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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ombudswoman reports to Verkhovna Rada on the millions of Ukrainians who work abroad

by Jan Maksymiuk

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

PRAGUE – Ukrainian ombudswoman Nina Karpachova on April 2 reported to the Verkhovna Rada that the problem of illegal migration of Ukrainians in search of work and earnings has become of “state importance.” She stressed that Ukrainians abroad belong to “the most-discriminated-against and least-protected category” of citizens. Ms. Karpachova noted that, according to various estimates, between 2 million and 7 million Ukrainians are working abroad, as a result of poverty and unemployment in Ukraine. She said she believes that no fewer than 5 million Ukrainians – or one in five employable citizens – may work seasonally abroad, and almost all of them illegally.

Official data about Ukrainians abroad exist only with regard to those citizens who work there legally, under official contracts. Thus, according to the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy, 20,000 Ukrainians worked temporarily abroad in 2002, primarily in Greece, Cyprus, Liberia and Great Britain. At the same time, the Foreign Affairs Ministry estimated that from 1 million to 3 million worked in Russia, 300,000 in Poland, 200,000 to 500,000 in Italy, 200,000 in the Czech Republic, 150,000 in Portugal, 100,000 in Spain, 35,000 in Turkey, and 20,000 in the United States.

Ms. Karpachova said that, according to official data, 27 percent of Ukrainians live below the poverty line. The most difficult economic situation is in the Zakarpattia Oblast, where 47 percent of people live below the poverty line, as well as in Crimea and the Khmelnytskyi, Kherson, Mykolaiv, Volyn and Luhansk regions (32 to 37 percent below the poverty line).

According to the International Labor Organization, unemployment in Ukraine in 2002 stood at 11 percent of the employable population, which translates into 2.5 million jobless people. Ms. Karpachova cited the Ministry of Labor and Social Policy as saying that the number of unemployed Ukrainians may now exceed 3 million people.

Furthermore, Ms. Karpachova said the labor migration, along with the decreasing birth and increasing mortality rates within the country, deteriorates Ukraine’s demographic situation. According to estimates by Ukrainian experts, if the current demographic trends are not reversed, Ukraine’s population may decrease to 42 million in 2026.

The ombudswoman noted that the labor migration also has positive consequences, including an inflow of hard currency which not only improves the economic situation of particular families but also boosts the Ukrainian economy in

general. She said Ukrainians abroad earn nearly \$400 million per month, adding that most of this sum is transferred to Ukraine, although it is not known how much is sent through the banking system and how much is carried in pockets by people returning home.

Ms. Karpachova also told lawmakers that, since most Ukrainians work abroad illegally and avoid contacts with Ukrainian consular missions, the Ukrainian state has only limited possibilities to help its citizens protect their civil and human rights. According to Ms. Karpachova, the most common discrimination against Ukrainians abroad refers to their labor conditions – they are often forced to work 10 to 18 hours per day and are poorly paid or even not paid at all.

The ombudswoman reported that 10,000 Ukrainian citizens currently are under arrest abroad and another 2,500 are serving their terms in foreign prisons. She also reported that 23,620 Ukrainians have been deported in the past two years, primarily from Turkey, Hungary, Poland, Slovakia and Italy.

Ukraine to open Embassy in Australia

ESSENDON, Australia – Ukraine will strengthen diplomatic ties with Australia and will open an Embassy of Ukraine in Canberra, reported the Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations.

Chargé d’Affaires Oleksander Mischenko was to arrive from Ukraine in Canberra on April 9 to make the necessary arrangements for the opening of the Embassy.

By establishing the Embassy, Ukraine has confirmed the importance it places on Australia-Ukraine relations and the region. Potential bilateral business, as well as commercial, education and cultural activities, are very much on the agenda.

The Australian Federation of Ukrainian Organizations (AFUO) noted in a press release dated April 8 that it welcomes this major step by Ukraine in increasing its presence in Australia. It also looks forward to promoting enhanced relations between Australia and Ukraine.

“By opening its Embassy, Ukraine is sending a clear signal that there is potential for greater economic benefits,” Stefan Romaniw, chairman of the AFUO said.

“The Ukrainian community in Australia is a model community. It has integrated well, it has promoted Australian Ukrainian relations. It now takes pride in the fact that Ukraine’s diplomatic presence in Australia will be

Ukrainian cameraman for Reuters killed in Baghdad by U.S. tank fire

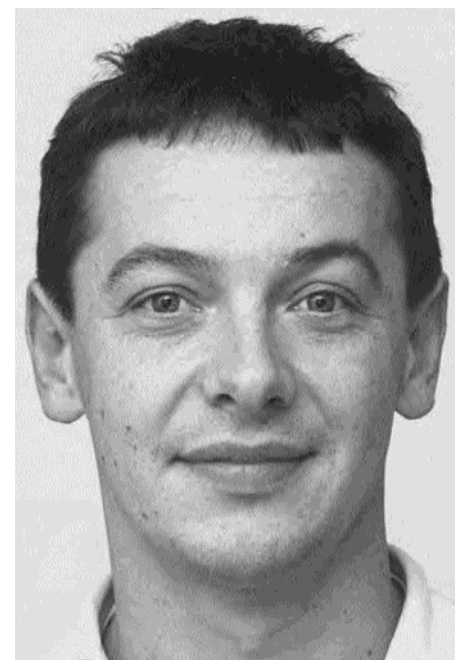
by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Taras Protsyuk, a cameraman for the Reuters news agency and one of the few internationally respected Ukrainian journalists, died in Baghdad on April 8 when a U.S. tank fired on the 15th floor of the hotel from which the cameraman was filming the events taking place on the street below.

Mr. Protsyuk, 35, a happy-go-lucky personality who, according to his colleagues, was always quick with a smile and a comment, perished after a 120 mm round fired from a U.S. M1A1 Abrams tank that was patrolling the area hit the Reuters office in the Palestine Hotel. The hotel was the base for a majority of international journalists covering the conflict in the Iraqi capital city.

José Cuoso of Telecinco Spanish Television also died as a result of the shell attack on the hotel. Four other foreign journalists were injured, none seriously. Mr. Protsyuk was the 12th journalist to die in the three-week conflict being waged by an international coalition led



Taras Protsyuk

by the United States and Great Britain in Iraq against the regime of President Saddam Hussein.

A U.S. military spokesperson for the Central Command in Qatar said that while the U.S. regretted any casualties, it could not guarantee the safety of journalists because Baghdad was a war zone. In the first days of the conflict, U.S. military officials had warned international journalists to leave Baghdad.

The U.S. official also maintained that the tank had been fired upon first, but journalists who watched the events unfold said they did not remember hearing shots until the tank opened fire and that in aiming its 120 mm cannon the armored vehicle seemed to know exactly what its intended target was.

One French reporter accused the tank commander of retribution against journalists who were reporting negative news on the U.S. advance into Iraq and Baghdad. Carolina Cinz told Euronews that she believed the tank had not erred.

“This shot was intentional,” claimed an excited Ms. Cinz speaking before cameras. “The Americans shot right at the hotel. It was all recorded on tape.”

Reporters Without Borders called the act “a war crime,” while the International Media Association demanded a full investigation, as did the Spanish government.

Mr. Protsyuk was not a novice to battle zones. He had his first experience with war in Chechnya in 1993. Since then he had covered conflicts in Kosovo and Afghanistan, before this last, fatal assignment.

Reuters’ Kyiv Bureau originally hired Mr. Protsyuk in 1991. Since 1999 he had worked out of its Warsaw Bureau.

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ANALYSIS

Ukraine's authorities step up the struggle against crime and corruption – or do they?

by **Taras Kuzio**

RFE/RL Organized Crime and Terrorism Watch

On February 6 Leonid Kuchma had issued a presidential decree titled "On Urgent Measures to Strengthen the Fight Against Organized Crime and Corruption." The official reasoning for such a decree was organized crime and corruption continued to do damage to "citizens"; it "undermined the international prestige of Ukraine"; and there are "serious shortcomings" in law enforcement.

Why now? A reading of the decree would suggest four reasons.

First, Ukraine was placed on the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) blacklist last December for preparing anti-money-laundering legislation that was adopted only after international pressure and then deemed to be inadequate.

Second, Ukraine's international image has taken a nose-dive since the Kolchuha scandal broke out in September, when the United States accused Ukraine of supplying military equipment to Iraq.

Third, this newfound concern for the rights of "citizens" is part of the strategy of "glasnost" in the presidential administration, begun in August, to increase the transparency of the executive and deal with public concerns (e.g., social problems, crime, corruption, etc.).

Finally, there are the approaching presidential elections in October 2004. The ruling oligarchic class in Ukraine, allied with President Kuchma, who ends his second term next year, has been totally discredited domestically as a consequence of the "Kuchmagate" crisis that began in November. Such decrees aimed at corruption and organized crime represent an attempt to improve the public image of the executive and its allies ahead of the 2004

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

Is capital outflow a portent of change?

by **Dr. Viktor Stepanenko**

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Back in February, National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Serhii Tyhypko said \$2.27 billion was taken in illegal flows of capital out of Ukraine in 2002, \$898 million in 2001, and "only" \$385 million in 2000. This massive capital outflow from Ukraine abroad during 2000-2002 was half as much as the amount of direct investment into the Ukrainian economy over this period.

The progressive increase in the flight of capital from Ukraine abroad is a clear indication of the chronic illness of the Ukrainian economy, approximately half of which, according to experts' estimates, is operating in the "shadow," that is, outside legal regulation. The economic reasons for this situation are well-known. Ukraine's deformed tax system imposes harsh tax burdens on legal and effective businesses, while simultaneously offering tax breaks to business clans that are loyal to the authorities and close to the Ukrainian political elite. Ukraine also possesses one of the highest ratings on the world corrup-

Dr. Viktor Stepanenko is a senior research fellow at the Institute of Sociology, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and director of the Center for Public Policy Development.

elections.

The first point of the decree deems the work of the Directorates on Organized Crime and Corruption (UBOZ) within the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Security Service of Ukraine to be "inadequate and ineffective." This was because they had "failed to ensure the execution to the fullest extent of the tasks entrusted to it." Such a conclusion is perhaps unsurprising, as critics accuse both the ministry and the Security Service of being more involved in actually promoting organized crime and corruption than in combating them.

Arms trafficking and the money laundering of large sums from energy deals have been commonplace in Ukraine. The new decree outlines "special attention" to counteract organized crime – which controls businesses; the fuel, energy and agro-industrial complexes; and the financial and banking spheres.

It is difficult to see how the decree can be effective when Ihor Bakai, the former head of Naftohaz, Ukraine's main gas importer, said as far back as the fall of 1998 that "all rich people in Ukraine made their money on Russian gas." The oligarchic Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU), headed by the chief of the presidential administration, Viktor Medvedchuk, controls seven oblast electricity distributors where corruption is rife.

According to Anders Aslund, based at the Carnegie Endowment, the total "energy rents" (i.e., funds earned from insider energy trading due to links with the state) was in the range of \$4 billion, or 13 percent of Ukraine's gross domestic product. These funds were only returned to the budget in 2000-2001 under reformist Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, who used these funds to pay off wage and pension arrears.

Such corruption in the fuel-energy sector was ignored by the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Security Service of Ukraine, and

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tion index; consequently, foreign investors are reluctant to work more actively in the country.

These factors account for the flight of capital from the country, but they do not explain all the reasons for the progressive dynamics of this trend.

The flight of capital also is characteristic of the unstable political situation found within the country, and it indicates mass distrust on the part of Ukrainians, including businessmen, toward the state, including such important financial institutions as banks.

According to an annual representative poll conducted in the spring of 2002 among 1,800 respondents by the National Academy of Sciences Institute of Sociology, only some 9 percent of respondents said they trust Ukrainian banks. The painful memories of a massive loss of savings in the former USSR, the unsavory experience with financial pyramids that were legalized in 1993 by Leonid Kuchma (then prime minister), and the bankruptcy of Ukraina, one of the country's largest banks, have all added to citizens' pessimism and their distrust of the banking system.

However, the main factor of political instability that seems to have also stimulated the flight of capital from Ukraine

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NEWSBRIEFS

Canada concerned about agro-sector

KYIV – Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine Andrew Robinson said in Kyiv on April 3 that his country is concerned about the situation in Ukraine's agriculture sector, including the grain market, and by the arrest of former Vice Prime Minister for Agricultural Reform Leonid Kozachenko, Interfax reported on April 4. The ambassador said Ukrainian agricultural reforms make it an engine of economic growth in the country, adding that small and medium-sized agribusinesses have been boosted by a free market absent of heavy state intervention. "I know that former Vice Prime Minister Kozachenko was one of the main defenders of the reform policy in agriculture," Ambassador Robinson said. Meanwhile, Mr. Kozachenko's lawyer, Ihor Usenko, told journalists on April 7 that the Procurator General's Office recently charged Mr. Kozachenko with accepting a bribe in 2000, in addition to earlier charges of tax evasion and abuse of office. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yanukovych urges direct trade with Greece

ATHENS – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych met with his Greek counterpart, Konstandinos Simitis, and Greek businessmen in Athens on April 8, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Yanukovych said after the meetings that Ukraine must overcome negative trends and cut out intermediaries in trade with Greece. "There have been some unhealthy relations recently ... In some cases, Ukrainian products are supplied to Greece via offshore zones, and the Ukrainian economy does not benefit from such operations," Interfax quoted Mr. Yanukovych as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Cabinet upbeat on economic growth

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada's Economic Policy Committee on April 8 endorsed a government action plan and will recommend that the legislature approve it, UNIAN reported, quoting First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov. The plan aims for economic growth of 5 to 6 percent in 2003 and 8 percent in 2004. It also calls for raising the minimum monthly wage gradually to reach the subsistence minimum of 342 hrv (\$64) in early 2007. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President appoints new minister

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has appointed Ivan Tkalenko as minister for ties with the Verkhovna Rada, Interfax reported on April 8, quoting presidential

spokeswoman Olena Hromnytska. Mr. Kuchma created this post last month. Mr. Tkalenko was a national deputy of the Ukraine's Regions caucus in the preceding Parliament. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Government urged to raise pensions

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on April 7 instructed the government to increase pensions in Ukraine, UNIAN reported. Speaking at a meeting with regional executive leaders in Kyiv, Mr. Kuchma said such an increase should be based on a "real economic foundation." The State Statistics Committee reported the same day that Ukraine's industrial output in the first three months of 2003 grew by 10.7 percent from last year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian NBC battalion deployed

KYIV – The airlifting of a Ukrainian anti-nuclear, -biological and -chemical (NBC) battalion to Kuwait has been completed, UNIAN reported on April 7. A total of 448 troops and 125 pieces of military equipment were transferred to Kuwait, the news agency reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Bogus posters target Yushchenko

KYIV – The UNIAN news service reported on April 7 that sham posters and leaflets apparently intended to discredit Our Ukraine head Viktor Yushchenko have appeared in Rivne, northwestern Ukraine, and the Vasylykiv Raion of Kyiv Oblast. The posters in Rivne depict Mr. Yushchenko with President Leonid Kuchma at a rally and bear the inscription: "Look, father, the fascists are coming." The leaflets in Kyiv Oblast are in the form of Mr. Yushchenko's open letters to voters, in which he purportedly pledges to distribute land among private farmers after he becomes president. "The mass scale of similar actions and the audacity with which they are conducted, as well as the lack of any positive results in investigating [who was responsible for] them, testify to the fact that this is being done with the knowledge of the authorities," National Deputy Serhii Oleksiuk of the Our Ukraine bloc commented. In mid-February unidentified people and/or institutions disseminated in several Ukrainian regions a bogus letter "signed" by Mr. Yushchenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Probe into journalist's death is ended

KYIV – Prosecutors in Kyiv said on

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Former U.S. envoy to Ukraine sees 2004 elections as pivotal

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – William Green Miller, who was the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine from 1993 to 1998, hopes to see momentous political, economic and societal changes in Ukraine in the near future – provided the democratic forces headed by Viktor Yushchenko can dislodge the “party of power” in the 2004 presidential election.

And if the results of last year’s parliamentary elections, recent polls and the present mood of the electorate provide any indication, the former prime minister is in a strong position to do just that.

Ambassador Miller, now a senior policy scholar at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars, spoke about next year’s election during a discussion of the possibilities of democratic reform in Ukraine at the Kennan Institute here on March 31.

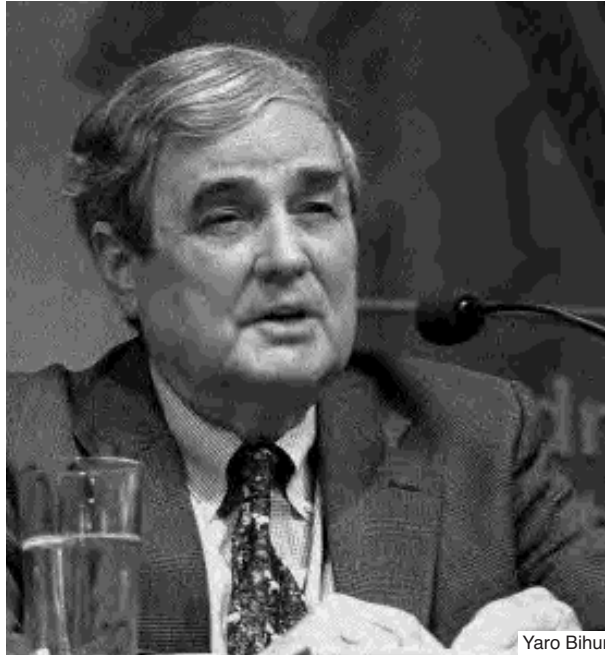
He said he expects the oligarch-based “party of power” will try to undercut Mr. Yushchenko’s popularity and viability as the leading candidate by spreading rumors and disinformation, applying government pressure and harassing his supporters, denying him access to the mass media and using various other means used in past elections. But Ambassador Miller said he doubts it will work this time and suggested that it is in the interest of the West to be concerned and vigilant about how this plays out.

“This is a very critically important election for democratic governance in the former Soviet Union,” he stressed. “It could be a disaster, but it seems to me that the path of building towards a democratic society is the more likely one, and we should do everything we can as friends of Ukraine — and certainly as governments — to assist in assuring that the election will be as open, transparent, free and fair as possible.”

Mr. Miller says there was a “sea change” in Ukraine’s political life in the 2002 election to the Verkhovna Rada, in which the opposition coalition received a majority of the popular vote. And despite the coalition’s failure to win control of the Rada — because it was disorganized in the face of some very adept pressure tactics by the “party of power” — the changes at the electoral grass roots cannot be denied, he said.

“Most astute Ukrainian politicians recognize that popular sentiment has changed profoundly, and that the 2004 presidential elections will be the first elections in which the people as a whole will vote for what they think best serves their own interests,” he said.

