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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Canadian Parliament passes bill recognizing unjust internment of Ukrainians during World War I

OTTAWA – After eight years of intense work, Inky Mark, Conservative member of Parliament for Dauphin-Swan River-Marquette (Manitoba) realized his wish for Canada's Ukrainian community through the passage by unanimous consent of his private member's Bill C-331 – The Internment of Persons of Ukrainian Origin Recognition Act – in the House of Commons on November 24 and in the Senate the following day.

This bill became law when it received royal assent on November 25 from the governor general of Canada

Bill C-331 calls upon the federal government to acknowledge that thousands of Ukrainian Canadians were unjustly interned as "enemy aliens" and disenfranchised in Canada during World War I; to provide funding to commemorate the sacrifices made by these Canadians and; to develop educational materials detailing this dark period of Canada's history.

During the debate in the House of Commons, Mr. Mark said, "We know that, after two decades, it is time for the government to resolve this outstanding issue in the history of this country. This bleak event in Canadian history must be recognized and we, as a society, must learn from it. This is an issue of justice denied."

Speakers in favor of the bill at third reading were: Sarmite Bulte, parliamentary secretary to the minister of Canadian her-

itage; Meili Faille of the Bloc Québécois; MP Judy Wasylycia-Leis of the New Democratic Party; Joy Smith, Conservative MP Marlene Catterall, chair of the Standing Committee on Canadian Heritage; and Larry Bagnell, parliamentary secretary to the minister of natural resources.

Senators from all parties spoke in favor of the bill during the debate in the Senate. They included Terry Stratton, Vivian Poy, Marcel Prud'homme, Sharon Carstairs and Madeleine Plamondon.

MP Mark said: "I would be remiss if I didn't thank my colleagues from all parties in both the House of Commons and Senate for their hard work and determination to see this bill become law. Despite being on the eve of an election, both the House and Senate had the will and commitment to pass this important legislation."

"I am honored to have tabled Bill C-331 and equally honored to have been entrusted with this mission on behalf of Canada's Ukrainian community," Mr. Mark continued.

"The passage of C-331 demonstrates the mature Canada that people in this country expect. It makes a loud statement that Canada has grown up, that Canada can accept its past, learn from it and ensure that it is never repeated," he stated.

Commenting on this historic achieve-

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Vitalii Klitschko enters politics with Reforms and Order-Pora bloc



Pora leader Vladyslav Kaskiv (left), former heavyweight boxing champion Vitalii Klitschko (center) and Reforms and Order Party leader Viktor Pynzenyk join hands after announcing their political bloc.

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Vitalii Klitschko hasn't wasted any time in pursuing a new career.

Just weeks after announcing his retirement from boxing, Mr. Klitschko on

December 10 announced that he has joined the Reforms and Order Party led by Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk and hinted he would run for mayor of Kyiv.

At the same press conference, Mr. Pynzenyk also announced the formation of a political bloc with Pora for the March 26 parliamentary elections.

Mr. Klitschko's well-recognized name will significantly boost the likelihood that the Reforms and Order-Pora bloc

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Rice urges Kyiv to continue along path of reform

RFE/RL

PRAGUE – While visiting Kyiv on December 7, U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice in Kyiv expressed

U.S. support for further economic and political reforms in Ukraine.

Dr. Rice, who held talks with President Viktor Yushchenko, is the first high-level U.S. official to visit Ukraine

since Mr. Yushchenko won office following the Orange Revolution last winter.

The U.S. secretary of state used her visit to praise Ukraine's political and economic changes during the past year.

Speaking at Kyiv State University, she said that, one year after the Orange Revolution, Ukraine has shown good progress on reforms and promoting an active civil society. She added that an even stronger Ukraine could act as a powerful stabilizing force in the region.

"Just as we grasped the rich potential of the Orange Revolution last year, a revolution that inspired people around the world, the United States now imagines a Ukraine that serves as an anchor of democratic stability in Europe and Eurasia," she said.

Dr. Rice praised the government as committed to democracy and, in particular, "committed to a better and more prosperous future for Ukrainian people."

She also said the United States was eager to see Ukraine continue along the path of Western integration, saying, "The United States will help Ukraine to implement the necessary political and economic reforms to achieve the goal of membership in the European Union and the

(Continued on page 4)



President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine meets with U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice.

Russia pressures Ukraine, raising prices on gas

by Yana Sedova
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – In what was widely perceived as Russia again pressuring Ukraine, the Russian state-controlled gas monopoly Gazprom boosted natural gas prices for Ukraine to a European level of \$220-\$230 per 1,000 cubic meters from a rate of \$50 per 1,000 cubic meters.

Gazprom also threatened to cut off gas supplies in case Ukraine doesn't accept these new market prices before January 1, 2006.

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said Russia used the latest gas negotiations as an instrument of political pressure, but reassured

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ANALYSIS

Pora unites with Reforms and Order for 2006 parliamentary elections

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

The youth group Pora (It's Time), which played an important role in Ukraine's Orange Revolution in November-December 2004, is set to contest the March 2006 parliamentary elections in an alliance with the Reforms and Order Party, known in Ukrainian as Reformy i Poriadok, or RiP (pora.org.ua).

The once united Orange coalition will now enter the elections divided among five blocs and parties. These include President Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU), the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc, Pora-RiP, the Yurii Kostenko bloc and the Socialist Party (SPU). It remains to be seen whether contesting the elections through five political forces will attract additional votes or split Orange voters.

The hard-line opposition forces are primarily united around defeated presidential candidate Viktor Yanukovich's Party of the Regions of Ukraine, which is leading in opinion polls. The only other hard-line opposition force set to enter Parliament will be the Communist Party (CPU), which will likely tie the SPU for seats.

The fragmented Orange coalition is undoubtedly a failure for President Yushchenko, who sought to maintain Orange unity through a strong pro-presidential party. Only two small parties, Solidarity and the Youth Party, opted to merge with OUPU. One wing of Rukh joined the OUPU bloc, while another created its own bloc.

Opinion polls consistently show that only six blocs will definitely win seats in the new Parliament: OUPU, Tymoshenko, SPU, CPU, Regions and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr

Lytvyn's bloc. Two potential outsiders that could make it over the low 3 percent threshold are the newly created Pora-RiP bloc and the Natalia Vitrenko bloc (composed of the extreme left Progressive Socialist Party and the Soiuz party).

Pora-RiP will target two groups of voters. First, Pora-RiP will compete with the Tymoshenko bloc for disgruntled Orange voters. Second, the bloc may attract young people who were especially active and came of age during the 2004 elections and the Orange Revolution. Nevertheless, a word of caution is in order.

In the 1998 elections the Green Party successfully targeted young people and entered Parliament with 5.43 percent, even though it was financed by oligarchs who are now backing the Tymoshenko bloc. In the 2002 elections the Winter Crop Generation party, modeled on Russia's Union of Right Forces, failed to enter Parliament after obtaining only 2.02 percent. Pora-RiP could obtain support in the same constituency as the Greens in 1998 or the Lytvyn bloc next year, about 5-7 percent.

Reforms and Order is a long-established party that grew out of Rukh in the 1990s. The Pora-RiP bloc has a number of well-known and respected individuals in its top 10, who should ensure its popularity. The leader of Reforms and Order is Finance Minister Viktor Pynzenyk. Volodymyr Filenko and Taras Stetskiv, also on the list, were the intermediaries between Mr. Yushchenko's election headquarters and the organizers of the street protests and tent city on the maidan. Internal Affairs Minister Yurii Lutsenko, another OUPU-maidan intermediary, was tempted to join the Pora-RiP bloc but has

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Melnychenko returns to Ukraine

by **Taras Kuzio**

Eurasia Daily Monitor

Mykola Melnychenko, the presidential guard who was involved in bugging President Leonid Kuchma's office between 1998 and 2000, returned to Ukraine on November 29. Exactly five years earlier Mr. Melnychenko fled Ukraine to Poland and then Prague, where he lived until obtaining political asylum in the United States in April 2001.

During Mr. Melnychenko's absence his "recordings have remained a significant factor in Ukrainian domestic politics" (*Dzerkalo Tyzhnia*, November 26-December 2). Why is he returning only now, when many Ukrainian commentators expected Mr. Melnychenko to return immediately after the election of President Viktor Yushchenko one year ago? There are two answers.

First, Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun was sacked in October. Mr. Piskun had been reinstated on December 10, 2004, two days after the Ukrainian Parliament adopted the "compromise package" permitting a re-run of the second round of the disputed presidential election.

Mr. Piskun has been accused of blocking investigations of high-ranking offi-

cial from the Kuchma regime for a number of crimes, including the murder of *Ukrayinska Pravda* editor Heorhii Gongadze in 2000. The accusations seem confirmed by Mr. Piskun's appearance on the Party of the Regions of Ukraine list for the March 2006 parliamentary elections, a party linked to the former regime.

The other factor is the upcoming parliamentary election. Mr. Melnychenko has accused Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn of complicity in the Gongadze murder, charges that could dent his popularity with voters (*Ukrayinska Pravda*, December 6; *Dzerkalo Tyzhnia*, December 3-9).

Socialist Party of Ukraine leader Oleksander Moroz first disclosed a fragment of the Melnychenko tapes in the Ukrainian Parliament on November 28, 2000. The SPU would like Mr. Melnychenko in its parliamentary faction, but Ukrainian courts had refused to permit the guard to run on the SPU ticket in the 2002 elections. While Ukrainian courts and the European Court of Human Rights have subsequently demanded that Mr. Melnychenko be made a national deputy, the Central Election Commission (CEC) continues to ignore these rulings.

However, the CEC's obstinacy will not necessarily apply to the SPU's 2006 election list if Mr. Melnychenko opts to remain in Ukraine. If it wins 30 seats as projected, the SPU could bring Mr. Melnychenko into Parliament next year.

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

NEWSBRIEFS

Ukrainian troops coming home

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko on December 11 said that all of Ukraine's troops will be withdrawn from Iraq by the end of 2005, Interfax reported the next day. "I promised to withdraw the Ukrainian peacekeepers from Iraq. To date, 800 of our soldiers have already returned to Ukraine. The rest, a further 800 or so, will be welcomed home between December 20 and 30. They will celebrate New Year's Eve with their families," Mr. Yushchenko said in a radio address on December 10. "The 1,600 Ukrainian peacekeepers have trained 2,700 Iraqi troops – a complete brigade of three battalions," he added. (RFE/RL Newswire)

President does not regret PM's sacking

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said that while he understands that many Ukrainians were disappointed with his split with former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko, he does not regret firing her, ITAR-TASS reported on December 12. According to ITAR-TASS, Mr. Yushchenko told reporters that he should have dismissed Ms. Tymoshenko "much earlier, in June, when the first economic crisis arose in the country." Prime Minister Tymoshenko was sacked in September. "I am an economist and I know how to manage the economy of the country," President Yushchenko said. "But I hoped that the Cabinet of Ministers would work and communicate as a team. Regrettably, conflicts and personal ambitions began to make a hindrance even in the period of the unpleasant crisis. Economic adventurism had gained an upper hand. So there is nothing to regret," Mr. Yushchenko said. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Reforms and Order, Pora form bloc

KYIV – Opening the second stage of the Reforms and Order Party's ninth congress in Kyiv on December 10, its chairman, Viktor Pynzenyk, announced the formation of a bloc with the Pora party. According to Mr. Pynzenyk, the new bloc's objective is reforming Ukraine's leadership with a view toward preventing it from treating citizens as society's nuts and bolts. The congress adopted a resolution under which the nascent potential bloc's activities will not extend to local Rada elections. (Ukrinform)

Progressive Socialists, Rus' form bloc

KYIV – On Saturday, December 10, the Progressive Socialist Party and the Rusko-Ukrainskyi Soyuz, aka Rus' held an interparty congress in Kyiv to form the Natalia Vitrenko bloc Narodna Opozycja (People's Opposition). According to the congress chairman, Viktor Marchenko, the bloc's top five candidates are Natalia Vitrenko, Volodymyr Marchenko, Petro Baulin, Liudmyla Bezuhla, Leonid Anisimov. Rus' chairman Ivan Symonenko is the list's No. 6 candidate. Chairman of the Union of Orthodox Citizens Valerii Kurov is among the top 10 candidates. According to the bloc's leader, Ms. Vitrenko, it will press for forming a union with Russia and Belarus and for barring Ukraine from joining NATO, the European Union and the World Trade Organization. (Ukrinform)

SDPU unveils top candidates

KYIV – On Monday, December 12, the Social Democratic Party – United convened its 20th congress, at which the party's top five candidates were named. The list is topped by Leonid Kravchuk, who is followed by SDPU Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk, First Vice-Chairman Nestor Shufrych, Vice-Chairpersons Hryhorii Surkis and Mykhailo Papiyev. These candidates are followed by Ivan Rizak, Oleh Blokhin, Yurii Zahorodnyi, Oleksander Granovskyi, Volodymyr Shepetin, Ihor Shurma, Yukhym Fiks, Volodymyr Voiush, Tamara Proshkuratova, Vadym Misiura and Valerii Borzov. The delegates adopted a resolution on the party's participation in the 2006 parliamentary elections in a bloc with the Women for the Future, the all-Ukrainian association Tsent (Center) and the Republican Party of Ukraine. According to Mr. Shufrych, the SDPU's quota has been set at 5 percent of the roll, the Women for the Future and the Republican Party having 20 percent each, and Tsent a 10 percent quota. According to Mr. Kravchuk, the SDPU expects to earn 7 percent to 10 percent of the electorate's votes. (Ukrinform)

Tests reveal levels of dioxin

KYIV – The results of the tests performed in foreign laboratories on blood

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ONE YEAR AFTER: Residents of Yevpatoria, in Crimea, reflect on Orange Revolution

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

"One Year After" is a four-part series examining the lives of Ukrainians a year after the Orange Revolution. The second part features Arkadii Sharapov, 49, and Kateryna Sharapova, 47, residents of Yevpatoria in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the parents of three sons.

YEVPATORIA, Ukraine – During the Orange Revolution, just showing up for work was a daily battle for Kateryna Sharapova, a teacher of Ukrainian language and literature at School No. 15 in Yevpatoria, Crimea.

The Yevpatoria newspaper outed her as a supporter of Viktor Yushchenko by printing a list of all local polling stations and the names of Yushchenko and Yanukovich staff members in the third round of the presidential election.

Shocked that one of her own co-workers was supporting Mr. Yushchenko's candidacy, the school librarian underlined Mrs. Sharapova's name along with the other Yushchenko staff and placed the newspaper on the desk of Ivan Semko, the school's director, who tried talking Mrs. Sharapova out of supporting the candidate.

"Do you know that Yushchenko wants to give Crimea to the Tatars?" he asked her. "Why do you think they support him so much?"

Weeks later, Mrs. Sharapova wore a thin orange band around her neck, prompting him to ask half-jokingly, "Aren't you afraid that somebody will hang you by those bands?"

Although the streets of Kyiv were the front lines of the Orange Revolution's physical struggle, the spiritual, moral and cultural front was fought in cities and towns across the nation.

Among the regions in Ukraine most hostile to the revolution's ideals and values was the Autonomous Republic of Crimea, which has its own emblem and flag, and a Russian-language anthem.

Though Ukrainian is the official language there, the Crimean Constitution grants the Russian language special sta-

tus, allowing its use in all spheres of life, including government, the judiciary and schools.

With the support of her husband, Arkadii Sharapov, Mrs. Sharapova was faced with the heavy burden of defending the revolution not only at its height, but long after the last tent left the Khreshchatyk, Kyiv's main boulevard.

The Orange Revolution was only the beginning of a long, trying struggle for Yushchenko supporters in pro-Russian regions of Ukraine. Discrimination and even persecution for their political views continues, they said, and among their biggest concerns is the revenge factor.

They fear what their political opponents will do to them should the Party of the Regions gain control of Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada and elect Viktor Yanukovich as prime minister.

"We are the Ukrainian diaspora in Crimea"

Although now a self-described Ukrainian nationalist, Mrs. Sharapova admitted that she was a member of the Communist Party during Soviet times.

She grew up in the Kherson Oblast of southern Ukraine, where people have a stronger Ukrainian identity compared to the neighboring Zaporizhia and Mykolaiv oblasts. (Mr. Yushchenko only narrowly lost in the Kherson Oblast, earning about 48 percent of the vote.)

"My mother had told me [that] if not for western Ukraine, Ukraine would not exist," Mrs. Sharapova said. "She said, 'They were driven by songs, while we were driven by 'kolbasa' " [Russian for "kovbasa," or sausage].

In 1979, Mrs. Sharapova married Arkadii, a Yevpatoria native who worked various factory jobs before becoming a teacher of Russian language and literature.

Whenever eastern and southern Ukrainians discuss the Orange Revolution, the conversation somehow refers back to what many consider the real one – the Bolshevik Revolution.

Despite being born and bred in a Communist stronghold, Mr. Sharapov



Yevpatoria, population 120,600, is located on the Crimean peninsula of Ukraine. The Crimean Autonomous Republic is 24 percent ethnic Ukrainian; Viktor Yushchenko received 18 percent of the Crimean vote in the 2004 presidential election.

said he never believed in it. When asked why, he simply replied, "I read. I thought."

That's a bit of an understatement.

Though modestly furnished, the Sharapovs' apartment consists of seemingly endless walls of bookshelves that contain hundreds of books, including the works of Alexander Pushkin, Vladimir Mayakovsky, Anton Chekhov and even a Russian-language version of George Orwell's "1984."

His hippie looks, replete with long blond hair and thick beard, didn't help his chances of joining the Communist Party either.

He recalled an incident during his teaching days when the school's party organizer approached him. "What kind of a haircut is that? You're a teacher! You're supposed to have your hair cut."

"And just who are you?" Mr. Sharapov asked.

"I am the party organizer," was the answer.

"Then go to your party and boss them around!" Mr. Sharapov shot back.

It wasn't until after joining the party that Mrs. Sharapova became disillusioned with Soviet Communism.

Her rejection of it came amidst fierce peer pressure, considering that more than 58 percent of Crimea's population is ethnic Russian and support for pro-Russian politics is robust. Ethnic Ukrainians make up only about 24 percent of its population, while Tatars represent 12 percent.

Mr. Yushchenko only won about 18 percent of the votes in Crimea during the third round of the presidential election.

Pressured by her school's director to join the party while a young teacher, Mrs. Sharapova said she reluctantly conceded only because she thought Mikhail Gorbachev was introducing reforms and more freedom.

However, after going through months of courses in Leninism Marxism, she was

(Continued on page 10)

Peace Corps volunteers support lifting of Jackson-Vanik restrictions

WASHINGTON – In a letter delivered on December 5 to members of the U.S. House of Representatives, 61 former and current Peace Corps volunteers who served in Ukraine urged the Congress to graduate Ukraine from the provisions of the Jackson-Vanik Amendment.

Jackson-Vanik is a 1974 amendment that imposed trade restrictions on the Soviet Union in response to its poor human rights policies, particularly restrictions on the emigration of religious minorities.

However, as the letter notes, "Ukraine has clearly more than fulfilled the requirements necessary for graduation from Jackson-Vanik. Ukraine has built a strong record of allowing open emigration and has created conditions for religious minorities to pursue their beliefs freely. As such, Ukraine is a success story for Jackson-Vanik and it now merits graduation from the Amendment's provisions."

Following his inauguration in January, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko announced that Ukraine's graduation from the provisions of the U.S. Jackson-Vanik Amendment would be at the forefront of his economic and foreign policy objectives for 2005.

In April, following their Washington meeting, U.S. President George W. Bush

joined President Yushchenko in expressing support for "immediately ending application of Jackson-Vanik to Ukraine."

Most recently, on November 18, the U.S. Senate approved repeal of the Jackson-Vanik restrictions on Ukraine.

The matter now lies entirely in the hands of the members of the U.S. House of Representatives who may consider this issue before their holiday recess.

The letter concludes that "politically, legally and morally, graduating Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik provisions is the right thing to do. ... There is no better way for the United States to celebrate the first anniversary of the Orange Revolution than to graduate Ukraine from Jackson-Vanik. ... We therefore urge you to lend your full support to efforts to make this a reality."

The full text of the letter follows.

* * *

Dear Representative:

As Ukraine commemorates the one-year anniversary of its Orange Revolution, we are writing to urge you to lend your support to efforts to reinforce democratic and free-market developments there.

These efforts include working with

Ukrainian officials in their quest to eventually join the World Trade Organization, NATO and the European Union.

Also included among these efforts is an issue that is almost entirely in the hands of the members of the U.S. Congress. That is supporting legislation to graduate Ukraine from the 1974 Jackson-Vanik trade restrictions.

Ukraine has clearly more than fulfilled the requirements necessary for graduation from Jackson-Vanik. Ukraine has built a strong record of allowing open emigration and has created conditions for religious minorities to pursue their beliefs freely. As such, Ukraine is a success story for Jackson-Vanik and it now merits graduation from the Amendment's provisions.

Moreover, this step is urgently needed as a symbolic affirmation of Ukraine's successful democratization. Graduating Ukraine from Jackson-Vanik would provide powerful support for the Ukrainian government's efforts to stabilize and expand its economy, promote trade and investment, and participate in the international marketplace.

Politically, legally and morally, graduating Ukraine from the Jackson-Vanik provisions is the right thing to do. Furthermore, it poses no economic or

other costs to the United States.

There is no better way for the United States to celebrate the first anniversary of the Orange Revolution than to graduate Ukraine from Jackson-Vanik.

We therefore urge you to lend your full support to efforts to make this a reality.

Errata

Due to an editing error by our Kyiv Press Bureau, a quotation in the story headlined "Melnichenko returns to Ukraine, testifies in secret to prosecutor" (December 11) was mistakenly attributed to Boris Berezovsky. In fact, it was Mykhailo Pohrebynskyi of the Center for Political Research and Conflict Studies who said: "There were many Ukrainian secrets [on the recordings of Mykola Melnychenko]. If we had a democratic state, prison would be the only future for him [Melnichenko]."

Due to a technical error, the byline was omitted on the story headlined "2005 Ukrainian Famine Lecture focuses on dekulakization policies" (November 27). The story was written by Oksana Zakydalsky.

FOR THE RECORD: Condoleezza Rice addresses students in Kyiv

Following is the text of remarks by U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice during a town hall meeting with students at Kyiv's Taras Shevchenko University on December 7. The text is as provided by the U.S. Department of State.

I'm honored to be here in Kyiv, and I have been here before several times, but this is my first as secretary of state. And as a professor myself, I'm just delighted to have a chance to come to a university and talk to university students. And so, after I make a few remarks, I hope you've been thinking about what questions you'd like to ask because that's really what I came to do is to take your questions so that we can have a dialogue.

I'm pleased to speak with you here at Ukraine's oldest and most distinguished university. It's the one that bears the name of this nation's great national writer, Taras Shevchenko. The Ukraine in which Shevchenko was born a serf has endured itself centuries of domination at the hands of neighbors, but over time there has developed in this nation a distinct and impassioned voice that has cried out for liberty and justice and independence. This was the great voice of Ukraine, and Shevchenko helped to liberate it in poetry.

For decades after the poet's death, however, the voice of Ukraine was not still fully sovereign. And even when your long-awaited day of independence came, the promise of democracy was not fulfilled. For many years, there were some who thought that the Ukrainian people, because of their culture or their history, were not ready for democracy. But, last November, Ukrainians showed that they were indeed ready for democracy and they dispelled these cynical doubts.

When the voice of Ukraine spoke, it burst forth in an unprecedented call for freedom and democracy and rule of law. Hundreds of thousands of citizens, perhaps some of you here today, braved frigid temperatures and the fear of violence, and pitched tents and reclaimed a stolen election. You showed the world that liberty is the desire of all freedoms, of all people and the destiny of all nations.

Today, the voice of Ukraine is speaking and it is setting high expectations for all who govern this country, expectations that should be viewed as challenges to be met, not a threat to be mitigated. Of course, it is never easy for a democratic movement to transition from the streets of protest to the halls of government. Setbacks and frustrations and disappointments are inevitable, nonetheless, the virtue of democracy is the power it gives its citizens to correct their government and strengthen their nation.

The Ukrainian people desire a clean and fair democracy, and their government must respond to that just demand. Corruption is a political cancer and attacks on the poor, and it must be confronted directly through government action and greater democratic reform, through more transparent and accountable institutions, a freer and more watchful media and a rule of law that no individual can violate with impunity. In every challenge before this nation, Ukraine's democratic reformers must cooperate in good faith to fulfill the promise of your democratic revolution.

Today, the voice of Ukraine is speaking and it is expressing a vision of Ukraine as distinct as the nation that it is, and it's distinct as a distinct nation as it advances in this region. Just as we grasped the rich potential of the Orange Revolution last year, a revolution that inspired people around the world, the United States now imagines a Ukraine that serves as an anchor of democratic stability in Europe and Eurasia.

The United States will help Ukraine to implement the necessary political and economic reforms to achieve the goal of membership in the European Union and the World Trade Organization. We will continue to support your desire to maintain good relations with your neighbors, especially with Russia. And if you decide that your future lies within NATO, then America will help you to meet those challenges as well.

Today, the voice of Ukraine is speaking and it is growing ever louder in support for the democratic aspirations of all people. The Orange Revolution was not



U.S. Department of State

U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice is welcomed at Taras Shevchenko University.

just a triumph for your nation alone. You spoke for voiceless individuals everywhere who suffered silently in the shadows of fear. Through the weblogs and photographs you posted online, and the hopeful sights and sounds carried worldwide by satellite television, the voice of Ukraine resounded loudly across nations as far away as Lebanon and Palestine and Iraq and as close as Kyrgyzstan. And they inspired citizens to launch unprecedented democratic transformations of their own.

Ukraine is now helping to pioneer the cause of reform along the modern frontiers of freedom, whilst stretching into the Caucasus and running deep through the broader Middle East. Your contribution of troops to Iraq made a vital difference, and we respect your decision to bring them home. We appreciate Ukraine's continued help for the training of Iraqis who will defend their country. And we applaud your leadership of a community of democratic choice, and we encourage you to continue supporting the aspirations of the people of Iraq and Afghanistan and Belarus, the last tyranny in Europe.

Ukraine is now successfully defining itself as a global problem solver, from your work in combating the proliferation of dangerous weapons, to your support for the war on terrorism, to your compassionate efforts to help the victims of Pakistan's recent earthquake. And we in America will never forget that you responded, too, when Americans were in need after Hurricane Katrina.

For decades, many viewed Ukraine as an object in some larger struggle, be it the Cold War or the collapse of commu-

nism or the status quo of the previous decade. But today, because the free voice of Ukraine is finally speaking, because you, the people of this great nation, are realizing your destiny through democratic reform, the United States is dealing with its Ukrainian partner on its own terms. And together we are forging a true partnership, defined not as two nations focused on one and other, but as two nations working in concert to advance common purposes.

The historic purpose of our new partnership is engraved on the monument to Taras Shevchenko that stands proudly in my nation's capital, Washington, D.C., the very monument at which President [Viktor] Yushchenko gave a speech and laid a wreath during his recent trip to Washington. The statue's inscription reads, "Dedicated to the liberation, freedom and independence of all captive nations." For now and for the future, our two countries must remain so dedicated. And we must support all people who long to find and express true voices of their free nations.

Thank you. And now I look forward to taking your questions or comments.

Parting comment to students after the question and answer session:

It was really fun to spend some time with you and you're the – not just the future of Ukraine, you're the present of Ukraine, too. So all the best to you in your studies and all the best to you in defending and protecting your democracy."

Anti-trafficking platform is discussed at seminar focusing on Southeastern Europe

VIENNA – A platform that would facilitate data collection, monitoring and evaluation and enhance regional cooperation and coordination, was backed by the OSCE Special Representative on Combating Trafficking in Human Beings, Helga Konrad, at a major seminar on the issue on November 22.

Addressing a three-day event attended by over 100 national anti-trafficking coordinators and multi-agency project implementation teams from Southeastern European countries, Dr. Konrad urged participants to continue strengthening regional cooperation and to spur implementation of the respective national plans of action.

The event was organized by the International Center for Migration Policy Development, in cooperation with the OSCE Special Representative. Its main theme was the "Program for the Enhancement of Anti-Trafficking Responses in Southeastern Europe."

"An important outcome, which we hope will emerge from the discussions, will be the creation of a Regional Southeastern European Platform for National Anti-Trafficking Coordinators," said Dr. Konrad. "Such a platform would

facilitate a system for data collection, monitoring, evaluation and enhancement of regional cooperation and coordination, as was suggested by several participating states."

She also discussed the host country's progress in combating trafficking in human beings with representatives from the relevant ministries, other state institutions and the international community, as well as civil society activists dealing with anti-trafficking issues.

The OSCE special representative commended the authorities and civil society for having developed a comprehensive action plan against the trafficking of children, which is expected to become operational as soon as possible.

However, Dr. Konrad also urged the host country to improve assistance and protection of national and foreign victims of trafficking: "While efforts are underway to improve the prosecution of traffickers, the judiciary will have to ensure that the penalties reflect the severity of the crime," she said.

"In addition, significant efforts are necessary to further develop a special witness protection program for the victims of trafficking," Dr. Konrad added.

Rice urges...

(Continued from page 1)

World Trade Organization."

Dr. Rice's statement can be seen as a good sign for Ukraine, which is seeking U.S. recognition as a market economy – a key step toward its stated goal of membership in the WTO. Ukraine's WTO bid suffered a setback after lawmakers failed to pass key economic reform bills. Trade deals with Washington and other countries also remain incomplete.

However, Kyiv took a significant step forward on December 2, when the European Union granted it market-economy status.

President Yushchenko on December 7 expressed confidence that the Americans would soon follow suit, saying, "We have sent the remaining technical clarifications regarding the steps we have taken in various sectors of the economy, and we hope the U.S. will be satisfied with this technical data."

Dr. Rice's visit to Ukraine comes as the country's reformers – who have been divided in recent months by bitter infighting – are aiming to rejoin forces ahead of the parliamentary elections in March.

Observers say a reformist victory is crucial if Ukraine is to continue its current pro-Western course.

Dr. Rice also used her time in Kyiv to express concerns about Russian draft legislation that proposes strict regulation of non-governmental organizations operating in the Russian Federation.

The draft law has drawn strong criticism from Western governments and domestic and foreign NGOs in Russia. Russian President Vladimir Putin this week ordered some amendments to the draft in apparent response to the outcry.

From Kyiv, Dr. Rice headed to Brussels for meetings with EU and NATO officials. Prior to visiting Ukraine, Dr. Rice had been in Romania, where she signed a deal granting the United States access to local military bases.

Regional leaders set up Community of Democratic Choice

by Jean-Christophe Peuch

RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report

A two-day forum aimed at promoting democracy and human rights in a region that spent decades under totalitarian rule concluded on December 2 in Kyiv with the official birth of the Community of Democratic Choice. In spite of assurances from founding members, the new grouping – which comprises nine countries from the Balkan, Baltic and Black Sea regions – is perceived as an attempt to limit Russia's influence on the post-Soviet area.

Participants in the forum included the presidents of Ukraine, Georgia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Romania, Moldova, Slovenia and Macedonia.

Government delegations from Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland also attended the gathering, along with observers from the United States, the European Union and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE).

Addressing the forum, Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko told the 120 participants that the Community of Democratic Choice would focus on three main objectives: the promotion of democratic values, regional stability and economic prosperity.

"I'm convinced that the discussion at our forum today is about something more than democracy," said Mr. Yushchenko. "In fact, real rapprochement is taking place between our nations in their common desire to strengthen democracy, stability and economic development."

He continued: "I'm convinced that it is these basic values that are to become a foundation for our partnership, both between states and between peoples, in the 21st century."

President Yushchenko paid tribute to his Georgian counterpart, Mikheil Saakashvili, for "inspiring" the two-day forum.

The basic principles of the Community of Democratic Choice are contained in a joint statement signed by Presidents Saakashvili and Yushchenko last August in the Georgian resort town of Borjomi.

The Borjomi Declaration, as the joint statement is known, envisions the Community of Democratic Choice as a "powerful instrument for removing the remaining divisions in the [Baltic-Black Sea] region, human rights violations, and any type of confrontation, or frozen conflict."

Participants in the Kyiv forum adopted a final declaration in which they vowed to work closely together "with a view to strengthening peace, democracy and

prosperity on the European continent."

Of the nine founding members of the Community of Democratic Choice, two – Georgia and Moldova – are confronted with unresolved separatist conflicts that started during the period of turmoil which preceded the Soviet collapse. Both Moldova and Georgia accuse Russia of secretly supporting their breakaway regions of Transdnister, South Ossetia and Abkhazia.

Mr. Yushchenko hinted that Ukraine and Georgia might use the new grouping to attempt to internationalize their respective sovereignty disputes. He said the Community of Democratic Choice would put a particular emphasis on conflict resolution.

"The achievement of stability – in particular through the regulation of existing conflicts – will create prerequisites for opening up the significant economic potential of our region," said Mr. Yushchenko. "In this way, we will foster political, security and economic rapprochement between the Western and Eastern part of the European continent, and the development of each nation."

Some political commentators – especially in Russia – believe the Community of Democratic Choice aims primarily at weakening Moscow's influence in the Black Sea region.

Others, like former Kremlin advisor Gleb Pavlovskii, see the new grouping as overtly pro-American. In comments made to Russia's strana.ru information website on December 1, Mr. Pavlovskii said he believed the Community of Democratic Choice would "serve as an antechamber for Ukraine to join NATO."

Mr. Yushchenko said the new grouping should not be seen as directed against either Moscow or the Russian-dominated Commonwealth of Independent States, or CIS.

"Our initiative is not directed against any third countries or institutions," he said. "On the contrary, I see the Community of Democratic Choice as open dialogue between friends, adherents of ideas for promoting democracy and the supremacy of law."

In spite of President Yushchenko's remarks, the Kyiv gathering has not been warmly welcomed by Moscow.

Russian President Vladimir Putin reportedly declined an invitation to attend the forum, sending an Embassy official in his place.

A headline on Russia's gazeta.ru information website referred to the new grouping as "The Unfriendly Community." Gazeta.ru commentator Ilya Zhegulyev wrote: "Hiding behind democratic slogans," all of the members of the Community of Democratic Choice



Official Website of the President of Ukraine

At the founding meeting of the Community of Democratic Choice (from left) are: Presidents Mikheil Saakashvili of Georgia, Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine, Valdas Adamkus of Latvia and Vladimir Voronin of Moldova.

will use the forum to "voice their grievances toward Moscow."

Some Ukrainian commentators also believe the new forum challenges Russia's leadership in the region. "Yushchenko and his friends have set up a new CIS," wrote the Ukrayinska Pravda Internet newspaper after the forum ended.

Talking to reporters in Kyiv on December 1, Georgia's State Minister Giorgi Baramidze – who is in charge of his country's European integration – readily admitted the new alliance was being formed, if not to confront Russia, then at least to counterbalance its influence.

"We're talking here of political interests and ties that are still in the making," said Mr. Baramidze. "It is extremely important that we should know who's

going where, because, democracy-wise, Russia is in a very difficult situation today – to put it mildly. In nearly all domains, we can often see alarming signs of authoritarianism [there]."

Eastern European participants to the Kyiv gathering vowed to help Georgia and Ukraine continue their rapprochement with the West.

Addressing the forum, Slovenian President Janez Drnovsek said that Europe "cannot afford" to remain divided between prosperous and safe countries on the one hand, and nations "with low quality of life and no security" on the other.

Moldovan President Vladimir Voronin in turn called for the Community of Democratic Choice to develop its own

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Bush salutes leaders of democracy in Kyiv

On December 2, Ukraine hosted the Forum of the Community of Democratic Choice, an initiative of President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine and President Mikheil Saakashvili of Georgia.

During the conference, nine presidents from Baltic and Black Sea nations pledged to strengthen democracy in the region. The presidents of three Baltic republics attended as did the presidents of Macedonia, Moldova, Slovenia and Romania. Also participating were officials from the European Council and the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. However, President Vladimir Putin of Russia and President Alyaksandr Lukashenka of Belarus did not attend.

Undersecretary of State for Democracy and Global Affairs Paula Dobriansky, the head of the U.S. delegation to the Forum of the Community of Democratic Choice, shared greetings from U.S. President George W. Bush with her fellow delegates. Below is the text of the president's message as provided by the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv.

I send greetings to those gathered for the Forum of the Community of Democratic Choice in Kyiv, Ukraine.

Across the world, hearts and minds are opening to the message of human liberty. The past four decades have seen the swiftest advance of freedom in history, proving that the desire for justice, freedom, human rights and

accountable, representative government is universal. The anniversary of the Orange Revolution was a powerful example of democracy for people around the world. When hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian citizens stood up to defend democracy in their homeland, they showed that the love of liberty is stronger than the will of tyranny.

The work of democracy requires building and sustaining the institutions that support freedom. Democracies may look different from country to country, but all democratic nations must uphold the rule of law, limit the power of the state and respect the rights of all citizens. Nations grow in strength not through conquest, but by allowing the talents and gifts of their people to flourish.

I appreciate the participants in the inaugural conference and all those who are working for the cause of freedom in the Baltic, Black Sea and Caspian regions, and around the world. I also appreciated the strong leadership of President [Viktor] Yushchenko and President [Mikheil] Saakashvili. Your efforts are an inspiration to all who love liberty. America will stand with you as you continue to advance democracy and security and build a free future for your children and grandchildren. Together, we will send a message of hope that freedom will be the future for all nations and all people.

Laura and I send our best wishes for a successful meeting.

Quotable notes

"Unable to comprehend Ukraine's Orange Revolution, which began a year ago when hundreds of thousands of people took to the streets of Kiev [sic] to reject a fraudulent presidential election, Russia's ruling coterie invented a conspiracy theory. Western intelligence agencies, they reasoned, had poured money into Ukrainian civil society groups that were then used as fronts to organize the insurrection.

"Only someone like President Vladimir Putin, an isolated former KGB agent with little taste for democracy, could embrace such a preposterous idea. Yet Mr. Putin's paranoia now is set to become the basis for a far-reaching crackdown on civil society in Russia. President [George W.] Bush, who is to meet Mr. Putin tomorrow in South Korea, cannot ignore this assault on freedom.

"Mr. Putin's initiative comes in the form of legislation abruptly introduced last week in Parliament, which he already converted into a rubber stamp. The new law would require all 450,000 non-commercial associations in Russia to re-register with the government; force groups that until now have operated without registration to obtain one; and ban all organizations from using foreign funding for 'political activity.' ..."

– The Washington Post editorial, "Mr. Putin's Counterrevolution," November 17.

Canadian couple donates \$5 million to Royal Conservatory of Music

TORONTO – Ian Ihnatowycz, president and chief executive officer of Acuity Funds Ltd. and Acuity Investment Management Inc., and his wife, optometrist Dr. Marta Witer, have donated \$5 million to the Royal Conservatory of Music (RCM).

The announcement was made on November 17 by Florence Minz, chair of the RCM Board of Directors.

As noted on the RCM website, the gift, made to the RCM's Building National Dreams Campaign, will provide funds to advance the construction of the RCM's new home, preserve the conservatory's heritage building and fund a special Piano Scholars Program, designed for the highest levels of piano study.

In recognition of their generous contribution, the historic wing of the Conservatory's TELUS Center for Performance and Learning, i.e., 124-year-old McMaster Hall and 104-year-old Mazzoleni Hall, will now collectively be known as Ihnatowycz Hall.

In addition, the piano program of the Royal Conservatory of Music Artists Diploma program will be known as the Ian Ihnatowycz Piano Scholars Program.

It was also announced that Mr. Ihnatowycz will be joining the RCM board of directors.

Both Mr. Ihnatowycz and Dr. Witer are RCM alumni and acknowledge the conservatory's role in their music education as youths and that of two of the couple's three children.

Mr. Ihnatowycz noted that the gift affirms the couple's "deeply held view that the arts are essential means for the social, intellectual and spiritual development of all people. Great civilizations are inevitably defined by their artistic legacy and the programs of the Royal Conservatory have helped some of our greatest performing artists to emerge and add a new dimension to the lives of millions of people."

In acknowledging the magnanimous gift, Dr. Peter Simon, president of the Royal Conservatory of Music, stated that "Ian and Marta recognize the conservatory's immense impact on the cultural and social life of our nation. ... Their generosity will help us expand the reach of our programs, benefiting hundreds of thousands of students across this country, and realize our bold new vision to become the heart of creative education in Canada."

As noted in the Globe and Mail article "Donation sounds right note" by James Adams (November 19), the Ihnatowycz-Witer gift comes at a crucial time in the cultural life of Toronto, because the RCM is one of six major arts institutions that are trying to complete fundraising for ambitious capital campaigns launched in 2002.

The Ihnatowycz-Witer gift brings the RCM Building National Dreams Campaign total to \$68 million in an \$85 million campaign.

Mr. Ihnatowycz, a Toronto investor and fund manager, founded Acuity Funds Ltd. and Acuity Investment



Ian Ihnatowycz and his wife, Dr. Marta Witer, in front of the heritage building of the Royal Conservatory of Music.

Management Inc. in 1990.

Acuity, among the fastest growing firms in the industry, provides discretionary investment management services for individual, institutional, pension and mutual fund clients.

As one of Canada's leading practitioners of sustainable investing, Acuity represents Canada as an advisor to the United Nations on the integration of environmental, social and governance factors within investment management.

Under Mr. Ihnatowycz's stewardship, Acuity's assets under management have grown to \$7 billion.

Dr. Witer has worked in private practice as a doctor of optometry for more than 25 years. She is a past president of the Vision Institute of Canada and served on the Board of Directors of the Ontario Association of Optometrists.

Dr. Witer and Mr. Ihnatowycz have been involved in numerous education and community initiatives.

Founded in 1886, the Royal Conservatory of Music is the largest and oldest independent arts educator in

Canada, serving more than 500,000 active participants each year. Based in Toronto, it offers extraordinary opportunities for learning and personal development through music and the arts in all Canadian provinces and increasingly in a number of international settings.

Sister Julia Karpiak, educator, dies at 93

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. – Born on February 24, 1912. Sister Julia Karpiak, OSBM, who served the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian community as an educator, quietly passed from this life on September 16. The daughter of the late Wasyl and Martha Suchadolska Karpiak, Sister Julia was predeceased by a brother, John, and is survived by her sister, Anna Larosis, five nieces, and several grandnieces and grandnephews.

Sister Julia entered the monastic life on July 2, 1928. Her final vows were received by Mother Josaphat Theodorovych, OSBM, on August 28, 1937. Having earned a degree in elementary education from Fordham University, she taught in schools in Pennsylvania, New York and Illinois.

(Continued on page 38)



Sister Julia Karpiak, OSBM

The Ukrainian Weekly Press Fund: October

Amount	Name	City
\$500.00	Pauline and Warren Bruggeman	Schenectady, N.Y.
\$300.00	Daria Kurylko (in memory of brothers Taras and Wolodymyr Logush)	New Providence, N.J.
\$250.00	Oksana Zakydalsky	Toronto, Ontario
\$100.00	Paul Bandriwsky	Chicago, Ill.
	Laryssa Courtney	Washington, D.C.
	Wolodymyr Klokiw	Rye, N.Y.
	Zenon and Dozia Krislaty	Cleveland, Ohio
	Irene Nowak	Milwaukee, Wis.
	St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral	Parma, Ohio
\$75.00	Ihor Puhacz	Macungie, Pa.
\$55.00	Jaroslav Didoszak	Livonia, Mich.
	Julian Kulas	Park Ridge, Ill.
	Iwan Sierant	New York, N.Y.
\$50.00	Orest Deychakiwsky	Beltsville, Md.
	Moye-Handling-Systems Inc.	Somerville, N.J.
	Eugene Woloshyn	Huntley, Ill.
\$45.00	Ostap Kashuba	Kildeer, Ill.
	John Zyznomyrsky	University Park, Fla.
\$35.00	Olena Boyko	Urbanna, Va.
\$30.00	Stephen Matkowsky	Rochester, N.Y.
	Samuel Walczuk	Stamford, Conn.
\$25.00	Vera Chuma-Bitcon	Wayne, N.J.
	George Goy	Palm Springs, Calif.
	Wsewolod Hirka	Katy, Texas
	Mykola and Oksana Koropecky	Baltimore, Md.
	Walter Tupyckyj	Cheektowaga, N.Y.
\$20.00	Ihor Davydovych	Montreal, Quebec
	Walter Gerent	North Port, Fla.
	Leonid Kondratiuk	Belmont, Mass.
	Nadia Lypowecky	Etobicoke, Ontario
	Mark Mycio	Old Bethpage, N.Y.
\$15.00	Ksenia Antypiv	Warren, Mich.
	Jaroslav Bylen	Chicago, Ill.
	Lydia Lysak	Newnan, Ga.
	Leonid Petrenko	Sun City, Ariz.
	Ihor Vitkovitsky	Silver Spring, Md.
\$10.00	Nina Baran	Cedar Knolls, N.J.
	Irena Jemetz	Warners, N.Y.
	Andrew Klek	Fairview Park, Ohio
	Anatole Kryvoruchko	Ottawa, Ontario
	Bohdan Kuczarskyj	Brooklyn Park, Minn.
	Maria Motyl	North Babylon, N.Y.
	O. Rudenko	Phoenix, Ariz.
	Roman Semczuk	Amsterdam, N.Y.
	Christine Smith	Harrisburg, Pa.
\$5.00	Alex Bachnivsky	Elkhart, Ind.
	Iwanna Holowaty	Venice, Fla.
	Merle and Bonnie Jurkiewicz	Toledo, Ohio
	Wolodymyra Kawka	Drexel Hill, Pa.
	Anna Kokolski	Cumberland, R.I.
	Stephan and Daria Krawczeniuk	Jersey City, N.J.
	Vida Kucek	Linden, N.J.
	M. Neczeporenko	Jefferson, Ohio
	Natalie Santarsiero	Buffalo, N.Y.
\$2.00	Peter Melnycky	Edmonton, Alberta

TOTAL: \$2,662.00

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



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM



Insurance Matters

by Joseph Hawryluk

The benefits of UNA annuities

Dear Osyp:

I'm 65 years old. What would be the benefits of moving my \$100,000 from my savings bank account, into the 4.5 percent UNA annuity?

– Slawko

Dear Slawko:

First of all, you would most likely get a better rate of return on your money (i.e., \$4,500 per year in interest). And, unlike interest earned in a bank – you wouldn't have to pay taxes on this interest at the end of every year! So, your income taxes would be lower. And if you are receiving Social Security, this could also help keep your Social Security pension from being taxed.

Money deposited in a UNA annuity is just as safe as money kept on deposit in your bank. Very strict state insurance department regulations specify that annuity monies be kept in an account separate from life insurance monies. And the state insurance department audits insurance companies regularly.

Unlike money held in a savings account in a bank, with the UNA, in month 13 of your annuity, you could take out 10 percent of your money (\$10,000) with no surrender charges. And every year thereafter, you could take out another 10 percent with no surrender charges.

But, best of all, a UNA annuity could guarantee you a lifetime income, or income for 20 years guaranteed (to you and a beneficiary), etc. – which no bank can do. So, for example, in month 13 of your annuity, you could start receiving a monthly income of \$600.60 for life, or a monthly income of \$570 guaranteed for 20 years to you and a beneficiary, etc. At this time, you would have to start paying income taxes on a portion of the interest you had earned.

And, as a fraternal benefit, members receive a 10 percent discount at Soyuzivka, reduced rates on Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly newspapers, a ScriptSave prescription drug discount card and Hertz Car Rental discounts.

– Osyp

Joseph (Osyp in Ukrainian) Hawryluk is an advisor on the UNA General Assembly, chairman of the Buffalo UNA District and secretary of UNA Branch 360. This is the first of an occasional column on insurance that will appear in The Ukrainian National Association Forum.

**Visit the websites
of the UNA's publications:**

www.ukrweekly.com
www.svoboda-news.com

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

Young UNA'ers



Deanna Natalia Barankewicz, daughter of Christine and Stephen Barankewicz of Granite Springs, N.Y., is a new member of UNA Branch 130. She was enrolled by her grandparents Ann and Myron Barankewicz.



Nadiya Maryana Vorobets, daughter of Ruslan and Sofiya Vorobets of Wayne, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 777. She was enrolled by her grandparents Roman and Yaroslava Vorobets.

**Do you have a young UNA'er,
or potential young UNA'er in your family?**

Call the UNA Home Office, 973-292-9800, to find out how to enroll.



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

James Mace, son of Ukraine

One month ago, at the time Ukraine was commemorating the solemn Day of Memory for Victims of Famines and Political Repressions, President Viktor Yushchenko conferred the Order of Yaroslav the Wise, second degree, on the American scholar James E. Mace. The honor was bestowed for personal contributions to the Ukrainian nation in revealing the truth to the world community about the 1932-1933 Great Famine in Ukraine, for fruitful research work and public activities. Sadly, the much-deserved medal was awarded posthumously. Dr. Mace died on May 3, 2004, at the much too young age of 52.

Who was this American who lived, and died, in Kyiv? Born in Oklahoma, he was a historian who was drawn – Ukrainians would say by fate – to study a land far from his own. We first wrote about him in 1983, when the Ukrainian American community and Ukrainians worldwide were marking the 50th anniversary of the Great Famine of 1932-1933. He was then the junior collaborator of the eminent scholar Dr. Robert Conquest, who was working on the landmark book “The Harvest of Sorrow: Soviet Collectivization and the Terror-Famine” (Oxford University Press, 1986).

Dr. Mace had become familiar with the causes and consequences of the Famine as a graduate student at the University of Michigan while working on his doctoral thesis about national communism. He told The Weekly in 1983 that he saw the Great Famine as Stalin’s attempt to destroy the Ukrainian nation by imposed starvation within the framework of dekulakization, that Stalin had decided to break once and for all the national consciousness of the peasantry. The Famine was, in his words, “the crime of the century that nobody’s ever heard of.” Dr. Mace said he was confident his research would unequivocally show that the Famine was in fact a premeditated attempt at genocide.

In that same interview with The Weekly (published on March 20, 1983), Dr. Mace said he hoped someday to write his own book on the Famine – “There’s never going to be just one book on the Famine” – and that he would like to continue studying Ukrainian history.

That he surely did. Dr. Mace “will forever be associated with the Great Famine of 1932-1933,” we wrote in the editorial that marked his passing last year. “More than anyone else, it was Dr. Mace who brought the Famine to the awareness of the public – in the United States, in Ukraine and around the globe...”

Dr. Mace continued to research, write, speak and otherwise expand and disseminate knowledge of Ukraine’s genocide, the Holodomor. His paper “The Man-Made Famine of 1932-1933: What Happened and Why” became the lead article in The Ukrainian Weekly’s book “The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Unknown Holocaust.” (1983; second edition, 1988). In 1986 he became the staff director of the U.S. Commission on the Great Famine, which produced extensive documentation about the Famine and issued a report that characterized it as genocide committed by Soviet authorities.

Ultimately, Dr. Mace resettled in Ukraine, where he touched the nation through his work and his writings, including weekly columns in the newspaper Den (The Day). Oftentimes it seemed he understood the nature of Ukraine, which he called a “post-genocidal society, better than Ukrainians themselves did, and he searched for truth and justice in the name of the people of Ukraine.

Dr. Mace adopted Ukraine as his home, and Ukraine adopted him as its son. He was buried in Kyiv at the renowned Baikove Cemetery, the final resting place to many of Ukraine’s heroes. James E. Mace became one of those heroes. The posthumous medal awarded by President Yushchenko is yet another recognition of that fact.

Dec.
19
2004

Turning the pages back...

“Orange Wave = unity” was the title of our editorial one year ago. It was yet another piece of writing that provided a snapshot in time of the historic events that all Ukrainians experienced in 2004 as the Orange Revolution was unfolding in Ukraine. Following are excerpts of that editorial.

During the past few weeks we have been witnesses to history being made in our ancestral homeland. We followed the news from Ukraine relentlessly, we shared that news with each other (sometimes over and over again, as the in boxes of our e-mail can attest), and we became stressed or elated as developments warranted. It’s been a hell of a roller coaster ride. And it’s not over yet.

... the Orange Revolution in Ukraine was quickly transformed in all parts of the Ukrainian diaspora into the Orange Wave (ergo the headline on our pages of diaspora activities in support of the pro-democracy movement: “Ukraine’s Orange Revolution begets Orange Wave in the diaspora.”). There were scores of demonstrations, rallies, vigils, meetings, liturgies and prayer services, and marches to manifest our concern about the rapidly changing developments in Ukraine.

Ukrainians from Winnipeg to Toronto, from Philadelphia to Crawford, Texas, from Australia and Italy, and countless points in between proudly wore the orange color of the revolution. They wore orange to Ukrainian school; they wore it to dances and church; they wore it to work (you should see the orange in this building!). They were joined by non-Ukrainian supporters who also took up the wearing of the orange. ...

Among the most notable aspects of our Orange Wave has been the composition of its participants: young and old, people of various political leanings and religious affiliations, Ukrainian-speaking and not, and established diaspora types and members of the Fourth Wave. What the Orange Wave has done is bring out our Fourth Wave in great

(Continued on page 37)

CHRISTMAS PASTORALS

The perfect gift of Christmas

Pastoral message of the Ukrainian Catholic hierarchy of the U.S.A. to clergy, hieromonks and brothers, religious sisters, seminarians and beloved faithful.

Christ is born!

We rejoice because for having received the perfect gift from God this Christmas. In the first chapter of the evangelist John, we read, “And the Word became flesh, and dwelt among us.” Let’s briefly unwrap this gift to see what it means for us.

“The Word became flesh.” God has entered the human drama in the flesh. This is a remarkable and totally unexpected gift on God’s part. The evangelist wanted all of us to clearly understand that Jesus was fully God and fully man. Jesus did not just appear to be hungry, or to be tempted, or to weep, or to laugh, or to die. He really experienced all these things. This means that God understands all of our life experiences. God understands us!

God’s decision to become flesh also reaffirms that we matter. God wanted us to know that He loves His creation. God created each of us with great care. He loves our physical self as He loves our spiritual and emotional self. If God loves us totally in that way, perhaps we should take better care of ourselves and the whole of our human environment.

God not only became flesh like us, but also “dwelt among us”! In Jesus, God actually risked vulnerability to live among us. God is not remote, untouched, or distant. Our sufferings, our joys, our needs, our whispered prayers are all present to Him. Human history matters to God. Our personal story matters to God.

God became flesh and dwelt among us. God is the ultimate missionary. He learned our language and lived in our culture because He wanted to bring us, through Jesus, the everlasting love God has always had for us. Because of God’s Christmas gift, the incarnation, we can understand God’s love. It is the perfect gift, because it is God’s love which is needed within us and amidst us.

Let each of us within our Ukrainian Catholic Church celebrate this perfect gift from God. We are blessed with beau-

tiful and sacred Christmas traditions, which contribute to a spirit of unity amidst us. God is among us! He understands the aspirations of our faithful here in the United States of America, in Ukraine and throughout the world. God desires that we come to know His love and to share it with others in need of knowing God. God desires that we all endeavor to invite others to know God’s love, and to gather together in a spirit of unity.

We are strengthened in our unity and in our hopes by coming together in our holy churches. Our common prayer and worship lifted to God unifies us, and gives hope and strength to our petitions for God’s blessings upon our people. We gather around the perfect gift, God’s love revealed in Jesus. We are strengthened in our resolve to share this perfect gift with all whom we are called to serve.

Our prayers and best wishes are offered for a most blessed and joyful Christmas! May the newborn Jesus be at the center of our hope and joy for you and for our loved ones, for our parish family of which you are a part, and within the community in which you live. God grant to you and our loved ones, and to our brothers and sisters in our beloved Ukraine and scattered throughout the world, good health, happiness and contentment. God is among us, our brothers and sisters in Christ! A Blessed Christmas!

CHRIST IS BORN! PRAISE HIM!

The Most Rev. Stefan Soroka
Metropolitan of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S.A.
Archbishop of Philadelphia for Ukrainians

The Most Rev. Basil Losten
Bishop of the Stamford Eparchy

The Most Rev. Robert Moskal
Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Josaphat, Parma

The Most Rev. Richard Seminack
Bishop of the Eparchy of St. Nicholas, Chicago



A depiction of “koliadnyky” (carolers) by Bohdan Soroka.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

More on Pidhaitsi and its problems

Dear Editor:

I was very pleased to see the article published in your paper about the town of Pidhaitsi. I recently returned from a three-month trip to Ukraine, where I spent some weeks in Pidhaitsi, and where I worked on production of a documentary titled "Whose Revolution was It? The Orange Revolution One Year Later." I have spent nine months in Ukraine in the past year and a half, six of them in Pidhaitsi, and was in Ukraine before, during and immediately after the Orange Revolution. My grandparents are from Siltse, just outside of Pidhaitsi.

The infrastructural problems in Ukraine are vast and bewildering, and the decayed state of the National Home in Pidhaitsi is a case in point. However, Pidhaitsi offers an even more significant, and terrible, example of the problems of infrastructural neglect and decay that plague most of Ukraine.

Last year, just before the presidential elections began, a portion of the top two floors of the three-story gymnasium collapsed. Only pure luck determined that this happened on a Saturday, with no students in the building. At the time, many said to me, "We know our buildings are old; but who does anything for them?"

Post-Soviet authorities in Ukraine have been utterly careless regarding the people and neglectful of their duties to them. A huge gulf separates the "narod" (the people) and government functionaries, and the situation at the local level is the same as it is at the top. Money is allocated for infrastructural repair and maintenance, but disappears. Roads are ordered repaired, but only the bare minimum is done, as some of the funds land in someone's pocket. The roads in Pidhaitsi are a catastrophe, and people there know it.

Some weeks before the Orange Revolution, I crossed paths with an old man who was struggling down a deeply rutted road, late on a night with no moon, and the street lamps are never lit. As I helped him along, he thanked me and complained bitterly that we should go together to the city mayor and force him to do something about the roads. Occasionally one can spot a bumper sticker, usually placed on Western-made cars, that reads, "I want to get back to Europe!" Ukrainians joke about their roads because they know their roads are a joke.

People were and still are angry. Water pumps and pipes, electric power lines and transformers, etc., are old, worn-down and prone to malfunctioning. Before and after the revolution there was no water on the street where I stayed with the family of my father's first cousin. Either a pump had broken, or a number of people had not paid their bills and the water was deliberately shut-off (utility companies, because of how the controls over pipes function, must assign collective responsibility). This was the case again this past August and September. For a third of the time people had to haul water from public wells. In western Ukraine especially, the whole of the infrastructure chugs along with the help of band-aids and knee braces.

The Orange Revolution has been hailed as the birth of a Ukrainian civil society that fills in the gulf between the people and the government, and

President Viktor Yushchenko promised massive infrastructural improvements. Is this true? Are things changing?

Things after the Orange Revolution are going like this: There also is a plan for a massive road improvement project in Pidhaitsi County; however, just as with the local National Home, people have to put up a percentage of the funds in donations before Kyiv will send the rest of the money.

Some of the people I talked to in Pidhaitsi approved of the plan, arguing that it is a way to teach people they must share some of the responsibility for the state of things in their town. Others complain that it is just another point on a list of betrayals of revolution promises. Such people feel that oligarchs should be made to pay for the infrastructure that they have neglected, and that immunity for local officials only guarantees that money from the projects will be stolen again.

To my mind, it is not an either/or question. Ukrainians should learn to take more responsibility themselves and take some of it away from the state, but the oligarchs should be forced to pay up, too. Ukraine technically should not be a country of poor people. Recall that Viktor Pinchuk and Rynat Akhmetov are Forbes Billionaires while 55 percent of the population lives below the international poverty line and suffer 25-50 percent unemployment rates, depending on region and season. Further, given that corruption remains a problem, especially in the rural areas, the law on local immunity is nothing but absurd.

That something is being done to improve the National Home in Pidhaitsi is indeed a good example of the difference the Orange Revolution is making. Most of all, the people of Pidhaitsi should be applauded for raising 5 percent of the funds, and for taking the good-natured step of trusting that the money will be used for its intended purpose. I hope they will not be let down.

Stefan Iwaskewycz
Plymouth, Minn.

Stefan Iwaskewycz is the grandson of Michael and Maria Iwaskewycz, principle funders of three churches in Ukraine, as well as of diaspora institutions such as the Ukrainian Free University in Munich. Mr. Iwaskewycz has studied history, philosophy and comparative literature. During the Orange Revolution, he wrote a list-serve and published some pieces in local Minneapolis newspapers, where he was born. He writes his own blog about Ukraine, and travels frequently between Ukraine and the United States.

We welcome your opinion

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

Letters should be typed and signed (anonymous letters are not published). Letters are accepted also via e-mail at staff@ukrweekly.com. The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes. Please note that a daytime phone number is essential in order for editors to contact letter-writers regarding clarifications or questions.



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

The medium is not always the message

Marshall McLuhan was only partially right. The medium is the message, but not always – certainly not when it comes to particular aspects of Ukrainian culture, especially the folk. The medium is the "how," while the message is the "what" and "why." In quite a few instances, while things should be as presentable, or as beautiful as possible, it does not matter if they are not as long as the message gets through.

In the folk arts, where geometric ornaments abound as do free-form floral and abstract motifs, the former are precise, neat, expertly formed designs, while the latter often go off madly in all directions. These sometimes look as if a child had created them, and this is where the naïf style appears.

Woodcarving, weaving, metalwork and counted-thread embroidery are primarily geometric in style, and the result is clean and orderly.

Folk motifs on pottery and painting on walls and furniture are free-style, usually not geometric but floral, and here there is less precision. Even the infrequent geometric motifs are not too even.

The contemporary pysanky (from the late 20th century on) are very exact and accurate, especially the ones written in North America. But if we observe the earlier pysanky, and the ones still written by traditional pysanka writers, they are not as accurate. Lines are not always even, the solid areas are not always completely filled in, and the motifs on all sides of the eggshell do not necessarily match.

As long as that solar symbol and the tree of life and the female figure appear on the egg, or on the house wall, or on the plate, the task has been accomplished – the prayer and the wish for all that is good has been done.

The same happens in singing, especially in the ritual songs. These are the "obriadovi," the wedding songs, the koliadky and schedrivky of the Christmas and New Year season, the hahilky (spring songs) and the Kupalo (Midsummer's

Night) songs. The words of these songs are most important. How they are sung, and whether by the best voices or not, is not the point.

Usually they are sung by the women. The message must get through – about calling spring and the sun, about fertility, about matchmaking and weddings, about best wishes for the individual members of the family, and the multitude of themes on "schastia" (bliss and well-being).

It is the people's lyrics and melodies that are important, not their voices. Ukrainian polyphony is part of both the medium and the message, and Ukrainians sure sing beautifully, but if the voice is a bit ragged, it does not matter. The words and melodies do, as does the act of them being sung at a particular time and place in the ritual.

Often, in the recent centuries, the original ancient purposes of the actions behind our traditions may have faded from our memory – either because people were far away from the source in the diaspora or, in the homeland, under Soviet and other foreign pressure to assimilate or lose those "primitive" (i.e., ancient Ukrainian) habits – or with the passage of millennia that would subtly erase the reasons. But the rituals remained.

It is remarkable how so many of these traditions were preserved wherever in the world Ukrainians settled. In Ukraine, even before 1991, the rituals kept clandestine all those decades burst forth. We no longer need to hunt for that one rare album of ancient koliadky from Ukraine, or the one book on pysanky as we did during Soviet times – now there is almost more material than we can collect.

The message is to be cherished indeed. And the media in which it is presented are so varied that we have as many choices as we can manage and enjoy. So this Rizdvo (Christmas), sing your heart out in the koliadky and schedrivky! It will sound just fine.

To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, etc. – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- ✦ News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must provide a daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.
- ✦ Unsolicited materials submitted for publication will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.

Mailing address: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

PLEASE NOTE: Materials may be sent to The Weekly also via e-mail to the address staff@ukrweekly.com. Please do include your mailing address and phone number so that we may contact you if needed to clarify any information.

Please call or send query via e-mail before electronically sending anything other than Word documents. This applies especially to photos, as they must be scanned according to our specifications in order to be properly reproduced in our newspaper.

Any questions? Call 973-292-9800.

Residents of Yevpatoria...

(Continued from page 3)

unconvinced.

Also contributing to her antipathy for Soviet Communism were the stories her grandparents began telling her, which they were afraid to reveal earlier.

One grandmother told of how Communists threw her out of her home with five children. One grandfather fled a collective farm, while another was hauled off to Siberia, never to be seen



Eduard Leonov and his mother, Halyna.

again.

Eventually, her grandfather Hryhorii Havrylko provided a first-hand account of the Holodomor that appeared in the 583-page commemorative book, "Holod '33," published in Kyiv in 1991 by Radianskyi Pysmenyk.

"The bony hand of famine began choking body and soul in the spring of 1933," said her grandfather, who was from the city of Hola Prystan in the Kherson Oblast.

"During my childhood and the Leningrad blockade, I always had a particular dream: a table covered with food to eat. Then I'd wake up, and hunger was gnawing at my stomach and I didn't want to live," he recalled in the book.

Mrs. Sharapova waited until Ukraine declared its independence to quit the party.

Her father had done so earlier and was attacked in Communist newspapers for acting immorally. He advised her not to put her family through that hardship.

Eventually, at a party function, "I silently took out my party membership card and put it in the pocket of the party organizer," Mrs. Sharapova said.

Because of their patriotic convictions, the Sharapovs are the exception to the rule in Yevpatoria.

For a while, the city's 300 or so nationalists banded together under the Ukrainian People's Party, once chaired by Mr. Sharapov in Yevpatoria and currently led by Yuri Kostenko nationally.

However, disenchanted with what they allege as corruption in the Crimean leadership of the Ukrainian People's Party, most of Yevpatoria's nationalists migrated to Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU) in recent weeks.

Mr. Sharapov himself began working for the OUPU staff on December 5.

Despite the political instability, their Ukrainian patriots' ghetto remains tight. They meet regularly in a dilapidated

building near the city center which houses a computer lab for students and several couches.

"We are the Ukrainian diaspora in Crimea," Mrs. Sharapova said of the community.

Throughout the day, they also drop by to talk about daily events.

On the afternoon of November 11, a local elementary school teacher, Olena Tkachenko, 39, came seeking support from her colleagues because she said she was criticized by her fellow teachers for

being a nationalist. She had offended them because she asked her own students in her Ukrainian class to speak Ukrainian.

"Psychologically, Crimea is worse..."

Offering her support was Halyna Leonova, a Cherkasy native who runs the computer lab. Her son, 31-year-old Eduard Leonov, is Crimea's most known, and often reviled, political activist.

Recently, he successfully led a campaign pushing for the lab's neighboring elementary school to teach all its classes in the Ukrainian language. As a result, it's one of only two government schools in all of Crimea that instructs students in Ukrainian.

And, despite the fact that virtually no one uses the Ukrainian language in Yevpatoria, