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Eighteen years after Chernobyl nuclear accident, Japan continues to provide assistance to Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Almost certainly, one country from among the dozens that have contributed money to aid in alleviating the after-effects of the Chernobyl tragedy understands better than all the rest what the Ukrainian nation has suffered through. One need mention only Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Perhaps only the Japanese fully realize what radioactive contamination brings with it and what Ukrainians have lived with in the 18 years since an explosion blew the roof off of the fourth reactor at the ill-fated nuclear energy complex, sending a plume of radioactive gas across the globe and leaving the land around the nuclear complex contaminated for generations to come.

“It is a huge catastrophe on a worldwide scale. We know the consequences of radiation,” explained Hiroshi Chayama, first secretary of the Embassy of Japan in Ukraine.

Mr. Chayama underscored that while it wasn't a nuclear bomb that destroyed Chernobyl as it did the two Japanese cities, the damaging aftereffects of the low-level radiation that continues to emit from the area 18 years later can be compared to problems in Japan after a similar amount of time had passed.

According to Ukraine's Ministry of Health, 94 percent of the surviving liquidators of the Chernobyl accident – the clean-up workers who actively worked to bring the fires and radioactive leakage under control in the months after the disaster and didn't perish in the process – are in ill health today. Similarly, nearly 90 percent of the people who lived in the area immediately adjoining the reactor at

the time of the man-made calamity suffer from a variety of ailments and illnesses, including various types of thyroid disorders and immuno-deficiency problems.

While other industrialized nations have emphasized democracy development and economic reforms in their aid to Ukraine, Japan has quietly spent some \$100 million in the last decade to help Chernobyl survivors and children with Chernobyl-related illnesses. A good portion of that money has also gone to cleaning up the radioactive mess at the Chernobyl site and increasing safety at all of Ukraine's nuclear reactor complexes.

Mr. Chayama said that the majority of Japanese aid to Ukraine, whether government-funded or NGO-funded, goes to Chernobyl-related projects.

He explained that Japan supports projects in three areas: alleviating health and social consequences of the accident; stabilizing the existing shelter over the destroyed fourth reactor and building a new, more permanent shell; and increasing safety at the other nuclear facilities in Ukraine, by means such as professional training and exchanges.

“We determined several years after the accident that the real need was to help the people and the children suffering from thyroid problems,” explained Mr. Chayama.

Since 1994 Japan has supplied medical equipment and medicines to Ukrainian hospitals in the amount of \$5 million, including to the Okhmadyt Specialized Children's Hospital and the Center for Radiological Medicine.

It has provided more than \$1 million to Japanese NGOs working across Japan, including in the prefectures of Tokyo,

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Rada ratifies agreement on Single Economic Space

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada ratified a controversial agreement on a Single Economic Space (SES) with Russia, Kazakstan and Belarus on April 20 amid cries from the national democratic opposition that the country could lose its sovereignty in such a setting.

The ratification, which occurred as a couple of thousand demonstrators of the treaty protested outside the Verkhovna Rada Building, came in tandem with two other international agreements: the border delimitation agreement between Russia and Ukraine, and the treaty on the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait.

Volodymyr Lytvyn, chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, and his counterparts from Russia, Kazakstan and Belarus had agreed two months ago to present the three agreements together on the same day in their respective Parliaments.

“Today we will surrender the final barricade: sovereignty,” warned Yulia Tymoshenko, before the Verkhovna Rada vote during her appeal to the lawmakers not to support the creation of a common market across an extensive portion of the

former Soviet Union.

A majority of the Ukrainian lawmakers did not heed her call, inasmuch as 265 voted in support of ratification of the agreement, which was signed by the presidents of the four countries in Yalta on September 19, 2003, as a declaration of intent.

The agreement calls for the establishment of a free trade zone in the region in its first stage, followed by the development of a customs union. Eventually Russia would also like to see a single currency for the SES.

The agreement was hammered out by Russian President Vladimir Putin and President Leonid Kuchma last February and came under harsh criticism by national democratic forces in Ukraine from the time the plan was announced.

The Cabinet of Ministers argued over the agreement's economic benefit to Ukraine just weeks before the summit of the Commonwealth of Independent States – the organization of 12 former Soviet republics headed by Mr. Kuchma – during which the four state leaders were to sign the agreement. Prime

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Fraud charged in Mukachiv mayoral election; opposition demands resignations of top officials

by Vasyl Pawlowsky

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – A vote in the Verkhovna Rada on April 21 fell short by six votes of the necessary 226 votes on a motion that called for the resignation of the head of the presidential administration, Victor Medvedchuk, Minister of Internal Affairs Mykola Bilokon and Chairman of the Zakarpattia Oblast Administration Ivan Rizak.

The motion was precipitated by the overall conduct of the mayoral elections in Mukachiv, where nearly 34,000 citizens cast their ballots on April 18. According to many local and international observers, the election came nowhere close to being democratic, nor did those who were responsible try to feign the slightest air of fairness.

The fiercely contested vote, which was actually a second attempt at electing a mayor for Mukachiv after the first vote was declared invalid, had two main candidates: Victor Baloha, a Verkhovna Rada lawmaker from the Our Ukraine political bloc, and Ernest Nuser, who was backed by the Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU).

When the polling stations closed, many Our Ukraine deputies, fearing ballot fraud, collected copies of the protocols upon which the results of the ballot count were registered. The Our Ukraine national deputies calculated that Mr. Baloha had

received 19,385 votes – 6,597 more than Mr. Nuser, who had received 13,898. Early in the morning of April 19, the Territorial Election Commission announced otherwise. It declared that Mr. Nuser had won the election by more than 5,000 votes.

Our Ukraine members considered the announcement the last straw after a day of dirty politics. The three opposition factions in the Verkhovna Rada announced during the beginning of the April 20 session that they wanted a vote on their resolution to dismiss the state officials whom they considered responsible for the Mukachiv events. The day was filled with allegations by Our Ukraine members – who had been in Mukachiv in large numbers to observe the elections – of attacks on deputies and observers, vote buying and intimidation of voters by burly, short-haired thugs.

Initiated by opposition leaders Viktor Yushchenko of Our Ukraine, Yulia Tymoshenko of the eponymous bloc and Socialist faction member Yosyp Vinsky, the bill called on President Leonid Kuchma to dismiss Mr. Medvedchuk on the grounds that voters' rights were abrogated and the political situation in Mukachiv had been destabilized.

Prior to the vote, National Deputy Oleksander Zinchenko, who was appointed

(Continued on page 8)

Self Reliance New York's assets surpass \$500 million mark

NEW YORK – Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union has reached a milestone in its history, surpassing \$500 million in assets and reasserting its position as No. 1 in assets within the Ukrainian community.

The announcement of this achievement was made at the credit union's 53rd annual membership meeting held on March 14.

“Half a billion dollars is a milestone in terms of growth, financial strength and visibility among credit unions,” commented Bohdan J. Kekish, president and chief executive officer of Self Reliance New York, adding that it also demonstrates once again that the credit union is “a citadel of financial strength.” Mr. Kekish explained that his

credit union has been No. 1 in assets among Ukrainian American institutions for the past four to five years.

“Keeping pace with our growth,” he continued, “we have been sharing our profits with the [Ukrainian] community.” In the past three years, Self Reliance New York has donated more than \$3 million to various Ukrainian projects, including \$500,000 each to The Ukrainian Museum for its new building and to the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Schools Foundation, and \$250,000 each to the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University and to the Kyiv Sobor Fund of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, Conn.

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ANALYSIS

Most members of coalition in Iraq remain willing – for the time being

by Kathleen Ridolfo
RFE/RL Newswire

Coalition forces have remained committed to keeping troops in Iraq despite the surge in violence, according to international media reports.

The recent violence has left coalition allies in a number of southern Iraqi cities in a difficult position, as a number of states committed troops under the condition that they serve only in a peacekeeping or humanitarian capacity. However, many of these countries' troops were thrust into combat roles when coalition bases in central and southern Iraq were targeted in attacks this week by Iraqi insurgents. The insurgents also battled coalition and Iraqi forces while attempting to take over government buildings and police stations in various cities.

Coalition forces in south-central Iraq sustained few casualties in comparison to those sustained by U.S. forces in the Iraqi capital and surrounding areas, but it is likely that those deaths will affect public opinion in their home countries. On April 4, one Salvadoran soldier was killed when militants attacked a coalition camp in Al-Najaf. Twelve of his compatriots were wounded in the same incident.

A Bulgarian patrol was attacked in Karbala on April 6 just minutes before militants struck the Bulgarian base Camp Kilo in Karbala. Three Bulgarian soldiers were lightly wounded in the first incident, while no casualties were reported in the second incident. In a third incident, a Bulgarian driver was shot dead near Al-Nasiriyah. Bulgarian Defense Minister Nikolay Svinarov said on April 7 that Bulgarian soldiers who wish to return home may do so. He also demanded that U.S. and U.K. forces be sent to Karbala to assist in stabilizing the situation. International media reported on April 8 that Shi'ite cleric Muqtada al-Sadr's Al-Mahdi Army now controls the city.

One Ukrainian soldier was also killed this week and five others were wounded as the Ukrainian contingent lost control of Kut to Iraqi insurgents. But Ukraine is not considering pulling its peacekeeping contingent out of Iraq, Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Markian Lubkivskyi told ITAR-TASS on April 7. Meanwhile, Hungarian Defense Minister Ferenc Juhasz said on April 7 that Hungarian troops will not be withdrawn from Iraq because the current threats have not impeded their ability to

carry out their mission there, Hungarian media reported. However, Mr. Juhasz called for a U.N. resolution that would pave the way for additional troops to be sent to Iraq, saying that an additional 100,000 troops are needed to restore order.

Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi said on April 6 that Italian troops will remain in Iraq. "It is quite unthinkable that we should run away from a mission that we started and that needs to be carried through to the end," Mr. Berlusconi said. "We would be leaving the country in chaos," RAI Television quoted him as saying. Eleven Italian troops were reportedly wounded in fighting in Al-Nasiriyah on April 7.

South Korea apparently remains committed to sending some 3,500 troops to Iraq in the coming weeks, despite the fact that militants loyal to al-Sadr held two South Korean aid workers captive on April 5-6. "There is no change at all in the principle of our troop dispatch," Foreign Minister Ban Ki-moon said on April 7.

Meanwhile, Japanese Self-Defense Forces holed themselves up at their camp in Samawah this week in an effort to avoid being caught up in the violence. Japan committed troops to Iraq to carry out humanitarian operations and has gone to great lengths – even placing television ads on Arab satellite channels – to inform Iraqis that the Japanese contingency is not in Iraq to police the country.

Norway appears for the time being to be one of the few coalition partners adamant about withdrawing its contingent from Iraq. Norwegian Foreign Minister Jan Petersen said on April 6 that he expects Norway to withdraw its forces from Iraq within a few months. Mr. Petersen made his comments after meeting with U.N. officials in New York, Oslo's NRK reported. Mr. Petersen reportedly told U.N. officials that his country's forces would be better placed among NATO operations in Afghanistan and Kosovo. Norway has about 150 soldiers in Iraq.

Kazakhstan's Defense Minister said on April 7 that the country will not keep its peacekeepers in Iraq after their mandate expires at the end of May.

Meanwhile, incoming Spanish Prime Minister José Luis Rodríguez Zapatero has vowed to pull the 1,300 Spanish troops out of Iraq. Similar statements have been made by Honduras and the Dominican Republic.

FOR THE RECORD: Letter from Bush to Kuchma

On March 30, the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv delivered the following letter from President George W. Bush to President Leonid Kuchma, expressing the admiration of the American people for the courageous and indispensable role Ukraine has played to free the people of Iraq and Afghanistan and create a safer world. President Bush sent similar letters marking the anniversary of the start of the campaign to liberate Iraq to more than 40 heads of state. The Embassy noted that during his visit to Ukraine on March 25-26, Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage delivered a separate letter from President Bush to President Kuchma.

Dear Mr. President:

As we mark the anniversary of the start of the campaign to liberate Iraq, I would like to express on behalf of the American people our admiration for the courageous

and indispensable role Ukraine has played to free the people of Iraq and Afghanistan and create a safer world.

As leaders, we have been called to uphold the universal truth that human life is precious and that man's natural call is to live in freedom. For peace and freedom to flourish, we must have the courage to confront those who would enslave us by terror and fear. We must also strive to advance the values of democracy, respect for human rights and the rule of law.

History will judge us well for giving the people in Iraq and Afghanistan the opportunity to shape their destinies. The world we live in is still dangerous, but we have made it safer through our resolve to combat terror and repression, replacing it with freedom and hope.

Sincerely,
George W. Bush

NEWSBRIEFS

Rada OKs border accord with Russia ...

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on April 20 voted 352-16 to ratify a treaty on the state border with Russia, Ukrainian media reported. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc did not participate in the voting. Subsequently, the legislature voted 274-59 to endorse an accord on the joint use with Russia of the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait. The Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine refused to vote. The accord stipulates that the Azov Sea and the Kerch Strait are internal waters of both Ukraine and Russia. Under the accord, ships of third countries will be allowed to transit the Kerch Strait and enter the Azov Sea only following the invitation of one of the signatories and permission of the other. The accord leaves the delimitation of the Russian-Ukrainian border in the Azov Sea for a future bilateral agreement. (RFE/RL Newswire)

... and Single Economic Space

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on April 20 also ratified an agreement on the creation of Single Economic Space of Ukraine, Russia, Belarus and Kazakhstan, Ukrainian media reported. The agreement was approved by a vote of 265-60, following a dozen abortive attempts by lawmakers from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party and Our Ukraine to vote it down. In particular, the agreement calls for the formation of a free-trade zone of the four states and a high level of political coordination of their economic and financial policies. Opponents of the agreement argue that its full implementation, which entails the creation of a full-fledged customs union of the four states, will deprive Ukraine of any prospects of joining the European Union in the future. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Duma OKs Single Economic Space

MOSCOW – The Russian Duma on April 20 ratified by a vote of 408-7 with one abstention an agreement on the creation of a Single Economic Space signed by the presidents of Russia, Ukraine, Kazakhstan and Belarus in September 2003, RIA-Novosti and newsru.com reported. The agreement calls for the formation of a free-trade zone comprising the four states and a high level of the political coordination of their economic and financial policies. Ukraine and Kazakhstan also ratified the agreement on April 20. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Ratification leads to walkout ...

MOSCOW – During its April 20 session, the Duma approved two contentious accords with Ukraine, RTR, gazeta.ru, and strana.ru reported. The first, which stipu-

lates that the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait are internal waters of both Ukraine and Russia, passed by a vote of 311-1 with one abstention, and a border agreement passed by a vote of 310-2 with one abstention. Representatives of the left-nationalist Motherland bloc and the Communist Party walked out of the session after lobbying against the bills, and did not participate in the vote, strana.ru reported. Motherland faction head Dmitrii Rogozin argued that the treaties should not be approved until Ukraine rejects a recommendation by its National Council for Television and Radio that state television halt its broadcasts of Russian-language programs. The Communists opposed the measures because they believe it will pave the way for Ukrainian accession to NATO. Liberal Democratic Party of Russia leader Vladimir Zhirinovskii said before the vote that the border treaty would "return Russia to its 17th century borders." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Procurator to probe Mukachiv election

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has instructed Procurator General Hennadii Vasyliiev to investigate, jointly with the Security Service of Ukraine, possible irregularities in the April 18 mayoral election in the town of Mukachiv, Zakarpattia Oblast, Interfax reported on April 20, citing presidential spokeswoman Olena Hromnytska. According to Ms. Hromnytska, the alleged irregularities include the beating of lawmakers, the disappearance of election documents, dismissals of government employees and illegal actions by law-enforcement officers. Earlier the same day, Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko met with President Kuchma to demand the dismissal of the internal affairs minister, the presidential administration chief and the Zakarpattia Oblast chairman over what he described as gross violations in the Mukachiv election, UNIAN reported. Mr. Yushchenko reportedly presented documentary proof to Mr. Kuchma that Our Ukraine candidate Viktor Baloha was robbed of a decisive victory over Ernest Nuser, who was supported by the head of the presidential administration. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Kuchma continues to push his reform plan

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on April 20 once again expressed his support for the constitutional reform that suffered a setback in the Verkhovna Rada on April 8, reported the UNIAN news service. "The political reform is intended to end the post-Soviet epoch in Ukraine [and] create space for deepening the democratization of society and accelerating the process of

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Director of Oscar-winning documentary on Chernobyl speaks about her experiences

by Jan Jun

RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report

Maryann DeLeo is an independent American film director whose documentary "Chernobyl Hearts" recently won an Academy Award for best short documentary film. The film focuses on the plight of children in Ukraine, Belarus and parts of western Russia who were exposed to radiation from the 1986 nuclear accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine. RFE/RL recently spoke to Ms. DeLeo by telephone.