Mr. Miller noted that in previous presidential elections, Leonid Kravchuk and then Leonid Kuchma were elected — even though their own political parties never



Ambassador William Green Miller speaks at the Kennan Institute in Washington.

got more than 6 percent of the vote — because the electorate at large saw them as the best guarantors of Ukraine’s sovereignty and independence, the priority considerations at that time.

This enabled their oligarch-based parties to take over the government from the previously almighty and now disarmed Communist Party and preside over the privatization of the country’s resources, ensuring that the lion’s share went to the few in power in what became something less than an equitable and truly democratic society.

The public saw what was happening, Ambassador Miller said, but until recently it went along, accepting the old dictum, “We have what we have,” popularized by President Kravchuk.

The West — the United States, Europe and the international financial institutions — were not innocent bystanders in this process; they let it get out of hand, he said.

“They didn’t think through how Ukraine’s Soviet structures could be transformed into a democratic society. The whole idea of privatization seemed to be driven by ‘de-Sovietization,’ a desire to dismantle the Soviet system and a belief that a free market would result in democratic government,” Ambassador Miller said.

“That has proven not to be the case, and it has had tragic consequences,” he continued. “There has been a

great skewing of the economy and the social demography of the economy. It is not a broadly based economic society. It could have been. It is not.”

There is widespread corruption, and the people recognize it. “They can smell it,” he said. “They know who is corrupt, and they see it affecting their lives.”

Ambassador Miller said the resulting sense of injustice and the growing power of electoral freedom are now key and have become the driving force in the political arena today.

Until now, the political structures were strong enough to maintain power despite any dissatisfaction and opposition. But in the coming 2004 presidential election, he said, with no one even close to Viktor Yushchenko in popularity, the earlier levels of machinations used by the party in power will not suffice.

The electorate remembers that Prime Minister Yushchenko’s government “was the only one that delivered,” paying workers’ back wages and pensions. If Mr. Yushchenko can convince them that he can once again deliver what they seek, he will win in 2004, Mr. Miller stated.

It is still not clear what kind of society is now emerging in Ukraine and what kind of political economy will evolve there, the former ambassador to Ukraine said. Until now, in the national debate such issues were considered “theoretical” and kept at the bottom of the political agenda. Only now are they coming to the fore, he commented.

Mr. Yushchenko’s Our Ukraine coalition is well positioned to take Ukraine in a new direction, Mr. Miller said.

“I think it’s a healthy coalition; it’s broadly based; it really does extend throughout the spectrum of social thinking, economic thought and political thought.” At times, it includes the Communists and, on the other end of the spectrum, the entrepreneurs and even some oligarchs, he added.

“I think it can work because I saw it work in 1996. The debate and the conclusion of the Constitution was proof that very, very different ideas about how society should be organized and governed were bridged by a document that for Ukrainians is an important understanding of what they think is possible,” he said. “I think what’s been missing has been a leadership that believes in the Constitution.”

Ambassador Miller said he expects to see a unified democratic party coalescing after the 2004 victory in the presidential election, and it will be formed not only from the top-down but from the grass-roots level up as well. Then, for the first time, he said, Ukraine will have leaders who believe in the “noble aspirations” enshrined in the 1996 Constitution of Ukraine.

Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership to manage FARM

Vasyl Pawlowsky

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – The Canadian government announced on March 18 that it would fund a five-year agricultural reform project in Ukraine through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA).

CIDA will contribute \$6 million (Canadian) to establish the Facility for Agricultural Reform and Modernization, or FARM, the largest agricultural development project that the Canadian government has undertaken in Ukraine.

Ray D. Pagthagan, minister of veterans affairs and secretary of state (science, research and development), made the announcement on behalf of Minister of International Development Susan Whelan. Mr. Pagthagan, a member of Parliament for Winnipeg North-St. Paul, is seen as a parliamentarian friendly to the Ukrainian community. He has supported numerous issues that relate to the Ukrainian community in Canada.

The \$6 million that Ukraine will receive has been allocated to a Manitoba-Saskatchewan-Alberta government partnership in order to improve agricultural development in Ukraine. In addition, the Saskatchewan Trade and Export Partnership, STEP, has contributed \$100,000, while the provincial partnership is to contribute \$3 million. Together

Ukraine will receive \$9.1 (Canadian) million for agricultural reforms.

STEP has been chosen to manage the five-year FARM program. The Weekly spoke to Guy Innes, the director of international projects for STEP, regarding this new program. Although STEP is a relatively new organization formed in 1996, Mr. Innes underscored that Saskatchewan has a long history of working with Ukraine. “In fact, the first international agreement was signed between the government of Saskatchewan and Ukraine back in 1988,” said Mr. Innes.

STEP has really been involved in only one major project in Ukraine, the Canada/Ukraine Beef and Forage Development Project, which had a budget of \$5 million and wrapped up last year. In fact the technologies and know-how brought to Ukraine by STEP are very suited for Ukraine due to a number of geographic factors, which include similarity of soil types, climate and the success of technologies used under those conditions that can be implemented in certain regions of Ukraine.

Mr. Innes said that the program would be focused in four oblasts: Rivne, Volyn, Dnipropetrovsk and Sumy. “Though this doesn’t mean that all Ukrainian farmers will not have the opportunity to benefit,” Mr. Innes added. “The program has two

components, both a proactive one and a reactive one,” he continued, explaining that the proactive component is based on three pillars: development of civil society, agricultural development and the development of extension services.

“It is through the extension services that all Ukrainian farmers will gain, as the extension services will not only partner Canadian know-how with the farmers, but also the know-how and research being done at the academic level in Ukraine, as well as the use of new technologies,” he said.

“The reactive component allows all farmers, private agricultural companies, or organizations to participate,” noted Mr. Innes. He explained that there would be grant money available for the Ukrainian side. However, the criteria to obtain these funds is not only transparent, but a grading system for all the projects that are submitted. In addition, these projects would be undertaken in partnership with Canadian organizations.

“The most important aspect of a grantee receiving a grant to conduct their project, is that they have to show that there will be multiple beneficiaries,” said Mr. Innes.

With a number of organizations in the diaspora having experienced cases where results of the monies provided for various projects and the results of these projects to be undeterminable, or unknown, The

Weekly asked Mr. Innes about the management of such a long-term project where so much money is involved. “All of our projects at all levels will be managed by the principle of Results-Based Management, where every activity has to have a result,” he said. He explained that doing a seminar or workshop does not cut the criteria for something that is fundable under such management principles, as you have to clearly see the results of an activity that is being undertaken.

With the Canadian contribution totaling about \$9.1 million over the duration of the project, “We cannot underestimate the actual size of this project, as there is also of substantial amount being contributed from the Ukrainian side as well,” emphasized Mr. Innes.

Mr. Innes said all the monies going into the project have a ripple effect, and clear benefits and practicality. “Agriculture is very important to Ukraine, and if more farmers benefit, it can not only be good for Ukraine, but for Canada as well,” added Mr. Innes. “Last year alone, Canada exported nearly \$10 million worth of agricultural machinery to Ukraine.”

Clearly, as the agricultural market develops, the investment of technical assistance to Ukraine could not only prove to be a good thing for Ukraine, but also for Canada.

Kyiv-Halych Metropolitanate's hierarchs meet at synod in Lviv

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

LVIV – The 18th Session of the Synod of Bishops of the Kyiv and Halych Metropolitanate of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) was held in Lviv on March 18-19. Among the participants were 12 Ukrainian hierarchs, the members of the synod, and Archbishop Ivan Martyniak, metropolitan of Przemyśl and Warsaw, Poland.

The Kyiv and Halych Metropolitanate covers all the territory of Ukraine except for the Zakarpattia region, which has its own separate Greek-Catholic jurisdiction.

Participants of the session discussed various organizational problems of the metropolitanate's hierarchical bodies and the synod, as well as a number of pastoral issues. They also considered possible ways for proper commemoration of

the Year of the Family, proclaimed by the head of the UGCC in early January 2003. They gave corresponding instructions concerning "The Procedure of Preparation for Marriage" and other Church documents and religious practices. In addition, all priests of the metropolitanate were advised to emphasize the importance of joint prayer in families.

Observances of the 70th anniversary of the Soviet-imposed Famine-Genocide in Ukraine in 1932-1933, the publication of a pastoral letter on economic reforms in Ukraine, and commemorations of the 700th anniversary of the establishment of the Kyiv and Halych Metropolitanate and of the 750th anniversary of the coronation of King Danylo of Halych were also discussed during the session.

The next session of the Metropolitanate's Synod is planned for June 12-13 in Lviv.

Leading journalist Oleksander Kryvenko, 39, killed in car accident outside Kyiv

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine lost one of its most creative and dynamic journalists on April 9, when Oleksander Kryvenko, founder and editor of unique broadcast, radio and print media outlets, including the Lviv newspaper Post-Postup and the Kyiv magazine Polityka i Kultura, died in an automobile accident just outside Kyiv.

President Leonid Kuchma issued a statement of condolence and called Mr. Kryvenko's contributions to Ukrainian journalism "difficult to overestimate."

At the time of his death, Mr. Kryvenko was the founding director of Hromadske Radio (Ukrainian Public Radio) and president of the citizens' group Khartia-4. He was also a leading figure in the attempt to form an independent journalists' union, a member of the opposition group Za Pravdu (For the Truth), vice-president of the Association of Ukrainian Writers and director of the Polish-Ukrainian journalist club Bez Uperedzhen.

Mr. Kryvenko, 39, died instantly after the Volkswagen Golf in which he was traveling left the Kyiv-Chernihiv highway at a slight swerve in the pavement and hit a tree, one of many that line both sides of the four-lane highway as it broadens into a boulevard near the village of Skybyn. State militia said there was no evidence that the driver of the car attempted to stop his vehicle. The car, which was traveling at more than 65 miles per hour when it collided with the tree, hit with such force that it sent the engine into the car's passenger compartment.

State militia reported that they had stopped the driver of the vehicle for speeding just 15 to 20 minutes prior to the collision. Investigators did not state whether there was evidence that either of the passengers had been drinking. They said a criminal investigation would take place and blood tests and autopsies would be performed.

Investigators are pursuing the theory that either a mechanical problem caused the car to malfunction or the driver of the vehicle may have fallen ill or asleep at the wheel. The driver, Gizo Grdelidze, projects director in Ukraine for the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and a diplomat with the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, also died instantly.

The death of Mr. Kryvenko is the third major loss for Ukrainian journalism since the beginning of the year and follows by a single day the death of one of Ukraine's most prominent cameramen, Taras Protsyuk. Mr. Protsyuk died in Baghdad, where he was covering the war for the Reuters news agency after a U.S. tank fired a 120 mm round at the news agency's 15th floor room at the Palestine Hotel – the place where Mr. Protsyuk was filming at the time. (See story on page 1.)

On January 18, Ukrainian journalism had lost Serhii Naboka. Mr. Naboka was considered one of the first journalists to practice the new, post-Soviet style of journalism that Mr. Kryvenko made popular. At Mr. Naboka's funeral Mr. Kryvenko had called him "my professional father."

Many journalists considered Mr. Kryvenko the leading figure of the "new school" of Ukrainian journalism that arose with the end of the Soviet Union. While adopting Western standards of balanced reporting and openness, it added irony and a specific type of sardonic wit to stories of new government policies in the post-Soviet era and the awkward attempts by former Communist apparatchiks to paint themselves in democrat-



Oleksander Kryvenko

ic, free-market colors.

Mr. Kryvenko was born in 1963 in Lviv, where he graduated from Ivan Franko State University in 1987 with a degree in philology. After working in the university's Ukrainian literature department, he organized the Lev Society and began to dabble in politics as a member of the democratic and human rights organizations Memorial and Rukh. He was a delegate to Rukh's founding convention.

In 1989 he organized and became editor-in-chief of Postup, a daily that became one of the first popular newspapers that ascribed to an independent, Western style of reporting, but with a heavy dose of sharp wit, biting irony and satire. After leaving the newspaper to work for other publications, he returned to head the newspaper in 1992, which was renamed Post-Postup.

In 1995 he became news director of the television news program "Vikna," on the ICTV station, which was developed with U.S. private investments, and then news director of the "Windows on the World" program, financed by the International Media Center.

A stint as a member of the press service of the Cabinet of Ministers in 1996-1997 was followed by his promotion as an aide in the government of Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko and as a member of the political council of the National Democratic Party.

Mr. Kryvenko left politics in February 1998 when he was hired as news director of Studio 1+1, at the time the most popular Ukrainian television station. He ended his association with the station in June 1999 after editorial policy disagreements over how to cover the presidential elections that were then heating up.

In March 1999 he had already taken on the job of publishing a new Ukrainian magazine, Polityka i Kultura, (Politics and Culture) which was packaged similarly to U.S. newsmagazines like Newsweek and Time, but with a deft hint of the wit and irony of his original Postup newspaper.

However, Mr. Kryvenko quickly moved on again, this time to radio and what would be his final project, when he established Hromadske Radio in February 2002. He had said he wanted to make his Ukrainian Public Radio as influential a media force as National Public Radio is in the United States.

Mr. Kryvenko's burial was scheduled to take place on April 12 at the historic Lychakiv Cemetery in his hometown of Lviv. He is survived by his wife, Maria, and four daughters, 17-year-old Oksana and 12-year-old triplets Solomia Vasylyna, Anastasia Maria and Orysia Domna.

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NEWS AND VIEWS: A quiet little genocide for Ukraine, or time for action?

by Nestor Scherbey

This may seem a strange question to ask at a time when Ukrainian periodicals carry stories about memorials being erected to commemorate the genocidal Terror-Famine in Ukraine of the 1930s. Nevertheless, I am forced to ask some troubling questions when reading excerpts from an address by Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Heorhii Buiko, as reported by the BBC Monitoring Service in English on March 19.

According to Mr. Buiko, about 100,000 Ukrainian women have been sold as sex slaves abroad in the past few years. He is reported to have said that Ukraine is Europe's third top supplier of this "live commodity" and that some 7 million Ukrainian nationals have gone abroad to earn money about 2 million of them being women aged under 30.

A recent report has indicated that the population of Ukraine has dropped below 48 million and is expected to drop further if the severe shortage of jobs continues. A United Nations estimate reportedly states that the population of Ukraine could drop another 10 million to 15 million.

If these catastrophic statistics prove to be accurate, it is clear that Ukraine as a nation state stands to lose as much population during peacetime as it did in the 20th century Famine-Genocide and in losses in both world wars. Despite the fact that people are not being starved to death, shot, bombed or forcibly deported at gunpoint, the continued refusal of Ukraine's political elite to carry out needed and long overdue legal, tax and economic reforms that would stimulate rapid development of a robust economy, along with promotion of large-scale foreign investment in Ukraine, is having the same effect. It can fairly be said that Ukrainians are "economic deportees" from their homeland.

Nestor Scherbey is president of CTRMS, Ltd., a Grand Rapids, Mich.-based global trade and international compliance support services firm. He is a licensed U.S. customs broker who served as director of Global Trade Operations for the Amway Corp., where he was responsible for start-ups of new markets in over 30 countries in Asia, Europe and the Americas by launching new export operations and establishing importing subsidiaries. His firm's website is at www.ctrms.com.

He is a native of Detroit, where he was active in the Ukrainian community by leading human rights defense activities when Ukraine was part of the USSR and in helping to establish the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Warren, Mich. Mr. Scherbey was also an active member of and held various leadership positions in TUSM, SUM and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

All this, at a time when Ukraine's neighbors in Russia, Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic, Slovakia and the Baltic countries have already carried out much more significant reforms that have allowed their economies to prosper and experience growth much sooner than in Ukraine.

It is true that very significant improvements have occurred in Ukraine over the last two years as the reforms enacted thus far have taken hold. Nevertheless, a significant acceleration of such changes is needed to stem the outflow of population and disastrous social consequences that have occurred. With attraction of significant foreign investment and development of world-class export industries, the Ukrainian population could find decent jobs in their own country and the resulting improvements in the economic and investment climate might succeed in causing a significant number of the Ukrainians in economic "exile" abroad to be able to return home to mend their broken families.

The word "genocide" may seem to some to be too strong to use in discussion of these topics, were it not for a recent image from Kyiv that continues to haunt me. In the course of my work as an international business executive and, now, as a global customs and international trade advisor, I have had the opportunity to work in over 40 countries in Asia, Europe and the Americas. Last summer I finally had the opportunity to spend two weeks in Kyiv researching importation costs, logistics, product regulatory issues and various other topics needed for a U.S. multinational direct-selling firm seeking to enter the Ukrainian market through imports of mainly U.S. products.

On a beautiful sunny weekend in Kyiv last August, I enjoyed strolling the Khreschatyk and indulging my photography hobby. I reveled in the terrific changes that had occurred in the capital since my last visit in 1993 and felt that the vibrant city had finally come alive and had exceeded the charms of Prague, Budapest and other Central European cities I had explored in previous years. Hundreds of Kyivites and tourists were out on the streets and strolled in the squares or sat at outdoor cafes listening to music broadcast from outdoor speakers.

Suddenly, I noticed a very lovely if somewhat thin young lady that I guessed to be in her late 20s seated outdoors on the stone steps across from the monument at Independence Square. She stood out from the crowds because of the hopelessly forlorn expression of grief on her face that contrasted with the happy crowds in the square.

As I looked closer, it became obvious that she had been sobbing and wiping tears from her face. The sheer depth of her grief arrested my attention and caused me to simply stop and helplessly stare at her for a while. As I tried to make up my mind as to whether to approach her and ask what was wrong, a passing group of people obscured her from view and, when they passed, I saw her rise, sigh and walk away.

When she did so I noticed a pattern of dark spots or blotches on her scalp at her hairline that I have heard is symptomatic of AIDS. I have never quite been able to shake the vision of that grief-stricken girl in Kyiv and wonder if she had not been a victim abroad of the sex slave trade that has now come home to die.

If we consider the possibility that she may represent some as yet unknown number of the estimated 100,000 or more of the 2 million Ukrainian women abroad as reported by Deputy Buiko, plus the fact that another report claims that 19 percent of Ukrainian youths between the ages of 15 and 29 are infected with HIV, then I believe that use of the word "genocide" may not be too strong or misplaced in this context.

What can anyone do about it? Numerous governmental and non-governmental organizations are making efforts to combat the trafficking of Ukrainian and East European women and to help those who are repatriated.

A horrific article in the United Kingdom's Observer (February 23) by John Gibb details the work of the International Organization for Migration (IOM) that operates a refuge for women in Moldova who have been trafficked abroad. It also relates the problems that exist with official efforts.

Mr. Gibb relates a story told by Fred Larsson, operational director of IOM in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova. It seems that nine months ago an Anti-Trafficking Unit of the Ministry of Internal Affairs in Kyiv had sent a request via Interpol to a police headquarters in England seeking information about a language school in southern England that Ukrainian police believed was a cover for organized criminals dealing in vice and child prostitution. No reply was ever received by the Ukrainian police. This example is simply one of many that cause Ukrainians to understandably feel that their women are victims of crimes legitimized by the indifference of the countries to which the women are trafficked.

