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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Relief officials outraged at U.N. report downplaying Chernobyl disaster's toll

by Andrew Nynka

NEW YORK — Nearly two decades after the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl spewed a lethal cloud of radiation over Ukraine, Belarus and Russia, a United Nations report now says the actual death toll from the accident is far less than had been previously reported.

Outraged by the report, longtime Chernobyl aid workers and relief organizations have since strongly criticized the 600-page document, questioning the credibility and motivation of its authors, and calling its conclusions doubtful at best.

The report, titled "Chernobyl's [sic] Legacy: Health, Environmental and Socio-Economic Impacts," concluded that only several thousand people could potentially die of radiation exposure from the accident, and that fewer than 50 deaths can be directly attributed to the disaster.

"Claims have been made that tens or even hundreds of thousands of persons have died as a result of the accident," the report says. "These claims are exaggerated: the total number of people that could have died or could die in the future due to Chernobyl-originated exposure over the lifetime of emergency workers and residents of most contaminated areas is estimated to be around 4,000."

That information, as well as other parts of the report, has drawn strong criticism from Chernobyl relief organizations. "The notion that the deaths of only 4,000 of these workers and downwinders will be attributable to the accident is dubious at best," said Alexander Kuzma, executive director of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, in the draft of a

letter submitted to The New York Times.

The U.N. report was published by Chernobyl Forum and released on September 5 during a meeting of the forum at the International Atomic Energy Agency's headquarters in Vienna.

The forum, created in 2003 to address the nuclear fallout from the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, comprises eight U.N. agencies — including the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) and the World Health Organization (WHO) — and the governments of Belarus, Russia and Ukraine.

The report said that people who lived in contaminated territories have "died of diverse natural causes that cannot be attributed to radiation. However, widespread expectations of ill health and a tendency to attribute all health problems to exposure to radiation have led local residents to assume that Chernobyl-related fatalities were much higher."

Critics have voiced outrage recently over such statements, as well as strong skepticism of the IAEA's role in the report. They argue that the IAEA, a U.N. agency tasked with promoting and overseeing nuclear power throughout the world, influenced the report.

The report concluded that "the largest public health problem unleashed by the accident," rather than death or various radiation related illnesses, is "the mental health impact."

Dr. Fred Mettler, an expert with the World Health Organization and a member of the team of more than 100 international scientists who conducted research for and wrote the report, said stories from the press

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Diaspora leaders note growth of credit unions in Ukraine

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Credit unions in Ukraine are rapidly growing their membership but still require more support and strengthening from the Ukrainian diaspora.

Currently, there are 711 credit unions with more than 942,000 Ukrainian members, a 20 percent increase during the first half of 2005, according to Walter Kish, field manager of the Ukrainian Credit Union Strengthening Project. Their assets total more than \$277 million.

About 20 percent of these credit unions belong to the National Association of Credit Unions in Ukraine (NACUU).

"We have been working with NACUU for almost a year and we will continue to work to strengthen it to make it a more representative organization so that instead

of 20 percent belonging to it, there would be a majority," Mr. Kish said.

North American credit union leaders met with their Ukrainian counterparts at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy August 22 at an interim conference aimed at re-establishing relations after the Orange Revolution, said Bohdan Kekish, president of the Ukrainian World Cooperative Council (UWCC).

North American credit unions played an active role in the Orange Revolution.

Canadian credit unions raised more than \$1.5 million to support the Revolution, said Olha Zaverucha Swyntuch, president of the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions in Canada (CUCUC).

"To support the Orange Revolution, those people who gave their time to stand

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Yushchenko promises new government focused on economic stability, pragmatism



Zenon Zawada

President Viktor Yushchenko speaks with Western journalists at a September 13 press briefing at the Presidential Secretariat building.

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — As he forms his new Cabinet of Ministers, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has announced that economic stability and government pragmatism

are his new priorities.

In the two press conferences he held since firing his Cabinet on September 8, reform was a word seldom mentioned.

"I told a colleague in Parliament, 'Let's

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Tymoshenko declares separate path in Ukraine's 2006 parliamentary elections

by Zenon Zawada and Yana Sedova
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — After her sudden firing last week, former Prime Minister Yulia

Tymoshenko declared she would blaze a path that is parallel, yet separate from that of President Viktor Yushchenko, toward the March 31 parliamentary election.

Ms. Tymoshenko said she does not want to align with Our Ukraine People's Union because of the corruption that the president's entourage is mired in.

"It does not mean we are at war," she told a national television audience on September 9. "But we have two different teams, two very different sets of people. I will not go to the elections together with the people who have so discredited Ukraine."

In declaring her independence, Ms. Tymoshenko also revealed her determination to reclaim the prime minister's position.

She expressed full confidence in her ability to harness enough votes to give her party or faction the most members in the Verkhovna Rada's next session. A faction may be a coalition of political parties or individuals.

Under the constitutional changes that take effect January 1, the party or faction gaining the most parliamentary seats will nominate the prime minister. Currently, the president does that.

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AP/Efrem Lukatsky

Yulia Tymoshenko during an interview with the Associated Press on September 12.

ANALYSIS

Yushchenko finally acts to clean up his government

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

On September 8 President Viktor Yushchenko fired his government and removed top officials accused of corruption. Oleksander Zinchenko, the former head of the Presidential Secretariat, had leveled the startling corruption charges four days earlier, after resigning on September 2 (see *Eurasia Daily Monitor*, September 8).

The crisis that engulfed Mr. Yushchenko's team after Mr. Zinchenko's accusations was no ordinary political crisis. Indeed, Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz described it as a "crisis of the system" (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, September 8).

Suddenly Ukraine's Orange Revolution received its first negative headlines from the international media. The *Daily Telegraph's* September 7 headline was typical: "Ukraine's Orange Revolution loses its luster."

Worse still, Ukraine's leaders failed to quietly forewarn the United States, the European Union and Russia of President Yushchenko's imminent housecleaning. Not surprisingly, many observers remained concerned about possible

Dr. Taras Kuzio is visiting professor at the Elliot School of International Affairs, George Washington University. The article above, which originally appeared in The Jamestown Foundation's Eurasia Daily Monitor, is reprinted here with permission from the foundation (www.jamestown.org).

Ukrainian president sacks government, offering more questions than answers

by **Jan Maksymiuk**

RFE/RL Newslines

President Viktor Yushchenko on September 9 dismissed the Cabinet of Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and accepted the previous day's resignation of National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko. A few days earlier, Mr. Yushchenko accepted the resignation of his chief of staff, or

... many expect a bitter election confrontation between pro-Yushchenko and pro-Tymoshenko forces.

head of the Presidential Secretariat, Oleksander Zinchenko.

Thus, three of Mr. Yushchenko's closest allies and brothers-in-arms from the November-December 2004 Orange Revolution in Ukraine have found themselves outside the government and are not likely to return to it before the March 2006 parliamentary elections. The Orange Revolution, in accordance with a

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

"destabilization" while scrambling to find out more than what they had read on the morning wires.

Russia's President Vladimir Putin appeared overjoyed at the crisis (*The Guardian*, September 6). He repeated Mr. Zinchenko's accusations of corruption,

By acting decisively to remove officials accused of corruption, Yushchenko has shown that his presidency differs from that of Kuchma, who condoned corruption in exchange for political loyalty.

gloating, "We said this before and no one wanted to listen to us."

Ultimately, the main fallout was in the domestic arena, as the crisis called into question President Yushchenko's personal leadership style. Few wanted to say publicly what everybody was saying privately; namely, does Mr. Yushchenko

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well-known saying, has started to devour its children.

The dismissal of the Ukrainian government took place amid allegations of corruption in the president's inner circle, which were publicly voiced by Mr. Zinchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko's closest aide, Mykhailo Brodskiy. Both men pointed to Mr. Poroshenko as the main backstage operator in Ukrainian politics, who allegedly obstructed the government's activities and pursued private interests in his official position.

President Yushchenko, in explaining his decision to sack Ms. Tymoshenko's Cabinet and Mr. Poroshenko, said his colleagues in the government have "lost the team spirit" and "concentrated on PR activities" instead of working toward implementing Orange Revolution ideals.

According to most Ukrainian commentators, Mr. Yushchenko's radical move on September 8 has temporarily strengthened his position as the top arbiter in the Ukrainian political arena and the guarantor of the country's stability. Both the government and the president have been steadily losing popularity in recent months among the public, while the Orange Revolution pledge to return dishonestly privatized properties to the people has been perceived by an increasing number of people in Ukraine as just a slogan covering the redistribution of those properties among oligarchic clans.

In the short run, President Yushchenko appears to have gained a lot in the eyes of those Ukrainians who still believe that

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NEWSBRIEFS

Yushchenko orders investigation

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko instructed the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) on September 12 to investigate within the next 10 days the allegations of corruption in the presidential entourage that were voiced earlier this month by former presidential chief of staff Oleksander Zinchenko, Interfax-Ukraine and UNIAN reported. Mr. Yushchenko gave this instruction while introducing new SBU Chief Ihor Drizhchanyi. Mr. Drizhchanyi replaced Oleksander Turchynov of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, who tendered his resignation on September 8 when President Yushchenko sacked Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her Cabinet. According to Mr. Yushchenko, Mr. Turchynov's performance was highly unsatisfactory. "[The SBU] proved unable to radically change the situation during the past seven months," Mr. Yushchenko said, criticizing the Turchynov-led service particularly for the situation on the state border. "The problems of trading in humans and narcotics and of refugees have remained at last year's level," the president stressed. Commenting on the reasons he fired Mr. Turchynov, President Yushchenko also cited unsatisfactory investigations into the murders of journalists Heorhii Gongadze and Ihor Aleksandrov. (RFE/RL Newslines, Ukrinform)

Tymoshenko: campaign has begun

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko said in an interview with the *Kommersant-Daily* on September 13 that last week's dismissal of her Cabinet has inaugurated a campaign for the 2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine. "I think a parliamentary campaign has started, therefore, attempts are being made to remove all possible competitors from it," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "I know that the fight will be very harsh and intense. It will be the fight of those who want to wipe me off the political map of my country. [This fight] will be very unfair. But I have fought for eight years to finally make my country acquire moral ideals, and I will without fail follow this path to its logical conclusion in order to have a government that does not steal, to have officials that do not steal, and to have a country that could be relieved of this oppression." (RFE/RL Newslines)

Yekhanurov candidacy submitted to Rada

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has submitted the candidacy of Yuriy Yekhanurov for the Verkhovna Rada's approval as the head of a new Cabinet of Ministers, Interfax Ukraine reported on September 13, quoting the presidential press service. Mr. Yushchenko appointed Mr. Yekhanurov, chairman of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Administration, as acting prime minister on September 8, shortly after the dismissal of Yulia Tymoshenko. Mr. Yekhanurov said that his first task is to ensure that "government members continue their work, and there should be stability," Interfax reported, citing his press secretary. "Therefore, my goal now is to set up a government and start working efficiently." Mr. Yekhanurov was reportedly traveling to Kyiv from Odesa to begin negotiations with former government members and party leaders on September 9. Mr. Yekhanurov, 57, was head of the State Property Fund in 1994-1997. He held the positions of economy minister, first vice prime minister and first deputy chief of the presidential administration in the era of former President Leonid Kuchma. He has worked with Mr. Yushchenko since 1999; he organized Mr. Yushchenko's parliamentary election campaign in 2002 and presidential election campaign in 2004. Last March Mr. Yekhanurov was elected head of the central executive committee of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's Union Party. Mr. Yekhanurov supports Ukraine's membership in the Single Economic Space with Russia and is considered to be a liberal economist. Mr. Yekhanurov needs 226 votes in the 450-seat Verkhovna Rada for approval. His predecessor, Ms. Tymoshenko, was approved in February with a record number of votes: 373. (RFE/RL Newslines)

President seeks Rada leaders' support

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko met with leaders of parliamentary factions on September 9 in an effort to convince them to support acting Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov, international media reported. "Nobody wants conflict and misunderstanding," he said in a closed-door meeting, according to his website (<http://www.president.gov.ua>). "If this happens, I am sure we should face things

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Editors:
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Zenon Zawada (Kyiv)
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ADMINISTRATION OF THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY AND SVOBODA

Walter Honcharyk, administrator (973) 292-9800, ext. 3041
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NEWS ANALYSIS: Allegations of corruption abound in Ukraine

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Organized Crime and Terrorism Watch

Kyiv, home of the Orange Revolution, was first thrown into shock by the resignation of Oleksander Zinchenko, the head of President Viktor Yushchenko's administration, on September 5. The repercussions of this resignation led to a major crisis and the dismissal of Yulia Tymoshenko's government on September 8.

Long-time Yushchenko supporter Yurii Yekhanurov was appointed acting prime minister and instructed to form a new government.

Mr. Zinchenko, the president's chief of staff, accused two members of Mr. Yushchenko's closest entourage, Petro Poroshenko, the head of the National Security and Defense Council (and godfather to one of Mr. Yushchenko's children), and Oleksander Tretiakov, Mr. Yushchenko's top aide, of "corruption."

As an example of Mr. Tretiakov's alleged corrupt activities, Mr. Zinchenko cited Mr. Tretiakov's membership on the supervisory boards of Oschad Bank, one of Ukraine's largest banks, and of Ukrtelekom, the state-owned telecommunications giant.

He also charged that Mr. Tretiakov plays a "controlling role" in the oil-and-gas sector. He had earlier been named by critics as the person lobbying for a continuation of earlier schemes in the gas sector that were being investigated

Roman Kupchinsky is editor of RFE/RL Organized Crime and Terrorism Watch.

by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU).

Ukrainian experts contacted by RFE/RL believe that Mr. Zinchenko's charges have more to do with conflict of interest issues than the blatant corruption of the era of former President Leonid Kuchma.

There is a lack of clear legislation on conflict of interest in Ukraine, and earlier in 2005, for instance, Justice Minister Roman Zvarych was accused of lobbying his wife's business interests. Mr. Zvarych did not resign.

President Yushchenko accepted Mr. Zinchenko's resignation immediately and appointed Oleh Rybachuk, the deputy prime minister for European integration, to replace him.

Mr. Zinchenko did not accuse Mr. Poroshenko of any specific corrupt activities, but limited himself to criticizing him of staffing his apparatus with people "close to him" and "blockading the president from meeting with people" who were hostile to Mr. Poroshenko. Soon after Mr. Zinchenko's accusations were aired at a Kyiv press conference, the SBU announced it would investigate his charges.

Mr. Poroshenko resigned on September 8, as did Vice Prime Minister for Humanitarian Affairs Mykola Tomenko. Mr. Tomenko had not been accused of anything, but explained his resignation by claiming that Messrs. Tretiakov and Poroshenko had formed a shadow government and that a "Byzantine system of management" had evolved.

Mr. Tomenko blamed the two men,

along with Parliament Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and the leader of the Our Ukraine faction in Parliament, Mykola Martynenko, of blocking parliamentary public hearings on the killing of journalist Heorhii Gongadze.

Interfax on September 8 quoted Mr. Tomenko as telling a press conference that, if nothing had changed following the previous day's late-night talks between President Yushchenko and Prime Minister Tymoshenko, "then it's evident the scenario of some people stealing, and other people resigning" would continue.

As the resignations began coming in, the Verkhovna Rada voted to deprive some members of the Yushchenko administration of their seats in Parliament. According to Ukrainian law, executive-branch officials are not allowed to serve in Parliament.

Mr. Poroshenko had delayed submitting his resignation and this had led to charges that he was trying to maintain his parliamentary immunity from prosecution. He eventually submitted his resignation.

However, on September 8, after he resigned from the National Security and Defense Council, Mr. Poroshenko tried to reverse his decision to leave Parliament – but Parliament rejected this bid.

The same day, Mr. Yushchenko announced that he was dismissing the government and named Mr. Yekhanurov acting prime minister, ordering him to take charge of forming a new government. He also said that he had accepted Mr. Poroshenko's resignation and had

suspended Mr. Tretiakov while the SBU investigated the charges against him.

Mr. Yekhanurov, born in Yakutia in present-day Russia in 1948, is a Buryat by nationality and is presently the head of the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Administration and a member of the presidium of the Parliament.

The conflict in the Ukrainian presidential administration has been brewing for some time, as has the broader conflict between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Poroshenko. Over the past few months, the two have exchanged disagreements publicly and President Yushchenko has unsuccessfully tried to maintain peace within the ranks.

The major issue dividing the two sides was the delineation of responsibilities between the Cabinet of Ministers and the National Security and Defense Council. Ms. Tymoshenko charged that Mr. Poroshenko was attempting to take too much power and this was leading to confusion, especially in such matters as energy policy.

In August, Mr. Poroshenko announced unilaterally that he would go to Moscow to negotiate with Russia on gas prices and supplies. Critics close to Ms. Tymoshenko charged that Mr. Poroshenko was not qualified to do so.

Some critics have charged that Moscow was lobbying on behalf of Mr. Poroshenko and was adamant in refusing to deal with Ms. Tymoshenko, who had frequently accused the Russian state-controlled gas giant Gazprom of corruption in the transfer of gas from Turkmenistan to Ukraine and Russian oil companies of price-fixing in Ukraine.

U.S. ambassador to Ukraine hosts 9/11 commemorative concert in Kyiv

Embassy of the United States

KYIV – United States Ambassador to Ukraine John E. Herbst on September 11 hosted a memorial concert at the National Philharmonic in honor of all worldwide victims of terrorism.

The evening featured a performance by the Liatoshynsky Ensemble of Classical Music under the artistic direction of Valentyna Ikonnyk-Zakharchenko and conducted by Ihor Andriyevsky, and included several musical works written in honor of September 11, as well as a piece from Andrew Lloyd Weber's "Requiem."

Featured soloists included Myhailo Chaikin and Dmytro Tretiak (contrabass) and vocal soloists Oleh Chornoschokov, Vira Pototska, Hanna Labut and Olha Shvydka.

In his remarks to the audience of senior Ukrainian government officials, leaders of Ukraine's cultural, academic and business communities, and diplomatic colleagues, Ambassador Herbst thanked the people of Ukraine for their support in time of America's need after the attacks of September 11 and in the global struggle against terrorism.

Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk and Acting Vice Minister of Culture and Arts Olha Kostenko also spoke at the event.

Following are excerpts of Ambassador Herbst's remarks.

...four years after that tragic day in New York, Washington, and Pennsylvania that launched our current struggle against terrorism.

In the years since then, we have seen many other places have joined the list of those cities who have seen the evil of ter-

rorism darken their skies – Madrid, London, Bali, Riyadh – but, at the same time, we have seen even more nations come together in common determination to build a safer world.

Although September 11 marks a sad date in American history, this is not an American commemoration. It is a recognition of the common struggle of all humanity against an extremism that embraces and even celebrates terrorism. To win this struggle all nations need to work together. This requires not just a military response but a growing understanding that terrorism has no justification.

In the years since September 11, Ukraine has always stood as a loyal ally in the fight against terrorism. We are heartened by your continued commitment to this cause, including troop contributions in Iraq and overflight rights for planes heading to Afghanistan and Iraq. Ukraine also makes valuable contributions to regional security through peace-keeping missions to war-torn regions elsewhere, such as the Balkans and sub-Saharan Africa.

At this point, I would like to ask you to join me now in a moment of silence in honor of all those individuals throughout the world who have lost their lives to terrorist acts.

Tonight we have with us representatives of many other nations who have shared our tears and our successes in these recent years. On behalf of the people of the United States, I want to thank you for your support. And we'd like to thank the people of Ukraine for their offers of assistance and expressions of concern in the wake of Hurricane Katrina. ...

Quotable notes

"Having organized an information blockade around the president, having taken him to a virtual, unreal world, cynically distorting reality and true accents of life, [these high-ranking officials] are step-by-step carrying out their plan to maximally use government posts in order to increase their own capital, to privatize and get into their hands everything they can. ... Their goal is a monopoly on key government functions."

– Oleksander Zinchenko, chairman of the Presidential Secretariat (a position also known as the president's chief of staff), speaking at his September 5 press conference at which he announced his resignation. Mr. Zinchenko identified National Defense and Security Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko and senior presidential adviser Oleksander Tretiakov as corrupt officials.

"I would like to emphasize that Petro Poroshenko is an absolutely self-sufficient person and that he has never clung onto a [government] post and never will," Mr. Poroshenko said in his own defense. "He has not become one kopiyya or one share richer since he became a government official, and he will leave office in the same way. I emphasize now that the Security and Defense Council secretary has no influence either on the Procurator General's Office, or on the Security Service of Ukraine or on the Internal Affairs Ministry."

– Petro Poroshenko speaking after Oleksander Zinchenko at the September 5 press conference convened by the outgoing chairman of the Presidential Secretariat.

"We will head into the elections with Viktor Yushchenko on parallel paths. This doesn't mean there's a war. This means there will be two separate parties with absolutely different compositions. I will not head into the elections with people who discredit Ukraine. I'm not referring to the president, but rather his circle."

– Yulia Tymoshenko, speaking on September 9, the day after she and her Cabinet of Ministers were sacked by President Viktor Yushchenko.

Want to reach us by e-mail?

Editorial staff: staff@ukrweekly.com

Subscription Department: subscription@ukrweekly.com

Advertising Department: adsukrpubl@att.net

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Preview of Events: preview@ukrweekly.com

Young theologians celebrate opening of new theological center in Lviv

by Matthew Matuszak

LVIV – The new Theological Center for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church was inaugurated in Lviv on August 28. To celebrate the occasion, 250 graduates of the Ukrainian Catholic University

(UCU) and Holy Spirit Seminary organized Kairos (classical Greek for “the crucial time”), a conference for young theologians, held on the premises of the new center on August 28-30.

According to Marko Filevych, a former student at the UCU and now a pro-

fessor there of iconography and sacred architecture, “The word ‘theologian’ belongs to those concepts which are exceptionally difficult to explain in the language of modernity. The associations that it brings often link it with some old images of the Middle Ages. The phrase ‘modern theologian’ sounds like an anachronism ... Theologians of the new generation are called to change this stereotype.”

The Kairos conference became a meeting place for representatives of various theological centers, schools and viewpoints. It was also a continuation of the ceremonies for the inauguration of the new Theological Center of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC). The center will combine the new premises of Holy Spirit Seminary, which serves as the main center of priestly formation for the UGCC Archeparchy of Lviv, and the classroom building of the Faculty of Theology and Philosophy of the Ukrainian Catholic University.

In his opening greeting at the conference, Cardinal Lubomyr Husar, head of the UGCC, noted that theological experience and the fruitful life of the church are inseparable.

Most of the participants of the conference were in their 20s or 30s, lay people, as well as male and female religious and

priests. Since graduation from the UCU, many have received advanced degrees or are still working on them at institutions like the University of Notre Dame, the Catholic University of America and even Oxford University. Some of the young theologians are now working in theological institutions of the UGCC, including the UCU.

“The young face of Ukrainian theology was the main ‘calling card’ of the conference,” said Mr. Filevych. “Our theology is not only for men or clergy. Our theology has many faces, filled with possibilities and prospects.”

In the first decades of the 20th century, the UGCC had a few dozen professional theologians, generally concentrated in small centers in Lviv, Peremyshl and Ivano-Frankivsk. In the second half of that century, Ukrainian theology went through a crisis, with only a handful of theologians entirely dedicated to the “scholarly harvest,” as Mr. Filevych put it. “Against such a more than humble background,” added Mr. Filevych, “the beginning of the 21st century looks like it has much promise.”

On the first night of the conference, the young theologians made a gift to Cardinal Husar: their dissertations, published reference works and journal arti-

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Graduates of the Ukrainian Catholic University gather for a conference of young theologians.

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: August

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	Bohdan Samokyszyn	Parma, Ohio
	Joseph Szafranski	West Bloomfield, Mich.
	Peter Yewshenko	Neshanic Station, N.J.
\$15.00	Valery Bardash	Gardiner, Maine
	Lidia and Orest Bilous	Osprey, Fla.
	Barbara Boyd	Lake Suzy, Fla.
	Gene Diduch	Augusta, Ga.
	Peter Hawrylciv	Ludlow, Mass.
	Ksenia R. and Volodya Horobchenko	Warren, Mich.
	Joseph Liszczyński	Utica, N.Y.
	Valentina Poletz	Minneapolis, Minn.
\$10.00	Ellen Barlit	North Falmouth, Mass.
	Taras Borkowsky	Westfield, N.J.
	Peter Bubna	Parma, Ohio
	Natalia Chaykovsky	Morris Plains, N.J.
	Victor Decyk	Culver City, Calif.
	Anatol Grynewytsch	Newport News, Va.
	Bohdan and Maria Harhaj	Howell, N.J.
	Anne Iwach	Manhattan Beach, Calif.
	Ludmilla Lozowy	New York, N.Y.
	Alice Messina	North Bergen, N.J.
	Mykola Mirchuk	Livingston, N.J.
	Victor Nadozirny	Cleveland, Ohio
	Katherine Panchesine	Woodbine, N.J.
	Olga Pishko	Monessen, Pa.
	Omeljan Pritsak	Wellesley, Mass.
	Daria Samotulka	Hillsborough, N.J.
	Christina Sitko	Garrettsville, Ohio
	Peter Urban	Latham, N.Y.
	Maksym Wasyluk	Washington, D.C.
	Philip Witenko	New Milford, Conn.
\$5.00	Max Barelka	Chandler, Ariz.
	Henry Bolosky	Kingston, Pa.
	C. Drebych	Edison, N.J.
	Andrew Germansky	Pittsburgh, Pa.
	Stephan Goras	Jersey City, N.J.
	Peter Hrycak	Cranford, N.J.
	Richard Iwanik	Farmington, Conn.
	Merle and Bonnie Jurkiewicz	Toledo, Ohio
	Tanya Kosci-Farmiga	Rochester, N.Y.
	James Lewicki	Springfield, Pa.
	Edward Mikol	Staten Island, N.Y.
	Larysa Mykyta	Raleigh, N.C.
	Olena Papiz	Warren, Mich.
	Natasha Reidy	Lorain, Ohio
	Steffi Sarvady	Northlake, Ill.
	Jaroslaw Staneckyj	Elmira, N.Y.
\$3.91	Martha Noukas	Houston, Tex.

TOTAL: \$2,449.26

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Wireless company in Ukraine holds charity benefit for Chernobyl relief

by Alexander Kuzma

KYIV – This summer, the Ukrainian wireless giant UMC (Ukrainian Mobile Communications) held a series of public events to celebrate a landmark achievement as it surpassed its goal of 10 million customers by the year 2005. As a token of appreciation for its many loyal customers, UMC held a special televised charity marathon offering 1 million free calling minutes to 10 lucky customers as part of a nationwide raffle to support the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund.

Contestants were invited to send their answers to a televised quiz by sending an SMS message to a special hotline for the cost of 1 hrv for each response (about 20 cents at the current exchange rate of 5.05 hrv to the dollar). UMC customers raised over 671,948 hrv, or \$133,000 through the raffle, and the company matched this public response for a combined contribution of 1,343,896 hrv, or \$266,118 (U.S.).

UMC's charitable donation is scheduled to be transferred to the Children of Chernobyl in mid-September. The grant was announced at a press conference on August 18 at the UNIAN press center that was covered on national television throughout Ukraine. UMC's Chief Executive Officer Eric Franke expressed his company's trust and confidence in the Children of Chernobyl and the fund's ability to implement effective programs in its partner hospitals with the funds that have been raised.

“We are sincerely grateful to our customers who responded to our SMS action and made their contribution to this charitable project of UMC,” said Mr. Franke. “We have achieved a unique result: never before in Ukraine has a charitable event generated such significant sums. I'm convinced that these funds will help thousands of Ukrainian children.”

Appearing on behalf of the fund, Maryana Voronovych congratulated UMC on its great commercial success and thanked the company for its outstanding contribution to the well-being of Ukraine's children. “We will do everything in our power to make sure that this grant has a significant impact on the health of children who are suffering from a wide range of life-threatening illnesses.” Ms. Voronovych announced that the UMC donation would be designated for pioneering programs in three hospitals in Lviv, Dnipropetrovsk and Chernivtsi.

The Lviv Regional Clinical Children's Hospital (Okhmadyt) will receive technology, training and instrumentation for its cardiac and thoracic surgery program. Under the leadership of Dr. Roman Kovalsky, this center

(Continued on page 17)



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

New York Capital District holds its annual meeting at Soyuzivka

by Slavko Tysiak

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — Representatives of the five branches that make up the New York Capital District of the UNA recently traveled to Soyuzivka, one of the landmarks of "Batko Soyuz," to hold their annual district meeting.

Although not intentional, Mykola Fil, district chairman, said that when he realized the branches had not held their annual meeting, he decided there was no better time to hold such meeting than on June 19 at what has become for the district's branches an annual celebration of Father's Day at Soyuzivka. So, after a delicious buffet, branch members in attendance were invited to attend the annual district meeting. About a dozen members came to attend the annual district business meeting.

The New York Capital District is composed of five branches, including Watervliet (Branch 13, among the UNA's oldest), Cohoes (Branch 57), Amsterdam (Branch 88), Kerhonkson (Branch 200), and Amsterdam (Branch 266).

Chairman Fil called the meeting to order at 2:30 p.m. and in opening remarks welcomed everyone, including Mr. Kwochka, a Ukrainian guest from Poland, before introducing Roma Lisovich, UNA treasurer, as the guest speaker from the UNA Home Office.

After thanking everyone for coming, Mr. Fil reviewed the agenda and then turned over the next portion of the meeting to Pavlo Shewchuk, as interim chairman, and Stefania Hawryluk, as interim secretary, to conduct and record the annual business meeting, including the election of new officers and committee members.

Slavko Tysiak, district secretary, read the minutes of the 2004 annual district meeting, and upon acceptance of the minutes, Mr. Shewchuk moved on with the reading of filed reports.

Mr. Fil followed by providing a summary of district activity for calendar year 2004. He reported that Capital District branches had signed up 22 new members, approximately two-thirds the established goal of 32 new members in 2004. He thanked the advisors and branch secretaries for their efforts and expressed hope that better results can be achieved in 2005. Mr. Fil noted he was especially pleased by the efforts of Branch 13 members who contributed funds in support of last year's Orange Revolution in Ukraine.

Next, Mr. Shewchuk read a financial report submitted by District Treasurer Walter Krywulych and approved by the Auditing Committee. The district reported a year-end cash balance of \$1,296.52.

After the reading of reports, Mr. Shewchuk moved to the main event: the election of district officers and committee members. A motion was made by Michael Sawkiw Sr., seconded by Yaroslav Kushnir, calling for re-installing the 2004 slate of officers and committee members for 2005. Hearing no objections or suggestions for other potential candidates, Mr. Shewchuk called for a unanimous vote to be cast to reinstate the same officers for 2005.

District officers for 2005-2006 include the following: Mr. Fil, chairman, Mr.



Participants of the New York Capital District's annual meeting at Soyuzivka with UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich.

Shewchuk, honorary chairman; Ms. Hawryluk and Mr. Sawkiw, senior vice-chairpersons; Mr. Tysiak, secretary; and Mr. Krywulych, treasurer. Also, re-elected were the members of the Auditing Committee Mr. Shewchuk, Stanley Mochulsky and Andriy Demczar; as well as members of the Nomination Committee, John Udydz, Peter Spiak and Wasyl Terlecky.

After the election results were officially accepted by members in attendance and an enthusiastic welcome of the returning officers and committee members, District Chairman Fil resumed leadership of the business meeting and thanked Mr. Shewchuk and Ms. Hawryluk for helping conduct and record the results of the annual meeting.

Mr. Fil once again introduced Ms. Lisovich who, after extending her best wishes for a Happy Father's Day, provided an overview of what's been happening at the UNA from a financial perspective.

The UNA treasurer recounted several significant observations gleaned from the UNA's 2004 Annual Statistical and Financial Report. She highlighted that the UNA had more members in 2004 than the year prior and that the UNA sold more insurance policies but earned less profit than in 2003. She further commented that the investment portfolio is strong but not earning the same rate of return as in years past due to lower interest rates. The sales of annuities have dropped off due to members' interest in buying higher yielding certificates of deposits.

Shifting her focus to Soyuzivka, Ms. Lisovich mentioned that she understands that Soyuzivka had a higher occupancy rate than in years past but that operating costs continue to climb partly due to the need for significant repairs to the age of the buildings and equipment. She also mentioned that the cost of doing business continues to rise especially for property taxes and liability insurance. The business side of the UNA's publishing enterprise also continued to be a concern.

Ms. Lisovich also said that the newly established Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation Inc. would be filing for not-for-profit status as a 501(c) (3) corporation.

The UNA treasurer closed by saying

that UNA branches need to stay visible in their local communities and that there's definitely more public interest in the UNA. However, she noted that it still is difficult to establish the need for life insurance among the newer immigration. She observed that it is quite ironic that the UNA must sell life insurance in order not to die as a viable business enterprise.

Following her remarks, members voiced a number of comments and suggestions regarding UNA branches and the

UNA in general. A number of the comments dealt with the need for new brochures and artistic flyers to tell about the UNA and to explain both the need for life insurance and the different insurance products sold by the UNA.

District Chairman Fil closed the meeting by thanking everyone for attending and then asked for a motion to close the meeting. The annual business meeting closed at 3:30 p.m. upon a motion by Mr. Kushnir that was seconded by Mr. Spiak.



Do you know why we're so happy?

Our parents and grandparents invested in our future by purchasing an endowment and life insurance policy for each of us from the Ukrainian National Association, Inc.

They purchased prepaid policies on account of the low premium rate for our age group. If you'd like to be smiling like us, please have your parents or grandparents call the UNA at 1-800-253-9862.

They will be happy to assist you!

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The Orange Revolution continues

"... I realize that this conversation is long overdue, as this is not a matter of relations among the Cabinet, the national security service and the state secretary. We are just watching the country deteriorating ..."

"... on a daily basis I had to intervene in a conflict between the National Security [and Defense] Council, between the Cabinet and the Verkhovna Rada. In other words, these conflicts became the government's daily agenda."

With the words above, President Viktor Yushchenko addressed the nation on September 8 to announce he was sacking his prime minister, Yulia Tymoshenko, the entire Cabinet of Ministers and the secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, Petro Poroshenko. The president did the right thing, albeit reluctantly, following days of crisis talks with officials in his administration. "The key issue was the issue of trust. If there had been a possibility to preserve the team spirit, to remain together, it would have been the best answer," he said. But the reality was this: infighting and jockeying for position among his administration's ministers, allegations of corruption and abuses of power, such as influence peddling.

It is now clear that the coalition that effected the Orange Revolution was united in its opposition to the Kuchma regime and its ilk, but agreed on little else. True, there was general support of the revolution's ideals, but there was great disagreement on how to pursue those ideals, especially once the new administration assumed office. Most notably, there was competition for power between Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Poroshenko and even between the prime minister and the president.

In what can be described as a frank conversation with the citizens of Ukraine, the president underscored that he had chosen loyal people who had stood by him on the maidan to join his team, but later "witnessed zero trust among my partners," which led to divisions and scandal, while the new Ukraine was losing momentum and entering a period of stagnation. Mr. Yushchenko emphasized that he ran for president "not to see key state institutions struggling to find understanding and failing to find accord and mutual trust. ... it was not for this that millions of people stood in squares."

Mr. Yushchenko pledged to act quickly in naming a new government – "a united team" – so that the promises of the Orange Revolution that were made on the maidan could move forward. He has already nominated the pragmatist Yurii Yekhanurov as his prime minister to replace the populist Ms. Tymoshenko. He also met with 11 of the Parliament's 13 factions, including the Party of the Regions led by his opponent in the 2004 presidential election, Viktor Yanukovich, proposed a "stability pact" and invited them to propose candidates for Cabinet posts. A new government is expected to be announced within two weeks.

Meanwhile, Ms. Tymoshenko is now in opposition to President Yushchenko. The fiery and charismatic leader will be a formidable opponent in the 2006 parliamentary elections, and beyond. Already she has begun courting other parties. She pledged to unite "the orange and the blue" [the color of the Yanukovich campaign]. "If we put these two colors together we get our national flag [which is blue and yellow] ... I want us to combine the best we have in our colors," she stated.

In the midst of the upheaval in Ukraine, many questions remain. Just who will be the new administration appointees and what will they represent? Will the president take advantage of this opportunity to clean house by not asking tainted officials to return? Will business interests continue to exert their influence? Will opponents of the Orange Revolution be brought into the new government as some analysts have asserted?

Our primary hope is that President Yushchenko will go back to the ideals of the maidan and will invigorate the program that was intended to transform these ideals into concrete achievements. As well, we hope that the president will take charge – that he will truly lead and not leave the running of the country up to administration officials. The window of opportunity for him to act between now and the constitutional reforms due to go into effect in January 2006 is small and getting smaller. And then there are the parliamentary elections two months later to consider.

All that said, we firmly believe that reports of the Orange Revolution's death have been greatly exaggerated. Ultimately, the revolution was about the people of Ukraine. And the people, having been awakened and empowered by the events of November-December 2004 have been inalterably transformed – and with it Ukraine. The people and Ukraine deserve leadership that takes account of that reality.

Sept.
20
1989

Turning the pages back...

Volodymyr Shcherbytsky, first secretary of the Communist Party of Ukraine, was ousted from the USSR Politburo on September 20, 1989, in what was widely characterized as a major purge of the Communist Party leadership effected by

President Mikhail Gorbachev. Mr. Shcherbytsky, whose "imminent" removal had been rumored for years and had been the subject of countless analyses by Sovietologists, had been a member of the Politburo of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union since 1971. He was one of the last holdovers from the "stagnant" era of Leonid Brezhnev.

Mr. Shcherbytsky, along with several other Soviet officials, was dismissed at the conclusion of a two-day closed session of the Communist Party's Central Committee. The ousters were seen as the most significant party shake-up in the four and a half years since Mr. Gorbachev came to power. The purge came in the wake of a warning issued by the Soviet leader a couple of months earlier when he said that it appeared the Communist Party was losing the initiative in implementing perestroika and in dealing with ethnic unrest.

There had been many calls emanating from Ukraine for Mr. Shcherbytsky's ouster. The most recent of them had come at the founding meeting of the Popular Movement of Ukraine for Perebudova, where the suggestion was greeted by congress delegates with cheers.

Source: "Shcherbytsky ousted from Politburo," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 24, 1989, Vol. LVII, No. 40.

REPORTER'S NOTEBOOK

BY ZENON ZAWADA

KYIV PRESS BUREAU

The Ukrainian Catholic Church moves to Kyiv

A scuffle erupted at the divine liturgy, and I was snapping photos when a "babushka" (Russian for grandmother) with an icon around her neck began yelling at me in Russian.

"Why did you come here? We don't want you here!"

I thought I'd ignore her. However, I should have learned a long time ago that babushkas don't like to be ignored.

This one charged toward me and gave me one heck of a shove.

I weigh a good 180 pounds, so I can assure you this woman had apparently spent many years toiling in the wheat fields of Ukraine because she sent me flying.

By the time she gave me my second shove, I found myself flat on my behind, down on the ground, in the middle of a scuffle. The throng of Russian Orthodox protesters suddenly huddled over me, to which I cried, "I'm a journalist!"

Perhaps that wasn't the best move. "From where?" demanded a cynical woman with a sneer.

A police officer cleared the crowd. As I got back on my feet, the God-loving babushkas resumed their pursuit of me. It took another 30 seconds to shake them off.

This was part of my experience at the historic August 21 divine liturgy honoring the transfer of the Ukrainian Catholic Church's headquarters from Lviv to Kyiv.

After the political hysteria died down during the next several days, what surprised me most was that virtually none of the major mass media in Ukraine had reported the verbal and, in a few isolated cases, physical attacks these radicals had heaped upon the Ukrainian Catholic worshippers that day.

Their vitriol included such classics as, "Banderites," "Banderstad," and "Fascists."

Admittedly, they weren't too creative. And I personally wouldn't be bothered if someone labeled me a Banderite. After all, Stepan Bandera is a Ukrainian hero.

The vilest scene of the whole day was when three women protesters stood at the entrance to the site of the outdoor liturgy and yelled slurs into the faces of worshippers.

Many were too stunned to react. Others trembled, restraining their anger. I saw a middle-aged woman reduced to tears.

Clearly, these protesters had received orders from above to provoke a fight.

It was a trap set for the Ukrainian Catholics. Had they taken the bait, they would have been humiliated on television, which could have possibly portrayed them as violent descendants of, well, "Fascists."

However, these followers of Jesus Christ had put into practice the teachings of their Savior: "If someone strikes you on the right cheek, turn to him the other also." (Matthew 5:39)

As a result, it was the Russian Orthodox extremists who looked like aggressors and fools.

As a rational-thinking human being, I can no longer deny that a double standard exists in the Ukrainian media.

Imagine the ruckus created had Halychany done the same to Russian Orthodox worshippers in Lviv. Imagine the outrage had other religious groups

been targeted with such hate.

But perhaps that is the burden the followers of Christ must carry. Turning the other cheek might mean you take abuse and humiliation, but, ultimately, you've ensured peace and sanctity by not responding to provocations to conflict.

Some of the wiser Ukrainian Catholics can receive the protest as an honor and tribute. Consider that no one protested a mosque being establishing in Kyiv, or a new evangelical church, or a Jehovah's Witness Kingdom Hall.

"Why are they trying to deny the Ukrainian Catholic Church? Because it is too much of a Ukrainian Church," said Pavlo Farenjuk, 67, a Ukrainian Catholic worshipper at the liturgy.

"Its liturgies have always been in Ukrainian, and it has been a patriotic Church that has defended Ukraine's independence. It became illegal after World War II, when Stalin had hundreds and thousands of priests killed, and the rest sent to Siberia."

He's right. Organizers of the protest targeted the Ukrainian Catholic Church because it has done so much to ensure an independent, faithful and dignified Ukraine. And, it has defended the Ukrainian language and culture.

The spiritual wisdom of Major Archbishop Lubomyr Husar deserves attention. Knowing the possible tensions at the event, he kept publicity at a minimum. Only 3,000 worshippers attended. Had there been more, there might have been more potential for conflict.

Ukrainian Catholic University Rector Borys Gudziak rode in the same car with the Church's leader from Lviv to Kyiv the day before.

"I am impressed with what calm and spiritual integrity Patriarch Lubomyr made this voyage, took this very important step," Father Gudziak said. "It's a step that his predecessors Metropolitan Sheptytsky, Patriarch Josyf [Slipey], Patriarch Myroslav Ivan [Lubachivsky] dreamed of and waited for. It's a step he made with great dignity and great spiritual centeredness with his characteristic humanity."

I also have my doubts as to whether these people were sincere about their protest. The sight after the divine liturgy was bizarre.

The same protesters yelling hateful slurs against the Ukrainian Catholics were suddenly strolling alongside them on the road back to the metro station.

There were no assaults, no shouting, only a few scattered debates on the side of the road. One Catholic woman waved her handkerchief in the face of an Orthodox woman who insisted she had strayed from the true faith.

Another common thread in all these anti-Ukrainian protests is that the men always seem to be hiding behind the skirts of their women.

During the anarchic Verkhovna Rada debates over World Trade Organization bills, the pro-Russian national deputies handed over some of their football horns and megaphones for the women to carry and create noise.

Yet again, the trap was set. Of course, no Ukrainian gentleman would even think to assault a woman by seizing her megaphone, especially on national television.

(Continued on page 23)

IN THE PRESS: Commentaries on Ukrainian Cabinet's sacking

The New York Times editorial of September 9 titled "Ukraine's Orange Flame, Dimmed":

So ends the Orange Revolution, at least Act I. After months of increasingly nasty disputes, Ukraine's president, Viktor Yushchenko, fired his charismatic prime minister and nominated a caretaker to replace her. The fired prime minister, Yulia Tymoshenko, has said nothing – yet. But she will. Her fiery speeches and powerful presence were a major factor in the popular uprising that brought Mr. Yushchenko to power last fall, and she is certain to turn these weapons on the president and his new government, especially with elections for Parliament scheduled for March. All that is a serious blow to the hopes and expectations that had been raised for the future of Ukraine, and for reformers in Belarus and other former Soviet republics. ...

Commentary by Richard H. Shriver titled "Orange Revolution Not Over," published in the September 13 issue of The Washington Times:

... The fact is, no matter what else the future holds, the Orange Revolution moved Ukraine irrevocably toward the West and Western norms. The next president will be truly elected, not appointed by a Russia- or oligarch-controlled mafia. As one Ukrainian said, "No one kills journalists any more." In January, newly elected President Yushchenko had to appoint a government, one made up, ideally, of trustworthy people who shared his vision for Ukraine and knew how to run a democracy, people the voting public respected for their honesty and competence. Unfortunately, hardly any people in Ukraine met all these qualifications.

This was an impossible job and Mr. Yushchenko instead installed people who helped him become president, many with little ability or long-term loyalty to Mr. Yushchenko or his vision. That his government came unraveled should neither surprise nor shock. ...

The Christian Science Monitor, September 12, commentary by correspondent Fred Weir titled "Ukraine's Orange Rebels Splinter":

... The stage is now set for an acrimonious face-off between the formerly united pro-Western democrats in parliamentary elections next March, which could facilitate a comeback by forces of the previous regime, led by Viktor Yanukovich, who remain strong in Ukraine's heavily Russified east.

But many experts say the falling-out among the Orange revolutionaries was probably inevitable and need not be fatal to Ukraine's struggling democracy. "What we're seeing here is the end of the bright and shining myth, born in the streets of Kiev [sic] last year, that Yushchenko and Tymoshenko were completely like-minded leaders," says Alexander Shushko, an expert at the Institute of Euro-Atlantic Integration in Kiev. "We always knew they were together for political convenience; the contradictions and competition between them was never a secret."

Yurii Yekhanurov, a liberal economist with a reputation for political neutrality, was named acting prime minister. "Perhaps now we'll have a government of technocrats, who will turn to problem-solving," says Iryna Podlutska, president of the independent Europe XXI Foundation in Kiev. "Maybe this will give Yushchenko some breathing space,

enable him to strengthen his team and work on long-range strategy for the country." ...

Le Monde editorial of September 10 titled "Crisis in Ukraine" (translation by The Ukraine List):

If the revolution does not devour its children, they devour each other sometimes. This is what is happening right now in Ukraine. President Victor Yushchenko, who arrived to power at the beginning of the year following the Orange Revolution, has just dismissed his entire government under the leadership of Yulia Tymoshenko, the heroine of the movement that placed Ukraine on the road to democracy. The crisis was already brewing for some time, as the divergence between the president and the prime minister on the speed and depth of reforms became more and more apparent. The accusations of corruption expressed by a person close to Yushchenko against the members of the government, and notably against an oligarch who financed the Orange Revolution, were the triggering element. The resignations that followed evidenced the fragility of power. Most importantly, they demonstrated the persistence of the system of power against which the united crowds protested during several weeks at the end of 2004 in Kyiv. ...

September 9 editorial of the Financial Times titled "Bitter Oranges":

Viktor Yushchenko, Ukraine's president, yesterday finally moved to end a political crisis that was disrupting his government and undermining business confidence. But Ukraine cannot hope for real stability until after next spring's parliamentary elections, by which time the domestic and international goodwill generated by the Orange Revolution may be lost.

Mr. Yushchenko was right to overcome his innate caution and sack Yulia Tymoshenko, his populist prime minister. By appointing Yuri Yekhanurov, a long-standing ally and veteran technocrat, he may bring some much-needed consistency to the government. However, the victors of the Orange Revolution, who overthrew the authoritarian rule of former President Leonid Kuchma, are suffering the classic problem of regime-changers. United mainly in their opposition to Mr. Kuchma, the new rulers have fallen out over power, policy and patronage. ...

Commentary titled "Peeling Away the Revolution" by Robin Shepherd published in the September 9 issue of the Wall Street Journal:

An act of strength or sign of weakness? Actually, Viktor Yushchenko's decision to fire his entire government yesterday smacks of both: strength because it allows him to form a Cabinet of allies rather than rivals; and weakness because he was all but forced to do it to answer damaging accusations that he was tolerating corruption in his own inner circle. ...

The key question now, therefore, is this: Can Mr. Yushchenko and his new government recreate unity among the country's democratic forces, or are they heading for collapse?

... the big picture in Ukraine remains one of hope and progress. This time last year, the country was run by a group of people who it would be kind to describe as thugs. The country still may have a long way to go, but we are at least past the stage at which opposition journalists

(Continued on page 20)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Don't panic! All is well

Pointing to corruption at the top, Oleksander Zinchenko, President Viktor Yushchenko's right-hand man, resigned. There was a ripple effect and within hours the top echelon of the Orange coalition was gone.

"So ends the Orange Revolution," gleefully opined The New York Times. President Yushchenko "finally moved to end a political crisis that was disrupting his government and undermining business confidence," intoned the Financial Times. "An act of strength or a sign of weakness?" asked the Wall Street Journal.

So what really happened? Although expectations for change were high during February, March and April, the Ukrainian people were realistic, willing to give their new president time to sort things out.

By the middle of summer, however, anxiety began to creep in. The government appeared to be adrift. The people yearned for change, any change, some dramatic event – a symbolic gesture even – to demonstrate that a new era had truly begun. Instead of taking advantage of the enormous good will he enjoyed, however, Mr. Yushchenko hesitated and the country suffered. According to the Wall Street Journal, "growth in the first half of the year collapsed to 3.7 percent," compared to "13.5 percent in the same period last year." Prices rose. Inflation reached 15 percent.

Spending much time justifiably courting foreign governments, President Yushchenko seemed out of touch domestically. Back-biting within his inner circle, especially between his rich and ambitious prime minister, Yulia Tymoshenko, and his equally rich and ambitious National Security and Defense Council secretary, Petro Poroshenko.

Support for the government dwindled. The Wall Street Journal reported that an August poll of Ukrainians found that 43 percent "believed the country was on the wrong path, a jump from 23 percent in April. The August poll found just 32 percent felt the country was doing well, down sharply from 54 percent last spring."

It didn't help that the mother of murdered journalist Heorhii Gongadze complained bitterly about the lack of progress by the Procurator General's Office investigating her son's seemingly never-ending case. It was alleged that the same people accused of corruption by Mr. Zinchenko were also guilty of frustrating the Gongadze investigation.

Nor did Viktor Yushchenko help his cause with his reaction to the revelation that his son was openly acting like a royal prince – not quite as bad as Leonid Kuchma's son-in-law who became one of the richest men in Ukraine, perhaps, but inappropriate at best. "Caesar's wife must be above suspicion," as the saying goes. The same holds for Caesar's son.

Why did Mr. Zinchenko, Mr. Yushchenko's campaign chairman, take such a dramatic move? It is inconceivable that he didn't first try to convince Mr. Yushchenko, a gentle man, that all was not well within the coalition. Was the president willing to listen? Did he close his eyes?

Declaring that he was tired of being "a nanny" for his fractious coalition, Mr. Yushchenko finally did what he had to do to preserve an image of leadership and a semblance of order.

He must do more. Quickly. His creation of a committee to investigate the

allegations of government corruption made by Mr. Zinchenko and Vice Prime Minister Mykola Tomenko against Petro Poroshenko and his associates is a good first step. This was not easy given that Mr. Poroshenko is godfather to one of the president's children. There are committees and there are committees, however. Some get to the bottom of an issue quickly, most tend to drag their feet.

It is also a healthy portent that Ukraine's president is having press conferences explaining his actions and projecting a transparent administration.

Mr. Yushchenko must encourage the country's top prosecutor to resolve the Gongadze case that has polluted Ukraine's moral climate for far too long. There must be closure so that the country can heal and move on.

Mr. Yushchenko should also pay attention to some of the analyses and commentaries published by Ukrayinska Pravda on September 8. Dmytro Vydrin, director of the Institute for European Integration and Development, suggested that: "In selecting a team, what ought to happen is that one distinguishes between excellent candidates and substandard performers. If the team will be assembled once again on the basis of personal loyalties and on the principle of political approval, this would mean that substandard people would once again be admitted. On the other hand, if the team will be built on the principles of high professionalism, and social and moral responsibility, then the jobs will go to excellent candidates."

Another cogent analysis was made by Vadim Krasov, director of the Institute for Global Strategy, who believes that in acting as he did, President Yushchenko demonstrated the qualities of a political leader as well as a statesman. "It was not possible to tolerate the continuation of a situation in which two parties were splintering the country," said Mr. Krasov. These two forces embodied "different grouped business interests." The Tymoshenko faction "exhibited a revolutionary, Jacobin, Robespierresque line, while the other [the Poroshenko faction] was more conservative, at some moments even oligarchical and counterrevolutionary." The two "were fighting within the government for access to the powers that be."

As painful as the entire affair appeared to me at first blush – another Ukrainian screw-up, I thought – after some investigation it seems that the Orange Revolution is still evolving. Think of it. A presidential aide resigns because he believes there is too much corruption. Ukraine's president acts decisively, albeit reluctantly. The press takes its shots. The players involved go on television to explain their side of what happened. Analysts offer their sage opinions. The press reports again. And no one is beheaded! Sorry, New York Times. The Orange Revolution is still alive, still well, still a work in progress.

Will there be more of the same in the future? Sure. That's what happens with a parliamentary government patterned after those of France and Italy. We can expect more eruptions, more uncertainty, more power struggles, more re-writing of the Constitution in the future. Don't panic. All is well. Ukraine, God bless her, will survive and prosper!

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

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Authors' response to letters to the editor

Dear Editor:

Dr. Roman Procyk and Dr. George Kasianov replied in defense of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) in *The Ukrainian Weekly* (August 21). The two letters were in response to our joint article titled "A guide to who's who in D.C.'s Ukraine-related activities" (August 7).

The two letters referred to only one paragraph that dealt with HURI. To place this into context, the paragraph dealing with HURI was only one out of 64 paragraphs that the lengthy article included.

It is perhaps understandable that Dr. Procyk takes any criticism of HURI personally because of his direct involvement in raising funds for HURI through the Ukrainian Studies Fund. But, this does not mean that discussion should not remain civil and refrain from personal attacks. Our joint article deliberately did not point accusatory fingers at individuals in the Ukrainian American organizations we discussed.

Dr. Procyk is wrong to minimize disillusionment with HURI in its unwillingness to expand its scope to give greater attention to contemporary Ukraine. This view is out there in the Ukrainian American community, including among those who donated funds to HURI in the 1970s and 1980s, and this disillusionment draws upon the weak development of contemporary Ukrainian studies at HURI.

This disillusionment is in no way an attempt to downplay the important work that HURI does, as HURI's website states, in the "specializations of HURI's own faculty: history, literature and language." HURI continues to remain the leading Western institution in these three fields of Ukrainian studies.

We would like to tailor our response in two ways.

Firstly, let us look at the record of HURI itself on contemporary Ukraine (taken from its own website at www.huri.harvard.edu) to see if it is indeed as committed to this field of teaching and research as Drs. Procyk and Kasianov believe it to be.

We should say at the outset that HURI is not unique in not devoting sufficient attention to contemporary Ukraine. Let us define this as the salaried employment of a full-time (or more than one full-time) individual who teaches, researches and writes on contemporary Ukraine during the entire academic year. This, therefore, excludes teaching on contemporary Ukraine within the framework of the Summer School, although this provides an important contribution to this field, as it does not take place during the two semesters of the regular academic year.

Now let us apply this definition not only to HURI but throughout North America where there are five centers of Ukrainian studies: University of Ottawa (Chair of Ukrainian Studies Dominique Arel), Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (Edmonton-Toronto), University of Toronto (Chair of Ukrainian Studies Paul R. Magocsi), Columbia University and HURI (Chairs of Ukrainian Studies Roman Szporluk, George Grabowicz, Michael Flier).

Of these five academic centers only one – the University of Ottawa – employs an individual (Prof. Arel) whose research and teaching are devoted to contemporary Ukraine. This conclusion is surprising coming 14 years after Ukraine became an independent state.

Let us now look at the invited scholars who have come to HURI. Of the 30 Eugene and Daymel Shklar Fellowships in residence at HURI between 2001 to 2005, only three dealt with contemporary Ukraine. Of these three, two were politi-

cal scientists and one an anthropologist, and all were present in the first-year of the Shklar Fellowships in 2001-2002.

The reason for this focus in the Shklar Fellowships is explained by the HURI website: "By their professional profile and areas of interest the group mostly reflects the specializations of HURI's own faculty: history, literature and language." In 2002-2003 these included: "five historians and four philologists, including specialists in both literature and language."

Since 1995, of the 11 Vasyl and Maria Petryshyn memorial annual lectures held at HURI, four dealt with contemporary Ukraine.

HURI's website also provides a list of 72 books published since HURI was established in 1973. Of these 72 books, only five (7 percent) deal with contemporary Ukraine and one covers Belarus. Another book includes a special collection of Prof. Szporluk's work that mainly covers his articles on Soviet Ukraine and Soviet nationality policy.

It is striking that of the five books published on contemporary Ukraine only two (gender issues and international relations) are written from a political science perspective. Three of the five books are written by Ukraine's former Defense Minister Konstantin Morozov (one of which is a memoir that Taras Kuzio reviewed positively for the journal *Europe-Asia studies*) and Ukraine's former Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak.

The reason that 65 of HURI's 72 published books are in non-political science areas is explained by the HURI website. HURI's book publication, "reflects the specializations of HURI's own faculty: history, literature and language."

Unfortunately, among these 65 books there is no history of Ukraine written and published since the USSR disintegrated. The only two new histories of Ukraine published since 1992 in the West were both published in Toronto by Prof. Orest Subtelny ("Ukraine. A History") and Prof. Magocsi (*A History of Ukraine*). Subtelny's history has been published in three editions since 1989. In Ukraine 1 million copies have appeared since its first publication in Kyiv in 1991.

The same focus on non-political science issues is true of *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*. As the HURI website explains, "Harvard Ukrainian Studies, the journal of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute, serves as a forum for new scholarship in Ukrainian studies. It deals primarily with history, language and literature; at times related disciplines are included."

Between 1992 and 2001, when the last issue of *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* was published, there have been few articles on political science topics dealing with contemporary Ukraine. Issues of *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* planned for 2002-2006 deal with HURI's traditional fields of interest, rather than political science topics.

Another area to investigate is HURI's outreach to the American community when dealing with contemporary Ukraine. This is one area where there has been widespread disappointment at HURI's unwillingness, or inability, to provide expert interviews during the 2004 Ukrainian presidential election and the Orange Revolution. Requests for media interviews were turned away and passed on to other experts, such as Dr. Kuzio.

Contrast this with the involvement of the CIUS during the election and the

Orange Revolution, which was the subject of their report ("CIUS and the Orange Revolution" by Bohdan Klid, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 1). HURI has yet to publish a similar report about its public outreach during these historic events of 2004.

Secondly, another factor to raise in this discussion is how the low priority afforded to contemporary Ukraine can be rectified. There are probably insufficient funds within the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities, as well as too little support within established Ukrainian studies academic centers, to provide for further chairs or even tenured academic professors.

An alternative could be to hire full-time lecturers in contemporary Ukraine. Based on student enrolment in Dr. Kuzio's courses at the Universities of Toronto and George Washington University, as well as in Dr. Kasianov's Harvard Ukrainian Summer School course, there is high demand from students for political science courses on contemporary Ukraine, particularly after the Orange Revolution.

The hiring of lecturers would not be financially prohibitive as they would cost less than tenured professors (and a lot less than endowed chairs). They would also increase the contemporary Ukraine research and publications profile of established Ukrainian studies academic centers.

Three conclusions can be made from this reply to Drs. Procyk and Kasianov.

Firstly, HURI continues to focus, as its website explains, primarily on the three areas it was established to deal with: history, language and literature. These are the three fields in which its three endowed chairs are: Prof. Szporluk (history), Prof. Flier (language) and Prof. Grabowicz (literature). This is not a criticism but simply a statement of fact as reflected in HURI's books, its scholarly journal, teaching, invited speakers and visiting researchers.

Secondly, this confirms what we both pointed out in our August 7 article – namely, that political science research into, and publication on, contemporary Ukraine is now being primarily conducted outside established Ukrainian studies academic centers, such as HURI.

Political science articles on contemporary Ukraine appear in myriad political science and area studies journals that exist in the United Kingdom and North America. Political scientists seeking tenure also have to show publication or pending publication in peer-reviewed journals. Being four years behind schedule sadly dissuades political scientists from sending articles to *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*.

Thirdly, in three areas, Canada outshines the United States: it has an academic center solely devoted to contemporary Ukraine at the University of Ottawa, CIUS is more active in public outreach dealing with contemporary Ukraine, and Canadian historians (although both are Ukrainian American expats living in Toronto) have led the way in writing new histories of Ukraine. Prof. Subtelny's "Ukraine. A History" has been highly influential in both the West and in Ukraine itself.

This letter has outlined some suggestions to improve this situation. But, a requirement for there to be progress is an open and frank discussion. It is this factor that, unfortunately, is not always supported by some members of the North American Ukrainian community.

Taras Kuzio and Orest Deychakivsky
Washington

Diaspora leaders...

(Continued from page 1)

on the Maidan for 13 days, more than \$1 million was raised through Ukrainian credit unions in North America," said Bohdan Watral, president of the



Bohdan Kekish, president of the Ukrainian World Cooperative Council, addresses credit union representatives meeting in Kyiv.

Ukrainian National Credit Union Association – U.S.A. (UNCUA).

President Viktor Yushchenko duly noted their contributions, dispatching an official to read a statement at their meeting.

"I can't say a good enough word about the support that you gave Ukraine in its crucial moment," Mr. Yushchenko's statement said. "I highly appreciate your feelings for your ancestral lands and your passionate wishes to be helpful for it."

"I am full of optimism as to the prospect of our cooperation in the sphere of future development of Ukraine's credit union cooperation," his statement said. "I am convinced that together we will help Ukraine become a wealthy, free, democratic nation."

NACUU President Petro Kozynets, reported that his organization, the largest collection of credit unions in Ukraine, includes 144 credit unions with 504,200 clients holding \$70 million in assets.

He outlined several priorities for NACUU during the next five years, including obtaining official government status as a self-regulatory organization, changing the law to allow credit unions to expand their services, installation of a new computer program and introduction of electronic payments systems with plastic cards.

The CUCUC has 12 member-credit unions with 72,000 clients holding \$1.1 billion in assets, Ms. Swyntuch said.

Eighteen credit unions with 98,500 clients holding \$1.98 billion in assets belong to the UNCUA, Mr. Watral said.

Yushchenko promises...

(Continued from page 1)

not place political cadres in government," Mr. Yushchenko told reporters on September 11. "Let's get pragmatists. Let's have revisions where we need them, where real, good things can take place."

It was a clear effort by Mr. Yushchenko to put the struggling Ukrainian economy back on track and encourage both Ukrainian and foreign investors, many of whom have been scared off by potential reforms, to keep their money in Ukraine.

Demonstrating his new faces, Mr. Yushchenko announced at a September 13 press conference with Western journalists that most reprivatizations would cease, with the exception of Kryvorizhstal.

He said reprivatization had caused fear in the business community, and lay the blame on his former prime minister, Yulia Tymoshenko, who suggested earlier in the year that the government target several thousand businesses.

"I want to initiate formulation of new principles which would witness that from today we give up these practices of reprivatization from the last two or three months," Mr. Yushchenko said.

Businessmen feel frightened, Mr. Yushchenko said, and they don't feel stability, thinking that "with every prime minister that arrives, there's new revision and redistribution of interests," he said.

He even urged wealthy businessmen, such as Rynat Akhmetov and Ihor Kolomoyskyi, who are currently abroad to return to Ukraine. "Don't hide behind moun-

tains," Mr. Yushchenko said September 13. "No one is coming after them as long as they don't have a conflict with the law. I personally back this statement."

Aside from the establishing an atmosphere of economic stability, Mr. Yushchenko's other main preoccupation was launching a campaign to attack and discredit Ms. Tymoshenko. He said she engaged in backstage antics and corruption ever since she became prime minister.

The straw that broke the camel's back came when Ms. Tymoshenko tried to pressure government officials into selling the Nikopol Ferroalloy plant to Dnipropetrovsk businessmen, Mr. Yushchenko said.

Two days later, Mr. Yushchenko lobbed an even greater accusation.

In an interview with the Associated Press, he alleged that Ms. Tymoshenko used her position to try to eliminate \$1.5 billion in debt owed to the government by her defunct gas-trading company, Unified Energy Systems.

"The behavior that Yulia Volodymyrivna demonstrated in government, and the circle of her allies, were formed on a basis contrary to state interests," he said. "Many activities which the prime minister participated in were carried out behind the scenes with the aim of solving her problems."

In his statements to the press he also painted Ms. Tymoshenko as an emotional woman and referred to her as an "artist."

"Ukraine needs wise, thought-out, patient decisions without emotion, without artistry, without public relations, so that everything works honestly," Mr. Yushchenko said.

In response, Ms. Tymoshenko echoed

the concerns expressed last week by former Vice Prime Minister of Humanitarian Affairs Mykola Tomenko that "Kuchmism" was returning to Bankova Street, where the president's offices are situated.

Mr. Yushchenko "is using the same methods that Mr. Kuchma used to get rid of me," Mrs. Tymoshenko told the Associated Press on September 14.

To demonstrate his emphasis on stability, Mr. Yushchenko recalled the time when he was removed as prime minister from former President Leonid Kuchma's government.

"I said, 'Mr. President, we can spend the next year and a half in oblivion or in mutual respect,'" Mr. Yushchenko told reporters at a September 11 press conference. "To live in mutual respect, we should do what Germans did in 1948 when political leaders said we've lived three years in misunderstanding and lost faith. They decided on stability. Three years. After that, reforms began."

Two days later, Mr. Yushchenko did what Mr. Kuchma declined to do several years earlier. He called all the major political party leaders to a conference, including his nemesis, the Party of the Regions, in which they signed a Declaration of Unity and Cooperation for the Sake of Ukraine's Future.

The broad coalition of signers included Raisa Bohatyriova of the Party of the Regions, Yuri Kostenko of the right-wing Ukrainian People's Party and Valerii Pustovoitenko of Trudova Ukraina (Labor Ukraine).

Mr. Yushchenko made a point of noting that only three major political parties had not signed: the Communist Party, the Social Democratic Party United (SDPU) and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

"There's terrible fear on behalf of the Yushchenko entourage of Tymoshenko," said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is exclusively financed by Ukrainian business donations.

"They knew they had to cut her adrift because they're afraid of her. Now that she's cut adrift, they have to destroy her. Isolate her, and at any cost create a de-facto anti-Tymoshenko coalition," he noted.

The president neglected to mention that former Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, leader of the Reforms and Order Party, also did not sign. Political experts widely speculate that Mr. Pynzenyk will align his political forces with Ms. Tymoshenko, though he has made no official announcement.

The composition of the new Cabinet remains uncertain, although speculation and rumors abound in the Ukrainian capital.

A few positions have been clarified. Mr. Yushchenko named Ihor Drizhchanyi as the new chief of the Security Service of Ukraine, replacing Oleksander Turchynov, among former Ms. Tymoshenko's closest allies in the former government.

Yurii Lutsenko said Mr. Yushchenko had asked him to remain as Internal Affairs Minister immediately after announcing his sacking of the Cabinet.

Mr. Lutsenko has been among the most visible and active Cabinet Ministers during the Yushchenko presidency so far. He led the campaign in arresting government officials suspected in corruption, including former Donetsk Oblast Administration Chairman Borys Kolesnykov and former Zakarpattia Oblast Administration Chairman Ivan Rizak.

Acting Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov spent September 14 talking to leaders of various political factions in assembling his Cabinet of Ministers.

His role and agenda are unclear thus far, but many political experts said he is a strong selection to introduce stability and calm to a Cabinet ripped apart by conflict.

Mr. Yekhanurov served as Mr. Yushchenko's first vice prime minister in 2001 and was Mr. Yushchenko's assistant chief of staff during the Orange Revolution.

However, he was also head of the State Property Fund, responsible for the handling of state properties, under former President Leonid Kuchma between 1994 and 1997. The State Property Fund was a feeding trough for corrupt oligarchs during the Kuchma years, Mr. Lozowy said.

"Tymoshenko made plenty of mistakes, but the one thing I give her credit for is not being afraid to go after the big fish," Mr. Lozowy said. "What we're seeing now is a seal of approval by the Kuchmites like Yekhanurov on the entire period of rampant corruption under the Kuchma regime."

In one of his first public appearances as prime minister, photographers snapped pictures of Mr. Yekhanurov warmly greeting and embracing Mr. Kuchma in Dnipropetrovsk on September 12.

In response to concerns about Mr. Yekhanurov's record and commitment to reform, Mr. Yushchenko said September 13 that service under Mr. Kuchma does not entail a corrupt character. Mr. Yushchenko pointed out that he himself chaired the National Bank of Ukraine under Mr. Kuchma and served as his prime minister.

"Of course, anyone I nominate, they held a position in 1992, or in 1995 or in 1999," Mr. Yushchenko said during a September 14 Kyiv press conference for foreign journalists. "They didn't live in the clouds. They had some place in the system's hierarchy. If you remember there was no opposition then."

Mr. Yushchenko said, that certainly, Mr. Kuchma frequently called upon Mr. Yekhanurov and gave him orders. However, as his first vice prime minister, Mr. Yekhanurov's "performance was beyond reproach," Mr. Yushchenko said.

They were trying to implement reforms, despite working for Mr. Kuchma, Mr. Yushchenko said. "We were on another course, through which we were fired," Mr. Yushchenko said. However, immediately after his dismissal, Mr. Yekhanurov served as chief of staff Oleksander Zinchenko's first assistant in 2001.

Eventually, Mr. Yekhanurov joined the opposition.

Ms. Tymoshenko described a meeting with Mr. Yushchenko, days before her firing, in which he attacked her for attempting to overshadow him in the media.

He was frustrated that she managed to create an image in which he was "weak and incapable of running things," while she appeared "strong and efficient," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "He said, 'Look at Putin or Lukashenka. They have brilliant prime ministers. No one ever sees them on television.'"

In selecting Mr. Yekhanurov, Mr. Yushchenko wanted more of a technocrat who was going to work behind the scenes to ensure the president's initiatives moved forward, experts said.

In the one week he has been acting prime minister, Mr. Yekhanurov has yet to call a press conference.

"Yurii Yekhanurov is an absolutely different type of person than Yulia Tymoshenko," said Vasyl Stoyakin, director of the Center for Political Marketing in Kyiv.

"It's well-known to everyone that Yekhanurov, as first vice prime minister, was the work horse that carried the main activities of Yushchenko's Cabinet. Therefore, this person, without flattering him, is a dependable, hopeful servant in the best sense of the word; a very qualified manager who was very popular in the previous regime."

Anders Aslund, director of the Russian and Eurasian Program at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace in Washington, hailed Mr. Yushchenko's decision to fire Ms. Tymoshenko.

"If Yurii Yekhanurov completely changes the political government, and this is what I expect, he will be able to bring order to the economy," said Dr. Aslund, who had long argued for an end to reprivatizations.

Relief officials...

(Continued from page 1)

helped to greatly exaggerate the affects of radioactive fallout on people in the area.

"Early on there were all sorts of claims being made because people didn't have much accurate information," Dr. Mettler told Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. "Now, at last, we have the eight U.N. agencies and the three governments involved coming to a consensus about the effects and what needs to be done."

Dr. Mettler, who is also a professor emeritus at the University of New Mexico, said the nuclear disaster at Chernobyl had become a crutch for the area's inhabitants. "People have developed a paralyzing fatalism because they think they are at much higher risk than they are."

Louisa Vinton, a spokeswoman for the U.N. Development Program, one of the eight U.N. agencies that worked on the report, commented on what was needed for people in the region.

"The most important need is for accurate information on healthy lifestyles, together with better regulations to promote small, rural businesses," Mrs. Vinton said in a joint statement released by her organization, the IAEA and the WHO. "Poverty is the real danger. We need to take steps to empower people."

But Chernobyl aid workers, many of whom have worked in the region for over a decade, say that people in the affected areas still suffer greatly from radiation-related illnesses. "The Ukrainian doctors we work with are too lacking in funds or public health research experience to do effective health studies on the terrible health effects they're seeing," Mr. Kuzma, the executive director of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, said.

But Mr. Kuzma saved some of his strongest criticism for Dr. Mettler. "Dr. Fred A. Mettler, who was chosen as the team leader of the United Nations forum of 100 'experts,' was thoroughly discredited in 1992 after he repeatedly denied any increase in thyroid cancer in Chernobyl children," Mr. Kuzma wrote. Dr. Mettler could not be reached for comment.

Natalia Preobrazhenska, who heads Save the Ukrainian Children from the Chernobyl Catastrophe foundation and is a consultant to the Ukrainian Parliament's Committee on Radiation Security, also was angered by the report.

"I think it's time for the Hague court to look at our figures and at what the IAEA says," Mrs. Preobrazhenska told RFE/RL, referring to the International Criminal Court in The Hague, Netherlands. "It's horrible, the IAEA statement is criminal."

Scientists have long held that the amount of radiation released during the Chernobyl disaster – over 185 million curies, or the equivalent of 270 Hiroshima-sized bombs – would levy a serious toll on the health of the region's population. In 1992 the British journal Nature documented a 100-fold increase in thyroid cancer in the region, though it also noted that thyroid cancer is usually rare in children.

"Despite their apparent bigotry toward their subjects and their paltry track record as predictors of Chernobyl's aftermath, Mettler and the IAEA have continued to exercise an undue influence over the international radiation health research establishment," Mr. Kuzma wrote.

Keith Baverstock, a former World Health Organization radiation scientist, said the lives of people living in contaminated areas had been "permanently blighted."

Mr. Baverstock was also concerned that the IAEA may have had too great an influence in the U.N. report. The study's assessment of radiation risks should be regarded with skepticism, he said in a September 5 interview with the journal New Scientist.

The Chernobyl Children's Project International, an Irish aid organization that works largely with Belarusian people affected by fallout from Chernobyl, also questioned the report.

"The exact impact of radiation on health, particularly the impact of exposure to low levels of radiation over a long period of time, has always been controversial and widely disputed, even between U.N. agencies," a statement by the organization said. "All too often the discussion has been clouded by the agendas of interest groups."

THE 14th ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

Chicago-area Ukrainians commemorate homeland's independence anniversary



Ukraine's Acting Consul General Oleh Shevchenko is flanked by Orest Baranyk (right) and Paul Bandriwsky.

CHICAGO – Daley Plaza in downtown Chicago radiated with warmth from the bright sun on August 24 as members of Chicago's Ukrainian community filled the square to celebrate the 14th anniversary of Ukraine's independence. A huge Ukrainian flag that flew over the plaza; was posted at a sunrise flag-raising ceremony conducted by Ukrainian American Veterans Post 32.

Pavlo Bandriwsky performed the duties of master of ceremonies, welcoming the community to the commemoration on behalf of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, (UCCA) Illinois Division. He introduced Orest Baranyk, president of the UCCA Division, who gave concise speeches in Ukrainian and English, reviewing the progress that has been made in Ukraine since the last independence commemoration.

The next speaker was Oleh Shevchenko, acting consul general of Ukraine, who shared warm greetings from the Ukrainian government and

underscored Ukraine's journey on the path toward freedom and democracy.

On behalf of Cook County Treasurer Maria Pappas, Pat Michalski read a friendly greeting to the Ukrainian Consulate and the Ukrainian community, paying tribute to the anniversary.

Mr. Bandriwsky introduced the musical entertainment: sopilka and flute player Vasyl Perovanchuk, singer Mykola Sikora and "The Golden Saxophone of Ukraine" Ihor Rudy. Each performed two numbers and was rewarded with loud applause from the audience.

Mr. Bandriwsky thanked UCCA committee members for organizing the celebration, especially Bohdan Buchwak for handling all details relating to the performances and the audience for turning out for the celebration downtown.

In closing, Father Mychajlo Melnyk lead a prayer for a strong and independent Ukraine and a united Ukrainian American diaspora working together for their beloved Ukraine.

Ukraine's Embassy hosts hundreds



WASHINGTON – Chargé d'Affaires and Mrs. Sergiy Korsunsky, Defense Attaché Colonel and Mrs. Yurii Syvocon (seen above) on September 8 welcomed guests to the Embassy of Ukraine on the occasion of Ukrainian Independence Day. The reception was attended by the diplomatic community, U.S. officials, including representatives of the U.S. Department of Defense, Ukrainian American community leaders, American businessmen and investors – in all more than 400 people.

"Eyewitness to the Orange Revolution" program marks anniversary in Houston

by Eugene A. Kuchta

HOUSTON – On Saturday, August 27, Houston commemorated Ukrainian Independence Day. The event, titled "Eyewitness to the Orange Revolution," was held at Rice University and was jointly sponsored by the Rice University Slavic Studies Program and the Ukrainian American Cultural Club of Houston (UACCH).

The evening began with welcoming and opening remarks by Dr. Ewa Thompson, professor of Slavic studies at Rice University. Dr. Thompson, a long-time and dear friend of Houston's

Ukrainian American community, spoke to the significance of the evening's program. A key point was her comparison of the situation in Ukraine today versus that of almost 20 years ago, when Rice University and the UACCH commemorated the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933 by screening the movie "Harvest of Despair" with Dr. James Mace as guest speaker.

Olia Holowka Palmer, president of the UACCH, then greeted the audience and, since numerous members of the audience were not of Ukrainian heritage, conducted a brief slide presentation on the basics

(Continued on page 19)



At Houston's observance of Ukrainian Independence Day (from left) are: Rice University Prof. Ewa Thompson, keynote speaker Luba M. Dub, Ukrainian American Cultural Club of Houston President Olia Holowka Palmer, Honorary Consul of Ukraine Gregory Buchai.

Ukraine's Mission to U.N. holds reception



Lev Khmelkovsky

NEW YORK – Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations on September 1 hosted a reception on the occasion of Ukrainian Independence Day. In attendance were diplomats who are active at the U.N., U.S. officials, Ukrainian American community activists, members of the press and others. Among the notables present were U.S. Ambassador to the U.N. John Bolton, seen above in a photo with Ukraine's ambassador, Valery Kuchinsky (right); and Jean Ping of the Gabonese Republic, who was president of the 59th session (2004) of the U.N. General Assembly. Also present were staffers of Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the U.N. and the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York, headed by Consul General Serhiy Pohoreltzev.

THE 14th ANNIVERSARY OF UKRAINE'S INDEPENDENCE

Beach-goers in Wildwood Crest take time to mark a special day



New Jersey community activist Michael Koziupa summons fellow Ukrainians for a brief program marking Ukrainian Independence Day.

WILDWOOD CREST, N.J. – Two weeks before Labor Day is the traditional time many Ukrainian families vacation by the shore in southern New Jersey. It just so happens that 14 years ago Ukraine declared its Independence on August 24, which always falls during this vacation week.

On this August 24, the word was let out on the beach that at 2 p.m. that day, Ukrainians would gather on the beach to celebrate Ukraine's Independence Day. At about 1:40 p.m., a man left his room in a hotel by the beach and came out onto the sand proudly raising the Ukrainian flag in the air. As he passed the college students who normally gather and play by the sand dunes, he called for them to join with other Ukrainians on the beach in 15 minutes. He then walked to the designated spot near the shore and raised the Ukrainian flag into the air.

Numerous Ukrainian families were sitting under the hot sun or riding the waves of the warm ocean water. One by one, as they saw the flag they got up and started to walk toward the man holding the Ukrainian flag. The college students were streaming from the sand dunes, while families were walking away from the

ocean toward the gathering point on the beach. After about 15 minutes the crowd made a large circle of close to 200 people – men, women, boys, girls and babies.

The man introduced himself as Michael Koziupa, vice-president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, New Jersey Coordinating Council. He thanked everyone for gathering together on this spot and gave a short speech about Ukraine and its many years of struggle. He congratulated Ukraine on its 14th anniversary of independence and called on everyone to commemorate this occasion by singing Ukraine's national anthem, "Shche Ne Vmerla Ukraina." Everyone enthusiastically joined.

Afterwards everyone gathered together to talk and take pictures. Then, slowly the families returned to the beach and the ocean, while the college crowd returned to the sand dunes to enjoy this wonderfully warm and sunny day.

That night, the sound of Ukrainian music and song was carried on the ocean air, as Ukrainians gathered together at the Park Lane and Crystal Beach motels to sing and party together, to celebrate Ukraine's independence and their Ukrainian heritage.

Minneapolis community recalls historic happenings of 1991

by Dr. Michael J. Kozak

MINNEAPOLIS – Despite the widespread opinion that in Minneapolis, just like in other Ukrainian communities, there is a lack of interest in civic activities, there are more encouraging signs that a new generation of young people are stepping in to take the places of those who have departed. With no less enthusiasm and full of energy, they are getting involved in their church's activities and at the same time have not forgotten their obligation toward their national and cultural heritage.

The best example of this was seen on Sunday, August 28, of this year. Thanks to the initiative of the Women's Guild, parishioners of St. Constantine Church had an opportunity to solemnly celebrate the 14th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

On that day Father Canon Michael Stelmach celebrated a divine liturgy for the intention of the Ukrainian people, their

newly elected president and his administration. After the liturgy, all the faithful, led by Father Stelmach, prayed that Ukraine would continue to be a free and independent state. Then the church choir, under the direction of Jurij Ivan, sang the Ukrainian national anthem, which ended the religious portion of the anniversary observance.

The parishioners were invited to the school auditorium, where the tables were decorated with yellow and blue flowers and small American and Ukrainian flags. They were served sandwiches, coffee and tasty baked goods. Ukrainian music and songs played in the background, adding much to the festive mood of the audience.

This part of the festivities was prepared by Rose-Marie Kycia, Anne Reuter, Irene Malecky and Wolodymyra Taraschuk, with the help of Jon Reuter, Nicole Luciw, Joanna Chowhan, Yvette

(Continued on page 19)

Lackawanna County officials greet citizens on Ukraine's Independence Day

SCRANTON, Pa. – On Wednesday, August 24, Lackawanna County Commissioners Robert Cordaro, Al Munchak, Michael Washo and Scranton City Council President Gary DiBileo greeted the citizens of Lackawanna County and the Ukrainian community in particular on the occasion of the 14th anniversary of Ukraine's independence.

The well-attended ceremonies took place outdoors at the Lackawanna County Court House Flag Plaza, Central City Scranton, with the presentation of an official proclamation, raising of the flag of Ukraine and the singing of the national anthems of the United States and Ukraine. Remarks were made by Commissioners Cordaro, Munchak and Washo, as well as Councilman DiBileo, the Rev. Mitred Nestor Kowal of St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Parish, the Rev. Paul Wolensky of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Parish, the Rev. Edward Levandusky of

Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Parish and Paul Ewasko, President of the Ukrainian Heritage Council of Northeastern Pennsylvania which sponsors the annual event.

The overriding theme of the day's celebration was Ukrainians reputation worldwide as having an indestructible spirit of religious, cultural, historical and national identity. In addition, special mention was made of the huge contribution Ukrainian immigrants and American-born Ukrainians have made to the United States, and to Northeastern Pennsylvania in particular. In honor of all Ukrainians, the Ukrainian flag was to fly at the Court House for one week.

The ceremonies were concluded with the declaration of August 24, "Ukrainian Independence Day in Lackawanna County" and the singing "Mnohaya Lita" to the county commissioners and council president. A luncheon followed at the Scranton Hilton Hotel.



Participants of Ukrainian Independence Day ceremonies in Scranton, Pa., sing the national anthem of Ukraine.

Ocean County community raises Ukrainian flag



TOMS RIVER, N.J. – The Ocean County Board of Chosen Freeholders recently joined with members of the Ukrainian American Club of Ocean County in raising the Ukrainian flag at the Administration Building in Toms River. The ceremony marked the 14th anniversary of Ukraine's independence. Pictured (from left) are: Ihor Dworjan, trustee of the Ukrainian American Club of Ocean County and flag-raising coordinator; Anna Dzera, club member; Lesia Gural, vice-president and secretary of the Ukrainian American Club; Freeholder Director Joseph H. Vicari; Sheriff William Polhemus; and Freeholder Deputy Director Gerry P. Little.

Cardinal Lubomyr Husar pays a visit to faithful in Los Angeles

by Anne Prokopovych

LOS ANGELES – The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church's celebration of the Feast of Transfiguration was honored by the presence of Cardinal Lubomyr Husar on August 7. Protocol and traditions handed down through the generations were blended together for a festive day filled with liturgical, cultural and social activities.

This was the first time in over 30 years that the leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church has visited Los Angeles. The last visit was by the late Patriarch Josyf Slipyj in the 1970s.

Officially he is addressed as "His Beatitude, Our Blessed Father, Patriarch Lubomyr Husar I, Patriarch of Kyiv, Halych and all Rus'-Ukraine." He also holds the title "Major Archbishop of Lviv, for Ukrainian Greek-Catholics" and is a member of the College of Cardinals of the Catholic Church. He is the spiritual leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, which is the largest Eastern Catholic Church in the world, with about 5.5 million faithful in Ukraine and other countries around the world.

The celebration begins

In Los Angeles, all liturgical feast day celebrations throughout the year begin with a solemn procession around the church. Young and old participate, led by those carrying the cross, ripidias, the gospel and icons, and accompanied by singing of processional hymns led by the cantor, Stephen Klos, and the parish choir. This day was no different as Cardinal Husar, clergy, altar servers and a multitude of faithful processed to the ringing of joyous bells.

Upon returning to the front door of the church, Cardinal Husar was greeted with the culturally traditional bread and salt welcome in Ukrainian by Marta Matla and in English by Alex Stogryn, on behalf of the parish. He was also greeted by Father Myron Mykyta, pastor.

The cardinal then proceeded to the interior of the church for the blessing of the newly renovated sanctuary. Work had recently been completed to repair damage to the ceiling and walls caused by earthquake damage and other environmental stress over the years. Decorative finishing work was done by artist Yuriy Viktiuk to preserve specific iconographic items while adding complementary enhancements reflecting the Ukrainian Byzantine heritage.

During his homily, Cardinal Husar conveyed greetings and thanks from "your brothers and sisters in Ukraine"



Major Archbishop Lubomyr Husar during liturgy at Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church in Los Angeles.

for keeping the faith alive during the decades of Soviet repression in Ukraine.

Born in Lviv in 1933, the young Lubomyr and his family were forced to leave Ukraine during World War II, joining thousands of displaced persons who stayed in temporary camps in Europe, and then immigrated to the United States, Canada and other countries.

Cardinal Husar shared his memory of coming to the U.S. with few material possessions, but with a strong faith in God that sustained his family and the Ukrainian immigrant community during difficult times. He acknowledged that the common effort of many, many individuals who prayed and worked together kept the faith alive until the Church in Ukraine could be reborn again following the nation's independence in 1991.

Most of the parishioners in Los Angeles are first-, second- or third-generation immigrants from Ukraine, with family experiences similar to that of Cardinal Husar. In addition, others have become parishioners through marriage or spiritual need. The Ukrainian Catholic primate challenged all to share the gift of faith with "your children, your grandchildren, your great grandchildren, and with others. The teachings of God are not limited to any one culture, to any one

language, to any one national group. Christ's teachings are open to everybody."

To leave a lasting reminder to continue to share the gift of faith, the cardinal presented the parish with a wooden cross carved in Ukraine by craftsmen using traditional techniques and tools.

Traditional blessing of fruits

During the closing prayers of the divine liturgy Cardinal Husar blessed the fruits brought by parishioners. In the Byzantine Ukrainian Church tradition, the Feast of the Transfiguration is an annual celebration of joy and thanksgiving, and is accompanied by the traditional Ukrainian folk feast of "Spasa," when fruits are presented for blessing by the faithful as an offering to God for the first fruits of the harvest. In Ukraine, this tradition is especially evident in the villages, where people bring fruits from their own trees in decorated baskets that line the grounds outside the church.

In Los Angeles, parishioners are fortunate to enjoy a richly varied harvest from people's own backyards, from farmer's markets, from supermarkets, and from superstores. The variety of the contents and decoration of each basket – from plain and simple to elegant and exotic – represented each person's own

way of offering thanks for God's blessings.

Welcoming dinner

The practice of organizing parish dinners following divine liturgies on feast days has become another tradition in Los Angeles. These are special occasions to eat, drink, sing, pray and enjoy the company of brothers and sisters in Christ.

On this day, in addition to our Cardinal Husar, Los Angeles parishioners welcomed several other clergy as honored guests:

- Father Deacon Ihor Boyko, assisting the cardinal during this trip through the U.S., a graduate of Lviv Theological Seminary who is currently studying at St. Basil's Seminary in Stamford, Conn.;
- Father Vasyl Sauciu, pastor of St. Vladimir Ukrainian Orthodox Parish in Los Angeles, and his family;
- Father Yuriy Shakh, former pastor of St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Los Angeles, and his family;
- Father John Hritzko, pastor of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Ukrainian Catholic Parish in San Diego;
- Brother James (Andrew Quinlan), Holy Resurrection Monastery, Newberry Springs, Calif.; and
- Brother Gustavo, Oblates of St.

(Continued on page 14)



The primate of the Ukrainian Catholic Church is welcomed with flowers.



Parishioners and clergy in front of the church with Cardinal Lubomyr Husar.

U.S.-Ukraine Foundation holds its first Youth Leadership Program in Ukraine

KYIV – Twenty-two students stood in Kaniv at the grave and monument to Taras Shevchenko, considered to be one of Ukraine's greatest leaders. They sang the "Zapovit," Shevchenko's testament, and those who were ready signed prepared commitments to leadership at this historic site.

The session ended with tearful good-byes to new found friends and a new group of young leaders inspired to serve Ukraine in their communities.

The students were there as part of the fourth annual U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's Youth Leadership Program 2005, which took place in Ukraine for the first time. This year's program, held on July 24-31, boasted the largest number of students ever – a total of 22 from more than 70 applicants. The final group consisted of four Ukrainian Americans, one Ukrainian from France, and 17 Ukrainians from all regions of Ukraine.

The foundation recognizes the great need for encouraging young people in Ukraine who have a desire to become future leaders. Talented and dynamic students who have not had the opportunity to participate in leadership programs sponsored by the West were specifically selected from the foundation's communi-

the students were exposed to this information. She also spoke about the struggles and challenges of Ukrainian national identity preservation during Soviet times.

Ihor Dobko of the Lion Association in Lviv conducted an interactive workshop on the characteristics of leadership and led a lively discussion on the differences between leaders and managers. It was interesting to note that students in Ukraine identified many of the same leadership characteristics and picked many of the same people as examples of true leaders as students in previous YLP sessions in Washington did.

In addition to touring the Verkhovna Rada building, where they saw first-hand many of the sites made famous during the Orange Revolution, students visited a number of offices in the executive branch of the Ukrainian government. During visits within the president's administration they met with several high-level government representatives, including Pavlo Matsepa, chief consultant of the Main Information Service of the Secretariat of the President of Ukraine; Iliia Shevlyak, vice minister of youth, and sports; and Oleh Shamshur, vice minister of foreign affairs. These officials gave a candid portrayal of the



Youth Leadership Program participants at the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.



The young leaders meet with Pora, Znayu and the Youth Center of the Atlantic Council of Ukraine at the Kyiv Office of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation.

ty partnership cities.

Past sessions of the YLP that were held in Washington had shown that a combination of Ukrainian and American students created an exciting and dynamic program which reminded American practitioners in the field of U.S.-Ukraine relations that their work affects society both now and in the future. The foundation wanted to make that same strong statement to Ukrainian leaders and to inspire them with the youthful enthusiasm that invariably emerges from the program.

The initial session of YLP 2005 took place on Sunday afternoon at the Kyiv University of Tourism, Economics and Law, where participants lived during the week. Nadia McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation (USUF), Markian Bilynskyj, USUF vice-president, Kyiv; Vera Andrushkiw, Community Partnerships Project (CPP) director, Washington; and Marta Kolomayets, CPP director, Kyiv; introduced the program, as well as the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation to the students.

Later in the week Ms. Andrushkiw also held a session with students on the history of relations between the U.S. and Ukraine, highlighting the important role that the Ukrainian American community plays in these relations. As in previous years this was the first time that many of

day-to-day workings of their ministries, as well as their limitations in terms of analysis and evaluation of programs.

Discussion at the Ministry of Education with Yaroslav Bolyubash, head of the University Level Department, and Omelian Sukholytkyi, head of the International Relations Department, was especially candid since students were most familiar with its operation. Overall, the students were impressed with the dynamism and efforts of these individuals.

From the American government, Sheila Gwaltney, deputy chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine, briefed the students on the current issues in U.S.-Ukraine relations. Lisa Heller, counselor in the U.S. Embassy's Public Affairs Section, and representatives from American Councils for International Education and IREX Ukraine catalogued the many opportunities for study abroad and exchanges available to Ukrainian students.

A trip to Kaniv provided an opportunity for students to learn more about local government in Ukraine and how they can become more involved. Upon arrival, a welcome and introduction was given by Kaniv Mayor Vasyl Kolomiyets, Mayor, Fritz Meies of Verzen, Germany, who is chairman of the Friends of Kaniv Association, and Ms. McConnell.

Larysa Tomilyeva-Kuhno, Kaniv City Council secretary, moderated a roundtable discussion titled "Role of Youth in the Decision-Making Process on a Municipal Level." Tetyana Orobchenko, a youth policy expert from Komsomolsk, also held a seminar on "Practical Steps on How Young People Can be Involved in the Decision-Making Process on a Municipal Level."

Representatives from various non-governmental entities, including the School of Policy Analysis at National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, the election education initiative "Pora," the Youth Center of the Atlantic Council of Ukraine and the Peace Corps also met with the students. Yaroslav Pylynsky, director of the Kyiv Kennan Institute, took the group on an informative, historically focused tour of two sites of mass executions in the Kyiv area: Babyn Yar and Bykivnia.

Vadim Bodayev, head of the Representative Office of SigmaBleyzer, gave insight into entrepreneurial endeavors in Ukraine. Ihor Silchenko, marketing director for Softline, one of the companies in which SigmaBleyzer has invested, gave a talk about the company's business practices and future goals.

Toward the end of the program, the students went to Pushcha Vodytsia to participate in a service project that helps get street kids settled back into normal lives, known as "The Ark" run by Father's Care. Channeling some of their youthful enthusiasm to constructive ends, the students made great strides in cleaning up and organizing the yard work efforts on the grounds of the project. In addition, they met and connected on a personal level with some of the children helped by the center.

At the concluding ceremony in Kaniv, near Shevchenko's final resting place, Ms. McConnell, Mr. Bilynskyj, Ms. Andrushkiw and Ms. Kolomayets presented participants with a two-volume edition on Ukrainian culture, a USUF pin and a certificate of completion of the program.

The YLP graduates surprised USUF organizers with a poem, written by one of the students, and a vase filled with confetti, symbolizing the participants' dreams, wishes and goals engendered by the program.

For more information about the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation and its Youth Leadership Program readers may visit www.usukraine.org.



The Youth Leadership Program participants at the Taras Shevchenko monument in Kaniv.

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Cardinal Lubomyr...

(Continued from page 12)

Joseph, Camarillo, Calif.
Also welcomed to the dinner were visitors from San Diego and other cities in California and neighboring states.

The dinner began with a floral welcome for Cardinal Husar, presented by 10-year-old Yulita Zavada. Master of Ceremonies Luba Keske deftly delivered introductions and kept the program moving briskly. Father Mykyta delivered the formal parish greetings with his characteristically droll wit and wisdom, culminating with a rousing champagne toast and singing of "Mnohaya Lita" for the special guest.

Contribution for "sobor"

Cardinal Husar has visited several parishes in the U.S. and Canada during recent years in order to raise money to build the new Holy Resurrection Cathedral in Kyiv. He wants it to symbolize the rebirth of the Catholic Church in Ukraine after the fall of the Soviet Union.

The location of the new cathedral and patriarchal center in Ukraine's capital city of Kyiv also has symbolic meaning. Cardinal Husar has expressed his commitment to bring together all groups who are descendants of the church of Kyiv founded more than 1,000 years ago.

Over the years the Church has been dispersed, and the people have settled around the world. Cardinal Husar emphasized that the new cathedral is not merely a church for Kyiv alone, but a symbol to unify all of these people.

"It doesn't matter the size of the donation, even if it is only \$1," he insisted. "When you come to Kyiv, you can look at the church and say: 'This is my church. This is our church. This is where I will meet my brothers and sisters.' This is where we can all say. 'This is ours. It belongs to all of us.'"

"This is why we call it a 'sobor,' rather than simply a 'church' or a 'cathedral,'" he continued. "It is a place with special meaning that people come to freely from all over. It doesn't belong to any particular group. It is 'ours.'"

The fund-raising effort in Los Angeles exemplifies the Church leader's words. Over \$55,000 was raised from numerous donations from individuals, families, and community organizations, ranging from 1 to \$1,000 each. Fund-raising chairman Taras Kozbur, head of the Ukrainian Patriarchal Society of Los Angeles, presented a check to Cardinal Husar on behalf of these many donors who support the realization of the patriarchal sobor.

Parish and community greetings

Warm welcomes and appreciation for the primate's visit to Los Angeles were presented by Anne Mykytyn on behalf of St. Mary's Sodality and Taras Matla, on behalf of the Holy Name Society. These two parish organizations have provided the core of fellowship and pastoral support for Los Angeles since the parish was founded nearly 60 years ago.

Greetings from local community organizations were also presented by: Bohdan Shpak, head of the Ukrainian Culture Center of Los Angeles; Alexander Rivney, head of the Los Angeles Chapter of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America; Ariadna Terleczyj, head of the Los Angeles chapter of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America; and Irynej Prokopovych, head of the Los Angeles chapter of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

For more information on the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish in Los Angeles, readers may log on to www.ukrainiancatholicla.org or contact Father Mykyta at (323) 663-6307.

Yushchenko finally acts...

(Continued from page 2)

have the political will to enforce his presidential decisions?

Since his inauguration in January, Mr. Yushchenko has often preferred traveling on the international stage than actually running the country. Although constitutional reforms transferring some power from the executive to the Parliament and government are not set to take place until January 2006, Mr. Yushchenko was already acting as a symbolic president.

In the last eight months, Mr. Yushchenko has only intervened when the domestic situation reached a crisis point. He failed to halt the notorious public squabbling between Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and National Security and Defense Council Secretary Petro Poroshenko.

He finally intervened in May, warning Ms. Tymoshenko about her statist economic policies (see EDM, May 11 and 27), and in June-July, when it looked as though Parliament might not adopt the legislation necessary for joining the WTO (EDM, June 15). In September Mr. Yushchenko warned Ms. Tymoshenko about supporting one oligarch group (Pryvat) over another (Interpipe) in a privatization dispute.

When Mr. Zinchenko aired the coalition's dirty laundry ahead of Mr. Yushchenko's scheduled visit to the United States this week, the president had to respond. A failure to act decisively might have spelled the end of the Yushchenko presidency. The opposition would capitalize on public anxieties and the image of a lame duck president ahead of the March 2006 elections.

Social Democratic Party – United parliamentary faction leader Leonid Kravchuk warned President Yushchenko that he could face early elections if the

political crisis continued. The former president obviously spoke from experience, having been forced to call early elections in 1994.

A growing number of Ukrainians had already begun to question whether Mr. Yushchenko was all that different from his predecessor, Leonid Kuchma. A Razumkov Center poll found that the number of Ukrainians who believed that President Yushchenko was better than Mr. Kuchma had declined from 52 percent in April to 37 percent in August (Dzerkalo Tyzhnia/Zerkalo Nedeli, August 27-September 2).

Worse still, in August the number of Ukrainians who believed that Ukraine was moving in the "wrong direction" (43 percent) for the first time was higher than those who thought Ukraine was moving in the right direction (32 percent). In February 51 percent of Ukrainians believed Ukraine was moving in the "right direction" compared to only 24 percent who disagreed. Trust in Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Tymoshenko had declined during the same period by 16 to 17 percent (Dzerkalo Tyzhnia/Zerkalo Nedeli, August 27-September 2).

Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn said that, although the new leaders claimed to be doing everything in a different way, "it increasingly resembled how it was done under Mr. Kuchma" (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 6). He certainly would know, as he was head of the presidential administration in 1996-2002.

Mr. Yushchenko was also damaged by accusations recently made by Lesia Gongadze, mother of murdered opposition journalist Heorhii Gongadze. Although killed in fall 2000, he has yet to be buried. Mrs. Gongadze lost a court case in which she had complained about the inactivity of the prosecutor's office regarding her son's case. Afterwards, she

minister, it was understood that Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's Union and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc would form a parliamentary election coalition, preferably together with the People's Party headed by Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, to counter the forces that in the Orange Revolution supported Mr. Yushchenko's presidential rival, former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich. Now the probability of such a coalition seems to be virtually nil.

On the contrary, many expect a bitter election confrontation between pro-Yushchenko and pro-Tymoshenko forces. Such a development might lead to a serious political disorientation among adherents of the former Yushchenko-Tymoshenko revolutionary duet and add to their further disillusionment.

Mr. Yushchenko's political position may also be considerably undermined by the political reform that is going to take effect on January 1. The reform, which was adopted as a compromise to overcome the presidential-election standoff in 2004, will shift the center of political power in Ukraine from the president to the Cabinet and Parliament. Some in Ukraine speculated that Mr. Yushchenko might somehow cancel this reform to prevent a curtailment of his prerogatives. Now that Ms. Tymoshenko has become Mr. Yushchenko's political rival and will almost certainly fight for the post of prime minister against the pro-Yushchenko forces in the upcoming parliamentary elections, she will have little incentive to cancel the political reform to preserve President Yushchenko's political clout.

In any event, the stakes in the 2006 parliamentary elections in Ukraine will be very high and the elections themselves will be a political fight with no rules.

said, "So what? Mr. Yushchenko or Mr. Kuchma – nothing has changed. I will not go to Mr. Yushchenko and give him my hand, as we have nothing in common" (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 7).

There have long been whispers that the official investigation into who ordered the Gongadze murder has been blocked at high levels (see EDM, July 20). First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Tomenko said that the people Mr. Zinchenko had accused of corruption were the same people who were blocking the Gongadze investigation (Ukrayinska Pravda, September 8). Mr. Tomenko also claimed that Mr. Lytvyn had blocked parliamentary discussion of the report by the parliamentary investigation commission.

By acting decisively to remove officials accused of corruption, Mr. Yushchenko has shown that his presidency differs from that of Mr. Kuchma, who condoned corruption in exchange for political loyalty.

Mr. Zinchenko has already taken evidence to the Procurator General's Office related to Mr. Poroshenko's allegedly corrupt activities. Accusations against him may be personally difficult for Mr.

Yushchenko, as Mr. Poroshenko is the godfather of one of Mr. Yushchenko's five children.

President Yushchenko's decisive actions have resolved the crisis for now. But there remains much to be done and his allies are deserting him. Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine parliamentary faction has progressively disintegrated throughout this week. The People's Union Our Ukraine now has only 45 deputies, down from 100 at the beginning of 2005. Mr. Yushchenko's faction now has only one more deputy than Mr. Lytvyn's People's Party (44) and only four more than Ms. Tymoshenko's (41).

After Mr. Zinchenko's accusations, the Our Ukraine faction splintered into a People's Union Our Ukraine bloc (45), using the name of Mr. Yushchenko's stalled new party of power, and Rukh factions (14). Two further factions soon appeared – Reforms and Order (15) and Forward Ukraine (19). The Ukrainian People's Party (22) had withdrawn earlier from Our Ukraine.

Given the apparent crisis, perhaps President Yushchenko should not be traveling abroad at this time.

Ukrainian president...

(Continued from page 2)

the Orange Revolution was about more democracy and less corruption in their country than about bestowing government posts and benefits upon revolution heroes.

However, Mr. Yushchenko may well find it problematic to achieve any further progress in pushing the Orange Revolution program. Without doubt, Mr. Yushchenko has made a very prudent move by appointing Yuriy Yekhanurov as caretaker prime minister. Mr. Yekhanurov, who has extensive experience in many government posts, is widely seen as a technocrat and is expected to form a government of experts and economists rather than revolutionary combatants. And Mr. Yekhanurov stands a very good chance of being approved by the Verkhovna Rada.

But it is very unlikely that he will be allowed by Parliament to pursue any radical reforms prior to the March 2006 parliamentary elections.

As manifested by a number of abortive votes in the Verkhovna Rada in July on government-proposed bills to facilitate Ukraine's membership in the World Trade Organization, Mr. Yushchenko cannot count on a reliable parliamentary majority to support his reformist agenda. Now, after Prime Minister Tymoshenko's dismissal, the chances of forging a lasting parliamentary alliance for the government are even slimmer. The best that can be expected from the new Cabinet is to maintain macroeconomic stability in the country in the run-up to and during the 2006 parliamentary election campaign, and to secure supplies of Russian gas for 2006 at a tolerable price.

While Ms. Tymoshenko was prime



With deep sorrow we announce that on September 3, 2005, at the age of 56 in New York City passed away

Eugene Peter Badiak

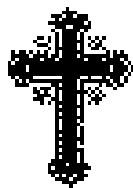
He was born December 30, 1948, in Germany.

Funeral Services were held on Saturday, September 10, 2005, at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York, followed by interment at Holy Ghost Cemetery in Hamptonburgh, N.Y.

In deep sorrow:

sisters	Mary and Helen
brother	Roman with wife Irene
nephews	Daniel and Alexander

In lieu of flowers, donations can be sent to
Cabrini Hospice
227 East 19th St.
New York, N.Y. 10003
Attn. Development Office



Ділимося сумною вісткою з родиною приятелями і знайомими, що з волі Всевишнього, в понеділок 29 серпня 2005 р. відійшла у Божу Вічність на 84-му році життя найдорожча МАМА, БАБЦЯ і ПРАБАБЦЯ
бл. п.

Стефанія Гарас

Панахида за спокій душі покійної відбулася в середу, 31 серпня 2005 р., а похорон з Української католицької церкви свв. Кирила і Методія в Сейнт Катеринс відбувся в четвер, 1 вересня 2005 р. Тлінні останки покійної Стефанії спочили на місцевому цвинтарі Вікторія Лавн (Victoria Lawn Cemetery).

Залишила у великому жалю:

Доню	Олю з чоловіком Ярославом Ткачуком
сина	Ореста з дружиною Іреною
внуків	Григоря Ткачука з дружиною Оксаною Анну Охрим з чоловіком Олесем Катрусю Гарас Наталю Гарас
правнука	Теодора Охрима
тету	Іванку Городиську
кузнів	Івана і Андрія (Іка) Городиських з родинами
сватів,	дальшу родину та приятелів.

В цей невимовно болючий для нас час просимо згадати Покійну у Ваших молитвах, а пам'ять про неї хай буде вічною.

Columbia University offers Ukrainian courses in fall 2005

NEW YORK – Columbia University and the Harriman Institute will offer a number of courses in Ukrainian language and international affairs in the fall 2005 semester, which began on September 6. Descriptions of the courses offered are as follows (please note that dates and times are subject to change):

• Elementary Ukrainian I (W1101) is a course for undergraduate and graduate students with little or no knowledge of Ukrainian. Basic grammar structures are introduced and reinforced with equal emphasis on developing oral and written communication skills. Special attention is paid to acquiring and using common

vocabulary. By the end of the course, students are expected to conduct short conversations concerning daily life, read simple factual texts, and write routine messages. The course will be taught on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:40-6:55 p.m. in 716A Hamilton Hall. The instructor is Dr. Yuri Shevchuk (Lecturer of Ukrainian language and culture, department of Slavic Languages, Columbia University).

• Intermediate Ukrainian I (W1201) is a course for undergraduate and graduate students that begins with a review of grammar fundamentals and common vocabulary and that places emphasis on further development of students' communicative skills (oral and written). By the end of the course, students will be able to use all major time frames and converse effectively in most formal and informal settings. The course will be taught on Mondays and Wednesdays at 6:10-7:25 p.m. in 716A Hamilton Hall. The instructor is Dr. Shevchuk.

• Advanced Ukrainian I (W3001) is a course for undergraduate and graduate students who wish to develop their mastery of Ukrainian. Further study of grammar includes patterns of word formation, participles, gerunds and declension of numerals. The course will enable students to discuss both general and special interest topics, hypothesize and support opinions, and conduct independent field research in the Ukrainian language. Classes are taught largely in Ukrainian. The course will be taught on Mondays and Wednesdays at 4:10-5:25 p.m. in 716A Hamilton Hall. The instructor is Dr. Shevchuk.

• "Ukraine and the United Nations: Diplomacy and Politics through the Eyes of a Ukrainian Ambassador" (U4575) is a

course for undergraduate and graduate students which provides comprehensive and contemporary examination of the United Nations and its role in three core issues of international relations: international peace and security; human rights and humanitarian affairs; and building peace through sustainable development. It gives first-hand insight into the politics of today's multilateral diplomacy as it is conducted within the United Nations framework and analyzes the input of individual member-states. The course will be taught on Wednesdays at 6:10-8 p.m. in 1219 International Affairs Building. The instructor is Ambassador Valery Kuchinsky, permanent representative of Ukraine to the United Nations. This course begins on Wednesday, September 28.

Many of these courses are open, in addition to Columbia students, to individuals interested in non-credit continuing studies, as well as students from other universities in the New York metropolitan area.

Undergraduate and graduate students from New York University can register directly with their school for Ukrainian language classes at Columbia, while Ph.D. candidates and master degree students from universities which are part of the Columbia University Consortium (e.g., NYU, City University of New York, New School University) can register for non-language courses by obtaining appropriate approval from both their home school and Columbia.

For further information, readers may contact Diana Howansky of the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, by phone at (212) 854-4697 or (212) 854-8624, or by e-mail at ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu.

Young theologians...

(Continued from page 4)

cles. Among their accomplishments were the following: the graduates successfully ran the "Christmas Together" project in January, bringing eastern and western Ukrainians together to celebrate Christmas in Lviv; they have helped develop Faith and Light communities for the mentally disabled in Ukraine; they have organized numerous summer programs, including evangelization projects throughout the country; and they have prepared many translations of theological literature.

Among the more interesting reports given at the conferences' plenary sessions were those of the Rev. Dr. Andriy Chirovsky of the Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian Studies in Ottawa and the Rev. Dr. Sviatoslav Shevchuk, vice-rector of Holy Spirit Seminary. The Rev. Chirovsky shared his personal experience in the establishment of theological scholarship in the UGCC at the end of the last century; the Rev. Shevchuk presented his vision of theological formation for UGCC clergy.

The sessions for specialists were divided into 10 sections, with "interesting, and sometimes heated, discussions,

the birth of new ideas. They proposed new solutions to various problems," Mr. Filevych noted.

"There are those who love to look on the era of the dukes [of Kyivan-Rus'] as the golden age of Kyivan Christianity," said the Rev. Chirovsky. "Some want to see the 17th century as the golden era, when many churches were built and the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy was established. Some see this golden age in the times of the ministry of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky. But, when I see in this hall 250 young theologians, I understand all the better that this golden age will be coming soon."

To keep the prospects of the Ukrainian Catholic University fully alive, Father Borys Gudziak, the rector of the UCU, will be traveling to the United States in November on a fund-raising tour of five cities. (Further information will be published in advertisements to be published in The Weekly.)

Further information about the UCU in English and Ukrainian is available on the university's website at www.ucu.edu.ua. Readers may also contact the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; phone, (773) 235-8462; e-mail, ucef@ucef.org; website, www.ucef.org. The phone number of the UCEF in Canada is (416) 239-2495.

FESTIVAL OF KYIVAN LITURGICAL MUSIC

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Dr. Vasil Truchly

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Choral Music in Byzantine Liturgy
Archbishop Vsevdod Majdansky
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of USA

Session II
Master Class
Connecting Body and Spirit in Music
Laurence Ewashko, choral studies professor
University of Ottawa

Session III
Liturgy and Statehood
Bishop Oleksander Bykovets
Ukrainian Orthodox Church, Kyiv Patriarchate

Session V
Master Class
Choral Conducting
William Woloschuk, music director
Counterpoint Chorale and String Ensemble

Saturday, October 8

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A concert by four choruses
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10 a.m.

Sunday, October 9
St. Andrew Ukrainian
Orthodox Cathedral
9:30 a.m.

Please complete the enclosed form and mail, with event fee, by October 5, 2005. Checks payable to Kyiv Fest should be mailed to: Committee for the Festival of Kyivan Liturgical Music, 3712 N. Broadway Avenue, Suite 247, Chicago, IL 60613. Email registration available at kyivliturgyfest@aol.com

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Address: _____

Profession: _____

Firm: _____

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I will attend the seminar (\$25, fee includes lunch)

I will attend the concert (\$10, free to seminar attendees)

Please order boxed dinner for me on Saturday (\$10)

I will attend the Sunday luncheon (\$20)

_____ Total fees

Bus service between Ukrainian Village Cultural Center and Bloomingdale, IL will be available for the seminar and the concert. A schedule will be provided to registrants.

A block of rooms has been reserved at \$98 per night at Hilton Garden Inn, 551 North Swift Road, Addison, IL 1-877-STAYHGI

Fund-raising event to celebrate The Ukrainian Museum's inaugural success

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – The Ukrainian Museum is celebrating its momentum of success, which has carried through from the opening of its newly built facility in April and the presentation of its inaugural exhibition, "Alexander Archipenko: Vision and Continuity."

The celebration, billed as a fund-raiser for the new museum, will be held on Sunday, September 25, at the Essex House on the south side of New York's venerable and beautiful Central Park. The event includes cocktails and a luncheon at the landmark hotel's opulent Petit and Grand Salons, featuring classical French décor. Ms. Slobodian-Odulak will serve as the mistress of ceremonies.

As its keynote speaker, the museum invited the writer and editor Askold Melnyczuk. Mr. Melnyczuk's first novel,

"What Is Told" (Faber and Faber), was on The New York Times' Notable Book list. The Los Angeles Times Best Books of the Year for 2002 listed his second novel, "The Ambassador of the Dead" (Counterpoint).

Mr. Melnyczuk is a prolific writer and has also enjoyed success as a poet. His poems have been anthologized in "Under Thirty-Five: The New Generation of American Poets" and other similar publications. The author is a recipient of the Lila Wallace-Reader's Digest Award for Fiction and the McGinnis Prize in Fiction from The Southwest Review; he has also received many grants for his writing from the Massachusetts Cultural Council.

In 1972 Mr. Melnyczuk founded the literary journal Agni. In 2002 he received the PEN/Magid Award for Magazine Editing for Agni. At present he directs a creative writing program at the University of Massachusetts in Boston and teaches in the

Bennington Graduate Writing Seminars.

The entertainment portion of the celebration event at the Essex House will feature the virtuosity of the acclaimed jazz pianist John Stetch. The artist, who has been described as "a marvelous inventive pianist with dramatic flair and the chops to back it up," has performed at some of the world's most prestigious jazz venues, including the Montreal, Paris JVC and Monterey jazz festivals.

His unique recording of a solo trilogy, "Ukrainianism," was identified as "one of the best solo piano recordings in recent years" in Down Beat magazine. Mr. Stetch is a Steinway Artist and has been a guest on such programs as NPR's "Piano Jazz," "Jazz Set" with Branford Marsalis and "Weekend Edition" with Liane Hansen.

The proceeds of the event are earmarked to support the work of The Ukrainian Museum in its new facility and

will also go toward maintenance of the recently constructed building.

The museum announced that several individuals have become sponsors of the event: Mark and Dr. Ariadna Bach, Andrew Lencyk, Esq., Dr. Ihor and Alexandra Sawczuk, Brian and Andrea Tomko, and Michael and Alexandra Zawadiwsky.

For information and tickets readers may contact The Ukrainian Museum at (212) 228-0110 or e-mail: info@ukrainianmuseum.org. Tickets are \$150 per person.

The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues) in Manhattan.

The exhibition "Alexander Archipenko: Vision and Continuity" has been extended through September 18, and is on view Wednesday through Sunday, 11:30 a.m.-5 p.m. Information about the museum may be found at www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

Friends mobilize to help save ailing man

by Donna Kuzemczak

MORRIS PLAINS, N.J. – Paul Baran, 42, a resident of Cedar Knolls, N.J., is facing his toughest battle. This cherished husband, a beloved father of two young children, a dear friend to many and a valuable member of the Ukrainian Community has recently been diagnosed with acute myeloid leukemia.

Mr. Baran and his wife, Nina, are originally from Clifton, N.J., where they were parishioners of the St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church and active members of the Passaic branch of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM). For the past six years they have resided in Cedar Knolls and have been parishioners of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church and members of the Whippany branch of SUM. They have many new friends and a loving family, but their world has been shattered by cancer.

The disease has put unthinkable hard-

ship on Mr. Baran, his wife and children. The financial implications alone are staggering; they have been faced with decisions that no one would ever want to make.

An ad hoc group that is calling itself Friends of Paul Baran is appealing to Ukrainian Americans for their help. "This is where we all have the opportunity to help. Perhaps in a small way we can lessen the financial burden from Paul's shoulders while he waits for a bone marrow match to be found and focuses on beating this disease," notes a letter sent to Ukrainian American community members.

Contributions, with checks made payable to Paul Baran, may be sent to: Paul Baran Fund-Raiser, c/o Donna Kuzemczak, 67 Forest Way, Morris Plains, NJ 07950.

In addition, a fund-raising dinner will be held on September 21 at the Ukrainian Center, 240 Hope Ave., Passaic, N.J., at 7 p.m. Anyone interested in attending should contact Ms. Kuzemczak, (973) 644-4920, or Walter Hryckowian, (973) 471-2191.

mentally damaged region of Ukraine. Under the leadership of its chief physician, Dr. Ihor Makedonsky, who trained at the Boston Children's Hospital, the hospital CCH3 has won acclaim for its innovative procedures to save small children suffering various congenital defects. The UMC funds will be used to purchase a special diagnostic system that can help facilitate operations of complex anomalies of the urinary tract and reproductive organs in small children.

"Even without advanced technology, Dr. Makedonsky's surgical team has already proven its ability to perform uniquely successful operations in this sphere," said Dr. Matkiwsky. "Our hope is to expand their capacity in the very near future. With UMC's generous support, we can now implement a program we thought might take much longer to finance."

Earlier this spring, UMC signed a Memorandum of Strategic Partnership with the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and made a donation of \$10,000 to the fund as its first investment in this charitable partnership. The telemarathon and the "We are 10 Million" campaign gave the Children of Chernobyl mission widespread exposure through frequent advertisements that reached millions of television viewers.

Since its inception in 1989, the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund has delivered 31 airlifts and over \$53 million worth of medical and humanitarian aid to Ukrainian hospitals and orphanages. The fund has helped many of its partner hospitals reduce infant mortality, treat birth defects and improve cancer survival rates.

Wireless company...


(Continued from page 4)

is one of only a handful of hospitals in Ukraine that provide life-saving operations for children born with congenital cardiac and thoracic defects. It is playing a leading role in the campaign to expand the number of open-heart surgeries available for some of the 8,000 infants born each year in need of such operations. Last year, only 600 received such operations, nearly doubling the number from the year before.

The Chernivtsi City Maternity Center will receive support for its neonatal intensive care unit to help save the lives of premature and low-birth-weight babies and to provide treatment for infants with congenital defects. The UMC grant will help to supplement the generous contributions of the Andriuk family of Norwalk, Connecticut.

Last year, Dr. Alex Andriuk and his brothers Mark and Andrew made a multi-year commitment to this hospital in honor of their parents, Col. Basil Andriuk, and Martha Andriuk who served as a vice-president of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund from 1990 until her untimely death in 2003. "We hope to upgrade this facility and let it serve as a vital training center for doctors and interns from the prestigious Chernivtsi Medical University," said the fund's president, Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky.

The third beneficiary of the UMC grant will be Dnipropetrovsk City Children's Hospital No. 3, which has been a leader in saving children's lives in this heavily industrialized and environ-



Save the Dates!

The Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation is pleased to announce that **Rev. Borys Gudziak**, Rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, will be honored at events in the following cities this fall on the following dates:

Saturday, November 5, 2005:
Rector's Dinner in New York, New York


Wednesday, November 9, 2005:
Event in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Sunday, November 13, 2005:
Rector's Luncheon in Chicago, Illinois

Thursday, November 17, 2005:
Event in Parma, Ohio

Sunday, November 20, 2005:
Rector's Luncheon in Detroit, Michigan

All friends and supporters of the Ukrainian Catholic University and the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, along with all other interested persons, are welcome to meet **Rev. Gudziak** at these events. Organizations are also most welcome to these events.



Please, save these dates!

Tax-exempt contributions should be made payable to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation.

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"Eyewitness..."

(Continued from page 10)

of the Orange Revolution, in particular, the faces places, facts and flags.

A video montage of various scenes from Kyiv's Independence Square ("maidan") was then presented; the montage included Kyiv's tent city, debates between Yushchenko supporters and Yanukovich supporters, and street music and dancing.

Keynote speaker Luba M. Dub spoke about her personal experience during the Orange Revolution. Ms. Dub, who was born and reared in Houston, is a graduate of the University of Michigan with a B.A. in Russian and Eastern European studies and currently a student of international business at Ivan Franko State University in Lviv. She spoke movingly of the culture shock felt upon arriving in Ukraine one year ago and the extraordinary change she witnessed in the people around her as the Orange Revolution unfolded. Her descriptions of life on the maidan during those stirring days were colorful and informative.

A second video montage included speeches by Yulia Tymoshenko, Viktor Yanukovich and Viktor Yushchenko; a meeting of President Leonid Kuchma with the candidates and European mediators; and crowd scenes with the sound track of "Razom Nas Bahato" sung by the Gryndzholy (Greenjolly).

A second slide presentation highlighted the efforts of Ukrainians in Texas in support of the Orange Revolution. It included a visit to Sen. Kay Bailey Hutchison's office and a demonstration in Crawford, Texas, during Thanksgiving in 2004. This was followed by video footage of inauguration day in Ukraine.

Dr. Thompson provided concluding remarks on her thoughts about Ukraine and its future. The Orange Revolution spotlighted Ukraine to the world, more people now know of Ukraine, and its differentiation from Russia has become more prominent. For the first time in its history, Ukraine is unlikely to see its borders breached by hostile forces. However, Ukraine has many challenges ahead, she noted.

Honorary Consul of Ukraine Gregory Buchai was then introduced. He spoke of Ukraine's post-Orange-Revolution situation.

A question and answer period followed with Dr. Thompson, Mrs. Palmer, Mr. Buchai and Ms. Dub replying to audience inquiries. The audience then adjourned for light refreshments with oranges as the theme.

The UACCH acknowledged the contributions of Rice University, Dr. Thompson and Anthony Potoczniak for the success of the evening's program. Mr. Potoczniak, a Ph.D. candidate at Rice University, is a Fulbright scholar studying Ukrainian musical archives.

Minneapolis...

(Continued from page 11)

Pawlyszyn, Alla Khan, Denise Tataryn, Myron Kycia and Taras Tataryn.

The highlight of the celebration was two speech presentations. On the stage, which was decorated by Dmytro Tataryn, Alla Irena Khan spoke in Ukrainian and Denise Tataryn spoke in English. Both are young parishioners, one born in Ukraine and the other born in the United States.

Presenting a short history of the Ukrainian people's struggle for freedom and independence, they dismissed a recent opinion that Ukrainians obtained their independence without spilling a "drop of blood." They emphasized that Ukraine's road to freedom was long, and hard, requiring much sacrifice and the shedding of blood. This struggle for freedom was ruthlessly suppressed with imprisonments, deportations to Siberian camps, executions and purposely organized Famines-Genocides.

This gallant quest for freedom, they

underscored, started after the destruction of the ancient Ukrainian state – Kyivan Rus' and lasted until the recent collapse of the Russian Communist empire. Both speakers stressed that during all those times of struggle the free world kept silent and these events have only recently come to light.

The president of the United States called the USSR an "evil empire," they pointed out. It did not take very long before the empire disintegrated and on August 24, 1991, Ukraine proclaimed its independence. Unfortunately, Ukraine at first was ruled by oligarchs. Every day they got richer while the people became poorer. This led to the so-called "Orange Revolution." Only this time the people, without shedding a drop of blood, regained their freedom. They elected a new president who promised them full freedom and improvement of their daily life.

Both speakers concluded their presentations with a call to support the Ukrainian people's God-given right to the same freedom and independence we have in the United States.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

Ukraine to the United Nations. The course provides a comprehensive and contemporary examination of the United Nations and its role in three core issues of international relations: international peace and security; human rights and humanitarian affairs; and building peace through sustainable development. Note: The course is open to the public. Time: 6:10-8 p.m.; venue: International Affairs Building, Room 1219. For additional information call Diana Howansky, staff associate, (212) 854-4697.

Friday, September 30

CHICAGO: The Alla Horskha Branch of the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine cordially invites the Ukrainian community to attend a fund-raising benefit titled "One Heart to Another," to be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., at 7 p.m. The evening's program includes entertainment, a raffle of gift baskets and a silent auction. All proceeds will help fund life-saving heart operations for children in Ukraine under the "Gift of Life Program."

Donation of \$35 includes cocktails, appetizers, coffee and dessert. For more information or to RSVP, call Mariyka, (847) 516-0678, or Lilia, (773) 854-7458.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Friday, October 14

TORONTO: The Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research and the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies Press will host the presentation of the newly published English edition of Volume 9, Book 1 of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's "History of Ukraine-Rus." This volume, titled "The Cossack Age, 1650-1653," continues Hrushevsky's discussion of the Khmelnytsky uprising and its aftermath. Editors Frank Sysyn and Serhii Plokyh will present the volume, with commentary by Profs. Victor Ostapchuk and Olga Andriewsky. A reception will follow. Time: 7 p.m.; venue: University of Toronto, University College, 15 King's College Circle, Croft Chapter House.



KLK FALL WEEKEND

When: Saturday, October 1-2, 2005

Where: SOYUZIVKA UNA ESTATE

KLK cordially invites all our members, family and friends for a weekend of fun, mingling and tennis.

This year Plast Chornomorti are joining us and organizing a FUN doubles tournament featuring prizes and tee shirts. The evening will be filled with more fun, entertainment, fine dining and dancing to the music of VIDLUNNIA.

Afternoon hors d'oeuvres and drinks, cocktail hour, sit-down dinner, open bar and dancing \$60.00.

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For more information and to register for the tennis tournament please call Vira Popel at (732) 297-0786 or e-mail virapopel@aol.com. Please call Soyuzivka at (845) 626-5641 for room reservations. Hope to see you soon! Please RSVP.



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

honestly and courageously and give an absolutely balanced and calm answer." Observers are closely watching the reaction of Yulia Tymoshenko, who campaigned side by side with Mr. Yushchenko during the Orange Revolution and whose support is considered key to the success of the president's decision to dissolve the government. Ms. Tymoshenko was quoted as saying on Ukrainian television that her dismissal was "very unfair," but that Ukrainians' lives will continue to improve, Reuters reported. According to Interfax, she left a note in her office wishing Mr. Yekhanurov success as her successor. (RFE/RL Newsline)

World leaders downplay crisis

PRAGUE – Russian President Vladimir Putin, who recently accused Ukraine's government of corruption, said during a joint press conference in Berlin with German Chancellor Gerhard Schroeder that "I would not dramatize the events taking place in Ukraine now," ITAR-TASS reported. "Ukraine is going through a complicated stage of its development," Mr. Putin said, adding that Russia will continue to "contribute to stabilizing a country to which we are linked with many bonds." U.S. State Department spokesman Sean McCormack said at a press briefing on September 8 that "this is a matter for the Ukrainian people. Young democracies sometimes have changes in government, but as long as those changes are made in a constitutional manner, in a peaceful manner, that's all part of the democratic political process." Georgian President Mikheil Saakashvili, whose Rose Revolution preceded Mr. Yushchenko's Orange Revolution, said on September 8 that the Ukrainian president's "main quality" is "knowing exactly at the decisive moment what must be done," the Associated Press reported. Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski said that Ukraine's political crisis is a symptom of the country's democratic transition, and that "Polish-Ukrainian relations will not suffer as a result of these changes," the AP reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Nemtsov praises Cabinet dismissal

MOSCOW – Boris Nemtsov, the former leader of Russia's liberal Union of Rightist Forces who now advises Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, hailed the Ukrainian government ouster, mosnews.com reported on September 8. "Tymoshenko's government has led Ukraine to an economic crisis," Mr. Nemtsov told Rosbalt news agency the same day. "Sustained recession has been seen in all the economic spheres over the last few months, the outflow of foreign capital has become stronger...[and] an

extremely hostile investment climate has emerged. There is a need to take responsibility for such a policy," he stated. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma deputies speculate on Tymoshenko

MOSCOW – Liubov Sliska, deputy chairman of the Russian State Duma, said she suspects that Yulia Tymoshenko orchestrated the government crisis herself as the first step toward winning the country's presidency, mosnews.com reported on September 8. "Yulia Tymoshenko is not one who surrenders easily and can give up power in cold blood," Ms. Sliska said, adding that the ex-prime minister can try to gain a majority in Parliament and eventually make herself president. "Tymoshenko appears before the nation as offended and aggrieved because of the struggle with oligarchs and corrupt officials from the former government." Sergei Baburin, another deputy chairman in the Duma, agreed that Ms. Tymoshenko will attempt to use her dismissal to strengthen her political position. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ousted PM: president destroyed unity

MOSCOW – Ousted Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko said on Inter TV on September 9 that she refused to follow President Viktor Yushchenko's "set of conditions," one of which was to make peace with his team. "The first condition [was that I had] to extend my hand not to the president but to his team – Poroshenko, Martynenko, Tretiakov, Bezsmertnyi, that I should give them a hand," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "But how could I extend my hand to them if their hands are constantly busy stealing something?" According to Ms. Tymoshenko, minutes before the announcement of the Cabinet's dismissal by Mr. Yushchenko she was trying to convince the president not to make that step. "At that moment Poroshenko stormed into the president's office," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "He was covered, excuse me, in tears and snot, and he started yelling that he had just been stripped of his Parliament seat and that the decision had been backed by the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. ... So the president looked, stood up, turned his back to me and said that the conversation was over. He went on, having practically destroyed our unity, our future and the future of our country." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko vows to be back ...

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko said on Inter on September 9 that her bloc will not take part in the formation of a new Cabinet of Yurii Yekhanurov, who was appointed by President Viktor Yushchenko as acting prime minister last week. "Of course I will work in the new government, but after the parliamentary elections in a few months' time," Ms. Tymoshenko asserted. "We will take part

in the elections as a separate and very powerful political force, and I think the result we will obtain will be very good. Then we will decide who to form a coalition with in the new Parliament, and on what principles." (RFE/RL Newsline)

mismangement. Sensibly, Yushchenko also let several big businessmen, who helped finance and manage his campaign, go, as their aspirations to make money on their positions have been another worry. This government change marks the end of the Orange Revolution. Yulia Tymoshenko and her loyalists have now marched out of the government, and Tymoshenko has declared that her political bloc will stay independent of Yushchenko's. The question today is where various politicians and businessmen will go. ...

Editor's note: The clippings above were compiled from various sources, including the Action Ukraine Report, published by E. Morgan Williams, and The Ukraine List, a publication of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa.

in the elections as a separate and very powerful political force, and I think the result we will obtain will be very good. Then we will decide who to form a coalition with in the new Parliament, and on what principles." (RFE/RL Newsline)

... reconsiders constitutional reform

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko also said on Inter on September 9 that she has to reconsider her position on the political reform that is to take effect on January 1, 2006, and give more powers to the prime minister and Parliament at the expense of the president. "I have always said that this reform is not a good thing for Ukraine," Ms. Tymoshenko said. "Back at that time I really hoped that the arrival of the new president, of the new team will be able to give the country a new impetus without changes to the Constitution. Now I just see what is happening and, to be honest, all of this reminds me of the old days which it seems are returning now. So we just have to choose now between the bad – constitutional reform, and the very bad – the things that are now happening under this administration. So we will think about it, and our party will define its position on this." (RFE/RL Newsline)

President promises democratic path

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on September 11 that his decision last week to dismiss the government was "absolutely correct," Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. "Ukraine has been pushed to the verge of a serious conflict. I put an end to it," Reuters quoted him as saying. Mr. Yushchenko stressed that he appointed Yurii Yekhanurov as acting prime minister to form a "pragmatic government." He added, "I became the president to ensure welfare, freedom and development. We will have the rule of law, media freedom. We will not have a shadow economy." (RFE/RL Newsline)

PDP leader comments on situation

KYIV – National Deputy Valerii Pustovoitenko, leader of the People's Democratic Party, told Ukrinform's correspondent in Kyiv that President Viktor Yushchenko's September 12 deliberations with parliamentary faction leaders focused on the current sociopolitical situation in Ukraine and the formation of a new government. Mr. Pustovoitenko said he suggested that the president act as the arbiter in gearing up for the 2006 elections, and Mr. Yushchenko agreed to this. According to the PDP leader, he also suggested some changes in the future government, such as sacrificing the posts of vice prime ministers for European integration and administrative-territorial reform. As deputies will work within committees next week, endorsement of Ukraine's new government will likely occur in two weeks' time. Mr. Pustovoitenko declined to either confirm or deny reports about his likely appointment as transportation minister in the new government. (Ukrinform)

German experts ID Tarascha corpse

KYIV – On Friday, September 9, the Procurator General's Office received the conclusion of German experts that the Tarascha corpse found in the autumn of 2000 was that of the late journalist Heorhii Gongadze. Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun told journalists in Kyiv that the examination was performed at the insistence of the journalist's mother, Lesia Gongadze. Mr. Piskun said the first part of the Gongadze case is over, as investigators have established the immediate perpetrators; work continues to establish those who masterminded and ordered the journalist's murder. Mr. Piskun also revealed that investigators have also established that those who killed the journalist kid-

napped a businessman, whose name is mentioned on the Melnychenko tapes. This man, Mr. Piskun noted, is being questioned, and these materials will be added to the Gongadze case. The prosecutor further disclosed that he has reached an agreement with senior U.S. justice officers to question Mykola Melnychenko. Mr. Piskun also refuted ex-Vice Prime Minister Mykola Tomenko's statement that Volodymyr Lytvyn, Petro Poroshenko and Mykola Martynenko allegedly blocked the Gongadze investigation, stating none of them had ever approached him on that subject. (Ukrinform)

New poll shows parties' popularity

KYIV – The Razumkov Center polling agency found in a survey conducted on August 5-12 that six political parties would have been able at that time to overcome the 3 percent voting threshold to qualify for parliamentary representation, Interfax-Ukraine reported on August 30. The Our Ukraine People's Union was supported by 20 percent of those polled, the Party of the Regions by 14.2 percent, the Fatherland (Batkivshchyna) Party by 10.5 percent, the Communist Party by 5.5 percent, the Socialist Party by 4.2 percent and the People's Party by 4.1 percent. In a similar poll conducted in May, the ruling Our Ukraine People's Union and Fatherland were backed by 31.6 percent and 15.5 percent of voters, respectively. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Nastia reported ready for school

KYIV – "I am waiting so much for the school bell to ring for me, too," said burn victim Nastia Ovchar, 6, during an August 31 telephone conversation with the Verkhovna Rada's Commissioner for Human Rights Nina Karpachova. September 1 was the first day of the school year in Ukraine. After being discharged from the hospital in the U.S., Nastia temporarily resided with family of Hanna Chmyrowa, a Polish citizen, who is from Lviv by origin. Olha Ovchar, said her daughter is well-prepared for school. Ms. Karpachova shared some good news: the educational complex Dominant in the city of Kyiv, which has a pre-school, a special school devoted to intensive study of foreign languages, is located 800 meters from the house where a three-room flat was purchased with charitable funds for the Ovchar family. Since this house will be ready no earlier than in November, on request from the Parliament's commissioner for human rights, the Bratislava Hotel's board of directors, headed by Petro Yaroshenko, decided to provide temporary housing for Nastia and her mother at the hotel and to provide them with meals. The family will be settling in Kyiv in order to be near the burn center where doctors are familiar with Nastia's state of health. The little girl was seriously burned while saving her 2-year-old sister during a fire at the family's home. She underwent treatment at the Shriners' Burn Center in Boston. (Ukrinform)

Russian ministry notes language issue

MOSCOW – The Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry said that Ukraine's decision to hold court proceedings in the Ukrainian language will "infringe on the rights of nearly 20 million ethnic Russians" in the country, ITAR-TASS reported on September 6. "This means denying a chance to effective juridical protection to ethnic Russians, who make up 40 percent of Ukraine's population," the ministry said in a statement released that day. "The meaning of legal terms is hard to grasp when they are spoken in a language other than the mother tongue of the one standing trial." The Foreign Ministry called the decision "part of the unsavory campaign regarding the Russian language in Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Commentaries...

(Continued from page 7)

wandered around the streets of Kiev [sic] in fear for their lives. ...

Anders Aslund, writing in the Moscow newspaper Vedomosti on September 12, in a commentary headlined "The End of the Orange Revolution":

... this government has been an unmitigated disaster of socialist populism. On top of everything, it has maintained a revolutionary discourse of vehement public attacks against individual businessmen and politicians, including members of the government. Eight months of this mess was too much.

It was, therefore, a great relief when President Viktor Yushchenko reasserted his authority to put an end to this public

Yara Arts Group to celebrate its 15th anniversary with special program



Invitation to the 15th anniversary celebration of Yara Arts Group.

NEW YORK – Yara Arts Group, a resident company at La MaMa Experimental Theater, will celebrate its 15th anniversary on Saturday, September 24. The celebrations will include the premieres of two films about Yara and a performance of poetry and music from Yara's theater pieces. The events will take place at La MaMa Theater, 74 E. Fourth Street, between Second Avenue and the Bowery.

The anniversary celebration will open at 7 p.m. with a world premiere of Andrea Odezynska's film "The Whisperer." The recently completed 30-minute documentary explores Ms. Odezynska's journey to a small village in western Ukraine, where she has an unexpected encounter with Baba Anna, a village healer, that changes the course of her life forever. Ms. Odezynska (director) and Kathryn Barnier (producer and editor) will be present and will answer questions after the screening.

A special gala at 8 p.m. will feature the program, "In Verse," with actors performing poetry in Yara's signature style, interweaving the original Ukrainian verse with English translations and music from Yara's theater pieces directed by Virlana Tkacz.

Yara brings together drama, poetry, song, myth and movement to create original pieces that explore timely issues rooted in the East. Since its founding in 1990, Yara has created 16 original theater pieces, among them Ukrainian-based material, including: "Light From the East," about Ukrainian avant-garde theater director Les Kurbas (1887-1942); "Explosions," based on poetry and documentation about Chernobyl; "Blind Sight," inspired by the work and travels to Japan of blind poet Vasyl Yeroshenko; "Forest Song," based on Lesia Ukrainka's eponymous verse play; "Waterfall/Reflections" with renowned Ukrainian singer Nina Matvienko; "Song Tree" and "Kupala" with Ukrainian vocal performance artist, composer and folklorist Mariana Sadovska; "Swan," based on Oleh Lysheha's poetry; and this year's "Koliada: Twelve Dishes." Since 1996 Yara has also worked on theater

pieces with Buryat artists from Siberia.

Yara's first theater piece, "A Light from the East," focused on the power of art to change the world. The work, which incorporated passages from the diaries of Les Kurbas, poetry by Pavlo Tychyna, and the dreams of the Yara artists – pre-

theater exchange, which took place as the Soviet Union collapsed and Ukraine declared independence, is the subject of her film "A Light from the East." The hourlong documentary will be shown at 9 p.m. on September 24.

The evening's program will conclude



Virlana Tkacz (left) and Andrea Odezynska on a journey through western Ukraine.

miered in November 1990 at La MaMa. In the summer of 1991, Yara artists created a bilingual version of the piece with artists from Kyiv, Lviv and Kharkiv.

The story of Amy Grappell's participation in this first Ukrainian American

with a reception.

Tickets for the celebratory program are \$20; \$10 for artists and students. For additional information call Yara at (212) 475-6474. For updates, visit Yara's website at www.brama.com/yara.



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Tymoshenko...

(Continued from page 1)

Political experts said the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc has a good chance of gathering the most votes in a highly fractured political field in which no single party will have a parliamentary majority.

"We will see a very tough election, where Tymoshenko and Yushchenko will become the main antagonists," said Volodymyr Kornilov, a director at the Center for Strategic Planning.

Millions of Ukrainians eagerly awaited Ms. Tymoshenko's reaction and explanation to her firing by President Yushchenko, which he announced on September 8, citing internal conflicts that obstructed the government's ability to work.

The next evening, she appeared on a live broadcast on the Inter network in which she explained her version of events.

The telegenic politician appeared confident and convincing. She portrayed herself as an unbending crusader for reform while casting her enemies in the Yushchenko camp as selfish and corrupt politicians interested only in lining their own pockets.

Virtually from the first day, the president's inner circle was put in charge of all the powerful cash flows in the state, Ms. Tymoshenko added.

Employees felt that corruption increased two- or threefold and everyone knew who was taking bribes, where and how, Ms. Tymoshenko said.

She accused Mr. Yushchenko's close associate Petro Poroshenko, the former secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, of trying to run the government and using his position to advance his private business interests.

"When Petro Oleksiyovych came to the National Security and Defense Council, he assumed the role of prime minister and started issuing a large number of totally unfair instructions and inquiries to Ukrainian ministers," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

She said Oleksander Tretiakov, the president's suspended first aide, was "virtually becoming a bottleneck blocking access to the president."

Ms. Tymoshenko also pointed fingers at Mykola Martynenko, the chair of Our Ukraine parliamentary faction, and Roman Bezsmertnyi, the former vice prime minister for administrative and territorial reform. It was Mr. Bezsmertnyi who suggested to Mr. Yushchenko that he sack the whole Cabinet, Ms. Tymoshenko said.

"I can say that this was a unique, destructive idea," she said.

Ms. Tymoshenko took painstaking steps to avoid criticizing President Yushchenko directly, insisting that it was this corrupt circle that was pressuring him.

"The president was merely held hostage to the ultimatum made by his closest entourage, who demanded that the government must be sacked," she said.

Two days later, the president accused Ms. Tymoshenko of taking advantage of her position to gain influence in the privatization of the Nikopol ferroalloy plant in the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

The president launched a second attack on Ms. Tymoshenko in a September 13 interview with the Associated Press, accusing her of attempting to wipe out \$1.5 billion in debt owed by her defunct gas-trading company, Unified Energy Systems.

Mr. Yushchenko's allegations shocked her, Ms. Tymoshenko said. The president is trying to rebuild "an old repressive machine, that Kuchma used against me and my family," Ms. Tymoshenko said. She also denied the allegation of trying to eliminate \$1.5 billion in debt.

Ms. Tymoshenko began her speech by touting the successes of her government. Ukraine experienced GDP growth of 4 percent in the first half of 2005, and more than 3,000 regulations that complicated business have been canceled, she said. For the first time, agriculture posted 7 percent growth in the first half, she said.

Partly as a result of the Contraband Stop! program, the government managed to take \$4.4 billion out of the shadow economy and bring it into the national coffers, she said. "This is a figure Ukrainian budget has never had," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

The gross income of families increased by 43 percent, she said.

Perhaps the most notable achievement that Ukrainian voters will remember in the March elections is the boosting of pensions by an average of 21 percent. Wages in science, cultural and educational fields increased 44 percent, Ms. Tymoshenko said.

During her appearance, Ms. Tymoshenko held a blue ribbon side-by-side with an orange ribbon, pointing out that they make the color of the Ukrainian flag.

"I want us to unite Ukraine, so that as a single powerful team that has not betrayed its moral values we could come and build Ukraine in which there is justice, prosperity, economic growth, investment and everything we are dreaming about," Ms. Tymoshenko said.

Ms. Tymoshenko's demise — or the last straw as Mr. Yushchenko put it — involved her attempts to influence the fate of the \$200 million Nikopol ferroalloy plant.

The Ukrainian government was supposed to retake ownership of Nikopol after an August 26 High Appellate Economic Court ruled the government's sale of shares to billionaire Viktor Pinchuk in 2003 was illegal.

Its owners included billionaire Viktor Pinchuk, former President Leonid

Kuchma's son-in-law.

He bought 25 percent of Nikopol's shares from the government for \$41 million in May 2003, a sharply discounted price that immediately drew alarm. He bought another 25 percent plus one share stake for \$41.1 million in August 2003.

He purchased the plant just as Pryvat Group, a Dnipropetrovsk partnership that invested in metal factories, had planned to acquire the rest of the Nikopol shares, of which it had already had 13 percent stake.

Pryvat Group was seeking to create a monopoly on a metals market, having already owned the Zaporizhskiy and Stakhanovskiy ferroalloy plants.

The Nikopol plant could be sold for more than \$1 billion at an open tender, Ms. Tymoshenko said at a September 3 press conference.

However, State Property Fund Chair Valentyna Semeniuk said she received an order from Ms. Tymoshenko on August 30 to allow Assistant Minister of Industrial Policy Serhii Hryshenko to take part in a Nikopol stockholders meeting in her stead.

The order stated that Pryvat Group representatives must be appointed as Nikopol's managers, said Ms. Semeniuk, who believes the state should take ownership of Nikopol.

Ms. Semeniuk accused Ms. Tymoshenko of exceeding her authority and criticized the shareholders meeting as illegal. "The person who ordered this must face responsibility," Ms. Semeniuk said on September 3, identifying Ms. Tymoshenko.

It wasn't clear why Ms. Tymoshenko would have wanted to pressure a transfer of Nikopol to shareholders until Ukrayinska Pravda reporter Oleksii Moldovan reported a possible arrange-

ment she had with Pryvat Group.

Billionaire Ihor Kolomoyskii, a Pryvat Group partner, declared on August 20 his intention to buy 40 percent of the stake in 1+1, the second-highest rated television network in Ukraine. Though not a partner in Pryvat Group, Ms. Tymoshenko was allegedly eager to have influence upon a television network, Mr. Moldovan reported.

Ms. Tymoshenko has denied she was involved in secret agreements with Pryvat Group.

However, Ms. Tymoshenko might not have been the only official in Mr. Yushchenko's government seeking a stake in a Ukrainian television network.

Russian businessmen Oleksander Abramov and Viktor Vekselberg wanted to "purchase the Inter channel and then transfer it to Mr. Yushchenko's inner circle in exchange for the Nikopol ferroalloy plant," Russian Communist Deputy Viktor Iliukhin alleged during an August 15 live radio broadcast.

Mr. Poroshenko was interested in the deal, Mr. Moldovan reported.

Mr. Yushchenko named the Nikopol scandal "a fight between two gangs" in his September 8 address sacking the Cabinet.

"I agree with the President," Ms. Tymoshenko said the next day. "This was the gang of Pinchuk fighting the gang of Poroshenko and a Russian businessman who was linked with Poroshenko."

In a September 13 press briefing with Western journalists, the president said his government could not tolerate another Nikopol scandal, in which thousands of workers were protesting and brought to the brink of bloodshed.

"This kind of reprivatization is not necessary," Mr. Yushchenko said. "We will not survive two or three of those scandals."

The Ukrainian Catholic...

(Continued from page 6)

It was the same this time around. Elderly women yelled, shoved and heckled. And I certainly wasn't going to shove back a grandmother.

These are the acts of a desperate people who feel threatened by the reawakening of Ukrainian identity that arrived with the Orange Revolution.

Kostyantyn Chavaha, reporter for the Catholic Information Agency, pointed out to me that had the Ukrainian Catholic Church moved its headquarters in 1991 there wouldn't have been a single protest because Ukraine was in a religious and cultural vacuum.

The protests are occurring now because a large segment of the population fears the changes taking place that

have left them feeling like second-tier citizens, without knowledge of the Ukrainian language or Ukrainian culture.

As the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church expands into eastern Ukraine, perhaps it will allay such fears.

After witnessing the August 21 conflict, Cardinal Husar offered this vision for the Church in his opening remarks several days later at Kairos, a summit for future Church leaders held at the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv.

Ukraine is on the border of two great cultures, Cardinal Husar said, and many view the nation as a bridge between the East and West.

"We have the ability to learn about one and the other and to be creative mediators who help so that people will stop fearing one another," Archbishop Husar said. "Today we stand at a new era."

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

September 17-19, 2005 Mittenwald Reunion	October 3-6, 2005 Stamford Clergy Days
September 21-23, 2005 Bayreuth Gymnasium Reunion	October 8, 2005 Wedding
September 22-24, 2005 UNA General Assembly and District Meeting	October 9, 2005 Republican Party Fund-Raiser Banquet
September 24, 2005 Ellenville High School Reunion, Class of '49	October 15, 2005 Wedding
September 24-25, 2005 Plast Sorority Rada - Pershi Stezhi Plast Sorority Rada - Chornomorski Khvyli	October 21-23, 2005 National Plast Convention
September 29-October 3, 2005 Ukrainian American Veterans Convention	October 28-30, 2005 Halloween Weekend with children's costume parade, costume zabava and more
September 30, 2005 KLK Weekend - General Meeting and Banquet	November 4-6, 2005 Plast Orlykiada
September 30-October 1, 2005 Plast Sorority Rada - Spartanky	November 12, 2005 Wedding
	November 19, 2005 Sigma Beta Chi Fraternity Formal Dinner Banquet



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

ONGOING

PHILADELPHIA: The School of the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble began its academic year on Monday, September 12. Registration of children age 4 and above is taking on Monday, September 12, through Monday, September 26, at 6 p.m. at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, Pa. Classes are held weekly on Monday evenings at the Cultural Center. For additional information contact Nina Prybolsky, school director, (610) 591-2492 or (215) 572-1552.

Wednesday, September 21

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University presents Borys Tarasyuk, who has served as minister for foreign affairs of Ukraine under the Yushchenko administration, as guest speaker on the topic of Ukraine's foreign policy with specific reference to the U.S., Europe and Russia, followed by a question-and-answer period. Time: 11:30 a.m.; venue: International Affairs Building, Room 1501. For additional information call Diana Howansky, staff associate, (212) 854-4697.

Thursday, September 22

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Film Club at Columbia University opens its fall 2005 season with the screening of Ihor Strembitsky's "Wayfarers," winner of the Palme d'or in the short film category, Cannes International Film Festival (2005), as well as the critically acclaimed documentary "Consonance" by director Viktoria Melnykova. Dr. Yuri Shevchuk, director of the club and lecturer of Ukrainian language and culture at Columbia, will offer as part of the pre-screening introduction, an update on the many developments in Ukrainian filmmaking over the summer period. Time: 7:30 p.m.; Venue: Hamilton Hall, Room 717. For additional information call Diana Howansky, staff associate, (212) 854-4697.

Friday, September 23

KALAMAZOO, Mich.: "Catch-86," a one-man stage documentary about the effects of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster written and performed by Taras Berezowsky, will be performed at the Nelda K. Balch Playhouse on the campus of Kalamazoo College at 8 p.m. Mr. Berezowsky is a theater arts major and recent graduate of Kalamazoo College. He conducted interviews in the U.S. and in Ukraine with people affected by the disaster while working as a volunteer for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. The interviews, as well as his daily journals, form the text of the play. Free tickets may be reserved by calling (269) 337-7310.

Saturday, September 24

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites the public to a literary evening featuring the poet, prose writer and playwright Oleksander Irvanets of Kyiv, member of the Bu-Ba-Bu group, author of five plays and several collections of poetry, as well as the novel "Rivne/Rovno (Stina)." The program 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: Yara Arts Group, a resident company at La MaMa Experimental Theater, celebrates "15 Years" with two film premieres, plus poetry and music and a party. The anniversary program begins at 7 p.m. with "The Whisperer," a 30-minute documentary by Andrea Odezynska that explores the film-maker's unexpected encounter with a village healer, that changes the course of her life; followed at 8 p.m. by a program titled "In Verse," with actors performing poetry interweaving Ukrainian originals with English transla-

tion and music; and concludes at 9 p.m. with the film "A Light from the East" by Amy Grappell about her participation in the first Ukrainian American theater collaboration, as the Soviet Union collapses and Ukraine declares independence. Venue: La MaMa, 74 E. Fourth St. (between the Bowery and Second Avenue). For additional information call Yara, (212) 475-6474, or visit www.brama.com/yara for updates.

Sunday, September 25

LONG ISLAND CITY, N.Y.: Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church of Astoria will hold its annual Ukrainian Heritage Day Festival on the grounds of Holy Cross Church, located on 31st Avenue and 30th Street, beginning at 10 a.m. Festivities include music, games, prizes and homemade Ukrainian food. The festival concert will feature the Barvinok dance group. Free admission; donations accepted. Come, join us!

HARTFORD, Conn.: The Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU), the Women's Association for the DFFU and Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) invite the Ukrainian community to the Obzhynky 2005 traditional Ukrainian Fall Harvest Festival to be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 961 Wethersfield Ave., at noon-5 p.m. The program includes musical performances by Olya Chodoba Fryz (Ukrainian children's songs) and Ivan and Iryna Batisko (Ukrainian folk songs). A la carte lunch (varenyky, kovbasa and kapusta as well as coffee, soda and desserts) will be available from the Ukrainian kitchen. Donation: \$6, adults; \$3, children. Tickets may be obtained at the Cooperative SUMA Ukrainian Gift Shop; telephone: (860) 296-6955. Come enjoy an afternoon with your family and friends.

Monday, September 26

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University presents Volodymyr Kulyk, senior research fellow, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Institute of Political and Ethnic Studies, and current visiting scholar at Stanford University, who will give a luncheon talk on "Language Ideologies and the Media in Post-Soviet Ukraine." Dr. Kulyk, whose research fields include media discourse, contemporary Ukrainian nationalism, and the politics of language and ethnicity, will speak about language ideologies (beliefs about the nature, structure and use of language), as expressed and embodied in contemporary Ukrainian media. Time: noon; venue: International Affairs Building, Room 1219. For additional information call Diana Howansky, staff associate, (212) 854-4697.

Tuesday, September 27

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University presents a panel discussion about Ukraine's political situation in the aftermath of President Viktor Yushchenko's decision to dismiss his Cabinet. Speakers will include: Volodymyr Kulyk (National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine; Stanford University) Alexander Motyl (Rutgers University), and Steve Sestanovich (Columbia University); with Yuri Shevchuk (Columbia University), moderator. Venue: International Affairs Building, Room 1512; time: 3:30-6 p.m. For additional information call Diana Howansky, staff associate, (212) 854-4697.

Wednesday, September 28

NEW YORK: The first lecture of the course offered as part of the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University, titled "Ukraine and the United Nations Through the Eyes of a Ukrainian Ambassador: Diplomacy and Politics," will be taught by Ambassador Valery Kuchinsky, permanent representative of

(Continued on page 19)