evening.

It appears that Ladies Night Out is becoming a regular event, with proceeds going to well-deserving causes. As they were leaving, many women expressed their anticipation of the next "night out" and said they looked forward to receiving the e-mail message that would inform them of the next date and beneficiary of the evening.

### THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION ANNOUNCES THE 2003 ANNUAL DISTRICT MEETINGS

DISTRICT	ADDRESS	DATE	TIME	DISTRICT COMMITTEE
CENTRAL NEW JERSEY	St. Michael Church 1700 Brooks Blvd. Manville, NJ	3/15/03	1:00 PM	Michael Zacharko Ivan Kushnir Stefan Zacharko
CONNECTICUT	St. Michael UCC Hall 569 George St New Haven, CT	3/15/03	1:30 PM	Ihor E. Hayda Myron Kuzio Stephan Tarasiuk Taras Slevinsky
MONTREAL	Ukrainian Canadian Congress 3244 Beaubien E. Rsmt. Montreal, Quebec	3/15/03	2:00 PM	Tekla Moroz Alexandra Dolnycky Serguei Djoula
NEW YORK	"Selfreliance" Association 98 Second Ave. New York, NY	3/21/03	6:00 PM	Barbara Bachynsky Nadia Sawczuk Jurij Kostiw Motria Milanych John Choma Joseph Lesawyer Dr. Vasyl Luchkiv
PITTSBURGH	Ukrainian Club 2152 Sheffield Rd. Aliquippa, PA	3/22/03	noon	Nick Diakowsky Osyp Polatajko Slava Komichak Eli Matiash
ALBANY	Ukrainian American Citizen's Club 402 25th St. Watervliet, NY	3/29/03	2:00 PM	Nicholas Fil Walter Litynsky Walter Krywulych Paul Shewchuk Stephanie Hawryluk
ROCHESTER	St. Josaphat School 940 E. Ridge Rd Rochester, NY	3/29/03	1:30 PM	Christine Dziuba George Malachowsky Mary Sweryda Peter Dziuba
BALTIMORE	Holy Trinity Church 16631 New Hampshire Ave Silver Spring, MD	3/30/03	2:00 PM	Martha Lysko, First Vice-President Eugene Iwanciw, Second Vice-President Paul Fenchak Paul G. Fenchak
SYRACUSE	St. John Church 207 Tompkins St Syracuse, NY	3/30/03	2:30 PM	Dr. Ivan Hvozda Mykola Welych Mykola Krzywyy



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## Ukraine, Europe...

(Continued from page 6)

that considers itself to be "local" rather than citizens of Ukraine (or the USSR for that matter).

The leadership of Ukraine is very good at, among other things, creating perfectly useless bureaucratic structures. Last August, President Kuchma created a State Council on Questions of European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, which began "functioning" this January. Also in January, he created a National Center on Questions of the Euro-Atlantic Integration of Ukraine, which is headed by former national security adviser Volodymyr Horbulin, who does not have much else to do these days.

What Mr. Kuchma, the entire political

class and all of Ukraine's poets, artists and songwriters have not been able to create is a Ukrainian nation.

Europe has responded accordingly. The EU, in its recently published "General Report on the Activities of the European Union," states that in pursuit of something called the "New Neighbors Initiative" – the meaning of which no one can fully explain – it will take an "integrated and differentiated approach" to new neighbors like Ukraine, Belarus, and Moldova.

"Integrated and differentiated." I must admit that I am clueless as to what that might mean.

At this rate, it looks like, with a bit of help from France and Germany, Iraq could become a member of the EU before Ukraine.

## Ukraine begins...

(Continued from page 2)

President Leonid Kravchuk was in charge of Communist ideology and propaganda. Many of today's "political scientists," such as Vice Prime Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk, lectured on Marxism-Leninism in the Soviet era and wrote articles condemning the diaspora for raising events such as the 1932-1933 famine.

The CPU was banned in August 1991 and then a new CPU was allowed to register in October 1993. During the Verkhovna Rada hearings on the famine, CPU leader Petro Symonenko denied that the famine was artificial and blamed it on disastrous weather conditions, low harvests in 1931-1932, the pre-Soviet agricultural heritage and local mismanagement.

Socialist Party Chairman Moroz argued that Soviet Ukraine reunited Ukrainian territories and, in contrast to the tsarist regime, it at least recognized Ukrainians as a separate ethnic group. The Socialists blame Stalinism for crimes committed in Ukraine, not Soviet rule as such. This view is similar to that espoused by former Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev.