While the Ukrainian diaspora in various countries must continue to try to do what it can to foster and stimulate economic reform and economic development in Ukraine by various means, it is not powerless in taking direct action with respect to the trafficking of Ukrainian women in countries where the diaspora and its institutions are found. Nor does the diaspora require anyone's permission to do so.

Recalling that our diaspora was once very capable of organizing strong human rights defense committees in the past, when Ukraine was a politically subjugated nation, a similar effort could and should be undertaken today to fight the "quiet little genocide" practiced against Ukraine's women and youth.

National Rescue Committees could be formed in each diaspora country that consist of volunteer attorneys, physicians, psychologists, social workers, immigration specialists, emergency responders and others who can directly provide assistance and essential services to these victims, once they are identified and helped with an escape from their situation.

(Continued on page 17)

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY PRESS FUND: A SPECIAL REPORT

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... AND A SPECIAL THANK-YOU

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A huge thank-you to our many contributors for this wonderful response to our book!

Please note: The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund is the only fund dedicated exclusively to supporting the work of this publication.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Cleaning up the agricultural sector

We will not know whether Leonid Kozachenko is actually guilty of the charges of extortion, bribery, tax evasion or grand theft that have been leveled by Ukraine's Procurator General's Office until a Ukrainian court rules. Even then it may not be all that clear what the former vice prime minister may or may not have done, given the lack of transparency in many of the proceedings of the country's judicial system.

At the moment, however, the case of Mr. Kozachenko, who was vice prime minister of agricultural policy in the government of ex-Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh from June 2001 to November 2002, has produced one immediate positive tendency: it has begun to pry the lid off of a shadowy, non-transparent grain market to reveal the corrupt practices that still abound in Ukraine's agricultural sector – even after reforms had distanced the state from the sector somewhat. Now the threat is that the state may be unable to resist the temptation to stick its fingers back in.

Mr. Kozachenko is accused of selling grain for export to foreign dealers at prices below those established in official intra-government agreements, while presumably taking kickbacks for doing so. He is also being blamed for allowing the haphazard approach to grain harvest reporting by government officials in Ukraine's oblasts. Some reports have suggested that every oblast over-reported its 2002 harvest, with the southern regions of Dnipropetrovsk, Zaporizhia and the Crimean Autonomous Republic inflating their figures by several hundred percent.

An extensive investigation by the Procurator General's Office, which was ordered by President Leonid Kuchma following price increases for bread after unexpected reports in February of grain shortages, resulted in 90 separate criminal investigations.

Now the Ukrainian government is re-examining the situation in the agricultural sector after prematurely trumpeting the successes of what effectively had been only limited reforms. While the state certainly freed the sector to develop on its own, it failed to stimulate the creation of needed market instruments, including a commodities market. It also failed to ensure that greedy government officials kept their fingers out of the lucrative grain trading pie. Now the time may be ripe to complete the changes.

The country's Anti-Monopoly Committee has initiated a study of the grain, flour and bread markets, to include all 27 of Ukraine's regions. It will determine whether a few market traders had colluded to develop a monopoly on grain exports that led to the current situation. Preliminary findings of that investigation are expected by May 1.

President Kuchma has continued to remain interested in the situation as well, and that is good. However, his decision to assert more state control over the agricultural sector is a knee-jerk response that could merely hinder the development of honest and open markets. Mr. Kuchma is wrong in deciding that the state must get a firmer grip on the grain market by "forming regional reserves of grain to control prices and cover grain deficits in the regions" – a move Mr. Kuchma ordered via presidential decree on April 7.

While the government and the state need to continue to peer over the agricultural sector's still none-too-developed shoulders to maintain oversight of the grain market, it is better that they do so while keeping their hands off market mechanisms as much as possible.

If Mr. Kuchma has learned anything while heading the Ukrainian ship of state for almost a decade, it should be that, when the state stays out of the private sector, positive changes occur. To see continued improvement in the agricultural sector – surely one of the most important for Ukraine's future welfare – our advice to Mr. Kuchma is to keep the government's eyes on the situation, but its hands off.

April
14
1996

Turning the pages back...

Back on April 14, 1996, The Weekly carried a feature article about Melanne Verveer, the Ukrainian American deputy assistant to the U.S. president and deputy chief of staff to the first lady, who had just delivered personal reflections and a slide presentation on the historic May 11-12, 1995, visit of Bill and Hillary Rodham Clinton to Ukraine – the first time a U.S. president had been welcomed in Kyiv on a state visit to independent Ukraine.

Ms. Verveer told the audience gathered for her presentation at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark, N.J., that tens of thousands of people – 40,000 according to police estimates – turned out to welcome the presidential entourage; near the Shevchenko Monument, the crowd chanted "Clinton, Clinton."

Ms. Verveer began her recap of the state visit by noting, "I felt privileged to be on the first state visit by an American president to Ukraine." On a personal level, she added, visiting Kyiv "felt as though I were going home." She pointed to such highlights of the Kyiv visit as the first ladies' tea, a breakfast for women involved in Ukraine's newly emerging civic associations, a visit to the Babyn Yar memorial, commemorations of the 50th anniversary of the end of World War II, and a visit to a maternity clinic that was part of a joint program with the University of Pennsylvania.

The "most extraordinary moment," she said, was at Shevchenko State University, where Mr. Clinton received an honorary doctorate. "The students' reaction to this young president was exuberant," she noted, showing a slide of a multitude of young hands reaching out to touch the U.S. president's outstretched hand.

Ms. Verveer also observed that the Clintons took an off-the-record tour, as she put it, of Kyiv, visiting St. Andrew's Sobor and the Monastery of the Caves. The crowds lining the streets as the presidential entourage made its way through Kyiv were 10 to 15 people deep, she recalled. To close her presentation, Ms. Verveer showed a shot of students holding flags. "The sight of the American flag next to the Ukrainian flag," she emphasized, "is a symbol of the new reality" of the U.S.-Ukraine partnership.

Source: "Clinton administration staffer shares impressions of state visit to Ukraine," by Roma Hadzewycz, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, Vol. LXIV, No. 15, April 14, 1996.

EASTER PASTORAL LETTER

The Risen Christ brings hope of achieving His "new life"

To the Clergy, Religious and Beloved Faithful of the Eparchy of Stamford:

The peace and joy of the Risen Savior be with you! Christ is Risen!

My dear brothers and sisters in the Risen Lord:

On the first Easter morn the sorrowing women come to anoint the body of Jesus and are greeted with the astonishing words of the angel: "Why do you search for the Living One among the dead? He is not here. He has been raised up" (Luke 24:5-6).

What marvelous "good news." The confidence of Jesus in His Father is rewarded with the ecstatic conquest of Easter. Easter is a time of great joy. Christ, our hope, is risen! Imagine the joy of the apostles, the women, the disciples, and of Mary, His Mother. All of them ready to go around the world singing His glory and announcing His message of redemption and salvation.

We are the children of God. Today this victory is ours if we embrace with faith the Easter event – Jesus risen from the dead for you and for me. Henceforth, we will be people who are "eastered" through life. In the Risen Jesus, God comes into our lives. He shapes our destiny. He cares for us, loves us, heals us, strengthens us, walks with us on our pilgrim way.

The challenge of Easter is to decide whether we want to live in the Risen Christ or not. The life and joy and peace of Easter are ours for the asking. Let us ask God today to move us to accept the Easter message into our hearts. Let us ask Him to make us Easter people – people who are God-centered, people who follow Jesus, people who serve the Church.

We need this celebration now more

than ever because we need to concentrate on the values, the faith and the truth that Easter reveals to us. We need to know them, be convinced of them and live by them. We should not allow the trials and challenges of this life destroy our hope in the life guaranteed to us by the Easter Good News.

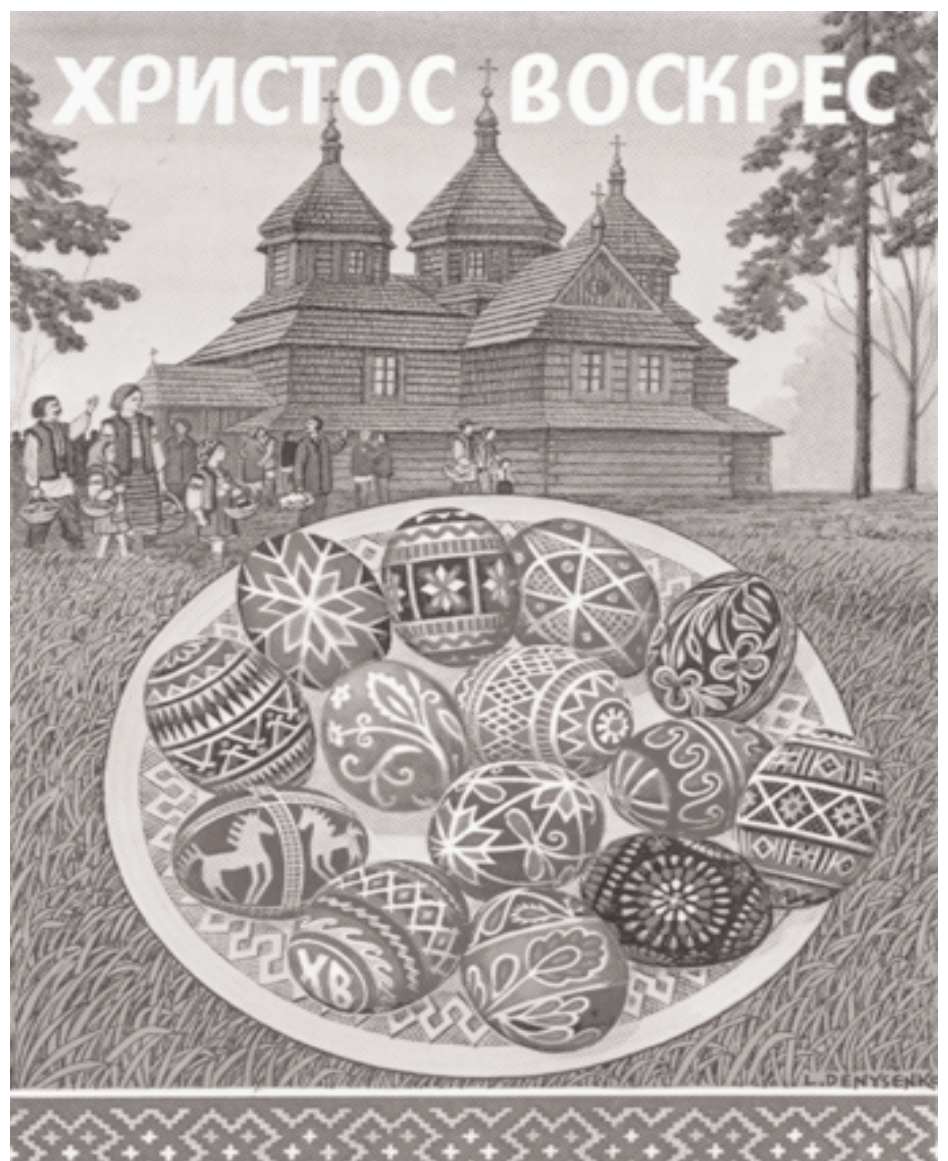
While we struggle to make this world respond to God's expectation for it in justice and peace, and while we struggle to banish oppression, hunger, disease and war from the face of the earth, we must always nourish, through prayer and service to others, the hope we have through the Risen Christ for achieving His "new life" (Cor 1,15:15). This is hope in the true and real promise of the Gospel, the possession of everlasting life in joy and peace with God. Let us ask the Lord to make us peacemakers in our homes and in our society.

Let us ask Him to make us true Christians who live the Gospel, who love the poor and care for the needy. Let us be people whose primary purpose is to build up the Kingdom of God, which is "justice, law and peace," so that the true meaning of Easter will be realized in the lives of humankind. On this Easter Sunday the Risen Lord says to each of us, "Peace be with you" (John 20:29). May we know and cherish that peace and love in its vision every day of our lives.

Truly He Is Risen!

Joyfully in Christ,
The Most Rev. Basil H. Losten, D.D.
Bishop of Stamford
(New York and New England)

Given on March 24, 2003, Feast of the Annunciation, St. Vladimir Cathedral, Stamford.



An Easter card designed by L. Denysenko.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Missionary work or proselytizing?

Dear Editor:

The article "Cardinal Lubomyr Husar describes changes in the life of formerly clandestine Church" by Alexandra Hawryluk (March 18) includes information about the mission of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine today.

One of the missions of the Church, as stated by Archbishop Major Lubomyr is "...to bring Christ to those brothers and sisters who are distant from God." The cardinal says he does not want to convert people belonging to other Churches, but according to him "... there are a lot of people, approximately 40 to 45 percent of the population of Ukraine, who are living without God. They need to be encouraged to embrace a life based on Christian principles."

Most of the mission-oriented Churches in the West also believe that about half of the population of Ukraine live without God despite the fact that there is reliable statistical data on the religious situation in Ukraine that tell a different story.

In 2000 the Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Studies (UCEPS), with the organizational and financial assistance of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Ukraine, conducted an extensive sociological survey about the confessional and religious situation in Ukraine. For the first time such a survey was conducted in all of the country's regions. The collected statistical data and analysis were published in the Ukrainian and English editions of National Security and Defense, the official publication of the UCEPS, No.10. The publication of this magazine was limited – only 1,500 copies, most of which were distributed to the members of the Parliament, government officials, as well as professors and students of religious and secular educational establishments in Ukraine.

In the chapter "Faith and Religion in the Life of the Ukrainians," data are given on self-identification of Ukraine's population with regard to faith and religion. These data are given in percentages. Below, these percentages are converted into numbers using the approximate population of Ukraine as 50 million.

The results of the survey are as follows:

- 58 percent of the population, or 29 million, consider themselves to be "believers";

- 23 percent, or 11.5 million, are "hesitant between belief and disbelief";

- 12 percent, or 6 million, are "non-believers";

- 3 percent – or 1.5 million each, either are "indifferent to faith and religion" or are "staunch atheists";

- 1 percent, or 0.5 million people, found it "hard to say" anything about their beliefs.

One of the surprises of this survey was that the religious persecution and anti-religious propaganda in the Soviet Union were not as successful as originally feared. Despite the aggressive atheistic pressure of the Soviet regime, over 85 percent of the population of Ukraine, or 42.5 million, has been "initiated" into one or another religion.

Of those who were "initiated" into religion, 88 percent, or 37.4 million, were baptized in accordance with Orthodox canons; 9 percent, or 3.8 million, were baptized into the Greek-Catholic Church; 0.4 million each, into the Roman Catholic and Protestant

Churches: 0.3 million were "initiated" into Islam; and 0.1 million into Judaism.

The above data indicate that it is incorrect to state that 40 to 45 percent of the population of Ukraine "live without God." Only about 15 to 19 percent of the people are indifferent to religion, are non-believers or atheists. It cannot be considered that those who are "hesitant between belief and disbelief," "live without God." Like most of us, they are seeking God.

The position of Cardinal Husar "to bring Christ to those who are distant from God" is welcomed, providing the missionary work of Greek-Catholic Church would be directed toward those 15 percent to 19 percent of the people of Ukraine who were never initiated into any religion or lost their faith.

But if the missionary work of any Church would be directed toward 40 percent to 45 percent of the people of Ukraine, it would be an attempt to proselytize their own religion among the people – the majority of whom were baptized into the Orthodox faith.

Michael Heretz
Rutherford, N.J.

Editorial recalls another reflection

Dear Editor:

Your editorial and reflection "A check-up for our community" (March 30) reminded me of a similar reflection, "On Giving Thanks" published in the first (spring 1996) issue of the Newsletter of the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in the nation's capital.

I was seeking a central idea or theme that would keep us Ukrainians together, active and enjoying our common heritage. I found it in the idea of Thanksgiving to God and country, an idea that entwines our ethnic heritage with our American heritage, one that is as much American as Ukrainian. Deacon Theophil Staruch wrote a sequel in the 1997 spring Newsletter.

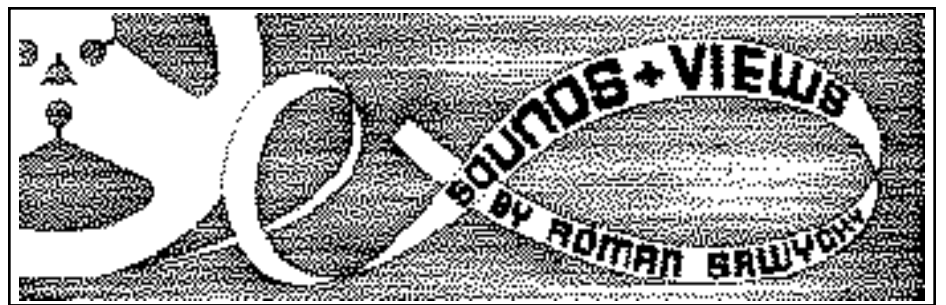
The 2002 Summit of Ukrainian American Organizations was an excellent idea. We at the National Shrine joined in and had our own booth at the summit. Why not think of it as an "Annual Summit and an Ecumenical Day of Gratitude and Thanksgiving to God and Country," a celebration of the fact that our forbears had the opportunity to come to and be welcomed in America? That included sharing in America's opportunities, freedom and democracy, while continuing to enjoy our ethnic values and heritage as well as helping the motherland.

This idea very much needs to have a national expression of that gratitude and thanksgiving that also reflects the growing entwining of our Ukrainian heritage with our American heritage and culture. It should be a live and living symbol of thanksgiving and entwining within the American setting and culture. The Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, seen in the ecumenical sense, is a candidate for such symbolic expression.

I am a regular subscriber to The Ukrainian Weekly. It is a first-class newspaper by any standard and is itself a great symbol of the entwining of our Ukrainian and American heritages.

John Fedkiw
Bethesda, Md.

The letter-writer is the current editor of the UCN Shrine Newsletter.



"Don't step on my fingers, please!"

In memory of lexicographer Anatole Wovk, who would have composed this closer to the truth.

This exploratory article is not about threatened fingers of musicians, but of a cherished language, stepped upon and not allowed to develop in a free society.

The Ukrainian language is sometimes called "a peacock among crows" – descriptive and colorful, melodious and gentle. It is certainly rich in dialects, lends itself naturally to famed folk and professional poetry and, like Italian, is sung with ease.

But has it fully developed after centuries of harassment? Is it up-to-date in most semantics of technology, civilization or in the basic daily conversation of today's America?

Because they knew little English, such questions were seldom asked by Ukrainian émigrés a half-century ago, but my own generation is better disposed to make evaluations in comparative vocabulary. While not a linguist, this writer invites such professionals to voice their ideas of language "sounds and views."

Perhaps similar situations now exist in the Polish or Slovak languages. Everyday living brings up words that seem to be missing in Ukrainian: pets, party, nerd, appointment, stapler – all difficult to translate simply, in one word. But "lipka" has become accepted to mean Scotch tape, while the words slang, racket, business, summit (political) and sex have simply been transliterated into Cyrillic. The word "casual" may become "sporty" in Ukrainian conversation (an approximation), "fun" is more exuberant than simple "priyemnist" (pleasure) and "frustration" denotes a more potent and pervasive feeling than "rozstroyennia," given by some dictionaries.

