



ХРИСТОС РОДИВСЯ! CHRIST IS BORN!

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Radio Canada International's Ukrainian service faces possible cuts or elimination

by Christopher Guly

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

OTTAWA – Radio Canada International's Ukrainian-language service could face having its air time reduced by half to 15 minutes or cut completely. A highly placed source told The Ukrainian Weekly that a decision to make any changes or not is expected by mid-January.

The 51-year-old Ukrainian-language service has been under review since September when RCI officials began looking at ways to "reposition" Canada's publicly funded international radio network.

"They're rethinking to which regions they should broadcast and to which they should not," said the source.

RCI officials said there would be changes in the sections, though it's unclear how this would affect the Ukrainian service.

Though one of the oldest RCI services, the Ukrainian section is the only one of the seven (which also includes English, French, Spanish, Arabic, Chinese and Russian) that is not an official United Nations language and which has a narrow geographic reach in targeting one country, namely Ukraine.

"But every time the question comes up, 'Why Ukrainian?'" said the source, it's explained that Canada has a very special relationship and partnership with Ukraine that it doesn't have with other countries, that the Canadian government is committed to help Ukraine establish a democratic society, as well as the fact that Canada has over one million residents who are of Ukrainian descent.

Among the RCI's five foreign-language sections (excluding English and French), each of which has 30-minute broadcasting blocks daily, the Ukrainian section is perceived to have a good distribution system.

Its twice-daily information program is broadcast at 6:30 p.m. (only on short-wave, Ukrainian time) and repeated at 7 p.m. (Ukrainian time) also on the third channel of Ukraine's national radio network, reaching all together a potential audience of two million listeners.

The RCI Ukrainian service has also collaborated with its Ukrainian radio partner on programs, including a six-part, 20-minute series on Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) federal government-funded initiatives in Ukraine – projects that get little attention in either Ukraine or Canada.

Ironically, it will now be up to the Department of Foreign Affairs, which oversees CIDA's budget and shares an administrative role with the Department of Canadian Heritage over RCI, to determine the ultimate fate of the Ukrainian service.

The Winnipeg-based Ukrainian Canadian Congress has already contacted Foreign Affairs Minister Bill Graham and RCI director Jean Larin and asked them to ensure that the Ukrainian service "remains intact."

In a letter to Mr. Graham, UCC Executive Director Ostap Skrypnyk said the Ukrainian section "plays an important role in projecting Canadian values to Eastern Europe and in creating civil society in Ukraine," and is "an integral aspect" of Canada's assistance to Ukraine "and should be viewed as part and parcel of Canada's diverse relationship with Ukraine."

To Mr. Larin, Mr. Skrypnyk wrote: "Cutting back or eliminating the Ukrainian language section at RCI would be a mistake and would go against the goals that the Canadian public wishes RCI to pursue."

Supporters of RCI's Ukrainian service say it provides Ukrainian listeners with programming they might not otherwise hear. For instance in 2003, the Ukrainian section featured interviews with former Ukrainian prime minister Viktor Yushchenko and Yulia Tymoshenko, Ukraine's former deputy prime minister and now one of the country's leading opposition leaders, both of whom find it hard to get on the Ukrainian airwaves at home.

Though the future of RCI's Ukrainian service remains uncertain, the section has already shrunk in size over the past decade.

Ten years ago, the Ukrainian news and current events program had four full-time employees and 45 minutes of daily air time. It briefly expanded to five staff

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Constitutional Court of Ukraine rules that Kuchma can run in 2004

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Constitutional Court ruled on December 30 that President Leonid Kuchma can run for a third term in office even though the country's Constitution limits a state leader to two terms.

The 18 members of Ukraine's highest constitutional authority decided that Mr. Kuchma, who was first elected in 1994, has the exclusive right to an additional term because he was elected prior to approval of the Constitution in 1996.

The decision in part reads: "One must understand that the provision applies only to people who are elected to the post of president of Ukraine after the 1996 Constitution came into force."

After reading the decision, Justice Vasyl Nimchenko explained that the court ruled only after extensive consultation with legal scholars at the country's leading law schools. He said that with the enactment of the Constitution in 1996 President Kuchma became an acting president fulfilling his authority as state leader under the terms of the old Constitution. Therefore the time period between 1996-1999 cannot be considered a full term in office under the new Constitution. The Constitutional Court grounded their reasoning in Part 3 Article 103 of the 1996 Constitution, which states that the new Basic Law could not be applied retroactively.

The reaction of Ukraine's political opposition to a ruling they long warned about was muted inasmuch as the court's decision came as the country, including its politicians, were well into the holiday spirit.

However, National Deputy Ihor Ostash, a member of the Our Ukraine political bloc whose leader, Viktor Yushchenko, is a like-

ly presidential candidate, called the court's decision proof that the 18 judges were merely the president's stooges.

"This is more proof of the level of democracy [in the court] and the level of democracy in Ukraine in general," said Mr. Ostash according to Interfax-Ukraine.

The lawmaker added that the court had "delivered a serious blow to Ukraine's authority." Mr. Ostash explained that while Mr. Kuchma and the pro-presidential forces could be satisfied that the court had recently decided in their favor on three important issues – the election of a president by the parliament already in 2004; the matter of criminal immunity of the president and the difficult standard for impeachment; and now his right to another term in office – the rulings would hurt relations with the Council of Europe and its Venetian Council, which reviews major court rulings in Europe.

One noted political analyst, who some critics call a presidential mouthpiece, said the court's decision should not be construed to mean that Mr. Kuchma has changed his mind after several times announcing he would not consider running for office again.

Mykhailo Pohrebynsky, director of the Kyiv Center for Political Research and Conflict Studies, said it was unlikely that President Kuchma would run in 2004.

"With regard to the political consequences of this decision, Kuchma has clearly stated that he is not going to take part in the presidential elections in 2004. I cannot see a scenario in which Kuchma organizes a campaign. There are no such scenarios," explained Mr. Pohrebynsky.

The court's ruling came in response to petitions filed separately by both the opposition and pro-presidential forces in Ukraine's Parliament.

Olympic champion Petrenko returns for pro skate in Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Leading a coterie of entertainers on ice, including six Olympic medalists, on December 13 Viktor Petrenko, former world men's skating champion and Olympic gold medal winner, put on his first professional show in Ukraine since leaving his homeland 11 years ago to work in the United States. The results were impressive in an event that is a novelty in Ukraine.

"I grew up in Ukraine, I learned to skate in Ukraine, it was time to show Ukraine what I learned," explained the 34-year-old former resident of Odesa in an interview with The Weekly several days before the show.

Since winning the gold medal at the Albertville, France, Olympics in 1992,

Mr. Petrenko has been very active. He turned professional, went amateur again before going back, married his teen-age sweetheart, become a father and built a home in Simsbury, Conn. He has also given financial and moral support to upcoming Ukrainian skating stars – including future Olympic champion Oksana Baiul – while skating with several ice shows.

In the last several years, he has organized his own shows, including several fundraisers for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, inviting his wide circle of skating friends to perform. The last one, held in October 2003, netted the charitable organization some \$50,000.

Now he has taken his show to Ukraine.

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Viktor Petrenko

ANALYSIS

Conflict grows between Our Ukraine and Social Democratic Party United

by Taras Kuzio

RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report

Anders Aslund, of Washington's Carnegie Endowment for International Peace think-tank, compares Viktor Medvedchuk's behind-the-scenes role in Ukrainian politics to that of oligarch Boris Berezovskii, who fled Russia in late 2000. Since Mr. Medvedchuk, chairman of the Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU), became head of the presidential administration in May 2002, dirty tactics of one sort or another have escalated against Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine. Two factors account for this.

First, Dr. Aslund believes that the SDPU is the only large oligarchic clan in Ukraine that has not established itself in industrial production. This means, he believes, that in the event of a clean-up of Ukraine's economy and energy sector, including making the budgetary process more transparent, Mr. Medvedchuk and the SDPU would lose out most. In contrast, the Party of Regions and the Dnipropetrovsk-based Labor Ukraine clans have established themselves in Ukraine's privatized industrial sector.

As the end of the Leonid Kuchma era approaches, the Party of Regions and Labor Ukraine are attempting to evolve from oligarchs, who gained from robber-baron capitalism in the 1990s, to businessmen. Viktor Pinchuk, who dominates Ukraine's pipe manufacturing, is an example of this gentrification. Mr. Pinchuk, therefore, is not concerned about a potential Mr. Yushchenko victory in the 2004 elections.

When the last cleanup of Ukraine's economy and government finances took place during the Mr. Yushchenko government of December 1999-April 2001, the SDPU was thought to have suffered most. Dr. Aslund calculated that approximately \$2 billion was returned to the Ukrainian budget by the Mr. Yushchenko government.

Mr. Medvedchuk played a leading role in organizing a combined oligarch-communist vote of no confidence on April 26, 2001 that led to Prime Minister Yushchenko's dismissal. This was seen as revenge for Mr. Yushchenko successfully organizing the removal of Mr. Medvedchuk as first vice-chairman of the Verkhovna Rada in December 2000.

Second, the low-intensity conflict between Our Ukraine and the SDPU is a consequence of two political forces campaigning for dominance in the same region of western and central Ukraine. The SDPU is the only oligarchic clan unable to secure for itself a dominant place in its home base of Kyiv.

To Mr. Kuchma, therefore, the SDPU does not play the role in Ukrainian politics that a clan is supposed to – that is, to control an area on behalf of the executive. This role is best undertaken by Regions of Ukraine who blocked Our Ukraine from crossing the 4 percent threshold in the 2002 elections in the Donbas region and ensured the ultimate victory for the pro-Kuchma For a United Ukraine bloc.

In Kyiv itself the SDPU is disliked by the public and opposed by popular Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko. During the 2002 elections one would be hard-pressed to find a single SDPU poster in Kyiv. Mayor Omelchenko cooperated with Mr. Yushchenko in removing Mr.

Medvedchuk from the post of Rada first vice-chairman, and in return Mr. Medvedchuk is widely believed to be behind attempts to force Mr. Omelchenko to retire from office on grounds of his age. In 1999 Hryhoriy Surkis, Mr. Medvedchuk's close ally, lost disastrously to Mr. Omelchenko in the Kyiv mayoral race.

In July to August this conflict between Our Ukraine and SDPU became unpleasant in mayoral elections in Mukachiv. Mukachiv is an important town in Zakarpattia, which was the only western Ukrainian oblast controlled by the SDPU. Vasyl Petiovka, the Our Ukraine candidate, defeated SDPU candidate Ernest Nuser in a hotly contested election. Our Ukraine accused the SDPU of being behind the arson attack on the home of Pavlo Scherban, the head of the city court, which rejected a Lviv District Court ruling to nullify voting results in 15 of the city's 36 polling precincts.

In Lviv the conflict between Our Ukraine and the SDPU has surrounded persistent complaints that the local tax administration, headed by Mr. Medvedchuk's brother Serhiy, is deliberately targeting businesses which support Our Ukraine. The editors of Lvivska Hazeta complained that they had been targeted because their newspaper had exposed widespread corruption in the ranks of the Lviv tax administration.

On October 1 the Lviv City Council, headed by Our Ukraine member Mykhailo Sendak, passed a vote of no confidence in the city's tax administration. The presidential administration responded by removing the Lviv Oblast chairman and the heads of four raion administrations in the oblast who were accused of allowing Our Ukraine to organize civil unrest. A 15,000-strong demonstration in Lviv took place on September 26 in protest against the tax administration and the formation of the CIS Single Economic Space.

The tactic used in Donetsk of portraying Our Ukraine as "Nashist" was devised in Lviv by the SDPU. "Nashism" is a play on the Ukrainian word "our" in Our Ukraine and meant to resemble "Nazism." A October 6 SDPU statement on events in Lviv used Soviet language to describe Our Ukraine as an "openly extremist and dirty political force" with an "extremist and ultranationalistic wing."

This is ironic coming from the SDPU, which has incorporated former members of the extreme-right Ukrainian National Assembly (UNA), such as Andriy Shkil, into leading positions in the party in western Ukraine. Dmytro Korchynskyi, UNA's former leading ideologue in the 1990s, regularly assails Mr. Yushchenko on the 1+1 television channel controlled by the SDPU.

Mr. Medvedchuk has boxed himself into a corner by tying his fate so closely to President Kuchma, in the same way Boris Berezovskii did with Boris Yeltsin. Mr. Medvedchuk's tactics, and that of his SDPU, have led to two outcomes: first, he has made himself unelectable as president; second, the Socialist International has turned down the SDPU, which it had been assiduously courting for membership, preferring instead to grant membership to the Socialist Party and the Social Democratic Party.

Keeping his capital abroad may be a shrewd tactic for Mr. Medvedchuk as it is difficult to see how he could stay in Ukraine in the event of a Yushchenko victory.

NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma signs political-finance bill

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma signed a bill into law on December 22 that introduces the state funding of political parties' activities and parliamentary campaigns, Interfax reported, quoting the president's press office. State-funded activities may not be linked to the party's participation in elections, but the law also provides for reimbursing campaign expenses for parties that reach the four percent threshold for parliamentary representation. The annual allocations for political parties under the new law are defined as one percent of the average minimum wage multiplied by the number of registered votes in the most recent regular parliamentary elections. The law will come into force on January 1, 2005. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Agreement made on Kerch and Azov

KYIV – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Russian President Vladimir Putin signed an agreement on the use of waters of the Kerch Strait and the Sea of Azov in the Crimean city of Kerch on December 24, Interfax reported. The agreement defines the Sea of Azov as the internal waters of both Ukraine and Russia, and it provides for the free navigation of Ukrainian and Russian military and civilian vessels in the area, while third-flag vessels need the consent of both Ukraine and Russia to operate within those waters. The document also provides for delimitation of the state border on the bottom and the surface of the sea. The unclear status of the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait prompted a high-profile dispute between Kyiv and Moscow in October-November (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada moves to amend constitution

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada approved the so-called Medvedchuk-Symonenko amendments to the Ukrainian Constitution on December 24, Interfax reported. Approval came on the strength of 276 votes, fewer than the two-thirds majority (300) that will be required when the draft amendments come before the legislature again in mid-January. The bill would allow for the direct election in October 2004 of a president, who would serve until a new president is elected by the Verkhovna Rada in 2006, among other changes. The Our Ukraine, Yuliya Tymoshenko Bloc, and Socialist Party of Ukraine caucuses opposed the amendment. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Polish activity in Iraq might be reduced

WARSAW – Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski said on

December 23 that Poland's involvement in stabilization efforts in Iraq might be gradually reduced beginning in 2005, Polish TV reported. 2004 will be a year of high activity in Iraq, according to Kwasniewski. "It is very important to maintain an international coalition...[and] implement a political plan for 2004 and 2005, a plan that envisages the formation of the Iraqi government, taking over the power in Iraq by this government, and the sorting out of many issues in international relations," Kwasniewski said. The next group of soldiers departing for Iraq will have an easier task due to the experience of their predecessors, he added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

EU readies peacekeepers to Transdnier

BRUSSELS – The European Parliament recently approved a resolution saying the EU is willing to join an international peacekeeping force under an OSCE mandate in the Transdnier, Flux reported on December 23. The agency said that at its December 15-18 session, the European Parliament criticized the Russian plan for Moldova's federalization, saying the rejected scheme was "aimed at legitimizing the current situation in the region" and its approval would have created a serious obstacle to Moldova's democratization. The European lawmakers deplored Moscow's actions, saying that "despite the obligations it has assumed, Russia does not intend to withdraw its troops from the Transdnier region by the end of 2003" and thus is essentially contributing to the status quo and the maintenance in power of the Tiraspol secessionist regime. The resolution also said the evacuation of Russian troops and military equipment from Transdnier must in no way be linked to the negotiations for a peaceful solution of the Transdnier conflict. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russians-Belgians buy power plant

TIRASPOL – A Russian-Belgian consortium has won a Transdnierian tender for a 100 percent stake in the Moldavskaya Thermal Power Plant near Tiraspol, which is Moldova's largest electricity producer, RFE/RL's Chisinau bureau reported on December 29. Saint Gidon Invest offered \$29 million plus \$161 million in investment in the plant's modernization over the next four years. The Transdnierian authorities rejected a joint bid backed by Russian gas giant Gazprom and Unified Energy Systems to exchange the plant for a write-off of Tiraspol debt to Gazprom. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Ukrainian civic activists find U.S. program focusing on women highly valuable

by Yaro Bihun

WASHINGTON – Organizing and running civic organizations in Ukraine, a society that for most of the last century relied solely on the government and official organizations to care for its needs, is not an easy task. And if these new groups focus on the needs of women – long ignored by the old Soviet government as well as the government that followed – the task is that much more difficult.

