

**INSIDE:**

- Kyiv's Ukrainian Greek-Catholic cathedral blesses crosses — page 4.
- Kerry and Bush campaigns respond to The Weekly — page 5.
- Authorities in Ukraine target student activists — page 13.

# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXII

No. 43

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2004

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Ukraine gears up for presidential election

### **ANALYSIS:** **Fraud is feared in diaspora voting**

by Taras Kuzio

Millions of Ukrainian citizens living abroad have the right to vote in the October 31 presidential election. While provisions for expatriates have been made previously, this election marks the first time the opposition and election monitoring groups have focused on such ballots. On October 12 the Foreign Affairs Ministry of Ukraine announced that it would increase the number of polling stations abroad.

Originally, only 113 overseas polling stations were to be opened. Germany was to have the most with five, followed by four each for Poland, Russia and the United States, two each for Italy and Spain, and one in Portugal. Now, additional stations are to be opened in Russia, Vietnam and Moldova. Italy has agreed to polling stations provided they are located in diplomatic and consular missions. None of the overseas stations will have Ukrainian observers, international observers, or exit polls.

During the 1999 presidential election, Ukraine's ambassadors were ordered to ensure that the votes made by diplomats under their control and Ukrainian citizens living in their country would be in the "correct" manner for Leonid Kuchma. The failure to bring in the "correct" vote led to the dismissal of Anton Buteiko, Ukraine's ambassador to the United States. Other Ukrainian ambassadors may face the same fate this year.

According to one recent poll, 86 percent of Ukrainians living abroad wish to take part in the election, a figure that reflects the high degree of interest in this year's race. Of those who plan to vote, 78.84 percent will vote for opposition candidate Viktor Yushchenko (Ukrainska Pravda, September 29). The projected turnout abroad will far surpass the 1999 and 2002 levels. In Toronto, which has a large "Fourth Wave" Ukrainian diaspora, only 3,351 people were registered to vote. Of those, only 555 (17 percent) voted in 1999. Similarly, in the 2002 elections only one-third of the small number of registered Ukrainian citizens in Toronto actually cast a ballot (Ukrainska Pravda, August 12).

Already, overseas voting is raising concerns. In Russia, Ukrainians are the second largest national minority

(Continued on page 27)

### Observers concerned about voting abroad

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — With some 4 million to 7 million Ukrainians estimated to be living and working abroad, the issue of access to polling stations abroad and the manner in which their votes will be secured is no small concern.

Some political observers are worried that the indiscriminate opening of polling stations abroad could open the door to vote falsification, particularly in Russia, where the Association of Ukrainians in Russia has learned of plans to open up to 650 additional voting precincts, even in places where few Ukrainian citizens live.

Representatives of two Ukrainian civic groups said at a press conference in Kyiv on October 21 that simple math suggests that up to 1 million votes could be falsified in Russia alone.

Valerii Semenenko, vice-chairman of the Association of

(Continued on page 14)

### Two main contenders in tight race

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The two main contenders for the presidential seat in Ukraine headed for the finish line practically neck and neck, their campaigns touring the country extensively and the candidates utilizing all at their disposal to draw the Ukrainian electorate to their side.

With just over a week to election day, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich continued to demonstrate his financial advantage by utilizing the power of his office to appeal to voters with financial handouts and awards from the state coffers.

The last opinion polls on the presidential race legally allowed before the October 31 vote showed that Mr. Yanukovich had overtaken his main rival, National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko, and held a slight advantage. Most experts attributed the rise directly to additional support he now had among pensioners

(Continued on page 14)

## 20,000 students gather in Kyiv in support of Yushchenko

by Natalya Slobodyan  
Special to the Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV — A meeting and rally of the All-Ukrainian Students' Council gathered about 20,000 people before the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Kyiv on October 16 to listen to presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko. It was a meeting that many here said expressed

the strong bond between Mr. Yushchenko and the youth of Ukraine.

Mr. Yushchenko thanked the students for risking a trip to Kyiv during a time when ruthless attempts were being made to impede his campaign and to destroy any public sense of support for him. He called on them to continue to pressure the government for a free and fair vote, and

to monitor the vote by gathering at polling stations across Ukraine on election day.

"You are the best generation of young people," said Mr. Yushchenko to the students. "You have the ability to raise Ukraine to a place among the intellectual leaders of the world."

(Continued on page 13)



Students from throughout Ukraine rally in Kyiv on October 16 in support of Viktor Yushchenko.

AP/Efrem Lukatsky



## ANALYSIS

**A "Georgian scenario" in Ukraine?**

by Jan Maksymiuk

*RFE/RL Belarus and Ukraine Report*

Earlier this month, the coalition of parties and organizations backing the presidential bid of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich issued a statement suggesting the opposition is planning a "Chestnut Revolution" in the event that its candidate, Viktor Yushchenko, is defeated at the ballot box on October 31. The statement accuses oppositionists of planning to gather half a million Yushchenko supporters near the Central Election Commission headquarters on election night to prepare for such an eventuality.

"We address the Ukrainian president with a request to take all possible measures to prevent the implementation of 'Chestnut-Revolution scenarios' and to ensure law and order during the election process," the statement reads, in an apparent reference to Georgia's so-called Rose Revolution, which peacefully deposed President Eduard Shevardnadze in November 2003 following a disputed parliamentary ballot.

One of the movements with a keen interest in a Yushchenko victory and a subsequent power swap in Ukraine is the youth "civic campaign" Pora (It's Time), which was reportedly modeled on Serbia's Otpor and Georgia's Khmara, the youth organizations that were instrumental in toppling Slobodan Milosevic's regime in October 2000 and the Shevardnadze regime in November 2003 in their respective countries. On October 15, police searched the Pora offices in Kyiv and, according to the Procurator General's Office, found a homemade explosive

*Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus and Ukraine specialist on the staff of RFE/RL Newsline.*

device, 2.4 kilograms of TNT, electric detonators and a grenade. Prosecutors have opened a criminal case under articles pertaining to terrorism and the formation of illegal armed groups and arrested Yaroslav Hodunok, a founder of Pora.

According to accounts by Pora activists and lawmakers from Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine bloc who were present during the search, the discovery of explosive devices at Pora was quite simply a police provocation. Pora activist Yevhen Zolotarev told the Ukrainska pravda website (<http://www.pravda.com.ua>) on October 18 that during the first search, which was videotaped by Pora, police found nothing. But half an hour later police officers conducted another search, with no one else present, and found the "terrorist implements and devices."

The police officers also found a stock of purportedly propagandistic materials and an issue of the organization's satirical newspaper, "Pro Ya. y tse." (Its title is a pun best translated as either "About Ya. and this" or "About an Egg" – presumably a reference to the much-publicized egg attack last month on Prime Minister Yanukovich.) Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko, who was also present at the search of the Pora headquarters, commented that Pora's informational materials are "even more terrible than the explosives found there."

Mr. Yushchenko commented that the action against Pora testifies to "the growing hysteria among the authorities" over the prospect of him defeating Mr. Yanukovich in the presidential balloting. In a statement published on October 19 on the website of Mr. Yushchenko's political ally Yulia Tymoshenko, Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko slam the unnamed leaders of

(Continued on page 21)

**Authorities crack down on youth groups**

by Taras Kuzio

*Eurasia Daily Monitor*

On October 15 Ukrainian Prime Minister and presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich told foreign diplomats in Kyiv that the government is taking all measures to ensure a free and fair election on October 31 (Ukrainska Pravda, October 15). Officials will ensure observance of the rule of law, democratic principles and equal access to the media, he assured.

Now in its fourth month, the Ukrainian election campaign has been dominated by widespread abuses and violations, as the U.S. State Department warned on the same day as Mr. Yanukovich's speech to diplomats. Mr. Yanukovich's claims of being in favor of a free and fair election are not plausible, as the authorities have launched a nationwide effort to repress opposition forces. To ensure that Mr. Yanukovich is not confronted by opposition demonstrations during his campaign appearances, members of youth groups are arrested before he arrives (<http://maidan.org.ua>).

Members of the Pora (It's Time) youth movement, modeled on Serbia's Otpor and Georgia's Khmara, were arrested in western, southern and eastern Ukraine (see [pora.org.ua](http://pora.org.ua) and [kuchmizm.com](http://kuchmizm.com)). During a search of Pora's Kyiv office, witnessed by opposition parliamentary deputies, the

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police found nothing incriminating except anti-Yanukovich leaflets. But during a second search, with only the police present, a bomb was allegedly found.

The Procurator General then launched a criminal case accusing Pora leaders of "terrorism" and "destabilization of the situation in the country." Pora was accused of being an illegal "military formation – a terrorist group" (Ukrainska Pravda, October 16). The Procurator General's Office has attempted to link the alleged bomb to the August terrorist act in a Kyiv market, which it had originally blamed on political parties allied with Our Ukraine.

A widespread media campaign has linked Pora to Our Ukraine, and thus to its presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, whom the authorities have been desperate to portray as an "extremist" ([temnik.com.ua](http://temnik.com.ua), October 18 and 19). Pora members issued a statement describing themselves as the "vanguard of peaceful opposition." They called upon all of their activists and Ukrainian citizens to "legally, peacefully and in a non-violent manner defend constitutional rights and freedoms in Ukraine" ([pora.org.ua](http://pora.org.ua), October 18).

Over the same weekend, armed members of two pro-presidential parties, Yanukovich's Party of Regions and Viktor Medvedchuk's Social Democratic Party United, tried to break into the opposition newspaper, Vechni Vest, which is linked to Yulia Tymoshenko, a key Yushchenko ally. A spetsnaz (special assignment) unit of the Internal Ministry also attempted to break into the prestigious National

(Continued on page 18)

**NEWSBRIEFS****Pro-government deputies boycott session...**

KYIV – Six pro-government parliamentary caucuses – Labor Ukraine, the Social Democratic Party-United, Ukraine's Regions, Single Ukraine, Democratic Initiatives and Soyuz – did not register for the parliamentary session and failed to appear in the session hall on October 20, Ukrainian news agencies reported. There are reportedly 248 deputies registered for the session, which is a sufficient majority for adopting most bills. Pro-government lawmakers tried to block the session the previous day as well. Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said in Parliament on October 19 that pro-government lawmakers "are implementing a scenario" for disrupting the work of the legislature and holding early parliamentary elections. "After the [presidential] elections many people will need to find [new] jobs and they are now trying to find these jobs in the Verkhovna Rada; this requires a blockade of the Verkhovna Rada in order to hold new elections," Mr. Lytvyn said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**...but Verkhovna Rada struggles along**

KYIV – Despite the absence of most pro-government lawmakers in the session hall, the Verkhovna Rada on October 19 managed to pass several bills, Ukrainian news agencies reported. One of the bills increased the average monthly subsistence minimum in Ukraine from the current 362 hrv (\$70) to 432 hrv as of 2005. The bill was endorsed by 250 out of 257 legislators registered for the session. National Deputy Mykola Tomenko commented that by passing the subsistence minimum bill, the legislature effectively supported opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko's draft decree in which he promised such a raise after being elected president. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Melnychenko wins in court**

STRASBOURG – The European Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg on October 19 ruled that the Ukrainian authorities acted illegally by rejecting an application from Mykola Melnychenko, a former security officer to President Leonid Kuchma, to register as a candidate for the 2002 parliamentary election on the Ukrainian Socialist Party ticket, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. Mr. Melnychenko left Ukraine in 2000 after secretly taping hundreds of hours of conversations in Mr. Kuchma's office in 1998-2000. The court said the authorities – in rejecting the application on the grounds that Mr. Melnychenko had submitted false information about his place of residence and that he had not been a resident in Ukraine for five years – violated the "right to free elections"

stipulated in the European Convention on Human Rights. "Neither the relevant Ukrainian legislation nor practice contained a direct eligibility requirement of 'habitual' or 'continuous' residence in the territory of Ukraine for parliamentary candidates," the court said in its ruling. The court awarded Mr. Melnychenko 5,000 euros (\$6,250) in damages. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**... releases more secret recordings**

WARSAW – Former Ukrainian presidential bodyguard Mykola Melnychenko revealed more of his secret recordings in President Leonid Kuchma's office during a news conference in Warsaw on October 19, Interfax reported. The disclosed recording carries an alleged conversation between Mr. Kuchma and Viktor Yanukovich, in which the latter, then the chairman of the Donetsk Oblast, discusses corruption in the Parliament and briefs the president on how he muzzles the press in his region. Mr. Melnychenko promised to pass the recording to Ukrainian lawmakers. He also invited Ukrainian TV channels to another news conference in Warsaw on October 22, promising to disclose the nature of the contacts he maintained with current presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk and oligarch and lawmaker Hryhorii Surkis in 2001-02. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Investigators allege terrorist activity**

KYIV – Prosecutors in Kyiv have opened a criminal case under articles referring to terrorism and the formation of illegal armed groups in connection with the disclosure of explosive devices and materials in the offices of the non-governmental youth organization Pora (It's Time) in Kyiv on October 15, Ukrainian media reported. Police reportedly found a homemade explosive device, six TNT slabs, two electric detonators and a grenade at the Pora headquarters. Members of the organization and some opposition lawmakers called the discovery a provocation. "The authorities want to portray us as a terrorist organization," UNIAN quoted Pora activist Volodymyr Lesyk as saying. "Such methods shows that the authorities do not want honest elections," Mr. Lesyk noted, adding that Pora is conducting a "non-violent campaign of resistance" against the authorities in the presidential election race. (RFE/RL Newsline)

**Russian envoy proposes single currency**

KYIV – Russia and Ukraine are ready to discuss currency integration and the introduction of a single currency, Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor

(Continued on page 23)

**THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY**

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices. (ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly: UNA:  
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

Postmaster, send address changes to: **Editor-in-chief: Roma Hadzewycz**  
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The Ukrainian Weekly, October 24, 2004, No. 43, Vol. LXXII

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## Ukraine's exit polls: one may be more accurate than the others

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – There may now be four exit polls planned for Election Day in Ukraine, but the original one will be the most honest and most accurate, or so asserts Ilko Kucheriv, director of the Democratic Initiatives Foundation, which developed the first project.

DIF has monitored Ukrainian public thought for 12 years via the regular national surveys it performs, and it has organized exit polling for every national election, both parliamentary or presidential, since 1998.

While DIF now has to deal with three johnny-come-latelies, Mr. Kucheriv said that his organization's expertise and experience would assure the accuracy of its election day predictions.

"We have developed our exit poll strategy to ensure that corruption or violence will not compromise the quality of the results," explained Mr. Kucheriv.

Mr. Kucheriv, 48, who has served as director of DIF since its inception, explained that since it had announced its intention to develop an election day exit poll – a survey of voters on how they voted done immediately after they have left the voting precinct – it had retained a de facto monopoly in the endeavor.

Then, about a month ago, additional projects began to spring up like mushrooms. Ironically, the new exit polls were announced after Serhii Tyhypko, campaign manager for presidential candidate Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, expressed distrust for exit polls and questioned their reliability. The initiatives also came after the prime minister him-

self in a major faux pas explained that he didn't trust exit polling because, "Exit polling is a new technology. We haven't yet learned how to manipulate it."

The three alternative exit polls that have been announced are being organized through forces that support the presidential candidacy of Prime Minister Yanukovich or are aligned with government structures, claimed Mr. Kucheriv.

He said that one would be conducted by the Fund for Public Opinion, which is headed by Gleb Pavlovsky, a Russian citizen and the person who guided the public relations strategy in the presidential campaign of Russian President Vladimir Putin. The Institute of Social Research and the Ukrainian Sociology Center would conduct the other two polling exercises.

Mr. Kucheriv said his overriding concern is that the other exit polls, whose results could be either simply manipulated or thoroughly contrived, would be used to diffuse the integrity and believability of the DIF poll.

"The danger is that the results of the three others and not our own poll will be widely publicized," explained Mr. Kucheriv. "In reality, what could happen is that the results of Gleb Pavlovsky's poll could be shown on the major channels to diffuse the impact of our own poll."

Mr. Kucheriv has turned to Mr. Pavlovsky and the other two competitors and asked them to join his consortium of survey firms conducting the DIF poll. He suggested that had his three competitors had accuracy and integrity as their priority

(Continued on page 19)

## ELECTION WATCH

### Candidates want troops out of Iraq

KYIV – Opposition presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko has announced that immediately after becoming president he would sign a decree on pulling out the Ukrainian military contingent from Iraq, Interfax reported on October 18. "Our servicemen will be withdrawn from Iraq in a quiet way, without rush," Mr. Yushchenko said. "They will be replaced by politicians, diplomats and businessmen. Ukraine is ready to participate in the restoration of Iraq's economy." Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Mr. Yushchenko's main rival in the October 31 election, said at a meeting with voters on October 18 that he foresees a gradual pullout of the Ukrainian troops from Iraq in 2005. Mr. Yushchenko stressed that the contingent cannot be withdrawn immediately as such a move would only add impetus to international terrorism. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Yushchenko on language issue

KYIV – Candidate Viktor Yushchenko has promised that as president he will oblige the state officialdom to speak with citizens in the language in which it is addressed, Interfax reported on October 18. Mr. Yushchenko reportedly signed a draft decree protecting citizens' rights to use the Russian language and languages of other nationalities in Ukraine. The decree foresees that in regions inhabited by large groups of Russians and other minorities, state officials should be obliged to know the languages of these nationalities and use them for communication with citizens. Another draft decrees by Mr. Yushchenko provides for simplified procedures in crossing Ukraine's borders with Belarus and Russia for citizens of these countries. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### More polling stations in Russia?

KYIV – The Central Election Commission is considering a proposal by the Foreign Affairs Ministry to set up 400 election constituencies in Russia for the October 31 presidential election, Interfax reported on October 18, quoting commission member Yuriy Danylevskiy. Mr. Danylevskiy said the number of Ukrainian voters in Russia will "doubtless increase," but gave no details. The commission has so far set up 113 polling stations abroad, including four in Russia, for an estimated 211,000 voters. Meanwhile, lawmaker Viktor Teren said in the Verkhovna Rada on October 19 that the authorities are planning to set up "additional election constituencies" in Russia in order to provide Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich with 1 million votes on October 31. There are 36.28 million eligible voters in Ukraine, according to the latest data from the Central Election Commission. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Rada wrangles over election campaign

KYIV – Five caucuses of the pro-government parliamentary coalition left the Verkhovna Rada session on October 19 in protest against what they said is turning the legislature into a rostrum for "political confrontation," UNIAN and Interfax reported. Earlier the same day lawmaker Nestor Shufrych from the pro-Yanukovich Social Democratic Party-United caucus said that "today's productivity of the Parliament is nil," and proposed that deputies suspend the session and start working in parliamentary committees. Lawmakers from the SDPU and Regions of Ukraine caucuses blocked the parliamentary rostrum and displayed anti-Yushchenko slogans in the session hall, accusing him of lying about his

alleged poisoning and suggesting he has ties with the youth organization Pora that has recently been accused by the authorities of terrorism. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### 40,000 students attend Yushchenko rally

KYIV – Tens of thousands of students from all of Ukraine took part in a rally in Kyiv on October 16 to support the presidential bid of Viktor Yushchenko and pass a "no-confidence vote" in the government of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, UNIAN reported. Mr. Yushchenko called on the crowd not to believe the pro-government media's reports that the result of the presidential elections in Ukraine has already been determined. "All this is a lie, manipulation of the public opinion, political speculation," Mr. Yushchenko said. He was apparently referring to recent surveys showing Mr. Yanukovich to be favored by more people as the favorite in the presidential race. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### A warning of "Chestnut Revolution"

KYIV – The coalition of parties and organizations backing the presidential bid of Prime Minister Yanukovich has issued a statement saying that the opposition is planning to gather half a million supporters of Yushchenko near the Central Election Commission headquarters on the night of October 31 in order to launch a "chestnut revolution" in the event Yushchenko loses the presidential ballot, Interfax reported. "We address the Ukrainian president with a request to take all possible measures to prevent the implementation of 'chestnut-revolution scenarios' and to ensure law and order during the election process," the statement reads, in an apparent reference to Georgia's Rose Revolution. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Christian Council calls for fair election

ODESA – The Spiritual Council of Christian Denominations of southern Ukrainian Odesa has called on the residents of the Odesa region to "treat the election of the new president responsibly and critically." The council approved a common address to voters at a meeting on October 6 in the building of the Christian Open University of Economy and Humanitarian Sciences. The council advised voters to acquire information about the candidates from various sources and to be active on election day. The authors of the statement, supported by the bishops of the Roman Catholic Church, Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate, Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC) and United Methodist Church, as well as representatives of the Evangelical Alliance and pastors of other churches, reminded the heads of local election headquarters, wards and all responsible for counting votes: "Manipulating the results of the people's choice is not only an offense against the criminal law, but a major offense against God as well." Roman Catholic Bishop Bronislaw Bernacki of Odesa and Symferopol affirmed his neutrality: "We are only praying for the election to go well and for an intelligent person with respect for the people and the state to come to power and let the people lead better lives. Every person has a heart and a conscience they should listen to when voting." Methodist Pastor Petro Martianov, secretary of the council, added: "The church has to worry about the spiritual and moral condition of society. Every person has the freedom to choose." (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

## The Kremlin demonstrates its support of Yanukovich

by Maryna Makhnonos  
and Bogdana Vasylenko

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

MOSCOW, Russia – Russian President Vladimir Putin used his birthday as informal reason to demonstrate his unconditional support for Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich by inviting him and Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma to his residence in Novo-Ogarevo outside Moscow on October 9. Some political scientists said the Kremlin's obvious benevolence toward Mr. Yanukovich may diminish his chances to win presidential elections in the end of this month, because it may irritate Ukrainian voters instead of stimulating of their sympathies.

The fact that Mr. Yanukovich arrived to greet President Putin on his birthday, which passed some time ago, during the peak of his presidential campaign shows how strongly Moscow's political elite wishes him to become President Kuchma's successor. Despite the fact that Ukraine's president has greater importance than the prime minister, what Russian media outlets covered was Mr. Yanukovich's visit, not Mr. Kuchma's. Russian TV channels showed Mr. Yanukovich at an ethnic Ukrainians' forum the day before meeting with Mr. Putin, broadcast parts of his speech, and carried stories featuring his gestures and quotes with Mr. Kuchma seen only in the background. Posters with Mr. Yanukovich's portrait appeared in some places in Moscow on the eve of the prime minister's visit.

Also, Mr. Yanukovich took a very unusual step during a meeting with President Putin, that was widely covered in all media:

he entered the hall after President Putin and sat in the chair to the left of him, neglecting protocol rules. According to etiquette, the prime minister was to sit next to his president, i.e., next to Mr. Kuchma and across from Mr. Putin and Russian Prime Minister Mikhail Fradkov. Journalists noticed that Mr. Yanukovich hesitated before choosing the seat and were totally silent when they found him next to Mr. Putin. It was unclear whether Mr. Yanukovich ignored the protocol by mistake or by choice.

Mr. Kuchma tried to discharge the awkward pause in air, joking that "a change of terms doesn't affect the sum," and Mr. Putin supported this idea by modestly saying "I hope." These incidents were good reason for the local media to publish a great variety of stories with one only conclusion: Moscow has placed its bets on Mr. Yanukovich and provides him with the strongest support possible three weeks before the nationwide vote in Ukraine.

However, some political experts say the Kremlin endangers Mr. Yanukovich's victory by demonstrating such obvious sympathy toward him. The president of the Moscow-based Institute of National Strategy, Stanislav Belkovsky, said a similar situation took place in Abkhazia, where Moscow's favorite candidate lost and the people of Abkhazia chose the opposition leader.

"The same result may happen in Ukraine," Mr. Belkovsky told a news conference in Moscow on October 12. "Russia should hush its fervor and administrative desire to support Mr. Yanukovich directly, it should do this more delicately if it would like not to harm his pre-election path to presidency."



## Crosses blessed for patriarchal cathedral of Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Bishops of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, along with its leader, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, gathered at the location of its still unfinished patriarchal cathedral on October 11, to bless the crosses that would sit atop the structure's five domes.

The ceremony came during a week in which UGCC bishops from across the globe were in Kyiv for their annual synod and as information came to light that Pope John Paul II had told the UGCC hierarchy back in June that he would support patriarchal status for the Church.

In a homily during a liturgical service at the construction site, Cardinal Lubomyr told the 38 bishops, dozens of clergy and about 1,000 people who traveled to the site on the right bank of the Dnipro River that the five crosses and the cathedral atop which they would sit retained important symbolism for the faithful of the UGCC, who are spread across five of the world's seven continents.

"Today is an unusually important moment for the Church. This is not just the building of another house of worship. Today we are setting a beacon," explained Cardinal Husar.

The leader of the UGCC, who is more and more often referred to as patriarch of the Church, told a story during his homily about Soviet pilots stationed at an aerodrome just outside the Ukrainian city of Chernivtsi, near a Roman Catholic church, upon which sat a large cross. He said that the cross had fallen to the ground during a storm, but was unexpectedly ordered put back up by officially atheistic local government authorities after the pilots at the military base complained that without the landmark they couldn't get their bearings straight as they approached the landing strip.

"The church that will stand here is our common house of worship for all the Ukrainian Greek-Catholics around the world and all of those who feel a part of

the living Church," explained Cardinal Husar, who added a moment later that, "The cross atop this church should be a beacon for all of us."

At the beginning of his sermon, Cardinal Husar thanked all those in Ukraine and within the diaspora communities who had supported with their "prayers and contributions" the effort to

director in Kyiv.

The Rev. Petriv explained that financing for the project had failed to appear in the amount needed to have completed construction on time. He said that the delay was also due to the complexities involved in building the architecturally intricate building.

During a press conference on October

UGCC to continue to push forward in its quest for official status from Rome.

The cardinal explained that during a meeting between Pope John Paul II and bishops of the UGCC in June, the pontiff had expressed very overt support for the UGCC's intentions.

"He told us specifically of the need and importance of our wishes and our



Cardinal Lubomyr Husar and clergy bless the crosses that will be mounted atop the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic cathedral.

build the patriarchal sobor.

Yet the amount of those contributions, it seems, was not enough to keep the building schedule on track. Originally the UGCC had hoped that its patriarchal sobor would be ready for liturgical services by the end of this year. That schedule has now been set back for at least a year, if not longer, explained the Rev. Oleksa Petriv, UGCC external affairs

13, three days after the ceremony before the patriarchal sobor, Cardinal Husar who also holds the title of the UGCC's archbishop major, reported that the Synod of Bishops had concentrated its efforts at this year's meeting on planning the appointment of new bishops and review of the Church's current organizational and administrative structure, as well as on increasing the number of clergy.