What has most held up Ukraine's investigation of Soviet crimes against humanity has been the centrist camp, which hails from the top levels of the pre-1991 CPU. In 1990-1991 the Communist Party began to split into "sovereign-national communists" and "imperial communists." In the 1990s sovereign-national communists evolved into centrist oligarchs who first appeared as political parties in the 1998 elections.

The attitude of centrists is the most confusing, as they, unlike national democrats, refuse to condemn the Soviet regime as a whole, perhaps understandably, as they are themselves a product of that regime. Since Mr. Kuchma faced Mr. Symonenko in the 1999 presidential elections and used the "Red Scare" to encourage Ukrainians to vote for him in order to thwart a Communist comeback, centrists have been comfortable attacking Soviet crimes

against humanity. In this, they hold similar views as the national democrats that the famine was a "genocide" on par with the Nazi Holocaust. During the Verkhovna Rada hearings, centrist and former Rada Chairman Ivan Pliusch blamed the "cruel and godless Bolshevik regime" for the famine.

At the same time, the center disagrees with the national democrats over whom to blame for Soviet crimes. Centrists blame Marxist-Leninist ideology and Stalinism – not Russians – for crimes, including the Famine. Both centrists and national democrats see the Famine as directed against Ukrainians.

The timing of the Verkhovna Rada hearings remains suspicious. On the one hand, President Kuchma undoubtedly wanted to deal with the issue early in the year, as it may cause difficulties with the Year of Russia in Ukraine. National democrats have already complained that the Year of Russia in Ukraine should not be held in the same year as the 70th anniversary of the Great Famine.

The hearings also took place a month before planned opposition protests. In his November 2002 decree, President Kuchma sought to inflame the already difficult relations between Our Ukraine and the Communist Party by putting them to yet another test. Our Ukraine has refused to join any joint opposition platform with the CPU and has only agreed to cooperate with the Socialists and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

A final factor is next year's presidential elections. With stable popularity ratings over the last three years of 25 to 30 percent, Mr. Yushchenko will inevitably advance to a second round. If he faces Mr. Symonenko, Ukraine would have a rerun of the 1999 elections, but this time pro-Kuchma centrists would be forced to rally behind a national democrat like Mr. Yushchenko. If Mr. Yushchenko faces a pro-Kuchma centrist, the CPU will back the centrist oligarch and thereby repeat its tactics of April 2001 when its members voted with the centrists to remove the Yushchenko government.

## Yushchenko slams...

(Continued from page 2)

in reference to Ms. Tymoshenko. Reportedly, 2 million copies of the letter were disseminated primarily by the state postal service, Ukrposhta, following an order from the Ukrainian Television Agency, a bogus body apparently devised for this action.

On February 20 the Verkhovna Rada passed a resolution urging the Procurator General's Office, the Security Service and the Internal Affairs Ministry to investigate who was behind the dissemination of this false letter. The next day, unidentified

people placed in a number of public places in Lviv posters depicting President Kuchma and Mr. Yushchenko in a scene known from Rembrandt's famous painting "The Return of the Prodigal Son." The inscription under the scene reads: "Bless me, father! Yushchenko asks Mr. Kuchma for permission to launch an anti-presidential revolution."

"The distribution of the posters is a subsequent attempt at discrediting Viktor Yushchenko," UNIAN quoted National Deputy Petro Oliinyk as saying. "Pro-government forces are proving by their actions that they have already begun a presidential race."



## Manor College's dean celebrates golden jubilee

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – Sister Marie Francis Walchonsky OSBM, dean of students at Manor College marked her golden jubilee as a Sister of St. Basil the Great on January 11.

Sister Francis was born in Centralia, Pa., and was a member of Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church there. She entered the Basilian Order in January 1953 and professed her vows in August 1958.

She received bachelor's and master's degrees in education from Villanova University and taught in Hamtramck, Mich., Auburn, N.Y., Philadelphia, and Parma, Ohio. Since 1985 she has served as the dean of students at Manor College. She also serves as a member of the Provincial Council of the Sisters of St. Basil.

As dean of students, Sister Francis supervises all aspects of student life at the college, specifically as the director of Campus Ministry, Health Services, the residence hall, security and Manor's on-campus Ukrainian Heritage Studies Center. She also oversees the director of counseling, the director of athletics, the coordinator of student life and the residence life coordinator.