How do you feel about winning the Oscar?

Sort of a miracle. It's amazing. You know, this is not an easy film [to watch] because there are so many children who are sick and who are really hard to look at. I never thought anybody would want to see it. And the fact that people cared, and the fact that the Americans, the Academy, voted for it, I find it just a beautiful miracle. I am so happy.

How did the idea come to you to make the film in the first place?

Eighteen years...

(Continued from page 1)

Kyoto, Ibaraki, Saytama, Yamaguchi and Tiba, who have spent the money in Ukraine on various projects aimed at increasing quality of life for sick children.

Among the Japanese non-government organizations working in Ukraine today are: the Chernobyl Children's Fund of Japan, which has established a children's sanatorium and school buildings in the country; the Association to Help Chernobyl, which has supplied medical equipment and services, including transportation of patients; the Society of Dr. Junod, which provides consulting services in the Chernihiv region, including the education of medical specialists; the Hiroshima Medical Association for the Support of Leukemia Victims, which supplies medicines; and the Basic Human Needs Association, which gives (professional consulting and medicinal support in the Zhytomyr region).

Most recently the Japanese Embassy has become involved in aiding the evacuees from Chernobyl, who were moved to areas where new communities had been established. Japan has contributed \$1.2 million to a project conducted by the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) that is aimed at helping the displaced with the social and psychological problems they continue to confront, including the inability to find new jobs since the Chernobyl facility was closed and the related problems of alcoholism, drug abuse and spousal abuse. The program also provides solutions for practical problems, such as the need to dig wells to provide clean and consistent water supplies to some communities.

In another cooperative effort with the UNDP, which is being carried out in conjunction with UNICEF, Japan is helping to finance the United Nations International Chernobyl Research Information Network. This program aims to develop a system of networking among experts and Chernobyl victims via computer and other modern technologies to provide the newest and most accurate information on how to live more safely in an environment that has been polluted by radiation. Mr. Chayama said the point is not to make people comfortable with living in a radioactive environment but to give them information they can trust in and rely on.

"Many times these people are skeptical of the information they receive from the gov-

Looking back, I really think there was something about destiny in there. A friend of mine visited the United Nations and saw an exhibition that Adi Roche [the executive director of the Chernobyl Children's Project] and the Chernobyl Children's Project organized. My friend was so angry and upset at what he saw [because he believed] that everyone had forgotten about Chernobyl. He did not know that this was happening. He kind of sent me to look at the exhibits, and then someone else told me that, oh, you should make a film. And then the door started to open. I really feel like it was not me. It was something guiding me. And that's how it happened.

Did you face any specific problems working in a restrictive country such as Belarus? Did you experience any difficulties when the filming started?

I was fortunate, because Adi Roche has been going to Belarus for maybe 12 or 13 years. She has good relationships with the people there and everyone knows that she is there to help the people. So we had an easy time, and all the people in hospitals and I think everybody felt

ernment," explained Mr. Chayama. "They are more willing to listen to information provided by international agencies such as UNICEF."

Japan has also played a key role in the development of the International Research Center in the city of Slavutych, built after the accident at the nuclear facility forced the evacuation of the entire city of Prypiat. The research center, whose work is aimed at neutralizing the radioactivity within the "hot" No. 4 reactor and developing ways to make the exclusion zone environmentally safe, including finding ways to use contaminated soil beneficially, is funded and manned by the countries of the G-8.

Japan is also intrinsically involved in the work occurring on the Chernobyl "sarcophagus," the concrete shelter that was hastily erected around the destroyed nuclear reactor in the months after the accident to stem extensive leakage of radioactivity. The shelter has been crumbling for some years now and a new cover is badly needed.

Japan has contributed \$45 million to the Shelter Implementation Fund – among the largest donations by a single country towards the \$380 million that will be needed to build a new structure over reactor No. 4.

The design for a new shelter is now nearing completion and construction efforts are under way to reinforce eight critical zones within the current sarcophagus before the new cover is built beginning in 2006. The goal is to have a new shelter – one that will prevent radiation leakage even if the surrounding structures are destroyed by man-made or natural calamities – completed by 2008. Ultimately, the goal is to remove the radiation materials and dispose of them after the proper technology is developed.

The last area in which Japan has played a leading if quiet role in Chernobyl matters is in developing and implementing safety standards for the other Chernobyl-like RBMK reactors in Ukraine. Since 1994 it has donated \$19 million to the Nuclear Safety Account. Much of the financing for this program has been channeled through the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which has an ongoing nuclear safety program in Ukraine.

A project of no less importance, as Mr. Chayama explained, has been the training of Ukrainian reactor specialists both in Ukraine and in Japan. The diplomat pointed out that his country has sponsored the training of dozens of Ukrainian nuclear engineers in Japan. It has also brought its own specialists to Ukraine to train technicians here.

that we were there for a good reason.

What do you think of sanitary conditions in Belarus and the plight of the children?

It is pretty shocking, and I think the Belarusians are kind of overwhelmed. There are so many institutions and so many kids, and they are just lacking in so many things. In one of the hospitals there was just one nurse on duty for the whole hospital, and a lot of kids are not in good situations, which is not enough care. I mean the people there are doing the best they can, but they need money, they need help, they need a lot of things.

Has making such a difficult film changed you as a person?

Yes, [I am] definitely changed. It was the hardest film I've ever made. I've been doing this for 20 years, and I really struggled with this film. I did want to show hope in the midst of all the difficulties. I think, finally, I achieved that with the heart surgeon in the film who does operate on some of the kids, and they manage to survive, and so I think that's

the hope that we can all help each other. But it's very hard to look at kids who are sick. You have to have a reason, but I think the reason is that we need to know that radiation is still affecting millions of people since that accident.

I tried to focus on whatever good moments there were. Really, they didn't want anything from me, they just wanted somebody to be there with them, to see them blow bubbles, and they were happy. So, I think, maybe, I didn't pretend but I held back some of my feelings, and waited till I was alone in my room, before I really wept for them and their situation.

During the filming of the movie, Ms. DeLeo also received a small amount of radiation poisoning. She was asked about that.

Yeah, but it was a small dose, and I was only in Belarus for a short time. And I think I am okay now. There are people living with that every day. Our translator, she has some Cesium-137, and she says, "Look, there is not much I can do, I live here, I can't go anywhere, and I just have to do the best I can."

NATO's new secretary general expresses optimism about relations with Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer told Ukrainian officials in Kyiv during his first visit to the country on April 19 that it was up to state leaders to determine whether the annual meeting of the NATO-Ukraine Commission would take place at the presidential level.

Mr. Scheffer said that Ukrainian officials "had homework to do" if they wanted a meeting of state leaders during the NATO-Ukraine Commission meeting planned for the biannual NATO Summit scheduled for Istanbul at the end of June.

"NATO, throughout its history, has always defended values. NATO attaches great importance, as does the European Union, to rule of law, democracy and freedom of the mass media. We hope and expect that Ukraine will pay due attention to these matters in its political processes," noted Mr. Scheffer after a meeting with Minister of Foreign Affairs Kostyantyn Gryshchenko.

Mr. Scheffer's statement came the day after election observers for the Council of Europe and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe expressed dismay at the way municipal elections were conducted in the Ukrainian city of Mukachiv, located near the Hungarian border.

In putting the onus on Ukraine to give express proof of its democratic direction, Mr. Scheffer, who took charge of the alliance last autumn, put pressure on the Ukrainian leadership and President Leonid Kuchma to guarantee an open and transparent road and level playing field for all candidates in the October presidential election.

During the last NATO Summit, held in Prague in 2002, President Kuchma was given a belated invitation to attend, but the NATO-Ukraine Commission meeting took place at the foreign minister level nonetheless. NATO members decided to draw down the level of the participants in response to what some of its members, most notably the United States, perceived as an inadequate response by Ukraine to allegations lev-

eled at the time that it had sold Kolchuha defense systems to Iraq.

During his one-day visit to Kyiv, Mr. Scheffer, who also met with President Kuchma and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, emphasized that today the NATO-Ukraine relationship is strong. He expressed optimism that it would continue to grow.

The NATO secretary general noted that intensive consultations within the framework of the NATO-Ukraine Commission were ongoing and that the two sides had already approved an action plan for 2004, which included a target plan allowing for clear benchmarks as to what items need to be completed in what time frames. He noted that relations continued to develop, giving as an example the recently agreed upon Host Nation Support Agreement that allows for an expedited approval process for access by NATO forces to Ukraine's territory during military exercises and emergency situations.

Mr. Scheffer said he expected that another accord, the Strategic Airlift Agreement, would soon find parliamentary approval in the Verkhovna Rada as well.

Mr. Scheffer, whose visit was characterized as a trip to familiarize himself with Ukraine, said he had not discussed Ukraine-NATO relations during his visit to Moscow in April. He said that there had been no discussion with the Russian leadership on emergency access for NATO to Ukrainian territory, which Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin had severely criticized after its approval.

"It is absolutely obvious, I believe, that the 26 states that today are members of NATO – as well as Ukraine, as a sovereign nation – can freely enter into agreements they believe necessary," asserted Mr. Scheffer, who then added, "I believe that the Russian Federation understands this as well."

The NATO secretary general also thanked Ukraine for its contribution to the alliance's peacekeeping force in Kosovo.

OBITUARY: The Rev. William Czekaluk, pastor of Orthodox Church in Allentown, 85

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J. – The Rev. Protopresbyter William Czekaluk, pastor of St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Allentown, Pa., died on March 31 at the age of 85.

The Rev. Czekaluk lived most of his earthly life right across the street from St. Mary's. "Church was his life. He loved God and His people," said his wife, Dobrodijka Halyna. Father Czekaluk started his daily routine on Wednesday, March 31 and around noon he sensed some heart difficulties and was rushed to the local hospital. There he was pronounced dead, having suffered massive heart failure.

Born February 3, 1919, in Yarhoriv, Ternopil district of Ukraine, he received his theological training in Salzburg, Austria. In December of 1951 he was ordained to deaconate by Bishop Mstyslav Skrypnyk. On December 16, 1951, Metropolitan John Theodorovich ordained him to Holy Priesthood.

The Rev. Czekaluk received numerous awards during his ministry, including eleva-

tion to the rank of Protopresbyter in 1990 by Bishop Vsevolod Majdansky.

Over the years he served as pastor of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Johnstown, Pa.; St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in New York; Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Utica, N.Y.; St. Andrew Memorial Church in South Bound Brook, N.J.; and St. Michael Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Hempstead, Long Island, N.Y. Since 1964 he had served as a pastor of St. Mary Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Allentown.

The first part of the priest's funeral service, served by Archbishop Antony of New York and Washington, the ruling hierarch of the Eastern Eparchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., was performed at St. Mary Cathedral in Allentown on Palm Sunday. The conclusion of the memorial service was at St. Mary's on Monday, April 5, followed by interment in St. Mary Parish Cemetery in Allentown.

Father Czekaluk is survived by his wife, Halyna and daughter, Larysa Elizabeth Noecker, with her family.

Shevchenko Society and UMANA hold joint conference in Chicago



Paul Pundy (left), M.D., head of NTSh Chicago Branch and past UMANA archivist, and George Hrycelak, MD, executive director of UMANA.

CHICAGO – The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) Chicago Branch and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) held a day-long forum on Saturday, March 20, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, recognizing the 130th anniversary of the founding of the NTSh.

The event was organized by Paul Pundy, M.D., head of the NTSh Chicago Branch, and long-time archivist (retired)

of UMANA. The special guest of honor was the president of NTSh-America, Dr. Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych.

Morning presentations and discussions were devoted to issues surrounding NTSh and the history of Ukrainian immigrants. The afternoon sessions were devoted to an examination of the history of publications by physicians, and an overview of

(Continued on page 17)

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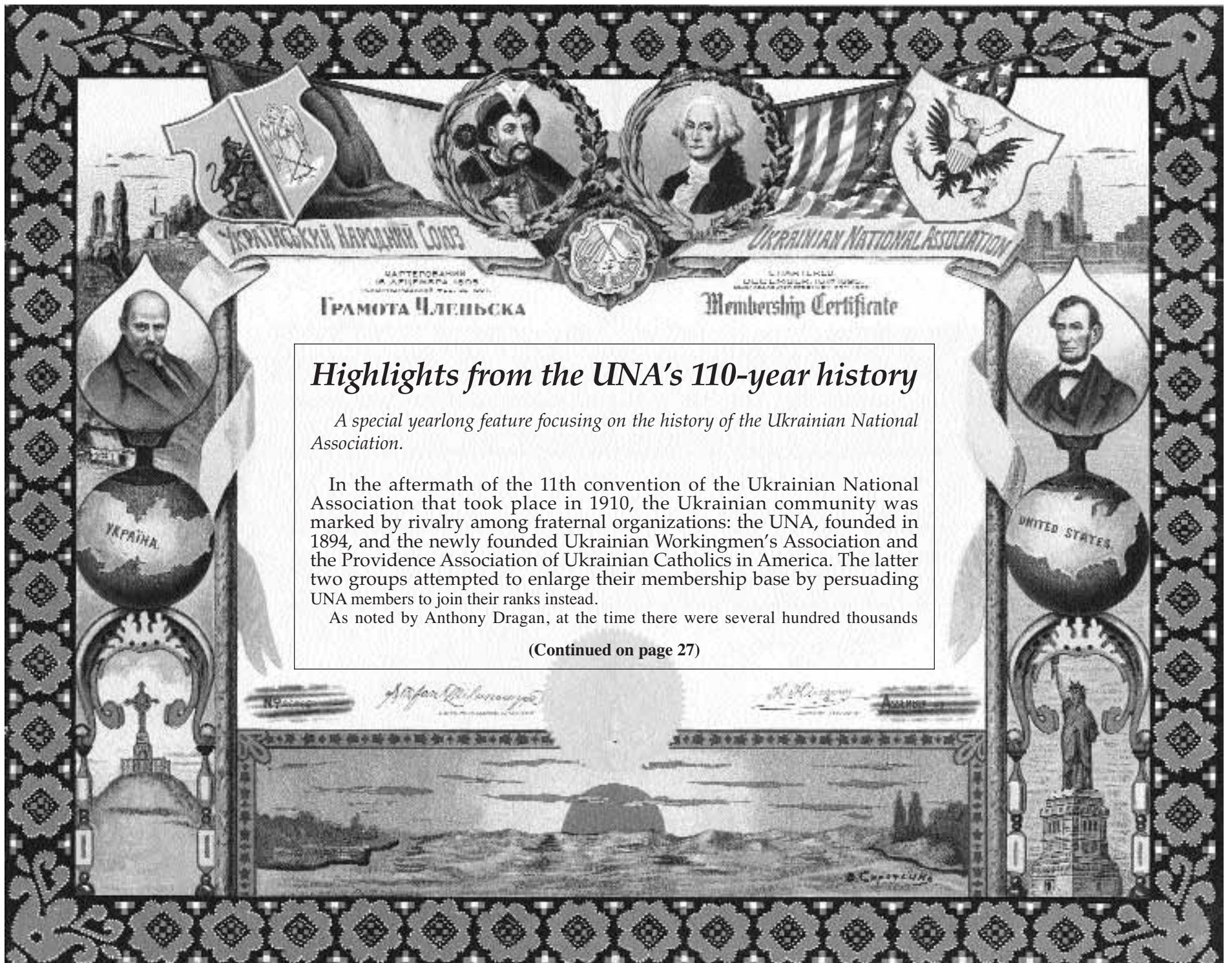
Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

A special yearlong feature focusing on the history of the Ukrainian National Association.