German for "date" (social engagement) is "Verabredung," but "pobachennia" does not transmit the exact meaning of "date," and the slang-word "rantka" cannot be applied to a date at the grand opera.

What about strong feelings, like "exciting," "thrilling" and their numerous synonyms? How does one express these exactly, succinctly and without overlong adjectives? Let's see, "you seem excited" could go as "Ty vyhliadayesh zbudzhenyi," but, then, how does one say "you're an exciting fellow" or "that was a thrilling movie" or "I was flabbergasted by Sylvester Stallone"? By the way, in contemporary Ukrainian and Russian film distribution, imported tapes starring Stallone or Schwarzenegger are classified in Cyrillic simply as "tryler" (thriller), and this label is now being used also for books.

The objective, then, is to find (create, chisel) an acceptable and easily understood word rather than fumble with cumbersome descriptions. And the accepted word should be idiomatic to the language, easily and naturally introduced into new linguistic "currency." Some advances have been made here: babysitter works as "nianka," a nerd cowers like a "niunka," while "lipka," already mentioned, has firmly stuck to most Scotch tape brands. Other companies like 3M or the numerous products used daily at the post office are waiting their turn. Among other areas

is insurance. But "strakhovka" or "strakhuvannia," widely used in Ukraine, may startle Ukrainian Americans.

Very much a part of modern life is stress, distinct from the more general and far older concept of tension ("napruha" or "tysk"). The word stress just like air-conditioner is just transliterated in Ukraine. "Drugs" cover a wide area of substances and include prescriptions ("liky") as well as narcotics; the exact equivalent for the all-encompassing "drugs" may not be found. Consider the pitfalls of such a common problem as post-nasal drip, expressed in idiomatic Ukrainian.

The changing times can be viewed with a smile when one remembers an aging translation of the guelder-rose song ("Chervona Kalyna") – the words by the Ukrainian Sich Rifleman about making Ukraine happy again, i.e., "a my tuyu nashu Ukrainu hey, hey rozveselymo" became, innocently "Hey, hey let's make Ukraine gay."

Even the wise world of books offers no easy solutions to translations of such mundane objects as bookends and paperweights. Not to mention widespread genres of fiction: the Western, mystery, suspense, legal thriller. And what about the "brief" lawyers take to court? Must we shelve that, too?

Some reluctance on the part of young people to learn and speak Ukrainian should be traced to vocabulary still missing in that language. When teenagers communicate, they often talk show-business and entertainment. In that very American world, neon advertising promises the exciting, the exhilarating, the stupendous. Some of this show-biz language has turned up transliterated: design (of a set or a poster) is just written out in Cyrillic, although stage design has long been known as "stsenohrafiya"; transliterated also are bits of entertainment like "pin-up" and "striptease." The word "show" followed this method along with "musical," being an American original, not a true operetta or musical comedy. In spite of some protests, these words have been adopted "live" because they are unique to 20th century America.

One should note that such generally accepted concepts of entertainment, fun and recreation seem to disagree with traditionally secure Ukrainian values and priorities of education, responsibility and duty, making full compatibility between the two countries unlikely in these areas.

And, to continue in the same key, could the front covers of the contemporary magazines Glamour or Cosmopolitan (announcing the contents of each issue) be successfully reworked into Ukrainian and deal frankly with details of intimate human relations? By the same token, could a professional translator do a viable Ukrainian version of some items in The Ukrainian Weekly, like Oles Kuzyszyn's reviews of pop music recordings in recent and technically sophisticated terms? I hope so.

In the contemporary film and recording industries some technical terms have not been worked out to everyone's satisfaction; among these are such basic things as cut, splicer, credits (in the titles), close-up, action sequence. True,

(Continued on page 17)

On the current literary and cultural situation in Ukraine: discussion between Volodymyr Tsybulko and Yuriy Tarnawsky

Recently, two well-known figures of Ukrainian letters – Volodymyr Tsybulko from Kyiv and Yuriy Tarnawsky from New York – exchanged thoughts on the current Ukrainian literary situation and the state of Ukrainian culture in the global context. The discussion was carried out in light of their perception that, after the euphoria of the early years of Ukrainian independence, with its hope of a speedy national revival and an enthusiastic cooperation between the mother country and the diaspora, came the disillusionment and gradual drifting apart of the two partners. The situation, they hold, is true of many fields, including literature.

Volodymyr Tsybulko is a poet, translator and essayist. He was born near Cherkasy and studied at the University of Kyiv and the Latvian State University. He resides in Kyiv and Lviv. His latest books of poems are "Majn Kajf" (2000) and "Angels in a Pyramid" (2001) – the latter a selection of his poetry in Yuriy Tarnawsky's English translation. He has collaborated as a lyricist on many rock albums and is known for the well-attended public readings of his own poetry. In 1995 he was a resident artist at the international writers' colony Ledig House in upstate New York. Mr. Tsybulko is active in the Our Ukraine movement and was an advisor on social affairs to Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko.

Yuriy Tarnawsky is a bilingual Ukrainian American writer who resides near New York. He has written numerous books of poetry, drama and fiction, as well as many essays. He is a founding member of the New York Group and a member of the group of American avant-garde writers Fiction Collective. His latest publication is the three-volume set of his selected writings in Ukrainian "6x0," "Yikh Nemaye" and "Ne Znaiu" (1998-2000). He is an engineer and linguist by training and worked as a computer scientist at IBM; in 1993-1996 he was adjunct assistant professor of Ukrainian literature and culture at Columbia University. In 1998 he was also a resident artist at the Ledig House international writers' colony.

First of two parts

Tsybulko: For a long time now I've danced around the idea of this discussion but always some invisible force held me back – no, I wasn't quite ready yet, my thoughts and opinions still hadn't jelled, I wasn't asking the right questions and wasn't reaching the right conclusions, and so on, and so forth. But no matter how you cut it, there's no way of not concluding right now that our current cultural situation is more than sad. All the illusions we've had about the unity of Ukrainian culture have turned out to be wishful thinking and lies. The cultural ideologues in "the mother country" have such a primitive idea about the unitary nature of Ukrainian culture. The euphoria of independence has led to a befuddled way of thinking about what is "Ukrainian" and what is "culture."

I think that this has instilled a fundamentally false image in the mind of the Ukrainian "man in the street" about the nature and importance of Ukrainian culture in the context of that of the rest of the world. Perhaps we were wrong to adopt the methodology of politicians for our artistic goals. For us, the creative became the political. But the political became neither the creative, nor the cultural, nor the national. Yuriy Tarnawsky is a man of many cultures and languages and in addition a man of a continent called IBM – a person whose only ideology is writing. So where are we now? Why does this lost mother country of ours suddenly present you with such a staggering bill, you who has preserved the mother country in your soul and who makes himself every day for the benefit of

the mother country while it doesn't bother even reading him?

Tarnawsky: I wish I could say I don't know why such a chasm has arisen between me and Ukraine. That's what I essentially did with the title of my volume of selected prose that has recently been published in Ukraine ("I Don't Know," Rodovid, 2000), in which I say in the notes that the name comes from the Beatles' song "I don't know why I say hello, you say good-bye." I then go on to explain that "That's the way it is between me and Ukraine – I greet her and she says to me 'Good-bye!'"

But it's not true. The title is rhetorical. I knew very well why I'm treated the way I am by Ukraine when I chose that name for the book and do so now. The reason is the chasm between what I am and what is current-day Ukraine. And I don't mean just the literary circles in Ukraine, people who should be my colleagues, but potential

"The mother country" thinks that Ukrainian culture is being built only there and everything else doesn't count. It's not part of Ukraine. And, what's even worse, so also think the diaspora critics. So, we're not noticed by either side. We're the invisible men. Neither we nor our books exist.

readers too, in other words all Ukrainians. There are, of course, exceptions to this, such as you and a few other individuals with whom I managed to strike up a friendship. But fact is that the difference between me and Ukraine is enormous.

Actually this doesn't mean that there's a chasm between me and Ukraine, but that there's a chasm within Ukraine itself because I'm just as much part of Ukraine as other Ukrainians. And I'm not the only one on this side of the chasm. There are many of us. Perhaps we're not as numerous as those on the other side, but when you look at Ukrainian culture, then, considering what's been accomplished during the last 50 years or so, a good part of it lies on "this side." (I'm speaking from my point of view.) You wouldn't hear anyone from those who are in command on "the other side" agreeing with this, but I've no doubt that, in a generation or two, assuming that Ukrainian culture survives that long, the contribution of the émigré Ukrainians (I'm beginning to hate the word "diaspora") will be recognized as being key, such that it changed fundamentally the face of Ukrainian culture and has made it the way it'll be at that time. Because if this weren't true, then what would be called Ukrainian culture then wouldn't be worthy of that name.

Let me do some personal complaining now. "I Don't Know" received only one review, in which the reviewer said that the book "has pretensions at being modern" and that it "stinks of mothballs." It contains, among other things, my novel "Roads," first written in 1956, which was the first in Ukrainian literature to be explicitly based on existentialist philosophy. It was received by critics when it came out as a new work in Ukrainian prose. (Ihor Kostetsky, Ukrainian writer and critic of the MUR period, called it the event of the year.) The book contains also excerpts from my seven books of English-language fiction, including the 1993 novel "Three Blondes and Death." That novel received a number of some pretty good reviews in the

American press. (One reviewer compared it to the skyscrapers of Mies van der Rohe and Walter Gropius which tower over the cottages of contemporary American fiction.) So if this book doesn't "stink" (a typical Soviet literary term) of mothballs and is considered modern in American literature, to call it outdated in a literature in which modernism is as poorly represented as Ukrainian, I think, to put it mildly, can hardly be taken seriously. But the review didn't stir anyone. Attempts to find another reviewer by editors who are favorably disposed to me turned out to be a failure.

The book has slid off into oblivion. Also, the publisher's attempts to put the book up as a candidate for the Shevchenko Prize led to nothing. First it was too early, then it was too late, and that was that. I don't claim that the book is deserving of a prize as prestigious as the Shevchenko Prize was conceived, but if you consider the candidates for it over the last dozen years or so, I don't think it would have

whereas "they" consider him a great master (regardless of the fact that he was a rabid anti-Ukrainian.)

But I think that the difference between me and "them" – is even deeper. What makes the chasm between us so great are many non-literary factors, such as the norms of human interaction, ethical principles, the concept of nationhood, and so forth. I have a hard time having a close relationship with many people I've met in Ukraine. It seems they're always watching if they can get something out of our relationship, even if it's not necessarily something material. And when there's no chance of getting something out of it, then the relationship is unnecessary. They're not interested in calling you up just to talk or writing a letter to find out how you're doing.

But I'm most bothered by the last factor – the notion of who's Ukrainian. You don't have to dig down deep to see that for Ukrainians in Ukraine the "diaspora" Ukrainians are something marginal, someone you may call Ukrainians but who aren't part of the "real" Ukraine. When the chips are down and you start counting, you leave them out. Look at the lists of names of writers (the same is true of all other forms of art) who take part in various international forums – anthologies, presentations and so forth. There you'll never find anyone from among us. "The mother country" thinks that Ukrainian culture is being built only there and everything else doesn't count. It's not part of Ukraine. And, what's even worse, so also think the diaspora critics. So, we're not noticed by either side. We're the invisible men. Neither we nor our books exist.

But sometimes this takes on harsher forms. Once, I remember, a literary colleague of mine from "that side" told me without any apparent reason: "You're an American." I was stunned. We never had had any confrontations before. It seems he just couldn't hold in any longer the anger at the fact he wasn't in my place. I've also had people tell me "We need the diaspora only so that it would give us money. As to what happens here, you stay out!"

But, I must admit, I haven't told all the truth. Lately, to my great surprise, there's been some interest in my writing among university students. A number of articles about my work have appeared in the press and there are a few candidate dissertations being written. [Editor's note: The candidate degree is a graduate-level degree prior to that of doctorate.] I am very heartened by this and it makes me hope that the chasm I've been talking about exists only between me and the older generation, the contemporary "elite," and that there's much more in common between me and the younger people.

Tsybulko: To re-evaluate the current literary and cultural situation in Ukraine we need a clearly defined set of principles. But, in reality, the frequent attempts to transplant one or another of the international "isms" to the Ukrainian soil have resulted either in a fraudulent product or have made no sense whatsoever. I remember one conference where two home-baked "experts" preached for over an hour about the nature of post-modernism until one of the foreign guests put them to shame by pointing out that post-modernism in the rest of the world meant something quite different from what they'd been saying. And these people were my contemporaries!

Tell me, Yurko, did we by any chance make a mistake in choosing what nation we were to be born in?

Tarnawsky: The illiteracy of the current Ukrainian literary "elite" is simply

(Continued on page 9)

On the current...

(Continued from page 8)

shocking. Just now, purely by chance, I read on the Internet an interview between a journalist and a young Ukrainian poet. The journalist asks what is free verse? Is it something halfway between poetry and prose? The poet explains that it's getting rid of "syllabo-tonicity" and is the influence of the Beat Generation. It seems that free verse is some rare, unheard-of wonder, but in reality probably some 99 percent of all poetry in the world is now being written in free verse. From the discussion it also seems to follow that the young poet has made a revolution in Ukrainian poetry, freeing it from "syllabo-tonicity." But in reality Mykola Vorobiyov, as he has told me, has some 4,000 poems written in free verse, everything Vasyl Holoborodko did was in free verse, [editor's note: Vorobiyov and Holoborodko are contemporary poets, members of the Kyiv School]; most of your poetry is in free verse; I have written more than 800 pages of free verse, and so forth, and so on... But suddenly it's been discovered in Ukraine and Ukrainian poetry is being freed of "syllabo-tonicity." Quite a trick, isn't it?

It so happens that I know personally this poet and we have spoken at length, and he has a book of mine or at least did have one at one time. "Influence of the Beat Generation" – yeah, sure. I suspect he has read 10 times more Ukrainian free verse poetry than American. And do you know how one recently published Ukrainian dictionary of literary terms defines free verse (contrasting it with vers libre!)? Here's

Ukrainian cameraman...

(Continued from page 1)

London-based Editor-in-Chief Geert Linnebank called the death of Mr. Protsyuk "so unnecessary" and said that the international news agency is devastated by the loss.

Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs expressed condolences as well, while Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada offered a moment of silence before the beginning of its April 9 session in memory of both Mr. Protsyuk and Ukrainian journalist Oleksander Kryvenko. Mr. Kryvenko, another noted Ukrainian journalist, had died in a car accident earlier that morning. (See story on page 4.)

Stanislav Stashevskyi, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Foreign Affairs Relations, said he would turn to Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry to demand that it obtain an official explanation on the death of Mr. Protsyuk.

Mr. Protsyuk is survived by his wife, Lydia, and 8-year-old son Denys. Burial was slated for Kyiv's historic Baikove Cemetery on April 12. Final viewing was scheduled to take place at the Teachers Building in Kyiv, where government representatives were expected to be present.

Ukraine to open...

(Continued from page 1)

have contributed generously to assist Ukraine in establishing the Embassy.

AFUO representatives will meet with Mr. Mishchenko upon his arrival in Canberra and commence discussions on various issues related to the smooth establishment of the Embassy.

"The Ukrainian community in Australia offers Mr. Mischenko and his wife, Myroslava, a warm Australian welcome. It also wishes Mr. Mischenko every success in his endeavors," Mr. Romaniw said.

how: "A verse which, in contrast with the canonical norms of syllabo-tonicity has a variable number of feet while retaining traditional rhyming and regular stress. The most widely used meter in free verse is iamb." I suspect that the authors have in mind vers libéré, which should be translated as "liberated" or "freed verse" because everyone should know that "free verse" and "vers libre" are the same thing, but if this is a definition of vers libéré, then it's highly original.

This dictionary, by the way, counts among surrealists Vasyl Barka and Oleh Zuyevsky (older diaspora poets), as well as Bohdan Rubchak and even Bohdan Boychuk (diaspora poets, members of the New York Group). And one of the self-anointed "living masters" has recently published an article in which he, in all seriousness, claims that return to tradition is one of the features of modernism! And such nonsense is being printed and no one objects to it. This is literature, but similar things take place in other fields. For instance, the "Ukrainian Dictionary of Linguistic Terms," published in 1985, includes Noam Chomsky among structuralists, whereas Chomsky all his life has fought against structuralism, promoting his

rationalism/nativism. It's precisely because of Chomsky that structuralism has practically vanished from linguistics. It's so sad. What has happened to us? It seems that Ukrainian culture wasn't all that bad just a while back.

If I were asked to describe the current state of Ukrainian culture I'd call it "in the shadow of great pyramids." It's like Central America – huge monuments of once-great cultures loom over the landscape and under them the Creolized natives dig in the mud and dust together with the domesticated animals on which they feed, unaware of the structures towering over them.

As to post-modernism, it's a particularly difficult case. Ukrainians have embraced it as fervently as they had embraced Marxism/Leninism not too long ago, and everyone tries to be more post-modern than the next. But post-modernism for them is limited to Umberto Eco. I almost want to say, it's a pity this shallow commercial writer has been translated into Ukrainian. He should be read after a Sunday dinner, with a cup of coffee. Collage, pastiche, parody, playfulness, etc. can be used for serious purposes, not only for amusement. I also almost want to say the same thing about Johan Huisinga's

"Homo Ludens" because everybody (or almost everybody) has concluded from the book that "playing" means being trivial, not serious. Homo ludens means that human beings use the strategy of gaming to survive. All true art is a game. This includes various folk customs and rites, including funeral ceremonies. Now that's a good example of playfulness, isn't it?

Personally, I'm convinced that what's called post-modernism in art in reality is the third phase of modernism, where the techniques mentioned above are used. But the essence of these post-modern works is the same as in classical modernism. The difference is that this technique has been adopted by a whole slew of commercial writers such as Eco, for their own, non-artistic goals because it's easily acceptable by unsophisticated readers. Take for instance James Joyce's "Ulysses" or Mayk Yohansen's "Travels." [editor's note: An experimental novel by the Ukrainian writer Yohansen, first published in 1928]. These are typically post-modernist works but they were written in the 1920s and the 1930s. But I have to admit that with criticism it's a different story. Post-structuralism does fundamentally differ from the preceding schools of criticism.

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DATELINE NEW YORK: A wandering minstrel in modern garb

by Helen Smindak

Kyivan Rus' had its "skomorohky," or itinerant minstrels (depicted in the frescoes of St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv) who became professional entertainers performing songs and dances, mime shows and short dramatic pieces for the common people, as well as for nobles and court dignitaries. The Zaporozhian Sich had its "kobzari," wandering folk bards who performed a large repertoire of epic-historical, religious and folk songs while playing the kobza, a forerunner of the bandura, the national instrument of Ukraine.