"My whole life is dedicated to service to God and being a Sister of St. Basil the Great," said Sister Francis. "I truly enjoy being the dean of students at Manor College and the sharing and the fellowship associated with this position. The duties are sometimes endless, but also challenging, enlightening and invigorating."

The Sisters of St. Basil the Great are located throughout the world. They came to Fox Chase, Pa., in 1911 and for over 85 years have been doing missionary work and providing educational facilities for the neighboring communities.

## Yonkers church choir performs concert of religious music



The choir of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Yonkers, N.Y.

YONKERS, N.Y. – On Sunday, January 26, St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church Choir presented a concert of Christmas carols and religious music here in its hometown. It has been quite a few years since the choir has appeared in concert and a large part of the success is due to the enthusiastic support of the Rev. Philip Weiner, pastor at St. Michael's.

Conductor Adrian Bryttan prepared a varied program that spotlighted several soloists. The appreciative public was treated to many of the traditional melodies, as well as some more rarely heard carols. Dr.

Maria Kiciuk recited a traditional holiday greeting to the audience at the start. The 14 selections heard in church that afternoon included compositions by Stetsenko, Liudkevych and Barvinsky, along with the beloved carols "Silent Night" and "Away in a Manger" sung in Ukrainian translations.

Soprano Maria Oliarchyk sang the solo in the charming Lemko carol "Oy Zashly, Zashly" (Angels Came Down from Heaven) and also performed "Shcho za Predyvo" (What a Miracle). A heartfelt solo of Schubert's "Ave Maria" was contributed by alto Halyna Tytla. Bass baritone Bohdan

Balaban sang an expressive and powerful solo in the traditional "Ne Plach, Rachel" (Don't Cry, Rachel). Conductor Bryttan took up the violin to play his arrangement of "O Holy Night."

Every choir member worked hard and devoted many rehearsal hours towards this concert. They were warmly applauded by the audience, which included Prof. Victor DeLisa, director of the Lakeland Conservatory. The Rev. Wolodymyr Kucaj, the new assistant pastor at St. Michael's, greeted the choir members at the conclusion of the concert and encouraged more parishioners to join this ensemble.



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Black Sea Cruise	August 20, 2003	August 27, 2003	8	\$1200
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Stockholm	580	650	880
Copenhagen	590	660	890
Helsinki	600	670	900
Oslo	610	680	910
Reykjavik	620	690	920
London	630	700	930
Amster	640	710	940
Frankfurt	650	720	950
Paris	660	730	960
Brussels	670	740	970
Geneva	680	750	980
Zurich	690	760	990
Stockholm	700	770	1000
Copenhagen	710	780	1010
Helsinki	720	790	1020
Oslo	730	800	1030
Reykjavik	740	810	1040

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## DVOU organization...

(Continued from page 18)

Philadelphia, PA 19111, or call (215) 725-1003. U.S. contributions are tax-deductible.

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In related news, DVOU and the Toronto-based Ukrainian Cradle Adoption Agency (UCAA) announced their partnership to build awareness of poor conditions faced by institutionalized special-needs orphans in Ukraine.

With the lack of government funding, orphanage administrators and medical personnel find it increasingly difficult to support disabled and vulnerable orphans. Through understaffing, ignorance or disinterest, these children have very little contact with adults who can provide the stimulation they need for healthy development. Special-needs orphans are often left lying in their beds alone for long

periods of time, causing myriad physical, intellectual and emotional disturbances.

"Ultimately, they develop a combination of dysfunctions such as aggressive or passive behaviors, sensory disorders, attachment problems, learning disabilities or consequential invalidity, on top of their own special disability," commented Ms. Horodsky. "This is why we need to join forces and form one voice to build awareness of the plight of Ukrainian disabled and vulnerable orphans."

Ukrainian Cradle Adoption Agency, a licensed international adoption agency, is a non-profit corporation that assists Canadian parents in all aspects of their adoption process in Ukraine. Information about UCAA may be obtained online at <http://www3.sympatico.ca/soniak/ucaa.htm> or via telephone at (416) 622-7677. The UCAA's director is Sonia Kondrat.

The DVOU-UCAA partnership went into effect in December 2002.

## Oleh Nyzhankivsky...

(Continued from page 4)

he was summarily shot by the Polish authorities.