The head of the UGCC and its nearly 6 million faithful explained that drawing and holding priests from among the laity was a central element of this year's discussion, which included consideration on how to instill a desire to become a priest, how to properly train him and then how to care for his spiritual and intellectual needs afterwards.

Cardinal Husar also noted that there were discussions on how to further develop the patriarchal structure of the

vision for a UGCC with a patriarchal structure," explained Cardinal Husar, who added that the pope had said, "He would like to be the one to make that announcement."

Cardinal Husar said the pope had told the bishops that, nonetheless he needed to wait for "the right moment."

The leader of the UGCC also commented on pre-election troubles in Ukraine and underscored that the Church he leads does not support any particular candidate. He pointed out that the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church only wishes that the election process would be free and fair, and that the desires of the Ukrainian nation would be served.

Cardinal Husar also noted that the Synod of Bishops had visited with Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma in the Presidential Administration Building on October 11 in what he called a courtesy call.



A view of the partially built patriarchal sobor in Kyiv.



Cardinal Lubomyr Husar and faithful on the construction site.



## THE UNITED STATES PRESIDENTIAL CAMPAIGN

### The Weekly's questions to the candidates

*EDITOR'S NOTE: In late September, The Ukrainian Weekly's editorial staff prepared a list of questions on a variety of issues of particular concern to Ukrainian Americans. Preliminary phone calls were made to the presidential campaign staffs of George W. Bush, John F. Kerry and Ralph Nader in order to determine to whom the final list of questions could be e-mailed for the candidates' responses.*

*On October 3 the questions were e-mailed to all three campaigns. In hopes of publishing these responses in our October 24 issue – one that would reach all of our readers before Election Day*

*(November 2), the campaigns were given a deadline of October 18 by which they had to submit their responses.*

*The Kerry campaign submitted its responses to most of the questions posed by The Weekly. The Bush campaign chose to issue a statement, while reserving the right to respond to The Weekly's specific questions in our next issue, dated October 31, even though – due to poor postal delivery of second-class mail – that issue may not reach all of our readers before they cast their votes. The Nader campaign did not respond.*

*Below are the unedited submissions of the Kerry and Bush campaigns.*

### Responses from Sen. John F. Kerry

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Sen. Kerry's responses were sent to The Weekly along with the following preface.*

I want to thank you for the opportunity to answer questions about my positions and views regarding Ukraine, but also to congratulate The Ukrainian Weekly for 71 years of journalistic excellence and service to the Ukrainian-American community. Mnohaya Lita!

Sincerely,  
John F. Kerry

**On July 28, 2003, Helsinki Commission Co-Chairman Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell (R-Colo.) introduced a resolution in the Senate that unequivocally calls the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 genocide. S. Res. 202, whose official title is "A resolution expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the genocidal Ukraine Famine of 1932-1933," was referred to the Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations the same day it was introduced. The resolution, which has the bipartisan support of 33 senators, has not moved since then. Where would your administration stand on this resolution? And, what can be done to pass this resolution?**

I was an early co-sponsor and remain a strong supporter of Senate Resolution 202. It commemorates the 70th anniversary of the famine-genocide in Ukraine and emphasizes that an independent and democratic Ukraine is the best guarantee to prevent such a tragedy from taking place again. It is regrettable that the Bush administration has put up obstacles to Senate action on this resolution and, as president, my administration would be supportive of such a resolution.

**There have been on-and-off discussions in the U.S. about various topics related to immigration to this country, both legal and illegal. Please explain how your administration views the current Diversity Visa program (Green Card Lottery): should it be continued, be expanded, or be reduced? What are your feelings about an amnesty for illegal immigrants who find themselves in this country? To whom should such an amnesty be offered? Do you support the idea of a guest worker program that would bring workers from abroad to fill jobs for which there are no American takers, for example, home care aides and nannies from Ukraine?**

I strongly support responsible reform of our immigration laws that honors our tradition as a nation of immigrants and makes America safer and stronger. I do not agree with critics who say that the current Diversity Visa program should be reduced. I will continue the current program. In my

first 100 days as president, I will offer a reform bill that allows immigrants to earn legalization, encourages family reunification, and strengthens our border protections so we are safer from those who would harm us. Under my immigration plan, undocumented workers who have lived and worked here for five years, who pay taxes, and who are successfully screened for security purposes will have a path to citizenship. I will also expand opportunities to learn English and obtain civic education classes to help immigrants assume all of the rights and responsibilities of citizenship. With respect to guest worker programs, I am open to considering programs that help fill jobs not otherwise filled by American workers.

**On April 3, 2003, Rep. Sander M. Levin of Michigan introduced in the U.S. House of Representatives bill H.R. 1615, titled "To amend Title 36, United States Code, to grant a Federal Charter to the Ukrainian American Veterans Inc." The bill would grant the Ukrainian American Veterans organization a federal charter. Would this resolution find support from your administration? And, what can be done to pass this resolution?**

The contribution of Ukrainian American veterans to the defense of this country and their love of freedom is worthy of the status this Charter confers. I support granting a Federal Charter to the Ukrainian American Veterans, Inc., and my administration will work with Rep. Levin and the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus to see that this piece of legislation is passed and ready for my signature.

**Worldwide, at least 600,000 to 800,000 human beings are trafficked across international borders each year. According to the United States government, "it is estimated that between 14,500 and 17,500 victims of trafficking cross [U.S.] borders every year." According to the Department of Justice, U.S. law enforcement has documented cases of Ukrainian girls trafficked in Los Angeles and Maryland. What should be done to stop the problem, specifically with regard to the issue of human trafficking from Ukraine?**

We have seen an alarming increase over the past decade in human trafficking and, sadly, Ukraine has been a country of origin as well as a transit point for thousands of victims who are forced into prostitution and domestic slavery worldwide.

A Kerry administration will strengthen efforts to combat human trafficking around the world, and we will work at both the government-to-government level and through broader cooperation with international organizations such as the Organization for Cooperation and Security

(Continued on page 30)

### Submission from Bush-Cheney campaign

*Following is the full text of a submission sent to The Ukrainian Weekly on October 19 by the Bush-Cheney campaign.*

The contributions to American society by the Ukrainian American community have been significant, and President Bush is proud to recognize their important role in American society. In acknowledging these important contributions, the Bush Administration remains committed to seeing Ukraine develop as a stable, independent, democratic and economically prosperous country, that is governed by the rule of law, respects all human life, and actively strives to strengthen peace and security, and denounce terrorism in the international community.

The people of Ukraine enjoy a rich and colorful history, but one wrought by hardship, adversity, and rocked by change. Yet, Ukraine remains a hopeful nation. In little over a decade the Ukrainian people successfully recovered from the manacles of communism and are making the painstaking transition to a market economy. However, there is still more to be achieved if Ukraine is to become a prosperous democratic state. The United States will work

to help the people of Ukraine share this vision to reach their goal.

President Bush urged and pushed for the enlargement of NATO to all of Europe's democracies, from the Baltic to the Black Sea, and all that lie between, so that people in those countries would have the same chance for security and freedom enjoyed by Europe's older democracies. Continued reform within the Ukrainian government will bring that dream to a realization and President Bush fully supports these efforts.

Ukraine is also to be commended for their de-nuclearization. The United States has been proud to work with Ukrainians to pursue a strategy of non-proliferation which will bring greater security to the region and ultimately, to the world.

As in Ukraine, America's leadership knows that defending the United States against its enemies is the first and most fundamental commitment of the federal government. September 11, 2001, awakened Americans to the knowledge that we can no longer depend on geography to protect us from the heinous acts of terrorists. We experienced the horror of a brutal attack on

(Continued on page 21)

### FOR THE RECORD: Kerry and Bush on Russian President Vladimir Putin

*Now that the three U.S. presidential debates are over, The Ukrainian Weekly thought it would be worthwhile to publish excerpts of any of the debates that had to do with Ukraine or its neighbors. We found one substantive excerpt that had to do with the U.S. attitude toward Russian President Vladimir Putin in view of his recent actions. Following is the text of the question posed by Jim Lehrer of the Public Broadcasting Service during the first presidential debate on October 1, and the responses of President George W. Bush and Sen. John F. Kerry.*

**Mr. Lehrer: All right. Mr. President, this is the last question and two minutes. It's a new subject, new question and it has to do with President Putin and Russia. Did you misjudge him or are you – do you feel that what he is doing in the name of anti-terrorism by changing some democratic processes is O.K.?**

**Mr. Bush:** No, I don't think it's O.K. and said so publicly. I think that there need to be checks and balances in a democracy. And [I] made that very clear, that by consolidating power in a central government, he's sending a signal to the Western world and United States that perhaps he doesn't believe in checks and balances. And I've told him that.

He's also a strong ally in the war on terror. He is, listen, they went through a horrible situation in Beslan where these terrorist gunned down young school kids. But it's nature of the enemy. By the way, that's why we need to be firm in resolve in bringing them to justice. It's precisely what Vladimir Putin understands as well.

I've got a good relation with Vladimir. And it's important that we do have a good relation because that enables me to better comment to him and to better to discuss with him some of the decisions he makes. I found that in this world, that it's important to

establish good personal relationships with people so that when you have disagreements, you're able to disagree in a way that is effective. And so I've told him my opinion. I look forward to discussing it more with him as time goes on.

Russia's a country in transition. Vladimir's going to have to make some hard choices, and I think it's very important for the American president, as well as other Western leaders, to remind him of the great benefits of democracy, that democracy will best, uh, help the people realize their hopes and aspirations and dreams. And I will continue working with him over the next four years.

**Mr. Lehrer: Ninety seconds, Sen. Kerry.**

**Mr. Kerry:** Well, let me just say quickly that I had an extraordinary experience of watching, up close and personal, that transition in Russia because I was there right after the transformation and I was probably one of the first senators, along with Sen. Bob Smith of New Hampshire, former senator, to go down into the K.G.B. underneath Treblinka [presumably, the senator meant Lubyanka – ed.] Square and see reams of files with names in them. And it sort of brought home the transition to democracy that Russia was trying to make.

I regret what's happened in these past months. And I think it goes beyond just the response to terror.

Mr. Putin now controls all the television stations. His political opposition is being put in jail.

And I think it's very important for the United States, obviously, to have a working relationship that is good. This is a very important country to us, and we want a partnership.

But we always have to stand up for democracy. As George Will said the other day, freedom on the march, not in Russia right now.



## MP Mark re-introduces Ukrainian and Chinese redress legislation

OTTAWA – On October 12 in the House of Commons, Member of Parliament Inky Mark (Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette) re-introduced his Private Member's Bill for the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act, as well as the Chinese Canadian Recognition and Restitution Act.

Mr. Mark's bill on Ukrainian redress calls on the federal government "to recognize the injustice that was done to persons of Ukrainian descent and other Europeans who were interned at the time of the first world war and to provide for public commemoration and restitution, which is to be devoted to education and promotion of tolerance."

"In 1993, Jean Chrétien, leader of the

Liberal Party, wrote in a letter that he was in favor of not only acknowledging the internment operations but also providing restitution to those who were held unjustly. It is long past time for the Liberals to follow through on this promise," Mr. Mark stated.

Mr. Mark's other bill, the Chinese Canadian Recognition and Restitution Act calls on the federal government to publicly recognize the circumstances surrounding the collection of a "head tax" from Chinese immigrants and the passing of the Exclusion Act in 1923. The legislation would also see that some of the money collected from Chinese immigrants was returned. In turn, the money would be put into an educational founda-

tion to promote racial harmony.

"Today, there are over 1 million Canadians of Chinese descent. The sacrifices and achievements of their forefathers must be acknowledged and commemorated in a proper manner," the MP explained.

Just prior to the 2004 federal election, candidates from all federal parties endorsed this legislation, with members of the Conservative Party, the Bloc Québécois, and the NDP supporting it unanimously.

"These bills bring to the forefront two of the darkest moments in Canada's history. After years of delays and excuses, they deserve to be dealt with. It is this Liberal government's responsibility to make amends for past injustices," Mr. Mark concluded.

Commenting on this latest development in the longstanding issue of redress, Dr. Lubomyr Luciuk, research director of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, said: "Mr. Mark has consistently been the most articulate and committed supporter of justice for Canadians of Ukrainian heritage in the House of Commons. He has now re-introduced a

private member's bill, the Ukrainian Canadian Restitution Act, asking that it be given unanimous consent by all of the parties represented in Parliament."

"Given that the Conservative Party of Canada, the New Democratic Party of Canada, the Bloc Québécois and even many members of the Liberal Party of Canada endorsed Bill C 331 just before the last federal election, we are hopeful that our calls for recognition, restitution and reconciliation will finally be heard," Dr. Luciuk noted.

He added: "One lone survivor of Canada's first national internment operations, Mary Manko Haskett, remains alive. How remarkable it would be if this Canadian woman, interned while still a child at the Spirit Lake camp in northern Quebec, could bear witness to the honorable settlement Mr. Mark's initiative would secure. The entire Ukrainian Canadian community, as represented by the UCCLA, the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, wish Mr. Mark success in the House of Commons with Bill C 331, and we call upon all MPs to support it, as doing so is only right and just."

## Andrey Duzyj of Warren runs for County Board of Commissioners

by Anatoli W. Murha

WARREN, Mich. – Public service is nothing new for Andrey Duzyj. As an active community leader and city of Warren resident for 35 years, Mr. Duzyj is on the campaign trail for a seat on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners. Situated in southern Macomb County, Warren is Michigan's third largest city.

Mr. Duzyj's extensive background of service, both in current and past positions, have included chairman, vice-chairman and secretary of the Warren Planning Commission, member of the Tax Increment Finance Authority Board of Directors for the City of Warren, member of the Michigan Society of Planning Officials representing the City of Warren, and member and guide of the Michigan-based Blind Skiers Association.

Warren is home to many Ukrainian Americans. Mr. Duzyj currently serves as president of the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Future Credit Union, and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Ukrainian Cultural Center, both based in Warren. Mr. Duzyj is married to Doris

(née Nachwostach). Both are members of St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church. The couple has three children, Christina, Mykola, and Melanie.

If elected on November 2, Mr. Duzyj, a Democrat, will represent District 1 of Macomb County on the Board of Commissioners. The Macomb County Board of Commissioners serves as the legislative, administrative and policy-making body for Macomb County. The Board is composed of 26 Commissioners who are elected every other year for a two-year term from 26 districts of nearly equal population.

Endorsed by the Detroit Free Press and The Detroit News, Mr. Duzyj is described as follows, "He has a pragmatic, clear-eyed business sense along with a real passion to use government to improve people's lives." "Warren residents have been very supportive thus far," says Mr. Duzyj, "and, if elected, I look forward to serving their interests on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners."

For more information, please contact the Committee to Elect Andrey Duzyj, 26511 Wexford, Warren, MI 48091, tel. (586) 757-7304, or anduz1@aol.com.

## Komarnyckyj's candidacy receives endorsement of Arizona Republic

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Arizona Republic, a daily newspaper that claims a circulation of nearly half a million, endorsed candidates for a number of state and national political posts in the United States in an article printed on October 8. The newspaper put its weight behind Ukrainian American Oksana Kurowycky Komarnyckyj, who is running for a seat against three other candidates in the state's House of Representatives.

In an editorial headlined "You can't go wrong," the newspaper wrote:

"Oksana Komarnyckyj (pronounced ko-mar-nit-ski) is less politically schooled than the others. But she has an intriguing resume and compelling per-

sonal history. She's an attorney who has been specializing in business formation. She has taught business practices in Ukraine. She volunteers at the Osborn School District Educational Foundation. In short, she might bring to the legislature a different kind of experience that would be useful. She is our other choice in a well-qualified field that would make democracy smile," the newspaper wrote.

The editorial also said: "Residents of central Phoenix's legislative District 15 are fortunate. Quite frankly, no matter who is elected to represent them in the state Senate and House of Representatives, they will be well-served. ... But Republicans have fielded three moderate, appealing newcomers in Senate aspirant Andrew Smigielski and House candidates Tara Roseler and Oksana Komarnyckyj. The state Republican caucus could use the intelligence and common sense these three display."

The Arizona Republic also wrote, in a separate article, that "three of the four House candidates in central Phoenix's District 15 have something in common. They switched political alliances." The newspaper said, "The fourth candidate in the November 2 House race, Oksana Maria Komarnyckyj, 43, is an attorney and a Republican who hasn't changed her political affiliation."

In addition to the Arizona Republic, Ms. Komarnyckyj has been endorsed by the Phoenix Law Enforcement Association, the Neighborhood Activists Inter-Linked Empowerment Movement, the Arizona State Dental Association, the Arizona Multihousing Association and the Arizona African-American Republican Committee.

Of the endorsements, Ms. Komarnyckyj said they give "legitimacy to the campaign," and they show "the fact that a Republican can win in a Democratic district." She said she was still campaigning door-to-door with her family and said that her parents, who were flying in from New York, were expected to join her campaign in the coming week.

Ms. Komarnyckyj said she expects to watch the election results as they come in on November 2 in her home, surrounded by family and friends.

**UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION**  
**УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАРОДНИЙ СОЮЗ**

**Highlights from the UNA's 110-year history**  
*A special yearlong feature focusing on the history of the Ukrainian National Association.*

In 1966, speaking during the opening session of the Ukrainian National Association's 26th Convention about the events of the previous four years that had affected the Ukrainian community, UNA Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer stated:

(Continued on page 21)



# Ottawa radio program host's secret to success: she connects

by Christopher Guly

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

OTTAWA – When Irena Bell volunteered to produce and host Ottawa's first Ukrainian-language radio program on the city's first multicultural station last fall, she did what she is renowned for doing to determine the best time slot for her show. She connected.

Relying on the e-mail list she uses to distribute Ottawa's monthly Ukrainian events calendar, which she also prepares, Ms. Bell sent messages to about 200 recipients, asking them when they would like to listen to Ukrainian music and current events.

Within 36 hours, she had 40 replies.

Basing its decision in part on the responses, the station chose the breakfast hour on weekends.

Thus, when CHIN Radio Ottawa (CJLL) 97.9 FM was launched last November, the hourlong "Ukrainian Program" made its debut at 8 a.m. on a Saturday (repeated at the same time on Sunday).

Now, the show is not only heard on the radio on weekends, but is also played live over the web at [www.chinradio.com/ottawa.asp](http://www.chinradio.com/ottawa.asp).

No one in Ottawa's Ukrainian community – estimated at over 17,000 people – has ever had that kind of reach.

While she underscores her role in achieving that, Ms. Bell, former host of the "Ukrainian Profile" Ottawa community cable-television series, couldn't be happier.

"What I enjoy about the program is just being able to highlight events and people, many of whom are involved in interesting activities that not a lot of people know about."

She's featured interviews with Natalia Cmoc, who was involved in archaeological digs in Ukraine; Mykola Ryndzak, who



Irena Bell, host of Radio Ottawa's "Ukrainian Program."

was involved in the Chornobyl clean-up; Irena Makaryk, a University of Ottawa English professor whose English-language book, "Shakespeare in the Undiscovered Bourn: Les Kurbas, Ukrainian Modernism, and Early Soviet Cultural Politics," was recently published by the University of Toronto Press; and Mykola Maimeskul, Ukraine's new ambassador to Canada.

The "Ukrainian Program" has also presented a chat with Emil Baran, a former Canadian diplomat with the Embassy in Kyiv, and his wife, Olena, about their forthcoming three-year sailing trip around the world. The show plans to provide updates on the journey as the couple report back via e-mail.

Ms. Bell does some of the interviews,

but Halyna Koryan, a relatively recent arrival from Ukraine who also freelances for Radio Canada International's Ukrainian-language service, conducts most of them.

The "Ukrainian Program" also has permission to run RCI interviews and has done so with such celebrities as Ukrainian opposition politician Yulia Tymoshenko and Ukrainian Canadian pop star Chantal Kreviazuk, as well as Ukrainian members of the world-famous, Montreal-based Cirque du Soleil.

Rounding out the 40-percent spoken-word content of the "Ukrainian Program" are features – many of which are in English – that focus on unique Ukrainian traditions, from Christmas celebrations to marking midsummer night's festivities (Ivan Kupalo).

The rest of the show is music, which ranges from the traditional to the contemporary, and covers the gamut of established and emerging recording artists.

Where else in Ottawa would radio listeners hear this year's Euro-Vision song contest winner, super-hot Ukrainian diva Ruslana, the Ukrainian rock bands Okean Elzy and VV, or the British-based book *The Ukrainians*?

On this side of the Atlantic, the "Ukrainian Program" also has a healthy selection of Canadian talent, including Edmonton-born jazz pianist John Stetch, Winnipeg vocal sensation Alexis Kochan and her group Paris to Kyiv, Toronto's polkameister Ron Cahute, and such up-and-coming Ottawa artists as Victor Kosenko and the rock band *Ukraina*.

Ms. Bell also involves members of the community on the show.

Zustrich, a newly formed group of Ukrainian Canadian federal civil servants

have made an appearance, as have members of the Ottawa branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, who sang songs to mark the 25th anniversary of the death of Ukrainian composer Volodymyr Ivasiuk for whom the group is named.

Last Christmas young children attending Ukrainian school in the capital came on and filled the show with carols and Yuletide poems. "Months after, any of the kids who saw me, wave," says Ms. Bell. She's made an impact.

Seniors without access to the Internet thank her for giving them access to information about the homeland and Ukrainian Canadian activities that they otherwise wouldn't receive.

Though CHIN doesn't measure its audience, word through the grapevine has the "Ukrainian Program" on many car radios as people drop their kids off to Ukrainian school or head for the shopping malls on Saturdays or church on Sunday mornings.

"I know non-Ukrainians listen, too," Ms. Bell is quick to add.

Regardless of the number, the fact she receives feedback from listeners is a significant achievement, considering that the Ottawa market has more radio stations, on a per-capita basis, than anywhere else in Canada.

Ms. Bell's show also joins a sizable list of over 10 Ukrainian radio programs across the country. And, they are now starting to network.

Long-time producer-host Paulette MacQuarrie, who runs "Nash Holos" in Vancouver ([www.nashholos.com](http://www.nashholos.com)), recently set up a Yahoo discussion group on the Internet for colleagues to stay in

(Continued on page 19)

## THINKING ABOUT VOTING FOR BUSH? THINK AGAIN!

Ukrainian Americans care about the future of both the United States and Ukraine.

### Why not George Bush

- The Bush administration has blocked the Famine-Genocide resolution in Congress in the face of Russia's objections, showing their utter contempt for Ukrainians and historical truth.
- Bush's interest in Ukraine is limited to how many Ukrainian troops are sent to Iraq.
- Bush looked into the eyes of Vladimir Putin and saw a man he can trust. Putin has endorsed George Bush in this election. *How can we trust Bush?*
- Bush is the first president in 70 years to create a net loss in jobs - a million and a half private sector jobs not replaced.
- In three years, Bush turned a projected \$5 trillion surplus into a \$3 trillion deficit. Four more years of the same trend will have our children and grandchildren paying that debt for decades to come.
- Bush has done nothing about porous borders, porous ports, renewing the assault weapons ban, and our overextended armed forces, making us less safe, less secure.
- The Bush administration has alienated our friends, united our enemies, and turned its back on fledgling democracies.
- Bush lied about Iraq's possession of WMD's, connection to Al-Qaeda, and Iraq being an imminent threat to the U.S. Now, he has no exit strategy for our military.

### Why John Kerry

- Kerry was an early co-sponsor of S. RES. 202 'Expressing the sense of the Senate regarding the genocidal Ukraine Famine of 1932-33', demonstrating his concern and respect for issues important to the Ukrainian American community.
- Kerry will reverse the Russo-centric policies of the current Bush administration and restore the ones of the last Democratic one where Ukraine was a close ally and became the third largest recipient of U.S. assistance.
- Kerry will restore the fiscal discipline of the previous Democratic administration with equitable, pro-American-jobs, rather than favor-the-rich taxation policies.
- Kerry will protect our environment from self-serving, crony-based commercial exploitation.
- Kerry will repair the damage done to America's reputation around the world and restore unity to the transatlantic alliance.
- Kerry will strengthen our borders and ports, and provide the necessary resources to our military forces.
- Through the use of alliances such as NATO, training of Iraqi security forces, the design and implementation of a reconstruction program that brings more benefits to the Iraqi people and opening of the contract bidding process to other countries, John Kerry will make the creation of a stable and secure environment in Iraq our immediate priority in order to lay the foundations for sustainable democracy.

"As President, I will continue to build on the strong partnership between the United States and Ukraine by supporting its independence and full participation in the transatlantic community." – *John Kerry*

VOTE FOR JOHN KERRY ON NOVEMBER 2.  
HE'S THE MAN YOU CAN TRUST.

Paid for by the Ukrainian Americans for Kerry, DC, Maryland and Virginia chapters, who are solely responsible for its contents.



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Our voices, our votes

Readers of this newspaper have seen that our recent issues have contained an extraordinary number of letters related to the U.S. presidential election. They've been from supporters of the Democratic candidate, Sen. John F. Kerry; the Republican incumbent, George W. Bush; and even from supporters of third-party candidates – one each from readers who say they'll vote for Ralph Nader and Michael Badnarik. Bravo to our readers for sharing their views. They've demonstrated how much Ukrainian Americans are concerned about what the next U.S. election will bring.

Frankly, it's been an interesting couple of weeks as we received and read these letters, and prepped them for publication. Most of the time we succeed in fixing the grammatical errors and spelling mistakes, like Busch instead of Bush, but sometimes we miss, leaving in place a letter-writer's incorrect rendering of the last name of the Libertarian candidate (see our correction on the letters page). And there were a number of commentaries on the U.S. elections as well, including side-by-side opinions, "Why John F. Kerry?" and "Why George W. Bush?" written, respectively, by two long-time contributors to The Weekly, Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky and Dr. Myron Kuropas.