The contemporary world offers us Julian Kytasty, a New York-based musician/singer whose life revolves around the propagation of bandura art and Ukrainian music, including ancient dumsy, the chant-like epic songs that describe events in the Kozak period of the 16th and 17th centuries.

Appearing in a simple black suit with a collarless jacket and dark shirt, he has been playing his banduras (he owns eight different types) and his sopilka (wooden flute) for diverse audiences around the world for more than 25 years.

He has used four banduras at some performances in the past, and played five different banduras at a recent concert in Manhattan.

Invited to represent Ukrainian epic tradition at the citywide People's Poetry Gathering in New York, he was scheduled to perform at two different locations on April 11 and 12.

Mr. Kytasty is widely regarded as a stellar musician "showing a commanding level of technique but most of all the touch of a fairy" (Francois Couture of All-Music Guide). "Kytasty's voice, though not the voice of a great singer, has the quality fit for the song (of the kobzari): it sounds sincere, emotive, charged by the experience of life."

Audiences everywhere respond to the deep feeling in his throaty voice as he conveys the kobzar's palpable sorrows, bitterness or wanting, and at times humor and pathos.

Although Mr. Kytasty's work has centered around traditional dumsy, his current cycle of activities includes appearances with the Experimental Bandura Trio in New York's vibrant alternative music scene, tours with Canadian singer/producer Alexis Kochan in her "Paris to Kyiv" project, and collaborations in theater with the Yara Arts Group, in modern dance with Katja Kolcio and with "many incredible musicians from different traditions."

Mr. Kytasty answers to a host of titles – bandurist, kobzar, skomorokh, sopilkar, singer, conductor, choral director, teacher and recording artist. Last month he added yet another designation to the list, that of prize-winning composer for a feature film. He won a Blizzard award for Best Film Score from the Manitoba Motion Picture Industry Association for his work (with Richard Moody) on "My Mother's Village," a feature-length National Film Board of Canada documentary directed by John Paskievich.

Such a treasury of talents might stir high and mighty airs in a performer, but this performing artist is modest and unassuming, with a keen sense of humor and a passionate zest for his musical endeavors. During a recent interview with "Dateline" in the East Village, he spoke in a quiet voice about his early activities and mentors. His dark eyes twinkled and he stroked his luxuriant mustache (he refers to it jokingly as his Saddam Hussein mustache) when he described the eclectic work he's been doing with the Experimental Bandura

Trio and artists of other ethnic backgrounds.

He has appeared in the past two years with Derek Bailey, the founding father of the modern improvisation movement, master Mongolian musician Battuvshin, Chinese pipa virtuosos Wu Man and Liu Fang, Yiddish folksinger and pillar of the klezmer revival Michael Alpert, Hindustani slide guitar guru Debashish Bhattacharya, and many others.

An extremely satisfying facet of his life is his involvement with the Experimental Bandura Trio, which includes bandurists Mike Andrec and (until a month ago) Jurij Fedynskyj. The trio has been trying to become a presence on Manhattan's improvisational scene, partly to acquaint American audiences with Ukrainian music and the bandura, but also "to stretch our horizons a little bit."

As a result, the group has played in several downtown clubs during the past year. "We just sit down and play; we play Ukrainian music backwards, upside down, side to side. We don't really get to do songs – it's kind of a free for all – but people get to know the instrument," Mr. Kytasty points out.

Since Mr. Fedynskyj's departure for Ukraine (where he hopes to become a rock star), Mr. Kytasty and Mr. Andrec have worked up a duet act and are looking at new possibilities, including European touring with Mr. Fedynskyj, and getting out a new recording.

The whole gamut

"You can see I do the whole gamut – everything from 17th century dumsy to squeaks and noises with Derek Bailey," Mr. Kytasty explains. "For me, it's almost a continuum; I ventured into the deeper edge of tradition – the music of the kobzari – and there's a point at which it somehow joins the contemporary. You can go so deep into tradition that it becomes modern."

He also points with pride to the Bandura Downtown concert series that he co-curates with Mr. Andrec. The series' third full season (four concerts a year) ended a few weeks ago with a concert featuring Mr. Kytasty and singer Lilia Pavlovsky.

Mr. Kytasty's musical proficiency and his involvement with Ukrainian sacred music cleave to family tradition. His grandfather, Ivan Kytasty, who trained as a church choir conductor in the early 1920s, conducted St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral choir in Detroit until his death. His father, Peter Kytasty, took over the choir and is still conducting there. His great-uncle, Hryhory Kytasty, a renowned composer and bandurist, was the first director of the Detroit-based Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus. On his mother's side of the family, Petro Kondratenko was a major church choir conductor in Europe, Detroit and San Diego.

He learned to play the bandura when he was 12, in his father's Ukrainian Orthodox League youth ensemble in Detroit, using a Chernihivka bandura (Chernihiv factory-made bandura, with 55 strings, no mechanism, from the prized early '60s vintage). The instrument has been with him ever since. He guesses that it may be the most travelled and played bandura in history, having been everywhere from Kozak stanytsi in the Kuban to the National Flat Picking Guitar Festival in Winfield, Kan., to a Millennium of Ukrainian Christianity observance in the town of President Roque Saenz Pena in Argentina.

Nowadays, performing the repertoire



Kate Milford

Modern minstrel Julian Kytasty.

of the kobzari of the 19th and early 20th centuries, he uses a 21-string starosvitska or kobzarska bandura made by the late Mykola Budnyk in Kyiv because he likes its beautiful tone. This bandura can be heard on most of the cuts of his latest solo recording, "Black Sea Winds."

For road gigs, especially if he must tune to concert pitch to play with other musicians (as in the "Paris to Kyiv" recordings with Ms. Kochan), he prefers a sturdier and less travel-sensitive kobzarska bandura made by Bill Vetzal of Oshawa, Ontario.

Bondarivna, a unique 20th century bandura originally made by Josyp Snizhnyj and extensively rebuilt by Antin Chornyj in Buenos Aires in 1965, was discovered in a closet at the Ukrainian National Home in a Buenos Aires suburb. Though abandoned and rotting for several years, it still held a recognizable tune. "The tone was unbelievable, (with) more subtlety than any bandura I had ever played," he recalled. "I purchased it then and there, with the promise that it would be played in performance as long as it held up, then placed in a museum."

A fourth instrument is his Kharkiv-style bandura, with 34 strings and individual mechanisms, made by Vasyl Herasymenko of Lviv; Mr. Kytasty favors this bandura when he needs to make many tuning changes during a single performance, as happens often with

the Experimental Bandura Trio. He also used it during several tours of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, including the chorus Black Sea tour in 1994.

Other banduras in his collection, which he says haven't been getting much use lately, include a Kharkiv-style bandura made by his friend Ken Bloom (who made repairs to the Bondarivna instrument), and a bandura made by Mr. Vetzal that combines some of the structural features of Bondarivna and the Semen Lastovych instrument played by the renowned bandurist/composer Zynovii Shtokalko.

For flute work, he plays a traditional six-hole diatonic flute common all over the world (sopilka in Ukraine, tin whistle in Ireland, limbe in Mongolia). He learned to play on a tin whistle to entertain himself in down time during several tours of American and Canadian festivals with Mr. Bloom in 1983 to 1985.

Learning by doing

Looking back over the years, Mr. Kytasty said that, in the main, he learned by doing. As director of the New York School of Bandura in the early 1980s, he learned to arrange music and conduct and direct a youth choir. He gives credit to the late Nick Czorny, the school's director, for "his tremendous encouragement and support for many years – if he hadn't

(Continued on page 18)

Carpathian Ski Club hosts annual ski and snowboard races

WINDHAM, N.Y. – The Carpathian Ski Club (known by its Ukrainian-based acronym as KLK) hosted its annual ski and snowboard races on Saturday, March 8, here at Ski Windham.

Close to 70 skiers and a handful of snowboarders competed in the 2003 races, which were notable for the participation of a growing number of young racers who arrived with their parents and siblings in tow. In fact, the KLK races increasingly see entire families racing in this friendly competition.

Near perfect weather greeted the skiers and onlookers; there was plenty of snow and lots of competition. The races were officially opened with the presentation of the American and Ukrainian flags held aloft by skiers as they took a symbolic run down the official NASTAR course. (NASTAR, the acronym for the National Standard Race, is the largest public recreational grass roots ski program in the world.)

Each skier then got two runs down the course, with his or her best time counting in the official scoring. Excitement ran high as skiers watched one another and learned each other's times. Many opted to have their skis waxed at the top of the course by KLK stalwart Juri Kobziar, himself a top ski racer, who annually comes to the slopes prepared to help one and all in their quest for their personal best times, imparting at the same time much enthusiasm for the sport.

That evening, an awards banquet attended by approximately 130 people – athletes of all ages, plus their families and friends – was held at nearby Hunter Mountain.

Among those in attendance were VIP guests from the Embassy of Ukraine who traveled to upstate New York from Washington specially for the KLK races. Yuri Panasiuk, deputy trade representative, and Commander Serhiy O. Hyshtymult, naval attaché, were introduced to banquet participants and were invited to help present trophies and medals.

Another special guest was a representative of KLK in Lviv, Marta Dubyk, who briefly addressed the gathering, extending greetings from KLK activists in Ukraine.

Trophies were awarded for first place in each age group; while second- and third-place finishers received medals. Special traveling trophies, which are passed on from year to year to each successive winner (no repeat winners are allowed), were presented for the fastest time posted among men and women competitors. This year's winners were Peter Strutynsky, who turned in a race

time of 25.58, and Olena Ripnick, who came in with 25.69. It should be noted that 2003 marked only the second time that a best skier trophy was awarded to a female.

Perhaps the most excited were the youngest racers, boys and girls as young as 5, 6 and 7 – many of whom seem-dreadly to burst with pride upon winning their first prizes for skiing. At the other end of the age scale, though no less happy to earn their awards, were the "seniors" who come annually to participate in this winter sports event.

Top skiers also received gold, silver and bronze medals awarded by NASTAR based on the course time posted by pace-setters, as well as the gender and age of each racer.

KLK leader Erko Palydowycz, Orest Fedash and Zenon Stakhiv conducted the evening's program, assisted by Vera Popel and Christine Klufas.

Next year the Carpathian Ski Club will celebrate its 50th anniversary of ski racing in North America. Organizers of the annual KLK races say they expect many former champions to show up for a special "old-timers" race.



Photos in this series by George Stasiuk.

Adrian Kochan (right), winner among boys age 15-16, with (from left) Andrew Hrubec, Nicholas Stasiuk, Adrian Rybak and Danylo Peleschuk.



Winners in the women's group: (from left) Zoriana Siokalo, Roma Temnycky and Melania Hrybowych Temnycky.



Zenon Stakhiv presents awards to Melasia Doll (center) and Talia Fedash.



Fastest male skier Peter Strutynsky (center) is congratulated by Juri Kobziar (left), a former winner of the traveling trophy, and Orest Fedash.



Commander Serhiy Hyshtymult, naval attaché at the Embassy of Ukraine, presents the trophy for men age 45-50 to Yuriy Kucher. Applauding are fellow competitors (from left) Yuriy Blazhkevich, George Temnycky, Walter Temnycky and Peter Siokalo.



Young skiers and a lone snowboarder in full gear on the slopes at Ski Windham during the races organized by the Carpathian Ski Club.



Yurii Panasiuk, the Ukrainian Embassy's deputy trade representative, congratulates the youngest female skiers, Katja Palydowycz (center) and Ivanka Temnycky.



Winners and competitors in the girls age 15-16 group: (from left) Roxana Kobziar, Natalia Temnycky, Lydia Doll, Andrea Lebed and Andrea Fylypovych.



The youngest male skier, Andrian Temnycky, is too pooped to be aware that he has won the trophy in his age group. Dad George Temnycky is all smiles as he accepts congratulations on his behalf.

KLK 2003 race results

SKIING

Girls 7-8

Katja Palydowycz, 37.41
Ivanka Temnycky, 49.68

Girls 9-10

Natalia Hryhorowych, 33.50

Girls 11-12

Melanie Siokalo, 35.44

Girls 13-14

Tania Hryhorowych, 32.25
Orysia Kucher, 33.61
Larysia Kobziar, 35.34

Girls 15-16

Roxana Kobziar, 29.89
Lydia Doll, 33.42
Andrea Fylypovych, 33.68
Natalia Temnycky, 35.34

Girls 17

Olena Ripnik, 25.69
Laryssa Rybak, 29.61

Women 18-25

Talia Fedash, 30.57
Melasia Doll, 30.63

Women 26-45

Natalia Fedun-Wozcickij, 32.00
Zoriana Siokalo, 34.79
Roma Temnycky, 40.16
Melania Temnycky, 1.08.18

Women 45+

Romana Hadzewycz, 35.01
Christine Kochan, 36.42

Boys 5-6

Andrian Temnycky, 1.14.45

Boys 7-8

Paul Temnycky, 55.43

Boys 9-10

Erko Palydowych, 32.49
Nicholas Siokalo, 34.99
Mark Temnycky, 47.82

Boys 11-12

Alex Hryhorowych, 33.44
Paul Hadzewycz, 33.55
Justin Stasiuk, 33.55
Marko Kochan, 34.18

Boys 13-14

Danylo Paslawsky, 30.02

Boys 15-16

Adrian Kochan, 28.02
Adrian Rybak, 28.74
Andrew Hrubec, 30.30

Boys 17-18

Markian Hadzewycz, 30.53

Men 19-20

Darian Fedash, 33.19

Men 21-25

Taras Popel, 26.69

Men 26-35

Marco Shmerykowsky, 31.58
Oles Protsidym, 33.31

Men 35-40

Peter Strutynsky, 25.58
Timish Hnateyko, 30.52
Stefan Wozcickij, 31.84
Olexander Lyaskivnyt, 33.03
Roman Khmir, 36.43
Orest Temnycky, 38.44
Yurii Panasiuk, 39.00

Men 45-50

Yuriy Kucher, 26.97
George Temnycky, 28.95
Peter Siokalo, 29.37
Walter Temnycky, 30.94
Yurij Blazhkevich, 32.64
Jarema Kochan, 33.24

Men 50-55

Andrew Hadzewycz, 31.13

Men 56+

Andrij Kachala, 32.36
John Shmerykowsky, 33.46

SNOWBOARDING

Girls 12 and under

Lana Denysyk, 54.44

Girls 15 and over

Andrea Lebed, 39.86

Boys over 15/men

Markian Rybak, 32.60
Danylo Peleschuk, 38.86
Nicholas Stasiuk, 48.36

23rd annual scholarly conference honoring Shevchenko held in New York



Some of the participants in the Shevchenko conference at NTSh (from left): Profs. Larysa Briukhovetska, Myroslava Znayenko, Oleh Ilnytzkyj and Mark von Hagen.

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – The 23rd annual scholarly conference honoring Taras Shevchenko, which was hosted by the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) at its headquarters here on March 8, presented a distinct international flavor. While the introductory and concluding remarks belonged to its American hosts, the five scholarly lectures were apportioned between four guest speakers from Ukraine and one from Canada.

Co-hosting the event were the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S. (UVAN), the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) and the Harriman Institute of Columbia University. The program was chaired by Dr. Myroslava Znayenko, chairperson of the NTSh International Liaison Committee and president of the American Association of Ukrainian Studies.

The opening remarks by Dr. Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych, president of NTSh in America, were followed by some introductory thoughts by Dr. Mark von Hagen of the Harriman Institute, who is the president of the International Association of Ukrainian Studies (IAUS). Dr. von Hagen spoke of his lifelong connection with the legacy of Taras Shevchenko.

Recently this connection has grown in scope due to the collaboration of NTSh

with both the IAUS and the newly inaugurated program of Ukrainian Studies at Columbia University, in which Dr. von Hagen is active. The latter program is co-sponsored by NTSh.

The first scholarly lecture was by Prof. Pavlo Mykhed, chairman of the department of literature and of the Hohol Research Center at Nizhyn Pedagogical University in Ukraine, who spoke about "Materials on the Theme of Shevchenko as a Prophet." Prof. Mykhed analyzed this theme in the context of 19th century Romanticism, in which, he said, the idea of a poet-prophet, acting as an intermediary between man and God, was well established in European literature. In Shevchenko's poetry God is present as participant and interlocutor.

Prof. Mykhed quoted Mykola Hohol, another Ukrainian genius of the 19th century, who is known to the world as master of the Russian prose, who said: "the word is God's most important gift to man," but conceded, perhaps reluctantly, that "poetry is the voice of a prophet."

Dr. Oleh Ilnytzkyj, a professor in the department of Slavistics at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, titled his talk "The Others" in Shevchenko's Poetry," with the term "the others" being his preferred translation of the Ukrainian "chuzhi ludy," which literally means "foreign people" or "strangers."

Dr. Ilnytzkyj put to good use his "Concordance to the Poetic Works of Taras Shevchenko" (which he had compiled together with George Hawrysch) in determining that Shevchenko resorted to the term "chuzhyi," as well as its various grammatical forms and derivatives, 153 times in 58 poems. "The others" could range in meaning from the neighbors, to non-Ukrainians, to bad people, to enemies. Similarly, in Shevchenko's poetry the word "chuzyna" could denote not only a foreign country, but also a place of suffering, or even death. Shevchenko's usage of "chuzhyi" and its derivatives resonates with the well-known modern concept of "the other" as applied to the relationship between Europeans and the post-colonial peoples, said Dr. Ilnytzkyj.

Dr. Ivan Bazhynov, a senior research associate at the Institute of Ukrainian Literature at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, and currently a Fulbright fellow at the Harriman Institute, lectured on "M. Kalynovych: An Unknown Page in the Shevchenko Studies." The speaker took us back to the years immediately following the Russian revolution of 1905 in the Russian capital St. Petersburg. There the previously censored works of Shevchenko were published in 1906, followed by the full edition of the "Kobzar" in 1907.

Dr. Bazhynov did some detective work in trying to identify the "M. Kalynovych" who was instrumental in these publishing efforts. Eventually he traced the story to a group of Ukrainian female students at the St. Petersburg Medical Institute, who at the time were meeting in secrecy to take courses in the Ukrainian language and literature. Dr. Bazhynov said he thinks that the cited M. Kalynovych was one of these students, whose first name was really Natalya.

Dr. Natalya Slukhay of the Kyiv National University sent in the text of her lecture titled (in loose translation) "The Archetypes in Shevchenko's Poetry," which in her absence was read by Prof. Assya Humesky, director of the NTSh Philology Section.

This was a lengthy and elaborate treatise, resorting at times to language that was excessively complex. According to Dr. Slukhay, central to Shevchenko's poetry is the archetype of matriarchalism, which has deep ethnocultural roots in Ukraine, deriving its origins in mythology. The Ukrainian mythological pantheon comprises not only the proto-goddess, Magna Mater, who in Shevchenko's works finds embodiment in the images of a woman, mother, motherland and earth, but also in the goddess of

love – Lala or Lada, pervading his poetry as the girl, sweetheart or wife, wrote Dr. Slukhay.