Oleh Nyzhankivsky's father, Nestor (1893-1940), was an avant-garde composer who received his doctoral degree in history from Vienna University and graduated from the Prague State Conservatory. He was a professor of music at the Lysenko Music Institute and active organizer of musical cultural life in Lviv. He died after falling ill during his flight from

Soviet-occupied Galicia.

Oleh Nyzhankivsky's mother, Melania Semaka, was a writer and journalist.

The oldest known forebear of the Nyzhankivskys was Andreas Nizankovius who was born in 1592 in Galicia. A Dominican, he was a student of the Italian organist Girolamo Frescobaldi, the most important keyboard composer of the period. An established organist in Rome and a virtuoso in his own right, he emerged as an alleged rival of Dietrich Buxtehude (c. 1637-1707), the greatest organ composer of the period preceding Bach.

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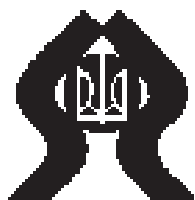
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# UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

## UKELODEON exclusive: Petro Pytaye interviews young fan

*UKELODEON* reporter Petro Pytaye recently caught up with concert-goer Petrus Chudolij, 8, and conducted the following interview to get his observations about a concert by pop singer Oksana Bilozir of Ukraine.

### Where was the concert held?

The concert was in Brooklyn, N.Y., at the Millennium Theater. My parents and I went by bus with other Ukrainians who were going to see her, too.

### What was the theater like?

It was big, nice, fit a lot of people, had comfortable seats and was a good place to perform.

### Why was it so special for you to see Oksana Bilozir?

It was so special to me because I've known her songs since I was young. This was very exciting to me.

### How did you get to know her songs?

My parents, mostly my Mama, would go to stores like Dnipro and buy Oksana Bilozir music. My parents play only Ukrainian music in the car and at home all the time. That's how I learned Oksana Bilozir songs by heart.

### Do you have any favorite songs?



*Petrus Chudolij (second from right) and other children on stage with pop singer Oksana Bilozir during her concert in Brooklyn.*

"Prolitaly Leleky," "Rospitayu Pro Libov," "Oy Zelene Zhyto, Zelene" (both versions) "Ukrainochka" and "Pshenychny" "Pereveslo" are my favorites.

### Was it just Oksana Bilozir on stage all the time?

No. She had a live band, stage dancers, lights and even a fog machine. It was awesome!

### Was Oksana Bilozir the only person singing all evening?

No. Another singer, a man, sang a

few songs. One song I really liked was "Adrianna." We have his CD now and we play it all the time. His name is Vitaly Sachok. He signed my CD just for me. That was cool!

### Did anything special happen at the concert?

Yes. At the end of the concert, Oksana Bilozir asked all of the children up onto the stage with her to sing and be with her. Then she gave out a little fuzzy gift to each of us. I even got to hold hands with

her a few times because I was in the middle of the stage right next to her. We all had a good time up there. I even started to clap and dance a little on stage.

Another very important man came up on stage and made speeches, too. His name was Viktor Yushchenko. He is a very important person for Ukraine right now because he wants Ukraine to be free from all bad things. He seemed to be a good man. Oksana Bilozir told us that he is a Kozak – just like me – so he must be good. He hugged me on his way back to his seat.

### How did all of this make you feel?

Very special and lucky.

### What was the best part of the concert?

The best part was when Oksana Bilozir came down from the stage and into the audience and stood next to me for a long time. She said hello to me, "Dobryi Vechir," and I just waved to her and smiled and thought to myself "Oh my God! This is the real Pani Oksana Bilozir! Not some picture. Not some tape or CD, but the real thing!" She is so beautiful and so talented, and so Ukrainian.

## Report from the scene: Valentine's Dance was excellent!

by Danylo Szpyhulsky

NEWARK, N.J. – St. John's Ukrainian Catholic School hosted a Valentine's Dance on February 22. Many children from the host school, as well as St. Nicholas School in Passaic, and other schools attended with their parents.

When you first entered the school gym, the first thing you noticed was the barrage of hearts. They were in many forms: heart-shaped balloons, hearts on the tables, and even a game

played by throwing heart-shaped rings onto an octopus' tentacles.

The DJs played all kinds of music, even the "Kolomyika." The food was also great. The volunteer chefs served a full course meal that was home-cooked and included borsch, chicken fingers, pasta, salad, dessert and more.