We try our best to leave the writers' ideas intact, while deleting anything libelous or patently false. We must underscore that the editorial staff's opinions have nothing to do with the selection of opinions published on this newspaper's pages. Perhaps sometimes we are a little too permissive in what we allow to be published, but we prefer to err on the side of free speech. In fact, we've rejected only one submission that had to do with the U.S. elections, and that was because it was written under a pseudonym by a person unknown to the editorial staff. (Pseudonyms can be allowed only in certain circumstances, e.g., the writer's life would be in danger if his identity were known, and only when the editor-in-chief is aware of the person's identity.) Some of our writers have been honest in revealing their affiliations with one campaign or another; some have not. Whenever we learned that a person was involved with a particular campaign we inserted that information in the interest of full disclosure. Some writers, however, apparently had a less formal affiliation with a campaign (that was not revealed by our research) and chose not to reveal that to us or our readers, thus ignoring what we consider to be the rules of fair play.

For the record, we published all the letters we could get in, within reason, as each week's deadline came. And we tried to publish the letters in the order in which they were received here at The Weekly. (We thank our readers for their patience if their particular letter did not make in into the paper immediately.)

The many letters and commentaries we published have clearly shown that Ukrainian Americans are no longer a "one issue" community. Long gone are the days when a candidate could show up at a community function and declare simply that he or she is a supporter of freedom for Ukraine, or merely submit to our newspapers a canned statement about his/her concern for developments in our ancestral homeland.

Besides serving as a forum for diverse opinions, another of this newspaper's goals before the election was to provide useful information to our readers about the U.S. presidential candidates, particularly as this election is projected to be a close one. That's precisely why The Weekly's editors drew up a list of questions on issues of concern to Ukrainian Americans (beyond the issues that concern all Americans, like jobs, the economy, Social Security, health care, social issues, etc.) and approached the three principal presidential candidates' campaigns for their responses. The results of our work appear on page 5: responses from Sen. Kerry and a submission from President Bush (nothing from the Nader camp). And, we ask our readers to "stay tuned" as next week we hope to share the answers of President Bush.

And, then, Dear Readers, we urge you to get out there and vote on November 2.

Oct  
24  
1999

### Turning the pages back...

Exactly five years ago, on October 24, 1999, The Ukrainian Weekly published an editorial about Ukraine's presidential election titled "The voice that matters." Following are excerpts from that editorial about an election in which incumbent Leonid

Kuchma faced his main rival, Petro Symonenko (Communist Party), as well as Oleksander Moroz (Socialist Party), Natalia Vitrenko (Progressive Socialist Party), Yevhen Marchuk (aligned with the predominantly leftist Kaniv Four group) and eight other candidates.

"Months ago, as the presidential election season began, President Leonid Kuchma foretold that the 1999 presidential contest would be a nasty affair. It is not for us to decide here whether it was premonition or planning that led him to make such a remark, but his warning has proved true. ...

"Even before the campaign season began, the information airways were bought up by those who would be president and mostly by representatives of one who is. A television information blackout on opponents of President Kuchma followed, which has lifted a bit lately, coincidentally or not, after rapporteurs of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe filed a damning report citing incursions on freedom of the press and freedom of speech in Ukraine... That was preceded by the ghastly attack against candidate Natalia Vitrenko, who clings stubbornly to second place in pre-election surveys – polls, it must be said, whose validity are doubted by many. ... most recently, on October 19, Kyiv experienced a police-state-like atmosphere as state militia and other law enforcement bodies went on the alert against a perceived threat of imminent and widespread civil disturbance. ...

"Although a second round of voting in mid-November is almost inevitable, according to the experts, a week hence the political wailing and ravings of the candidates as they attack each other should subside somewhat. Mercifully, the time will come for the Ukrainian voter to speak. That, in the end, is the only voice that matters. We can only hope they do vote and make an informed decision."

Source: "The voice that matters," editorial, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, October 24, 1999, Vol. LXVII, No. 42.

## IN THE PRESS

### Ukraine's presidential election

*Excerpted below are several commentaries and editorials pertaining to Ukraine's presidential election that were recently published by major newspapers in the United States and beyond.*

**"A Crucial Choice for Ukraine," by Sen. John McCain (R- Ariz.), The Washington Post, October 19:**

"... In August I traveled to Ukraine to talk to government officials and opposition candidates. What I found was a sense that Ukraine was moving backward, not forward, on the road to democracy. Not only were the reports of intimidation against the opposition widespread, but there was also a pervasive expectation that the October election – and the second-round runoff three weeks later – will be rigged by the government. ...

"I believe that, if offered the choice, most Ukrainians would choose a future tied to the West. But many Ukrainians believe that they have been denied this very choice: While the West's door seems closed – neither NATO nor the European Union has offered Ukraine much hope of joining their organizations anytime soon – Russia's is always open. It would not be surprising if Ukrainian leaders increasingly aligned their country's ambitions with those of their Russian neighbors. As Zbigniew Brzezinski wisely remarked, with Ukraine subordinated, Russia automatically becomes an empire.

"So it is incumbent upon both the Western democracies and the government of Ukraine to reassess where things stand today. The Ukrainian government must end its siege of democracy and make the courageous choice to hold free, fair elections. ...

"Ukrainian officials must understand that more than their country's future is at stake in this election. Their reputations and their ability to conduct business are also at risk. If the oppression continues and this presidential election is stolen, the United States and Europe should institute visa bans against those responsible. These would not merely limit the ability of these officials to go skiing abroad; the visa bans would handicap their ability to conduct business in Europe and the United States. The Western democracies should also consider implementing other targeted penalties. If Ukraine's leaders wish to take their country further in the direction of Belarus, then they will be increasingly treated by the world like the leader of Belarus – an international pariah."

**"East or West: Ukraine's election could alter relations with Russia and Europe," by Chrystia Freeland, Stefan Wagstyl and Tom Warner, Financial Times, October 12:**

"... the principal contenders are Viktor Yanukovich [Yanukovych], the tough-minded prime minister, and Viktor Yushchenko, a former central banker who also served briefly as prime minister and now leads Our Ukraine, the main opposition party.

"The choice is stark. Mr. Yanukovich is backed by Mr. [Leonid] Kuchma, the presidential administration, the regional governors, the security services, the biggest television networks and most of Ukraine's business oligarchs. Mr. Yushchenko's supporters are liberals, nationalists and others united mainly in their desire to drive Mr. Kuchma and his associates out of power.

"Both men talk earnestly of pursuing

Ukraine's relations with Russia and with the European Union. But in practice, Mr. Yanukovich has support from Vladimir Putin, who has privately ordered his oligarch to back Mr. Yanukovich. Mr. Yushchenko enjoys more favor in the west.

"Mr. Yanukovich stands for continuity. Mr. Yushchenko for change. Mr. Yanukovich is for an oligarch-dominated economy. Mr. Yushchenko is for open markets. Mr. Yanukovich is, by instinct, an authoritarian while Mr. Yushchenko wants to foster democracy. As Hryhoriy Nemyria, head of the International Renaissance Foundation, a liberal think-tank based in Kiev [sic], says: 'The choice is consolidating autocracy or consolidating democracy.'

"A win for Mr. Yanukovich would strengthen Russia's influence in the region and represent a big advance for the authoritarian ideas that dominate the former Soviet Union. A victory for Mr. Yushchenko would show that democracy can survive in the inhospitable terrain of Russia's borderlands. ..."

**"Back in the USSR," editorial, Wall Street Journal, September 21:**

"... The West can't afford to mince words in Ukraine. As in the 1990s, the strategically located country today again is a 'keystone in the arch' – in the words of Ukraine expert Sherman Garnett – in any Western strategy to stabilize the region. In Belarus, dictator Aleksander Lukashenko [Alyaksandr Lukashenka] will proclaim himself virtual president for life in next month's laughable "elections." All five Central Asian countries and all but Georgia in the Caucasus are autocratic. Mr. Putin fits right in with this retro-Soviet crowd.

"Economic and military might gives the U.S. leverage, while the EU can offer trade ties – perhaps even membership one day. The Kremlin was livid when George W. Bush criticized Mr. Putin last week. The U.S. needs to fill the void in the public debate. The silence of the German and French leaders was deafening in Moscow.

"A clean result next month would build on recent economic gains and make Ukraine more politically mature. A Ukraine as an example for its cousins in the ex-USSR would be a win-win for everyone – and a welcome bit of good news from that part of the world this year.

**"More Straight Talk," editorial, The Washington Post, September 17:**

"President [George W.] Bush at last has spoken out publicly against Vladimir Putin's dismantling of democracy in Russia, despite his personal bond with the Russian president and his administration's interest in preserving him as an ally in the war on terrorism. For that we commend Mr. Bush, who has taken a step toward backing up his rhetoric about 'defending freedom' around the world. And we have a follow-up suggestion: Mr. Bush should also talk about Belarus and Ukraine, two European neighbors of Russia where popular aspirations for political freedom are colliding with Mr. Putin's neo-Soviet project. ...

"Compared with efforts regarding Russia, the resources devoted by the United States to these two countries are pitifully small. A handful of U.S. officials have visited Ukraine and pressed

(Continued on page 31)



## COMMENTARY

## Is Ukraine a failed state?

by Hryhoriy Tsipka

Is Ukraine a failed state? This unmentionable thought has crossed the minds of many people in the past month as they watch the sleaze and dirty tricks in the ongoing Ukrainian presidential election campaign reach unprecedented levels. The viciousness with which the Yanukovich/Kuchma/Putin team – and nobody should have any doubts that they are a team – attack Viktor Yushchenko makes Watergate look like an amateurish shoplifting attempt at the local drugstore by a 10-year-old.

By now who wins is meaningless, since Ukraine, as such, is the big loser. President Leonid Kuchma with the help of his criminalized law enforcement bosses, corrupt Security Service and compliant media managers have done all in their power to discredit Ukraine as an independent state. With the help of Russian President Vladimir Putin's teams of roving "political technocrats" sent into Ukraine as a sort of Sonderkommando to wreck havoc and spread disinformation, the election process has been successfully nullified.

All that is needed now is to declare an ex-con president and to have him ride into Kyiv on a white Russian tank as Mr. Kuchma's grandson greets him with bread and salt at the Golden Gates of the city.

Somehow, at a distance, the Georgian solution of a mass uprising is beginning to seem like the only reasonable way to preserve Ukrainian independence. This is what Mr. Kuchma is betting on and is actively provoking. He wants to see heads roll on the streets in a battle that would pit west against east so that he and his water-carrier Yanukovich could step in as the blessed peacemakers.

But even this will not happen since the Ukrainian masses are too busy trying to make a buck and too stoned to care. The fight has been taken out of them by 10 years of relentless criminality that has stolen from them their sense of civic pride and belief in the democratic process.

How did it come to this juncture? How is it that a nation which overwhelmingly voted for independence and a better life was hijacked by a group of slick conmen from Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk with their western Ukrainian sidekicks in tow?

The first mistake was made by Leonid Kravchuk when he permitted the pro-Russian Communist Party of Ukraine to re-legalize itself. The second mistake was when the Rada allowed former members of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to stand for office. These first mistakes were then capitalized on by a series of appointments of men who would be sitting behind bars in any civil society to high posts by President Kuchma. Before anyone realized, the country was controlled by the wicked and greedy, on top of whom sat the grand wizard, the medicine man of Ukraine, a guitar-playing,

*Hryhoriy Tsipka is the pseudonym of a Ukrainian journalist living in Central Europe.*

whisky-sipping, foul-mouthed "good ole boy" – Leonid Kuchma.

From that moment on everything else that followed was predictable: the murder of Heorhii Gongadze, the attempt to sell Iraq the Kolchuha, the wiretaps, dirty tricks and scams. Then came the rip-off schemes in the oil and gas business that enriched the greedy and their protector, the medicine man. Ukraine began resembling Cuba under Batista, where organized crime used the island like al-Qaeda used Afghanistan. Ukraine became a sanctuary for criminals.

The best thing that happened to Kuchma and Co. was when Mr. Putin was elected president of Russia. With Europe afraid to touch Ukraine with a 10-foot pole and the Americans distracted by their fanatic hunt for weapons of mass destruction, divine providence sent President Putin to President Kuchma.

It was a partnership made in heaven. They understood each other perfectly well. Mr. Putin knew how Mr. Kuchma's mind worked since he himself was intimately familiar with bribery and corruption – first in St. Petersburg, where he participated in a scheme known as the SPAG affair involving organized crime, then as president when he became the Russian overseer of Saddam Hussein's elaborate "oil voucher" scheme in which hundreds of millions of dollars in bribes were paid by the dictator to Mr. Putin's closest allies and most intimate advisors in return for political protection at the United Nations. The only question that needs to be answered is did Mr. Putin's men pay the boss for protecting them?

The Putin-Kuchma partnership produced the Single Economic Space, the Odesa-Brody pipeline pumping in reverse, the election of Mr. Kuchma as head of the CIS and so on. Mr. Kuchma, as the late Rodney Dangerfield might have said, was finally getting some respect. But in order for the partnership to really rock and roll, Mr. Putin was insisting that they cut to the chase – stop the petty pretences and the "fig leaf independence" of Ukraine and join forces. This was music to the ears of Messrs. Kuchma and Yanukovich and the mob. Why not form one common syndicate, a criminal empire stretching from the Carpathian mountains to Kamchatka?

For some time a number of experts believed that Ukrainian criminal clans supported independence for one expedient reason: to avoid being controlled by Moscow which would step in and take over their scams. But Moscow, made them a gentlemanly offer: Why not steal together and we'll both make more money? How could they refuse?

This, then, is what the non-elections of October 2004 are all about. They were designed not to allow Mr. Yushchenko to restore some semblance of dignity and legality in Ukraine, but to allow Ukraine to embark upon a new, higher step on the evolutionary ladder toward its transformation into an off-shore holding company owned by Russia Ltd.

## PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



## Ukraine matters

"So that's the agenda for my visit to Ukraine next week," Al Gore told about 15 Ukrainian American leaders at a 1988 meeting in the Old Executive Office Building next to the White House. "Now, what am I missing?"

Michael Sawkiw, head of the Ukrainian National Information Service and now president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, spoke up: "This is great, Mr. Vice-President, but you can't go to Ukraine without mentioning the Famine."

"Okay," he said, "but tell me more, particularly whether there's a common denominator with Chernobyl." And so we told him, and for 10 minutes he listened. A week later, the vice-president wove the Famine-Genocide into the speech he gave in the shadow of the devastated nuclear reactor.

Vice-President Gore's trip to Ukraine was one of dozens that top Clinton administration officials took, along with an equal number of reciprocal visits to America on the part of Ukrainian officials. And those were just the tip of the iceberg, as a people once closed off completely became America's new best friends. So why the Clinton administration focus on U.S.-Ukrainian relations?

President John F. Kennedy characterized the Cold War as a "long twilight struggle." Indeed it was, one administration handing off responsibility to another. For more than 50 years we maintained a military stand-off at the Iron Curtain in Europe and the DMZ in Korea, all the while playing a grim game of cat-and-mouse with the Soviets in all the world's oceans and the skies above, reaching all the way to the moon. There was also a vast diplomatic and cultural component. Every hour of every day, we beamed our message over the Voice of America and Radio Liberty, and people believed. We maintained libraries, distributed magazines and books, and welcomed cultural ambassadors. We worked with our NATO allies. It cost trillions of dollars and countless lives, but in the end, the investment paid off. The time came when the energies of long-submerged nations burst to the surface and the Soviet behemoth was defeated.

Call it nationalism, if you like; it was the key to victory and Ukraine was central. Quite simply, the demise of the "evil empire" and Ukraine's independence were one and the same phenomenon. President Bill Clinton, having inherited a historic triumph in the Cold War, did not want to lose the peace. He understood, that by merely remaining independent, Ukraine contributes to American security.

But that's not the end of Ukraine's contribution to America. When the Soviet Union fell, Ukraine became the world's third largest nuclear power. All the weapons were aimed at the United States and its allies. By agreeing to dismantle this fearsome arsenal, President Leonid Kravchuk did more to enhance world peace than just about anyone. For that he deserves the Nobel Prize.

The disarmament deal with Ukraine has been a real bargain for the United States, particularly compared to what's happening in Iraq, where we've spent \$120 billion and lost more than 1,000 young men and women with no end in sight, all to deny Iraq nuclear weapons they never had in the first place.

With Ukraine, no one died getting rid of nukes. Instead, the country sought and was given American guarantees for polit-

*Andrew Fedynsky is a member of the Steering Committee of Ukrainian Americans for Kerry-Edwards.*

ical, military, economic and diplomatic support. Ukrainians, who had endured terror, famine and war, live in a dangerous neighborhood: Russia's just across the border. Vice-President Gore's visit to Kyiv and Chernobyl in July 1998 was part of the bargain to assure the country of America's support.

Unfortunately, the commitment to Ukraine doesn't appear to have survived into the Bush administration. Even before 9/11, President George W. Bush, enthused over meeting President Vladimir Putin, steered American foreign policy in a Russo-centric direction. That's endured, despite Putin's systematic dismantling of Russia's nascent democratic institutions and ominous signs that the country is reverting to its natural proclivities, seeking to dominate areas it considers its historic space, including Ukraine. President Bush has yet to address these alarming developments. Scrupulously, he's avoided meaningful contact with Ukraine – even with members of the Ukrainian American community. Blocking the Senate Famine resolution because Russia doesn't like the word "genocide" is particularly offensive, not only because it flies in the face of truth, but also because of what it portends for the broader issue of U.S.-Ukraine relations.

In justifying America's stance toward Russia and Ukraine, some have argued that the world changed so fundamentally after 9/11 that our priorities can no longer include Ukraine. Well, that's half right; the world has changed, but our priorities are still security for the nation and stability in the world. Belief that a reconstituted Russian empire with nuclear, chemical and biological weapons would be any more accommodating to American interests than the Soviet Union, is naïve. Allowing that to happen truly would amount to winning the war and then, a generation later, losing the peace. All the sacrifice and investment in the "long twilight struggle" will have been for naught.

Should Ukraine continue to drift into Russia's sphere of influence, American efforts to stop other countries from developing nuclear weapons, beginning with Iran and Korea would also be affected. Both countries' development programs are real. If they succeed, other countries will no doubt pursue nuclear programs of their own.

To keep Iran and Korea from obtaining nuclear arms, the next president will have to apply a mix of sanctions and incentives, diplomacy and defense. Yet how credible will it be if America, having extended incentives and guarantees to Ukraine in return for disarming, fails to honor those commitments from one administration to the next? By creating the impression that America is discarding Ukraine, the Bush administration sends the signal that America takes countries seriously only so long as they pose a threat.

Ukraine's democracy is foundering, held back by the resistance of vested interests and Russian interference in its internal affairs. But there is also a vast sector of Ukrainians who want their country to succeed by remaining independent and democratic. If America has the tools to bring democracy to Iraq and Afghanistan, we can certainly help to empower those who can set Ukraine back on course. After years of benign neglect, it's time America began to play that role again. When you vote on November 2, do consider carefully. And remember, Ukraine matters – much more than you think.

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A reader's vote for John F. Kerry

Dear Editor:

I guess after reading Myron Kuropas's latest column ("Wealth, power and privilege") we can surmise that only conservative Republicans are allowed to be wealthy and influential in American politics. However, unlike Dr. Kuropas, I am delighted Sen. John Kerry has five houses and is married to a billionaire. It may level the playing field a bit.

Perhaps, as Dr. Kuropas notes, Sen. Kerry has "never run a business, met a payroll nor administered anything." I just wish the readers of The Ukrainian Weekly were provided with details of President George W. Bush's brilliant business career.

Finally, Dr. Kuropas bangs out the tired old "culture war" slurs against same-sex marriage, etc. to smear the Democrats. I write from the belly of the liberal beast of San Francisco, where last February I had the privilege to interview in the driving rain outside City Hall newly married gay and lesbian couples. Let me assure you they also, just as Dr. Kuropas, believe in "the sanctity of the American family." After all, these couples are trying to create a family and why should they, just as one daughter of the current vice-president, be denied their rights in this worthy endeavor?

We must be grateful for Dr. Kuropas's many years of public service to the Ukrainian American community through his anti-defamation and Famine education efforts. However, he has stumbled badly in these forays into election commentary and his increasingly frantic fulminations against Sen. Kerry and the Democratic Party cannot obscure the domestic and foreign policy failures of the current administration.

Peter Bejger  
San Francisco

### A suggestion: elect Boris Danik

Dear Editor:

Elect Boris Danik – only because it's become an embarrassment to read The Ukrainian Weekly. Between Myron Kuropas' constant shilling for the Republican Party and perpetual apologies for the Bush administration's senseless policies in the rest of the paper, I'm afraid The Weekly's become a one-note, right-wing rag. In this election year, the Weekly is somehow fine with the neocon agenda. Only Mr. Danik's eloquent, informative letters shine a welcome light into the slanted muck. To which I'd like to add a few (non-partisan) words.

When Dr. Kuropas distorts history in order to slam Sen. John Kerry, as in the last few issues (October 3 and 10), it's beyond irresponsible. References to the so-called "evil Vietnamese" fail to acknowledge U.S. arrogance in that war, which Mr. Kerry addressed then – with good reason. I suggest Dr. Kuropas view the excellent Errol Morris film "The Fog of War" and listen to McNamara come clean about that whole debacle. Also, I suggest a thorough perusal of Pulitzer Prize-winning, "A Bright Shining Lie," by Neil Sheehan. Oh, and "The Pentagon Papers." Ho Chi Minh came to America first and we turned him away. "American moral fiber"?! Please...

Oh, by the way Dr. Kuropas, George W. Bush is a wealthy Yale graduate, too.

And he lives well because, well, his parents have made him rich – every business he's run has been unsuccessful. Hey – just like Mr. Kerry!

Unlike Mr. Bush, I read the newspapers, and I refuse to vote for a guy who doesn't. Because the price of democracy is vigilance.

Remember that on November 2.

Andrew Cherney  
Los Angeles

### A clarification on Reserve service

Dear Editor:

Permit me as a 31-year veteran of the U.S. Army Reserve who just retired last year with the rank of master sergeant, to add a clarification to the ongoing debate on the presidential candidates' military service. A reservist/guardsman is required to earn a minimum of 50 retirement points per year. There are times when he earns much more than that, based on his active duty time.

As Taras Wolansky correctly notes in his letter (October 10), George W. Bush's military records clearly show that he always made more than the minimum, especially in his early years when he performed extensive active duty. In fact Mr. Bush logged 336 flight hours on the F-102 jet fighter in 1972 alone. It is not at all unusual for a reservist/guardsman to occasionally skip his monthly weekend duty if he has enough retirement points for the year or if he makes up the lost time by performing administrative duties at a different time.

Once a reservist/guardsman receives his annual statement of retirement points and verifies that it is correct, there is really no need to keep detailed records of the completed year for the next three decades. Similarly, in the civilian world, once an employee receives an accurate annual statement of earnings from the Social Security Administration, there is no need for him to keep that year's weekly pay stubs for the next 30 years. To expect that employee to recall in 2004 why he had some absences in 1972 is just as ridiculous as to expect a reservist/guardsman to explain in 2004 why he may have had a brief lapse in his duties back in 1972, especially if he had earned the required number of points for that year.

The liberal media's unsuccessful attempts to find fault with President Bush's military service culminated in the "Memogate" scandal, where a crude forgery was blindly accepted by a [Dan] Rather-biased CBS in a desperate attempt to smear the president.

In contrast, the same media eagerly embraced Sen. John F. Kerry's "reporting for duty" slogan. However, too many living veterans have stepped forward, tarnishing his medals (the ones he claimed to throw away, then denied doing it). Even so, the fact remains that both men were honorably discharged from the service. The problem with Sen. Kerry is his sworn testimony before Congress, branding all American servicemen in Vietnam as war criminals at a time when American POWs were being tortured in North Vietnam. The words of Sen. Kerry and other leftists of that time were then used against the POWs by their Communist captors. In the words of Sir John Harrington: "Treason doth never prosper, what's the reason? For if it prosper, none dare call it treason."

Leo Iwaskiw  
Philadelphia

### Why I'm voting for John F. Kerry

Dear Editor:

In his October 3 column, Myron Kuropas wrote that the GOP-controlled Foreign Relations Committee is blocking Senate Resolution 202 on the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide, because of pressure from Turkey, which fears that such a resolution would pave the way for a similar resolution regarding the Armenian genocide. As much as I respect and admire Dr. Kuropas for his many years of brilliant contributions on Ukrainian American issues, in this case, I feel he is simply wrong, perhaps more influenced by his position as an organizer for Ukrainian Americans for Bush-Cheney than by the facts.

Although Turkey may not be thrilled by such a resolution, the killer voice on S. Res. 202 comes from the Bush White House itself. As Ranking Member of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee Joseph Biden told The Ukrainian Weekly earlier this year, the White House is blocking the Famine-Genocide Resolution in deference to Russia, above all. Trying to shift the blame to Turkey (does that make it OK?) is just sucker bait. This is just one more small favor that President George W. Bush has elected to deliver to Russian President Vladimir Putin after their infamous meeting at Mr. Bush's ranch in Crawford, Texas, when Mr. Bush looked into Mr. Putin's eyes and liked what he saw.

My deep concern is that President Bush saw himself in President Putin's eyes. I am concerned that they agreed not to hinder each other as they try to divide the world between them. This would explain the mealy mouthed U.S.A. response to Russia's attack on the Island of Tuzla and the midnight switch (or back stab) on the Odesa-Brody Pipeline – just two of a long litany of disappointments in the Bush-Cheney policy on Ukraine.

The Bush administration's only interest seems to be keeping Ukrainian troops in Iraq. Beyond that, Russia has a blank check to do what it wants. I am concerned that another four years of this blank check will see the destruction of Ukraine as a viable independent nation. Ukraine will not survive another term of Bush-Cheney rule in Washington. That's why I'm voting for Sen. Kerry for president.

Charmian Carl  
Los Angeles

*The letter-writer is a member of California Ukrainian Americans for Kerry-Edwards.*

### A reader's reasons to not elect Bush

Dear Editor:

One of the comments I received in response to my opinion about President George W. Bush (letter, September 6) suggested that Sen. John Kerry is a good candidate for president. Sen. Kerry has a shot at unseating Mr. Bush and, if elected, will most likely "not mislead us into war"; will scrap Mr. Bush's tax cuts for the upper class (doing so will revive the economy and cut the deficit, as it did when Bill Clinton took similar action in 1993); stop the environmental devastation perpetrated by deregulated industrial polluters, and halt the Republican assault

on Social Security. That is huge.