In addition to the anthropocentric archetype, which conveys the poet's evident desire to place in the center of the cosmos a young woman or a girl – as the personification of Ukraine – Shevchenko employs also the animistic archetype, which aims to endow natural phenomena with a soul and, less obviously, the archetype of time and place, which Dr. Slukhay feels reflects the view of the world expressed in Ukrainian mythology.

Analysis of Shevchenko's poetry in terms of these archetypes can serve as a complement to the conclusions that might be drawn from classical psychoanalysis of his poetry according to the teachings of Freud and Jung, concluded Dr. Slukhay.

Last to lecture was Prof. Larysa Briukhovetska of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, who spoke on "Shevchenko in Cinema." The first biographical movie about Shevchenko appeared in 1925-1926, at the time of the brief renaissance of Ukrainian culture. It took 25 years before another Shevchenko film was produced. In the 1964 motion picture "Son" (The Dream) Shevchenko's life was traced from his childhood as a serf to his enrollment in the Academy of Fine Arts in St. Petersburg.

In the 1990s, a film titled "Taras Shevchenko: The Testament" was produced jointly by Ukraine's Ministry of Education and the Prosvita Society. It was planned as a 12-part educational television series, but only nine of the parts have been produced and the project to have it distributed to schools on videocassettes never got off the ground. Thus, Shevchenko is still awaiting the screen presentation he deserves, said Prof. Briukhovetska.

In his closing remarks, Dr. Olexa Bilaniuk, the president of UVAN, congratulated the organizers for presenting a conference of such high caliber. He urged NTSh chapters to promulgate the celebration of Shevchenko's anniversaries throughout Ukraine and at all levels. Our hope of achieving a truly Ukrainian state in the 21st century lies with Taras Shevchenko, concluded Dr. Bilaniuk.

The conference was filmed by cinematographer Slavko Nowytski for the program "Windows on America," which is telecast to Ukraine by the Voice of America. Prior to the conference, Dr. Onyshkevych made a repeat presentation of "The Concordance to the Poetic Works of Taras Shevchenko" – this time for the TV program for Ukraine.

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Restored Ukrainian Heritage Room at WSU to be dedicated

by Stephen M. Wichar Sr.

DETROIT – The Ukrainian Graduates of Detroit and Windsor are inviting the community to a special room dedication ceremony of the newly restored Ukrainian Heritage Room at Wayne State University.

After three years of studying, planning and researching, and endless meetings, the restoration of the Ukrainian Heritage Room at Wayne State University has finally been achieved. It is a room that will embrace the culture and beauty of the noble Ukrainian heritage and will become a legacy to past, present and future generations.

The original Ukrainian Room was dedicated in 1976. The distinguished Ukrainian artist Edward Kozak and his sons, George and Jerome, created a beautiful bas-relief map, as well as other ornamental wall decorations. Jerome Kozak restored the map to its original splendor.

Noted Ukrainian artist and iconographer Volodymyr Mayorchak, formerly from Lviv, was commissioned to complete the project. He has created a full wall mural depicting the history of Ukraine, Hutsul-style wooden benches and carvings, and a showcase for art objects. A chalkboard has been framed in the same style of wood-carving.

The entrance door features dramatic wood-carving incorporating a prominent tryzub (trident) and a relief of St. George battling a serpent.

The fund-raising has surpassed all expectations, reflecting the value Detroit-area Ukrainian Americans place on the project. The newly renovated Ukrainian Heritage Room will showcase the culture and beauty of Ukraine to students, faculty and visitors from around the world.

This historic dedication event will take place on Sunday, May 4, at 1 p.m. in Room 297 of Manoogian Hall, located at West Warren and the Lodge Service



Artist Volodymyr Mayorchak works on a mural in the Ukrainian Heritage Room at Wayne State University.

Drive, west of Anthony Wayne Drive (formerly Third Avenue). A reception will follow in the Italian Heritage Room of the General Lectures Building. Admission to this event is free, and ample parking will be available.

Bandurist Julian Kytasty performs in Buffalo benefit concert for CCRF

BUFFALO, N.Y. – The Buffalo Chapter of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (CCRF) hosted a benefit concert on Saturday, March 22, at the historic Albright-Knox Art Gallery featuring renowned bandurist Julian Kytasty. The concert took place against the backdrop of the opening days of the U.S. invasion of Iraq, and the mood of the audience and performer was tempered by the images of war. Mr. Kytasty's program included several poignant selections including a soldier's lament from the first world war and classic "dumy" from the Zaporozhian Kozak era.

The concert received extensive coverage in the Buffalo media and in the city's vibrant artistic community, including a detailed write-up in the March 20 edition of the popular Art Voice newspaper by columnist Erika Leigh Felicetta. The article, which appeared under the headline "Relief in the Form of a Song," provided information about the history of the bandura and the successes of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund in delivering medical aid to Ukraine.

On Friday morning, Mr. Kytasty also appeared on the morning talk show "Good Morning Buffalo" hosted by Linda Pellegrino on WKBW-Channel 7, Buffalo's ABC affiliate. Earlier that morning, Buffalo's National Public Radio Station (WBFO) aired an interview with CCRF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma and played some of Mr. Kytasty's recordings during the morning news program with commentary by local NPR reporter Joyce Kryczak.

The venue for the Saturday concert, the Albright-Knox Gallery is one of America's oldest and most venerable art museums. Prior to the concert, the gallery hosted a fund-raising reception for a smaller contingent of concert-goers and CCRF benefactors, including a tour of several art exhibits featuring the works of Degas, Renoir, Gauguin, Jackson Pollack, and Andy Warhol. Proceeds from the con-

cert were designated for CCRF's new initiative to develop infant cardiac surgery centers and training programs, to help save the lives of thousands of Ukrainian children born each year with congenital heart defects.

At the start of the concert, the vice-president of CCRF's Buffalo Chapter, Laryssa Petryshyn introduced Dorothy Furtney, a legislative assistant to New York State Majority Leader Paul A. Tokaz who read proclamations from the city and county governments welcoming Mr. Kytasty to Buffalo and praising the work of CCRF.

Mr. Kytasty performed a number of works from his latest CD, "Black Sea Winds," released under the November Music Label in London, as well as traditional favorites he had learned from his father Petro Kytasty, and his great uncle Hryhory Trokhymovych Kytasty, the legendary music director of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus of Detroit. Playing on the modern 52-stringed Chernihivska bandura, the traditional kobza, and the Ukrainian mountain flute, or sopilka, Mr. Kytasty charmed the audience with his virtuosity and his eclectic mixture of dance tunes, ballads and historic epic poems.

After a rousing standing ovation,

Mr. Kytasty concluded the evening with a simple instrumental on the sopilka that he had composed during his travels to Ukrainian settlements in the Brazilian countryside. Titled "Esperanza" ("hope" in Portuguese), the tune served as an understated prayer for better days ahead for Ukraine and for a war-torn world.

Speaking on behalf of CCRF's national office, Executive Director Kuzma thanked the audience for its support. He especially thanked concert organizers, Christine Paszkowsky, Ms. Petryshyn, and volunteers Yuri Hryshchshyn, Francesca Casa, Roman Marusiak and Ms. Furtney for their outstanding efforts.

The March 22 concert was the latest in



Bandurist Julian Kytasty meets with television hostess Linda Pellegrino and concert co-organizers Laryssa Petryshyn and Christine Paszkowsky at the studios of WKBW-Channel 7 following the March 21 broadcast of "Good Morning Buffalo."

a series of concerts that Mr. Kytasty has presented to benefit the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. Earlier events included concerts with Alexis Kochan-Budyk and the Experimental Bandura Trio at Yale University's Dwight Chapel and at the Church of the New Jerusalem on the campus of Harvard University. As the director of the New York School of Bandura, Mr. Kytasty and his fellow bandurists are available for other concerts to benefit charitable causes in the Ukrainian community. To schedule such a concert, interested parties may reach Mr. Kytasty at (212) 995-2640.

The Buffalo Chapter of CCRF has been one of the most effective in the Relief Fund's national network. During the 2001 Great Lakes Expedition of the Ukrainian schooner Batkivshchyna, the

chapter organized a citywide festival at the Erie Marina featuring a multi-ethnic line-up of dancers and musicians, raising thousands of dollars for CCRF. More recently, the Buffalo chapter organized an art project at the Burchfield-Penney Art Center where schoolchildren from Western New York designed colorful prints for CCRF's partner hospital in Lutsk, at the Volynian Regional Children's Medical Center.

The chapter is planning other fund-raising events for the year to come. To get involved, please call Ms. Paszkowsky at (716) 886-5881. Tax-deductible donations may be sent to the Buffalo Chapter: Christine Paszkowsky, 86 Livingston St., Buffalo, NY 14213, or they may be sent to the national office: CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078.

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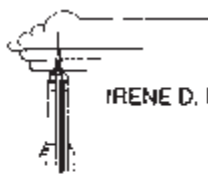
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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

April 2 that in March they closed an investigation into last year's death of Mykhailo Kolomyiets, founder and head of the Ukrainski Novyny news agency, UNIAN reported. Mr. Kolomyiets was found hanged in a forest in Belarus in November 2002. Prosecutors declared the journalist's death a suicide. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada defines and bans censorship

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on April 3 voted 252 to 1 to approve a law defining and banning state censorship in the Ukrainian media, Interfax reported. The law defines censorship as any demand by state or local officials that a journalist or an editor-in-chief, founder, co-founder, publisher or distributor of a media organization submit information for approval before publication (except when such a demand is made by the author or other owner of copyright or associated rights to it). The definition also deems as censorship any ban (aside from court bans) or the hampering in any way of the publication or distribution of information by bodies of state power, local government or their officials. The law also prohibits the creation of any bodies of state power, institutions or posts to control media information. According to the law, no one may be sued for expressing "statements of evaluation," which are defined as statements containing no factual data: criticism, evaluation of actions, and texts involving hyperbole, allegory or satire. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Commission to examine grain market

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on April 3 set up an ad hoc commission to examine the situation on Ukraine's grain market, UNIAN reported. The commission will be co-chaired by Mykhailo Melnychuk (Socialist Party) and Vasyl Havryliuk (People's Power). The Procurator General's Office, following an order from President Leonid Kuchma, is investigating the situation on the grain market – in particular, a shortage of grain in some regions and a rise in bread prices. In late March, former Vice Prime Minister for Agricultural Reform Leonid Kozachenko was arrested on charges of abuse of office and tax evasion. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Symonenko weighs in on Lavra

KYIV – Petro Symonenko, head of the Communist Party of Ukraine, recently sent a letter to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, asking that the Kyivan Monastery of the Caves in Kyiv be transferred to the Ukrainian Orthodox Church-Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP). The complex is now a national monument in government possession. The press service of the UOC-MP posted the news on March 26. Mr. Symonenko proposed that, at the first stage, all the buildings of the national reserve be under the control of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, but that the UOC-MP should be allowed to hold services there. According to Mr. Symonenko, state authorities should allocate funding for the reconstruction of the monastery, make access to the reserve free of charge, and evict all commercial organizations not related to the history of the reserve from the territory of the monastery. In addition, the CPU leader proposed starting a commission for the complete transfer of the Kyivan Monastery of the Caves to the UOC-MP. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

A quiet little...

(Continued from page 5)

In the U.S. and Canada, there are sufficient Americans and Canadians of Ukrainian heritage in law enforcement and other agencies who could be contacted and who would facilitate "extraction" or rescue of these women from the clutches of traffickers. Individuals of good will could open their homes to provide a temporary shelter or refuge for rescued women while arrangements to assist them with needed services and eventual repatriation are made. A toll-free hotline can be established and publicized throughout communities in North America with significant Ukrainian or East European populations through ethnic media channels to provide for a confidential contact method for these women.

Information technology volunteers could help to establish one or more database and information exchange centers about trafficking fronts and persons, and transmit such information to law enforcement agencies, including the Ukrainian Ministry of Internal Affairs and the Security Service of Ukraine – after all, what's the point of a state having a Security Service if it cannot take any effective action to rescue or defend its citizens abroad from international organized crime gangs and traffickers?

In terms of direct efforts in Ukraine, a number of initiatives can also be undertaken by those in the diaspora with the means and will to do so. Charitable organizations can be encouraged and supported in establishing refuge centers in major cities that will house and care for repatriated women, perhaps in a way similar to the Joshua House ministry in Lviv that takes in and cares for abandoned or abused young girls. We can also learn from experience in other countries. While working in Thailand I learned of Laddawan Wongsriwong, a 46-year-old former member of Parliament who was also a deputy minister of labor in the previous Thai government. In her work at the ministry she became the scourge of illegal labor brokers and child prostitute traffickers for breaking up illegitimate "front" companies involved with exploiting Thai overseas workers and children.

Last month she joined a diversified entertainment conglomerate called the GMM Group with the ambitious project of heading up a new direct-selling cosmetic business called the U-Star Company. She hopes to advance her public causes through this private enterprise by offering decent incomes to provincial girls throughout Thailand in the form of sales commissions

Don't step on...

(Continued from page 7)

the names of some effects were established long ago, when the Ukrainian cinema was young: stunts became "triuiky" (tricks) as far back as the 1930s, while sound effects were credited in Oleksander Dovzhenko's classic films as "shumy" (literally "noises" – an approximation of sonic results obtained in production as also an oversimplification of the "effect" procedure).

Although active in sound recording for decades, this writer would be unable to supply equivalents for such standards in the industry as "signal-to-noise ratio," "wow and flutter" or "full-frequency range." Perhaps Russian technicians introduced their own language into such specialized areas of technology.

Often before us, but still elusive in translation, is glamour or sex-appeal; not simply "char," this portends almost magical charisma on or off-screen. Speaking of presentations, how does one speak of student graduations and how can we translate "attention span?" (By the way, how long is yours, patient reader?)

or bonuses paid on sales of U-Star products.

In the case of Ukraine, there is nothing to prevent Ukrainian and foreign investors from creating new firms that open up similar opportunities for women in the villages who can start up their own small businesses with little capital, rather than falling victim to traffickers who entice them out of Ukraine and take away their passports, selling them and subjecting them to coercion.

Another country's experience that is worthy of detailed study is the Philippines. Some years ago I was involved in frequent travel to the Philippines to resolve a significant and lengthy customs valuation dispute. At the international arrivals hall of the Ninoy Aquino International Airport in Manila I was surprised to see passport control and visa lanes marked "OCW" that I later learned stood for "Overseas Contract Workers," a special 24-hour reception and services center operated by a Philippine government agency to register and provide services to departing and returning overseas Filipino workers (now called "OFWs").

It would be very instructive for the Verkhovna Rada and a number of Ukraine's governmental ministries to review the Migrant Workers and Overseas Filipinos Act of 1995. It would also be very useful to review the work and services of two specialized agencies that have been established under this legislation to protect and provide services to overseas Filipino workers, the Philippine Overseas Employment Administration (POEA) and Overseas Workers Welfare Administration (OWWA), both under the auspices of the Department of Labor and Employment. The websites of these agencies can be visited at www.poea.gov.ph and www.owwa.gov.ph.

The aforementioned Philippine law declares that it is the policy of the Philippine government to "at all times, uphold the dignity of its citizens whether in distress overseas, in general, and Filipino migrant workers, in particular and to establish an effective mechanism to ensure that the rights and interests of overseas or migrant Filipinos, whether documented or undocumented, are protected and safeguarded. It also provides for representation of overseas Filipinos in the Philippines Congress and prescribes governmental cooperation with legitimate non-governmental organizations as partners in the protection and promotion of the welfare of Filipino migrant workers.

The law makes it a crime to engage in "illegal recruitment" of Filipinos for work abroad by any non-licensed and regulated employment agents or firms or, by government officials, punishable by imprisonment

Finally, there are parts of anatomy, unlisted in the general dictionaries: earlobe, ankle ("kistka" – which merely denotes a small bone) and toe. There is no separate word for toes, which are referred to literally as "fingers on the legs."

That reminds me of a dance party long ago, attended by this writer and his fiancée. While waltzing and whirling, I suddenly stomped on her little foot with both of mine, I mean, with both my big left feet.

"Oh, don't," she gasped too late, "don't step on my fingers, please! Ouch!"

Please note: Dictionaries consulted during writing of the above include both the English-Ukrainian and the Ukrainian-English parts of the M.L. Podvesko 1963 editions, the 1988 update of the English-Ukrainian dictionary by Podvesko and M.I. Balla (Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, Edmonton), the large Ukrainian-English Dictionary compiled by C.H. Andrusyshen et al in 1955, as well as the English Ukrainian Computer Glossary & Short Glossary of A-V Technology by P. Fedynsky et al (1990).

for a period ranging from six years to life imprisonment, depending upon the severity of the violation and whether a minor under age 18 was recruited. Among other provisions, the law also makes it a crime "to engage in the recruitment or placement of workers in jobs harmful to public health or to the dignity of the Republic of the Philippines."

A free legal assistance and witness protection program is provided for victims of illegal recruitment at regional centers throughout the country and at Philippine embassies abroad. An office of a Legal Assistant for Migrant Worker Affairs who is appointed by the president of the country is provided for, along with a Legal Assistance Fund that is used exclusively to provide legal services to migrant workers and Filipinos in distress abroad. These specialized agencies administer programs involving registration of migrant workers, travel advisories, information and training seminars on migrant realities and workers rights for specific conditions in particular countries, mandatory repatriation of underage migrant workers, counseling and welfare assistance.

One of the ways in which women are entrapped into the sex slave trade and other migrant workers are exploited involves travel and related financial "loans" made at exorbitant rates to pay for the expenses of going abroad. The Philippines legislation established a Migrant Workers Loan Guarantee Fund to combat this problem by having the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration work with governmental financial institutions to grant pre-departure and family assistance loans on affordable terms to Filipinos leaving to work abroad, to be repaid from the proceeds of their foreign employment.

In addition, the foreign 24-hour resource centers of the specialized Philippine agen-

cies that are maintained at Philippine embassies under a labor attaché in countries with large concentrations of Filipino migrant workers provide emergency counseling and legal services, assistance with procurement of medical and hospitalization assistance, assistance with registration of undocumented workers and visa issues, human resource development assistance, government insurance for overseas workers, gender-sensitive programs and activities to assist particular needs of women migrant workers, monitoring through master lists of departing and arriving Filipinos, maintaining blacklists of undesirable foreign firms and aliens, tracking of pending legal cases involving Filipinos and maintaining contacts with relevant host government agencies under multi-lateral or bilateral agreements. The government of the Philippines has long recognized the importance to the Philippine economy of its citizens who work abroad as these are officially reported to have remitted approximately \$2.3 billion (U.S.) in foreign exchange back to their families in the Philippines last year, with the overseas worker often the sole support of the family.

The listing of protective and welfare measures that the government of the Philippines undertakes for its overseas citizens and migrant workers is almost too lengthy to list. These measures have not completely eliminated every possible case of exploitation or violation against Filipinos abroad; however, they have had a very major positive impact in reducing these to a minimum.