The selection for the raffle was amazing because they had 51 prizes. I managed to win the door prize, which was a bear that sings a song

called "The Valentine's Blues" as it plays on the guitar. In order to win I had to guess how many candy hearts were inside a glass tube. Thanks to my teachers who taught me to estimate, I guessed that there were 190 candies in the tube.

All my friends and I had a great time. Overall, the dance was excellent!

*Danylo Szpyhulsky is a seventh grader at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark, N.J.*



*Scenes of the Valentine's Dance held at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark, N.J.: dancing, games and activities, and friends.*



## Parish youths pay annual pre-Christmas visit to the needy



PARMA, Ohio – Members of St. Vladimir's Junior Ukrainian Orthodox League chapter in Parma, Ohio, together with guests and their clergy, gathered on the rectory grounds prior to departure to St. Herman's Monastery and House of Hospitality in Cleveland. For more than 10 years now, before Christmas the youth of the parish go to St. Herman's, where they volunteer to prepare meals and sing carols to the needy of the community of Greater Cleveland who use St. Herman's facilities.



## Troupe of dancers in the spotlight at Ansonia event

ANSONIA, Conn. – This group of young dancers was among the troupe of 25 young artists between the ages of 3 and 18 that performed at the "Schedryi Vechir" gathering held here at Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church on January 5. The evening included the traditional meatless meal, followed by a program that began with prayer and carols, and spotlighted Ukrainian folk dances. Seen (from left) are: Chrystyna Martyniuk, Taras Bidkovskiy, Sara German, Michael Klapyk, Kellie German and Miroslaw Klapyk.

## Mishanyna

M	A	R	C	H	E	R	T	O	M	A	N	T	A	H
O	R	Z	A	N	O	J	O	E	U	R	O	S	S	A
D	T	O	R	U	U	Z	Z	T	O	A	T	I	H	I
E	I	T	A	S	M	A	L	S	O	P	D	D	K	D
E	S	O	T	A	K	I	A	N	E	O	I	I	O	A
R	T	I	N	V	E	N	T	T	O	R	S	S	I	M
F	C	A	A	L	N	E	E	T	R	I	F	R	L	A
E	C	K	A	R	O	R	O	A	D	D	O	O	I	K
S	C	O	O	I	S	T	N	Y	R	O	M	Y	Y	Y
A	T	R	A	B	L	A	I	L	O	P	O	T	K	T
M	A	S	U	L	Z	A	P	O	V	I	T	I	Y	R
B	A	R	D	A	K	A	N	T	Y	L	Y	N	L	A
O	G	O	H	O	N	O	R	O	O	T	E	G	E	S
G	N	I	N	E	K	A	W	A	K	A	N	I	V	U
M	O	B	R	O	T	H	E	R	H	O	O	D	O	M

AWAKENING of his people.

Below is an outline highlighting Shevchenko's life and works.

Date of birth: MARCH 9, 1914

Birthplace: MORYNTSI, Kyiv region, Ukraine

Most famous collection of poetry: KOBZAR

Studied in: ST. PETERSBURG

Some of his most notable poems:

SON (Dream)

KAVKAZ (Caucasus)

VELYKYI LIOKH (The Great Dungeon)

TOPOLIA (The Poplar)

HAIDAMAKY (i.e., participants of popular uprisings of the 18th century who rebelled against Polish rule and serfdom)

ZAPOVIT (Testament)

Themes of his works:

FREEDOM

JUSTICE

HONOR

DIGNITY

BROTHERHOOD

Date of death: March 10, 1861

Final resting place: KANIV, Ukraine

To solve this month's Mishanyna, find the words capitalized in the text and outline below.

During the month of March the Ukrainian community traditionally honors Taras Shevchenko, our nation's greatest POET, and an extremely talented ARTIST, who was born a SERF. In fact, Shevchenko is known as the national BARD of Ukraine in recognition of his key role in the national

**OUR NEXT ISSUE:** UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated April 13, please send in your materials by April 4. Write to: UKELODEON, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

The next issue of The Ukrainian Weekly's

# Wedding Announcements

will appear on March 23, 2003.