Twelve resolute Ukrainian women activists who have taken on that challenge recently spent ten days here (Dec. 10-20), participating in a U.S. Government-funded training program organized by the Open World Leadership Center and the Vital Voices Global Leadership Institute. They met with American women leaders who confront the same problems they face in Ukraine as well as with government, civic and business leaders.

The goal of the program was to introduce the women activists from Ukraine to the way their U.S. counterparts work and interact with the government and other segments of society. Judging by their comments to *The Ukrainian Weekly* on the eve of their departure, they were returning home buoyed by the experience and full of new ideas about how to improve their work.

Nataliya Savchenko, who runs a women's crisis prevention program and heads a women's credit union in Donetsk, was impressed with the interaction she found between the government and civic organizations in the United States. "We saw how this close cooperation can work," she said. "And we can put this new experience to good use in Ukraine."

Larysa Varenyk, who is deputy director of the Kyiv City Center for Women, also noted how the U.S. government and non-government sectors work together in

this area. "This experience, for the most part, is lacking in Ukraine, although some of it can be found, to an extent, in Kyiv," she said.

The United States has extensive experience in dealing with both domestic abusers and the abused, Ms. Varenyk said, and she would like to organize U.S.-based training programs on dealing with abuse cases for Kyiv city prosecutors, police and victim caseworkers.

Valentyna Kyrylova, director of the Osnova Publishing House in Kyiv, expressed her surprise and appreciation for the high level of meetings they had in Washington.

"The openness and respect with which we were received by these high officials impressed me the most," she said, "because it is difficult to imagine that such high officials – as Ambassador (Carlos) Pascual and Ambassador (Steven) Pifer – in Ukraine would interact with people like us, that is, representatives of non-governmental organizations, so openly and respectfully. It's really very hard to imagine."

In addition to the two officials mentioned by Ms. Kyrylova – both former U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine who now hold high State Department positions dealing with Europe and Eurasia – the group's other meetings with official Washington included Justice Department experts on women's abuse and trafficking issues and staff members of Congresswoman Marcy Kaptur, who co-chairs the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

The majority of their program, however, included such activities as visits to a house for abused women and children and a woman-owned business, and meetings with experts on networking, lobbying, media relations and political action, such as Emily's List, which helps women

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A group of women civil society leaders from Ukraine meeting with Ambassador Carlos Pascual December 19 at the State Department. Also taking part in the meeting was Vital Voices Global Partnership Chair Melanne Verveer (right).

Radio Canada...

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members and a daily 60 minute time slot, before being cut in half to its current 30 minutes about two years ago.

And while four people work in the Ukrainian section, only two of them are full-time announcer-producers: Lina Gavrilova, who heads the section, and Luba Demko. The others are casual employees, who could easily be cut should the ax fall on the service in the

coming weeks.

But as RCI marks its 60th anniversary in 2004, its Ukrainian audience could play a role in keeping the Canadian-made service alive.

When it was revealed that RCI itself was under threat of closing in 1995 with employees receiving pink slips, listeners, including those from Ukraine, bombarded Foreign Affairs with letters.

This time, the Ukrainian section is keeping mum about its future until a final decision is reached.

Shevchenko Society celebrates 130th anniversary with conference in N.Y.

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – On December 11, 1873, in Austrian-ruled Lviv, Ukrainian scholars and community leaders from both sides of the Austrian-Russian border founded the Shevchenko Society. The scholarly society was born out of the necessity to preserve and promote the Ukrainian language and literature, which was possible under the relatively benign rule of the Austro-Hungarian empire at a time when in the Russian-ruled part of Ukraine Ukrainian literature was outlawed by the tsarist regime.

By 1893 the society had expanded its scope to assume the role of a de facto Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, adding "scientific" to its name. Associated with the early period of the society, known by its Ukrainian acronym as NTSh, were such pillars of Ukrainian scholarship and literature as Oleksander Konysky, Oleksander Ohonovsky, Oleksander Barvinsky, Vasyl Simovych, Ivan Puluy, Ivan Franko and Mykhailo Hrushevsky, to name just a few.

On December 13, 2003 almost to the day 130 years later, the pillars of today's NTSh from all over the world convened at the society's American headquarters in New York for a celebration of this jubilee, starting with a roundtable discussion of "The Future of NTSh."

Sharing their vision of the role of the society were: Dr. Leonid Rudnytsky, president of the World Council of NTSh, president of the Ukrainian Free University in Munich, and a member of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (known by its Ukrainian acronym as NANU); Dr. Daria Darewych, president of NTSh in Canada; Dr. Oleh Romaniv, president of NTSh in Ukraine, secretary-general of the World Council of NTSh, and a member of NANU; and Dr. Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych, president of NTSh in America. The panel was chaired by Dr. Roman Voronka, professor of mathematics at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

Dr. Rudnytsky bemoaned the negative image of contemporary Ukraine in Western Europe and urged fellow scholars to work to remedy such impressions through lectures and publications that would promote and promulgate Ukrainian culture as part of the European heritage.

Dr. Darewych outlined the tasks of NTSh in Canada, which she sees as uniting Ukrainian scholars and scientists, conducting scholarly conferences and informing the Ukrainian community. She

proposed the creation of a website common to all NTSh branches, which would include an address list of the membership.

Dr. Romaniv traced the 130-year history of NTSh in its role as a Ukrainian academy of sciences, which laid the foundation for the discipline of Ukrainian studies and has made an invaluable contribution to the self-identification of Ukrainians. The contributions of NTSh are by no means limited to philology, said Dr. Romaniv, as its scholars and scientists have developed Ukrainian terminology in various fields of the humanities and sciences.

The fact that today we no longer have to fight for the recognition of the Ukrainian language, as did the founders of NTSh, and that independent Ukraine does have a National Academy of Sciences, does not absolve NTSh from its historic role, continued Dr. Romaniv. In today's Ukraine, Russification is rampant, Ukrainian history is being falsified, prevalent scientific terminology remains essentially Russian, all things Ukrainian are being denigrated. Therefore, NTSh in Ukraine, where there are 15 chapters, and NTSh in the diaspora have no moral right to abandon its efforts in the promotion of Ukrainian studies and publications, concluded Dr. Romaniv.

A view from the NTSh in America was offered by Dr. Onyshkevych. While the society's founders had to prove the very existence of the Ukrainian language as a legitimate means of scholarly communication, the task now is to strive for the purification of Ukrainian orthography, transliteration and terminology, ridding them of undue Russian and English influences, she said. There is, however, a shortage of Ukrainian philologists, which NTSh must work to remedy. NTSh scholars should exert more influence in the political arena by making use of their expertise, by offering their input through conferences and publications in world languages.

In the future, NTSh activities in America are more likely to be conducted in English, said Dr. Onyshkevych. She also expressed concern about the demographic changes within the Ukrainian American community which are likely to result in fewer grass-roots contributions to NTSh. We can only hope for major individual benefactors, concluded Dr. Onyshkevych.

The roundtable was preceded by opening remarks delivered by Dr. Onyshkevych, followed by the reading

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Quotable notes

"Let's for a minute close our eyes and look at the map. Ukraine and Poland. Together that's 90 million people. That's a power in Europe. If we can agree with each other, everyone in the world will have to speak to us completely differently. They will have to treat us in a completely different way. We'll stop being a fringe. We'll become an irremovable political factor both in Europe and in the world. A Ukrainian-Polish coalition – modeled, let's say, on the Benelux – is a power which could secure peace, economic development and democracy in this part of Europe."

– *Gazeta Wyborcza* Editor-in-Chief Adam Michnik, speaking at a conference on Ukraine's European aspirations in Warsaw on December 18, as quoted by Polish Radio and cited by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.

"I'm looking into the next year with fear. Everybody agrees that the [2004 presidential] elections will be the scariest and dirtiest ever."

– Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma on December 19, as quoted by Interfax and cited by RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report.

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America holds final meeting of 2003

by Tamara Gallo

Ukrainian Congress Committee of America

NEW YORK – The last meeting of the UCCA Executive Board for 2003 was held on Saturday, December 13, at the UCCA headquarters in lower Manhattan. On the agenda were discussions regarding the UCCA's plans for the community in 2004 and the forthcoming 19th Congress of Ukrainians in America.

Based upon a successful informational campaign in the American press about the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide during this 70th commemorative year, the UCCA Executive Board deliberated additional steps to bring more focus on the genocide in Ukraine 70 years ago. The most important factor of the discussion involved the U.S. educational system and beginning an earnest campaign to have the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide as part of the high school social studies curriculum nationwide. Other proposed ideas to promote the Famine-Genocide involve documenting survivors through oral/written testimonies; continuing on informational campaign to the Pulitzer Committee; holding mock trials in Ukraine; and pushing for editorials in major U.S. newspapers by distinguished columnists.

Next year, the Ukrainian community will face several important political events, such as presidential elections in both Ukraine and the United States. The UCCA Executive Board firmly endorsed a civic education project in Ukraine for the October 31, 2004, presidential elections. The project would be based on voter education, especially targeting the younger generations; monitoring the election campaigns; as well as, sending election observers to monitor the election day proceedings.

In cooperation with the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC), the UCCA will concentrate not only on election observers in Ukraine, but throughout the various countries where Ukrainians reside. On the initiative of Prof. Taras Hunczak, the UCCA will form an advisory group that will monitor events in Ukraine and provide recommendations to the Executive Board for its consideration.

The U.S. elections will also present a challenge to the Ukrainian community to offer information about itself to the candidates, as well as an analysis of current U.S.-Ukraine relations and how to strengthen them. With that in mind, the UCCA adopted a plan to promote and strengthen U.S.-Ukraine relations by increasing the UCCA's contacts with members of Congress and local and state government officials.

In the spring of 2004 the UCCA will host an advocacy event called "Ukrainian Days" in Washington, providing an opportunity for members of the community to visit the nation's capital and meet their members of Congress and administration officials. The goal is to better acquaint the community with our vital role in Washington.

Further proposals for 2004 include the commemoration of the 40th anniversary of the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington with plans for a manifestation and possible concert in the summer.

Emphasis was placed on the UCCA's scholarly journal *The Ukrainian Quarterly* and the need to increase its circulation to university libraries in the United States, as well as throughout the Ukrainian American community.

The UCCA Executive Board also focused its attention on visiting various communities, particularly those less often visited, including those with a new influx of immigrants from Ukraine.

As stated in the UCCA by-laws, the quadrennial convention of the UCCA must be held within the same year as the U.S. presidential elections. Next year, the 19th Congress of Ukrainians in America will be held in Philadelphia on September 24-26 at the Crowne Plaza Hotel.

The Congress of Ukrainians in America will have as its theme "Unite, Brothers of Mine" – a reference to unity within the Ukrainian American community (as exemplified by the recent decision of the Ukrainian National Association to rejoin the ranks of the UCCA) and in commemoration of the 190th anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko and the 40th anniversary of the dedication of the Shevchenko monument in Washington.

A special committee for the 19th Congress was formed with Ihor Kuszniir, head of the Philadelphia UCCA branch, as coordinator. During the proceedings of the Congress, panel discussions will be held on the following themes pertinent to the Ukrainian American community: assistance to Ukraine; our role in Washington; the Ukrainian-language school system in the U.S.; and the future of the Ukrainian community.

As a last item for business, the UCCA Executive Board designated next year's dates for UCCA meetings and noted anniversaries which ought to be commemorated in the following year: the 350th anniversary of the Pereyaslav Treaty; the 190th anniversary of the birth of Taras Shevchenko; the 75th anniversary of the formation of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN); the 65th anniversary of Carpatho-Ukraine; the 60th anniversary of the death of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky; the 50th anniversary of the uprising in Kingiri; the 45th anniversary of the assassination of Stepan Bandera; the 40th anniversary of the unveiling of the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington; the 20th anniversary of the death of Patriarch Josyf Slipyj; the 20th anniversary of the death of poet Vasyl Stus; and the fifth anniversary of the death of Rukh leader Vyacheslav Chornovil.

UABA holds 26th annual meeting in N.J.

ATLANTIC CITY, N.J. – The Ukrainian American Bar Association (UABA) held its 26th annual meeting in Atlantic City, N.J., over the weekend of November 14-16.

The UABA is a national association of American attorneys of Ukrainian descent. It seeks to promote and defend the interests of the Ukrainian American community as well as individuals in Ukraine. The members of the UABA are committed to the idea that they, as advocates, have a duty to offer their legal expertise for the benefit of Ukrainian Americans.

The meeting began with a welcoming speech by former president, Andre Michniak, and a statement by Roman Badiak, the Scholarship Committee Chair. The meeting was well attended and hosted several speakers who offered lectures on various legal issues. Nancy E. Medwid, spoke about the Employee Retirement Income Security Act (ERISA). This was followed by a discussion of elder law by Peter Piddoubny, Antonia J. Martinez and Luba Kos, financial planner. Following this, Orest Bezpalko and George Bohatiuk, M.D., spoke on the evaluation of a personal injury case.

After a short break, Ms. Kos spoke again on the topic of small practice insurance and retirement plans. Andrew Pidgirsky then delivered a talk on the Sarbanes-Oxley Act of 2002.

New elections were then held and Andrew E. Stecki was elected as the new president of the UABA. Ms. Medwid was elected as the new vice-president. George Pazuniak was elected treasurer. Mr. Badiak was elected secretary and will continue to serve as chairman of the Scholarship Committee. Mr. Pidgirsky was elected as chairman of the board of governors. Peter Piddoubny, Deanna Hazen, Andre Michniak, Walter Lupan and Myroslaw Smorodsky were elected as the new board of governors.

Saturday's events concluded with a banquet at which keynote speaker Ihor Kotlarchuk spoke about his work with the Department of Justice.