In the aftermath of the 11th convention of the Ukrainian National Association that took place in 1910, the Ukrainian community was marked by rivalry among fraternal organizations: the UNA, founded in 1894, and the newly founded Ukrainian Workingmen's Association and the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics in America. The latter two groups attempted to enlarge their membership base by persuading UNA members to join their ranks instead.

As noted by Anthony Dragan, at the time there were several hundred thousands

(Continued on page 27)





THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Northern New Jersey District Committee holds annual meeting

by Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Northern New Jersey District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association, which encompasses 18 branches, held its annual meeting here at the UNA Corporate Headquarters on Friday, April 2.

The meeting was brought to order by UNA Advisor Eugene Oscislawski, the district chairman, who welcomed branch representatives, district officers and two members of the UNA Executive Committee, National Secretary Christine E. Kozak and Treasurer Roma Lisovich. Present were representatives of the following branches: 25, 27, 42, 76, 133, 171, 172, 234 and 287.

Mr. Oscislawski opened the meeting and called for a moment of silence in honor of Northern New Jersey District members who had passed away during the past year. Mr. Oscislawski was elected to chair the meeting; while Andre Worobec was elected to record the minutes.

A three-member nominations committee was then elected; its members were Roma Hadzewycz, Walter Honcharyk and Julian Kotlar.

The district chairman delivered a report on the district's overall activity during the last year, highlighting such events at the Father's Day trip to Soyuzivka and special programs aimed at attracting members of the Fourth Wave to join the UNA. Among the latter were various meetings organized in order to familiarize the latest immigrants from Ukraine with the work of the UNA, as well as a special seminar on home-buying geared to this audience that featured presentations by a realtor who himself is a member of the Fourth Wave, a lawyer, a credit union manager and investment manager at the UNA Home Office – Stephan Welhasch, an active member of the Northern New Jersey District Committee.

Mr. Oscislawski explained that he became active in the UNA four years after arriving in this country and was thankful for the opportunity to learn about the Ukrainian community here and become actively involved in its work. He went on to note that, just as before, today there is a new immigration to the United States and, if they join the UNA, the organization will be successful.

Mr. Oscislawski stated that he had completed 14 years of community service via the Ukrainian National Association – 14 years as a branch secretary, seven as district chairman, and six as an advisor on the General Assembly. He said the responsibilities of those three positions were greatly intertwined and that he had served in all three capacities with pleasure. He noted regretfully that his obligations at work do not allow him to continue to serve as district chairman and that he would not accept another term in that position since he feels he could not do the job as it should be done. Meeting participants reacted to the outgoing district chairman's report with an appreciative round of applause.

Reports were also delivered by Julian Kulas, vice-chairman of the district, and Mr. Honcharyk, treasurer, with the latter distributing copies of his financial report to all present.

Brief reports were delivered also by the two UNA executive officers in atten-

dance. Ms. Lisovich, treasurer, spoke about new developments at Soyuzivka, praising the work of the new manager, Nestor Paslawsky, and noting that the UNA would soon announce a new venture at the resort: the construction of condominiums on a pre-sold basis.

She also spoke about the UNA's generally improved financial condition, including a \$1 million increase in reserves due to many factors, including the significant decrease in the deficits of Soyuzivka and the UNA's two publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. She also noted the strong sales of annuity certificates.

At the conclusion of her remarks Ms. Lisovich suggested that perhaps new UNA branches encompassing members of the Fourth Wave of immigrants could be established on the basis of activities in which they are interested, whether that is a drama troupe or a sports team. These activities could then be supported by the UNA branch.

Ms. Kozak, national secretary, focused her remarks on the enrollment of new members, noting that the UNA had enrolled 286 new members during 2003, insured for a total of \$5.445 million. These new members paid in a total of \$200,000 of annual premiums, she explained, adding that this figure is low. As regards the Northern New Jersey District, 41 new members were enrolled for a total of \$1.024 million in insurance coverage.

She said the UNA needs more members in order to continue its work within the Ukrainian community, and she exhorted her audience to talk to people about the UNA and the good work it does.

Ms. Kozak went on to report on the UNA's top five organizers for 2003, pointing out that two of them, Christine Brodyn and Stefko Woch, are from the Northern New Jersey District Committee. The three others are Myron Pilipiak, Lubov Streletsky and Joseph Hawryluk. She also noted that the most popular policy is the P-20 and that annuities for \$2.4 million had been sold in 2003. The top three sellers of annuities

were Mr. Woch, Mr. Welhasch and Joe Chabon.

The national secretary also spoke about the new member benefit that was to be introduced shortly (see article on page 1 of last week's issue): the ScriptSave program that offers a prescription drug discount plan to all UNA members at no cost. The discount card may also be used on purchases of eyeglasses and various medical aids.

The auditing committee report was delivered by Ms. Brodyn, speaking for herself and colleagues Lydia Ciapka and Mr. Welhasch, who proposed a vote of confidence for the outing board of district officers. The proposal was unanimously approved.

The Nominations Committee then delivered its report, recommending the following slate of district officers for 2003: Mr. Welhasch, chairman; Mr. Kotlar, vice-chairman; Daria Semegen, secretary; Walter Honcharyk, treasurer; Ms. Hadzewycz (The Ukrainian Weekly editor-in-chief), English-language press liaison; Irene Jarosewich (Svoboda editor-

in-chief), Ukrainian-language press liaison; Oksana Trytjak, organizing director; Lon Staruch and Michael Bohdan, members-at-large; Mr. Oscislawski, Ms. Brodyn and Ms. Ciapka, auditing committee. Wolodymyr Bilyk and John Chomko remain as honorary district chairmen. The slate was elected unanimously.

At the conclusion of the meeting, the new district chairman, Mr. Welhasch, who also is a professional insurance agent for the UNA, addressed the gathering, expressing thanks for the district members' confidence in electing him and offering a thank-you for many years of service to his predecessor, Mr. Oscislawski. Mr. Welhasch also spoke briefly about ideas for district activities for the coming year.

The final item on the annual meeting's agenda was a discussion of miscellaneous topics, among them: the UNA's Christmas cards, with many speakers expressing dissatisfaction with the selection of cards available; ways to attract new members; and various insurance questions.



Eugene Oscislawski (left), outgoing chairman of the Northern New Jersey District Committee, congratulates his successor, Stephan Welhasch.



Members of the Northern New Jersey District Committee of the UNA who gathered for its 2004 annual meeting.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The 18th anniversary

April 26 marks the 18th anniversary of the world's worst nuclear accident: the disaster at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in north-central Ukraine, whose radioactive plume spread across the globe, but most severely affected the people of Ukraine, Belarus and parts of western Russia.

As we write these lines, people around the world are marking Earth Day, which this year falls on April 22. The day has been observed since 1970 to focus attention on saving the globe's wondrous natural resources, to get people of all ages to think about their environment and to get businesses to adopt more eco-friendly policies. And what of Chernobyl? Can this part of our Earth be saved?

Now, nearly a generation later, the exclusion zone around Chernobyl remains deserted, barren; Prypiat, the old company town of the nuclear station, is a ghost town. The zone will remain uninhabitable for hundreds of years due to radioactive contamination. And yet, there is life in the zone: plant life and animal life – even a herd of wild horses; workers who are employed at the new company town, Slavutych, constructed after the catastrophe for researchers and remediation personnel; and some residents, old folks who insist on remaining in their villages.

(For a remarkable photo essay on the zone, readers can log on to: <http://www.angelfire.com/extreme4/kiddofspeed/chapter1.html>. For more information on Chernobyl and its aftermath, readers can also check out The Weekly's online archives at www.ukrweekly.com; click on the year 1996 in particular, where you can read five issues containing materials about the Chernobyl accident in a special section titled "Chernobyl: the first decade.")

Most important is saving the people affected by Chernobyl's deadly fallout. Those who suffered its immediate effects – including residents and workers from the area, those sent into the zone at the time of the accident in an effort to prevent an even greater catastrophe and clean-up workers sent later to "eliminate the consequences" of the accident – continue to need medical assistance. Our Kyiv Press Bureau reports that, according to Ukraine's Ministry of Health, 94 percent of the surviving liquidators of the Chernobyl accident are ailing. Nearly 90 percent of the people who lived in the immediate area of the plant suffer from a variety of illnesses, including various types of thyroid disorders and immuno-deficiency problems. And then there are the children born in the years after the accident. Many of them suffer from birth defects and illnesses that can be linked to Chernobyl's aftereffects.

Awareness about the plight of Chernobyl's survivors has gotten a big lift this year from a documentary titled "Chernobyl Hearts" that won an Oscar earlier (see RFE/RL report on page 3 of this issue). The film's director, Maryann DeLeo, told RFE/RL about her goal in making the documentary: "I did want to show hope in the midst of all the difficulties. I think, finally, I achieved that with the heart surgeon in the film who does operate on some of the kids, and they manage to survive, and so I think that's the hope that we can all help each other. But it's very hard to look at kids who are sick. You have to have a reason, but I think the reason is that we need to know that radiation is still affecting millions of people since that accident."

And, that says it all in a nutshell: millions are suffering and millions need our help today, 18 years after Chernobyl became a household word.

April
26
1996

Turning the pages back...

On the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl accident, The Ukrainian Weekly released a special issue (which was followed by four more issues containing materials under the rubric "Chernobyl: the first decade"). Following are

excerpts from the editorial in that issue, which serve as a reminder of what happened in the USSR in the aftermath of the world's worst nuclear accident.

Ten years ago, when the fourth reactor at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in the Ukrainian SSR exploded, spewing radiation into the atmosphere, the Soviet Union kept silent. ... [Soviet authorities] did not begin evacuating the residents of Prypiat, the nuclear station's "company town," until 36 hours later; and it did not make any public statement about the accident until 48 hours later. ...

The Soviet deception had begun.

May Day celebrations in Kyiv went ahead as planned, and Soviet television showed faces of smiling children marching down the Khreschatyk. Journalists, meanwhile, were not allowed to travel to Kyiv ... The USSR declined offers of international assistance ... Everything is under control, said the Soviet regime's spokesmen.

And the deception continued.

On May 14, Mikhail Gorbachev, general secretary of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, architect of perestroika and glasnost, uttered his first words about the Chernobyl tragedy – 18 days after the accident. He reported nine dead and 299 hospitalized with radiation sickness. Meanwhile, the secret minutes of the Politburo's Chernobyl working group indicate that thousands were hospitalized at that very moment.

The USSR had failed its first true test of glasnost, reverting completely to its well-honed policy of deception. ...

In the succeeding years, the truth slowly began to leak out about Chernobyl and its consequences, and the populace became increasingly more disillusioned with Soviet lies. A Green movement arose in Ukraine, and the first anti-nuclear protests took place in 1988. New political groups began to make their voices heard; soon, the issue became independence – for in an independent Ukraine, the people would have their say, they would determine their own future. Chernobyl, thus, was the beginning of the end of Soviet power. ...

Source: "Chernobyl continues" (editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 21, 1996, Vol. LXIV, No 16.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Supporters of Ukrainian studies back the Internet Encyclopedia

by Dr. Marko R. Stech

TORONTO – The Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine (IEU) project was launched in 2001 with the aim of providing an unprecedented source of information about Ukraine and Ukrainians – free Internet access to over 20,000 detailed articles and encyclopedia entries on all aspects of Ukraine, its history, culture, people, geography, society, diaspora, and current administration.

The textual content of the IEU will be complemented with thousands of maps, photographs, illustrations and tables, as well as music files and multimedia materials that will allow viewers to see faces of prominent people they are reading about, to find exact locations of cities, towns, mountains and lakes or rivers, to look at architectural monuments and works of art, and to listen to musical compositions mentioned in the entries.

With the completion of the first phase of the project, the Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine will become the most comprehensive web-based resource in English on Ukraine and Ukrainians. Building on the foundation laid by the five-volume Encyclopedia of Ukraine (1984-1993), the IEU will contain information that is objectively presented, carefully researched and well-written. It will stand in marked contrast to the multitudinous Russocentric stereotypes that have long fueled misconceptions about Ukraine in the West.

Much work remains to be done before the project is completed. Nevertheless, through the efforts of a team of specialists working on the project at the CIUS Toronto Office this sophisticated and user-friendly information resource is becoming a reality.

The IEU site is fully operational and accessible at: www.encyclopediaofukraine.com. Entries – now totalling over 1,100 – are posted on the site on a continual basis. Recently, in the addition to the host of already accessible entries such as, "Cossacks," "Ivan Franko," Bohdan Khmelnytsky," "Kyivan Rus'," "Ivan Mazepa," "Taras Shevchenko," "Ukrainians" and "Volodymyr the Great," the IEU team made available to Internet users several important entries dealing with Ukraine in the 20th century such as, "Famine," "World Wars," "Mykhailo Hrushevsky," "Symon Petliura" and "Mykola Khvylovy."

The IEU site is visited daily by over 250 users seeking information about Ukrainian history and culture from countries around the world.

The successful completion of this ambitious and costly project will ultimately be possible only with the financial aid of the Ukrainian community in the diaspora. The CIUS can provide limited core funding for the IEU from its available resources, but this amount is insufficient to move the project forward at its optimum pace. In light of this, the CIUS has recently turned to Ukrainian communities in the diaspora (via *The Ukrainian Weekly*) with requests for assistance. It is my pleasure to report that numerous individuals and institutions have appreciated the value of this weighty enterprise for all Ukrainians and have responded with substantial support.

The most generous donation toward furthering the IEU's work was made by

Dr. Marko R. Stech is project manager of the Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine.

Daria Mucak-Kowalsky of Toronto with the creation of the Michael Kowalsky and Daria Mucak-Kowalsky Encyclopedia of Ukraine Endowment Fund. Established through a gift of \$100,000, this permanent fund will provide annual support from returns on its investment for the research, writing and editing of encyclopedia entries in the field of Ukrainian history. It is precisely through the establishment of endowment funds like this that the future existence of the IEU can be safeguarded.

Mrs. Mucak-Kowalsky is a well-known and longtime benefactor of the CIUS and Ukrainian studies. Over the course of many years, she, together with her late husband Michael Kowalsky, has supported or helped to create important and visionary undertakings through exceptionally generous and well thought-out donations. The largest of these projects is the Michael Kowalsky and Daria Mucak-Kowalsky Program for the Study of Eastern Ukraine, which supports scholarly activity related to Left-Bank Ukraine. The Kowalskys have also generously supported the English-language translation of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's monumental *History of Ukraine-Rus'* by sponsoring the publication of two of its volumes.

The late Michael Kowalsky was born near Stanyslaviv (now Ivano-Frankivsk) and obtained a master's degree in law and political science at Lviv University before working as the regional manager of a cooperative dairy and then director of Ukrainbank. In 1949 he emigrated to Canada, where he settled in Toronto and set up his own business. He passed away on May 24, 2000.

Daria Mucak-Kowalsky, born in the town of Burshtyn near Stanyslaviv, graduated from a private teachers' college for women run by the Basilian Sisters in Stanyslaviv, and then taught at a primary school in Burshtyn, where she prepared students for gymnasium exams and gave violin lessons. She was actively involved in Ukrainian cultural and community life.

The activity supported by the Michael Kowalsky and Daria Mucak-Kowalsky Encyclopedia of Ukraine Endowment Fund is dedicated to the memory of Daria's first husband, the Galician lawyer and Ukrainian patriot Andrii Cholii. Andrii Cholii was born on January 5, 1912, to a peasant family in Verkhnia Kalush. Even though faced with difficult personal circumstances and the numerous barriers which stood in the way of Ukrainians in obtaining a higher education in interwar Galicia, Mr. Cholii persisted and through hard work and conscientiousness eventually graduated with a master's degree in law from Lviv's Jan Casimir University in 1935.