**For a wedding announcement to be included in that issue, all information must be received in our offices by March 14, 2003.**

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

### Rates for announcements and greetings:

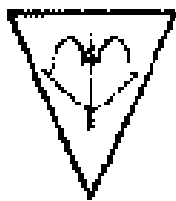
One-column wedding announcement: \$100

Two-column wedding announcement: \$200

Wedding greeting: \$75

For further information or to request a brochure, please call (973) 292-9800, ext. 3040 (Maria).

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



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- Дитина мусить мати закінчених 4 роки життя до 31-го серпня 2003 р. Виянтоків немає.
- Дитина мусить мати усі приписані щеплення.
- Дитина, яка склала Заяву Вступу до новацтва, не може брати участі в таборах для пташат.

Табір відбудеться на СОЮЗІВЦІ у двох групах:  
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Mrs. Oksana Komanowsky, 544 Quail Ct., Blue Bell, PA 19422.  
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- Реченець зголошень: Перша група: 24 березня 2003 р.  
Друга група: 31 березня 2003 р.
- Число учасників обмежене.

### КАРТА ЗГОЛОШЕННЯ НА ТАБІР ПТАШАТ- 2003

Ім'я і прізвище дитини .....

по-українськи і по-англійськи

Дата народження .....

Адреса.....

Телефон.....

від 22 до 29 червня 2003 р.  від 29 червня до 6 липня 2003 р.

Величина таборової сорочки дитини:  6-8,  10-12,  14-16.

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Завваги.....

Підпис батька або матері

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Saturday, March 15

**WASHINGTON:** The Washington branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization is sponsoring an ice skating party at the Wheaton Regional Ice Arena, 11717 Orebaugh Ave., Wheaton, Md., at 2-3:30 p.m. Admission is free; rental skates will be available at \$3 plus tax. Directions are available at <http://www.mc-mncppc.org/parks/facilities/skate.shtml>.

**CLEVELAND:** MN2 Productions presents the Slava Modern Dance Company in an evening of dance choreographed by its founder and artistic director, Natalie M. Kapeluck. This newly formed company of professional dancers will perform two concerts, at 2 p.m. and 8 p.m., at Cleveland Public Theater's Mainstage Theater. Tickets: general admission, \$15; students and seniors, \$12. Tickets may be reserved by calling (216) 749-0060 or by sending an e-mail to [mn2productions@yahoo.com](mailto:mn2productions@yahoo.com). Joining the Slava Modern Dance Company will be special guest performers MorrisonDance.

### Monday, March 17

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture by Ihor Zhuk, director and curator of the "Leopolis Project" at Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, and Fulbright Visiting Scholar at HURI, on the topic "The Ukrainian Painter Oleksa Novakivskyi (1872-1935): Putting an Artist in His Place – on the Internet." The lecture will take place at 4-6 p.m. in the institute's Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave. For additional infor-

mation and directions check the HURI website, [www.huri.harvard.edu](http://www.huri.harvard.edu), or call the institute, (617) 495-4053.

### Saturday, March 22

**BUFFALO, N.Y.:** The Buffalo Chapter of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund presents a benefit concert featuring bandurist Julian Kytasty in concert at the Albright-Knox Art Gallery, 1185 Elmwood Ave. Gallery tour, reception and concert: \$75; concert only, \$20. The pre-concert tour and reception will begin at 4 p.m.; the concert starts at 6 p.m. For ticket reservations call (716) 886-5881.

### ADVANCE NOTICE

#### April 4-6

**SLOATSBURG, N.Y.:** The League of Ukrainian Catholics (LUC) is sponsoring an annual retreat during Lent for Catholics in Connecticut, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and surrounding areas. Open to all Catholics, the weekend of prayer, reflection and fellowship in spiritual preparation for Easter will be held at St. Mary's Villa Retreat Center of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate. The theme of the retreat is "To Be a Witness of Christ Today," with the Rev. Valerian M. Michlik, administrator of St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in Pittsburgh, as the retreat father. A fee of \$110 will cover the cost of room Friday-Sunday, and meals on Saturday and Sunday. For additional information and/or reservations contact Marion C. Hrubec, 400 Dewey Ave., Saddle Brook, NJ 07663-5902. The reservation deadline is March 28.

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

Listings of no more than 100 words (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent a week prior to desired date of publication to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510.

## Attention Debutante Ball Organizers!

As in the past two years, The Ukrainian Weekly is planning to publish a special section devoted to the Ukrainian community's 2003 debutantes in its March 30 issue. The deadline for submission of materials – photos and stories – is March 17.

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