The conference concluded on Sunday morning with a meeting of the newly elected officers, at which new business was discussed and a plan for the future of the organization was implemented. The next annual convention will be held in Miami in the fall of 2004; details will be announced as matters are finalized.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: November

Amount	Name	City
\$250.00	Irene Komarynsky	Stamford, Conn.
\$125.00	Thomas Oliynyk	Ozone Park, N.Y.
\$100.00	Paul Bandikowsky	Chicago, Ill.
	Yuriy and Irena Deychakiwsky	Noth Potomac, Md.
	Anna Harmaty	Chatham, N.J.
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\$95.00	M. Mackin	San Diego, Calif.
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	Irene Pashesnik	Coatesville, Pa.
\$30.00	Romana Cap-Labrosse	Marlboro, N.J.
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	Ann Cymbalisty	Edmonton, Alberta
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	Olga Hayetskyj	Bronx, N.Y.
	Thomas Hirnyck	Redmond, Wash.
	Cathy Kizyma	Oxford, Mich.
	(in memory of Olena Stercho)	
	Peter Myskiw	Phoenix, Ariz.
	O. Rybak	Berlin, Md.
	Iwan Sierant	New York, N.Y.
	Wasył Sosiak	Forest Hills, N.Y.
	Gregory Woloszyn	Forest Hills, N.Y.
\$20.00	Ihor Ambroziak	Vancouver, Wash.
	George Chomyn	Weston, Ontario
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	Albert Kipa	Allentown, Pa.
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	Merle and Bonnie Jurkiewicz	Toledo, Ohio
	Harry Kowalcheck	West Newton, Pa.
	Adrian Krawczeniuk	Old Greenwich, Conn.
	Andrij Leshchysyn	Columbia, Md.
	Mary Maciach	Jersey City, N.J.
	Mark Pyk	Chicago, Ill.
	Natalia Ripeckyj	Eau Clair, Wis.
	Paul Rosynsky	Oakland, Calif.
	Myron Saldyt	Carrales, N.M.
	Bohdan Turczeniuk	Elkins Park, Pa.

TOTAL: \$2,760.00

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The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund is the sole fund dedicated exclusively to supporting the work of this publication.

WEEKLY PRESS FUND: A SPECIAL REPORT

Bo Kaluszyk

Cleveland, Ohio

Total: \$10.00

... AND A SPECIAL THANK-YOU

This donation to The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund was received during the month of November along with payments for "Ukraine Lives!"

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Derek John Gemski, son of Derek Gemski and Jennifer D'Ambrosio, is a new member of UNA Branch 206 in Woonsocket, R.I. He was enrolled by his great-grandfather William Mihovan.



Sophia Catherine McAvoy, daughter of Dan McAvoy and Candice Eleanor Gemski is a new member of UNA Branch 206 in Woonsocket, R.I. She was enrolled by her great-grandfather William Mihovan.



Phoenix Amelia Chebiniak, daughter of Paul Nicholas Chebiniak and Kyanna Sutton, is a new member of UNA Branch 206 in Woonsocket, R.I. She was enrolled by her great-grandfather William Mihovan.



Nicholas Stephen Fogg, son of John and Pamela Fogg, is a new member of UNA Branch 206 in Woonsocket, R.I. He was enrolled by his great-grandfather William Mihovan.



Matthew Antony and Brianna Zirka Grenda, children of Alexander and Rachel Grenda, are new members of UNA Branch 461. They were enrolled by their grandmother Irene Grenda of Welland, Ontario.



Matthew Roman Wasylyk, son of Marianne and Roman Wasylyk of Oxford, Conn., is a new member of UNA Branch 88. He was enrolled by his grandparents Stephanie and Roman Hawryluk. Grandma is the secretary of Branch 88.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – SEPTEMBER 2003

Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 8/2003	5,932	12,227	2,677	20,836
Total Inactive Members – 8/2003	7,647	16,125	0	23,772
Total Members – 8/2003	13,579	28,352	2,677	44,608

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 9/2003

New members	14	21	0	23
New members UL	0	0	0	0
Reinstated	8	5	8	21

Total Gains:	22	26	8	56
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Losses in 9/2001

Died	2	21	0	23
Cash surrender	4	8	0	12
Endowment matured	15	12	0	27
Fully paid-up	9	13	0	22
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	17	30	0	47
Certificates lapsed (active)	6	2	12	20
Certificate terminated	0	2	2	4

Total Losses	53	88	14	155
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Total Active Members – 9/2001	5,901	12,165	2,671	20,737
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INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 9/2001

Paid-up	9	13	0	22
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	17	30	0	47

Total Gains	26	43	0	69
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Losses in 9/2001

* Died	2	37	0	39
* Cash surrender	6	11	0	17
Pure endowment matured	0	1	0	1
Reinstated to active	8	5	0	13
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	0	8	0	8

Total Losses	16	62	0	78
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Total Inactive Members – 9/2001	7,657	16,106	0	23,763
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TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 9/2001	13,558	28,271	2,671	44,500
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(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Changing the rules of the game

As the New Year begins, in Ukraine preparations by the candidates for the October 31 presidential elections should be well underway. A gnawing feeling exists, however, that it all may well be over before it begins. Some may say the elections are already decided.

On December 30, as Ukraine and the world turned their attention to the New Year at hand, the country's highest constitutional authority quietly handed down a ruling in which it stated that Mr. Kuchma should get a third term in office because a new Constitution, approved in 1996, had split his first five-year term, effectively making it a partial term. The Court based its decision on a clause of the new Constitution that stated that its provisions could not be enacted retroactively. The Court's spokesman in the case, Justice Vasyl Nimchenko, explained that the clause effectively made Mr. Kuchma's authority in his first two years in office part of the old Constitution, giving him the legal grounds to run again in 2004.

In another landmark ruling, last month the Constitutional Court decided that the election of the president by the Verkhovna Rada would not usurp the nation's right to elect its state leader directly, a ruling the parliamentary leadership then used to ram through initial approval for constitutional amendments that would give Ukraine a parliamentary/presidential form of government and the authority to elect the president. It is political reform that Mr. Kuchma is aggressively pursuing, at all costs it seems.

We believe the two rulings – especially the second one – have little ground to stand on. Experts on constitutional law, as well as Mr. Kuchma's critics, accuse him of manhandling the court and turning its justices into judicial stooges. And they may be right.

Elections are 10 months away, and the president has said repeatedly that he will not run again. But Mr. Kuchma has fretted over a "successor," to assure him a peaceful retirement. He has said that he would not consider resigning early in favor of a chosen replacement, much as Russian President Boris Yeltsin resigned in favor of Vladimir Putin, who in turn, gave him a guarantee of immunity from criminal prosecution for any actions committed during his presidential tenure.

With none of his colleagues and cronies able to build the popular base enjoyed by Ukraine's most popular politician, National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko, who is considered a presidential candidate, Mr. Kuchma worries that his retirement may be full of legal troubles, and possibly worse should Mr. Yushchenko win the October elections. So perhaps he would consider running for a third term to keep the presidential chair for his political purposes while one of his protégés works to gain prominence.

This would become especially convenient if the presidential forces that today control the Verkhovna Rada orchestrated a vocal "draft Kuchma" campaign. It seems that all the legal pieces are being put into place for such a scenario: to give a basis for Mr. Kuchma to be forced to "cave-in" and decide to run again.

Whether a majority of the Ukrainian people – public opinion polls show only about 6 percent of Ukrainians support Mr. Kuchma's leadership – are ready to respond positively to such a move by the Verkhovna Rada is a whole different matter. The Ukrainian nation, however, has shown in the past few years that rather than have their voice heard, it opts for kitchen talk and quiet complaining. Perhaps Mr. Kuchma's people believe that all would soon be forgotten after several hot months of protest.

While the president has stated firmly that he will not run again, a gut feeling remains that somehow the two rulings of the Constitutional Court are connected, and that Mr. Kuchma has already used the most powerful of his administrative tools to begin a re-election campaign in which his motto will be: "I will not run unless called; I will not serve unless asked."

If he has indeed manipulated Ukraine's Constitutional Court – what should be the country's most sacred government body – in getting these two controversial decisions handed down, then what would restrain his supporters from using all the other considerable government tools at their disposal, as some claim they have done in the past? If that is the case, then as the campaign season begins, we can safely assume that the elections are over.

Jan.
4
1989

Turning the pages back...

The Reagan administration announced on Wednesday, January 4, 1989, that it would support a human rights meeting in Moscow to be held in 1991 as part of the Helsinki Accords review process.

The proposal to hold the meeting, long-sought by the Soviet Union, was one of the last sticking points at the Vienna Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe that had been meeting since 1986. The White House's Deputy Press Secretary Roman Popadiuk stated that the decision to support a Moscow conference on human rights was intended as a way of "encouraging continuation of the significant progress in human rights that has taken place in the Soviet Union over the past three years."

The United States, Canada, Great Britain, and several other NATO states had opposed holding a human rights conference in Moscow on the grounds that the USSR still fell short of compliance with the human rights provisions of the 1975 Helsinki Accords. The U.S. position on the proposed conference had been that Moscow must meet four preconditions before it could hope to host such a meeting: release all political prisoners, resolve divided families cases (involving U.S. and Soviet citizens), cease jamming of Radio Liberty and ease emigration restrictions. In addition, the U.S. delegation to the Vienna Conference, headed by Ambassador Warren Zimmerman, had stated that guarantees were needed that the Soviets would give non-governmental organizations and the news media access to the Moscow conference. A draft version of a concluding document for the Vienna Conference was introduced by nine neutral and non-aligned states on January 4.

Source: "U.S. announces its support for Moscow rights meeting," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, January 8, 1989.

CHRISTMAS PASTORAL LETTER

Join us in giving thanks for Christmas and the gift of the Christ Child

Dearly Beloved in Christ,

The story about the birth of Christ is familiar to all of us. We can read about it from the different perspectives of the Evangelists Matthew and Luke. We can read of the conception by the Holy Spirit and the Virgin Mary at Nazareth, His birth in the stable at Bethlehem and the adoration of the Baby by the Wise Men. And in that wondrous narrative lies the beginning of our life eternal.

It is curious that the Baby from the very beginning of His life on earth was a mystery – not only to us who attempt to fathom the enormity of God's love for us by His sharing in our humanity, but even to those who knew Him most intimately: Mary and Joseph.

The question is as immediate today as it was when He first asked: "Who do you say that I am?" The answer each one of us gives literally makes all the difference in the world. Since human beings are endowed with immortal souls, our response to the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ determines what kind of immortality that shall be. Our answer, "the Son of God," reflects the gift that is Christmas.

We are drawn to the Holy Family during this Christmas Season. It's a miraculous time of year, when the mood of the nation is elevated. At Christmas we become better people. We're kinder. We're more patient. We're more generous and loving. We're more gracious and forgiving. Everything that is good in human nature somehow blossoms.

What is the reason for this change? Each year, Christmas reintroduces the

spirit of the Baby Jesus back into our lives. That wondrous spirit enters into our lives and surrounds us everywhere.

It is a spirit that is uniquely magnanimous and full of love – deep and expensive, warm and patient, understanding and miraculously forgiving. It is a time when we appreciate more our family and realize that the only things that really matter are those who are near and dear to us. It is a time when we forget about receiving and enjoy the satisfaction that comes from giving. It is a time when we draw our families together in the image of that family of long ago: the one first gathered around the Crib.

For the gift of the Christ Child, for the wonder of this joyous time of the year, Christmas, we give thanks. As we receive, let us be motivated to share. May we experience in our own hearts the joy and wonder of God's coming among us and the only true peace, which is the peace of Christ. Let us all receive the new lease on life that is the Lord whose birth we celebrate this Christmas, the life-giving Lord and Savor – our Food and Drink in the Eucharist – knocking at the door of our souls. Let us invite Him in.

With my warmest greetings and the assurance of my prayers in this holy season. I remain,

Sincerely yours in Christ,
Most Reverend Basil H. Losten, D.D.
 Eparch of Stamford
 (New York and New England)
 Given in St. Vladimir Cathedral
 Feast of the Conception of St. Ann

NEWS AND VIEWS

Frescoes return to St. Michael Golden Domes Cathedral in Kyiv

by Prof. Volodymyr Bakum

As we have been informed by the Ukrainian press and Dr. Serhiy Kot of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, specialists of Ukraine and Russia have finally agreed that an additional seven frescoes, currently at the Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, Russia, do indeed belong to the plundered art treasures of St. Michael of the Golden Domes Cathedral in Kyiv.

The meeting of the joint commission was held at the Heritage on October 1-3. Four years had elapsed since the last meeting held in October 1999, at which a partial victory had been achieved with the return of four frescoes to Kyiv in March of 2001.

However, as St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society, a member of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., had informed the Ukrainian community in August 2001, the Russian specialists continued to claim that the additional frescoes Ukraine was asking to be returned were not part of St. Michael's art treasures. They demanded further proof and detailed documentation. The

Volodymyr Bakum is secretary of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society, based in Rutherford, N.J., and professor of French Language Studies at the Center for International Programs at the State University of New York at New Paltz and faculty director of the Center's Paris Summer Program, as well as

Ukrainian researchers had no choice: either comply and provide the required documents or lose a very valuable part of Ukraine's cultural heritage forever. They decided to continue their work. But to do that they needed money. Unfortunately, the Ukrainian government was unable to provide them with the necessary funds.

St. Andrew's Society offered to help and launched an urgent appeal for funds in late summer 2001. The Ukrainian community responded magnificently and donated generously. Members of all religious denominations sent in their contributions. The late Sophia Chopivska donated \$5,000 to the cause, and there were many others who felt that it was their duty to help raise the needed funds.

The money received went toward financing repeated trips to Russia, Germany, and the United States to conduct the necessary research in the various archives and museums of these countries. The painstaking investigation followed the path of St. Michael's art treasures from their removal from the walls of the cathedral, prior to its destruction by the Soviet government in 1937, through their shipment to Germany by the German military authority, their return to the Soviet military authority by the U.S. army command after Nazi Germany surrendered in 1945, and from then on through a multitude of Russian cities and

(Continued on page 9)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

UWC president should resign from his position

Dear Editor:

In your "Interview: Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian World Congress" (December 21) Mr. Lozynskyj persists in his apologetic attitude towards the present regime in Ukraine.

Prior to the UWC he praised the "relative press freedom in Ukraine (his televised interview with "Kontakt"). Earlier, after the damning "Melnychenko tapes" were publicized and authenticated, Mr. Lozynskyj stated, on the pages of The Ukrainian Weekly, that all that Mr. Kuchma may be accused of is "using bad language."

Even after being publicly humiliated by the Kuchma administration prior to the UWC conclave in Kyiv last August, in his biased perception of reality (shades of Walter Duranty) he is unable to see the difference between the "advantages enjoyed by incumbents in the U.S" and the ruthless power grab and suppression of all opposition in Ukraine, including blatant falsifications of elections, disrupting political rallies, complete domination and censorship of all press and television, physical intimidation of deputies, shameless disregard of the Constitution, and serial murders of opposition journalists and politicians. According to Mr. Lozynskyj's enlightened view "there are very few morals in politics," so "anything goes" and should be excusable.

That "we have what we have," as opposed to progress made in other post-Communist societies, now full-fledged members of the European Community, is nobody's fault but our own. Our submissive acceptance of evil, on both sides of the Atlantic, is part of the syndrome.

This problem of too few people daring to actively resist the "inexorable submergence of Ukraine in the sticky Eurasian morass" has recently been decried by Mykola Ryabchuk, one of Ukraine's leading political journalists. A tactful but firm rebuke to our diaspora community for "being exceedingly gentle to Mr. Kuchma's regime" was also voiced by Stepan Khmara, one of the members of the opposition delegation to Ottawa, on the "Kontakt" program of December 21.

Mr. Lozynskyj's attitude provides help and comfort to the terrorist regime. He does not deserve the trust of the Ukrainian diaspora and should promptly resign the UWC presidency.

Roman Wolchuk
Jersey City, N.J.

Thanks for publishing a wonderful paper

Dear Editor:

Please accept my congratulations on the occasion of the 70th jubilee of The Ukrainian Weekly.

I do well remember Dr. Luke Myshuha's visit to Detroit in 1930, when he was seeking a competent person to receive journalistic training to become editor of The Weekly. Dr. Myshuha, my brother John and I discussed the problem over dinner - I was 22, a student at Wayne State University and had plans to return to Canada.

Congratulations, Ms. Hadzewycz, you are publishing a wonderful Ukrainian newspaper.