Perhaps if the Verkhovna Rada and Ukraine's government were to undertake a similar effort on behalf of its citizens, Ukrainian women would not be a "commodity of choice" trafficked internationally and a halt to this quiet little genocide of Ukraine could be achieved.



With deep sorrow we announce the departure into eternity in her 83rd year, on March 31, 2003, of our dearest mother, grandmother and sister

Anna Haras née Kedulic

We will always remember her for her devotion to family, community and country.

She was a longtime member of the UNA General Assembly, secretary of UNA Branch 47, chairman of the UNA District in Allentown, Pa., and an honorary member of the UNA General Assembly.

She was the head of the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (WADFFU) in Lehigh Valley, member of the board of WADFFU, head of the UCCA Branch in Lehigh Valley, Pa., and founder and long-time member of the UNWLA Branch in Bethlehem, Pa.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 5, 2003, at St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Bethlehem, Pa., and at St. Andrew Memorial Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

In deep sorrow:

Son – Roman with wife, Catherine, and daughter, Maria

Daughter – Oksana Koziak with husband, Mathew

Sisters – Maria Chiminec with family in Kerhonkson, N.Y.

Julia Pavlishinetz with family in Zakarpattia

Olena Kedulic in Zakarpattia

Brother – Andriy Kedulic with family in Zakarpattia

Nieces, nephews, cousins and other relatives in the United States, Canada and Ukraine.

Her memory will forever remain in our hearts.

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Dateline...

(Continued from page 11)

given me the chance to come to New York in 1980 for the School of Bandura, I may never have gotten very far on this path. He also sponsored my South American trips and made it possible for me to make a fresh start in New York after my Canadian years."

"A lot of what happened in my life wouldn't have taken place without the continuing support of the organization Mr. Czorny founded (we now call ourselves the New York Bandura Ensemble), which sponsors Bandura Downtown programs and my ongoing teaching activity, and works behind the scenes to keep bandura programs happening in New York," Mr. Kytasty emphasized.

The Bandura Ensemble activity culminated in work as the first director of New York's Homin Stepiv (Echo of the Steppes) ensemble from 1982 to 1985. He says he "learned a tremendous amount" during these years from Hryhory Kytasty in the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and at the early bandura camps in Emlenton, Pa.

He believes his greatest influence in pedagogy was his cousin, Victor Kytasty, with whom he worked for several summers, holding workshops and helping set up bandura ensembles in Canada's prairie provinces. Teaching music for four years at St. Vladimir's College in Roblin, Manitoba, was also an invaluable experience, since he had to arrange music for a folk instrument orchestra, polka band, tsymbaly and a brass quintet, as well as choir and banduras. It also was a chance to involve himself deeply in the Ukrainian sacred music tradition.

Mr. Kytasty has been the music director of the annual bandura camp in Emlenton almost every year since 1990, with each session presenting a renewed challenge to create fresh repertoire and find ways of teaching more effectively during two super-intense weeks.

While studying for a music degree from Concordia University in Montreal (specializing in theory and composition), he worked hard on his great-uncle's music and put together his solo recording "Hryhory Kytasty: Music For Solo Bandura/Songs" (1997).

During the two-year teaching job that followed at St. Andrew's College, the Ukrainian Orthodox seminary in Winnipeg, he began collaborating with Ms. Kochan on an ongoing "Paris to Kyiv" project – a concert program with a Winnipeg-based ensemble that includes Richard Moody (viola Martin Colledge (mandolin, cittern and Northumbrian pipes) and Nenad Zdjelar (bass).

The program and two recordings ("Paris to Kyiv: Variances" and "Prairie Nights and Peacock Feathers") are based on Ukrainian material, sometimes arranged by Mr. Kytasty, but more often in collective arrangements that filter it through the sensibilities of the varied group of players. The group is preparing for a tour of Eastern Europe and Ukraine in May.

Another aspect of his work with Ms. Kochan is "Nightsongs From a Neighboring Village," an exploration of Ukrainian and Jewish musical traditions. Presented in New York, Toronto, Hollywood and Berlin in various forms and with different line-ups of performers, this program has been built mostly on the collaboration of Mr. Kytasty, Ms. Kochan and Mr. Alpert of the klezmer supergroup Brave Old World.

The wandering minstrel can be heard on several CDs. To obtain "Hryhory Kytasty: Music for Solo Bandura/Songs," "Black Sea Winds: Music of the Kobzari of Ukraine," "Variances" or "Prairie Nights and Peacock Feathers," contact jkytasty@erols.com. "Experimental Bandura Trio" is available through Mr. Andrec at comrevgrd@earthlink.net.

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Ukraine steps up...

(Continued from page 2)

Ukraine's myriad legislative acts have never been used against any oligarch involved in corrupt energy trade. The trade was only undermined by the Yushchenko government with the help of Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Mr. Bakai was forced to resign, and his ally, Oleksander Volkov, who held a monopoly on oil imports that enabled him to sell the product at twice the price because of tax exemptions, went out of business.

Mr. Yushchenko's government was removed by a Verkhovna Rada vote of no confidence in April 2001 that was initiated by President Kuchma through his oligarchic allies. Since then, the problem of rent seeking (i.e., close ties of oligarchic businesses to state institutions) has not disappeared. The new decree requests an analysis of why there is a "protracted delay" in acting on information about "socially dangerous criminal groups" who have close links to the state.

The Internal Affairs Ministry's UBOZ were accused in August of having organized "death squads" that murdered and robbed. These "death squads" allegedly worked closely with organized crime, and a small number of members of these "death squads" have been arrested since August. The new decree calls for a thorough review of personnel within the Internal Affairs Ministry and the Security Service directorates devoted to combating organized crime and corruption.

The UBOZ possess squads of 50 special forces attached to each oblast center that are called Sokil (Falcon). The "death squads" comprised Sokil members and are assumed to be the same as the Orly (Eagles) of which former Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Kravchenko boasted to President Kuchma.

Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun admitted in February that the Sokil-Orly theater is one of three lines he is investigat-

ing in the 2000 murder of opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze. A document leaked to grani.kiev.ua journalist Tatiana Korobova in February from Internal Affairs Ministry officers also implicates Sokil-Orly in the organization of "car accidents" of political opponents and officials who had fallen out of favor with the executive.

Will the new decree be implemented? That is a question that should be asked in Ukraine and in other Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries because of the weakness of the rule of law. Legislative acts and presidential decrees are not always implemented – or are done so in a selective manner. Elected deputies and officials appear to feel little responsibility to implement legislative acts. A large number of earlier anti-corruption and organized crime legislation in Ukraine, therefore, has been ignored. Why should we expect this new decree to end up any different?

Another factor that should be taken into account when analyzing such legislative acts is the duplicity of CIS leaders. Often, legislative acts are undermined by the same people who are supposed to be implementing them. During the 1990s the adoption of a large number of legislative acts and resolutions by meetings of the presidential committee on organized crime and corruption, and the National Security and Defense Council took place at the very same time that the individuals who adopted the decrees and resolutions were themselves involved in the organized crime and corruption they were meant to be combating.

On April 24, 1998, presidential decree No. 367 outlined a "Conception for Combating Corruption in 1998-2005." In 1999-2000, presidential security guard Mykola Melnychenko taped hundreds of hours of conversations in President Kuchma's office, detailing abuses and widespread illegalities (including corruption and links to organized crime). One of the demands in the new February decree is a report on the state of the implementation of that 1998-2005 document.

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Iher Stelmach

Berehowsky's psychology for knee surgery rehab

While in Toronto, Phoenix Coyote defenseman Drake Berehowsky resided at The Sports Medicine Specialists facility. His job at the time: recover from his latest knee surgery. How? By spending five hours a day, five days per week, on rehab and conditioning.

This 30-year-old Toronto native completed his hat trick of serious knee injuries this current 2002-2003 season. The most recent one is the worst. Berehowsky took some time out from training to reflect.

Incident I – 1989-1990

"The first time was my left knee ACL (anterior cruciate ligament). It happened my second year of junior hockey, my draft year. I think it happened nine games into the season. I didn't come back that year."

Incident II – 1992-1993

"Three years later, this time my right knee ACL. It was my first year of professional hockey with Toronto (after getting drafted 10th overall in 1990). It happened in the last game of the season, just before the playoffs. We went right to the semi-final that year. I was playing well, getting icetime and stuff. Bad timing, no question."

Incident III – 2002-2003

"Saturday, September 21. First exhibition game with Phoenix. My third or fourth shift. Just went in and my leg was in the air, got hit and then it popped. This time, right knee MCL (medial collateral ligament) and ACL. They said five to six months. I said sooner."

Recovering from one serious knee injury is an ordeal, but when it happens three times, the mental toughness required to come back takes on a whole different meaning. Athletes prepare themselves for success. No one prepares for setbacks. Definitely not repetitive major setbacks. How they ultimately handle it comes from within.

"It's part of the game. These things happen. You just have to deal with them. I look at some players and they've had no injuries their whole career. But these are the cards I was dealt. One of my old coaches left me a message: 'There's always a silver lining in everything.' That really hit home. There's something good that's happening from this or it wouldn't have happened. You have to believe there's a plan."

Plan?

"Mine is to beat the odds and come back and show the people who believed in me that they were right. Everybody I think knows how much I want to play and how much I love the game," he said.

"You've got to focus. Re-think your strategy. I'm not going to lie," continued Berehowsky.

"It's a pain in the butt, I know it's cliché saying you love the game, but there's nothing better in this world than going out and playing hockey. To walk into a rink and smell the ice. It's phenomenal and I miss that. It's one of the reasons why I recuperated in Toronto and not Phoenix. I didn't think I could be around the guys. I know my limitations for staying a positive person."

"If you surround yourself with negativity, you're going to be a negative person and you're going to take this setback hard. That's why your support group is

the most important thing. I have an agent who believes in me. I have a GM who believes in me. I have an owner, Wayne Gretzky, the best player who has ever played the game, who believes in me. When you know that, recovery takes on a different perspective."

"A lot of people say a career is like a roller coaster. Well, mine is like 30 roller coasters in one. I've had so many ups and downs. I'm just a regular guy who goes in, punches a time clock and gets to do something I really love to do. So, whether it's working out in rehab, I'm still part of what I've always dreamt of, I'm still part of the game."

In mid-November of last year, Berehowsky and clinical therapist Rory Mullin travelled to Birmingham, Ala., to see orthopedic surgeon Dr. James Andrews and physical therapist Kevin Wilk for a progress report.

"Two thumbs up was the progress report at the time," said Berehowsky. In fact, Dr. Andrews actually reported he was ahead of schedule.

"Part of the mental challenge for Drake," Mullin said, "is that he has been through this before. However, in six weeks (the first part of the recovery) it was already a much more rapid process."

The last phases of his recovery allowed him to get on the ice for some light skating. He never lost sight of the fact he'd have to prove himself all over again when he eventually made it back to the Coyotes.

"I'm going to beat the odds," Berehowsky remembers saying more than once. "I'm going to come back harder for the people who believed in me."

Guess what? Ukrainian defenseman Drake Berehowsky made his season debut on February 26 after missing the first 61 games of the season. Mission accomplished.

Semenko vital part of Oilers dynasty

Dave Semenko knows as well as anybody the power the Stanley cup has over people.

"I remember driving the Cup around Edmonton in Kevin Lowe's Mercedes," said the burly Ukrainian (6-foot-3, 215 pounds) left-winger, who collected two championship rings from his years with the Edmonton Oilers. "It was myself, Kevin and Mark Messier in the car, and every so often, Kevin would pop the sun-roof open and we'd stop the car and stick the cup out of the roof."

"The response was amazing – people would come out of nowhere to applaud and cheer," Semenko said. "They were in awe, and we were in awe of their reactions to seeing the cup."

Born in Winnipeg, Semenko spent 10 seasons in the Edmonton organization, dating back to the franchise's World Hockey Association days. One of the most feared intimidators in NHL history, Semenko said the Oilers dynasty – which took home five Stanley Cups over seven years from 1984 to 1990 – would be hard to duplicate in today's National Hockey League.

"I think one of the keys to our success in Edmonton was that we all matured together," Semenko said. "I was 22 years old, we were all fairly young and the core of the team didn't change that much. [Oilers GM] Glen [Sather] might make changes to the fourth line, but that was it."

(Continued on page 23)



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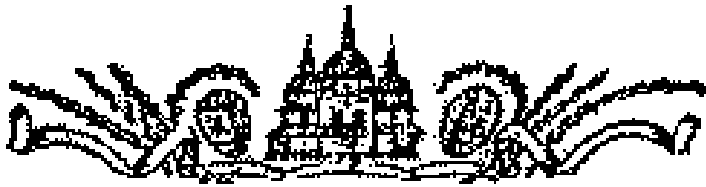
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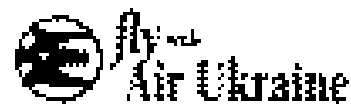


Wishing A Happy and Joyous Easter Holidays

Our 18th reunion of former students of Salzburg Real
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Former students, families, friends and
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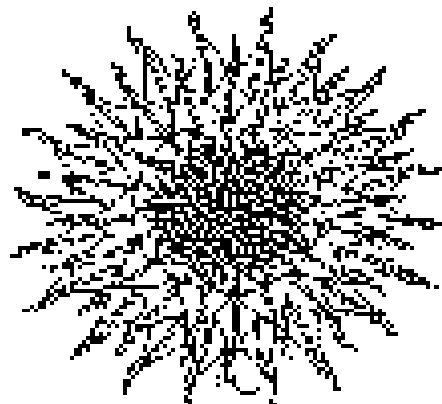
Harvard. He is currently a student who is invited to the study of

Ukrainian literature. Contact information: jlitovch@fas.harvard.edu

Спонсорні підтримки, please contact

Patricia Charevorb
Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute
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Cambridge, MA 02138

e-mail: har@fas.harvard.edu
tel: 617-495-3838 / fax: 617-495-3807
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Language Courses

Beginning Ukrainian - Alla Parkhomenko
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Beginning the Revolution - George G. Yermolenko
The Great Migration, Politics, Theory and Current Affairs - Alexander I. Litovchuk

A limited number of scholarships are available for qualified students. Application Deadline for HUSI 2003:

Scholarship applications are due by Tuesday, April 15, 2003

All other applications are due by Friday, May 30, 2003

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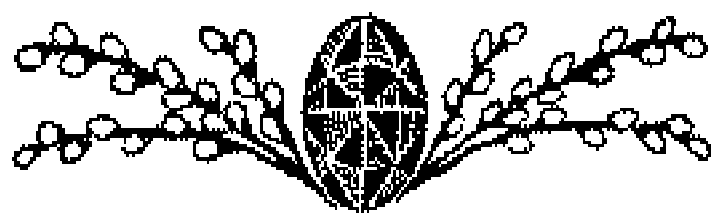
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Philadelphia's Ukrainian Nationals continue history of victories

by Eugene A. Luciw

HORSHAM, Pa. – First fielded in 1950, Tryzub's amateur soccer team rapidly became the premier professional soccer franchise in the United States.

In 1959 the club acquired the American Soccer League's Philadelphia Nationals, aptly renamed it the Philadelphia Ukrainian Nationals and proceeded to win the U.S. Open Cup Championship the very following year. No one will ever forget the fever-pitched deafening thunder of the Ukrainian American community's cheers as "nasha družyna" (our team) reached the heights of success.

Some highlights of Tryzub's history include:

- 1956 – U.S. Amateur Cup Final in St. Louis, Missouri;
- 1960s – six American Soccer League Professional Championships;
- 1960, 1961, 1963 and 1966 – four U.S. Open Cup Professional Championships;
- 1960s – five U.S. Open Cup Finals;
- 10 Pennsylvania State Championships;
- seven United Soccer League Majors Division Championships; and
- three Inter-County Soccer League Majors Division Championships.

Tryzub was the first soccer team in the United States to have home games televised and played in the first indoor regulation soccer game in Convention Hall in Atlantic City, N.J. Soccer teams from around the world visited Philadelphia to play "our team": Manchester United, England; Dundee, Scotland; Stuttgart, West Germany. In 1967 the Ukrainian Nationals represented the United States in international competition before 102,000 fans in El Salvador.

After a number of additional professional years in the German American League of New York, Tryzub focused its efforts on amateur soccer and the development of a youth program. In 1983 the club purchased 38 acres of farmland in Horsham, Pa., and transformed them into a premier amateur soccer venue with Class A fields, lighting, a clubhouse and picnic grove.

Twenty youth teams, boys' and girls', in age brackets between "under 10" and "under 17" years of age, play under the Ukrainian Nationals' flag. Over half of these teams are in the top three in their respective divisions. An exceptionally dedicated crew of coaches and parents under the leadership of Taras Kozak (president), Danylo Nysch, John Nimczuk, Sefan Kunderewych, Orest Lessiuk, Alex Hrauer, Walter Maruschak, Fernando Rubio and Pam Zingle have made Tryzub a most desirable place for children to play soccer and to sharpen their skills.

The first Ukrainian Nationals Invitational Tournament, held over Memorial Day weekend 2002, was a resounding success, attracting over 52 teams to Tryzub's fields. A Memorial Day Weekend tournament is planned for this year as well.

In 1988, 1996 and 2000, Tryzub held three memorable Ukrainian Olympiads and youth jamborees, at which thousands of fans gathered to see the best in Ukrainian sports and cultural programming. The year 2002 also held witness to the 26th annual golf tournament and yet another series of tennis tournaments, soccer camps (Philadelphia Kixx and Charge camps) and tennis camps. Tryzub's swim team competed in the USCAK national championships.

But, the pride of Tryzub still is its Majors Division soccer team, the Ukrainian

Nationals, currently coached and managed by Petro Boretsky and Mykola Jurchak. The team annually captures its league championship and perennially wins the Eastern Pennsylvania Championship. In the year 2000 the team won the Region I Championship and progressed to the final four of the U.S. Amateur Cup.

Indoor Soccer League Championship

During the winter 2003 season, the top men's amateur soccer teams of the Delaware Valley competed in an expanded indoor tournament. The Ukrainian Nationals handily captured first place in its division with 19 total points (6 wins, 1 tie and 1 loss) and a goals-scored advantage of 40 vs. 24. Tryzub's play was characterized not only by the typically stingy defense of fullback Ihor Shachtyn and goaltender Jasyn Rostowskyj, but also by a methodical unrelenting offensive attack, spearheaded by Boretsky.

In the tournament championship game, the Ukrainian Nationals met their archrivals, the United German-Hungarians. In an incredibly close and intensely interesting game, the Ukrainians captured a 3-2 victory. Boretsky scored the winning goal with a masterful deflection of a corner-kick from the right wing.

After the game, the league awarded the team its well-deserved trophy and announced Shachtyn as its most valuable player – a tremendous accomplishment for a defenseman. Rostowskyj won the trophy for the best goaltender in league play. Thus, Tryzub captured a triple crown.

Eastern PA Open Cup Championship

On March 23 at Tryzubivka, the Ukrainian Nationals squared off against perennial rival, Vereinigte Erzgebirge (V/E).

The bright sunlight gleamed from the beautiful gold cup that would go to the winner – the highly coveted Eastern Pennsylvania U.S. Amateur Soccer Association Open Cup was at stake.

The game was incredibly close, with each team missing several chances through a 0-0 halftime score and until the 38-minute mark of the second half. Tryzub was called for a foul in the box and V/E's striker did not miss the penalty kick. However, the 1-0 score awakened a sleeping giant. Two quick strikes by Tryzub's wingers, Walter Kitzul and its newly acquired mid-fielder, Virgis Anusauskus, put the team in the lead with only three minutes left to play.

Celebration, however, was premature; the game was not destined to finish with so little drama. V/E pushed a loose ball into the net, but within seconds a lightning bolt off the foot of Tryzub's defensive sweeper, Ihor Shatyn, found the lower left-hand corner of the net on a free kick from beyond the 18 and around V/E's wall. The clock ticked to zero. Tryzub won 3-2, and the cup was placed into the celebrating Ukrainian Nationals' hands.

In a brief post-game interview, Ukrainian Nationals' Player-Coach Boretsky said: "The difference this year is that we are committed to a winning program; we not only want to win but know that we can do it."

Manager Jurchak added: "This has been one of the most exciting teams that it has been my pleasure to manage; we will be there for the Regional and National Cups. Just look at this game and it tells our story."

Tryzub is heavily favored to appear at the U.S. Amateur Soccer Association's Region I Amateur and Open Cup Championships to be held at Tryzubivka for the third year in a row on Father's Day, June 15.

Христос Воскрес! Happy Easter!



Special wishes to you and your family for a blessed Easter from all of us at

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Tamburitzans provide a learning experience, and fun, for SUM group

by the Metelyky

PASSAIC, N.J. – We are the Metelyky, a group of girls age 10-13 who belong to the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) branch in Passaic, N.J. At the beginning of our SUM season this past October, our counselor, Lillianna Chudolij, gave us a mission. In two weeks we each had to return to our meeting with information on one of the following Eastern European countries: Croatia, Slovenia, Slovakia, Serbia, Ukraine, Poland, Romania, Macedonia, Bulgaria, Hungary, Russia, Georgia and Armenia.

Homework – just what we always wanted! But we did it anyway. Two weeks later we came back and shared all of our new information with each other. It turned out to be pretty interesting. We learned about native languages, foods, customs, religions, traditional costumes, dances, physical appearances, population and also these countries' geographic relationship with Ukraine.

Our counselor then enthusiastically informed us that now we were ready to experience the "Tammies" and that she had planned for us to attend their March 29 performance in Hackensack, N.J. Now we were totally lost. Who are the Tammies?

Then came our next lesson. It turns out that the Tammies are the world-renowned Duquesne University Tamburitzans of Pittsburgh. They specialize in the preservation and presentation of – you guessed it – Eastern European cultures. All 40 performers, age 18-22, come from every kind of ethnic background you can think of and are on scholarships to Duquesne University.

The students present 80 concerts a year on weekends and during semester breaks. Along with the usual band instruments, these students play folk instruments such as bandura, tambura, cimbalom, three different kinds of accordions, and a host of folk woodwind and bag instruments like sopilka and dudka. Now we understood why we had to learn all that cultural stuff.

Our next mission: to earn the money so we could afford to go. We all went right to work by organizing two very successful bake sales and a hugely successful Valentine's raffle. Luckily we made enough money to cover the cost of all 16 of our \$20 tickets.

March 29 was our big night out. Mrs. Chudolij had prepared a surprise for us all. Out of the 80 Ukrainians organized for this event, only we, the Metelyky, and our family members had been granted VIP backstage passes for before and after the show, as well as two private tours featuring the meeting of cast and crew, seeing costumes, props, trunks, instruments and later the tour bus.

Our first tour guide was Annie Stafura, who happens to be the daughter of the



Tamburitzans (in costume) with the Metelyky: (top row from left) Kayla Blodgett, Matt Haritan; Diana Stanchak, Olesia Atamanchuk, Nadia Leniv, Katia Romaniw, Ivanka Podberezniak, Nadya Stoyanova, Ivanka Atamanchuk, Michasia Podberezniak, Natalka Kudryk, (front row from left) Lillianna Chudolij, Ashley Radecki, Kasia Lashyn, Olenka Kosharyk, Annie Stafura, and Katrusia Bukalo.

managing director, Paul Stafura. She was amiable and kind, and took us backstage to where only cast and crew were allowed.

This is how Annie explained all of the details about being a Tammie to us (we're paraphrasing, of course): You have a tough but rewarding schedule of performances which everyone is used to, you bring your schoolwork with you on the bus, you have a trunk for all of your dozen or more costumes, you have a trunk partner who shares your space, you have to iron all of your own clothes (guys, too), you have to be organized and quick because you only get about two-three minutes to change between each appearance on stage, and you have to make sure that you pack up everything right and it doesn't get lost so that it's all ready for the next show or for loading the bus.

Before any of this is possible, you go to Tamburitzan camp in July to learn a brand new show every year – and you only have three weeks to do it. There you meet with voice and diction coaches to teach you how to pronounce all of the songs needed from all of the different countries showcased that season. You also learn new folk dances from every country from various choreographers and everyone has to learn to play at least one or two folk

instruments whether you play an instrument or not and in addition to the instrument they already play. At the end of camp, the Tamburitzans go on a non-stop nine-day tour to get all the kinks out. From then on the North American tour goes into full swing.

We were exhausted just from hearing all of the details. We were all just so amazed by everyone and everything. As we were walking backstage, Annie mentioned that she knew that we were the Ukrainian group and that she hoped that we would like the Ukrainian segment of the show. Just at that moment, a young man jumped out from behind an ironing board and yelled out, "Hey! I'm Ukrainian, too! And I can prove it!" And with that he excitedly showed us his large tryzub on his right ankle. This was our first meeting with cast member Matt (Matvii) Haritan from Pennsylvania, a senior majoring in communications and multimedia.

Not wanting the show to start late because of us, we quickly took our seats so that Annie could finish getting ready. Some of us were anxious, some nervous, some excited, but all of us glad to be in the auditorium waiting for the curtain to go up. And when it did – wow! For the next two and a half hours, we were glued to our seats. Even

the 15-minute intermission seemed too long because we were so interested in seeing the rest of the show.

Every performer was professional and equally talented in his or her own way. It seemed that each played two or three instruments or more and that the ensemble sang and danced as if they were all from every individually showcased country. Every country's representation was unique and inviting, and taught us even more about the cultures we had researched.

This was in no way a boring concert. It was like nothing else we had ever experienced before. When the finale came, we couldn't believe that the show was over. We sat in awe at what we had just witnessed. Although we all felt something different about the Tammies, we all agreed on one thing: this spectacular group is worth seeing again and again. Every year the show is different, so every year you get that much more out of it.

We promised each other that night that next year's field trip would be again to see the Tamburitzans. These individuals have inspired us as role models, as great performers and as superior students with great discipline and strength. Seeing them made us realize how important it is to never forget your own culture. Now we appreciate being Ukrainian that much more.

A perfect ending to the evening was the opportunity to get autographs from various cast members and to have a photo opportunity with a few of the cast members. Matt Haritan provided us with a lasting look at the Tamburitzans' soon-to-be-retired tour bus. It just amazed us that all of the students bring their work with them, along with their pillows and comforters, and get their work done week after week. They just seem to be super-human and super-dedicated.

Out of this experience, two of us Metelyky are aiming to become Tamburitzans and to attend Duquesne University. After all, if we keep our cultural roots alive and practice on a few instruments, become better dancers, sing Ukrainian songs with enthusiasm – who knows, in a few years, that could be one of us on stage.

St. Nicholas School celebrates Catholic Schools Week

by Grades 7 and 8

PASSAIC, N.J. – St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic School marked Catholic Schools Week during the last week of January as a unique way for the school to celebrate our Byzantine Catholic faith. The kids think of this week as a time for fun and relaxation from mid-terms, but it is really a time for sharing, caring and becoming active and outgoing Catholics in our community. The week's activities were largely based on this year's theme, "Making a World of Difference."

On Sunday, the schoolchildren sang in the choir at the 10 a.m. divine liturgy at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church. After the liturgy the children sang songs of thanks to the parish for all their support for our school, and read "A+ Parent" essays to the congregation. Afterwards, the school invited the whole parish to a "Parish Appreciation Breakfast," at which a full breakfast of eggs, sausage, bagels, coffee, and juice was offered to everyone who came.

On Monday, the entire student body wrote letters to people we wanted to thank for supporting our school. Each grade found a creative way to thank someone. Second grade made cards for the Ladies Auxiliary and the Fire Department, the third grade sang to the ladies who make varenyky; the fourth grade wrote to the Self Reliance Credit Union.

On Tuesday we received a special treat when Father Marcel



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

Szabo, pastor of St. Michael's Cathedral in Passaic, gave a talk on vocations. He spoke on the meaning of "no," the forgotten love word. He explained that when a parent or teacher says "no" to something you want to do, they do it because they love you and want to protect you. He reminded us of the importance of the "Ten Commandments" in our daily lives. We also learned about and named our guardian angels. In the end, Father Marcel gave the whole school special gifts – inspirational wall scrolls of the Archangel Michael.

Wednesday was "Wild West Day." We all dressed up as cowgirls and cowboys, and for lunch we had such Ponderosa fare as hot dogs, corn muffins, jello and iced tea. The seventh and eighth grade girls taught the entire school how to line dance. The eighth grade boys ran

games such as pin the badge on the sheriff, dig for gold coins, hot snake and lasso the cactus. Fun was had by all.

Thursday was "Act of Kindness Day." Each class did something kind for another class. Grades 7 and 8 made an Indian treasure hunt for Grade 3. Grades 5 and 6 read a book and taught pre-K the "ketchup dance." The first graders cleaned out fourth graders' desks. Everyone was having fun while we learned how to be kind to each other.

On Friday, "Teacher Appreciation Day," as a sign of thankfulness and appreciation for all the wisdom and intelligence that the teachers give us, the Grade 8 students taught in pre-K through Grade 7. The eighth graders learned how much patience and hard work it takes to be a teacher. The teachers were also

treated to a "Teacher Appreciation Luncheon" to show how much we appreciate them for all the hard work that they do for the students and for the school.

"Family Bingo Night" brought a happy end to Catholic Schools Week. It was a time when the families got together to have fun. Everyone played Bingo, ate pizza, won great prizes, and had a blast.

Catholic Schools Week was a great learning experience. We learned how to unite as a Byzantine Catholic School, and all the days of the week were fun and educational. We think Catholic Schools Week is one of the wonderful things offered in a Catholic School.

OUR NEXT ISSUE:

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated May 11, please send in your materials by May 2.

We especially encourage kids and teens to submit articles. Don't you want to see your name in print?

Drop us a line!

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

Passaic Plast kids enjoy skating trip

MONTCLAIR, N.J. – On Sunday, March 2, the Plast branch of Passaic, N.J., went on its third annual ice skating trip to Montclair Clary Andersen Arena. (That's us in the photo on the right.) There, we enjoyed each other's company. Some of our members stepped on the ice for the very first time. Within a few minutes, even the newest ice skaters had gained confidence, as they were assisted by the more adept in making it around the rink. By the last laps almost everyone could skate with ease. Overall, we agree that it was a wonderful experience and look forward to our next Plast outing.

– Laryssa Patti



Newark Plast branch members encounter “a touch of nature”

by Lydia Lukianenko-Moczula

WHIPPANY, N.J. – Members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization have always pledged to respect and take care of nature and their environment.

The Newark Plast troops went one step further this past winter and had nature come to them.

Christine Zelenka from “A Touch of Nature” arrived in Whippany, N.J., where Plast groups hold their meetings courtesy of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, with big and small suitcases filled with many furry, scaly and feathery creatures.

Her “Miss Frizzle” approach to introducing the animals to the children was hands-on – the children were taught how to “call” the animals in the wild, how the animals

protect themselves and how they survive in the wild.

The Whippany meeting with nature was funded by Plast-Pryiat, the parents’ and supporters’ group that functions as an adjunct to Plast.

This May the youngest members of Plast will continue their lessons in nature and the environment by venturing out to the beach. “Sviato Vesny,” their annual springtime outing, will be held at Sandy Hook, N.J., on May 18.

The day will begin with traditional Plast events and in the afternoon the Plast children of the Newark and Passaic branches will join the New Jersey Marine Science Consortium staff for a “Coastal Experience in Marine Science and Ecology.”



Christine Zelenka shows off a large frog (above) and a small boa constrictor (below).



Hillside students prep parish for Easter

by Joseph Shatynski

HILLSIDE, N.J. – The children from the Religious Education Program at Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Parish launched an innovative program designed to lead the parish in spiritually preparing for the Easter Season.

The children, from various religious education classes, worked together to design a program that would encourage parishioners to perform special good deeds during Lent and offer them as sacrifices to Jesus. The children prepared a letter to the parishioners that was written in both English and Ukrainian that explained the program – emphasizing that a beautiful way to say “Thank You, Jesus” was to do special good deeds.

They explained the program to the parishioners at the annual parish meeting in February and asked for their participation.

In addition, they created a “Thank You, Jesus” poster where parishioners could anonymously post forms highlighting good deeds they performed as a result of the program.

At the annual parish meeting,

Danylo Szpyhulsky commented: “To do something for Jesus this Lent, we have promised to do at least one special good deed and offer our sacrifices to Jesus. We would like you to help us thank Jesus, too, by joining us in our pledge effort. We think that Jesus would be even happier if everyone in the parish participated in this challenge. This way, together, we can positively impact the world around us and we think that is exactly what Jesus would want us to do.”

Krista Erakovic remarked “I am very happy to focus on truly saying ‘Thank You, Jesus’ in a meaningful way. I really hope that all the parishioners join us in trying to make the world a better place.”

Thomas Feld said, “I really liked working with the children from the other classes on this.”

Looking at the “Thank You, Jesus” poster, parishioners could appreciate some of the good deeds that were anonymously done, such as: visited a sick member of the parish; healed a family conflict; reconciled with a neighbor after a long dispute; read the Bible; supported a new charity; helped an elderly neighbor shovel snow.

Mishanyna

N	S	N	O	S	N	O	W	Y	D	A	Y	S	S	S
O	N	I	C	E	I	R	A	T	D	D	I	S	N	I
T	O	A	R	T	U	N	E	A	N	O	N	K	O	D
O	W	R	U	A	T	E	R	N	I	O	N	I	W	I
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O	R	N	A	S	N	O	W	S	Q	U	A	L	L	N
G	S	I	D	L	O	O	T	E	X	A	S	E	A	O
G	A	Z	Z	E	T	O	D	I	R	N	D	O	K	W
A	C	E	W	D	R	O	M	R	O	A	R	E	E	B
N	A	E	O	M	X	Y	A	R	A	D	I	S	S	O
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O	W	I	N	T	E	R	T	I	M	E	S	T	O	B

To solve this month’s Mishanyna – dedicated to the last days (we hope) of winter – please find the words or phrases listed below.

- | | | |
|---------------|------------|-------------|
| Arctic air | skis | snowsquall |
| blizzard | sled | snowstorm |
| drizzle | sleet | toboggan |
| ice | snowboard | wind |
| freezing rain | snowflakes | wintery mix |
| skates | snowshoes | |

PS: For an extra challenge, see how many times you can find the word “snow.”

Soyuzivka's Datebook

April 12-13 Trailblazing Weekend	May 24 (Saturday) Memorial Day Weekend and Zabava
April 20 (Sunday) Easter Brunch	June 2-5 Clergy Days
April 27 (Sunday) Easter Brunch	June 8-13 UNA Seniors Week
May 2-4 Cinco de Mayo Celebration and Zabava	June 15 (Sunday) Father's Day and Kick-off of Summer Heritage Concert Series
May 17 (Saturday) Art Exhibit	June 21-July 3 Tennis Camp
May 19-22 Berchtesgaden Gymnasium Reunion	June 22-29 Day Camp, Tabir Ptashat No. 1
	June 29- July 6 Day Camp, Tabir Ptashat No. 2

This datebook will be an ongoing section to be updated with every issue. Dates are subject to change.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, April 14

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is pleased to announce that this year's Vasyl and Maria Petryshyn Memorial Lecture will be given by Alexander J. Motyl, associate professor, department of political science, and deputy director, Center for Global Change and Governance, Rutgers University-Newark. Prof. Motyl's lecture, titled "Making Ukraine, and Remaking It," will take place at 4-6 p.m. in the Thompson Room of Barker Center, 12 Quincy St. Directions may be found on the Humanities Center website, www.huri.harvard.edu. For more information contact the institute, (617) 495-4053.

Saturday, April 19

MONTREAL: Lyric soprano Halyna Wolanska, a very promising emerging opera singer, and Taras Kulish, leading bass-baritone, both known in North America and Europe, will appear with Esther Gonthier, (piano) in a recital of Handel, Mozart, Strauss, Verdi, Lysenko and Hulak-Artemovsky, as well as Ukrainian opera excerpts in a concert titled "Love and Death" to be held at the Oscar Peterson Concert Hall, 7141 Sherbrooke. General admission: \$20; free for children under 12 accompanied by an adult. Tickets available at Admission Network, (514) 790-1245; website: www.admission.com. The concert, presented by Desjardins and La Caisse Populaire Ukrainienne, begins at 7 p.m.

Monday, April 21

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture by Pavlo Mykhed, associate professor, chair of the department of foreign literatures and head of the Hohol Research Center at Nizhyn State Pedagogical University, Ukraine, and Eugene and Daymel Shklar Fellow at HURI. Prof. Mykhed's lecture, titled "The Apostolic Project of Mykola Hohol: A Case of Religious and Literary Messianism," will take place at 4-6 p.m. in the HURI Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave. For more information, including directions, access the website www.huri.harvard.edu, or call HURI, (617) 495-4053.

Friday, April 25

COLUMBUS, Ohio: The Center for Slavic and Eastern European Studies at the Ohio State University and the Ukrainian Cultural Association of Ohio begins the first of three spring lectures on Ukrainian folklore and literature with "Under Western Eyes: American Literature Looks at Ukraine" by Askold Melnyczuk. Mr. Melnyczuk is author of the novels "Ambassador of the Dead" and "What Is Told" and is editor of the literary journal AGNI. He currently teaches at Boston University and in the Bennington College Graduate Writing Program. The lecture will be held at 7 p.m. on the OSU campus, 122 Oxley Hall, 1712 Neil Ave. Admission is free. For more information, call Arcadia Melnyk, (614) 246-4600.

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.

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

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

A Ukrainian Summer

Appears May 4 in The Ukrainian Weekly

Visit the new Soyuzivka, under new management and full of new ideas...

Travel to Kyiv and enjoy many ethnic restaurants, from Thai to Argentinian...

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How will you enjoy your Ukrainian summer? Read our special section for information from those in the know on great destinations and unique activities!

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