Mr. Cholii was a resolute Ukrainian patriot and, while developing his own career, never forgot about helping his people. He was an active member of the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists, for which he was arrested during the first Soviet occupation of Galicia and then murdered in a Bolshevik prison in Stanyslaviv in June 1941. His mortal remains are located at the Demianiv Laz in the city of Ivano-Frankivsk. However, the memory of his life and service to the Ukrainian people will live on through the Kowalsky Encyclopedia of Ukraine Endowment Fund and the Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine.

(Continued on page 23)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kudos to Losten for resolute stand

Dear Editor:

It was very gratifying to me as a Ukrainian Catholic to read the March 1 open letter to Orthodox patriarchs written by Bishop Basil H. Losten of the Eparchy of Stamford, who is also chairman of the Ecumenical Commission, Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Synod of Bishops (April 4).

In his letter, Bishop Losten stands resolute on the issue of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Patriarchate as he tries to allay the anxieties of the Orthodox patriarchs by placing patriarchal developments in the appropriate historical and canonical context. At the same time, he does not shy away from describing the political machinations of the Moscow Patriarchate, which continues to use Church issues to consolidate Russian state power.

Bishop Losten's letter is the model of true ecumenical leadership. His is a rational discourse, sensitive to reasonable concerns of involved parties and open to dialogue with our Orthodox brethren in a spirit of true Christian charity.

As he exercises his diplomacy (in the best sense of the word) by his careful choice of words, what also strikes me in the letter is his confidence and great strength as a leader as well as his sense of dignity and self-respect for our Ukrainian Catholic Church, which has survived a tremendous trial by fire in the 20th century.

I believe I speak for many others of my generation when I say that I have never been more proud to have this hierarchy as my Bishop. Thank you, Bishop Losten.

Which leads me to my next point. At this critical time, the Ukrainian Catholic Church is being buffeted about by the jostling of various religious and political power centers in the world. Our bishops, who in a Synod of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Bishops in 2002 unanimously agreed to a Patriarchate for our Church, face many pressures, and they need to be stronger than ever. We as members of the Ukrainian Catholic laity can and must support them on this question. Let the voices of the laity, young and old, be heard – after all, we are the Church, and we are concerned for its future.

Call, visit, write or e-mail your bishops. Let them know you support their commitment to the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Patriarchate. Ask them what

they are doing at this time to move the process forward and ask them how you can help. By closely working together with our hierarchs, we will be active participants and not just passive observers in the Patriarchate movement, and we will create a stronger, more unified Church in the process.

Anisa Handzia Sawyckyj
Forest Hills Gardens, N.Y.

Why only 7,000 members in N.J.?

Dear Editor:

At the recent New Jersey meeting of members of the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, Executive Vice-President Ihor Laszok cited a figure that stuck in my mind. He said that the credit union's New Jersey branches represent 7,000 members out of the total SUAFUCU membership of 20,755. This 7,000 figure was hard to accept. We know that there are well over 100,000 Ukrainian Americans in New Jersey, and all we have is 7,000 members. Why?

My question to those who read this is very direct: Do you have the same privileges in your community bank that you have in a credit union, any credit union? When was the last time you were invited to the meeting of your bank? When was the last time that the board of your community bank donated money for SUM, Plast or any other Ukrainian or non-Ukrainian causes?

Your credit union offers online banking. You can scan your account at any time 24/7 and make financial transactions (not all commercial banks offer this service). The Parsippany branch, located in the Parsippany building of the Ukrainian National Association, is planning to have an ATM machine for your financial needs.

During a very interesting discussion at the SUAFUCU meeting that I attended a suggestion came from the floor: "We who are present at this meeting and we who represent the recipients of the credit union's generosity should recruit at least one new credit union member in 2004." This concept should apply to all the Ukrainian credit unions in America. At our 2005 meeting we could show there are 14,000 New Jersey credit union members.

Zenko Halkowycz
Teaneck, N.J.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

European integration," Mr. Kuchma told a forum on the country's economic strategy in 2004-2015. Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said at the same forum that he is sure political reform will be implemented irrespective of who will be elected president in the October 31 election. Last week Mr. Yanukovich was named a joint presidential candidate of the pro-government parliamentary coalition on the condition that he finalize the constitutional reform initiated by the pro-presidential camp. (RFE/RL Newsline)

TV/radio council bolsters Ukrainian

KYIV – Ukraine's National Council for Television and Radio (NCTR), a body responsible for issuing broadcast licenses, adopted a resolution on April 15 whereby all broadcasters in the country are obliged to increase the hours of their broadcasting

in the Ukrainian language so as to meet the requirements specified in their licenses, Interfax reported. Moreover, the resolution stipulates that all new licenses issued by the council after April 18 will require that nationwide and regional broadcasters use only Ukrainian in their programs. The broadcasters that currently operate under licenses requiring less than 100 percent Ukrainian-language programs reportedly will not have to apply for new licenses. "Ukraine is becoming a unique state in Europe, a state losing its indigenous language, which is being pushed out by official languages of other states," NCTR deputy head Vitalii Shevchenko commented to RFE/RL. The NCTR is to immediately launch a monthlong monitoring of Ukrainian broadcasters to examine how they react to the resolution. "If the council detects that its resolution is being ignored by some companies, they will be subject to sanctions," NCTR spokesman Mykola Hrytsenko told journalists without elaborating. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Ex-Times editor confesses bias

In "My Times," one of the most self-serving articles I've ever read in The Atlantic, deposed New York Times editor Howell Raines whines about how he tried so hard, oh so hard, to do the right thing only to be done in by resistance to change among his subordinates.

Although he probably didn't intend it, Mr. Raines' Atlantic piece offers us a peek at the kind of swaggering arrogance that pervades the hallowed halls of The Times where the maxim is, "It's not news until we say it's news."

Mr. Raines explains: "The Times not only occupies a central place in our national civic life, but also plays just as important a role as the ethical keystone of American journalism." Right. That "keystone" is probably behind publisher Arthur Sulzberger's refusal to disassociate himself from the "ethics" of Walter Duranty.

The Times "is its own country" with its own unique culture, Mr. Raines writes. So convinced are Times people that they and they alone represent "a great engine of truth" that until Jason Blair, no one was ever fired. "At the Times as at Harvard," Mr. Raines tells us, "it is hard to get in and almost impossible to flunk out." Even Walter Duranty passed with flying colors.

An interesting admission by Mr. Raines is that liberalism (surprise, surprise) is the order of the day at The Times. In the mindset of Times editors, liberalism is favored by the gods of integrity while conservatism is not. A "disturbing development, for which I was unprepared," writes Mr. Raines, "was that a small enclave of neoconservative editors was making accusations of political correctness in order to block stories or slant them against minorities and traditional social-welfare programs." My, my, my. Isn't that just like those nasty neoconservatives, always trying to hurt the poor.

Describing journalists at The Times, Mr. Raines writes: "As a group they tend to be politically liberal in regard to the government's domestic policies, conservative in regard to the location of their desks, rebellious in regard to The Times stylebook, and anarchic in regard to the paper's management." Translation: they are for more government control of you and me, unfettered reign for themselves.

Mr. Raines spends little time discussing the Blair fiasco, the major reason for his shortened tenure as Times executive editor. Amazingly, he has high praise for Arthur Sulzberger, the man most responsible for the disaster that eventually enveloped the paper.

In his 2001 book "Coloring the News: How Crusading for Diversity Has Corrupted American Journalism," William McGowan reviews how Mr. Sulzberger set the stage for the fall. In 1992 the American Society of Newspaper Editors and the Newspaper Association of America convened something called the Diversity Summit. "This get-together had the unmistakable air of a tent revival, full of grim jeremiads, stern calls for repentance and holy roller zeal," writes Mr. McGowan. "Diversity had been fast becoming one of the most contentious issues in American society and in American journalism, responsible for polarizing, if not balkanizing, more than one newsroom around the country."

None of this concerned Mr. Sulzberger who, "galvanized" by the meeting, brought together Times editorial staff and pontificat-

ed on how diversity was "the single most important issue for his newspaper." The result was "sharp dissension within the ranks, triggering accusations of both double standards and lingering racial prejudice," all of which boiled over during the Blair fiasco, leading to the Raines dismissal.

If Mr. Sulzberger is the eminence grise of ultra-liberal editorial policy at The Times, Mr. Raines was his enabler. A profile of the former executive editor titled "The Howell Doctrine" which appeared in the June 10, 2002, New Yorker, stated: "[Sulzberger] knew that Raines, like him, took liberal positions on affirmative action, capital punishment, abortion rights, health insurance, welfare, the environment and the role of activist government. Sulzberger said that he saw the editorial-page editor [Raines' former position] and the executive editor as partners in The Times future."

Even the Washington Post was shocked by the appointment. On August 29, 2001, Post columnist Robert J. Samuelson, wrote, "We in the press are routinely self-righteous holding others – politicians, public officials and corporate executives – to exacting standards of truthfulness, performance and conflict of interest. But we often refuse to impose comparable standards on ourselves, leading some (or much) of the public to see us as hypocritical. A troubling example involves the recent promotion of Howell Raines from editorial page editor of The New York Times to executive editor." Mr. Samuelson then went on to list all of the liberal biases that the new Times executive editor had accumulated over the years, ideas at odds with the beliefs of most Americans.

How ultra is Mr. Raines liberalism? In a 1993 autobiographical book, Mr. Raines recalled his disdain for President Ronald Reagan while he was a White House correspondent for the Times. He was saddened, he explained, because his "work consisted of reporting on President Reagan's success in making life harder for citizens who were not born rich, white and healthy." Right. And that explains why President Reagan won 49 out of 50 states in his re-election campaign.

Appearing on C-Span's "Washington Journal" on November 30, 2001, Mr. Raines rhapsodized about President Bill Clinton's policies, especially wife Hillary's disastrous attempt to introduce socialized medicine in the United States. "We had editorially supported virtually every aspect of his program," he said, "and were particularly evangelical ... about his medical reform package." All this, of course, at a time when Congress and the vast majority of the American people were roundly rejecting the plan.

Has The New York Times changed since Mr. Raines's departure? It has not and it won't as long as Junior Sulzberger controls the purse strings and calls the tune. The New York Times publisher continues to live in his ultra-liberal cocoon, surrounded by craven sycophants, totally oblivious to the concerns, beliefs and hopes of the average American.

In a final burst of hubris in his Atlantic apologia, Mr. Raines wrote, "if The Times ever ceased to exist, it would not be reinvented by any media company now in operation, in this country or in the world." And that would be a bad thing?

Myron Kuropas's new e-mail address is: kuropas@comcast.net.

Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union meets with New Jersey members

by Zenko Halkowycz

IRVINGTON, N.J. – On Sunday March 21, New Jersey members of the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union (SUAFUCU) attended their second face-to-face meeting with the principal members of the board of directors.

The annual New Jersey credit union branches' meeting was held at the Ukrainian National Home in Irvington, N.J. During this meeting, Chairman of the Board Michael R. Kos, President and CEO Bohdan Watral, First Vice-Chairperson Oresta Fedyniak and New Jersey's own executive vice-president, Ihor Laszok and the New Jersey Advisory Board met with credit union members.

SUAFUCU has its principal offices in Chicago, with branch offices in Illinois, Indiana and New Jersey. The three full-time offices in New Jersey – located in Jersey City, Newark and Parsippany – serve the Ukrainian Americans from Jersey City, North Bergen, Bayonne, Irvington, Newark, Maplewood, Elizabeth, Parsippany and the rapidly expanding Morris County community.

Chairman of the board Mr. Kos, who honored the memory of departed members of the credit union, convened the meeting. Ms. Fedyniak read the minutes from the last annual meeting, which were adopted as read.

The next agenda item was greetings by community organizations. Zenko Halkowycz of the Jersey City, Bayonne and North Bergen UCCA thanked the board for its generosity, and specifically commended Yaroslav Zavytsky for his community involvement, financial advice and donations to youth in the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) and

the local School of Ukrainian Studies, helping the Ukrainian National Women's League of America in sending packages to needy Ukrainians in Brazil and Ukraine, as well as his Christmas donations for the "koliada."

The next speaker was Kvitka Semanyshyn, Newark-Irvington UCCA president and community activist who addressed the board members and extended her gratitude for all the help extended by Mr. Laszok, Walter Kovbasniuk and Michael Koziupa.

Representatives of SUM, Plast, Ukrainian Youth Organization, Ukrainian Studies Schools, Chornomorska Sitch, the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky School of Dance, Ukrainian Music Institute, and other community organizations that have received financial assistance for their programs praised their local credit union managers and extended their appreciation and gratitude.

Chairman Kos presented a very comprehensive report on the state of the credit union. He covered the credit union's past and future, and gave a very positive outlook for 2004. He explained that under the present financial policy of the U.S. government and the low financial rates dictated by the Federal Reserve Bank, members would expect low returns on their deposits and yet SUAFUCU is able to pay higher dividends and CD rates than do commercial banks. Credit Union members receive a more favorable rate when they maintain their savings, share draft (checking), CD and IRA accounts.

A financial report was delivered by the CEO, Mr. Watral, who not only manages the financial details of the credit union, but also cares about the evolution of the credit union movement in Ukraine. CEO Mr. Watral and Executive Vice-President



Seen during the recent New Jersey meeting of the Selfreliance Ukrainian American Credit Union are credit union officers with the director of the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies in Morris County, N.J., which was among the local organizations that received donations: (from left) Ihor Laszok, executive VP; Yuriy Kosachevich, school director; Michael Kos, chairman, Bohdan Watral, president and CEO; and Oresta Fedyniak, first vice-chairperson.

Mr. Laszok have been passionately working since 1991 on helping develop the credit union philosophy as well as the actual physical presence of credit unions in Ukraine.

Mr. Watral gave a very comprehensive financial report for 2003, as well as a forecast for 2004. In his report he stated that the credit union in 2003 expended \$611,804 for various community projects, youth organizations and schools. The board projects \$800,000 for community assistance in its 2004 budget.

The highlight was the New Jersey report by Mr. Laszok, a well-known and

respected community activist in New Jersey and a long-time credit union manager. Mr. Laszok announced the credit union's 2004 emphasis – "Supporting our youth" – and went on to present a total of \$22,500 to nine different Ukrainian American organizations that work with and educate youth in New Jersey, and \$5,000 to the credit union sponsoring organization, the Selfreliance Association of Ukrainian Americans.

Mr. Laszok stated that the credit union's New Jersey branches represent 7,000 members out of the total 20,755 SUAFUCU membership.

Self Reliance New York's...

(Continued from page 1)

In addition, the president/CEO said, "We have a commitment to provide very good service to our members, for example, we pay 2.2 percent on savings versus 1 percent or less paid by banks, and we lend money to our members at much more favorable terms."

Of course, "in order to do that, we have to be profitable," Mr. Kekish explained. "We made over \$7.3 million in 2003 – and that's after all donations were made." In 2002 the credit union's donations to community activities and education totaled \$1.2 million.

According to its annual report, during 2003 Self Reliance New York closed 236 mortgage applications for a sum of \$63.1 million and 89 business loans to members totaling \$42.6 million. Assets increased last year by 11.4 percent or \$50.9 million, while members' savings grew by 13 percent or \$45.5 million.

Today the credit union has four full-service locations – Manhattan, Astoria, Uniondale and Kerhonkson, N.Y., and it has 14,265 members and approximately \$98.5 million in capital. At its founding meeting back in 1951, Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union had 37 individuals who deposited a total of \$314 to become members of the newly chartered entity.

"It's a nice little concession that our forefathers left us," Mr. Kekish mused. "And our satisfaction comes from providing a meaningful service to members, as well as service to our community – it's our 11th commandment that we must support our community." He added that at Self Reliance New York "we also make sure to keep up with changes in technology and services in the financial industry."

Asked how the credit union's main office celebrated its latest milestone, Mr. Kekish replied matter-of-factly: "Everyone was very proud, but it's a fleeting moment. This is now history and we are always looking ahead."



The board of directors of Self Reliance New York Federal Credit Union: (seated) President and CEO Bohdan J. Kekish (left) and Chairman of the Board Myroslaw Shmigel; (standing, from left) Andrew Juzeniw, Jaroslaw Oberyshyn, Lubomyr Zielyk, Catherine Popovech, Orest Glut, Stefan Kaczaraj and Bohdan Kurczak.

Fraud charged...

(Continued from page 1)

to head a deputies' working group that visited Mukachiv to study what had happened on election day, called the situation in the city "critical." The lawmaker, who was once a close associate of Mr. Medvedchuk, recommended removal of the head of the Zakarpattia Oblast Administration and the Mukachiv City Council, but only after an examination of the situation by the Supreme Court. Mr. Zinchenko also declared that there was a close collaboration among municipal authorities, law enforcement officials and the criminal element in Mukachiv.

During the session, both Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko attacked the Social Democratic Party-United, Mr. Medvedchuk and Gen. Bilokon. Mr. Yushchenko declared that the SDPU with the help of criminals, had seized authority by force in Mukachiv. In addition, he accused the minister of internal affairs of not ensuring the security of the ballot boxes, polling stations, ballots and election documents. Ms. Tymoshenko labeled Mr. Medvedchuk as someone with close ties to criminal circles, and Gen. Bilokon as someone who provides the latter with protection to do whatever he wants.

Opposition leaders were not the only ones disturbed with the conduct of the elections in Mukachiv.

On April 19 the head of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Joseph Borg, stated, "Genuine local elections should be about the voters choosing their representatives and leaders on the basis of democratically competing local political platforms. Regrettably, this has not been the case in the Mukachiv election."

On April 20 Gerald Mitchell, head of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe's Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights said, "Of deep concern was an attack on a polling sta-

tion in Mukachiv by unidentified persons at the end of the vote count, which occurred in the presence of OSCE/ODHIR representatives." He added, "This blatant attempt to disrupt the election proceedings is an attack on the very foundations of the democratic process."

The elections in Mukachiv had been labeled by some as a litmus test for the state of democracy in Ukraine, and it has turned out to be one, with many fearing that a similar situation may play itself out during the upcoming presidential election in the fall. Many civic activists considered this election a trial run for the projects they have planned to ensure free and fair elections, and to encourage eligible voters to cast their ballots and not let someone else steal their vote.

"Our organization members have been in Mukachiv for over the last two weeks monitoring the election campaign, and we will be busy tomorrow making a list of every incident that is reported to us by citizens, our own observers, as well as those from the international observer community," Vladislav Kaskiv, coordinator of the Freedom of Choice Coalition of Ukrainian NGOs, told The Weekly on April 17. "On Monday we will make our conclusions," he added.

On Monday, their conclusions were announced and they read as follows: "The electoral campaign didn't create equal possibilities for the candidates and didn't secure any conditions for democratic and free elections. The courts were considerably engaged in the electoral process for the benefit for one side. The authorities conducted direct agitation for one of the candidates. The law-enforcement organs acted under the control of the criminal groups and completely withdrew themselves from the functions prescribed by the law; the militia officials managed the criminal groups. The election committees carried out/supported

(Continued on page 27)

2004

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE OF THE UKRAINIAN AMERICAN COMMUNITY



The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) has been the leading umbrella organization in the United States since its founding in 1940. For over six decades the UCCA has represented the interests of Ukrainian Americans and continues to adapt to the changes within the community, instituting new ideas and initiatives. To help us identify the needs and desires of new immigrants from Ukraine and the younger generations of Americans of Ukrainian descent, we ask you to fill out this questionnaire.

Please fill out this questionnaire only once.

Please circle the most appropriate answer.

- | | | | | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|---------------------|---------|-----------|------------|
| 1. Your age: | under 25 | 25-40 | 41-55 | 55-70 | above 70 |
| 2. Please circle one: | born in the U.S. | arrived before 1947 | 1947-60 | 1961-1988 | after 1988 |
| 3. Gender: | male | female | | | |
| 4. Status: | single | married | widowed | divorced | |
| 5. Your zip code: _____ | | | | | |

Do not answer questions 6,7,10 and 16, if they do not apply to you

- | | | | | | |
|---|--------|-----------|------------|--------|-------------|
| 6. I speak Ukrainian with my spouse: | always | usually | 50/50 | seldom | never |
| 7. I speak Ukrainian with my children: | always | usually | 50/50 | seldom | never |
| 8. I speak Ukrainian with my Ukrainian friends: | always | usually | 50/50 | seldom | never |
| 9. Did you attend Ukrainian day or Saturday school as a child? | Yes | No | | | |
| 10. Do/did your children attend Ukrainian day or Saturday school? | Yes | No | | | |
| 11. Is there a Ukrainian day/Saturday school within 30 miles of where you live? | Yes | No | | | |
| 12. Do you belong to a Ukrainian parish? | Yes | No | | | |
| 13. How often do you attend Ukrainian religious services? | Weekly | sometimes | rarely | never | |
| 14. Is there a Ukrainian Church (your denomination) within 30 miles of where you live? | Yes | No | Don't know | | |
| 15. Did/do you belong to a Ukrainian youth organization (e.g. SUM, Plast, ODUM, religious) | Yes | No | | | |
| 16. Do/did your children belong to a Ukrainian youth organization (e.g. SUM, Plast, ODUM, religious) | Yes | No | | | |
| 17. Is there a Ukrainian youth organization chapter within 30 miles of where you live? | Yes | No | Don't Know | | |
| 18. Do you use the services of Ukrainian financial institutions (e.g. Credit union, Savings Bank)? | Yes | No | | | |
| 19. Is there a Ukrainian financial institution within 30 miles of where you live? | Yes | No | Don't know | | |
| 20. Do you believe that Ukrainian financial institutions provide better service? | Yes | No | Don't know | | |
| 21. Are the rates better at the Ukrainian financial institutions? | Yes | No | Don't Know | | |
| 22. Is the location of a Ukrainian financial institution more convenient? | Yes | No | Don't Know | | |
| 23. To what Ukrainian newspapers/magazines do you have access? _____ | | | | | |
| 24. To what Ukrainian newspapers/magazines do you subscribe? _____ | | | | | |
| 25. How often do you listen/watch Ukrainian radio/TV programs? | Always | sometimes | rarely | never | |
| 26. Are Ukrainian radio/TV programs available in your listening/viewing area? | Yes | No | Don't know | | |
| 27. Rank from 1 (most important) to 7 (least important) the following as sources of relevant information about Ukraine: | | | | | |
| Ukrainian language newspapers/magazines published in US/Canada | _____ | | | | |
| Ukrainian newspapers/magazines in the English language published in US/Canada | _____ | | | | |
| Ukrainian language newspapers/magazines published in Ukraine | _____ | | | | |
| Internet | _____ | | | | |
| American/English newspapers/magazines | _____ | | | | |
| Ukrainian radio/TV programs | _____ | | | | |
| Other (specify) _____ | | | | | |
| 28. To how many Ukrainian organizations do you belong? | None | one | 2-3 | 4-5 | more than 5 |
| 29. To how many American organizations do you belong? | None | one | 2-3 | 4-5 | more than 5 |

Using the following scale, to what extent do you agree or disagree with the following statements? Please circle your answers.

- | | | | | | |
|--|---------|------------------------------|-------------|----------------------|---|
| 1=strongly agree | 2=agree | 3=neither agree/Nor disagree | 4= disagree | 5= strongly disagree | |
| 1. It is important for me to belong to a religious organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 2. It is important for me to belong to a professional organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 3. It is important for me to belong to a political organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 4. It is important for me to belong to a community organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 5. It is important for me to belong to a women's organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 6. It is important for me to belong to a sports organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 7. It is important for me to belong to a student/youth organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 8. It is important to work in a charitable organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |
| 9. It is important for me to belong to a Ukrainian organization. | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 5 |

In your opinion, what should Ukrainian organizations in the U.S. emphasize? Please circle your answers, using the following key:

1=strongly agree 2=agree 3=neither agree/Nor disagree 4= disagree 5= strongly disagree

10. Should emphasize social interaction.	1	2	3	4	5
11. Should emphasize Ukrainian culture.	1	2	3	4	5
12. Should defend Ukraine against media attacks.	1	2	3	4	5
13. Should lobby for Ukraine.	1	2	3	4	5
14. Should be involved in American politics.	1	2	3	4	5
15. Should work to preserve the Ukrainian American community.	1	2	3	4	5
16. Should defend the rights of Ukrainians in the U.S.	1	2	3	4	5
17. Should defend the rights of Ukrainians in Ukraine.	1	2	3	4	5
18. Should defend the rights of Ukrainians throughout the world.	1	2	3	4	5
19. Should provide employment services for newly arrived immigrants.	1	2	3	4	5
20. Should provide immigration services for newly arrived immigrants.	1	2	3	4	5
21. Should provide English language classes for newly arrived immigrants.	1	2	3	4	5
22. Should provide training services for newly arrived immigrants.	1	2	3	4	5
23. Should provide humanitarian aid to needy Ukrainians in U.S.	1	2	3	4	5
24. Should provide humanitarian aid to needy Ukrainians in Ukraine.	1	2	3	4	5
25. Should provide humanitarian aid to needy Ukrainians throughout the world.	1	2	3	4	5
26. I strongly believe in volunteer work.	1	2	3	4	5
27. I should be paid for the work I do for my community.	1	2	3	4	5

1. How many hours per week do you spend working? Less than 10 11-20 21-34- 34-44 45 and more
 2. Number of hours per week you consider to be free time? Less than 5 5-10 10-20 more than 20

3. How do you spend your free time? Please check all that are appropriate.

- reading in Ukrainian
 reading in English
 watching TV
 playing sports
 attending functions in American organizations
 attending functions in Ukrainian organizations
 attending cultural functions
 volunteer activities in American organizations
 volunteer activities in Ukrainian organizations
 socializing with friends
 other (please list) _____

4. Name four Ukrainian organizations that come to mind:

- 1.) _____
 2.) _____
 3.) _____
 4.) _____

If you would like to receive information about the Ukrainian American community please provide us with your:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____

Thank you for filling out this important questionnaire. Your input is greatly appreciated.

Please place this questionnaire in an envelope with a .37 cents stamp and address it to:

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Newark** 734 Sandford Ave. 973 373 7839
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Selfreliance

Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union



Soyuzivka

for all seasons

TENNIS CAMP kicks off the summer with 2 weeks of intensive tennis instruction for boys and girls ages 12-18. Room, Board, 24 Hour Supervision, expert lessons and a life time of memories are included!

June 20 - July 2, 2004

\$540 UNA Members, \$590 Non UNA Members

\$120 Instructors Fee/ Per Student

EXPLORATION DAY CAMP— a new day camp for boys and girls ages 7-10, with 6 hours of supervised day fun!

Week One: June 28- July 2, 2004

Week Two: July 5- July 9, 2004

\$100.00 Per Week/Per Child OR \$25.00 Per Day/Per Child

ADVENTURE CAMP is a brand new sleepover camp for 13-16 year olds and will focus on the outdoors. Like the Kozaks of old, daily life will include outdoor, overnight campouts with cooking & fireside storytelling. Will include wilderness survival skills, a kayak river trip, hiking, rock climbing lessons and more!

Week One: July 17 - July 24, 2004

Summer Camps 2004

Week Two: July 24- July 31, 2004

\$425 UNA Members, \$475 Non UNA Members

DISCOVERY CAMP a new sleepover program modeled after the Adventure Camp but geared for 8-12 year olds. This camp offers exposure to Ukrainian heritage & outdoor instruction. Daily life is filled with outdoor crafts, hiking, swimming, organized sports & games, bonfires, song and much more. Room, Board, 24 Hour Supervision, and a life time of memories are included!

Week One: July 10- July 17, 2004

Week Two: July 17- July 24, 2004

Week Three: July 24- July 31, 2004

\$375- UNA Members, \$425- Non UNA Members

CHIMNEY YOUTH DAY CAMP a returning favorite for boys and girls ages 4-7. Kids will be exposed to Ukrainian heritage through daily activities such as dance, song, crafts and games. Price includes tee-shirt and daily lunch.

Week One: July 18 - July 23, 2004

Week Two: July 25 - July 30, 2004

\$135 Per Camper

\$175 Per Camper If Not Overnight Guest

SCUBA DIVING COURSE— this one week course will complete your academic, confined water and open water requirements for PADI open water certification.

For all ages 12 and older! Classes are given by George Hlanushevsky, scuba-diver instructor. Space is limited so sign up now!

July 25- July 30, 2004 (Revised dates)

\$400 for Course

\$120 Deposit Required

DANCE CAMP this sleepover camp has been a Soyuzivka favorite for over 25 years. Taught by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, an internationally recognized dancer and choreographer, and offers instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced students ages 8-16. Attendance is limited to 60 students. Room, board, 24-hour supervision, expert lessons and loads of fun are included.

August 8- August 21, 2004

\$610- UNA Members, \$660- Non UNA Members

\$250 Instructors Fee Per Student

\$75 Deposit Required to Register Child into a Camp.

For more information & for camp applications

Call (845) 626-5641

or check out our website at:

www.Soyuzivka.com



Rada ratifies...

(Continued from page 1)

Minister Viktor Yanukovich finally received ministerial support to approve the document but only after a proviso was added, stating that Ukraine would only enter the SES to the level allowed by its Constitution.

The Constitution of Ukraine does not allow state leaders to enter into any international arrangements under which the country may be bound by the jurisdiction of a supranational agency, something the SES arrangement suggests in the formation of a customs union. The document ratified by the Verkhovna Rada also precludes entry into any level of economic union that would conflict with the Constitution.

After parliamentary ratification, National Deputy Viktor Pynzenyk, an economist who is a leading member of the Our Ukraine faction – which abstained from the vote, as did the Yulia Tymoshenko faction – said that contrary to the way the accord had been presented to the public, it was an exclusively political document.

“The SES has no relationship to economics, and it will not solve any economic problems, whether those of Russia or Ukraine,” Mr. Pynzenyk pointed out.

He explained that Russia had refuted every attempt on the part of Ukraine to establish a free trade zone for the exchange of non-taxable commodities because it was not in Moscow’s interest to do so. The lawmaker said that while Russia had every right to look out for its self interest, Ukraine had to be wary that it didn’t lose the ability to control its economy, in effect handing that authority over to Moscow, which the treaty on a Single Economic Space could be interpreted as doing.

President Kuchma, however, cast aside any such notions, praising the ratification of the treaty during a conference in Kyiv on economic reform the next day.

“Ukraine was, is and will always be interested in broad cooperation with the CIS. The Verkhovna Rada’s ratification of the SES agreement is an important step forward,” explained the Ukrainian president.

Mr. Kuchma said that SES integration did not preclude continued movement towards Europe. He said that it actually complemented it and allowed for the Europeanization of Ukraine in a “four-some” with Russia, Belarus and Kazakstan.

“The invigoration of the integration processes among the countries will promote the creation of a zone of sustainable social and political development and a high rate of growth in the eastern part of the European continent,” asserted Mr. Kuchma.

The treaty on the SES was signed as part of a package of three bills as had been agreed among Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and his counterparts in Russia, Belarus and Kazakstan. The four parliamentary leaders had also agreed to present the three draft bills for approval on the same day, which happened as planned.

The Russian Duma approved the three treaties just after the Ukrainian Parliament did so. The Belarus and Kazakstan Parliaments ratified the SES treaty the next day.

While Ukrainian lawmakers from the center and right roundly supported the land border limitation with Russia (only the Communist faction opposed it, citing no need for a border between the brotherly nations), the same could not be said for the treaty on the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait, which passed with 274

eyes and 59 nays. After failing to obtain a sufficient number of votes to pass a resolution on the admissibility of ratifying the agreement, the Our Ukraine, Tymoshenko and Socialist factions did not take part in the ratification vote.

The treaty, which was developed by Presidents Putin and Kuchma late last year after the uproar surrounding a Russian attempt to build a dike from the Taman Peninsula to the Ukrainian island of Tuzla had died down, basically left the maritime border between the two countries as it was: in joint hands.

National democratic forces criticized the treaty for giving Russia the ability to control the ingress of international shipping into the Kerch Strait.

They also noted that while President Kuchma had staunchly defended Tuzla Island as the so-called “dam” to the island was being built, even ordering armed border guards to defend tiny outpost in the Kerch Strait, the island’s ownership remains an open question within the treaty.

The agreement also fails to determine how mineral and fishing rights are to be divided, much of them found on the Ukrainian side of the Azov Sea.

ROCHESTER, NY, DISTRICT COMMITTEE

of the

UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION

announces that its

ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on

Saturday, May 1, 2004, at 2:00 p.m.

at St. Joseph School

940 East Ridge Rd., Rochester, NY 14621

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

66, 217, 285, 316, 343, 367

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Joseph Hawryluk – UNA Advisor

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Christine Dziuba, District Chairman

George Malachowsky, Secretary

Mary Sweryda, Treasurer

Peter Dziuba, District Committee Honorary Chairman

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Canadian students gain six months of valuable experience in Ukraine

by **Vasyl Pawlowsky**

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Arriving in Ukraine just over six months ago, 13 Canadian students concluded their internship on March 31, bringing their relatively short, but worthwhile stay in Ukraine to a close.

The opportunity for these students to work in Ukraine is part of the Canadian government's Youth Employment Strategy that not only provides students, whom the government considers to be either unemployed or underemployed, and under the age of 30, the opportunity to learn and gain valuable international experience, but gives them a different appreciation of the world in which we live.

Administered by the Canadian Bureau for International Education, the program has very clear criteria for application, which can be found on the organization's website at www.cbie.ca. Although the number of internships is limited, those who make it through the program's screening process and are selected to participate, gain an international experience that can give them the edge over someone who has not had such an experience.

The Ukrainian Weekly took the opportunity to meet with Kristin Cavoukian, Stefan Sokoloski and Roman Zakaluzny prior to their departures for home in order to learn about their impressions and experiences. Ms. Cavoukian interned at Magister & Partners, a Kyiv-based law firm, Mr. Sokoloski, at the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Studies, a well-known Ukrainian think-tank; and Mr. Zakaluzny contributed many stories to the Kyiv Post as a reporter.

Before you arrived in Ukraine for your internship what were you expecting, and how did you make the transition to living in non-English speaking environment, and a different culture?

Kristin Cavoukian: I wasn't sure exactly what to expect, but having spent time previously in a CIS country, Armenia, I had a rough idea of some of the challenges I might face. I knew it would be difficult to adjust, but Kyiv is such a cosmopolitan place, it's been much easier than I thought it would be.

It's difficult to live in a country where you don't speak the language. However, it's also a tremendous challenge, with little victories every day, like learning a new word, realizing you understood what someone just said, or figuring out the transit system.

Many experts believe that this year is the most important since independence in 1991. ... Ukraine will decide whether it seeks to become liberal democratic or Eastern authoritarian. And I had the chance to see these developments transpire, to talk to experts on the issues and meet some of the players involved.

– *Roman Zakaluzny*

Culturally, sometimes I find the chivalry here a bit difficult to handle, especially since it seems to be doled out unevenly. Men almost obsessively open doors for me on a daily basis, but a whole crowd of them walked past me without offering to help when I fell in a snow bank. The most difficult thing is to observe something that is so unbelievably intolerable in our culture, such as littering, throwing a lit cigarette in a plastic-bag-lined garbage, or cars driving on the sidewalks, and not passing judgment.

I have to admit, I pass judgment all the time.

I understand that you were a research assistant at the Razumkov

Center for Economic and Political Studies. What were some of your tasks and how do you feel they contributed to your development and experience?

Stefan Sokoloski: My major task at UCEPS/Razumkov Center was editing the English in "National Security and Defense." This was an important job, as the English translations were often not very good. Although it was sometimes frustrating to deal with the same English mistakes over and over again, I'm glad that I contributed to a more professional, readable magazine. The material I edited

and the roundtables I attended taught me a great deal about Ukrainian politics.

I'm also fascinated by linguistics, so I enjoyed the opportunity to work with language. I learned a great deal about writing in English, as well a lot of Ukrainian and Russian. I also did research for the magazine, edited articles and speeches for researchers, and carried out small translations. I particularly enjoyed the translations.

When you arrived in Kyiv six months ago, what were you expecting to get out of your internship?

Roman Zakaluzny: I was expecting some quality, practical experience in my field (reporting), an improvement in my

Ukrainian language skills, and a fun time in a foreign country.

What would you say are the biggest challenges for interns coming to Ukraine?

Stefan Sokoloski: Personally, I found the dominance of second-rate Russian and American mass culture and the neglect of contemporary Ukrainian culture and language to be one of the greatest challenges of living in Ukraine. The fact that, on the whole, only the worst of Western culture reaches Ukraine was also frustrating. This contributed to homesickness some of the time. The movies, music, magazines, etc. that I enjoy in Canada are not available in Ukraine, but the movies and music I detest have a strong presence.

For interns in general, I would think that simple culture shock is the greatest challenge. Related problems are homesickness and the language barrier (the latter was not a problem for me, on the whole).

Do you feel that the experience you gained will assist you once you get back to Canada?

Kristin Cavoukian: Sure. Acquiring a new language and working overseas looks great on a resume. In a broader sense, this experience has expanded my horizons, strengthened certain aspects of my personality and exposed me to interesting people.

I also think that I see Canada in a new light, due to my experience here. There are many similarities between Ukraine and Canada. We both live next to a hegemonic power, and both experience similar cultural and political difficulties as a result. Both countries are deeply troubled by divisive language issues, and both suffer from political apathy. Also,

(Continued on page 16)

Fulbright-Ukraine seminar discusses role of media in international relations

by **Renata Kosc-Harmatiy**

KYIV – The academic year 2003-2004 has been marked for Fulbright-Ukraine by new Fulbrighters, new projects and above all new approaches. This year Fulbright-Ukraine has more than ever become a part of the Ukrainian academic community with weekly seminars and seven conferences. The most recent conference took place on March 12, at the Institute of Journalism at the Kyiv Shevchenko National University, and was titled "International Politics in the Modern Information Age."

The conference keynote speaker was the renowned Ukrainian diplomat and most recently the foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, Anatolii Zlenko. Mr. Zlenko's audience, comprising over 100 journalism students, journalists, and professors, was very attentive and receptive. The former diplomat's keynote speech was dedicated to the role of the mass media in forming foreign policy and the media's influence on international diplomacy. Mr. Zlenko noted that this was a very important, yet completely understudied question.

Focusing mostly on his role in diplomacy over the past 10 years, Mr. Zlenko categorized Ukraine's independence in four phases – the most recent being a phase of "crisis" that ended in 2003.

Renata Kosc-Harmatiy is the assistant to the director of Fulbright-Ukraine and a former Fulbright Fellow.

Students responded by voicing doubts about whether Ukraine was out of this crisis phase, and they were not convinced that Ukraine's image has changed for the better in the mass media, if at all.

Mr. Zlenko argued that Ukraine's image will depend first and foremost on domestic policy and internal behavior. Positive results in reporting on Ukraine will only come with positive changes in Ukrainian behavior.

When asked about the role of journalists in international affairs, as well as the possibility for students to become truly professional, Mr. Zlenko answered that journalists need to remember their role in nation-building. As for students becoming professionals, he said they can only do this by reading ceaselessly and went on to describe six hours he spent in a bookstore upon his latest visit to the United States.

The audience also had an opportunity to hear about the inspiration and process that went into the writing of Mr. Zlenko's recent monograph "Diplomacy and Politics" (2003), which has received praise as one of the few memoirs presented to those interested in Ukrainian diplomacy and foreign relations.

The conference continued with two more panels, in which the speakers disagreed with the role of journalists as nation-builders. They insisted that a journalist's role is to build society and criticize the government, and not provide it with good public relations.

The first panel included journalist

Mykola Veresen, who is well-known for his outspokenness, and has most recently been a regularly featured voice on Ukraine's Hromadske Radio. Mr. Veresen was joined by Volodymyr Skachko, editor of the Ukrainian Russian-language weekly Kievskij Telegraf.

The two actively engaged in a discussion about the role of journalism in forming international opinion. Mr. Skachko was strongly opposed to the so-called speculation and profit to be made on artificially improving Ukraine's international image. The students were presented with an interesting contrast to the very formal presentation of Mr. Zlenko, as well as very differing perspectives. Two representatives of nationwide television channels admitted that they had very strict rules about how to represent international affairs on air.

The final panel on non-traditional sources for information proved that even the Internet was becoming a traditional source of information, starting with the Melnychenko cassette scandal as well as the most recent rumors of President Leonid Kuchma's death – all of which originated on the internet.

The panel was moderated by an established historian, journalist and host of Ukraine's "Who Wants to be a Millionaire" Danylo Yanevsky. Mr. Yanevsky reminded the students that they have chosen one of the most ungrateful and dangerous professions, and that their future lies in either selling out as propaganda artists or becoming truly dedicated

to their profession, the truth and society.

Mr. Yanevsky was joined by the producer and program director of Hromadske Radio, respectively, Roman Vybranovsky and Ihor Soldatenko. The two did not seem to have lost faith in the future of Ukrainian journalism, despite having recently endured the sudden closure of their host, Radio Kontynent. Both spoke to students about the importance of understanding the audience, and bringing them the news they need in a timely and accurate fashion.

Serhii Leschenko spoke to the importance of the Internet, as well as Western funding. Mr. Leschenko is the editor of the Internet newspaper Ukrainska Pravda, which has actively criticized the Kuchma administration. Pravda has been dedicated to its former journalist, Heorhii Gongadze, whose death appears to be linked to his political outspokenness on the website.

The conference presented many divergent views, showing journalism students that there are many sides to one story, and that the responsibility of a journalist is to cover as many aspects as possible.

Journalist Natalia Feduschak, a current Fulbright Scholar in Ukraine, and lecturer at the Institute of Journalism was an organizer of the conference and insisted that students focus on ethics in journalism. This appeal was joined by all of the guests.

Information about additional Fulbright-Ukraine conferences are available at www.fulbright.org.ua.

Mykola Ryabchuk discusses paradoxes of post-Soviet transition in Ukraine

by Bohdan Klid

EDMONTON – When the Soviet Union collapsed and Ukraine became an independent state in 1991, it appeared that the decaying authoritarian order represented by the Soviet state had been defeated by a nascent civil society, which had first emerged under the last leader of the Soviet Union, Mikhail Gorbachev. Yet, as we approach the date of Ukraine's next presidential election, it is clear that the final outcome of that struggle is still not predictable, although the oligarchic system of semi-authoritarian power set up by Ukraine's current president, Leonid Kuchma, is being strongly challenged by the democratic opposition led by Viktor Yushchenko.

Following the Soviet Union's collapse, to maintain power, the post-Soviet nomenklatura created what can be characterized as a "blackmail state," where the law and organs of the state, such as the tax police and prosecutors, are used selectively and arbitrarily to repress political opponents of the regime and maintain loyalty.

These are some of the main conclusions reached by Mykola Ryabchuk, who delivered this year's Taras Shevchenko lecture, "From 'Dysfunctional' to 'Blackmail' State:

Paradoxes of the Post-Soviet Transition," on March 12 at the University of Alberta in Edmonton. The annual Shevchenko Lecture is sponsored by the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton and organized by the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS).

Much of Mr. Ryabchuk's talk focused on defining, describing and analyzing the "blackmail state," particularly in Ukraine, which appeared following the demise of the Soviet Union in some of the post-Soviet republics. While Ukraine has adopted the trappings of democracy, including regular elections, Mr. Ryabchuk noted that the political process and amount of liberty allowed is highly manipulated to ensure that the regime and its supporters remain in power.

The corrupt relationship that exists between business and government is one of the pillars of support and means of control within the country. This is why the regime cannot be counted on to effectively fight corruption or other white-collar crimes, like money laundering. Furthermore, the regime's interests as well as those of its supporters, he pointed out, lie in stemming or arresting the development of civil socie-

ty and democracy, the entrenchment of which threatens the existence of the "blackmail state" and the power of those who benefit from and are tied to its existence.

In his closing remarks, Mr. Ryabchuk commented on the critical role the West could play in pressuring Ukraine and other post-Soviet states. The noticeable slide towards authoritarianism in the post-Soviet states, including Ukraine, should be at the top of the West's agenda, he noted. Enduring political stability, he stressed, would come only with legitimate governments and democratic institutions, not governing bodies or political systems built on corrupt clans or individuals. Because of the existence of a large pro-reform electorate

and a popular opposition leader in Ukraine, the country would benefit from the close scrutiny of Western powers to ensure that the pro-Kuchma camp does not overly intimidate opponents and steal the vote.

The West, he concluded, had to keep up the pressure on Kyiv, especially in the critical months leading up to the presidential elections.

Mr. Ryabchuk's talk was followed by a lively and lengthy discussion period, which was moderated by the CIUS director, Dr. Zenon Kohut, who had also introduced the speaker and opened the evening event. Following the discussion period, the

(Continued on page 17)

University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy establishes School of Public Health

CHICAGO – Within the last decade, Ukraine has experienced an alarming increase in health problems and mortality throughout the population. In response to the nation's current health crisis, the National University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy has established a School of Management of Public Health to advance the management of public health in Ukraine.

The NUKMA School of Public Health's mission is to undertake an intensive study of Ukraine's health care and service delivery system with the purpose of identifying solutions to the problems of institutional reform and professional training of health care providers. The School of Public Health faculty will carry the burden of providing high-quality teaching, research and advisory activities.

The school's academic program will begin on September 1 by offering a two-year master's degree in management of public health, which will be recognized internationally. The new dean of the KM School of Public Health is Prof. Irena Griga.

The new public health program is backed by a consortium of partners, including the Kyiv Mohyla Academy, the Kyiv Medical Academy of Post-Graduate Education, Ukraine's Ministry of Health and the School of Health Science of Maastricht University in the Netherlands.

With the assistance of Dr. Daniel Hryhorchuk, the School of Public Health of the University of Illinois in Chicago also became a partner of the program. Dr. Hryhorchuk received a grant from the Association Liaison Office for University Cooperation and Development (through the U.S. Agency for International Development) to carry out joint programs in public health with Ukraine. Dr. Hryhorchuk is a member of the board of directors of the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America.

"Establishment of the school was a necessity, an urgent issue to focus on bringing changes into the system of human values, to break a wall which stands between the providers of health-care and the patients' needs. All of us

must get used to the idea that the interests of the patient have to come first as the health of the patient is a top priority of any public health system," said NUKMA president Viacheslav Briukhovetsky at a February conference in Kyiv dedicated to establishing the NaUKMA School of Public Health.

Other conference speakers included Maastricht University professor of health economics, Wim Groot, who said that although governments universally resist change, they need to promote public health through economic incentives. The main sources of Ukraine's current health problems are believed to be lifestyle factors such as smoking, alcohol and general nutrition.

Prior research shows that about 20 percent of Ukraine's health problems are due to genetic factors, another 20 percent due to the ecology and environment, 10 percent due to quality of medical care and 50 percent due to lifestyle and socioeconomic conditions, showing a direct correlation between the state of the country's economy and the general health of the population.

Conference speakers pointed out that a change must take place not only on the part of government, but that public perception and understanding of health issues and responsibilities must be altered as well. A new national health policy must be developed. The system of public health delivery needs to be decentralized, and a system of medical insurance established in which the financial responsibility is shared by the government, employers and individuals.

Pavlo Sheremeta, dean of the Kyiv-Mohyla Business School said it is necessary to implement new methods of public health management that focus on the patient, not the provider. He said it is essential to adapt to new economic realities by establishing a more effective level of management of all human resources engaged in the health care system – doctors, nurses and management personnel.

The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America supports the mission and aims of the Kyiv Mohyla School of Public

(Continued on page 19)

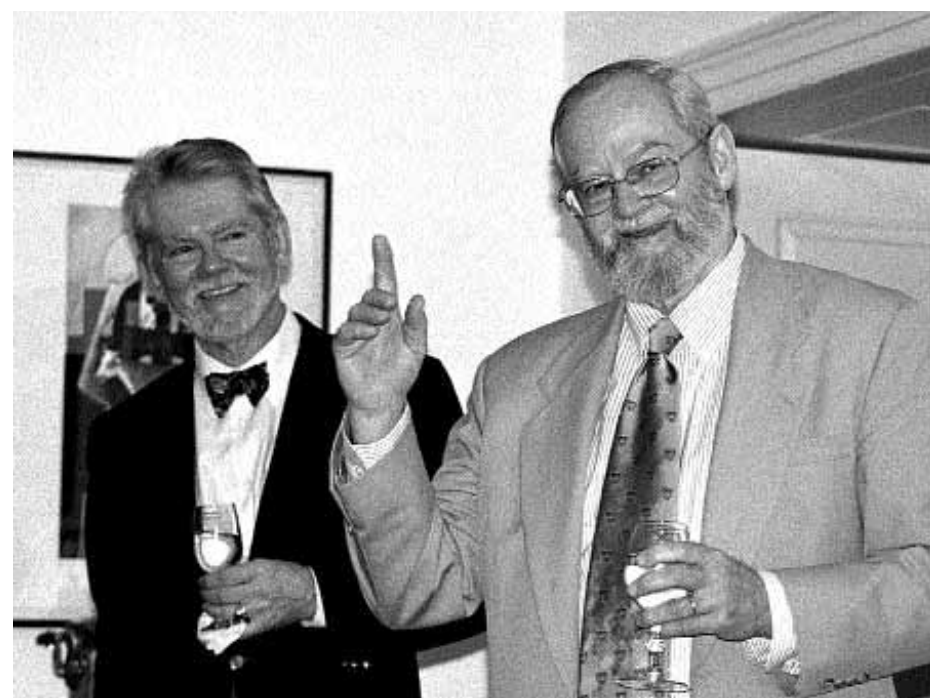
Ryabchuk speaks in Washington



WASHINGTON – Mykola Ryabchuk discussed "Ambivalence to Ambiguity: Why Ukrainians Remain 'Undecided'" on April 12 at the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars in Washington. Mr. Ryabchuk, a research associate at the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, is currently a John Kolasky Fellow at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies in Edmonton. He has also been a regional exchange scholar at Washington's Kennan Institute, which sponsored his lecture.

– Yaro Bihun

Book launch celebrates Keenan's latest work



Edward Keenan (right) and his Harvard University colleague, George Grabowicz, celebrate the publication of Prof. Keenan's "Russian Historical Myths" during a book party and presentation in Washington on March 26. The second, expanded Ukrainian-language edition of the book was published in Kyiv by the publishing arm of Krytyka magazine, of which Prof. Grabowicz is editor-in-chief. The magazine was founded eight years ago with the help of the Harvard University Ukrainian Research Institute. Prof. Keenan recently gained a measure of notoriety in Ukraine and Russia for casting doubt on the authenticity of "Slovo o Polku Ihorevim" (The Song of Ihor's Campaign), generally accepted as a masterpiece of medieval literature of that region. The new edition of Prof. Keenan's book includes a chapter on the subject.

– Yaro Bihun

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Canadian students...

(Continued from page 14)

since there are so many Ukrainians living in Canada, it almost feels like I'm learning about part of our collective Canadian heritage by learning about Ukrainian history and culture.

I understand that you and a number of other interns will be staying on once your internships come to a close. What are your plans in the months to come?

Roman Zakaluzny: I'm not fully certain yet. There is a slight possibility I may still find employment in Ukraine in my field, as I would really like to be here for the elections. But this chance appears slim, in which case I hope to take my improved resume home and get a job in my field as soon as possible, as I have loans to pay back.

What are your plans now that your internship is over? Do feel that the opportunity provided by the internship was worthwhile?

Stefan Sokolowski: My plans are still unclear. If I could find a job in Ukraine, I would consider returning for a short period of time. I know that I want to pursue graduate studies, probably in Canada, but I still have to decide on a program. I feel that the opportunity provided by the internship was definitely worthwhile. It gave me an opportunity to live in Ukraine, to work in Ukrainian, and to gain some experience working in a think-tank.

Some interns will be leaving once the program is over, how many that you know of will be staying?

Roman Zakaluzny: As far as I know, only two of us will be staying on after the program. However, I know that many interns looked for an opportunity to extend their stay, and that many more will probably be back at some point.

I understand you will be in Ukraine until the end of August. Was this something that you were prepared for prior to starting graduate school in the fall?

Kristin Cavoukian: I hadn't planned to stay when I got here in September, but I came to realize that it would be a shame to leave without seeing springtime and summer in this country. It's such a beautiful place anyway, but I'm sure it comes alive when trees and flowers are in full bloom. I can't wait to watch it all come alive.

What was the most valuable experience that the internship provided you with?

Roman Zakaluzny: The experience to write about Ukrainian events in what I think is a very critical time in its history. Many experts believe that this year is the most important since independence in 1991. In the upcoming elections, Ukraine will decide whether it seeks to become liberal democratic or Eastern authoritarian. And I had the chance to see these developments transpire, to talk to experts on the issues and meet some of the players involved.

Addendum

The credit for the second photo accompanying the story about the Chervona Kalyna debutante ball published in our special section on Ukrainian Debutante Balls (March 28) should have been given as Pavlo Mylyk/Wowk Photography.

Shevchenko Society...

(Continued from page 4)

the direction in which UMANA is heading in the new millennium.

Dr. Pundy opened the program with warm greetings to the large group present. He introduced Dr. Onyshkevych, who summarized the plans of NTSh for addressing the future development of the organization. Subsequent speakers included Dr. Dmytro Shtohryn, Dr. Myron Kuropas, Prof. Bohdan Rubchak, Dr. Daria Markus and Oleksiy Konoval.

During the noon break, the conference participants toured the National Office of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, headquartered in the same building. Past archivist Dr. Pundy along with current archivist Dr. Maria Hrycelak prepared an extensive display of historical photographs of past editors and authors, pamphlets, books and journals reflecting a century of health care publications printed under the auspices of both organizations.

Of particular interest was a facsimile of the first issue of the Collection of Mathematics – Natural Science – Medicine published by NTSh in Lviv, in 1897, with the original residing in the archives of the University of Chicago. The display included the latest issue of the Likarskyi Visnyk, No. 150, celebrating 50 years of continuous medical publication in the Ukrainian language.

The afternoon sessions were dedicated to institutional medical topics. Dr. Pundy reviewed the vast historical array of medical publications of the Medical Committee of NTSh. Dr. George Hrycelak shared his experience as executive director of UMANA, and explored the possibilities and future directions for the association.

The conference concluded with a spirited question and answer period. Participants remained behind on a warm first day of spring in Chicago to discuss their impressions and share views on the gathering.

For further information about UMANA readers may call (773) 278-6262.

Mykola Ryabchuk...

(Continued from page 15)

president of the Ukrainian Professional and Business Club of Edmonton, Marko Levytsky, thanked the presenter.

Mr. Ryabchuk is a prominent political commentator, editor and journalist who lives in Kyiv. He is the author of numerous articles on contemporary Ukrainian politics and culture, and the Ukrainian-language books "Dilemmas of the Ukrainian Faust: Civil Society and State Building" and "From 'Little Russia' to Ukraine: Paradoxes of Delayed Nation Building." The latter work has been translated into Polish, Serbian, Belarusian and French, and received first prize in one of the categories of Book of the Year in Ukraine. His most recent book is "Two Ukraines: Real Borders and Virtual Wars."

In Ukraine, Mr. Ryabchuk has served on the country's most prestigious and serious Ukrainian-language journals, such as the journal of literature in translation *The Universe*, and the current affairs and culture journal *The Contemporary*. He was co-founder and deputy editor-in-chief of the book review publication *Krytyka* (Criticism) in 1997-2000, and remains a member of its editorial board.

Mykola Ryabchuk has also written poetry and literary criticism. His collection of poems, "Winter in Lviv," containing poems written in the '70s and '80s, was published in Kyiv in 1989, during the perestroika period. His collection of short stories, also written in the 1970s and 80s, "Elsewhere, But Not Here," was published in 2002. These two collections contain works written while he was a member of a group of non-conformist and dissident students and young intellectuals in Lviv. They were circulated in typescript among friends and often read at unofficial gatherings.

Mr. Ryabchuk completed his formal education in Moscow, at the Gorky Literary Institute, where he received a Candidate of Science degree in the theo-

ry of literature in 1988. Today, he is affiliated with the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, where he is a research associate at the European Humanities Research Center.

Mr. Ryabchuk has received numerous awards and fellowships, most recently the Antonovych Prize, and has often lectured outside Ukraine, including in the United States, the United Kingdom, Australia, Poland and Hungary. He is the most recent recipient of the John Kolasky Memorial Fellowship and is visiting professor of the department of modern languages and cultural studies, University of Alberta.

Mr. Ryabchuk's talk is available online at the CIUS website (view it in the "Media Releases" section under the News and Events heading at <http://www.cius.ca>)

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University of Kyiv-Mohyla...

(Continued from page 15)

Health. Reaching the goals of this initiative will impact the health of the Ukrainian nation. This new program will require energy, management and support. At the inception of the program, there is an immediate need to fund scholarships for three master's level students. The tuition for the two-year program is \$3,500 (U.S.). The school has already received a grant to fund three students for the master's program, but only on condition that the grant be matched by equal amounts for three other students.

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With deep sorrow we announce that

Marta (Terpeliak) Woronewych

born January 17, 1937, in Lviv, Ukraine,
passed away Friday, April 16, 2004.

Funeral services were held on Saturday, April 24, 2004, at 10 a.m.
at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church,
Jewett, N.Y.

Left in grief:

daughter – Luba Greenberg with husband Danny and grandsons Rudi and Alecsion – Roman Woronewych and granddaughter Victoria
– the Terpeliak, Makarushka and Jarosewich families in the United States, Germany and Ukraine

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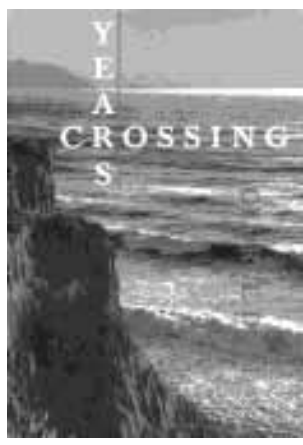


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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

The Nikolai Zherdev saga Act I (August 2003)

It looked highly unlikely that Kyiv-born Nikolai Zherdev, a highly skilled left-winger would play for the Columbus Blue Jackets this season. The fourth-overall pick in the 2003 NHL amateur draft signed a three-year contract with the Blue Jackets, and the club paid the required \$100,000 transfer fee to the International Ice Hockey Federation. In some official respects, this made him a free man.

However, Zherdev's Russian Central Army team saw the situation quite differently. They insisted Zherdev stay, willing to force the issue much like they did with Russian draftees Stanislav Chistov of Anaheim and Alexander Svitov of Tampa Bay. Both of these players were forced to spend another year in the army.

"I don't anticipate him being at training camp," Blue Jackets assistant GM Jim Clark said back in September. The Blue Jackets were being careful not to lose favor with Central Army executives, as they have four other prospects on the team.

Act II (September 2003)

One hurdle down and one hurdle to go. The first hurdle in making certain Zherdev wears a Blue Jackets sweater in 2003-2004 was cleared in August by signing him to a three-year deal that could top \$11 million if Zherdev hits every incentive.

The hurdle to go is for the Blue Jackets and Zherdev's agent to negotiate a transfer fee releasing him from the remaining

year of his contract with Central Army in the Russian League. Columbus General Manager Doug MacLean believed Zherdev was worth the effort.

"I've seen him play probably six times," MacLean said. "You always hate to put pressure on a kid, but I think he has a chance to be a really special player."

As the season began in early October, there was still no sign of Zherdev. Negotiations with Russia's CSKA Central Army were unsuccessful, so the Blue Jackets decided to involve the NHL and IIHF. "I want him here," said GM MacLean.

Act III (November 2003)

Resolute with a deep breath and even deeper convictions, Zherdev decided to push the issue that has been slowly simmering the past several months. Desperate to play in the NHL, while also desperately wanted by the club selecting him fourth over all in the last entry draft, it was time for some daring actions. Time to take matters into his own hands.

Signing a contract and paying the IIHF transfer fee by August 15, 2003, was obviously not enough. Still there was no done deal.

The prevalent fear was any notion of Zherdev heading for North American hockey would have landed him in the Soviet army, à la Chistov and Svitov. Both players saw the start of their NHL careers delayed by military service.

Even delicate negotiations of the face-to-face variety between the Blue Jackets with

(Continued on page 21)

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Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 20)

CSKA officials in Moscow achieved very little. (Now) Coach-GM MacLean asked the NHL and IIHF to intervene. Even then, poor Zherdev remained stuck with no documentation to prove he was part of the military.

On November 30, 2003, Zherdev made a move to the West, solely on his own, seemingly unbeknownst to Central Army. Feeling he was being unfairly punished by the Red Army team because of his desire to play in the NHL, his ice time had greatly diminished.

"It takes real courage, guys," said Sasha Tyjnych, a former Central Army goaltender and one of Zherdev's agents. "It was 7:30 in the morning (November 30) when he called me. He said 'I went to practice, they put me on the fourth line. So I go to the (club) president's office and I tell him that's it. I'm not playing any more for CSKA Moscow.'"

"Then he said to me: 'I'd like to try (the NHL).' With that, his travels to a new country began."

Zherdev hurried to the airport, where he claimed a ticket that had been left in his name by the Blue Jackets for the past several weeks. On December 2, 2003, after clearing customs in Ottawa, he made his NHL debut against Anaheim. He played 11 minutes on a line with youngsters Manny Malhotra and Kent McDonell.

"I was a little tired, a little nervous," said Zherdev through an interpreter. "It is good to get it over with."

However, in the eyes of Central Army's coach, the legendary Viktor Tikhonov, the case was not yet over.

"To begin with, Zherdev fled his team and, secondly, he flew from his army obligations," Tikhonov told Moscow's Sport-Express newspaper.

There were indications in early December that NHL Executive Vice-President Bill Daly was planning to convene all parties via teleconference to settle this matter.

Act IV (December, 2003)

The operative word in the next phase of the saga is patience. As in what the Blue Jackets begin to preach with Zherdev, now that their top draft pick has arrived in the NHL. A skill level described as wondrous will take some time to get used to living and playing in a new country, not to mention adapting to a new culture and all new teammates.

"We wanted to get him in there and get his first game out of his way," said Coach-GM MacLean. "But let's not get goofy here. Let's not get out of hand with our expectations. We have to be patient, and we will be."

Zherdev opened up on the team's third forward line with Malhotra at center and

fellow rookie McDonell at right wing. He was projected for approximately 10 to 15 minutes of ice-time per game at the outset.

Act V (February 2004)

Zherdev will be free to continue playing for the Columbus Blue Jackets for the rest of this season and beyond, media outlets reported following an arbitration hearing in Zurich, Switzerland. The 19-year-old left-winger was the subject of a tug-of-war between the Blue Jackets and the Russian Pro League. The latter stubbornly claimed Zherdev left Moscow Central Army without permission and without proper transfer approval by the International Ice Hockey Federation.

Zherdev had actually begun the season playing in Russia, but left on November 30 to join the Blue Jackets. He had seven goals and 18 points in 42 NHL games immediately prior to the arbitration hearing.

Russian officials protested his relocation, saying he was still under contract to play with Central Army and had further military obligations. The Blue Jackets, supported by several NHL officials, argued before Swiss arbitrator Stephan Netzle in the Court of Arbitration for Sport that they met all requirements for Zherdev's legal transfer to Columbus.

Netzle was permitted up to 72 hours to come to a binding decision, which was announced on March 5. Prior to the formal announcement, Blue Jackets' management concentrated only on positive thoughts.

"We're very, very confident," said GM MacLean, who had assumed and relinquished coaching responsibilities in Columbus this season.

Arbitrator Netzle ruled the Blue Jackets could retain the services of their valuable Ukrainian draft selection.

Epilogue (March 2004)

In a most dramatic, come-from-behind 5-4 victory over the playoff-bound Vancouver Canucks on March 21, Zherdev played his best game yet as a 19-year-old National Hockey League rookie. He assisted on two Columbus goals and tallied twice himself, giving him double-digit goals scored (10) and assists (17), totalling 27 points in only 50 games. His first ever four-point game gave Columbus its 21st win of the season (out of 75 games) – a remarkable achievement for an offensively challenged team. Zherdev's 10th career tally happened to be the Blue Jackets' fifth goal of the game – the game winner.

Zherdev, Nikolai
Left Wing
No. 13
Born November 5, 1984, in Kyiv
6-0, 175 lbs.
Shoots right
Selected by Columbus Blue Jackets in first round (fourth over all) in 2003 NHL entry draft.

STATS FOR NIKOLAI ZHERDEV

Season	Team	League	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
2000-2001	Elemash	Russian 1	18	5	8	13	12
2001-2002	Elemash	Russian 1	53	13	15	28	60
2002-2003	HC CSKA Moscow	Russian	44	12	12	24	34

(Quotes courtesy of Blue Jackets beat writer Aaron Portzline and The Hockey News.)

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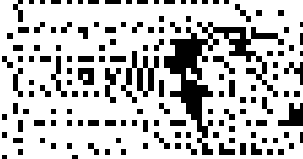


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BOOK NOTES: Recent immigrant's M.A. project is published as novel

Everything Because of Teeth, by Luba Borochock. Baltimore: Publish America, 2003. 55 pp.

The book is a story about a father-daughter relationship set in a remote village, which is not even on the map, in former Soviet Ukraine.

As noted on the book's back cover, Anita, the protagonist, "is convinced she is a special child because an old dying woman prophesies ... that she will be an important person. Anita's father, a farmer, is the only person who is not impressed by the prophecy, and Anita does not like that. She prays for a better father. As she grows up, she notices one thing about him that annoys her the most - his teeth, which 'bore the mildew's bloom.' She is embarrassed by him. It

gets worse when Anita is in college. She does not even want to admit that she is the farmer's daughter and convinces herself that she is not special to him. Only when she is about to leave her country forever does she realize that her father always loved her, and that she was special to him."

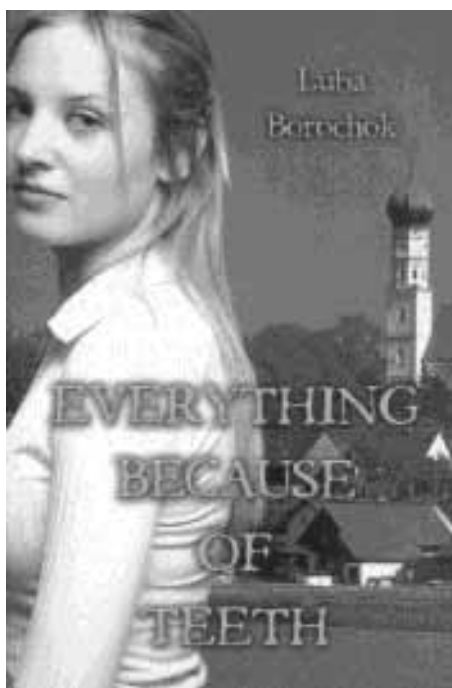
Luba Borochock was born in 1968 and raised in a small village on Ukraine's border with Poland. After graduating from a pedagogical institute with a degree in Russian language, she embarked on a one-year career as a teacher. Disappointed about not being adequately paid, she was intent to seek out better opportunities for herself. She turned to her uncle who lived in America for help and the latter invited her to the United States.

Upon coming to the States in 1991 at the age of 24, her goal was "to find a permanent job so she would not have to switch between cleaning people's houses, working at heavy industries, manufactures and domestic service. One day she got angry with people looking down at her because of her inability to communicate in English...[she] quit all the jobs and enrolled in college."

She earned a B.A. degree in English from Penn State University and an M.A. from Arcadia University in suburban Philadelphia.

Ms. Borochock, a resident of Jamison, Pa., was encouraged in her writing by a professor in a fiction writing class at Arcadia, and the story of the father-daughter relationship became her culminating project for her degree from the university.

"Everything Because of Teeth" was released January 12 and can be viewed online at www.amazon.com, www.bn.com or www.publishamerica.com/boods/3440.



Supporters...

(Continued from page 6)

Other individuals and community-based financial institutions in Canada, the United States and Australia also have provided valuable financial aid to the CIUS for the Internet Encyclopedia. The geographic distances between the project's sponsors and the offices of the CIUS provide the most revealing testimony to the fact that the IEU is truly a global undertaking with an impact on the life of Ukrainians in every corner of the world. The CIUS is truly grateful to these donors. Their names are listed on the Internet at: www.encyclopediaofukraine.com/donor.asp, and include such generous donors as: Arkadii Mulak-Yatskiivski of Los Angeles (\$5,000), Teofil Sudomlak of Renown Park, Australia (\$5,000), the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union in Philadelphia (\$3,000), the Ukrainian National Federal Credit Union in New York City (\$500), and the Ukrainian Selfreliance Federal Credit Union in Rochester (\$400). Our heartfelt thanks go out to all these friends and benefactors of Ukrainian studies.

The donations supporting the Internet Encyclopedia have been of great assistance in our work and will make it possible for us to write and update numerous new entries about Ukraine and put them up on the Internet. Nevertheless, the ongoing generous support of Ukrainian sponsors is necessary for the Internet Encyclopedia of Ukraine project to reach its goal.

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE: Virginia's Ukrainians participate in ethnic exhibit

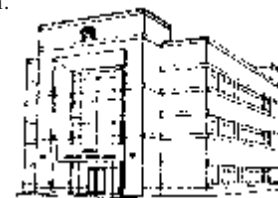


NORFOLK, Va. – Several members of the Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association took part in an exhibit of ethnic culture at Chrysler Museum of Art in Norfolk, Va., on February 15. Seen above are: (from left) artist Elaine Hampton, who explained the art of the pysanka with the help of Nadia Hoots, Multicultural Association of Virginia liaison; Anatol Grynewytsch, secretary of TUCA, Oksana Makowiec, poetess and journalist, who explained the art of embroidery, icons and works of Ukrainian literature; and Olga Cehelska of Echoes of Ukraine, who demonstrated the bandura and interviewed with the press concerning Ukraine's struggle for independence in 1918-1919 and its achievement in 1991. The media showed great interest in the effects of Stalin's regime on the Ukrainian nation, including the loss of the intelligentsia and clergy, the massacre of bandurists and the Great Famine of 1932-1933.

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Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history

(Continued from page 4)

Ukrainian in the U.S., of which only 15,000 were members of the UNA. "Instead of organizing new members and thus enlarging the Ukrainian organized community, much effort was wasted on 'pulling over' the already organized members of the UNA. "Despite such harassment, the Ukrainian National Association continued its pioneering work, functioning at the same time as the central representative organization of all Ukrainian Americans," Mr. Dragan underscored.

At its 12th convention, held in Wilkes-Barre, Pa., in 1912, the UNA established an Educational Committee whose goal was to conduct wide-ranging educational activities within the Ukrainian American community. That committee reported two years later on its work, which encompassed publication of books, among them the first volume of the history of Ukrainians in America by Julian Bachynsky as well as a history of Ukraine in English; the formation of reading rooms and clubs whose goal was to educate their members.

Most significantly, it was the UNA's Education Committee that argued: "The time has finally arrived to form a central committee consisting of representatives of all our organizations in America. The main functions of this Central Ukrainian National Committee would be: 1) establishment of a political organization; 2) establishment of close contacts with political organizations in our former homeland on both sides of the dividing boundary, i.e. in Galicia and eastern Ukraine; 3) informing the American press about the history of our people, their culture, their struggle, and their aspirations; 4) formation of Ukrainian political clubs in America so as to gain greater recognition and political influence in our new homeland; 5) organization of political rallies, meetings, etc."

As well the Education Committee spoke out about economic affairs, proposing the establishment of: loan-construction banks in our communities, which would encourage saving money and purchasing real estate, as well as provide mortgages; immigration centers in main ports of the U.S.; employment bureaus at the immigration centers and within communities; law offices; a money exchange bureau and boat ticket agency; and a bookstore that could supply all Ukrainians in America; as well as the expansion of the UNA's scholarship fund.

The UNA's Education Committee's funding came from contributions by UNA members – in accordance with a decision of the 12th convention, UNA members contributed 3 cents along with their monthly dues. The committee began publishing a monthly children's magazine called *Tsvitka* (Flower), which published 33 issues between 1914 and 1917. It also published 45 books, organized 74 popular lectures, and provided \$2,300 in scholarship loans to Ukrainian students.

The Education Committee continued to function through 1917.

Source: "Ukrainian National Association: Its Past and Present, (1894-1964)," by Anthony Dragan (translated from the original Ukrainian by Zenon Snylyk). Jersey City, N.J.: Svoboda Press, 1964. The border featured in this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dating to 1919.

Fraud charged...

(Continued from page 8)

the total falsification of the election results."

The coalition emphasized that: "The election results were totally falsified, in particular, under the participation of the election committees of all levels."

Mr. Kaskiv told The Weekly there is plenty of evidence that shows the lawlessness of these elections, and voiced fears that they set a terrible precedent for the presidential election.

Besides the copies of the registered election results, Our Ukraine members have cited the results of an exit poll conducted by a consortium of polling organizations organized by the Democratic Initiatives Foundation. Within 45 minutes after the polls closed, Ilko Kucheriv, the foundation's director, announced the exit poll results. According to the exit poll, Our Ukraine candidate Mr. Baloha received 62.4 percent of the vote, while SDPU-backed candidate Mr. Nuser received 29.99 percent of the vote. The other six candidates vying for the mayor's post all received less than 1 percent of the vote, according to the poll.

When asked by The Weekly about the margin of error and the sample size, Svitlana Pototska, director of SOCIS, a member of the consortium, responded: "The sample size of 1,694 respondents, in relation to the number of eligible voters, gives us a margin of error of plus/minus 2 percent, which is very acceptable."

"Whereas, exit polls in the West have often been used by the media for their election night programming, our organization, which was the first to conduct and organize exit polls in Ukraine, has used this sociological tool as a check against election fraud," Mr. Kucheriv told The Weekly.

"I am completely confident of the results of the exit poll we conducted. But truly,

these elections are a litmus test for the state of democracy in Ukraine, and when the official results are in, we will have something to gauge them against," Mr. Kucheriv told The Weekly after the polls closed. The exit poll was supported by assistance provided by the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine, the Swiss Embassy in Ukraine, the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation and the National Endowment for Democracy.

The results of this exit poll show Mr. Baloha receiving 53 percent of the vote, and Mr. Nuser receiving 39 percent. "Our track record in conducting exit polls in the past, leads us to believe that there must have been a fair degree of fraud," Mr. Kucheriv said.

"This was not a very clean election," Mr. Kucheriv told The Weekly, adding that about an hour after the polls opened on April 18, Ms. Pototska had called him with an air of panic in her voice. "She said that one of her pollsters had been approached by a couple of burly looking skinheads, who told her: 'If you do not stop doing this questioning we are going to take you out into the woods and bury you.'" This was not the only incident, he added.

Throughout the day a number of observers, including National Deputies Roman Bezsmertnyi, Yevhen Zhotniak, Taras Stetskiy, Yuri Pavlenko, Petro Oliynyk and Mykola Polischuk, were beaten or roughly manhandled at a number of different polling stations. One witness of the attacks on Mr. Bezsmertnyi told The Weekly that skinhead thugs were beating up on the deputy directly behind the back of a senior police official who was being questioned by journalists as to why observers and journalists were being ejected from polling stations. While this was happening, young policemen stood by. "It seems like they were feeling for Deputy Bezsmertnyi, but they just stood there as if some order had been given for them to do nothing at all," he said.

Some seats are still available for this historic event!

The Friends of Columbia University Ukrainian Studies GALA BANQUET

To be held on May 8, at 6 p.m. in the Low Library Rotunda at Columbia University

Speakers: Prof. Mark von Hagen and Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky

Special Guest Speaker: The Honorable Carlos Pascual, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine

Musical interlude: Prof. Chris Washburne and the SYOTOS band

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Please mail checks, made out to FOCUUS II, to:

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Please specify your choice and number of entrée (Filet of Beef or Grilled Mahi-Mahi).

For more information, contact Maria Sonevytsky at:

212-854-4697 or ms2147@columbia.edu.

Soyuzivka's Datebook

- | | |
|---|---|
| <p>April 30-May 2, 2004
UNWLA Branch 95, Kerhonkson, N.Y. sponsors a Spa Weekend</p> <p>May 2, 2004
St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 20th Anniversary Fundraising Banquet</p> <p>May 7-9, 2004
2nd Annual Cinco De Mayo Festival – outside performance and zabava with LUNA
Saturday volunteer trail clearing and Sunday paintball games</p> <p>May 9, 2004
Mother's Day Brunch
Traditional Ukrainian Meal – \$15.00</p> <p>May 14, 2004
Ellenville High School Junior Prom</p> <p>May 15, 2004
Wedding – Stephan Kowalczyk and Alexandra Raut</p> <p>May 21, 2004
Rochester Fire Company Banquet</p> <p>May 21, 2004
Ellenville Retired Teachers Lunch</p> <p>May 22, 2004
Girls Scout Fashion Show</p> <p>May 28-31, 2004
Memorial Day Weekend
Friday pub night with band, Saturday with Fata Morgana, and Sunday with Askold Buk Trio</p> <p>June 3, 2004
Ellenville Teachers School Related Association Banquet</p> <p>June 7-10, 2004
Clergy Days</p> | <p>June 13, 2004
80th Birthday Party, Tony Percoco</p> <p>June 14-18, 2004
UNA Seniors' Week</p> <p>June 18-20, 2004
Adoptive Parents' Weekend, sponsored by the Embassy of Ukraine and the UNA</p> <p>June 20, 2004
Father's Day Program</p> <p>June 20 - July 2, 2004
Tennis Camp</p> <p>June 22, 2004
Girls Scout Fashion Show</p> <p>June 27 - July 4, 2004
Plast Camp – Tabir Ptashat, Session One</p> <p>July 2 - 4, 2004
Fourth of July Festival with zabavas</p> <p>July 4 - 11, 2004
Plast Camp – Tabit Ptashat, Session Two</p> <p>July 10 - 17, 2004
Discovery Camp, Session One;</p> <p>July 17 - 24, 2004
Adventure Camp, Session One</p> <p>July 18 - 23, 2004
Chamney Youth Camp, Session One
Discovery Camp Session Two</p> <p>July 24 - 31, 2004
Discovery Camp, Session Three;
Adventure Camp, Session Two</p> <p>July 25 - 30, 2004
Chamney Youth Camp, Session Two;
Scuba Diving Course (revised dates)</p> |
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, May 1

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a book launch of "Culture, Nation and Identity: The Ukrainian-Russian Encounter, 1600-1945," by Andreas Kappeler, Zenon Kohut, Frank Sysyn and Mark von Hagen, (editors). Presenters will be Prof. von Hagen professor of Russian, Ukrainian and Eurasian history, and director of graduate studies, Columbia University; and Prof. Sysyn, director, Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Research, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), University of Alberta and visiting professor in Ukrainian history, Harriman Institute, Columbia University. The book, which came out April 1, is a publication of the CIUS. Hardcover price, \$39.95; paperback, \$29.95. The presentation will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

Saturday-Sunday, May 8-9

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club, the Foundation for Ukrainian

Science and Education, and Mayana Gallery invite the public to "Papercuts" – a two-day exhibit of work by 15-year-old artist Taras Bohdan from Lviv. The exhibit will be open on Saturday and Sunday at 1-5 p.m. at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. For information call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144, e-mail ukrartlitclub@aol.com, or log on to www.geocities.com/ukrartlitclub/.

Thursday, May 13

YONKERS, N.Y.: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 30, is hosting a class in the art of Ukrainian gerdany-making. The class in making this traditional bead-strung ornamental neckware will be held at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church hall, 21 Shonnard Place, at 7 p.m. The \$25 fee includes instruction and needed materials. Class instructor is Romanka Zajac, a theater design student at Fordham University in New York City. The gerdany-making class is geared to all age – so bring your daughter, mother or grandmother. For further information and to sign up for the class, call Olga Rudyk, (914) 762-6514.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per submission) 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; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please send payment of \$20 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 and payment should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.

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