A third-party candidacy of Ralph Nader helps re-elect President Bush besides providing schadenfreude (feel-good from mischief). Although in tune with Mr. Nader more than with Sen. Kerry, I would rather take what Sen. Kerry can deliver, instead of enjoying the righteous satisfaction of voting for Mr. Nader and watching America going down the tubes under Mr. Bush.

For some, prognosticating which candidate for U.S. president may be best for Ukraine seems to be the main factor in casting their vote. Such prognoses have a 50-50 chance of being wrong, except in rare cases of a flash warning, as in the "Chicken Kiev" fiasco.

Occasionally the Ukraine line is stretched even when its connection to a U.S. candidate for president is rather tenuous. For instance, Dr. Jaroslaw Sawka in his letter (October 3) lambasts the IMF as bad for Ukraine, and will vote for Mr. Nader, no fan of the IMF. The IMF's relevance for Ukraine today is rather academic, pro or con. Dr. Sawka also finds fault with the Republicans for peripheral reasons, and is dismissive of Sen. Kerry for reasons based on false disparagement of Kerry's Vietnam service in Dr. Myron Kuropas's column (September 12).

It is now common knowledge that the Kerry Vietnam smear campaign was financed in the heart of Texas by a Houston tycoon Bob Perry, a major contributor to Republican campaigns. Benjamin L. Ginsberg, the legal adviser to the veterans group that was used as a conduit to pay for advertisements condemning Sen. Kerry was serving at the same time as national counsel for the Bush re-election campaign, and was forced to resign in the aftermath. But the president personally refused to distance himself from the group.

This scam was widely condemned by Sen. John McCain among others, a Vietnam veteran himself who was a victim of a similar "am-Bush" – in the Republican primary election campaign in year 2000, and by former Sen. Max Cleland of Georgia, a Vietnam War triple amputee shamelessly savaged by right-wing activists in his failed re-election bid. But Dr. Kuropas, true to his form, apparently could not resist pasting the same smear on Sen. Kerry in his column, after the mainstream media backed off.

Dr. Sawka, in general, has valid insights about Ukraine, which appear to be his main focus in the U.S. election campaign. My point is that election of the U.S. president affects our lives and our children's lives as Americans in a very real sense, whereas splitting hairs about its fallout on another country (when there is no pressing connective issue) can become an end in itself. Although Ukraine can expect no favors from the Bush dynasty, President Bush is not nearly as bad for Ukraine as he is for America.

Boris Danik  
North Caldwell, N.J.

### Correction

Last week's issue (October 17) carried a letter to the editor written by a supporter of the Libertarian candidate for U.S. president, Michael Badnarik. The candidate's last name was misspelled as Bednarik.

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## CONFERENCE ADDRESSES: "Ukraine's Transition to a Stable Democracy"

### Ukraine and the culture of democracy

Following is the text of the speech delivered by James Sherr, Conflict Studies Research Center, Defense Academy of the United Kingdom, at the conference "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood – Roundtable V: Ukraine's Transition to a Stable Democracy" on September 13. The text is from the October 5 release of the Action Ukraine Report.

Is Ukraine a democracy? This simple question is not so simple to answer, and it is impossible to answer with a "yes" or "no." The short answer is that Ukraine is a new and flawed democracy: limited in scope and legitimacy, oligarchic, unhealthy and now under strain.

But it is a democracy with long-term promise, and the promise stems from the fact that Ukrainians as a people are quite democratically minded, certainly by comparison to their eastern and northern neighbors. Today, ordinary Ukrainians do not believe that they are living in a democracy, and that is a good thing. It is one of several indications that citizens put a value on democracy, that they have a set of standards about it, and they know that the current state of affairs does not measure up to them.

There is also promise in the attitudes of a large number of Ukrainians who are not ordinary. Not only in the Verkhovna Rada, but in any number of state structures – not just the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, but the Cabinet of Ministers, presidential administration and armed forces – one also meets respectable numbers of individuals who are democratically minded, and whilst this includes people who are inclined to support the opposition, it also includes people who are not. This crossing of political lines is of critical importance, because it means that there is an evolutionary path forward for Ukraine. It means that whilst the growth of civic instincts is sharpening the divide between state and society, it is also creating points of friction within the state and a dynamic of evolution inside it.

Will an undemocratic president reverse this dynamic or will he simply retard it? Perhaps we will have a chance to see. If we can be optimistic about the future, we also need to be realistic about the present, and the present is defined by a well-entrenched and increasingly aggressive status quo. Can the character of this status quo be explained purely by the interests of people in power? Or is its endurance and "maturation" not equally a result of a misunderstanding of how a healthy democratic political order differs from Ukraine's – and why it is needed in the interests of the country?

Today there are a number of misunderstandings and, paradoxically, the democratic West has contributed to them. This is because, with some distinguished exceptions, Western governments and international organizations have tended to emphasize the mechanics of democracy rather than the culture of democracy.

Free elections and a free press are mechanics of democracy: very important mechanics, but they are neither the core of democracy nor the soul of it. "Democracy" describes a relationship between the state and society, and the key to this relationship is the character of institutions. Even if elections are "free and fair," there will be no real democracy if state and public institutions continue to behave in an arrogant, autocratic, arbitrary and self-serving manner. If they do, the vast majority of people will continue to feel that their country is not theirs.

The fundamental problem in Ukraine is the gap between state and society. In more commonplace terms, it is the powerlessness of ordinary people. This powerlessness is something that is experienced on a daily basis – or, at least, on any day when people have to deal with an institution, a "structure of power," even if it is local or small. This, too, was the core problem of the Soviet Union. Since the Soviet collapse, some things have improved, some things have worsened, and much has remained the same.

In Ukraine today there has been some, but far too little, devolution of political power. There has also been little devolution of economic power. To a distressing degree, the networks of privilege that existed before are the networks of privilege that exist now. Some of the exceptions are not very flattering to the post-Soviet order: criminal networks, who once operated apprehensively and in the shadows but who, despite being termed "shadow structures," now operate with impudence and near impunity. And on the other end of the spectrum, there is the decline in privilege of the very people who under the old system deserved it: the scientifically, technically and intellectually skilled – skilled, that is, in every art except finance.

To be sure, there has also been real progress. In recent years, there has been solid economic growth (albeit less than official statistics suggest), there has been the emergence of a real (but still vulnerable) middle class, a surge of property ownership (but without firm contractual rights) and signs of honest (but hampered and harassed) entrepreneurship. Yet, Ukraine remains a country of people who feel alienated from their political order.

The West has been slow to face these realities, and for several critical years, it damaged its standing by appearing to praise any practice pursued in the name of profit, privatization and the free market. With good reason, many people in Ukraine have failed to see the difference between privatization and plunder, or between free markets and rigged markets. Therefore, we should not be surprised by the fact that Western ideas are not dominating discussion. We need to change the discussion.

If the relationship between state and society is the core issue, then institutions are the bridge between them. What kind of institutions does Ukraine need?

First, Ukraine needs institutions that operate within a culture of authority rather than a culture of power. Authority is power that is codified and limited to legitimate and openly articulated purposes. And it is not codified by the authorities themselves, but by the people's elected representatives. Today, all manner of "authorities," beginning with the "militia," have become very entrepreneurial with the powers they have. That is not authority, but it's abuse.

Second, Ukraine needs institutions that operate within a proper framework of law. A system of "codified arbitrariness" (to quote the French authority François Thom) is not law. Laws derive from a coherent and comprehensible legal system founded on Hart's principle: "the unity of primary and secondary rules." And law enforcement must be separate from politics. This means that the institutions which enforce the law must be politically neutral. In the United States, as in Ukraine, no one likes the tax authorities. But they trust the tax authorities irrespective of which political party or interest is in power.

Third, Ukraine needs institutions that operate within conditions of transparency. At its most elemental level, transparency is the ability to see. This means the ability to see who people are. When Ukrainian citizens vote for a Communist, Socialist or a member of Nasha Ukraina [Our Ukraine] to sit in Parliament, they expect them to advance the programmes of these factions and not appear inside another faction within weeks of taking up their seats. Today, not only in politics but in business, there is very little ability to know who people are. During the next major privatization, try asking who the leading contenders are – who are the real owners? what is their citizenship? What are their resources? Where are they invested? – and see what kind of answers you get.

But transparency also means the ability to know what decisions are taken, where they are taken, by whom they are taken and, preferably, why. Was the Melitopol accident in May (which destroyed an enormous quantity of munitions and millions of dollars in property – and which, by a few months, preceded the dismissal of Ukraine's minister of defense) really an accident or the result of a decision? To be sure, Ukraine has had bigger scandals than Melitopol.

After nearly all of them, it has proved impossible to answer these basic questions. Without credible facts, rumors become credible, even the most incredible rumors, particularly if they are based on conspiracy. People who put their trust in conspiracies rarely put their trust in other people. It is unlikely that such people will "pull together at a crucial moment."

The absence of transparency not only produces an absence of accountability, which is essential to democracy, but cynicism, which is poisonous to it. It also threatens national security, and this was clearly stated by the authors of the 1997 National Security Concept and re-echoed by the authors of the 2003 Law on the Foundations of National Security. The good news is that these are official documents. But they won't have a practical influence until someone implants the notion that information, like air, is a "public good" rather than a strategic commodity and an instrument of power. Ukraine's political culture is not comfortable with this notion. Nor is its business culture, which operates less according to the conventions of Western competitiveness than according to the conventions of "finansovaya-informatsionnaya borba" (financial-informational struggle). This last point leads to two areas that are rarely discussed when democracy is discussed. The first, indeed, is the culture of business. Today, there are two cultures of business in Ukraine, and two cultures of business are drawing a line across Europe. In one a business transaction is designed to benefit both buyer and seller. In the other, it is part of a Darwinian relationship, a form of bor'ba za vlast' (the struggle for power). In the latter, business norms are conspiratorial: inbred, collusive, opaque to outsiders and based upon networks rather than markets – networks that straddle the spheres of business, politics and, far too often, crime. These norms are not only a threat to democracy and Ukraine's EU integration prospects, but to good business.

Two examples will suffice. When the blue-eyed genius of Russian capitalism, Anatolii Chubais, became chairman of United Energy Systems, he discovered that this vast enterprise – by any reckoning one of the largest in the world – did not possess a budget. He should not have been surprised. If there is no budget, how

do you know who is making money, who is losing money, who is wasting it, and who is stealing it? A friend of mine working in another large Russian business, co-located in Ukraine, had this to say: "We have three tiers of management: junior management, who are insecure; senior management, who are involved in high politics (and whom we never see) and middle management. And what they do is steal."

Some years ago, another friend negotiated with the regional authorities to lease land for development. Not surprisingly, the negotiations were difficult and protracted, but at last a contract was concluded. Over the next year, he invested most of his capital in this enterprise, and the following year his business became very profitable. At that point, the very authorities who had so carefully negotiated every detail of his contract told him that it was invalid. They presented him with a list of the "laws" he had supposedly violated and threatened to issue criminal charges unless he transferred the land back to them. Since that point he has spent a third of his time negotiating, a third of his time in court and a third of his time in hospital. Who can have faith in entrepreneurship if entrepreneurs end up in these straits? Who can have faith in political rights if no economic rights exist?

The second area that tends to be ignored in discussions of democracy is the culture of administration. It, too, tends to be authoritarian, compartmented and opaque. In most advanced democracies, the administrative culture values hierarchy, but it also values two antidotes to it.

The first antidote is the devolution of authority and initiative: the so-called "bottom-up" culture. The second is an emphasis on horizontal integration, both within institutions and between them: in short, the opposite of the "administrative vertical" exalted in Russia and, very often, in Ukraine. Both depend on the sharing of information. This is what a senior British general meant when he explained to a group of Ukrainian generals how he made a decision: "I communicate one level up, one level down, one level to the left and one level to the right."

By "communicate," he meant that he listened before giving instructions and that he made recommendations before his superiors gave instructions to him.

Do these practices not explain why the most motivated and productive Western institutions are lean and why so many Ukrainian institutions are underproductive and overstaffed? Can a democratic political system co-exist with an authoritarian system of administration? Yes it can, and there are examples to prove it. But the co-existence creates an incongruity in a country's authority structure which is damaging to democracy.

Finally, there is the area we dare not ignore, Ukraine's force structures: not just the armed forces, but the Security Service, Interior Affairs forces, border service, customs and, of course, police. To transform these structures – to train people according to today's values rather than yesterday's, to inculcate decent norms of professionalism, to make these professionals feel they are part of society – it is necessary to respect those who try hold onto their professionalism in adverse circumstances, and it is necessary to understand the work that they do.

Governments of former dissidents in Central Europe have often failed to do this, and the result is that these most

(Continued on page 23)



## Rada majority stages walk-out

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn accused members of the crumbling majority coalition in Parliament of succumbing to the manipulations of pre-election strategies on October 12 and contributing to the political chaos that has descended upon the country two weeks before election day.

“When will you stop letting yourselves be manipulated by your handlers?” asked a frustrated Mr. Lytvyn.

As he spoke, members of the six parliamentary factions that make up the remnants of the majority – Regions of Ukraine, the Social Democratic Party-United, Democratic Initiative, Labor Ukraine, the National Democratic Party and the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs – abandoned the session hall, stating that they would not be back until after the presidential election.

Earlier, the remnant of the majority coalition had adopted the often-used tactics of the opposition: surrounding the main microphone and presidium dais at the front of the hall to paralyze the work of the legislative body, which they did for several hours while calling for a parliamentary recess until December 7-10, when the newly elected president will have been sworn in.

The unique situation – with the majority working to paralyze the body it ostensibly controls – occurred in the final week of parliamentary work before the presidential vote. It marked a widening rift between Rada Chairman Lytvyn, who has increasingly distanced himself from the formerly pro-presidential and now pro-Yanukovich majority coalition that he helped found and which elected him chairman in 2002.

Mr. Lytvyn expressed his frustration with the way the Parliament had become even more politicized in the last months prior to the national vote than even the most cynical predictions had forecast. He voiced his opinion that the parliamentary majority no longer exists as a united force. He added that those lawmakers closest to Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich would like to see the Parliament dismissed soon after their candidate is elevated to head of state so that a new body – one that would better reflect the new president’s own philosophies and aims, might be elected.

Mr. Lytvyn told the deputies that they should keep in mind that in such a scenario many of them might not be re-elected, inasmuch as some studies indicate that voters could throw out 70 percent of them.

“You need to consider your perspec-

tives [for the future],” Mr. Lytvyn noted.

The majority coalition, which had held together for more than two years, principally over the issue of political reform and loyalty to President Leonid Kuchma, disintegrated rather quickly after the former failed to muster the votes needed for passage and the latter came to the end of his term in office.

The parliamentary session hall was awash in politicized banners mostly aimed at National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko, the prime minister’s main opponent in the vote scheduled for October 31. Most of the banners, hung by the members of the majority, expressed disdain for Mr. Yushchenko. Only one, hung by the members of the candidate’s Our Ukraine coalition showed support. It read simply, “Yushchenko – the People’s President.”

The pro-Yanukovich forces demanded that Mr. Yushchenko apologize for “misleading the country into believing that he had been poisoned” after he became ill with a mysterious ailment, which doctors in Vienna have still not been able to diagnose. A team of biological warfare experts is awaiting the results of tests to determine whether a bacteriological agent may have poisoned Mr. Yushchenko.

With the demand of his legislative force unsatisfied, the majority’s coordinator, Stefan Havrysh, who is also an official on the Yanukovich campaign team, submitted a request from two of the majority factions that a 30-minute recess take place. It later turned out that this was an effort to organize a vote to have the Verkhovna Rada stand in recess as the majority wanted.

Mr. Lytvyn summarily rejected the proposal, noting that one of the two factions, the Social Democrats-United, had not registered for that day’s session and, therefore, could not demand a recess.

“No, one of the factions that submitted the request is registered today, but the other is not. Therefore, no, you must rewrite the request,” responded Mr. Lytvyn to the request of the majority coordinator, eliciting outrage among the lawmakers from the majority, who then charged to the front of the session hall.

Mr. Lytvyn said the majority was playing out the two-pronged scenario that many political observers earlier had suggested might occur within the Rada in order to manipulate the elections: first, the legislative body would become overtly and unacceptably politicized before election day; then, it would be deemed “unable to function” by the “powers that would be” and dismissed by the president.

“The attempt to place a lock on the Parliament will not succeed,” he said.

## Baltimore voters organize for Ukrainian election

by Oleh Voloshyn

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

BALTIMORE – Registration of Ukrainian voters in the upcoming presidential election by election committee officials from the Embassy of Ukraine in the United States took place on Saturday, October 16, in Baltimore at the Selfreliance Federal Credit Union building.

In all, 95 persons have registered to vote in Baltimore in an effort to save a trip to Washington for the mandatory registration before the vote, in accordance with the recently changed election law of Ukraine.

The initiator of this unprecedented event, Xrystyna Horbachevska, persuaded the board of directors of Selfreliance Baltimore, as well as officials at the Embassy of Ukraine, to conduct the registration.

Over 170 members of the Ukrainian community in Baltimore expressed their desire to vote in Baltimore and requested that a voting station be opened here – but

this number did not justify such an opening as far as the Embassy was concerned. The two parties were able to meet in the middle, when it was agreed to conduct the registration by Embassy staff in Baltimore, and that free transportation sponsored by Selfreliance would be provided to Washington on election day.

According to Ivan Korz, the credit union’s president, one-third of credit union membership are new members recently arrived from Ukraine: Green Card lottery winners, religion-based immigrants, visitors, scientists and working visa holders. “We are part of Ukraine, by heart, by soul and by birth. It was right thing to do for us, because we are hoping for change, and for a better future for Ukraine,” he said.

On Sunday, October 31, several buses will travel to Washington from 2345 Eastern Ave. in Baltimore for voting in the presidential election. For more information readers may call (410) 327-9841.

## Over 2,300 election observers in Ukraine, with more on the way

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – More than 2,300 international observers were already working in Ukraine on October 20, with up to another 1,000 expected in the country in the 10 days before to the October 31 vote. Their job was to review the current electoral process and observe the vote on election day to assess to what extent the presidential vote in Ukraine – in a campaign already filled with many ugly moments – would be free and fair.

As the international monitors arrived, leaders in their home countries were issuing warnings to the state leadership in Kyiv that if vote manipulation and falsifications occur, this could lead to dire consequences for the country, including sanctions.

Meanwhile, the respected Committee of Voters of Ukraine in its last report before election day stressed on October 19 that 20 percent of voting precincts in the country were effectively or literally not working.

“They were supposed to be working by October 1 to allow voters to review the ballots and to make sure that they and their families were properly listed on the rolls,” explained Ihor Popov, head of the civic organization.

Mr. Popov said that part of the reason for the failure to open the voting precincts could be traced to a large problem the precinct electoral commissions were having in filling commission positions. He said people were reluctant to take a job that undoubtedly could be stressful on October 31.

The head of the civic organization also said that there are extensive problems with the accuracy of the voter rolls, where evidence suggested that up to 5 percent of the names of the lists were inaccurately or falsely listed, while another 2 percent had not been properly removed, which amounts to more than 2 million of Ukraine’s 36.2 million eligible voters.

He gave as an example a precinct in the city of Melitopol, where CVU monitors found that soldiers of two military bases were registered to vote even though the bases no longer existed. Also in Melitopol, 205 people on the rolls no longer lived in the precinct, 146 did not live at the address that was given in the rolls, 16 were long dead and 28 who did live in the precinct were not registered.

The CVU has prepared nearly 10,000 election day observers to monitor the vote throughout all of Ukraine’s oblasts and raion villages, as well as in more remote villages, where most experts believe the ability to falsify the vote count would be easiest. The CVU observers would be registered as journalists for the CVU newspaper, *Tochka Zoru*, because again this year, as in the previous elections, the Verkhovna Rada rejected a proposal to have representatives of civic organizations act as election observers – even while the international community had pressed it to do so.

The CVU observers will join some 600 observers from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), which will have the largest international election-monitoring contingent. The Commonwealth of Independent States already has an extensive observer group on the ground in Ukraine, as does Russia, which has sent representatives from its State Duma.

Additional representatives from many other official and non-governmental organizations of many Western countries will be on hand also as official elections

observers, including teams from the United States, Canada, the Netherlands, Poland, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Armenia, Georgia, Germany and Great Britain. Among the other organizations sending observer groups are: the Council of Europe, the National Democratic Institute, the International Republican Institute, Freedom House, the international human rights group For Free Elections, the Ukrainian World Congress and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Yet, even as the monitors arrived, their foreign governments were voicing their gravest concerns on the ability of Ukraine to pull off a free and fair presidential election.

The U.S. Embassy released a statement on October 14 via Richard Boucher, spokesman for the U.S. Department of State, expressing those concerns.

“We are deeply disappointed that the campaign to date has fallen short of international standards. The disruption of opposition rallies, muzzling of independent media, misuse of administrative resources, and other serious violations cast doubt on the Ukrainian government’s commitment to its democratic obligations,” he said.

A day later, the European Union’s Vice-President of the European Parliament Janusz Onyszkiewicz declared in Kyiv that if international observers were to judge the elections to be unfair or if they were deemed invalid, the EU would take “appropriate measures.”

The deputy head of the presidential administration, Vasyl Baziv, responded to the threats coming from the West by noting on October 15 that the West was expressing a high level of interest in the Ukrainian elections because of the “unprecedented openness of the state and its preparedness to cooperate with a large number of international observers and organizations.”

Mr. Baziv underscored that state officials had taken steps “to secure the free will of citizens” and to make sure that violence did not occur during the elections.

“Any attempts to unilaterally influence the election process in Ukraine, wherever they may come from, do not whatsoever promote normal conditions for the election process,” warned Mr. Baziv, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

The presidential administration spokesman also noted that authorities were checking allegations by representatives of the presidential campaign team of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich that supporters of presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, his main opponent, were preparing for street violence on election night should their candidate suffer defeat.

Meanwhile, President Leonid Kuchma dismissed as “fantasy” rumors that state authorities were preparing to introduce a state of emergency in Ukraine beginning on October 28, when Ukraine would celebrate the 60th anniversary of victory over Germany in World War II. A military parade is planned for Kyiv that day with Russian President Vladimir Putin scheduled to be present.

To ensure the peace during the elections, the Ministry of Internal Affairs announced that it had assigned 200,000 state militia officers and cadets to patrol the offices of the country’s 225 territorial commissions and 33,485 election precincts a round the clock from October 29 to November 2.



## Two Luhansk students detained, then expelled for political theater lampooning Yanukovich

by **Tatiana Matychak**

*Special to the Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Two students of Luhansk National Agrarian University (LNAU) were detained on September 18 by local state militia and expelled from the university two days later for campaigning against presidential candidate and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. The incident was another on an ever-increasing list of charges of the illegal use of administrative resources by the Yanukovich campaign in the final days before the presidential election in Ukraine.

The two individuals, Oleksander Kirilov and Kostiantyn Kosenko, now ex-students, said on October 12 during a press conference in Kyiv that they were detained and then kicked out of the university for doing a parody of the current prime minister.

During what has become a traditional pre-election concert organized in Luhansk by local authorities in support of the standing prime minister's presidential campaign, on September 18 two students of LNAU did a parody of Mr.

Yanukovich on the city's main square before the concert. They put on traditional prisoners' garb, and using prison jargon and mannerisms said that they, too, wanted to be president as a rap beat played in the background. Behind them, a banner proclaimed, "I, too, want to be president."

The statement was full of spelling errors. The prison garb and the misspellings were a spoof of Mr. Yanukovich's criminal past and his penchant for misspelling Ukrainian words.

Within several minutes of the beginning of their performance, as Mr. Kirilov explained, they were detained by the police, beaten and imprisoned for two days.

"The policemen did not immediately tell us the reason for our detention," said Mr. Kosenko, "but we are sure that it was a political one."

The state militia post of the Lenin District in Luhansk, where the ex-students were held, told *The Weekly* that the two students were charged with "petty hooliganism," because they had disturbed the organization of the concert. They were made to pay a fine of 51 hrv. The chief at the police station denied that any beating had taken place.

At their press conference in Kyiv

(Continued on page 26)

## Statement by KM Foundation

*Following is the full text of the statement on police tactics used at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy which was released on October 19 by the U.S.-based Kyiv Mohyla Foundation.*

The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America condemns the unlawful activities of a group of Ukrainian militia, which occurred on Sunday morning, October 17. A group of uniformed and armed militia demanded to enter the premises of the University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in order to locate allegedly undocumented foreigners conducting building repairs, and then to inspect the premises. Security personnel of the university refused entry to the militia and contacted the university's three vice-presidents, who came to the scene within minutes. The university's president was away on travel at the time of the incident. Confronting the militia, the university's First Vice-President M. Bryk demanded to see documentation authorizing such an inspection, but militia officials were unable to produce legal documents, claiming their instructions from superiors were verbal.

Several deputies of the Ukrainian Parliament were called and came to the scene, where they also demanded to see proof of the militia's legal authority to search academy grounds. Again citing "verbal orders from their superiors," the militia entered and confiscated internal passports of several workers. Due to the insistence from the members of Parliament present at the academy grounds, the militia finally left. The workers' passports, which were in proper order, were returned later in the day.

In a statement issued by the university the same day, the event was summarized as follows:

"In evaluating the circumstances and motivation of this surprise inter-

(Continued on page 26)

## Students say explosive devices discovered during militia raid were planted by authorities

by **Roman Woronowycz**

*Kyiv Press Bureau*

KYIV – Ukrainian state militia officials said on October 15 they had discovered an explosive device at the offices of a relatively new and unknown student group, located not far from where a large student demonstration in support of presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko took place the next day. Two student activists were arrested and charged with being terrorists.

The members of the group who were in the office and members of the Our Ukraine faction in Ukraine's Parliament who were present as the bomb search was conducted stridently maintained that no bomb was found other than what the law enforcement officials themselves planted. They said it was yet another attempt to discredit organizations and individuals tied to the Yushchenko campaign.

"This event was ordered, and there is no substance to the charges, which we will prove in court. It was obvious the militia was carrying out orders," stated Taras Stetskiv on October 16. He was one of several lawmakers who arrived on the scene after the students in the office called to tell him that state militia officials were present.

Law enforcement officials said they had evidence that the group, which calls

itself Pora, which means It's Time, may have had links to a Serbian student organization, that had led violent demonstrations which resulted in the downfall of Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

The Procurator General's Office stated on October 18 that it had not excluded the possibility that members of the student organization were also responsible for the explosion that rocked a local market in Kyiv in August in which one person died and several were injured.

Four Pora members, speaking during a press conference in Kyiv on October 21, acknowledged that they had consulted on how to promote student activism with former members of the Serbian student group Otpor, which today is a member of the Serbian non-governmental organization the Center for Non-Violent Resistance. They also freely admitted to having been in contact with the Georgian student group Khmara.

Ukrainian Border Guard officials and the Security Service of Ukraine have maintained that they denied Oleksander Marich, a worker for the human rights group Freedom House, re-entry into Ukraine after a visit to his home in Belgrade, even though he held a valid Ukrainian visa,

(Continued on page 26)

## 20,000 students...

(Continued from page 1)

The All-Ukrainian Students' Council brought thousands of Ukrainian students from many regions of the country to Kyiv to express their desire for change according to members of Student Wave, the imitative group that organized the event. Student Wave, in turn, was organized by the youth coalition of Our Ukraine in order to protect students' rights and in support of the Yushchenko candidacy.

Mr. Yushchenko's campaign said in a press release dated October 14 that the idea for the public rally before the NUKMA, considered the foremost institution of higher learning in Ukraine, had been spurred as well by "the huge pressure put on students by state authorities on the eve of the election."

Students began arriving in Kyiv on the morning of Saturday, October 16, and by the afternoon four separate columns, representing students from the eastern, western, northern and southern oblasts of Ukraine, were marching from four different areas of the city to the downtown area, where they joined together for a united march down the Khreschatyk – Kyiv's main thoroughfare – and then to the Podil district and Kontraktova Ploscha (Contractors Square) located directly before the NUKMA complex, where the meeting and rally took place.

As the students walked the streets of Kyiv, they carried orange flags and wore orange bandanas tied around their heads, arms and legs, emblazoned with the Yushchenko campaign slogan "Yes!" They marched behind banners imprinted with political slogans like "Students against obtuse and heavy objects!" and others with the names of the oblasts and universities from which they hailed. All the while they chanted "Yushchenko!"

Some passers-by seated at sidewalk cafes and in cars blocked by the marching columns, expressed solidarity and support for the students and Mr. Yushchenko's campaign by waving or honking their horns and returning the chant "Yushchenko!" The students responded by giving them Yushchenko

"Yes!" bandanas as a sign of appreciation for their solidarity.

"My mood has started to rise here because to be in Donetsk before these elections is terrible," said Mykhaylo Zhylin, a student at Donetsk National University. "Only here have I seen so many people showing support for our candidate."

Before Mr. Yushchenko addressed the crowd, several student representatives spoke about the problems they had encountered with local authorities in trying to get to Kyiv to express their support for their presidential choice. A student from the Vinnytsia Oblast explained that state militia prevented students at one university from leaving their dorms the night they were to leave for Kyiv. Another student organizer said that in Dnipropetrovsk a university rector – who was authorized to do so by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Mr. Yushchenko's chief competitor for the presidential seat – sent for students and threatened them if they should travel to Kyiv.

Mr. Yushchenko, who looked much healthier after his most recent round of medical treatment, started his address by paying his respects to the university students of Sumy, his hometown, who protested during the summer against combining three universities into one. He noted that it was an example of how student activism could bring results.

He also noted that pressure from state authorities was being felt particularly by the students who were part of the Chysta Ukraina (Clean Ukraine) and Pora (It's Time) movements, as well as the Student Wave initiative.

"In this country we don't have any problems with our resources or mineral wealth or industry. There is a single problem – it's a problem with the authorities," Mr. Yushchenko asserted.

He called the current authorities bandits and expressed assurance that his nation and his students would make the right choice on Election Day.

"On October 31 you will see a different country, a different authority, an authority that you will not be afraid of, that you will respect because it will work

for this nation and this country," said Mr. Yushchenko.

The presidential candidate said that among his first steps as a president he would include redress of social problems pertinent to students and youth, including raising by a factor of 10 initial maternity leave payment, and also higher student stipends, better compensation for young specialists and the shortening of required military service.

The crowd responded several times to the presidential candidate's words with chants of "Yushchenko!" and "Freedom can't be stopped" – the latter the rally's official slogan.

"Viktor Yushchenko is the only person who can change the power system. And Ukraine will finally get a chance to develop normally," said Mykola Kireev from Nizhyn State Pedagogical University in the Chernihiv Oblast, who came to express support for Mr. Yushchenko along with 500 other students from his oblast.

After Mr. Yushchenko's speech, organizers read resolutions that came from the student meeting. The daylong rally ended with a concert by two of Ukraine's most famous groups, V.V. and Okean Elzy, which toward evening drew even more people, including many who weren't ready to support Mr. Yushchenko.

"First, I came to see the concert, and then to listen to Yushchenko," said Iryna Korobko, a Kyiv student. "I'm not a Yushchenko supporter. To my mind, he would not be the best president for Ukraine."

Nonetheless, Mr. Yushchenko and most of his supporters are sure of his victory.

"I give you my word that if only one cell of my body was unsure of our victory on October 31, I wouldn't be here with you," Mr. Yushchenko asserted.

Although the event was aimed at students, people of all ages were present, beginning with babies in their parents' arms and ending with the elderly.

"My heart belongs here, with Mr. Yushchenko. That's why I came," said Kyiv pensioner Lyudmyla Makarivna. "I love him very much, and I'm sure he will win. And I'm sure that we will live better."



## Observers concerned...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainians in Russia and chairman of the Ukrainians of Moscow, said that even if only 400 precincts were established throughout Russia, that would leave open the possibility to gather 2,000 to 3,000 votes in each precinct. Mr. Semenenko questioned why so many precincts were needed when no more than 20,000 Ukrainian citizens reside beyond Moscow and its outlying areas, which meant that no more than several dozen Ukrainian citizens would be available to utilize the polling station, even if all decided to vote.

The Association of Ukrainians in Russia is an umbrella organization that coordinates the work of more than 80 regional Ukrainian organizations.

Mr. Semenenko's colleague, Vasyl Antoniv, head of the Moscow-based Ukrainian language organization Slavutych, said he hadn't heard and didn't see an objective reason for such an increase in voting stations.

"These are the fourth presidential elections in Ukraine and those [living in Russia] with Ukrainian passports earlier had no problems voting at the six precincts that were established each time," explained Mr. Antoniv.

Markian Lubkivskyi, spokesman for

the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, announced on March 12 that in response to calls from Ukrainians abroad the number of polling stations located in foreign countries where Ukrainians reside would increase by 114 precincts over the levels of previous elections.

Mr. Lubkivskyi noted that Russian, Vietnamese and Italian officials had already agreed to open additional polling precincts on their territories, although the numbers had not yet been specified. Moldovan officials had given the okay for a polling station in the region of the self-declared Trans-Dniester Republic, where many Ukrainians still live.

To allay fears of vote fraud and falsification, the Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman noted that 1,457 Ukrainian citizens would work at the elections commissions abroad, including 153 official representatives of the presidential candidates.

There is concern, however, that the opening of precincts abroad could give those counting the results of the October 31 vote the ability to manipulate the election results. The complaints have included charges that manipulation could occur by withholding the right to vote to Ukrainian citizens residing in areas abroad whose vote might not result in benefit to the pro-government presidential candidate. Others have voiced concern that by saturating specific countries with precincts, the count in support of certain candidates could be boosted.

One Ukrainian citizen residing in Cleveland questioned in a letter to The Ukrainian Weekly why the decision to consider a voting precinct for that U.S. city, which has its own honorary consul and a large Ukrainian population, came so late, effectively giving reason to doubt that Ukrainian citizens residing in or near that city would have the right to vote. An overwhelming number of Ukrainians living there today are from the western regions of Ukraine and in all likelihood would support National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko rather than his main competitor, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

In Russia, the matter is more complicated, inasmuch as the Russian government and President Vladimir Putin have effectively expressed their endorsement for the presidential candidacy of the Ukrainian prime minister. What has increased concern over how fairly ballots from Russia would be counted is the inexplicable rise in polling stations and the seemingly secretive manner in which the additional polls are being organized.

"We received information from the Kobzar Ukrainian organization of Bashkortan that they had obtained information from the [Ukrainian] Embassy that they would have 11 voting precincts, even though the number of Ukrainian citizens there does not exceed 2,900," explained Mr. Semenenko of the Association of Ukrainians in Russia.

Mr. Semenenko explained further that when he contacted the Embassy of Ukraine in Moscow he could not get a definitive answer on how many new precincts would be added and where they would be located. He noted that the idea of 650 additional precincts, or even 420, which was the latest number he had heard, was absurd.

"We see no reason for 400 or even 200 election precincts," explained Mr. Semenenko, who noted that his organization had formally turned to both Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Central Election Commission to limit the number of polling stations.

Mr. Semenenko said he believed that no more than 1,000 Ukrainians living in Moscow would vote and pointed out that only 100 or so had officially turned to the Ukrainian Embassy to request voting ballots.

"I talk to them and have asked many of them whether they will vote and the answer is invariably no," Mr. Semenenko said. "Either they are scared, or are not legally registered, or do not have time. But immediately the thought arises: their election ballots will be filled out for them."

## Two main contenders...

(Continued from page 1)

after he had utilized his authority as head of government to raise pensions by some 30 percent at the end of September.

In Sumy, speaking before a crowd of war veterans, Mr. Yanukovich continued to show the extent of his largesse by announcing that disabled World War II veterans who years ago had been promised specially outfitted automobiles – some 30,000 veterans in all – would finally receive them, and within days.

It was a day full of gift giving for Prime Minister Yanukovich who also presented computers to several schools and ambulances and medical equipment to hospitals.

While Mr. Yanukovich has effectively used the government budget to gain popularity with the voting public, his moves have also caused him some problems. The hike in pensions has resulted in an increase in consumer prices, most notably in the cost of meat and other food commodities. To offset the potential political damage, the Yanukovich government initiated a public relations campaign through the news media to explain that the meat price hikes were a direct result of price increases in Poland, caused there by the European Union's membership requirements.

In Nizhyn, a town outside of Chernihiv, Mr. Yanukovich said on October 18 that he would introduce price controls to restrain inflation and limit profit taking by commodity sellers who he said had unjustly raised prices after the increase in pensions. He promised to put the businessmen "in their place."

"We will limit profitability for all who raised prices and trade charges, and will control the situation on the markets," Mr. Yanukovich stated in Nizhyn.

Mr. Yanukovich also took advantage of the opening of a fourth reactor at the Rivne nuclear power station, which had been years in the building and in the center of much debate with the European Union over how it should be funded. He told workers and guests that he would now lead the move to turn Ukraine into a net exporter of electricity.

Without the benefits of government largesse and administrative resources, Mr. Yushchenko could only offer promises to his voters in the final days of campaigning. He continued to maintain that his administration would govern honestly and stop corruption, and would work to increase the well-being of society. He also went out of his way to appeal to the voters from eastern Ukraine by stating

(Continued on page 26)



## Meet Ukrainian Catholic University Rector Fr. Borys Gudziak, Ph.D.



**November 14, at 1:00PM  
in Chicago**

Ukrainian Catholic Bishop Richard Seminack of the Chicago Eparchy invites the public to a Rector's Luncheon for Fr. Borys Gudziak. The luncheon is to benefit the university and will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., on Sunday November 14 at 1 p.m. Tickets are available for \$25.00 per person, though additional gifts are encouraged. To order tickets or for further information, contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, (773) 235-8462

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### Can't attend?

Those who are unable to attend but would like to make a contribution can send checks to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL, 60622 or donate online at: [www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal228/contribute.asp](http://www.chi-cash-advance.com/sforms/appeal228/contribute.asp).

[www.ucu.edu.ua](http://www.ucu.edu.ua)

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# Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch celebrates 80th anniversary

by Omelan Twardowsky

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – The 80th anniversary celebrations of the Ukrainian Athletic-Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch culminated here at the Ramada Hotel on October 2.

The jubilee program consisted of two stages. The first was a series of jubilee sports events: the chess championship of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK); the USCAK-East soccer championship hosted by Sitch; and the USCAK swimming and tennis championships held at Soyuzivka. In the summer months there was also a three-week jubilee training

Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Whippany, N.J.

During the dinner, the festive program proceeded as planned. Short speeches were delivered by Omelan Twardowsky, the president of Chornomorska Sitch, in Ukrainian and by Andrew Panas, a young Sitch activist, in English.

In his speech, the Sitch president referred to this celebration as unique, as very few diaspora organizations have managed to remain active into such an advanced age. "The fact that our Sitch chapter is the only one in America among the multitude of Sitch chapters that were active in 1930s that has remained active to this day should be



Award recipient Gene Chyzowych (center) with MCs Roman Holowynsky (left) and Stephan Kolodiy.



Self Reliance staffers receive thanks for their support from Sitch representatives

camp for Ukrainian youth at the Chornomorska Sitch Sports School.

The jubilee celebrations were topped off with a banquet and ball attended by some 200 guests, including representatives of other Ukrainian sports organizations, as well as individual sports activists.

This stage of the celebration was introduced by younger Sitch members who co-chaired the Jubilee Committee – Yaroslav Twardowsky and Greg Serheev, who spoke respectively, in Ukrainian and English. They greeted all present and then asked them to honor the memory of the departed Sitch members with a moment of silence. They also introduced the two masters of ceremonies, also young Sitch members, Roman Holowinsky and Stephen Kolodiy.

The Rev. Leonid Malkov of the St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., conducted the prayer. Also present was the Rev. Mitred Roman Mirchuk of the St. John the

credited to the Sitch founder and its first president, Ivan Hrynyk, a veteran of the Ukrainian War of Liberation, a former officer of the Ukrainian Galician Army, who adopted for this chapter a very flexible and dynamic doctrine," Mr. Twardowsky underscored.

In addition to intensive work with Ukrainian youths in the field of physical culture and sports, Sitch throughout its history has devoted significant attention to Ukraine, on behalf of which it has conducted both charitable work and political activity as was appropriate at a given time.

Since the time of Ukraine's independ-

ence, Sitch leaders have made important contributions toward the processes of the rebirth and the Ukrainization of sports in Ukraine. The organization Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine, which was created by leading Sitch activists, has carried out numerous political actions at diverse political forums for the good of Ukraine, Mr. Twardowsky continued.

Over the decades, young Sitch members have successfully represented the Ukrainian name in the American sports world. The hundreds of trophies, cups and certificates that adorn the Sitch home in Newark, as well as the USCAK Section at the Museum of the Sports



Women supporters and activists of Sitch receive awards in recognition of their support.



Recipients of Sitch awards presented during the 80th anniversary banquet.

Glory of Ukraine in Kyiv, attest to the fact that Chornomorska Sitch has boasted of such Olympians as Zenon Snylyk (in soccer) and Ron Karnaugh (in swimming), both of whom represented the U.S. in the Olympics.

Members of Sitch also took part in three Ukrainian Olympiads in the U.S.: in 1936, 1988 and 2000, as well as two International Free Olympiads in Canada.

In conclusion, the Sitch president noted the positive development that a new generation of Sitch members has started to take over the baton from the older activists. He expressed his hope that they will guide Chornomorska Sitch to its centennial.

Next on the program was the recognition of distinguished officers and athletes who have been active in the last five years, as well as the medalists of the Olympiads mentioned above. Jubilee

(Continued on page 20)



## Works of composer Bohdana Filts to be performed in New York and Washington

NEW YORK – The works of contemporary Ukrainian composer and musicologist Bohdana Filts, laureate of the Viktor Kosenko (2003), Lev Revutsky (2003) and the Mykola Lysenko (1993) prizes, will be presented in the United States for the first time in two upcoming concerts this fall: in New York on Sunday, November 7, at the Ukrainian Institute of America and in Washington at The Ukrainian Embassy on Thursday, December 9.

The New York concert, titled “An Afternoon with Composer Bohdana Filts,” will offer a program of art songs to words by Ukrainian poets, works for piano and violin, as well as Ukrainian folk and ritual songs in arrangement by the composer. Featured performers will be Oleksandra Hrabova, soprano; Oleksander Abayev, violin; and Maryna Rohozhyna, piano. (The concert begins at 3 p.m. Donation: \$15. Tickets may be obtained by sending a check payable to UIA-MATI, 2 E. 79th St., New York, NY 10021 or by calling (212) 288-8660.)

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Ms. Filts is one of Ukraine’s most popular contemporary composers, whose style is deeply rooted in national traditions. The tonal and rhythmic characteristics of Carpathian folklore, transmitted through the composer’s own lyrical perception of the world and modern compositional techniques, give her works a distinctive melodic quality that is highly appealing in its freshness of harmonic effects.

The composer works in various genres: symphonic (Piano Concerto in A Major and “Verkhovynska Rapsodiya” [Highland Rhapsody]), instrumental, choral, vocal solos and children’s songs. She is perhaps best known for her vocal works, which display her great gift for melody and masterly ability to make use of the expressive possibilities of the human voice.

Ms. Filts is the composer of more than 50 romances and songs, a number of vocal cycles, and 17 vocal ensembles (trios and

duets) to words by such Ukrainian poets as Taras Shevchenko, Ivan Franko, Oleksander Oles, Volodymyr Sosiura, Pavlo Tychyna, Maksym Rylskyi and Dmytro Pavlychko, among others, as well as more than 30 arrangements of Ukrainian folk songs.

The composer’s large body of choral work – more than 150 – written mostly for children’s and youth choirs, include such popular works as “Liubymo Zemliu Svoyu” (We Love Our Land), which has become a standard part of the repertoire of most children’s choirs.

Ms. Filts was awarded the Viktor Kosenko Prize for her significant contribution to the field of children’s music as author of three collections of choral music for children: “Zhyva Krynytsia” (The Wellspring), which includes two choral cycles on words to the poetry of Lina Kostenko as well as compositions set to the poetry of Lesia Ukrainka, Teodora Savchynska and Mykola Synhavsky; “Svite Tykhyi” (A Peaceful World), comprising sacred music based on canonical texts and additional compositions set to words of various poets; and “Sontse v Zhmentsi (The Sun in the Palm of Your Hand), which offers seven choral works set to the poetry of Y. Fyshtyk.

Ms. Filts is also the author of numerous works for the piano (including such cycles as “Zakarpatski Novelety” [Transcarpathian Novelettes] and “Muzychni Prysviaty” [Musical Dedications]), violin, and chamber ensembles. Her children’s pieces for the piano have been published in numerous collections, including in Canada and the United States.

A concert dedicated to the work of the composer was held in Kyiv under the aegis of the Ministry of Culture of Ukraine at the Philharmonic Hall on December 16, 2002, in celebration of the 70th anniversary of the composer’s birth.

\*\*\*

Ms. Filts was born in 1932 in Yavoriv



Bohdana Filts

in the Lviv region. Her father, Mykhailo Filts, was a prominent Galician lawyer and civic and cultural activist; her mother, Yaroslava née Rudnytska, was a teacher at the prestigious Sisters Servants of St. Basil the Great Women’s Academy in Lviv and the Lysenko Institute of Music in Yavoriv, of which the Filtses were founders. Her maternal grandmother, Olha Rudnytska, was the cousin of the famed opera singer Solomiya Krushelnyska.

With the invasion of western Ukraine by Soviet forces in 1939 and subsequent Stalinist repressions, including the persecution of Ukrainian intelligentsia, Mykhailo Filts was arrested by the NKVD and sent to a labor camp in Pechora. He died during his term; his place of death is unknown. In 1940 his wife and three of their four children, were deported to Kazakstan, where Bohdana’s mother died of hunger. The orphaned Bohdana and her two sisters returned to Lviv in 1945, where they were taken in and brought up by her

maternal uncle, Nestor Rudnytsky, and his wife, Hanna.

Bohdana Filts completed the Lviv Music School, studying piano with I. Krykh (1951) and later graduated from the theoretical (1956) and composition (1958) departments of Lviv Conservatory, where she studied with composer Stanislav Liudkevych.

She earned her graduate degree in 1962 from the Institute of Fine Arts, Folklore and Ethnography of the Academy of Sciences of the Ukrainian SSR in Kyiv, where she studied with Lev Revutsky. That same year she became an associate of this institute and remains such in a senior position to this day.

She is the author of five monographs, including “Fortepianna Tvorchist V.S. Kosenka” (The Piano Works of V. S. Kosenko, 1965), “Khorovi Obrobky Ukrainskykh Narodnykh Pisen” (Choral Arrangements of Ukrainian Folk Songs, 1965), “Ukrainskyi Radianskyi Romans” (The Ukrainian Soviet Romance, 1970), and “Harmonia Solospivu” (The Harmony of the Vocal Solo, 1979) and of numerous studies and articles about Ukrainian music.

A member of the Composers’ Union since 1961, she is especially active in the field of music education and appreciation, as well as adjudication.

Ms. Filts bears the title of Merited Worker in the Arts (1999) and is a laureate of the All-Ukrainian Composers’ Competition “Spiritual Psalms” (2001).

Two recent publications on the composer and her work include: “Bohdana Filts: Tvorchyi Portret” (Bohdana Filts: A Creative Portrait, 2003) by Maria Zahaikevych, and, “Art Songs to the Words of Shevchenko by Bohdana Filts” (2004), with O. Smoliak, editor. Included in the book is the composition for solo voice “Syrinka” (An Orphan), which has become one of the most popular of the composer’s works.

The works have appeared as publications of Aston press, Kyiv-Ternopil.

## Church designs by Radoslav Zuk exhibited at Embassy of Ukraine



WASHINGTON – A traveling exhibition of modern Ukrainian churches designed by Radoslav Zuk opened September 16 at the Ukrainian Embassy of Ukraine. The monthlong exhibit, organized by The Washington Group Cultural Fund in cooperation with the Embassy, features photographs and drawings of nine of his Ukrainian churches in North America – including the one adjacent to Soyuzivka – as well as a church under construction in Lviv and Prof. Zuk’s plans for the expansion of the National Museum of Ukrainian Art in Kyiv. The architect launched the exhibit with a lecture on the stylistic transformation of Ukrainian architecture. In the photo above, he is accompanied by two Washington-area architects, Larysa Kurylas (left) and Ulana Baczynskij, who helped organize the event.

– Yaro Bihun

## Musical culture in southern Ukraine discussed at Shevchenko Society

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEW YORK – Performances of both classical and folk music in contemporary southern Ukraine were demonstrated with the aid of videorecordings, and their cultural context was discussed by the husband-and-wife duo of Dr. Jaropolk Lassowsky and Dr. Hanna Chumachenko at the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) building here on September 18. The program was introduced by NTSh president Dr. Larissa Zaleska Onyshkevych.

Dr. Lassowsky, a professor of music at Clarion State University in Pennsylvania, who is also a violinist, conductor and composer, has recently returned from his stint as a Fulbright fellow at the Kherson State University in southern Ukraine, where he taught music history and the application of computers to music. He also conducted three different orchestras in Kherson. In his lecture, Dr. Lassowsky shared with the audience his recent experiences there.

Kherson, a city of about 400,000 inhabitants (comparable to Pittsburgh) is home to the Kherson Regional College of Music, attended by some 800 students (not part of the university). Although this college is rich in tradition, dating back to Mykola Lysenko, Dr. Lassowsky said he detected a certain lack of confidence there, based on a self-perception of provincial status. Finding this attitude unjustified, Dr. Lassowsky challenged the students to prepare and per-

form the famous Fifth Symphony by Beethoven. With Dr. Lassowsky as the conductor, the college orchestra, consisting of 60 students and five faculty members, managed this novel, (for them) task just fine, as demonstrated by the video excerpts.

Another piece performed by the college orchestra was Mykola Lysenko’s overture to the opera “Natalka Poltavka,” as orchestrated by Dr. Lassowsky. The NTSh audience was treated to an unabridged version of the overture on video, as it was played at a concert in Kherson before some 1,200 listeners, with Dr. Lassowsky conducting. The conductor-composer was rewarded with well-deserved applause both in Kherson and here. Also shown were examples of vocal performances by the students and faculty, which attested to the high level of competence at the Kherson Regional College of Music.

In addition to conducting the college orchestra, Dr. Lassowsky appeared also as guest conductor with two local professional ensembles, the Kherson Philharmonic Orchestra and the Kherson Chamber Orchestra. Of the excerpts of their performances, particularly memorable was the “Elegy” composed by Dr. Lassowsky in memory of Mykola Kulish, the Ukrainian playwright who was murdered by the Communists in 1937. Mr. Kulish was a native of the Kherson region and Dr. Lassowsky got the inspi-

(Continued on page 20)



## Art from collection of Alexis Gritchenko Foundation on view at UIA

NEW YORK – A commemorative exhibition titled “Alexis Gritchenko (1883-1977), Travels in Europe: From Cubism to Expressionism,” is currently on view at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

The exhibition, which draws on the collection of the artist’s paintings that comprise the holdings of the New York-based Alexis Gritchenko Foundation, opened on October 22 and will be on

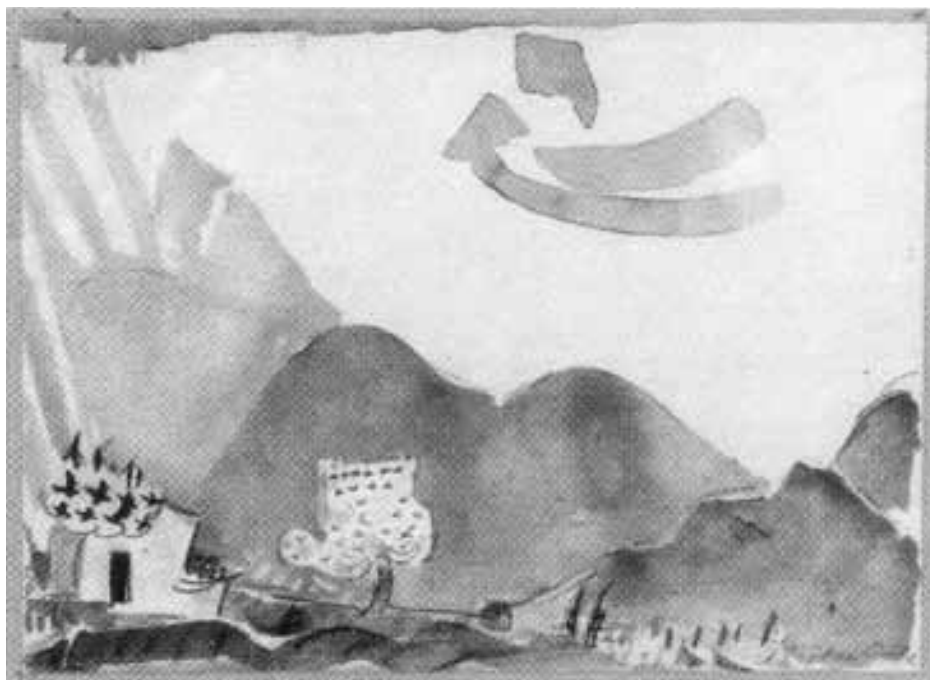
view through November 14.

On exhibit are over 40 works, including oil paintings, watercolors and gouaches. A 15-page catalogue, featuring 63 works, has been published in conjunction with the exhibition.

After the close of the exhibition, the Alexis Gritchenko Foundation collection will be transferred to Ukraine, in accordance with the artist’s wish that his work return to his homeland upon Ukraine’s independence.

The exhibition is a joint presentation of the Ukrainian Institute of America and the Alexis Gritchenko Foundation. The institute is located at 2 E. 79th St.; gallery hours: Wednesday-Sunday, noon-6 p.m. For additional information call (212) 288-8660 or visit the UIA website, [www.ukrainianinstitute.org](http://www.ukrainianinstitute.org).

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“Crete,” watercolor, 1923, 17 x 23 cm.

Oleksa Hryshchenko (Alexis Gritchenko) was born on April 2, 1883, in Krolevets in the Chernihiv region of Ukraine. After initial studies of biology at the universities of Kyiv and Moscow, he turned to art, going on to study at the Moscow Art School. Among his teachers were Serhiy Svitoslavsky in Kyiv and K. Yuon in Moscow. While in Moscow, he was involved in the modern art movement and developed close ties with two important art collectors: S. Shchukin and I. Morozov.

During a brief stay in Paris in 1911, where he met Alexander Archipenko, André Lothe and Henri LeFauconnier, he became interested in cubism. In 1913-1914 he was in Italy, where he was particularly drawn to early Renaissance art.

After the 1917 revolution, Hryshchenko taught at the State Art Studios in Moscow and was a member of the Commission for the Protection of Historic Monuments. He fled Russia in 1919 and settled in Istanbul, where he lived from 1919 to 1921.

Works from this period, which emanate from the artist’s stay in Turkey and visits to Greece, mark the beginning of a distinctive and inspired period of watercolor painting. The exhibition of these works in leading galleries of Paris,

gained Hryshchenko recognition in the art world of the 1920s.

While in Turkey, 66 of his watercolors were acquired by the American Byzantologist Thomas Wittemore (1871-1950) of Boston, known for the restoration of the mosaics at Hagia Sophia in Istanbul.

When Hryshchenko returned to Paris in 1921, 12 of his Constantinople paintings were included in the Salon

L’Automne. His subsequent trips to Greece resulted in works that brought him into contact with leading art dealers and distinguished collectors, Leopold Zborowski and Dr. Albert C. Barnes. Among select exhibitions of his works was an exhibition at the Byzantine Museum in Athens in 1923.

During the 1920s, the golden age of the art dealer, Hryshchenko’s works were exhibited in the galleries of leading Parisian art dealers and collectors with international connections, among them: Paul Guillaume, Ziegfried Bing, Katia Granoff and Eugène Druet, as well as at the Galerie de L’Elysée and in exhibitions at the Salon des Tuilleries and Salon d’Automne, of which he was a member from 1930. After Hryshchenko’s exhibition at the Bing Gallery in 1926, Parisian art critic Louis Vauxcelles wrote that “the young Ukrainian colorist conquered Paris.”

In 1927 Hryshchenko married Lilas

Lavelaine de Maubeuge, settling in Cagnes in southern France.

Hryshchenko became known in the United States in 1923, when the prestigious Barnes Foundation in Merion, Pa., near Philadelphia, acquired 17 of his works. The acquisition was realized through Mr. Guillaume, who was also foreign secretary for the foundation. That same year Hryshchenko’s work formed part of the Barnes Foundation exhibition of 75 paintings featuring the work of such artists as de Chirico, Matisse, Modigliani and Picasso held at the Pennsylvania Academy of Fine Arts in Philadelphia.

Hryshchenko’s work was first exhibited in Ukraine in 1937 in Lviv, then under Polish rule, in an exhibition of the Association of Independent Ukrainian Artists and in a one-man show.

After the war his work was exhibited in Paris in the galleries of André Weil (1950) and Bernheim Jeune (1957), and at the Galerie d’Art Moderne (1962). A retrospective exhibition of Hryshchenko’s work was held at the Salon d’Automne in 1973.

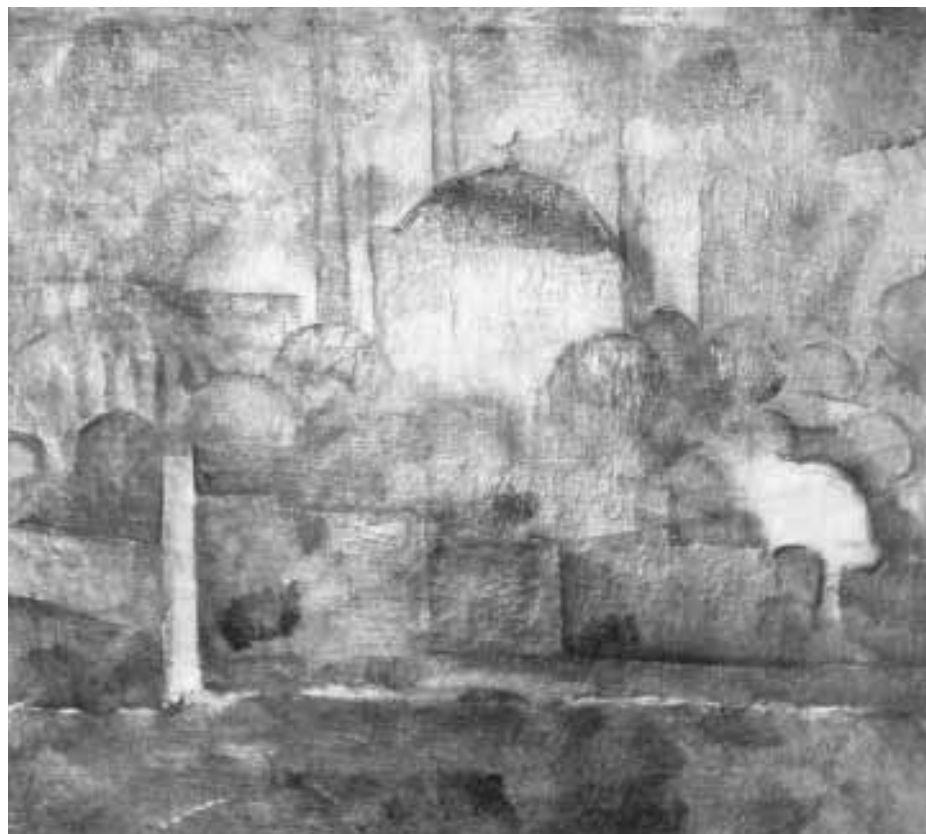
Hryshchenko had several one-man shows in New York, including at the Ukrainian Art and Literary Club (1953), and a retrospective exhibition at the Ukrainian Institute of America (1958). The Ukrainian Museum of New York, which has over 21 works by the artist in its fine arts collection, held an exhibition of oil paintings and watercolors by the artist (along with an exhibition of graphic works by Alexander Archipenko from the museum’s collection), as part of its “In Celebration of Private Collectors” exhibition series in 1998.

Hryshchenko’s last exhibition in New York took place in 1967 at the Peter Deitsch Gallery.

An exhibition of the artist’s work was held in Philadelphia at the Christina Czorpita Gallery (at La Salle College) in 1972.

In Canada Hryshchenko’s work was exhibited at the Edmonton Art Gallery (1976) and at the Focus Gallery in Toronto (1977).

In 1963 the artist established the Alexis Gritchenko Foundation, to which he donated over 70 works. The collection was housed at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York. An exhibition of Hryshchenko’s collected work was held at the institute on April 9-28, 1963, on the occasion of the creation of the foun-



“Hagia Sophia in the Rain,” oil on canvas, 1920, 72 x 76 cm.



Oleksa Hryshchenko (1883-1977).

ation, with 72 works on display.

Hryshchenko’s works are found in many museums, including Le Musée National d’Art Moderne de la Ville de Paris; Royal Museum, Copenhagen; Musée Royal, Brussels; Museo Nacional Centro de Arte Reina Sofia, Madrid; Tretyakov Gallery, Moscow; National Museum, Lviv; Barnes Gallery, Merion, Pa.; and the Montreal Museum of Fine Arts as well as in private collections, with more than 300 works in North American collections. Notable private

(Continued on page 23)

### FOR THE RECORD: An open letter from Hryshchenko

In an open letter written in Paris in 1963 on the occasion of the creation of the Alexis Gritchenko Foundation and the opening of an exhibition of his work at the Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA) to mark the event, Oleksa Hryshchenko speaks movingly of his rationale for establishing the foundation, expresses his sincere gratitude to all who have contributed to the realization of the project, especially his numerous friends and colleagues, as well as to the trustees of the foundation and the officers of the UIA. He also extends a special word of thanks to the editors of Svoboda for the paper’s consistent coverage of his work and exhibitions.

The letter, which was addressed to the general public, appeared in the April 12, 1963, issue of the Ukrainian-language Svoboda daily.

Referring to the creation of the foundation as a major milestone in his life, Hryshchenko notes that, given all of life’s vagaries, it was not easy to safeguard and collect his work, but that he believes that the collection of his work which he bequeaths “to his native land” is a “good legacy.”

He expresses the hope that the collection of his art work will remain intact and that his work will not pass into oblivion but will be well thought of in the countries where his fellow countrymen reside, as well as in his homeland.

Hryshchenko ends by expressing the hope that his artistic legacy may be shared, studied and enjoyed by future generations throughout the world, but most especially in his native land.



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## Authorities crack down...

(Continued from page 2)

University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy to locate Pora supporters, but officials refused to allow them in without a search warrant.

These pre-emptive actions against the opposition were part of a failed attempt to disrupt last weekend's student rally in Kyiv. Some 20,000 students from throughout Ukraine rallied in support of Mr. Yushchenko's candidacy ([razom.org.ua/album/152/](http://razom.org.ua/album/152/)).

In a related action, Ukrainian Border Troops prevented Aleksandar Maric, a founding member of Otpor, from entering the country. The Security Service of Ukraine and Foreign Affairs Ministry have refused to provide an explanation, especially as Maric had a one-year multi-entry visa.

Otpor has been training Pora members under the auspices of the Citizen Participation in Elections in Ukraine (CPEU) program run by Freedom House, the National Democratic Institute and the International Republican Institute, and funded by the U.S. Agency for International Development. Otpor had also been cooperating with the Znayu (I Know) civic education and election youth group ([znayu.org.ua](http://znayu.org.ua)).

Presidential spokesman Vasyl Baziv argued that the action taken against Otpor is both legal and in the interest of Ukrainian national security (Interfax-Ukraine, October 15). But, as Freedom House pointed out, the CPEU program is legally registered with the Ministry of Justice and "operates in full compliance with Ukrainian laws" ([freedomhouse.org](http://freedomhouse.org)). Such "learning across borders" is an "integral and accepted part of programs" used to encourage democratization throughout the world, according to a Freedom House press release.

This is certainly how the opposition understands U.S. assistance programs. But Ukrainian authorities are visibly paranoid about the threat of a Serbian or Georgian-style popular revolution occurring in Ukraine to protest election fraud. One week before the arrests and deportations, the pro-presidential camp had clamored for the National Security and Defense Council to take tough action against opposition plans to undertake mass civil disobedience (Ukrainska Pravda, October 7).

Valeriy Pustovoitenko, head of the group coordinating political parties that support Mr. Yanukovich, warned that regional organizations of his own People's Democratic Party throughout Ukraine were reporting that "certain forces are preparing for disturbances on election night in all of Ukraine's regions" (Ukrainska Pravda, October 13).

Our Ukraine National Deputy Taras Stetskiv retorted that opposition and civic groups are merely attempting to ensure as few violations as possible on election day, given the laxity of law enforcement bodies and election officials. The Yushchenko campaign also issued a statement claiming that the authorities were losing control of the situation and were not confident of Mr. Yanukovich's victory ([razom.org.ua](http://razom.org.ua)). This was admitted by presidential adviser Mikhail Pogrebinsky, who said, "We have a situation whereby the bigger part of the authorities' team does not believe in their success." He added that there was a widespread "feeling that the authorities will lose" ([glavred.com](http://glavred.com), October 6).

Emphasizing their concerns, Oleksander Milenin, vice-minister of internal affairs and head of Kyiv's police, leaked to the Financial Times (October 19) the existence of a new "ninja" police unit "trained in special measures." He also claimed that "new means" had "been approved by the Health Ministry" and were available to suppress protests. These developments emboldened Mr. Milenin to say that "There won't be any revolution here" in Ukraine.



## Ottawa radio...

(Continued from page 7)

touch with one another. The group hopes to meet one day for a huddle to share ideas and strategies.

Though she's the new kid on the block and a neophyte when it comes to radio, Ms. Bell has the mettle to help make such a mini-conference happen.

Industry and a zest for life are in her genes.

Born in Krakow as her parents were fleeing Communist Ukraine at the end of the second world war, she spent her early years in Germany, where the family lived in one room above a dairy.

Before they arrived there, her father, the late Jaroslaw Zajszyj, who had obtained a degree in agronomy from Krakow's prestigious Jagiellonian University, served as director of the Silskyi Hospodar agricultural association, which also promoted Ukrainian national awareness.

In 1951 the Zajszyjs left for Canada and settled in Montreal, where they once again shared a single room. Eventually, Ms. Bell's mother, the late Olha Nahirna, who had worked as her husband's secretary in Ukraine, ran a grocery store. The family of the three lived at the back.

After completing high school in Quebec in a system where graduates are much younger than their Canadian counterparts in other parts of the country, Irena Zajszyj obtained her teacher's diploma.

At the tender age of 18 she was plunked into a school and handed a class of 35 pupils, 30 of whom were Italian

and "about 10 of those didn't know a word of English, including Mario at the back who was 17," recalled Ms. Bell.

Soon, however, she would begin a journey filled with serendipity and connections.

After three years of teaching, Ms. Bell returned to school and received a bachelor's degree in English literature from Loyola College (now called Concordia University) in Montreal, and a bachelor's degree in library science from the University of Toronto, where she worked as a librarian at the College of Education Library.

There she met English-born geologist and volcano expert Keith Bell, who was pursuing post-doctoral studies after receiving his doctorate from Oxford University.

They married in 1971 and soon afterwards moved to Ottawa when Mr. Bell was hired as a professor at Carleton University.

Ms. Bell, meanwhile, landed a job at the National Library, where she worked in subject cataloguing. Within two years she was brought on board to a new division, called the Multilingual Biblioservice, which distributed written works in 32 languages to libraries across Canada and served as a model for similar programs in the United Kingdom and Australia.

Ms. Bell served as assistant chief until 1995, when the division closed and its function was devolved to the provinces.

That year the University of Ottawa inaugurated a Chair of Ukrainian Studies and was in search of a coordinator to run the office and organize conferences and lectures.

A long-time community organizer, who had served two terms as president of the

Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association (UCPBA), vice-president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Ottawa branch, and recipient of the Ottawa UCPBA's first Filip Konowal Lifetime Achievement Award for long-term volunteer service to the community, Ms. Bell was the obvious choice for the job.

And, she's still at it.

Amid her part-time duties at the university, the silken-voiced, fluently bilingual (Ukrainian and English) radio personality has to, as producer, also find advertisers (she has a few loyal supporters from Ottawa's Ukrainian community) for the "Ukrainian Program." Then there's all the prep work of scouring Ottawa for Ukrainian community current events and news, and listening to the latest Ukrainian music CDs that is required to broadcast exciting and fresh radio.

"Being connected in the community certainly helps," she said.

But Ms. Bell is of that erudite and rare breed whose curiosity of the world is contagious enough that she could easily slip behind a microphone, start talking and mesmerize her audience – about, perhaps, the 10-month course in fine arts she completed at Christie's in London in the early 1980s while her husband was on sabbatical pursuing a diploma in gemology.

Getting enrolled in the Christie's course was itself a challenge.

Ms. Bell had to first travel to New York for an interview and convince the elite of the world-famous art house she

had the right stuff.

"The course was meant to build up some loyalty among a clientele who have large art collections," explained the elegant-looking blonde.

"I told them I was interested in African and Byzantine art, neither of which they said they covered. But I said I want to put things into context and it turned out that I used phrasing that one of the interviewers had used in a children's book he had just written. So I lucked into saying something that was similar," she recalled.

Once accepted, Ms. Bell joined a group of about 120 students.

"One-third were Brits with a lot of money, another third were titled Europeans like dukes and so forth, and the other third were rich Americans and Asians. I was the token proletariat," she laughed. "You couldn't joke about having a Renoir hanging over your mantle because these people had them."

Socializing with greyhound racetrack owners, women who had Mercedes-driving chauffeurs deliver their lunches, and barons who had as many castles as the fingers on her hand, Ms. Bell also got to visit country estates with massive private art collections and to see London's finest exhibits up close behind the velvet rope.

Saucer-eyed at times by the opulence surrounding her, Ms. Bell still managed to leave an impression in her inimitable style. "I made friends with Americans and Europeans who didn't mix too much." Once again, she had connected.

## Ukraine's exit polls...

(Continued from page 3)

they would have eagerly joined in a single, extensive effort – especially since most of the survey companies with a national reach were already working on the DIF poll. Mr. Kucheriv said that thus far the three other projects had declined his offer.

To assure that the exit poll remains free of corruption and manipulation, DIF and its partners in the project instituted a multi-level strategy. First, the consortium of five respected survey organizations with nationwide reach – consisting of DIF, Socis, the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Research, the Kyiv International Institute for Sociology (KMIS) and Social Monitoring – agreed to divide the polling responsibilities among themselves.

To check and balance one another, each of the five groups would essentially conduct its own exit poll, presenting the same question to 12,500 voters each (50,000 in total) in all oblasts of the country to develop a representative sample of the demographic make-up of Ukraine. The five separate results would then first be compared to determine that they were more or less similar and within the margin of error.

Then the five results would be combined into one very large sample, allowing the margin of error to be reduced to less than 1 percent and making for a high level of accuracy.

While admitting that anything could be possible in the current pre-election atmosphere in Ukraine, Mr. Kucheriv underscored that the five companies, which are competitors in the marketplace, would not find it in their best interest to produce compromised or fixed poll results because they also had to worry about their public image and need to retain a trust factor if they expected to continue to do business.

Mr. Kucheriv pointed out that all the members of the exit poll project had also agreed to live by international codes of ethics, one by the World Association of Public Opinion Research and another one by ESOMAR, an international business

watchdog organization for economic and social marketing.

Additionally, DIF agreed to cooperate in a project of the Institute of Mass Information, which received a grant from the International Renaissance Foundation to research and monitor all public opinion polling during the presidential campaign, including exit polls, to make sure the process was objective. DIF also has allowed independent international auditors from Poland and Russia to pick and prod the process right up to and through Election Day. Finally, the consortium has given the Union of Journalists and the Sociological Association of Ukraine open access to all its informational materials.

"We want to be maximally transparent and public," explained Mr. Kucheriv.

The DIF director said that after the group's experience in the Mukachiv mayoral elections this year, in which at least one of their surveyors was threatened with violence, they had developed a specific strategy for their workers should they encounter problems. Those gathering the data in the presidential exit poll would have the option of moving to another pre-fixed voter precinct should they meet with threats or should attempts be made to impede their work.

This year's exit poll is being funded by a donor's club of eight foreign embassies, Switzerland, Sweden, Norway, Denmark, Ireland, the United Kingdom, the U.S. and Canada; and four international foundations, the Charles S. Mott Foundation, the Soros Foundation, the Eurasia Foundation and the National Endowment for Democracy.

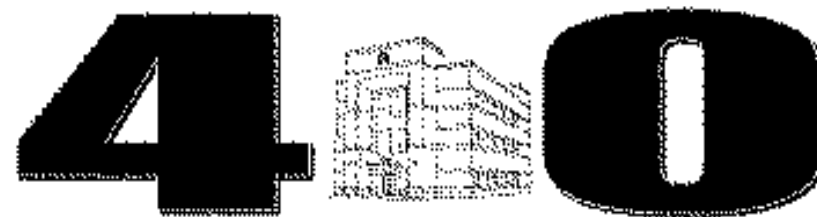
Mr. Kucheriv said that he would like to have the Russian Embassy become part of the club as well, but had yet to receive an answer from Ambassador Viktor Chernomyrdin.

The DIF director said the first preliminary exit poll on the results of the October 31 presidential vote would be posted on the consortium's website at 8:01 p.m. Ukrainian time (1 p.m. EST) on election day. The final results would be on the site two hours later. The exit poll website is: [www.exitpoll.org.ua](http://www.exitpoll.org.ua).

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Dr. Hanna Chumachenko and Dr. Jaropolk Lassowsky.

## Musical culture...

(Continued from page 16)

ration for this composition by visiting Mr. Kulish's native village. In appreciation, the Kherson Philharmonic accorded Dr. Lassowsky the title of resident composer and guest conductor.

In the future, Dr. Lassowsky said he is planning for Kherson a comprehensive program of presentations of Lysenko's works, orchestral as well as choral. Popularizing Ukrainian music in Ukraine may sound paradoxical, but it is necessary, concluded the speaker.

Next to speak was Dr. Chumachenko, a philologist specializing in Ukrainian ethnography and folklore, and a professor at Kherson State University, a position she has retained even after emigrating to the U.S. During her husband's visiting professorship there, she taught in its graduate division.

As an ethnographer, Dr. Chumachenko prefaced her musical presentation by first

providing the necessary ethnocultural context. She showed videos of the landscapes and houses along the southern banks of Dnipro River, related what kind of people – mostly fishermen and vegetable farmers – live there and shared snippets of their experiences under communism. Although there is some local Kozak tradition in the region, most of the population of southern Ukraine had migrated there from other regions of Ukraine – Poltava and Vinnytsia were mentioned – and even from as far away as the Carpathian mountains. This diversity is reflected in their music and attire, Dr. Chumachenko noted.

Subsequently, she showed a video from a festival of folk music at Hola Prystan, near the delta of the Dnipro, where many village ensembles showed off their songs and dances – a mélange of spring songs, songs of the Ivan Kupalo rituals and others. Renowned among the folklore ensembles is a women's singing

group called Oleshshya from the village of Kardashynka in the Kherson region, which has appeared at folk festivals elsewhere as well. Featured also were jocular contemporary songs about present-day situations. At folk festivals it is not uncommon for the audience to join in the performance. Dr. Chumachenko summed up by observing that the folk music of southern Ukraine reflects its people's "art of survival."

Dr. Lassowsky said he was very grateful for the enthusiastic cooperation of all the institutions he worked with during his

stay in Kherson: the Kherson Regional College of Music (Director Olena Lypa, Vice-Director Natalia Drobot, Orchestra Director Dmytro Siryi); Kherson State University (Rector Yuriy Belyaev, Vice-Rector Oleh Mishukov, Dean of the School of Arts and Culture, Mykola Levchenko); the Department of Culture of the Kherson Regional Administration (Vasyl Ryleev, chairman); Director of the Kherson Philharmonic Yuriy Ivanenko; the Kherson Philharmonic Orchestra Hilea (Music Director and Conductor Yuriy Kerpatenko).

## Ukrainian Athletic...

(Continued from page 15)

medals were presented to: Myron Stebelsky, Alexander Napora, Dr. Orest Popovych, Omelan Twardowsky, Nicholas Hordynsky, Wasyl Ciurpita, Dr. Oleh Kolodiy, Roman Pyndus, Bill Vincent, Walter Hywel and Eugene Chyzowych.

Also awarded were the following athletes and members of the governing board: Yaroslav Twardowsky, Mr. Panas, Mr. Serheev, Stephan Kolodiy and Mark Hordynsky.

In the category of the benefactors of Sitch, jubilee awards were presented to the Self-Reliance Ukrainian-American Credit Union in Newark-Parsippany; the Newark Chapter of the Self-Reliance Society; and Orest Fedash, executive general manger of the Ramada Hotel in East Hanover, N.J.

Also honored were the following medalists from the Olympiads mentioned above: Andrew Bakun, Marian Hamulak, Bohdan Kucyna, Yaroslav Twardowsky, Mr. Panas and Mr. Serheev in soccer; Zenia Matkiwsky-Olesnycky in tennis; Dr. Popovych in chess; and Daria Twardowsky-Vincent in volleyball.

Also honored were the ladies – the

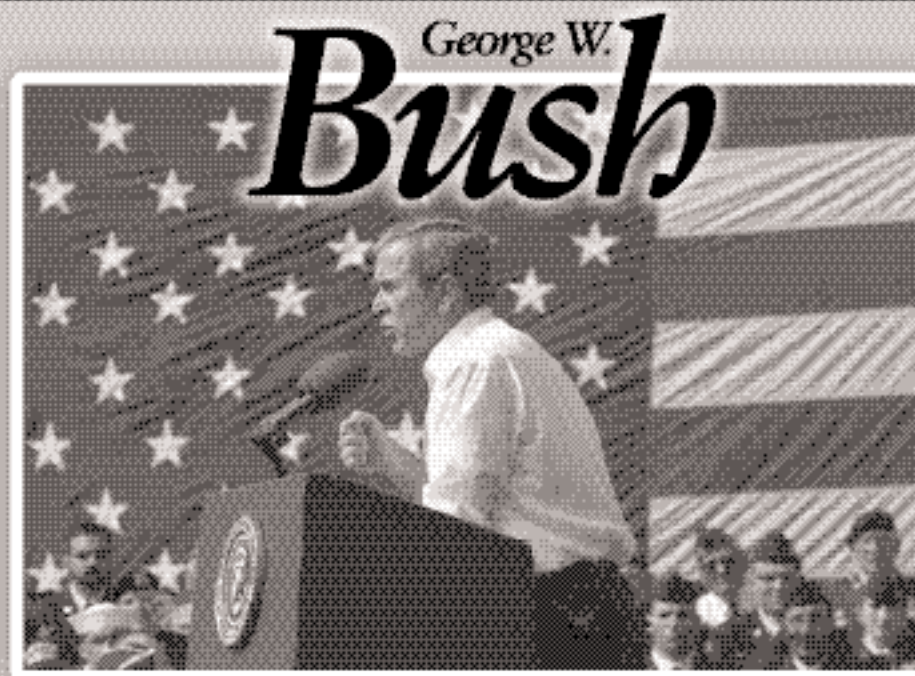
wives of the Sitch activists who over the years have supported their husbands in their Sitch work or those who performed various duties for the society themselves; Lesia Stebelsky, Anna Twardowsky, Ola Napora, Daria Rudakewych, Slava Hordynsky, Luba Lapychak-Lesko, Taissa Turiansky, Anna Chyzowych, Bozhena Olshaniwsky, Olenka Kolodiy, Stefka Brenych, Yevhenia Markus, Adia Fedash, Ms. Twardowsky-Vincent, Natalka Sygida and Tiffany Twardowsky.

In the course of the banquet, the guests were greeted by Mr. Stebelsky, president of USCAK; Marko Howansky, president of SUM Krylati, Yonkers; Taras Kozak, head of the Sports Section of Tryzub, Philadelphia; and Volodymyr Hnatkiwsky, delegate of the Carpathian Ski Club (KLC).

A greeting from the executive of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association was read by Mr. Napora; Dr. Kolodiy offered greetings on behalf of the Verkhovyna resort. Written felicitations came from the Ukrainian National Association, as well as Sen. John Corzine, New Jersey State Sen. Ronald Rice, Essex County Sheriff Armand Fontura, New Jersey Gov. James E. McGreevey and others.

The celebrations ended with a jubilee ball to the sounds of the Luna orchestra conducted by Oles Kuzyszyn.

# PRESIDENT



*"In the midst of war, my opponent has called America's allies, a 'coalition of the coerced and the bribed.' Our allies deserve the respect of all Americans, not the scorn of a politician. America is grateful, and America will not forget their contributions."*

— GEORGE W. BUSH

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## Highlights from the UNA's...

(Continued from page 6)

"The Shevchenko monument project [the monument was dedicated in 1964], Cardinal [Josyf] Slipyj's return to freedom [1962], and our political successes [in the realm of U.S. support for Ukraine's independence] all bordered on the sensational. But this was not all that was happening.

"In community after community, a boom was on in improving our physical facilities for making life more pleasant and productive. Cathedrals, churches, colleges, schools and community centers were being constructed or planned. In Philadelphia, construction was started on two cathedrals, Catholic and Orthodox. Colleges were constructed or expanded in Stamford, Conn., Winnipeg, Canada, and Fox Chase, Philadelphia. New churches in dozens of cities, ranging in cost from \$50,000 to over a million dollars, were being built or planned. Parochial schools to accommodate all elementary full-time classes were built. Luxurious national homes and modern community centers were completed in cities stretching from one end of the continent to the other.

"In the more populated areas, organizations encompassing all strata of our community life increased their ranks. Professional groups such as doctors, engineers, lawyers, journalists, educators and artists became more directly and actively involved in community affairs. Student associations and youth leagues expanded their activities and constantly kept striving to develop a stronger youth participation in community life. Women's soci-

eties continued their educational and social programs at a stepped-up pace. Every group was on the move. ...

"It was against this backdrop that our association, the largest Ukrainian fraternal society in the world, carried on its organizational work for the past four years. It would seem that with so much going on in our Ukrainian community there would be little difficulty in maintaining a steady and rapid growth in

membership. Actually in some ways we were hampered in our organizational duties because so much time and energy was expended on extracurricular affairs.

"Nevertheless, I personally feel that we will benefit in the long run because we are building our community life on a solid base that will help us carry on our traditions and culture for generations to come. Under such circumstances the Ukrainian National Association will con-

tinue to forge ahead.

*Source: Introductory remarks by UNA Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer at the opening session of the UNA's 26th Convention in Chicago on May 16, 1966, "Minutes of the 26th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association." The border used for this special feature is reproduced from a UNA membership certificate dated 1942.*

## A "Georgian scenario" ...

(Continued from page 2)

law enforcement bodies for "serving the criminal authorities" as well as intimidating and staging provocations against democratic forces and supporters of Mr. Yushchenko's presidential bid. "We will fight for human rights and will not give up," Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko say on behalf of their campaign coalition, Power of the People. "Also, we reserve the right to a civic protest, within the framework of the legislation in force and the Ukrainian Constitution."

The reaction of the authorities to the statement was immediate. "The Internal Affairs Ministry pledges to forestall a change of political power in the country through civil disobedience actions after the presidential election on October 31," ITAR-TASS quot-

ed Vice-Minister of Internal Affairs Mikhail Korniyenko as saying. "There will be no Georgian scenario in Ukraine."

There were also more threatening, and simultaneously enigmatic, warnings from the Internal Affairs Ministry. "There won't be any revolutions here," the October 19 issue of the Financial Times quoted Kyiv police chief Oleksander Milenin as saying. "We are ready for the unexpected. We even have our ninjas – a recently formed subdivision – trained in special measures. We have also new means, which for now I won't speak about. I'll only say that their use has been approved by the Health Ministry. I assure you, the health of citizens won't suffer."

Meanwhile, the police have embarked on a campaign of arrests targeting Ukrainian student activists who support Mr. Yushchenko's presidential ambitions.

On October 16, some 20,000 students from all over Ukraine turned up for a pro-Yushchenko rally in Kyiv, during which they passed a mock "no-confidence vote" in Prime Minister Yanukovich's Cabinet. On October 18, police arrested 15 students in Chernihiv; all of those arrested had participated in the Kyiv rally the previous day. On October 19 a pro-Yushchenko student activist was arrested in Poltava.

The atmosphere of the presidential campaign in Ukraine has become increasingly tense in the wake of the October 19 disappearance of the press secretary for the Yushchenko regional campaign headquarters in Mykolayiv. The press secretary claimed via mobile phone to have been kidnapped – apparently by plainclothes police – after which the contact with him was lost.

## Submission from Bush...

(Continued from page 5)

our own soil, and with this experience came a better realization of the struggles borne every day by the people across the ocean – in the Middle East and Eastern Europe. We developed an even stronger determination to defeat terrorism and to eliminate the threat it poses to free people everywhere. As the world's most powerful nation, President Bush believes that the United States has a special responsibility to help make the world more secure. The Bush administration recognizes Ukraine's continued support as we seek to defeat a ubiquitous enemy, and condemns the assertion of John Kerry that America's only allies in the war on terror in Iraq are a "coalition of the coerced and the bribed." President Bush truly believes that "our allies deserve the respect of all Americans, not the scorn of a politician. America is grateful, and America will not forget their contributions."

The partnership between Ukraine and the United States was first formed by the Cold War and is strengthened by our commitment to winning the war on terror. Built on a foundation of strong leadership by President Reagan to protect Eastern Europe, President Bush has reinforced the policies of freedom and democracy in Eastern and Central Europe in the new century.

In establishing a partnership for peace, Americans reached out across to Central and Eastern Europe and Eurasia, and we are pleased to see that many Ukrainians are meeting our efforts. President Bush continues to appreciate the contributions of Ukraine and the Ukrainian American community here in the United States and will continue to work to build peace and prosperity that will benefit all.

\* \* \*

Due to the notification process of the specific questions outlined in the questionnaire, we ask that we respectfully reserve the right to provide detailed answers to the requested questions next week for The Ukrainian Weekly released on the 31st [of October].

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Chernomyrdin told a roundtable meeting "Russia and Ukraine: Prospects of Cooperation in the Banking Sector," the BBC reported. On the initiative of the Russian Club in the Ukrainian capital, bankers of the two countries discussed measures to step up business cooperation in creating a free trade zone and solving the problems of deposit insurance, money transfers and legal unification. Gennady Melikyan, deputy chairman of the Central Bank of Russia, who attended the forum, said Mr. Chernomyrdin's initiative was ill-timed. "At this time, Russia and Ukraine are not ready for that," he stressed. In his opinion, a smaller problem should be settled first: the problem of money transfers between Russia and Ukraine. According to Mr. Melikyan, tens of thousands of Ukrainians working in Russia have to send U.S. dollars to their families. (BBC)

### Kuchma denies rumors of emergency

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on October 15 described as "mere fantasy" the rumors claiming that the military parade in Kyiv on October 28 will be used as an excuse to bring troops to the capital and introduce a state of emergency before the October 31 presidential ballot, Interfax reported. Mr. Kuchma said the parade, which is intended to cel-

brate the 60th anniversary of the liberation of Ukraine from German invaders, will feature no other military hardware except one World War II-era tank. "It is our duty to pay tribute to those who gave Ukraine and the nations of the world an opportunity to live in peace for many years," the president added. Commenting on dirty techniques used in the presidential election campaign, Mr. Kuchma said they "exceed the framework of human decency." (RFE/RL Newline)

### PM blames profiteers, opponents

KYIV – Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich charged on October 14 that profiteers and "some political forces" wishing to destabilize the situation on the food markets are responsible for recent food-price hikes in Ukraine, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Yanukovich reportedly ordered that the law enforcement bodies intervene and keep food prices in check. Meanwhile, National Deputy Petro Poroshenko of the Our Ukraine bloc said the primary reason for the price hikes is Mr. Yanukovich's recent decision to raise pensions for more than 11 million people in Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newline)

### EU states urge stronger ties with Ukraine

BRUSSELS – Eleven European Union countries have called for stronger relations with Ukraine and underscored the need for a more uniform EU policy toward Russia,

a diplomatic source said. The nations from the north and east of the 25-nation bloc who met on Sunday, October 10, agreed on "the need to develop contacts with Ukraine" and that pro-European political forces in the country should be strengthened, the source said. Participants included the three Baltic states – Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania – northern EU members Denmark, Finland and Sweden, and the four Visegrad Group countries, the Czech Republic, Hungary, Poland and Slovakia, plus Austria. The talks which took the form of an informal dinner held before an EU foreign ministers' meeting also agreed it necessary to give a "European perspective to Ukraine" so that it moves closer to the EU. (Action Ukraine Report)

### Battle resumes for constitutional reform

KYIV – National Deputies Oleksander Moroz and Stepan Havrysh have submitted a draft bill to the Verkhovna Rada proposing that constitutional-reform Bill No. 4180 be adopted in its entirety, RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service reported on October 13. The bill, which was approved in the first reading by the Verkhovna Rada in June, proposes transferring a significant part of presidential powers to the Parliament and the prime minister. The Constitutional Court ruled on October 14 that the bill does not contradict the Constitution of Ukraine. To become law, the constitutional-reform bill must be approved by a two-thirds majority (at least 300 votes) in the second reading. (RFE/RL Newline)

## Art from collection...

(Continued from page 17)

collectors include V. Sechyshyn, Oslo (270 works); Ye. Sumyk, Neptune City, N.J., (75 works); and Ye. Dovhan, Montreal (28 works).

Among Hryshchenko's theoretical writings are: "O Sviziakh Russkoi Zhivopisi s Vizantiei i Zapadom" (Russian Painting and Its Ties with Byzantium and the West, 1913); and "Russkaia Ikona kak Iskusstvo Zhivopisi" (The Russian Icon as Painting, 1917).

His memoirs include the following: "Deux Ans à Constantinople (Two Years in Constantinople, 1930, includes 40 reproductions of his watercolors; Ukrainian edition, 1961, without reproductions); "L'Ukraine de Mes Jours Bleus" (The Ukraine of My Blue Days, 1957; Ukrainian edition, 1958); "Moyi Zustrichi i Rozmovy z Frantsuzkymy Mystsiamy" (My Encounters and Conversations with French Artists, 1962; English edition, 1968); and "Roky Buri i

Natysku" (Years of Storm and Stress, 1967).

Monographs of Hryshchenko's art works include: P. Kovzhun, "Hryshchenko-Gritchenko" (Lviv, 1934); Jean René, "Alexis Gritchenko: Sa vie, Son Oeuvre" (Alexis Gritchenko, His Life, His Work, Paris, 1948); and Raymond Charmet et al., "Alexis Gritchenko" (Paris, 1964).

Hryshchenko enjoyed a long and distinguished career spanning more than 60 years. The artist's travels deeply influenced and to a great degree affected the style of his work. Initially an enthusiast of cubist painting, with its characteristically geometric forms and initially limited color palette, he changed his style to a vibrant expressionism, in which reality or nature is transformed to communicate an inner vision.

His watercolor paintings convey the immediate expression of a visual experience, rendered in muted, at times bright, diaphanously transparent colors.

Hryshchenko died in Vence, France, on January 28, 1977.

## Ukraine and the culture...

(Continued from page 11)

democratic of people have contributed to the democratic deficit in their countries.

Governments must also provide these services with money. This is not an alternative to spending money on social welfare. It is part of social welfare. If militarization (police) are paid wages inconsistent with life, it is inevitable that they will cheat rather than die. Here as elsewhere, the goal is not to "eliminate corruption" – a goal which is as unrealistic in Britain as it is in Ukraine. The goal is to create a state of affairs in which corruption is a matter of choice, rather than a matter of survival. If the state cannot afford to fund force structures, somebody else will, and democracy, welfare and national security will suffer.

In conclusion, the point is not to criticize the world, but to change it. We will not change it unless we recognize that institutions matter. Perhaps they matter more than presidents. Institutional cul-

tures, subcultures, resources and resourcefulness have broken the power of presidents, no matter how fairly elected or popular.

So, if there is a proper election in Ukraine and the opposition succeeds in winning it, only the first challenge will have been surmounted. The more serious challenge will be to hold power and not simply hold office. The worst scenario for Ukraine is not that [Viktor] Yushchenko loses the election. Far worse is that he wins and then fails. This, too, may be decided by cultural factors.

The current authorities are not the product of a democratic culture, but a Leninist culture. The opposition might consider this an amoral culture, but it would be perilous to despise it. Leninists understand organization, time-keeping, planning, pragmatism and power. Let us hope that enough members of the opposition understand the same.

*The views expressed above are the author's and not necessarily those of the U.K. Ministry of Defense.*

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# Stronger at Home, Respected in the World

## Ukrainian-Americans Can Count on Respect and Leadership from the Democratic Party

While Democrats supported Ukrainian independence and assisted the young democracy, Republicans have been unreliable.

From the infamous "Chicken Kyiv" speech of the first President Bush to the Russo-centric policies of the current Bush administration, shortsighted Republican policies have turned their back on Ukraine.

Republicans in Congress continue to block legislation recognizing the Ukrainian famine-genocide of 1932-33, showing contempt for truth, history and the terrible human tragedy of the "Holodomor."

Democrats reject such one-sided policies and vow to reverse course to build a strong and vibrant partnership with Ukraine, one that will actively support Ukrainian democracy as well as Ukraine's full participation in the transatlantic community.

Republicans have made the wrong choices and moved us in the wrong direction.

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America can do better. Ukrainian-Americans can help.

**Don't Sit on the Sidelines.  
Vote Democratic on November 2nd.**

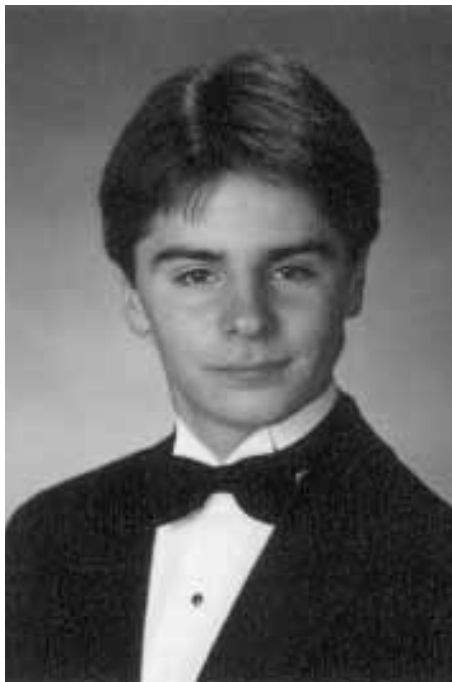


Daniel Slobodian,  
Senior Citizen

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## Ukrainian American Veterans present scholarships for 2004



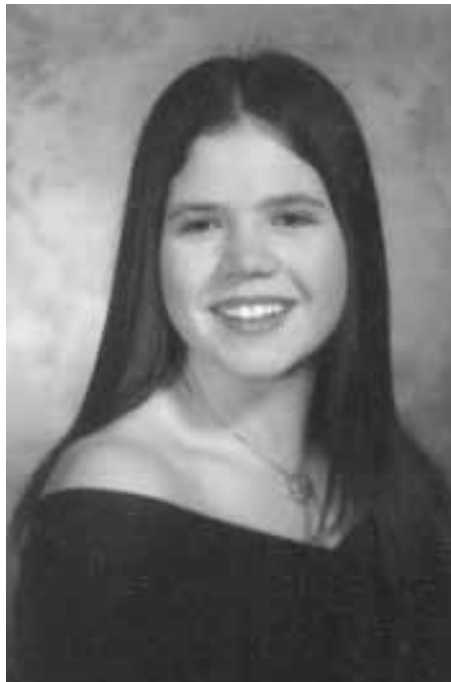
Markian Andrew Hadzewycz

by Dr. Nicholas Skirka

YONKERS, N.Y. – The Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) held their 57th annual convention on Saturday, September 18, in Dedham, Mass. Anna Krawczuk was elected the national commander, becoming the first woman ever to hold this position since the inception of the UAV in 1948.

The installation of newly elected National Executive and Ladies Auxiliary Boards was guided by Past Commander Eugene Sagasz.

Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, was the keynote speaker and spoke about the significance of uniting



Juliana Sophia Wynohradnyk

all Ukrainian organizations under one umbrella.

Each year at the convention the Ukrainian American Veterans organization announces and awards scholarships to college students who are descendants of Ukrainian American Veterans. One of the requirements is to write an essay (400 to 500 words) about a current military topic. The topic this year was "What role or strategy should the United States take in its continued efforts in the war on terrorism?" Four students were selected as recipients of the 2003-2004 scholarship awards.

Markian Andrew Hadzewycz, a history major from Morristown, N.J., who attends Drew University, received \$400



Marta Natalie Kunynskyj

for writing the best essay. The best essay award is made possible by the National Ladies Auxiliary. The other three recipients were awarded \$300. Juliana Sophia Wynohradnyk of Stony Point, N.Y. attends Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., where she is majoring in communications. Marta Natalie Kunynskyj of Detroit attends Wayne State and is majoring in physical therapy. Victor William Cannuscio of West Palm Beach, Fla., attends Palm Beach Community College and is studying to become a professional pilot.

The UAV sent congratulations to all the recipients and wished them continued success in their college careers.

Students interested in applying for the



Victor William Cannuscio

UAV Scholarship Awards should fill out an application, write an essay on this year's military topic, and send a photograph. Applications are available on the UAV website: [www.uavets.org](http://www.uavets.org).

To be eligible for a UAV scholarship, applicants must be descendants of Ukrainian American Veterans and be full-time matriculated college students in a degree program. Moreover, students from accredited trade schools or institutions that have degree programs are eligible. Students can apply while in their senior year in high school, as college attendance can be verified before the award is given in the fall. Applications are accepted from November through August for each year. Additionally,

(Continued on page 31)

# VOINOVICH

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## Two Luhansk....

(Continued from page 13)

Messrs. Kirilov and Kosenko cited several reasons for their acts of September 18. They said they wanted to express their distrust of the current Ukrainian political establishment; to prove that officials of their university were subordinate to the local political authorities; and to determine whether the militia would adhere to the laws on such public displays, which are not illegal.

Their prison detention was followed by expulsion from the university. Mr. Kirilov claimed that the reason was that they had supported Mr. Yushchenko.

"The dean told me, 'You will be expelled if you do not take down the portrait of Yushchenko in your dormitory room,'" explained Mr. Kirilov. "That threat was followed by a series of others by professors and vice-rectors."

Vice-Rector for Academic Performance Vadym Matveev responded to the assertions made by the students by noting that: "Our educational establishment supports the candidacy of Mr. Yanukovich. That is the reason we try to persuade our students of the advantages he brings. However, we do not threaten them and do not use administrative methods."

Valerii Rudenko, the dean of the Veterinary Faculty where Mr. Kirilov studied, said his student was expelled because of his habit of missing class.

"I am not a truant," Mr. Kirilov countered at the press conference. "I am an A student and I was preparing to graduate with honors."

Mr. Kirilov was a member of the Regional Student Council and winner of the regional Student Leader contest the previous year. That is why, he said at the press conference, he was quite sure he would not be expelled from the university.

When Messrs. Kosenko and Kirilov discovered that they had been expelled and evicted from the dormitory, they asked Mr. Putintsev to talk to LNAU Rector Valentyna Tkachenko and to figure out the true reasons for their expulsion.

Anatolii Putintsev, head of the Yushchenko campaign in the Luhansk

region, who has become a consultant for the two students in their fight to get reinstated at the university, said that the school authorities are now scared.

"As soon as Ms. Tkachenko's secretary told her about my issue, the rector ran out through another entrance," he explained at the press conference. "She became frightened by the possible sequences."

The next day the ex-students and Mr. Putintsev came to the university together and took a person with a video camera with them. Vice-Rector Matveev met them in the entranceway with security guards and refused to let them in.

"You will not come in, because you have come to campaign for Mr. Yushchenko," he said – words that were caught on tape.

Then, Mr. Mateev told the security men to take the threesome out by force, an act that also was caught on tape and shown during the press conference. Mr. Kosenko said that after the incident his university group was disbanded and his friends were now being threatened.

LNAU Rector Tkachenko refused to comment on any of the issues related to the circumstances in which the two students now find themselves.

Mr. Kirilov said he assumed the rector had to act in such a way because there was pressure being brought to bear on her by local authorities. When Mr. Yushchenko traveled to Luhansk on October 17 during his pre-election campaign, he appealed to the oblast chairman to help the students, which he explained at a campaign rally on Teatralna Square in the city. The local prosecutor is currently looking into the matter.

Nevertheless the situation at the university remains strained. Most of the professors who told *The Weekly* that they do not support the position of the LNAU officials regarding the students, nonetheless said they did not want their names cited in the press.

One professor who wished to remain unidentified said that at the last meeting with the academic body on October 18, the rector said: "Yanukovich has to become the president. If Yushchenko gets power, civil war will break out. The Yushchenko campaign team is pressuring me, but I will get what I want."

police had earlier confiscated the documents, including test analyses for possible chemical poisoning. Afterwards, Mr. Yushchenko said that he would make public all his medical documents from the Austrian hospital so that the Ukrainian law enforcement agency could not misinform the public about the true results.

Meanwhile Mykola Melnychenko, the notorious former member of President Leonid Kuchma's security detail until he fled to the West after revealing that he had digital recordings implicating the Ukrainian president in the murder of a Ukrainian journalist, said on October 19 that he would reveal more recordings, these containing conversations between Mr. Kuchma and Mr. Yanukovich.

Mr. Melnychenko said the new fragments of recordings were from July 2000, when Mr. Yanukovich was the chairman of the Donetsk Oblast. They involved conversations in which the current presidential candidate asks for permission to form "a political force in the Ukrainian Parliament from Donetsk" because the Communist national deputies "to whom he paid money did not always follow his orders."

Mr. Melnychenko also noted that in the recordings Mr. Yanukovich tells the Ukrainian president that "all newspapers are under control" in Donetsk and disobedient journalists were "being backed against the wall."

The former security service employee said he would turn the recordings over to the Verkhovna Rada through National Deputy Hryhorii Omelchenko.

## Students say...

(Continued from page 13)

because they had linked him to both the Georgian and Serbian student groups.

The four Pora members, however, said their aim was not violent uprising but to organize student activists in an anti-Yanukovich campaign.

"Beyond our heartfelt belief that we are right, we carry no other weapons," explained one of the members of Pora. The female student, who did not wish to identify herself, noted that the majority of Pora members are female.

She also said that some 150 of its members had been detained in the last four months since the organization began to actively develop its campaign and disseminate anti-Yanukovich propaganda. Some had been charged, albeit falsely, said the unidentified Pora member, with carrying counterfeit money or having bomb-making equipment in their possession. Pora was organized in Lviv in March of this year.

Another Pora member at the press conference said that law enforcement officials had confiscated another explosive device in the organization's Chernihiv office on October 19, which she maintained had also been a plant.

The incident in Kyiv began the evening of October 15 when a state militia squad car arrived at the Pora offices in the Podil district of Kyiv, not far from the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, where some 10,000 students would gather in support of Mr. Yushchenko's presidential candidacy the next day.

According to Yevhen Zolotariov, a Pora activist who was present, at first the law enforcement officers said they were responding to a report of a fight in the basement of the offices, reported *Moloda Ukraine*. When the students would not open the office doors, the officers then changed their story and said they had to check a dangerous situation with an electrical short circuit in the building. The student activists still refused to allow the militia officers to enter, but then higher ranking officials arrived and somehow a spare key appeared and entry was gained.

Now citing a bomb threat, the state militia called in a team of experts with search dogs and went through the premises but found nothing. Mr. Zolotariov explained that next a state militia general now present on site ordered Berkut special forces to clear the office of all those present, including the group of national deputies from *Our Ukraine* and other lawmakers who were part of the entourage.

When a group of unidentified plainclothed individuals conducted a second

closed-door bomb search, the explosive device was discovered, allegedly in a trash can in the main room, which Mr. Zolotariov maintained had already been searched twice before.

The national deputies from *Our Ukraine* present at the scene noted that it was strange that the five-story building was evacuated in a haphazard and laconic way, with the building residents not forced to leave their premises but told that they could leave if they wished to do so. They also observed that dozens of law enforcement officials freely entered and exited a building that could surely have contained other bombs if one had already been discovered. National Deputy Stetsko added that he was denied a request to have fingerprint tests done on the explosive device in his presence.

Two Pora activists were arrested at the scene of the incident and charged the following day with conspiracy to perform terrorist acts and membership in an illegal military formation, reported *Interfax Ukraine*.

Subsequently, the state militia also arrested Yaroslav Hodunok, owner of Western Service, the company that leased the office to Pora. Mr. Hodunok, ironically himself a former militia officer, is also a member of the Ukrainian National Party, which is part of the *Our Ukraine* coalition. Mr. Hodunok was jailed in the detention facility of the Security Service of Ukraine while the intelligence agency's anti-terrorist division investigated his involvement with Pora.

Two days after the incident, and the day after the large pro-Yushchenko student rally held before the university, state militia officers entered the compound and buildings of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy unannounced and proceeded to search the premises, ostensibly in pursuit of illegal aliens working on a remodeling project taking place within the university's buildings.

University officials said that the law enforcement officials could not produce documents authorizing their search. They dropped the effort only after lawmakers from Ukraine's Parliament arrived, but not before they had confiscated several passports, which were later returned without incident.

The university issued a statement the same day noting that: In evaluating the circumstances and motivation of this surprise intervention of the militia at the University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy it is clear that the demands of the militia to inspect the entire premises of the university were unfounded. There were no direct written orders given for the entry, and there were no legal directives presented, which leads the administration of the university to conclude that this act was one of provocation and harassment, aimed to discredit the university."

## Two main contenders...

(Continued from page 14)

that he would simplify procedures for border crossings into Russia and Belarus, and underscoring that had no intention of ignoring the needs of the Russian-speaking portion of the Ukrainian citizenry.

But while Mr. Yanukovich was on the ground distributing government gifts, Mr. Yushchenko was too often quite literally stuck in the air in Ukraine trying to find a place to land his campaign plane.

On October 19 the plane that was carrying him back to Kyiv from a campaign appearance in Luhansk was denied approval to land at Boryspil Airport due to inclement weather, although it was a partly sunny day.

The campaign team then decided to fly directly to their campaign stop of the next day, the city of Zaporizhia, but was turned away at that airport as well. Apparently the weather there had turned bad, too. They finally landed in Lviv, on the other side of the country from where they had started.

On October 20 Mr. Yushchenko's plane was again not allowed to land near a campaign destination, this time at the airport outside Mariupol. The plane was finally cleared for arrival in Donetsk, which resulted in a two-hour commute by car back to Mariupol to meet with voters in that city.

Mr. Yushchenko received bad news of another sort on October 19 when an Austrian Appeals Court rejected his claim that his medical records from his treatment at Rudolfinerhaus Clinic in Vienna should not be made available to Ukraine's Procurator General's Office. Viennese

## Statement by...

(Continued from page 13)

vention of the militia at the University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. ... it is clear that the demands of the militia to inspect the entire premises of the university were unfounded, there were no direct written orders given for the entry and there were no legal directives presented, which leads the administration of the university to conclude that this act was one of provocation and harassment, aimed to discredit the university."

The university's statement states that the incident took place the day after a student rally in support of Viktor Yushchenko, the opposition candidate for president, in the city's central square. The rally had been attended by a large number of Kyiv Mohyla Academy students, many of whom spoke openly about the Ukrainian government's attempt to thwart their rally.

The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America fully supports the position of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy's administra-

tion in questioning the militia's legal authority to enter the university without a proper warrant and in rejecting the militia's entry. The foundation fully agrees with the manner in which the administration of Kyiv Mohyla Academy opposed unlawful police actions. The foundation joins with other members of the world's academic community to condemn and protest such illegal acts on the part of the militia to disrupt and prevent free and open political discourse, which is a central requirement for an independent university and a democratic Ukraine.

The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America is a non-profit organization that supports the development of Kyiv Mohyla Academy as a world-level university.

**Ambassador William Green Miller**  
Co-Chairman, KM Foundation

**Borys I. Tarasyuk**  
Co-Chairman, KM Foundation

**Ihor Wyslotsky**  
President, KM Foundation



## Fraud is feared...

(Continued from page 1)

after the Tatars. Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's election team collected more than 560,000 signatures from Ukrainians living in Russia and planned to submit these, together with signatures collected in Ukraine, to the Central Election Commission by the mid-September deadline. The initiative group that collected the signatures claimed, "Yanukovich has the highest support within the Ukrainian diaspora in Russia, among Ukrainian citizens who live on Russian territory" (Ukrainska Pravda, September 13).

The opposition began to question the signatures from Russia, and it is not clear if Mr. Yanukovich ever submitted them. In addition, doubts surfaced about the 562,000 Ukrainians who allegedly signed, as only 200,000 Ukrainians living in Russia are registered to vote (Vysoky Zamok, September 16). According to the Central Election Commission there are only 215,000 voters registered to vote abroad, although it is not clear if this includes the 200,000 Ukrainian registered voters in Russia.

Ukrainian election regulations do not permit the collection of signatures outside Ukraine, as such signatures can only be collected at the request of proxies. But, there are no proxies registered abroad. If the Ukrainian Embassy or Consulates in Russia collected the signatures, it was illegal. If it was undertaken by Russian state agencies, as many in the Ukrainian opposition suspect, "This raises even more questions" (Vysoky Zamok, September 16).

A new Russian-language newspaper, Chas Ukrainy, began publication in September, and is directed toward the large numbers of Ukrainians living in Russia. Not surprisingly, it has not attempted to be objective and came out in support of Mr. Yanukovich. Mr. Yushchenko, on the other hand, was described as "anti-Russian," "pro-Western," "a threat to existing agree-

ments" and "likely to lead to a split in Ukraine" (Ukrainska Pravda, September 2). Chas Ukrainy is not registered as a newspaper in Russia, so there is no information about its financing.

On October 8, a congress of Ukrainians in Russia was held in Moscow with the obvious patronage of the Russian authorities. Participants included Dmitry Medvedev, head of the Russian presidential administration, Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov and Russia's Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin. The congress, again not surprisingly, came out in support of Mr. Yanukovich. Yosyp Kobzon, one of the congress organizers, called upon Ukrainians to not vote for Mr. Yushchenko, as this would lead to "at a minimum destabilization and at a maximum to civil war" (temnik.com.ua, October 11).

The congress itself appears a rather murky event. The ruling council of the Federation of National-Cultural Autonomy Ukrainians in Russia as well as the Union of Ukrainians in Russia, which consists of 80 organizations from the Ukrainian diaspora in Russia, denounced the congress and condemned the attempt to mobilize all Ukrainians living in Russia on behalf of Mr. Yanukovich. The statement by both umbrella groups was later supported by the Republican National-Cultural Center of Ukrainians in the Bashkir autonomous republic, the Union of Ukrainians in Moscow and the Moscow-based Ukrainian Cultural Center Slavutych.

The actual number of Ukrainians living abroad, or even in Russia, is impossible to determine. Official and unofficial figures range from as low as 2 million to as high as 8 million. Most Ukrainians are abroad "temporarily," although this absence could last many years.

Often family members remain behind and vote for them using their domestic passports, also left behind. Former President and Social Democratic Party-United faction leader Leonid Kravchuk, himself from

western Ukraine, claimed he witnessed voters showing five or six passports in the 2002 elections. "They voted for themselves and those who had left those parts in search of jobs. You can guess whom they voted for [Yushchenko's Our Ukraine]. Such tricks worked in 2002, but they won't work in 2004," Mr. Kravchuk predicted (Zerkalo

Nedeli, September 11-17).

To block proxy votes, the authorities are planning to send 4,000 eastern Ukrainian "observers" to western Ukraine to halt a repeat of what they claim was fraudulent voting in the 2002 elections. Their presence could spark violence and confrontation on election day (Lvivska Hazeta, October 7).

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for  
President**



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- John Kerry has a knowledgeable foreign policy team who share his commitment to Ukraine's independence and prosperity.
- John Kerry was among the first to co-sponsor the Senate Resolution on the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine
- John Kerry, as president, will continue the practice of John Kerry the candidate and consult the Ukrainian-American community on US.-Ukraine issues and policy.
- John Kerry will rescind the blank check George Bush issued to Russia's President Vladimir Putin.
- John Kerry will work to resolve issues important to Ukraine such as NATO and European Union membership, World Trade Organization, Jackson-Vanik.

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**National** Congressman Maurice Hinchey (New York)  
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**PLEASE JOIN US ON NOVEMBER 2<sup>ND</sup> AND VOTE FOR JOHN KERRY FOR PRESIDENT**

Paid for by Ukrainian-Americans for Kerry-Edwards/2004



# Plast golf outing raises funds to support Ukrainian scouting organization's activities

by Oleh Skubiak

CHICAGO – The Pobratymy Foundation hosted the sixth annual Plast Open at the Renwood Golf Club in Round Lake, Ill., on Saturday, September 11. The event attracted 72 men and women golfers for the tournament and over 100 participants at the post-tourney festivities.

As in previous years, the proceeds from this very successful and enjoyable event will be dedicated to support the ongoing activities of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Proceeds from last

Kuritza;

- longest drive (female) – Olya Popowych; and

- closest to the pin – Marion Abramiuk.

Congratulations also were given also go to Vince Piagentini, a member of the men's winning team, who scored a hole-in-one on the eighth hole of the course.

The Pobratymy Foundation, a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt corporation, was established in 1992 by members of the Plast Pobratymy fraternity for the purpose of



The winning women's team: Olya Popowych, Christine Hryhorczuk, Roxolana Tymiak-Lonchyna and Katrusia Saldan.

year's event were donated to the Vovcha Trocha and Pysanyi Kamin campgrounds and the Plast chapter in Sambir, Ukraine.

Using a scramble format, participants enjoyed 18 holes of golf on a beautiful fall day and afterward joined family and friends at Self-Reliance Resort down the street for awards, camaraderie, music,

supporting the developmental activities of Plast. The Pobratymy Foundation is limited to making contributions to Plast and other 501 (c) (3) organizations that support the stated purposes of the fraternity: to renew and strengthen Plast; to encourage excellence and self-improvement; to encourage identification and



The winning men's team: Vince Piagentini, Ron Gillespie, Volodymyr Kosohor, and Nick Semitka.

steaks and refreshments.

The following prizes were awarded:

- best men's team score – Ron Gillespie, Volodymyr Kosohor, Vince Piagentini, Nick Semitka;

- best women's team score – Dr. Christine Hryhorczuk, Olya Popowych, Katrusia Saldan, Dr. Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna;

- longest drive (male) – Dr. George

cooperation among Ukrainian youth; and to inform others about Ukraine.

Plast Chicago and the Pobratymy Foundation expressed thanks to all volunteers and the individual and corporate sponsors for their generous contributions to the event.

The seventh annual Plast Open is scheduled for September 10, 2005, at the Renwood Golf Club.

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## Responses from Kerry...

(Continued from page 5)

in Europe (OSCE), the European Union (EU) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). We will put trafficking on our bilateral agenda with Ukraine and look for opportunities to assist the Ukrainian government to identify and go after those individuals and criminal groups involved in this despicable trade. Finally, a Kerry administration will work with the Ukrainian government to develop programs in Ukraine that raise public awareness and understanding of the dangers posed by traffickers, as well as those that help the victims of human trafficking return to the native countries and receive the counseling and assistance they need to move ahead with their lives.

**On March 13, 2003, Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), who was a co-chairman of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, introduced legislation in the House of Representatives to permanently lift U.S. government trade restrictions against Ukraine based on provisions in the old Jackson-Vanik Amendment that restricted trade with countries that did not allow free emigration. The law, a vestige of the Cold War, has yet to be retracted in the case of Ukraine, even though it is commonly agreed that no such restrictions exist in the country today. Where would your administration stand on this issue? And, should Jackson-Vanik restrictions still apply to Ukraine? Where do you stand on granting Ukraine Permanent Normal Trade Relations status?**

I will conduct a comprehensive review of all of our trade agreements and policies in my first 120 days in office. I will very seriously review our current trade stance towards Ukraine to determine whether or not it is still appropriate.

Ukraine has been stymied, for various

**reasons, in its efforts toward integration with the West. Would your administration be inclined to help Ukraine join the World Trade Organization, the European Union and NATO? Would your administration be willing to take on the role of an advocate for Ukraine's membership, as Poland has done?**

Ukraine's liberation 13 years ago was a victory for democratic forces after three quarters of a century of communist rule. Today, Ukraine is a strategically important country in the heart of Europe and is an important ally for the United States.

Unfortunately, for far too long now, the Bush administration, with its short-sighted and Putin-centric policies, has effectively turned its back on Ukraine. I reject such one-sided policies and vow to reverse course to build a strong and vibrant partnership with Ukraine, one that will actively support Ukrainian democracy, as well as Ukraine's full participation in the trans-Atlantic community.

For over a decade, I have been an advocate of NATO expansion. I supported the first two rounds of NATO expansion and I am committed to maintaining the strength of the NATO alliance. In a Kerry administration, America will give careful consideration to each and every proposed new member.

I applaud the expansion of the European Union in recent years which has served to unite former foes under a common calling. As president, I would fully respect the processes that the European Union employs to evaluate potential new members.

**In FY 2004, Ukraine received \$143.47 million in foreign aid. Under your administration, how much foreign aid could Ukraine expect to receive from the U.S.? What types of programs would your administration support for Ukraine and its people?**

I believe deeply in the critical role that U.S. foreign assistance plays around the

world. As president, I will carefully review all of America's foreign aid commitments in light of the needs of the recipient country as well as America's own security, economic, political and humanitarian priorities. The readers of The Ukrainian Weekly and all friends of Ukraine can be assured that U.S. assistance to Ukraine will receive thorough consideration under a Kerry administration.

There are a number of ways in which U.S. assistance can benefit Ukraine. Today, for example, Ukraine has an increasingly acute AIDS crisis with an estimated 250,000 of its citizens now HIV-positive. As the author of the most comprehensive HIV/AIDS bill ever to pass the Senate and a proven fighter to expand funding for American bilateral and global AIDS programs, I understand that the HIV/AIDS epidemic has implications for the life and death of millions of men, women and children across the globe, as well as for global security. I have proposed a comprehensive plan to combat the global spread of HIV/AIDS, which includes doubling U.S. funding to fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria to \$30 billion by 2008.

**Millions of people in Ukraine continue to suffer the ill effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. Vast areas have been contaminated, hundreds of thousands of people are ailing, including children suffering from birth defects. How would your administration help Ukraine and its people deal with the aftereffects of Chernobyl, whose 20th anniversary will be marked in 2006?**

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Sen. Kerry did not answer this question.*

**In general, what would your administration's policies be toward Ukraine? What would define U.S.-Ukraine relations under an administration headed by you? What do you believe should be the role of the U.S. in helping Ukraine pro-**

**ceed on the path toward full democracy?**

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Sen. Kerry did not answer this question.*

\*\*\*

*EDITOR'S NOTE: Sen. Kerry appended the following comments on Ukraine's presidential election, though a question on that topic was not posed by The Weekly.*

As Ukraine prepares for its upcoming presidential elections, Ukrainians have the opportunity to demonstrate the power of democracy in Eastern Europe by selecting their future leader through free and fair elections that reflect the will of the people. I am concerned about developments in Ukraine in the lead-up to election day. There is a consistent pattern of government abuse and intimidation against opposition political candidates and their supporters.

While Ukraine is at a critical turning point, the Bush administration has done too little too late to challenge the Ukrainian government on these democratic reversals and to work with the European community to formulate a common approach to support democracy in Ukraine. In these remaining days before the Ukrainian election, President Bush should challenge the Ukrainian leadership to ensure that all candidates are granted equal access to state media.

In addition, the Bush administration should work with the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) to significantly increase the number of international observers sent to Ukraine for the elections, and to ensure that they remain available in the likely event that a run-off election is necessary at the end of November.

Ukraine's gifted, diverse society is capable of continuing on the path its citizens chose in 1991, if given a fair choice in free elections. A Kerry administration will never compromise the commitment of the United States to an independent and democratic Ukraine.

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# Virsky Ukrainian Dance Company to perform in Morristown in November

by Ika Kozmarska Casanova

MORRISTOWN, N.J. – The renowned Virsky Ukrainian Dance Company, a premiere professional dance troupe known for the virtuosity and technical brilliance of its choreography, will appear here at the Community Theater on Saturday, November 13, at 8 p.m.

Conceived of as a celebration of the spirit of a people through dance, the company of more than 80 dancers, who are professionally trained in ballet, as well as traditional folk dance, presents a diverse program that draws on Ukraine's rich heritage.

Founded in 1937 by Ukrainian ballet master and choreographer Pavlo Virsky, whose choreography still forms the essential core of the repertoire, the company has been directed by Myroslav Vantukh since 1980.

By combining brilliant ballet technique with traditional Ukrainian folk dance, Virsky, who headed the ensemble from 1955 to 1975, created a company that gained worldwide acclaim of audiences and critics alike, for its technically superb and innovative choreography.

Virsky attributed the style of the company to "the close ties we (Ukrainians) have with our national folk art and with the achievements in classical dance which is part of our heritage ... Both elements are combined in our approach so that we

may always maintain the highest level of technique together with a harmonious beauty of presentation" (Kyiv, 1966).

Virsky noted that the operative principle informing his work was not the simple copying of ethnographic patterns of Ukrainian folk dance but rather the enrichment of existing forms "by means of creative interpretation."

Mr. Vantukh, as Mr. Virsky's disciple, sees his main objective as the preservation and development of folk choreographic art. Apart from such signature Virsky pieces as "My z Ukrainy" (We're from Ukraine) and "Zaporozhtsi" (Zaporozhian Kozaks), as well as such playful and humorous works as "Povzunets" and "Under the Cherry Tree," and the lyrical "Verbychenka" (The Weeping Willow), the concert program will include new dances choreographed by Mr. Vantukh that have become part of the troupe's repertoire.

Tickets for the performance range in price from \$30 to \$42. Tickets, including group discounted tickets, for the event may be purchased online at [www.communitytheatrenj.org](http://www.communitytheatrenj.org), at the Community Theater box office, 1100 South St., or by calling (973) 539-8008. Box office hours are Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. Please call the box office to confirm pricing and availability.

## UAVeterans...

(Continued from page 25)

students may reapply for the scholarship.

The Ukrainian American Veterans expressed thanks to all those who made donations to the scholarship fund to make this program possible. A special thank you was extended to the UAV National Ladies Auxiliary for raising and donating \$500 each year.

Organizations and/or individuals wishing to make a tax-exempt donation to the

UAV National Scholarship Fund should send contributions to the National Scholarship Officer, Nicholas Skirka, 109 Windsor Terrace, Yonkers, NY 10701.

Applications for the scholarship should also be sent to this address. For additional information, readers may e-mail [n.skirka@worldnet.att.net](mailto:n.skirka@worldnet.att.net) or call (914) 965-3707.

The National Scholarship Committee consists of John Tkachuk, Peter Olijarczyk, Bohdan Mykitschak and Russel Olijarczyk.

## Ukraine's presidential...

(Continued from page 8)

for free elections – but Mr. Putin has met with Mr. Kuchma 10 times this year alone and recently asserted that relations with Ukraine were 'the first priority' of his foreign policy.

"Yet the Bush administration can still have an influence. It can promote the formation of a contact group of neighboring

countries, such as Sweden, Poland and Slovakia, to support the cause of democracy; it can work with the European Union to press for international election observers, and make it clear that a rigged election will bring a united and firm response. Finally, Mr. Bush can say directly to Ukrainians and Belarusians [Belarusians] that he supports real democracy for their countries – and that in that respect, he differs with Mr. Putin."

## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 32)

and sale of paintings and prints by Orest Poliszczuk. Vividly flowing figures and vibrant colors are the signature style of the artist whose work has been exhibited throughout the U.S. and Canada. An opening reception with the artist will be held on Saturday, November 13, at 7 p.m. Admission: \$10 (includes refreshments). The exhibit/sale will be held at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family, 4250 Harewood Road NE. For more information contact Tania Terleckyj, (703) 271-9672.

**Sunday, November 14**

**CHICAGO:** Bishop Richard Seminack, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Chicago, invites the public to a Rector's Luncheon for the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv. The luncheon, which is to benefit the university, will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., at 1 p.m. Tickets:

\$25 per person; additional donations are encouraged. Tickets may be ordered by contacting the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, (773) 235-8462.

**Saturday, November 20**

**PARMA, Ohio:** The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and the Ukrainian Museum-Archives invite you to enjoy the afternoon with friends watching one of college football's best rivalries on the big screen: the University of Michigan Wolverines vs. the Ohio State University Buckeyes. Join us at noon-5 p.m. at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church, Upper Back Hall, 7700 Hoertz Road. A \$40 donation includes open bar, hor d'oeuvres, etc. Proceeds from the event go to assist the programs of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and the Ukrainian Museum-Archives. For ticket reservations contact Nick Schidowka, (216) 534-4777 or [nschidowka@bigfoot.com](mailto:nschidowka@bigfoot.com). Visit [www.bandura.org](http://www.bandura.org) for more details.

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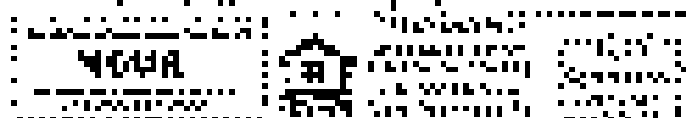
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# Soyuzivka's Datebook

**October 29-31, 2004**  
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**November 5-7, 2004**  
Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Orlykiada Weekend

**November 12, 2004**  
Kripplebush Fire Company Banquet

**November 21, 2004**  
Ellenville Co-op Nursery School Auction

**November 25-28, 2004**  
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**December 4, 2004**  
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**December 11, 2004**  
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# PREVIEW OF EVENTS

## Saturday, October 30

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a presentation of the book "Pro Vchora i Siohodni" (About Yesterday and Today, Lviv-New York, 2003) by Olha Kuzmowycz, journalist and writer since 1981, editor and columnist at the Ukrainian-language newspaper Svoboda. The program will include readings from the book by Ivan Bernadsky, merited artist of Ukraine and director of the Ukrainian Studio of Drama, New York; remarks by the author; and introductory remarks by Vasyl Makhno. 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.

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, New York Metropolitan Chapter, in cooperation with the Self Reliance Association of American Ukrainians, New York Branch, will hold a community-based lecture, featuring Dr. Viktor Gribenko who will speak on the topic "Rehabilitation Medicine - Joint and Spine Problems." The event will take place at 98 Second Ave., at 2 p.m. Admission is free; refreshments will be served. For further information contact Dr. Ihor Magun, (516) 766-5147.

**PHILADELPHIA:** The Ukrainian Federation of America invites the public to a meeting with Taras Kuzio, visiting professor, Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, who will speak on the topic of "Presidential Elections in Ukraine." The presentation will be held at 3 p.m. at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, Alexander B. Chernyk Gallery, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa. Admission: \$10, adults; students, free. For more information call (610) 539-8946.

**NORTHVILLE, Mich.:** Continuing its outreach program, the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus will showcase its program of Ukrainian folk and sacred music at Ward Evangelical Presbyterian Church, 40000 Six Mile Road, at 8 p.m. For tickets, call Ward Presbyterian (248) 374-5928 or visit www.bandura.org for more details.

## Sunday, October 31

**WASHINGTON:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society, Washington, D.C., Branch, and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences group present a lecture by Taras Kuzio, visiting professor, Institute for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, Elliott School of International Affairs, George Washington University, on "Ukraine's 2004 Elections: Dead Souls or a Democratic Polity?" The lecture will take place at Holy Family Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine, 4250 Harewood Road NE, at 1:30 p.m. (metro: Brookland/CUA). The lecture will be in English, with bilingual discussion. Admission is free; contributions are welcome. For further information call (301) 230-2149 (evening) or (202) 5134-1822 (day).

## Monday, November 1

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture by Hiroaki Kuromiya, professor of history, Indiana University, on the topic "The Political Leaders of Ukraine, 1938-1989." The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For additional information contact the institute, (617) 495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

## Thursday, November 4

**MONTCLAIR, N.J.:** An exhibition of sculpture by George Thaddeus Saj titled "Head Games" will open at the Montclair Public Library, 50 South Fullerton Ave., as

part of the Studio Montclair "Meet the Artist Series." The solo exhibit, featuring over 40 works, will be on view through November 29. An artist's reception and a gallery talk will take place at the Library Gallery at 6-8 p.m., with a presentation by the artist at 7 p.m. Library hours: Monday, Wednesday, Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m.; Tuesday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Admission is free. For further information e-mail studio@georgesaj.com

## Saturday, November 6

**NEW YORK:** Bishop Basil Losten, Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, will host a dinner for the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University (UCU) in Lviv. The UCU Rector's Dinner, which is to benefit the university, will be held at 6:30 p.m. at St. George School Auditorium, 215 E. Sixth St. Admission: \$100; additional donations are encouraged. Tax-deductible checks should be made out to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF). Ticket requests should be made by October 30 and sent to St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 30 E. Seventh Street, New York, NY, 10003.

**EAST HANOVER, N.J.:** The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 75, invites the public to their annual fall dance, the theme of which will be "Going Down Memory Lane." The dance will be held at the Ramada Inn, 130 Route 10 (westbound) starting at 9 p.m., with music by Tempo. Advance tickets: \$35; \$40 at the door; admission includes entertainment program, canapes and Viennese Table. For table reservations and more information call Slavka Hordynsky, (973) 376-7956. Part of the proceeds from the evening will go to The Ukrainian Museum in New York.

**SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.:** A Ukrainian Fall Festival will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., at 11 a.m.-7 p.m. The festival will feature music and performances by Alla Kutsevych, Inna Sydorak, the Obriy Folk Dance Ensemble and the Barvinok Dance Group. There will be children's activities, a food court and a raffle, as well as tours of the center's museum. The marketplace will feature amber and beaded jewelry, Ukrainian embroidery, crafts, ceramics, pysanky, glass art, scarves, CDs, DVDs, videos, t-shirts and athletic gear. The marketplace offers a great opportunity to acquire unique gifts and do one's Christmas shopping early. Festival admission: \$5, adults; free for children. For more information contact Raisa Chejlyk, (908) 647-6211 or raisachejlyk@yahoo.com.

## ADVANCE NOTICE

## Sunday, November 7

**CHICAGO:** The Parish Council of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral invites the public to its "grand opening" of the newly constructed elevator in the cathedral's auditorium at 2250 W. Cortez St. Please join us in celebrating another milestone in the history of the parish. As part of the program, at 9:30 a.m., there will be an official welcoming of Metropolitan Constantine and Archbishop Vsevolod, followed by a hierarchical divine liturgy at 10 a.m. At noon, the blessing and grand opening of the elevator will take place and will be followed by a luncheon and program. Proceeds are designated for the elevator project. Donation \$50. For reservations contact Oksana Tschaikowsky, (847) 256-4299.

## Saturday-Sunday, November 13-14

**WASHINGTON:** The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Branch 78, invites the public to a two-day exhibition

(Continued on page 31)