Michael Ewanchuk
Winnipeg

Honoring our veterans and those who serve

Dear Editor:

In response to Mykola Holinaty's outrage (November 30) over the opinions that I expressed in my letter (November 2), I would like to say that I am profoundly disturbed by his assumption that those who have served in the military are not entitled to question the actions of our government or to express dissenting opinions.

The answer to his question as to whether I served in World War II is: No, I wasn't born yet. My father, however, did serve with the U.S. Marines in World War II. He said that he was really gung ho when he went into the Marines in 1943 at the age of 17 and not at all gung ho when he got out three years later. A Republican, like myself, he believed that the Republican Party was the party of peace and claimed that it was Democrats who started wars. He didn't live to see the current Republican administration.

I am amazed at how consistently war supporters cite World War II, which Studs Terkel called "The Good War." It seems that one has to go that far back to find a major war in which the U.S. role can easily be justified and which was followed by a clearly positive outcome. Tyrants were toppled, though too late for millions of victims; genocide was finally stopped; and former enemies became prosperous and democratic allies.

But 9/11 was not Pearl Harbor, and Saddam Hussein was not Hitler. Yes, Hussein, too, was an evil dictator who murdered many of his own citizens, but he was not trying to conquer the entire Middle East in the way that the Germans and Japanese were trying to conquer Europe and Asia. The traditional doctrine of containment may have applied to the first Gulf War; it does not apply to this one. The so-called Bush Doctrine, which basically says that we can intervene militarily in response to any real or imagined present or future threat to ourselves or anyone else, sets a dangerous and anarchistic international precedent and threatens to completely overextend us.

I personally believe that stopping a genocide is a legitimate reason to fight a war, but it was not originally cited by President Bush as a reason for invading Iraq. Furthermore, Hussein's genocidal activities had been pretty much relegated to the past, along with whatever weapons of mass destruction he may have possessed, by the time of the invasion. What did we do to stop those genocidal actions while they were actually taking place in Iraq, or for that matter, Yugoslavia or Rwanda? These examples are just from the past decade.

There may be those who think that President Bush is God's gift to international relations, domestic security, the economy and civil liberties. I am of a different opinion. If retired Gen. Wesley Clark, a Vietnam veteran, can express his opposition to the policies of the current commander-in-chief, so can I, a person who served in the Army for four years a couple decades ago, and so can any other civilian. Surely, freedom means more than just the freedom to "Heil Hitler," or to vote for the Communist Party candidate, or to acquiesce in the policies of a president for whom I did not even vote.

The best thing that can be said about war is that sometimes it is a necessary evil. There is a very important and fine distinction to be made between, on the one hand, honoring the service and sacrifices of veterans and current members of our armed forces and, on the other hand, mindlessly promoting a cult of war. I strive to do the former and not the latter.

Karen Bapst, Ph.D.
Port Charlotte, Fla.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



If I had my way in 2004...

If I Had My Way As An American Ukrainian in 2004...

...Ukraine would become a totally free, not a partially free nation as depicted in a recent Freedom House report. This would mean that neither Leonid Kuchma nor Viktor Medvechuk would be president. The people and not the parliament would elect the president.

...The Communist Party of Ukraine would once again be outlawed and suffer the same fate as the Nazi Party in Germany; in a just and moral society it is truly mind boggling to think that the very party that was responsible for the Great Famine is still part of Ukraine's political process.

...Ukraine would have an independent judiciary and everybody, rich man, poor man, government official, would be subject to the rule of law. The Supreme Court would no longer be a tool of those in power. The many human rights guaranteed by the Ukrainian Constitution would be respected, not ignored as they were in Soviet times. ...Once elected on a particular slate, members of Parliament would be forbidden to change their political allegiance until the next term. They would also be subject to the law and could be indicted for criminal acts.

...People associated with the government, including parliamentarians, various and sundry bureaucrats, university staff and teachers who would not speak Ukrainian would be given a deadline to learn the national language after which they could suffer dismissal for failing to comply.

...An independent committee of highly respected jurists would be selected by the Supreme Court to investigate the most egregious crimes of the Soviet Union and those responsible brought to trial. Ukraine can never be fully independent until it comes to terms with its Soviet past.

...Oblast governors would be elected by the people, not appointed by the president.

...Ukraine would finally have a free press. Journalists who criticized government officials would not disappear, or suffer "unfortunate accidents" or "commit suicide" or lose their heads, literally. Reporters would be allowed free access to government officials whose first loyalty would be to the electorate rather than oligarchs or political mentors.

...The economy would improve once capitalism was given free rein and laws were in place to protect private property. A free market system which rewarded hard work and innovation would be encouraged and rewarded by a government which abolished confiscatory taxes on entrepreneurs.

...Corruption would end. Ukraine's oligarchs would begin to give back most of what they had stolen for so many years. Government officials who took bribes would be severely punished.

...Ukrainian higher education would be totally overhauled. Most of today's Soviet-era professors would be forced to retire. Ukrainian academics would be hired on the basis of what they know rather than who they know. Professors who took bribes from students would be summarily dismissed. Universities would flourish as true meritocracies where advancement is based on ability and achievement rather than political contracts. Universities would be responsible for granting higher degrees rather than the politically corrupt Ministry of Higher

Education. Soviet-era academic degrees such as the "candidate," "specialist" and "academic" would be abolished (as they were in the three Baltic nations), and replaced by the universally recognized baccalaureate, master and doctors degrees. Professors would serve on thesis committees as part of their academic responsibility and not expect a fee or other largess for their guidance. Universities would finally become independent institutions of higher learning, not subject to the political control and whims of the Ministry of Higher Education. University students and Professors would no longer be punished for participating in the political process.

...Ukrainian Orthodox and Ukrainian Catholic leaders would begin a dialogue for the purpose of coming to a greater appreciation of each other.

Ukrainians are a hard-working, well-educated, and innovative people who deserve far better than what they have experienced during the last twelve years.

If I had my way as a Ukrainian American in 2004...

...Saddam Hussein and Osama Bin Laden would be dead and buried.

...The Ukrainian National Association would make a quantum leap towards renewal; the stagnation of the past few years would end and the UNA would once again be the premier Ukrainian organization in America.

...Our community would be united once again. The year 2004 will be a pivotal year, a watershed moment in our history, both here and in Ukraine, and for that reason unity is essential. My hope is that all national Ukrainian organizations, including the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (Soyuz Ukrainok), Plast, ODUM, and the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, will return to the Ukrainian Congress Committee (UCCA).

...Our brothers and sisters in the fourth wave whose values, aspirations, and behavior are so different from our own, would come to better appreciate the kinship which we all share.

...The membership of our Orthodox and Catholic churches would double so that our rich religious heritage is invigorated and our people are reborn into Jesus Christ.

...The Office of Special Investigations (OSI) would be exposed for the fraud that it is. At a cost of millions of American taxpayer dollars OSI has deteriorated into little more than a hate group dependent on maintaining Jewish animus towards Ukrainians, ignoring, at the same time, Soviet criminals currently residing in the land of the free. OSI remains a blight on the American judicial system. It is a boil that needs to be lanced.

And so I dream, not little dreams, but big dreams, dreams worthy of thought and realization and I do so as an American. In the words of poet Archibald Macleish: There are those, I know, who will reply that the liberation of humanity, the freedom of man and mind, is nothing but a dream. It is. It is the American dream." And that, dear reader, is what will sustain me in the coming year.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com.

M1 music television station blends a modern, innovative style with a mix of the traditional

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – With a coffee-colored complexion and dreadlocks extending to mid-spine, Myroslav Kuvaldyn does not have the appearance of your typical Ukrainian, if such a thing in fact exists. He projects alternative lifestyles in his dress and in his ideas.

On the other hand, Karolina Ashion, all 5 foot 9 inches of her stylishly outfitted body, lets you know with a flash of her brilliant smile and glimmering almond-shaped eyes that she is indeed an average, successful young adult, Ukrainian-style.

The 28-year-old Ukrainians, both of whom have Nigerian fathers, are two of the brightest talents of Ukraine's very popular music television station, M1.

Obviously, neither one of them can be said to embody the channel's "krov z molokom" theme, a traditional Ukrainian description for the purity and beauty of a fair-skinned Ukrainian maiden.

The channel's "krov z molokom" motto, and its allusion to innocence, is a striking juxtaposition to the sexually charged subject matter that dominates contemporary music videos, which the music channel's on-air tag – a flow of red ooze that slowly covers a white background and the M1 logo – effectively projects.

Karolina and Myroslav are two examples of how far previously Soviet-dominated Ukrainian radio and television has come in the last 13 years. They work for a television channel that since its inception in 2001 has presented the newest Western norms and traditions of musical television – very much in tune to the standards set by the grandfather of music television, MTV.

M1 is up-tempo, with hyperactive VJs filmed with irregular, quickly changing camera angles in the style pioneered by MTV. It supplies a steady diet of video clips of pop music acts, interspersed with top-10 ratings shows and show biz news to a Ukrainian audience that reaches all corners of the country, the first such channel to do so.

But what makes M1 most interesting is that it is the first Ukrainian music entertainment program to offer a mass venue through which Ukrainian musicians can express their talents and publicize their music. It succeeds by mixing a dose of the disrespectful with a dollop of mainstream.

In their attitudes towards music and from their outer appearances as well, Karolina and Myroslav reflect the wide variety of Ukrainian demographics the



Karolina Ashion

music channel is attempting to incorporate. Karolina, who reads show business news for M1 and has a half-hour program on the latest gossip from Hollywood and other entertainment hot spots, presents a bright and bubbly persona. In person, she is slightly more reserved, but gives off the same positive, feel-good attitude she presents before the camera.

The Sumy-born Karolina, whose Ukrainian is impeccable, likes Whitney Houston, but also listens to Norah Jones, Justin Timberlake and Bryan Adams. She explained that her musical tastes are open to everything from hip-hop and electronic to mainstream rock. She emphasized, however, that the song, and not the singer or the genre, usually first captures her attention.

Tall and athletic Karolina, who has a degree in economics and was a team handball star in high school, was "discovered" in classic fashion by M1's executive producer, Oleksander Asauliuk, as she sat with her mother in a Kyiv café drinking coffee in 2000.

"He just came up to me and said that, with a face and smile like mine, I should be on television," said Karolina.

Karolina said that M1 Music Television appeals to a wide-ranging viewer spectrum because it puts the onus on quality, whether that means classical rock or avant-garde productions.

A marketing specialist might complain that by being so inclusive, M1 threatens to satisfy no one and leave itself without a strong viewer base, but that would ignore the fact that Ukrainians in general are more apt to listen to the songs that please them, as Karolina admits to doing, rather than to a specific genre they have chosen to embrace, as Americans tend to do.

That allows M1 Music Television to draw on several musical wellsprings, sticking to the standard, heavy dose of Russian schlock pop offerings – which remains the most widely heard type of music in Ukraine – but also presenting a wide spectrum of global tastes, from the outlandish and the radical to the mainstream, includ-

ing international acts ranging from Ricky Martin, Whitney Houston and Enrique Iglesias to Robbie Williams, Garbage, Pink and Eminem.

Yet there is room for popular Ukrainian rock acts like Okean Elzy, Vopli Vidopliasova, Ani Lorak and Tango Na Maidanyi Kongo.

Karolina's colleague at M1, Myroslav, who tends to the more avant-garde and less mainstream in his musical tastes, expressed much more displeasure with the music channel's video offerings than she. He admitted a particular frustration over the fact that Ukrainian acts get so much less airplay on Ukrainian television.

Myroslav, who was born in Dniprodzerzhynsk and grew up in Poltava, where he graduated from the Poltava Pedagogical Institute, is a strong proponent of Ukrainian music. Before plunging into television as a VJ – which he still considers temporary employment – he was part of the musical group, The View, which mixed reggae with Ukrainian folk sounds to create music with a lilting, rhythmic quality that made the group popular in the mid- and late 1990s. Unfortunately, the unstable Ukrainian market and extensive CD and cassette tape piracy, still a large problem today, forced the members of the act to go their separate ways in search of a bit of financial security.

"Once you are older than 25 years of age, living on altruism becomes difficult," explained Myroslav.

Myroslav and his main writing partner went into production and song writing before Myroslav landed his deal with M1 Music Television. Nonetheless, the 28-year-old said he is still writing music and is currently finishing work on a CD, with songs in three languages – Ukrainian, English and Russian – an album he will release once he feels that the CD market has stepped out of the economic shadows.

Myroslav said that today it is still difficult for a musical act in Ukraine to become financially successful.

"To this day, musicians continue to

make a living on their performances, because most of the CDs that are purchased are still bootlegs," explained Myroslav.

The M1 VJ also expressed displeasure with the timidity and the lack of creativity among Ukrainian pop acts. He strongly criticized groups that continue to copy what they hear coming out of Europe or Moscow. He called the practice a direct expression of their insecurity or lack of talent.

"I believe that Ukrainian bands are too timid in utilizing Ukrainian folk roots, the influences that surround them. They are simply scared," Myroslav noted. "If you look at all the great changes in music they started from cultural influences."

He gave examples of how Afro-American music developed into rock 'n roll, which became hugely popular in Great Britain at about the time the British added their native skiffle to the mix.

"Katia Chili, Skriabyn, when V.V. sings – they are not just singing European rock, it is Ukrainian rock music," explained Myroslav. "I believe good music incorporates cultural roots. Bands need to incorporate their own national identities not just weakly mimic what was played 10-20 years ago."

Repeating Marshall McLuhan's axiom that the medium is the message, Myroslav expressed his conviction that if an exclusively all-Ukrainian musical channel existed it would eventually find an audience. He noted two parallel reasons that Russian music continues to remain popular among Ukrainians some 15 years after Moscow's monolithic grip on the country began to deteriorate.

First, he pointed out that whereas in the U.S. record companies and band managers are banned by law from paying radio stations to spin their CDs or for music channels to broadcast video clips, in Ukraine and Russia it is not only legal, it is standard practice and the main way radio and music television earn a profit. The second reason Russian music dominates relates to the first: because the Moscow music industry has been around for years – it is a continuation of the Soviet music industry – it has the money to throw around and the latest technology, which former republic capitals like Kyiv are only now acquiring.

"Russian producers order hundreds of broadcasts of their videos, of course they're going to become popular," explained Myroslav.

Both Karolina and Myroslav noted that Russian talent is beginning to record music and video in Ukraine, which means that real capital is beginning to circulate in the Ukrainian music industry as well.

In keeping with its wide open format – and perhaps to keep one of their most popular on-air personalities satisfied – M1 has given Myroslav a 30-minute program, "Pop.UA.," during which he presents his "alternate viewpoints," to the top-20 most popular videos in Ukraine, most of which are Russian in origin.

It is a loosely constructed show during which Myroslav – dressed in top hat and carrying a walking stick like some sort of musical Blackstone while calling himself the "minister of music" – scrutinizes the music videos that Ukrainians are watching and gives his impressions, mostly negative, while allowing phone-in viewers to speak their mind as well.

M1 also broadcasts a more typical top 20 music video countdown, but in unconventional fashion. Instead of your stereotypical fast-talking, high-energy VJ introducing each video clip, M1 has opted for a show called, "Rusalky in Da House" in which three Ukrainian beauties dressed as mermaids repose upon several large boul-



Myroslav Kuvaldyn

(Continued on page 22)

Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble showcases its thunder

by Greg Karawan

CHICAGO – Still on a high from its successful tour of Ukraine – its first international tour – in July of this year, the Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble recently had a busy few weeks performing outside its normal realm of Ukrainian-based audiences.

Hoping to capitalize on its success in Ukraine, Hromovytsia was given the opportunity in November to perform at one of the largest dance festivals in the United States – Dance Chicago 2003 – at the Athenaeum Theater. Dance Chicago 2003 consisted of eight different programs, 27 performances, 250 individual acts and over 2,500 artists over the course of five weeks – attracting an audience of over 16,000 dance enthusiasts.

A videotape of the ensemble's highly energetic finale, "Hopak," yielded a personal phone call from the festival's founder and artistic-director, John Schmitz. Impressed with what he saw, Mr. Schmitz offered Hromovytsia, which is directed by Roxana Dykyj Pylypczak, a chance to perform among some of the biggest names in dance. In its first two performances at Dance Chicago on November 8 and 15, Hromovytsia executed the "Hopak" with the same precision, excitement and vigor as it did in Ukraine, ending both of the shows. Audiences erupted into standing ovations, thrilled by their first encounter with Ukrainian folk dance.

After what Hromovytsia thought was the conclusion of its Dance Chicago experience, there was a second phone call from the festival's curator. This one invited the ensemble back to perform two shows in the Dance Chicago 2003 Finale on November 30 at 3 p.m. and 7 p.m.

This final program comprised festival favorites and new works. Among the other performers were professionals such as The Joffrey Ballet, River North Chicago Dance Company, Gus Giordano Jazz Dance, the Dutch National Ballet, and world-champion ballroom dancing duet Gregory Day and Tommye Giacchino. Hromovytsia was an amateur group nestled among an arsenal of some of the area's best professional dancers.

Once again, audiences embraced the



The Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble performs the Hopak.

"Hopak" with open arms and afterwards asked many of the ensemble's members: "Where have you been hiding?"

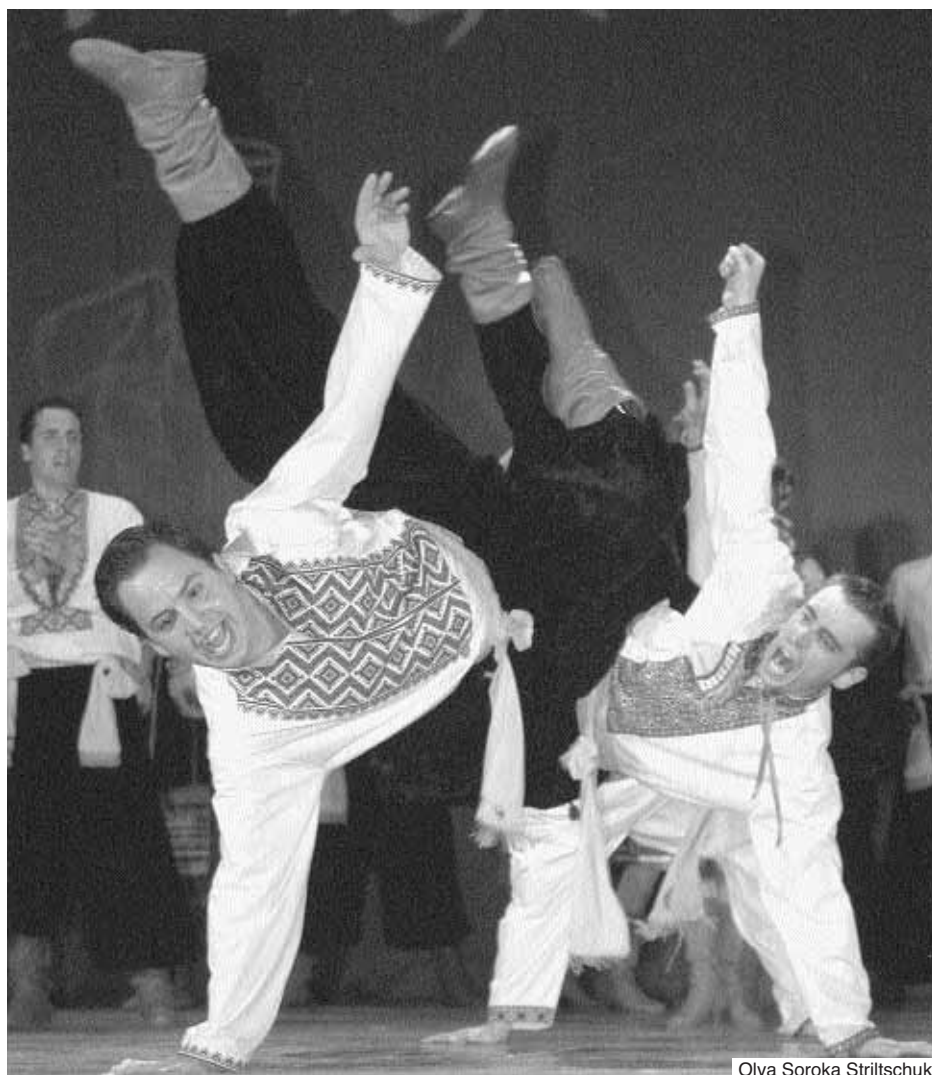
A personal invitation from the ballroom dancing champions followed Hromovytsia's final Dance Chicago performance. Thus, the troupe danced at an annual Christmas Gala at the Chicago Hilton and Towers on December 7. The evening's program listed the company's piece as a "special treat" for audience members.

With all the hard work and dedication demonstrated in 2003 by its artistic-director, technical director, costume designer and dancers, the Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble had hoped to spread its repertory wings beyond Chicago's Ukrainian community. In recent months it has done exactly that. With its accomplishments in both the tour of Ukraine and Dance Chicago 2003, doors have opened up for Hromovytsia – open doors that won't permit the troupe to "hide" any longer.



Olya Soroka Striltschuk

The Hromovytsia Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Chicago.



Olya Soroka Striltschuk

A solo portion of the "Hopak," which delighted Chicago audiences in their first encounter with Ukrainian folk dance.

The frescoes...

(Continued from page 6)

museums to their final destination, the Russian National Hermitage Museum in St. Petersburg, where they are presently housed.

Some details are in order: In 1943, the Nazis, who had seized the entire St. Michael's collection of 26 frescoes and mosaics when they occupied Kyiv in 1941, sensing that the tide of the war was turning, shipped them to Höchstädt, in Bavaria. There they remained until the American military authority, anxious to return to their rightful owners the thousands of art treasures plundered by the Nazis all over the world, brought them to Munich and then turned them over to the Russian military authority in the Soviet zone of occupation. Not surprisingly, the Russians shipped them straight to Russia, in spite of the fact that both German and American military records indicated that they came from St. Michael's of the Golden Domes.

Their first stop was the museum of Pushkino (formerly and now again Tsarskoye Selo), near St. Petersburg. From there they were sent to Novgorod, where an expertise as to their origin was performed in 1952. In 1953, 11 of the 18 frescoes were transferred to St. Petersburg.

The paper trail followed by the Ukrainian researchers is even more impressive: over ninety museums, collections and archives were visited and consulted throughout Germany and Russia.

At the National Archives in Washington, the research was done by Prof. Patricia

Kennedy Grimsted of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, who deserves a big word of thanks. Over 600 dossiers and records were thoroughly studied in search of the proof that all of the 11 frescoes sent to St. Petersburg from Novgorod in 1953 were from St. Michael's.

The documents presented by the Ukrainian commission at the October meeting proved beyond any doubt that the additional seven frescoes the Russians claimed as their own belonged to St. Michael's cathedral. The Russian members of the joint commission acknowledged that fact and stated that much in a joint protocol signed by both sides. This opens the way for the prompt return of the seven contested frescoes to Kyiv in the near future. An additional meeting held in December of 2003 was expected to finalize the agreement.

Other meetings, concerning the fate of another 15 frescoes and mosaics of St. Michael's still in museums of the Russian Federation, are planned.

The Ukrainian members of the joint commission were Serhiy Kot, Olena Serdiuk and Valentyna Vrublevska. The research and investigations were led throughout these years by Dr. Kot, who was named chairman of the Research Center for the Return and Restitution of Cultural Treasures and by Prof. Yuriy Koreniuk of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts.

We owe them a debt of gratitude for their untiring efforts. They, in turn, have asked us to thank once again the Ukrainian community in the diaspora for its generous financial support, without which their work could not have been successfully completed.

Shevchenko...

(Continued from page 3)

of numerous greetings received by NTSh on the occasion of its jubilee. The greetings were read by Dr. Swiatoslaw Trofimenko (University of Delaware), vice-president and learned secretary of NTSh of America.

From Ukraine, felicitations came from: Volodymyr Lytvyn, chairman of the Verkhovyna Rada; Borys Paton, president of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NANU); Valeriy Kuchinsky, Ukraine's permanent representative to the United Nations; Serhiy Pohoreltzev, Ukraine's consul general in New York, (who read his own greeting); the Institute of Literature of NANU, signed by Mykola Zhulynsky and others; the Institute of the Ukrainian Language of NANU, which sent three separate messages – from Vasyl Nimchuk, director, Orysia Demaska-Kulchytska, vice-director, and from other co-workers; Hennadii Boriak, chairman of the State Committee of the Archives of Ukraine; and Veniamin Sikora, president of the Ukrainian Association for Socio-Economic Research.

Greetings to the membership of NTSh in America were conveyed in person by representatives of the other structures within NTSh: Dr. Rudnytsky (World Council of NTSh), Dr. Darewych (NTSh of Canada) and Dr. Romaniv (NTSh of Ukraine).

From the diaspora, congratulatory messages came from Bishop Basil Losten; Dr. Olexa Bilaniuk, president of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.; Dr. Assya Humesky, president of the Association of Ukrainian University Professors; Dr. Myroslava Tomorug Znayenko, president of the American Association of Ukrainian Studies; Dr. Larissa Kyj, representing the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Dr. Lubomyr Wynar, president of the World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress; the Ukrainian Historical Association, signed by Dr. Lubomyr Wynar and Dr. Oleksander Dombrowsky; and Slava Rubel, chair of the World Plast Bulava.

Furthermore, written greetings were read from the Harriman Institute at Columbia University, signed by Dr. Mark von Hagen and Dr. Catherine Nepomnyashchy.

Part 2 of the program featured talks within the Shevchenko Scientific Society's scholarly sections, chaired by Dr. Roman Andrushkiw, the first vice-president of NTSh in America and professor of mathematics at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. The session began with two presentations of the mathematics-physics-technology section, followed by one from the medicine section. All three dealt with cutting-edge technologies, but were presented in a manner accessible to a general audience.

Dr. Lubomyr Romankiw spoke on the "Development of Magnetic Recording on Discs – Past and Future." Since 1962 Dr. Romankiw has been working at the IBM Watson Research Center, where he holds the highest scientific title – that of IBM Fellow. He is the founder and director of the electrochemical laboratory for the preparation of the magnetic reading heads, which are used in all computers. For his invention of these devices, Dr. Romankiw has received 55 patents and a multitude of awards, of which the most prestigious are the Perkin Gold Medal for chemists and the Lieberman Award for electrical engineers. He is the author of over 300 scientific papers.

Dr. Romankiw traced the evolution of magnetic reading/writing sensors, from the heavy units of the 1970 vintage to

the present-day electroplated thin-film heads, which enable the storage of some 100 gigabytes of information on discs of one inch or less, having cut the cost per megabyte from \$500 in 1970 to 0.01 cents today. If you use a personal computer, you can thank Dr. Romankiw for his patented inventions.

The next talk, "Fiberoptics Communication" by Dr. Andrew Chraplyvy of the Bell Labs, dovetailed with Dr. Romankiw's talk on another aspect of the miniaturization of communications equipment. Dr. Chraplyvy invented a new type of optical fibers, which are highly transparent to infrared radiation, thus enabling a significant increase in the transmission of information via the fiberoptics method. The combination of fiberoptic transmission with the miniaturized computer recording devices described by Dr. Romankiw is what determines the speed of modern transmission and retrieval of information.

Dr. Chraplyvy holds the rank of Bell Labs Fellow and is director of the fiberoptics research there. The author of many scientific articles and patents, he is a member of the National Academy of Engineering, the International Electrical and Electronic Engineers Society, and the Optical Society of America. Recently, the latter honored Dr. Chraplyvy with the John Tyndal Award – its highest honor.

State-of-the-art medical research was featured in the talk by Dr. Larissa Bilaniuk (University of Pennsylvania), titled "Why Does Diagnostic Magnetic Resonance Deserve a Nobel Prize?" The reference here is to the 2003 Nobel Prize in Physiology and Medicine, which was awarded for magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). Dr. Bilaniuk displayed a number of MRI's of the human brain and fetuses, explaining how they can be used to identify defects and guide neurosurgeons in corrective operations. An MRI can map out brain functions, monitor areas of stimulation, follow various physiological effects and even detect psychoses. Eventually, brain imaging may be able to determine whether a person is telling the truth or lying, concluded Dr. Bilaniuk.

The author of over 200 scientific articles and 50 chapters in medical books, Dr. Bilaniuk has participated in numerous medical conferences and has lectured as a visiting professor throughout Ukraine. She has conducted courses four times for the professional upgrading of physicians in Ukraine.

The section of social sciences, history and philosophy was co-chaired by Prof. Martha Trofimenko, Esq., and Dr. Taras Hunczak (Rutgers University).

Dr. Volodymyr Bandera, professor of economics at Temple University, delivered a talk titled "Russia Is Buying Up Ukraine." Basing his presentation mainly on a recent monograph by Bohdan Sikora titled "Russian Economic Expansion in Ukraine," Dr. Bandera enumerated the danger signs facing Ukraine, particularly in the energy and telecommunications sectors, where Russian capital has become increasingly dominant.

This subject was explored further in the next talk, "Single Economic Space: Consequences for Ukraine" by Katriya Vasilaki of the International Research Division of the Federal Reserve Bank. Ms. Vasilaki perceived not only the obvious minuses emanating from Ukraine's membership in the SEC, but also some plusses. As positives she views the prospects of free trade and lowered tariffs with Ukraine's northern neighbor. However, she warned against the idea of a common currency with Russia, recommending instead that the hryvnia's value be fixed to the euro.

George Farion, Esq. (Odza, Gindhart,

Stecki & Farion), shared with the audience his experience with "Challenges in Researching the Subject of the Ukrainian Sich Riflemen ('Sichovi Striltsi')." He displayed a number of written and photographic materials that he has uncovered in his research.

The philology section was co-chaired by Dr. Humesky (University of Michigan) and Dr. Znayenko (Rutgers University).

First to speak was Dr. Wira Selansky (Wira Wowk) of the Federal University in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. In her presentation "About Changes in Orthography" she warned against government interference in mandating any such changes. To improve the language situation in Ukraine, she recommended that scholars inundate Ukraine with articles on Ukrainian language and literature. At the end of the program Ms. Wowk was honored for her poetry with a ceremony that included the reading of her poems by herself and others.

Next to speak was Dr. Humesky, the director of the philology section and professor of Ukrainian and Russian literatures at the University of Michigan. Dr. Humesky has authored a multitude of articles in the fields of languages and literatures, as well as more than 30 textbooks on the Ukrainian language. In her talk she examined the question "Was Chyzhevsky a Formalist?" The reference here is to the late Dmytro Chyzhevsky, professor of Slavic languages and literatures, mainly in German universities. Dr. Humesky concluded that Chyzhevsky believed in examining literary form without ignoring the context, an approach she called synthetic analysis. We should be grateful to Chyzhevsky for his synthetic analysis of the works of Taras Shevchenko, Dr. Humesky underscored.

Lesya Kalynsky, a doctoral candidate in the field of cinematography at New York University (previously a student at the Drahomanov University in Kyiv and the University of Illinois) gave a highly specialized talk on "Yuri Andrukhovych's Prose – A Post-Modernist Phenomenon."

Last on the program was the section on arts and musicology, chaired by its director, Titus Hewryk, architect and former director of facilities development at the University of Pennsylvania.

First to speak in this section was Dr. Darewych, professor of art at York University, the author of numerous articles and monographs on the subject of art history, an editor of the English-language edition of the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, former curator of several art exhibitions and a member of the governing board of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress.

Dr. Darewych's lecture, "Kateryna

Antonovych: On the 80th Anniversary of the Founding of the Ukrainian School of Visual Arts in Prague," traced the life and career of this prominent Ukrainian artist, teacher and community activist (1884-1975), which spanned Kyiv, Prague and Winnipeg, where she founded her own art school. Many examples of Ms. Antonovych's art were displayed and discussed.

Next to appear was Dr. Renata Holod, professor and former chair of the department of art at the University of Pennsylvania. A specialist in Islamic art and architecture, Dr. Holod has published numerous scholarly articles in this field and is the author, co-author or editor of nine monographs. Dr. Holod spoke about the need to expand the "Program on the Archeology of Ukraine," focusing primarily on the Black Sea region, including the Crimea.

This subject was pursued more specifically by Dr. Holod's colleague from the University of Pennsylvania, Dr. Oleksander Leskov, who spoke on "Ukrainian Archeological Treasures in Western Collections." Dr. Leskov referred to the thousands of gold and silver artifacts that have been uncovered in the Scythian burial mounds in Southern Ukraine and the Crimea. They all represent a common culture and should be presented to the world as Ukrainian treasures. Unfortunately, said Dr. Leskov, many of them have been sold on the black market worldwide. He showed pictures of a number of the treasures he talked about.

In the 1960s and 1970s, Dr. Leskov served as director of a number of archeological expeditions for the Institute of Archeology of Ukraine. He is the author of numerous scholarly publications in Ukrainian, Russian and German, and serves on the editorial board of the Encyclopedia of Prehistory.

The program concluded with a talk by Dr. Olenka Pevny (University of Richmond), a specialist in medieval and Byzantine art history. In 1997 Dr. Pevny worked at The Metropolitan Museum in New York, where she was involved in preparing the exposition "Glory of Byzantium" as well as the catalog for it, contributing a number of articles, including one on Kyivan Rus'. Dr. Pevny taught as a visiting professor at Columbia, Michigan and Emory universities. In her talk she analyzed the history and the architecture of the ancient St. Cyril Church in Kyiv.

In her closing remarks, Dr. Onyshkevych thanked all the speakers and participants who packed the hall for their contributions to the success of the NTSh jubilee conference and invited all to continue the celebration at a reception.



NTSh members gather for a group photo following the conclusion of the roundtable.

FOCUS ON PHILATELY
by Inger Kuzych

Ukraine's 1923 Famine relief issue

While Ukraine's Great Famine of 1933 (Holodomor) quite rightly received extensive commemorative coverage last year, a prior famine in Ukraine is often overlooked. Amazingly, this earlier tragedy has never been denied by the Soviets and it was even commemorated by a 1923 semi-postal¹ stamp issue prepared to raise funds for the unfortunate victims.

The 1921-1922 famine was brought on by crop failure and by sociopolitical conditions following World War I. Because of drought, only 35 percent of the normal harvest was obtained in 1921. The southern areas of Ukraine were particularly hard hit. The calamity was even greater in Russian areas, particularly in the southern Volga region. An unusually heavy tax in kind was exacted from Ukraine in 1922 and this further exacerbated the situation. Up to 1 million people died of famine and many thousands more of related epidemic diseases.

The Soviet government organized a relief program, but focused most of its – and the world's – attention on the

Russian Volga areas. In Ukraine, most of the relief work was carried out by civic and cooperative organizations.

One of the methods by which the Soviet government sought to raise funds for relief was the creation of a special famine semi-postal stamp issue, with the surcharge designated for hunger alleviation. This four-stamp set (Figure 1) was the only one that ever indicated that it was produced by the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic (USSR).

About the stamps

Although already ordered in mid-1922 when the effects of the famine were still prominent, various obstructions and delays (see box) prevented its release until June 25, 1923. The stamps – produced at the State Printery in Berlin, Germany – were distributed in nine Ukrainian cities and towns (Bakhmut, Chernihiv, Katerynoslav, Kharkiv, Kyiv, Odesa, Poltava, Vinnytsia and Zhytomyr), as well as in Moscow and Petrograd.

The four stamps of this set were sent to post offices in panes of 25 each (5 by 5). Imperforate varieties of all four values are known, but collectors should beware of trimmed perforate specimens made to resemble imperforates. A regular set of these stamps retails for about \$1.50 mint or \$8 used; an imperforate set can fetch about \$120 mint or \$160 used. A small percentage of the stamps were printed on paper that was watermarked. These, too, go for about \$120 for a mint set, while a used set will fetch about \$180.

One value, the 20 + 20-karbovantsi

(Continued on page 12)



FIGURE 1: The famine relief set of 1923.



FIGURE 2: Of the four stamp designs, only the 20 + 20-karbovantsi Taras Shevchenko stamp is known both imperforate and on watermarked paper.



FIGURE 3: A small quantity of all four stamps were overprinted "3PA30K" (Specimen).



FIGURE 5: Covers with imperforate famine stamps are scarce; this one, mailed from Kharkiv to Berlin, has three of each value.

Submittals from a stamp design competition

In times of crisis, it is usually best for someone to take charge in order that an effective and timely response may be made to confront the emergency. That was not immediately done in trying to address the 1921-1922 famine, and it was also not done in regards to the famine relief stamps. One of the reasons that this issue was so late in getting released is that it was felt that a competition was necessary in order to come up with appropriate designs.

Several years ago a U.S. auction house (Raritan Stamps Inc., Auction No. 5, July 24, 2000) offered a lot comprised of eight essays (stamp design proposals) for the famine relief issue (Figure A). One of these designs (upper left) had been used (with modifications) on the 90 + 30-karbovantsi value.

While the other stamp proposals offer interesting ideas, it is easy to understand why they were not selected. None of them presented a particularly flattering depiction of the new Soviet "worker's paradise." While apparently it was acceptable to depict death as an adversary to be confronted, showing deceased, emaciated or begging individuals was not.

Evidently, skulls as a symbol of death also were anathema. The design in the lower left is particularly perplexing. It seems to show the Soviet hammer and sickle driving a wedge into a skull. To me this arrangement appears almost subversive. Perhaps others understood it this way as well.



FIGURE A: Eight of the drawings submitted to a design competition for famine relief stamps. Only the upper left rendering proved acceptable for use.

Ukrainian Catholic University in Rome celebrates 40th anniversary

by Petro Didula

ROME – The 40th anniversary of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Rome was celebrated on December 6-7. Professors, senators and students of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv traveled to the Eternal City for the festivities. They were joined by representatives of the St. Sophia Association, which is now the owner and caretaker of the university's premises in Rome. Professors from various Roman universities, Ukrainians presently working in Italy and other interested parties also took part.

On the first day, numerous scholarly reports were presented. Among the topics were "Patriarch Josyf and the UCU," read by the Rev. Dr. Ivan Muzyczka and "The Professors of UCU in Rome," read by Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky. Younger listeners learned much about the UCU's history, for example, that Patriarch Josyf Slipyj proclaimed the founding of the UCU in Rome at the age of 71, a few months after he had been released from imprisonment in the Siberian gulags, with no buildings, land, students or professors to start with. And there were only about 20 Ukrainians in all of Italy at the time.

The reports were marked with a certain sadness. A text on Pope St. Clement, the patron saint of the UCU Rome, was to have been read by the late Dr. Miroslav Labunka. Dr. Labunka, who had been a visiting professor at UCU in Rome, and also visited the UCU in Lviv a number of times, died in Philadelphia on December 1. Dr. Labunka's paper was read, a panakhyda (memorial service) was held for the repose of his soul, and the participants paused for a moment of

silence in his memory.

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, presented special awards to Bishop Ivan Choma and the Rev. Dr. Muzyczka, who had been close co-workers with Patriarch Josyf Slipyj in the creation of the UCU Rome.

The fate of the premises of the UCU Rome was also discussed that weekend. Cardinal Husar, Bishop Hlib Lonchyna, head of the St. Sophia Association, and the rectorate and senate of the UCU Lviv decided to pass the UCU Rome into the care of the UCU Lviv.

The Rev. Dr. Mykhailo Dymyd, first rector of the revived Lviv Theological Academy and now director of the Institute of Canon Law at the UCU Lviv, suggested that affiliation would be the best legal relationship between the two institutions.

"This is not because Lviv is something higher or Rome is something lower," explained the Rev. Dr. Dymyd. "This is because the experience of the Church in Ukraine is something especially important for the Catholic University. Affiliating the Roman UCU to the Lviv one will lead us in Ukraine all the more to seek various ways to go to Ukraine's capital. The UCU's presence in Kyiv will help improve the dialogue with Russians, Belarusians, Slovaks and representatives of other nations."

Archimandrite Robert Taft, S.J., of Rome's Pontifical Oriental Institute, said that the affiliation of the UCU in Rome would be a beautiful opportunity for Ukrainian scholars. "Rome is a city where various cultures have overlapped for a long time. Finding one's place in this city of great historical and cultural

heritage means not only dipping into its treasury, but also adding something of one's own to it," said Archimandrite Taft.

"The affiliation of the UCU in Rome is an opportunity for Ukrainian scholars to talk not only on Ukrainian themes, but also on general human themes, to get acquainted with scholars of various nationalities and schools of the world, who have their own scholarly interests and research," he added.

Prof. Natalia Yakovenko, an UCU senator and professor at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, considered the possibilities of the UCU in Rome through the prism of the confessional situation in Ukraine. "If [the UCU] invites not only Greek-Catholic students here, but also representatives of the other

confessions in Ukraine, this can lead gradually to establishing a productive dialogue," she said.

"Ukrainians, Belarusians, Russians, Poles and representatives of other nations of Central and Eastern Europe are today called to study the roots of the culture and religion that they hold in common," said Prof. Jerzy Axer, an UCU senator and professor at the University of Warsaw. "There is a great need to create a joint program for the study of the Mediterranean, and the UCU Rome would create a wonderful opportunity to develop this program. Taking part in this, which is something we have in common, scholars will turn less attention to those

(Continued on page 21)



Graduates of UCU Rome and UCU Lviv gather before the Ukrainian Catholic Church of St. Sophia in Rome (seen in the background on the left).

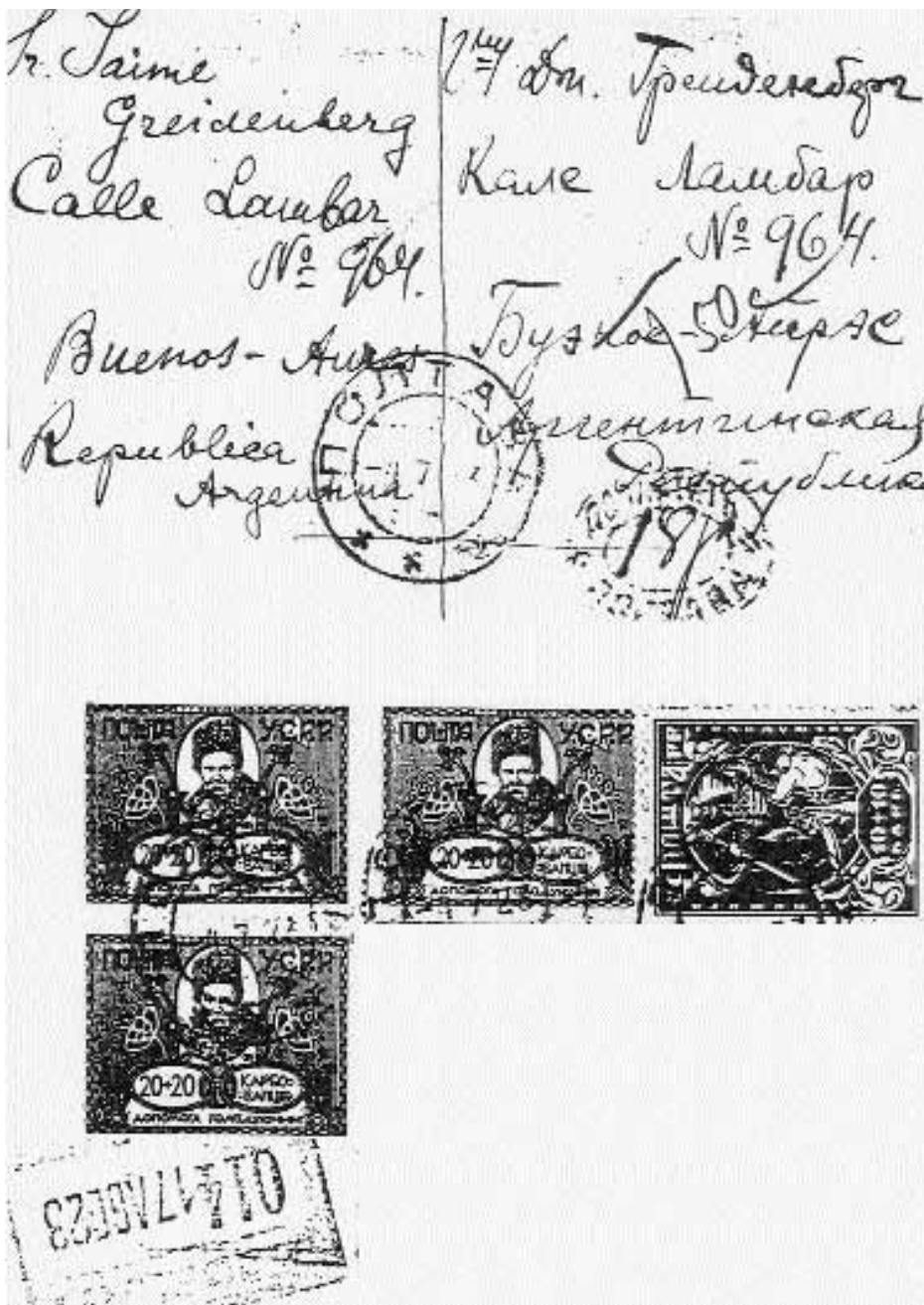


FIGURE 4: Few covers bearing famine relief stamps traveled overseas. This letter was sent from Poltava to Buenos Aires.

Ukraine's 1923...

(Continued from page 11)

stamp, is known watermarked and imperforate (Figure 2). This particular specimen is one of Ukraine's rarest (only four panes [100 stamps] were apparently produced) and commands a price of \$1,500. Specimen² or "3PA3OK" overprinted stamps were also prepared, using either black, red or green ink (Figure 3). A set of such marked stamps goes for about \$100.

Three of the stamps portray subjects that deal with the alleviation of hunger. Below are the official stamp descriptions adapted from an article in the May-June 1923 issue of *Sovetsii Filatelist*. The 10 + 10-karbovantsi value, in blue and black, depicts the specter of death. Presented is Ukraine, wearing a Red Army soldier's cap, shielding a peasant youth with one arm while removing hunger's scythe with the other. The 90 + 30-karbovantsi stamp, in brown and black, shows the struggle of a peasant with death. The peasant is represented as drawing death's scythe out of its bony hands. The 150 + 50-karbovantsi high-value stamp, in red-brown and black, pictures allegorical Ukraine distributing bread. Represented as a young peasant maiden in national costume, Ukraine offers bread to a hungry woman and child with her left hand, while holding a ripe sheaf of wheat with the right.

The fourth stamp in the set – 20 + 20-karbovantsi, violet-brown and orange – presents a very popular Ukrainian topic, the national bard Taras Shevchenko. The official description refers to him as the "national revolutionary poet." Amazingly, all of these stamps were in circulation for only three weeks; their recall occurred on July 15. These would be the last Ukrainian stamps issued by any Ukrainian government for almost seven decades (until 1992).

Restricted use

By the time the Famine Issue stamps were finally ready in 1923, there really was no more famine and the Soviet ruble had declined to the point where a new currency was introduced. The new ruble was equal to 100 rubles/karbovantsi of 1922. This new situation made the 1923 Famine Issue stamps practically useless for postage – the high value 150 + 50-karbovantsi value saw far more use than any of the three lower values – and somewhat of an embarrassment for the government. Nevertheless, since the hard currency to have them printed abroad had been spent, it was decided to put them into circulation for a short period of time.

Because of their drop in value and their limited time in circulation, famine issue stamps are not that easy to locate on cover. (These circumstances also explain why used specimens are worth more than mint ones.) The final two illustrations depict usage on mail sent abroad. Figure 4 shows a unique unfolded cover franked with four Famine Issue stamps and sent from Poltava (July 4, 1923) to Buenos Aires, Argentina (arrival cancel August 17, 1923). The famine stamps' 70-karbovantsi value at this time would only have covered 0.7 rubles of the 10 ruble foreign rate. So 9.3 rubles worth of stamps must have appeared on this letter, but they were clipped off by an overzealous collector.

The spectacular cover in Figure 5 carries three imperforate strips of three famine issue stamps and an imperforate pair and single of the 90 + 30-karbovantsi value. Mailed from Kharkiv to Berlin on July 13, 1923, this item has an additional 1.9 rubles worth of stamps and an arrival cancel on the reverse.

Inger Kuzych may be contacted at P.O. Box 3, Springfield, VA 22150 or at his e-mail address: ingert@starpower.net.

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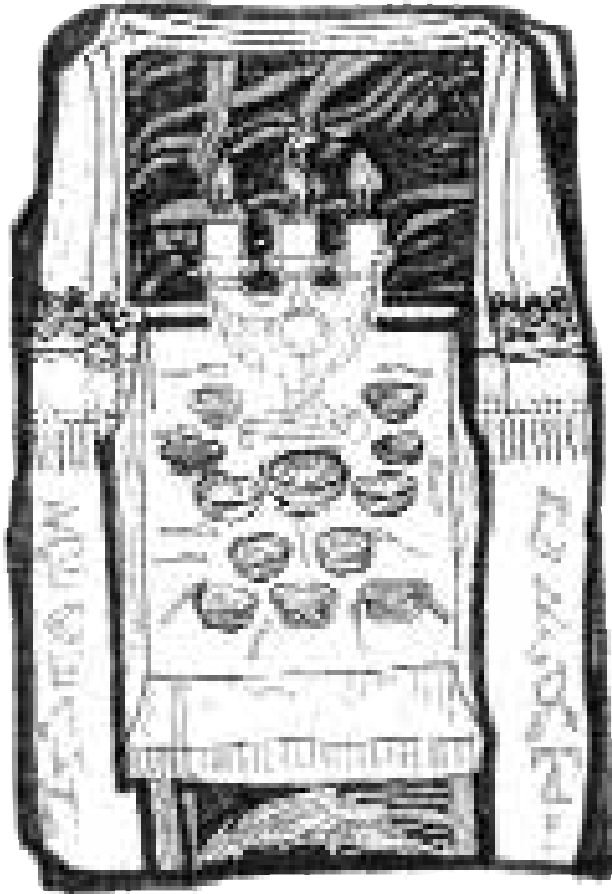
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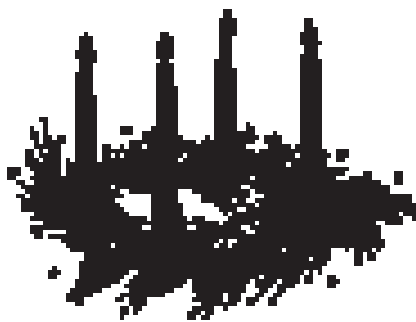
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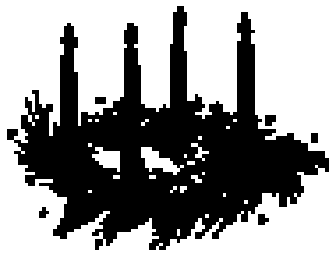
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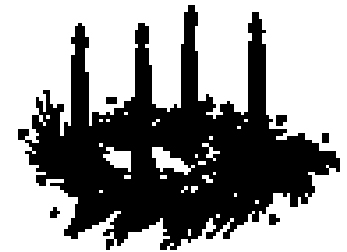


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Olympic...

(Continued from page 1)

"I have done a lot of charity work,
 including for CCRF. This event is more
 commercial, however," explained Mr.
 Petrenko. "I have done shows in Europe,
 Asia and the United States, and I decided
 it was time to bring it to Ukraine."

The ice show, which Mr. Petrenko
 organized in partnership with U.S. busi-
 nessman Joseph Lemire, who owns Gala
 Radio, a popular radio station in Kyiv, is
 called "We, The Champions." It is a deft
 combination of dramatic skating, acrobatic
 stunts and pure physical comedy with some
 elements of the Las Vegas show style. Mr.
 Petrenko, who choreographed much of the
 performances himself, said he wanted to
 make the Kyiv performance an annual
 event and would like to organize a similar
 program in Odesa. "We, The Champions"
 has performed in St. Petersburg annually
 for the last three years, and Moscow is on
 the itinerary for next year

Mr. Petrenko said that ice shows, a
 display of artistry and athletic prowess, daz-
 zling costumes and stimulating laser light
 shows, are not familiar to Ukrainians
 simply because there is no tradition for
 such programs in Ukraine. But if Mr.
 Petrenko has his way and given the man-
 ner in which the crowd in Kyiv reacted to
 this first ever event, they soon will.

A packed house at the Kyiv Palace of
 Sport, including many youngsters, exhib-
 ited unbounded enthusiasm as Olympic
 and World Champions from Ukraine,
 Russia and France, including 2002 Salt
 Lake City Olympic ice pair champions
 Elena Berezhnaya and Anton
 Sikharulidze of Russia, European cham-
 pion from Ukraine Vyacheslav
 Zahorodniuk, five-time European cham-
 pion Suriya Bonali of France, fellow
 Frenchman and 1994 men's Olympic
 bronze medalist Phillipe Condeloro,
 along with 1999 world champion Maria
 Butyrskaya of Russia, whirled and
 whipped their way around the ice.

They applauded the dramatic exhibi-
 tion given by Mr. Petrenko, who seemed
 at the top of his abilities and laughed to
 the comedy antics of Ukrainians Vlad
 Besedin and Alexei Polischuk.

Ivanka, a five-year-old girl in the
 audience, however, said the highlight of
 the show for her was the acrobatic act of
 Irena Grigorian, whose unique talent
 included the ability to gyrate and swing
 hula hoops around nearly all her limbs
 and joints simultaneously as well as to
 dance inside a giant slinky.

Mr. Petrenko and Mr. Lemire said that
 a percentage of this year's gate fee has
 already been earmarked to further sup-
 port CCRF as well as to give financial
 help to the Ice Skating Federation of
 Ukraine and Ukraine's Olympic ice skat-
 ing program. The partners acknowledged
 that this year's Kyiv show was a money
 loser, but expressed no disappointment in
 as much as this was the initial year of
 their project. They said that once word
 got out more shows would be added to
 the single performance given this year.

"We look at this year as a building
 year," explained Mr. Lemire. "We will
 return next year, and eventually hope to
 do three or so performances a year."

In all likelihood, that will make
 Ivanka very happy.

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Ukrainian Catholic...

(Continued from page 12)

troubling places in history that divide us," he concluded.

Among the activities of the second day of festivities was a discussion on "The Importance of The Study of Theology in Ukraine and Beyond Its Borders." Ukrainian students now studying in Rome led the discussion.

"Please remember that in addition to knowledge of disciplines, theology also requires certain structures: faculties, journals, societies, and so on," said the Rev. Borys Gudziak, rector of the UCU Lviv, to the assembled students. "The Rev. Dr. Ivan Muzyczka's generation did not finish writing all the theology textbooks because 'the fire went out.' They used up all their energy addressing the most pressing problems that arose in the various circumstances of the life of our Church. Our generation dedicated itself to building the necessary structures... You now stand on our shoulders. And you should offer your shoulders to following generations. Theology cannot develop without service to others."

A related topic of discussion over the weekend was the Ukrainian presence in Italy. Today the country has half a million Ukrainians. And, according to the sociological research of UCU graduate Marichka Shehda, who is now studying in Rome, the absolute majority of these Ukrainians are Greek-Catholic women. The Church of St. Sophia in Rome, which is part of the premises of the UCU, is gradually becoming the main Ukrainian center in Italy.

Father Vasyl Potochniak, coordinator of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic parishes in Italy, said that the development of an all-Italian center for Ukrainians will assist in the development of the theology of the Kyivan Church. "But this inevitably should be based on service to others," Father Potochniak noted. "In these conditions, we cannot refuse to do this, even if it seems to interfere with our educational or scholarly plans."

For further information about the Ukrainian Catholic University, contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone, (773) 235-8462; fax, (773) 235-8464; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org; website, <http://www.ucef.org>.



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З глибоким жалем повідомляємо родину, приятелів і знайомих, що 16 грудня 2003 р. відійшов у Божу вічність наш найдорожчий МУЖ і БАТЬКО

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ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в суботу, 20 грудня 2003 р. в українській православної церкві св. Андрія в Блумінгдейл, Іл.

Вічна Йому пам'ять!



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о. прот. ВІКТОР КУЛІЙ

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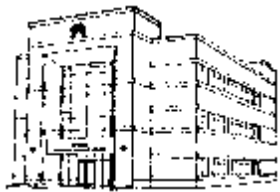
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BOOK NOTES

Ukrainian edition of Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary

“Ukrainian Edition of Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 29th Edition (two-volume), edited by Paul J. Dzul and Boris Zimenkovsky: Lviv, Nautilus Publishing House, 2003. \$95, in the U.S., \$56 in Ukraine hardcover.

Thanks to the support of the American Ukrainian Medical Foundation and the generosity of Harry Malynowsky, Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary 29th Edition, the most widely published medical dictionary in the world, is now available in the Ukrainian language. The completion of this two-volume Ukrainian edition dictionary was made possible by the editorial consulting of the Ukrainian Encyclopedia and Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in Kyiv.

The publication of the Ukrainian Edition of the Dorland's Illustrated Medical Dictionary is the first of its kind, marking a very significant step in strengthening ties between the American, European and Ukrainian medical fields.

The president of the American Ukrainian Medical Foundation, Dr. Paul Dzul, said he believes in the importance of the English-Ukrainian edition in improving medical standards and the quality of research in Ukraine. The dictionary includes 121,160 terms, of which 7,600 are new. It also provides 820 illustrations, of which 566 are new.

He added that he is extremely pleased that the year-long undertaking has “put Ukrainian medical terminology on the European level. We are very proud.” He added that a second edition of the dictionary will be available in January.

Every Ukrainian medical library has been provided with a copy of the dictionary, and Dr. Dzul said he hopes that eventually they will be able to donate this invaluable



resource to every medical student in Ukraine. A plan to compile a Ukrainian-English version of the reference books is also under way. “All of this was made possible because of the generous support of Harry Malynowsky,” concluded Dr. Dzul.

Ukrainian physicians in the diaspora are invited to purchase the dictionary for medical libraries in the U.S. and Ukraine. The price of the dictionary package is \$95 in the U.S. and \$56 in Ukraine. To place an order please contact Trident Trade Group by phone at (586) 759-6563 or by mail at 26499 Ryan Road, Warren, Mich. 48091. You may also contact Dr. Dzul regarding book orders and donations by e-mail at pjdzulmd@aol.com.

M1 music television...

(Continued from page 8)

ders and laconically discuss and then introduce the current most popular video hits.

It looks a bit odd and even contrived at moments, but somehow it is effective. And perhaps what makes M1 work in the end, in similar fashion, is its willingness to work at

all points of the musical and demographic spectrum, to introduce new ideas as well as to work with old ones, but to concentrate on innovation, even when at times contrived, so as to avoid “formula” as much as possible.

Or perhaps it is simply the presence of Myroslav and Karolina that help it all look and sound so good, because in the end they are the essence, if not the embodiment, of “krov z molokom.”

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(Continued from page 3)

attain elective office.

The work of Emily's List received high praise from Lyudmyla Merlyan, who heads the Gender Committee of the Civil Parliament of Ukrainian Women and the International Committee for Human Rights in Kyiv, and Oryslava Vasylyk, coordinator of training programs of the Civil Initiatives for Domestic Violence and Prevention of Human Trafficking in Lviv.

"I would very much like to learn from their experience and share it with Ukraine," Ms. Merlyan said. "Especially useful for me was to see democracy in action, exercising its influence on the government, and the role of society in the decision-making process of government." Ms. Vasylyk said she was also attracted to the idea of self-financing of civic organizations through fundraising.

Olena Morhun, coordinator of crisis prevention programs of the Woman For Woman center in Dnipropetrovsk, said it was very important for her to see how American organizations fight against trafficking and domestic violence. "The important thing about this program is that it will bring about change – change in the participants personally – and that it will serve as a stimulus for greater effort in Ukraine," she said.

A number of participants spoke about the program's benefit of bringing the Ukrainian participants together. Before this, even though many of them work in the same or related fields, they never had a chance to meet to share their experiences and ideas.

"I was impressed with the members of the group with which I worked over the past ten days because I realized their

immense potential in Ukraine, thanks to the high level of their competence and experience," was how Ms. Kyrlova assessed this aspect of the program. "It is very important that we met in this group from Ukraine, and I expect that we will continue our work there together," she added.

Indeed, as Oleksandra Sorokopud, executive director Natalia Kobrynska Youth Gender Center in Lviv, and some of her colleagues noted, the group decided to form a coalition, especially of women's organizations, that would network and enable them to combine their forces when a concerted effort was needed. Vital Voices Chair Melanne Verveer noted that during his meeting with the Ukrainian women, Ambassador Pascual, who now serves as the coordinator for U.S. assistance to Europe and Eurasia, said that the United States would be willing to provide assistance to such a coordinating resource center.

Ms. Verveer, a third-generation Ukrainian American who served as the chief of staff for former First Lady Hillary Clinton, said there was a need for more programs, such as the one that brought the 12 women activists to Washington.

"We learned the hard way how to get things done," she said. "They feel that they could benefit a great deal if there was more of that back-and-forth, and if more Americans would go to Ukraine and spend time with them, whether it's on gender issues, trafficking, business development or the law.

"There is a lot of hands-on experience that can be provided," Ms. Verveer said.

The group of 12 women was the first of ten delegations of Ukrainian civic and media leaders scheduled to visit the United States under the revised U.S. Congress-funded Open World Program. Previously, the program was limited to exchanges with Russia.

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Daneyko goes out a champion

His teammates always assumed they would have to drag Kenny Daneyko away from the game of hockey kicking and screaming, but it turned out the veteran defenseman recognized it was time to call it quits. After 1,283 regular season games and another 175 in the playoffs – both New Jersey Devils franchise records – Daneyko announced his retirement on July 11.

While General Manager Lou Lamoriello pondered the possibility of retiring the uniform of No. 3, Daneyko accepted a position with the team in community relations. The primary focus of his new position will be to campaign for a new arena to be built in Newark.

“When we got into the Stanley Cup final, something clicked in my head,” Daneyko said. “My wife [JonnaLyn] and I had talked about retirement and she said, ‘This is going to be it for you.’ And

I said, ‘You’re right.’ I knew it inside.”

“Physically, I feel as healthy as a horse. But I was one of those guys who I knew had to put my heart and soul into it. I knew to go through another year would be tough. To go out on top means the world to me.”

Blue Jackets get Nikolai Zherdev Fourth

The Columbus Blue Jackets claim Ukrainian right winger Nikolai Zherdev – whom they picked fourth overall – was actually No. 1 on their list before the entry draft started. Big deal, right? Doesn't every team tell little white lies about its No. 1 draft pick?

To back it up, coach-GM Doug MacLean and amateur scouting director Don Boyd grabbed their master list and opened it for the media. Sure enough, there was Zherdev, above Eric Staal, Nathan Horton, Marc-Andre Fleury and all the rest.

“This is the guy we wanted,” MacLean said. “Zherdev has a dynamic upside and when I think about putting he and [last year's No. 1 draft pick] Rick Nash together, it's exciting.”

The question is whether young Zherdev can play in Columbus, or if he needs additional seasoning with the Central Army team in the Russian pro league.

Scouting report on Nikolai Zherdev:

Often called the most explosive player in last year's (2003) draft. Has loads of offensive weapons and, when he is on his game, watch out. Reminds many scouts of Atlanta's Ilya Kovalchuk. He's the type of player people will come out to watch and is a potential game-breaker.

Zherdev turned heads several times at the under-18 championship in Russia with his unbelievable skills.

“He scored a highlight goal. He went end to end against the Finns and just drilled a shot for a goal, after beating four guys,” recalled one scout. “He has great speed, lateral moves and hands. He has a really good shot.”

Like most offensive phenoms, Zherdev has somewhat of a downside. He tends to hold on to the puck too long and struggles to utilize his linemates.

“He can be childish. He gets mad when he's hit and that worried guys,” said another scout.

He was a non-factor at the World Junior Championship in Halifax and scouts found that worrisome as well – worries that certainly did not dissuade the Columbus Blue Jacket organization from investing quite heavily in their first round selection.

Shvidki quickly demoted to San Antonio

Denis Shvidki declared he was through with the minor leagues when the Florida Panthers called him up last March. Certainly, the 12th overall selection in the 1999 amateur draft looked as if he was in the NHL to stay with his play the rest of the season.

But once the Panthers moved training camp this fall to San Antonio, home of Florida's American Hockey League affiliate, it was: welcome back, Denis. Your dreams might have been your ticket out, but your lack of competitiveness in training camp was your ticket back.

The right winger, who was benched in his lone pre-season game, was the biggest name in the second round of cuts. He actually had to clear waivers to begin this season in the AHL. The Panthers could have lost him for nothing if a team wanted to take a risk on a \$1,127,500 young underachiever.

Ukrainian transactions (June-October):

Boston – Robert Liscak, C, assigned to Providence (AHL).

Buffalo – Rick Mrozik, D, assigned to Rochester (AHL).

Calgary – Jeff Ewasko, RW, released.

Carolina – Joey Tetarenko, RW, signed one-year contract; Damian Surma, LW, assigned to Lowell (AHL); Randy Petruk, GT, assigned to Cincinnati (ECHL); Ryan Bayda, LW, assigned to Lowell and later recalled; Tetarenko assigned to Lowell.

Chicago – Andrei Nikolishin, C, traded to Colorado for a fourth-round draft pick in 2004; Scott Balan, D, assigned to Norfolk (AHL); Anton Babchuk, D, assigned to Norfolk.

Colorado – Jordan Krestanovich, LW, assigned to Hershey (AHL); Johnny Boychuk, D, returned to Moose Jaw (WHL); Steve Konowalchuk, LW, acquired from Washington with a third-round draft choice in 2004 for two players.

Columbus – Nikolai Zherdev, LW, signed three-year contract; Shane Bendera, GT, assigned to Syracuse (AHL); Joe Motzko, LW, assigned to Syracuse; Darryl Sydor, D, acquired in three-way trade with Dallas and Phoenix.

Dallas – David Bararuk, LW, signed three-year contract; Richard Matvichuk, D, signed contract; Bararuk assigned to Utah (AHL).

Detroit – Scott Horvath, RW, and Kevin Spiewak, F, released.

Edmonton – Kyle Brodziak, F, returned to his junior league team; Curtis Sheptak, D, assigned to Toronto (AHL).

Florida – Steve Ludzik, named coach at San Antonio (AHL); Darcy Hordichuk, LW, Denis Shvidki, RW, Ivan Novoseltsev, RW, all signed contracts; Shvidki assigned to San Antonio.

Minnesota – Chris Bala, F, assigned to Houston (AHL).

New Jersey – Ken Daneyko, D, retired; Rob Skrlac, RW, assigned to Albany (AHL).

Ottawa – Glen Metropolit, C, claimed from Washington in waiver draft.

Philadelphia – Rick Kozak, RW, returned to his junior league team; Jeff Woywitka, D, assigned to Philadelphia (AHL).

Phoenix – Gary Shuchuk signed con-

Team	Player	Position	Birthday	Birthplace	Ht.	Wt.
Anaheim	Vitaly Vishnevski	D	3/18/80	Kharkiv, Ukraine	6-2	203
Atlanta	David Kaczowka	LW	7/5/81	Regina, Sask.	6-3	220
Buffalo	Alexei Zhitnik	D	10/10/72	Kyiv, Ukraine	5-11	215
Carolina	Ryan Bayda	LW	12/9/80	Saskatoon, Sask.	5-11	185
	Damian Surma	LW	1/22/81	Lincoln Park, Mich.	5-10	200
	Joey Tetarenko	RW	3/3/78	Prince Albert, Sask.	6-2	210
Chicago	Anton Babchuk	D	5/6/84	Kyiv, Ukraine	6-4	194
Colorado	Johnny Boychuk	D	1/19/84	Edmonton, Alberta	6-2	210
	Andrei Nikolishin	C	3/25/73	Russia	6-0	213
	Jordan Krestanovich	LW	6/14/81	Langley, British Columbia	6-0	170
Columbus	Shane Bendera	GT	7/13/82	St. Albert, Alberta	5-10	170
	Darryl Sydor	D	5/13/72	Edmonton, Alberta	6-1	205
	Joe Motzko	LW	3/14/80	Bemidji, Minn.	6-0	190
	Nikolai Zherdev	RW	11/5/84	Kyiv, Ukraine	6-0	176
Dallas	Richard Matvichuk	D	2/5/73	Edmonton, Alberta	6-2	215
	David Bararuk	C	5/26/83	Moose Jaw, Sask.	6-0	175
Florida	Darcy Hordichuk	LW	8/10/80	Kamsack, Sask.	6-1	215
	Ivan Novoseltsev	RW	1/23/79	Russia	6-1	210
	Denis Shvidki	RW	11/21/80	Kharkiv, Ukraine	6-2	215
Minnesota	Chris Bala	LW	9/24/78	Alexandria, Va.	6-1	180
Nashville	Darren Haydar	RW	10/22/79	Toronto, Ontario	5-9	170
N.Y. Isles	Wade Dubielewicz	GT	1/30/79	Invermere, British Columbia	5-10	185
Ottawa	Curtis Leschyshyn	D	9/21/69	Thompson, Manitoba	6-1	210
Philly	Jeff Woywitka	D	9/1/83	Vermillion, Alberta	6-2	200
	Todd Fedoruk	LW	2/13/79	Redwater, Alberta	6-2	235
Pittsburgh	Drake Berehowsky	D	1/3/72	Toronto, Ontario	6-2	220
	Ross Lupaschuk	D	1/19/81	Edmonton, Alberta	6-1	210
St. Louis	Cody Rudkowsky	GT	7/21/78	Willingdon, Alberta	6-1	215
	Daniel Tkaczuk	C	6/10/79	Toronto, Ontario	6-1	200
	Keith Tkachuk	LW	3/28/72	Melrose, Mass.	6-2	230
	Sergei Varlamov	LW	7/21/78	Kyiv, Ukraine	5-11	203
Tampa Bay	Brad Lukowich	D	8/12/76	Cranbrook, British Columbia	6-1	205
	Dave Andreychuk	LW	9/29/63	Hamilton, Ontario	6-4	220
	Nikita Alexeev	RW	12/27/81	Murmansk, Russia	6-5	225
	Ruslan Fedotenko	RW	1/18/79	Kyiv, Ukraine	6-2	195
Toronto	Wade Belak	D	7/3/76	Saskatoon, Sask.	6-5	225
	Matt Stajan	C	12/19/83	Mississauga, Ontario	6-1	178
	Alexei Ponikarovsky	LW	4/9/80	Kyiv, Ukraine	6-4	220
Vancouver	Zenith Komarniski	LW	8/13/78	Vegreville, Alberta	6-0	200
	Rene Vydareny	D	5/6/81	Bratislava, Czech Republic	6-1	198
Washington	Steve Konowalchuk	LW	11/11/72	Salt Lake, Utah	6-2	205
	Peter Bondra	RW	12/7/68	Lutsk, Ukraine	6-1	202
	Anton But	LW	7/3/80	Kharkiv, Ukraine	6-1	190
	Steve Halko	D	3/8/74	Etobicoke, Ontario	6-1	200
	Tony Hrkac	C	7/7/66	Thunder Bay, Ontario	5-11	190
	Konstantin Kalmikov	LW	6/14/78	Kharkiv, Ukraine	6-4	215
	Dieter Kochan	GT	11/5/74	Saskatoon, Sask.	6-1	180
	Greg Kuznik	D	6/12/78	Prince George, British Columbia	6-0	185
	Brett Lysak	C	12/30/80	Edmonton, Alberta	6-0	190
	Glen Metropolit	C	6/25/74	Toronto, Ontario	5-10	195
	Rick Mrozik	D	1/2/75	Duluth, Minn.	6-2	185
	Gregg Naumenko	GT	3/30/77	Chicago, Ill.	6-1	200
	Randy Petruk	GT	4/23/78	Cranbrook, British Columbia	5-9	175
	Peter Ratchuk	D	9/10/77	Buffalo, N.Y.	6-1	185
	Dmitri Tolkunov	D	5/5/79	Kyiv, Ukraine	6-2	200
	Oleg Tverdovsky	D	5/18/76	Donetsk, Ukraine	6-1	205

(Continued on page 27)



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USCAK officers meet in N.J. to discuss the year's plan of activity

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – Officers of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) met at the Ramada Hotel on October 23, 2003, for their second meeting since the organization's general meeting was held in May.

Nine members of the governing board attended. The president, Myron Stebelsky, greeted everyone present and presented the agenda, which was accepted unanimously. He also reported on recent correspondence.

Alex Napora, financial secretary, reported on profits and losses, while the press secretary, Omelan Twardowsky, spoke about his involvement with the USCAK soccer and swimming championships. He is responsible also for creating the first rules and regulations handbook for USCAK soccer championships and is preparing the upcoming issue of Our Sport magazine.

Dr. Orest Popovych spoke about the USCAK chess tournament, which was held at the "Tryzubivka" sports complex near Philadelphia. The championship was won by Petro Radomskyj, followed by ties between Borys Baczynsky and Steve Stoyko. There is a need to reactivate

chess at our local clubs, Dr. Popovych commented.

Tennis activity was covered in a report sent in by the tennis director, George Sawczak.

Marika Bokalo, swimming director, who was not present reported in writing on the 2003 USCAK swimming championship in which 55 swimmers took part.

Basil Tarasko the USCAK director for baseball and softball, sent his report by mail as he is in Ukraine, where he continues his duties and responsibilities as baseball coach. This year he ran a softball tournament at Soyuzivka.

Erko Palydowych, skiing director, said that next year's ski championships will be held under the auspices of USCAK. Soccer Director Eugene Chyzowych was not present, but positive news was heard about the 2003 USCAK soccer tournaments.

The meeting unanimously approved the new rules and regulations booklet for soccer tournaments of USCAK.

In addition, the topic of revitalization of different sports received much attention, and there was a call for all sports clubs to join in this most important effort.

Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 25)

tract as player/assistant coach with Springfield (AHL); Lance Monych, RW, returned to his junior league team.

Pittsburgh – Ed Olczyk named head coach; Drake Berehowsky, D, signed one-year contract; Jonathan Filewich, RW, returned to his junior league team; Ross Lupaschuk, D, assigned to Wilkes-Barre (AHL).

St. Louis – Sergei Varlamov, LW, signed contract; Igor Valeev, RW, signed contract; Cody Rudkowsky, GT, signed contract; Rudkowsky, Valeev and Varlamov all assigned to Worcester (AHL); Daniel Tkaczuk, C, released; Rudkowsky reassigned to Reading (ECHL).

San Jose – Tyler Hanchuk, D,

released; Seamus Kotyk, GT, assigned to Cleveland (AHL).

Tampa Bay – Dave Andreychuk, LW, signed one-year contract; Nikita Alexeev, RW, assigned to Hershey (AHL).

Toronto – Rob Palahniuk, LW, signed contract; Wade Belak, D, signed multi-year contract; Alexei Ponikarovsky, RW, signed contract; Palahniuk assigned to St. John's (AHL).

Vancouver – Rene Vydarery, D, and Zenith Komarniski, LW, assigned to Manitoba (AHL).


Washington – Exercised contract option on Peter Bondra, LW; Derek Krestanovich, LW, returned to his junior league team.

(All quotes cited above courtesy of The Hockey News.)

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Christmas Day Brunch, 11 - 2 p.m. \$17.50, Seniors \$15.00

January 10, 2004

UNA Christmas Party (changed due to the weather)

January 30 - February 1, 2004

Church of Annunciation Weekend, Flushing, NY

February 14, 2004

Valentines Day Weekend, Dinner and Show

February 21, 2004

Napanoch Fire Department Banquet

February 28, 2004

SUNY New Paltz Sorority Semi Formal Banquet

March 13, 2004

UACC Rada

March 20, 2004

Grace Church Men's Retreat



To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 141
216 Foordmore Road • P. O. Box 529
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, January 17

BOSTON: The Boston Ukrainian community, as represented locally by Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation and the Ukrainian American Veterans, is hosting Malanka 2004, to be held at Cedars of Lebanon, 61 Rockwood St., Jamaica Plain, Mass., starting at 7:30 p.m. Music will be by Zolota Bulava. Advance purchase tickets (before January 12): \$30, adults; \$15, youths. Tickets at the door: \$40, adults; \$25, youths. (Appetizers are included in the ticket price). For tickets or information call Ihor Mykyta, (508) 359-8058, or e-mail kosteckisj46@aol.com.

PHILADELPHIA: The SUM Ukrainian American Youth Association Philadelphia Branch, invites the community to attend a fun-filled "Malanka" - a traditional Ukrainian New Year welcoming dance, featuring the popular Vorony band from Syracuse, N.Y. The Malanka will be held in the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa. starting at 9 p.m. Admission: \$35, adults (in

advance); \$40, at the door; \$25, students and seniors. Admission includes a delicious hot buffet catered by Georgines; champagne will be provided at midnight. For more information and advance tickets, call Halya, (215) 722-7212 or Walter, (215) 379-2676.

Saturday, January 24

CARTERET, N.J.: The St. Demetrius Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Mary's Ukrainian Catholic Church are co-sponsoring a Malanka or New Year's Eve dance, to be held at the St. Demetrius Community Center, 681 Roosevelt Ave. Music will be by Fata Morgana. Tickets, at \$40, include admission, hot buffet, beer, wine, soda, midnight champagne toast and a midnight buffet. There will also be a cash bar. The St. Demetrius Center is located just blocks from exit 12 of the New Jersey Turnpike. There is also a Holiday Inn off the exit with free shuttle service. Doors will open at 6 p.m. buffet will be served at 7 p.m. and music starts at 8 p.m. For table and ticket reservations, call Peter Prociuk, (732) 541-5452. Tickets will not be sold at the door. (732) 54(732) 54(732) 54

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.

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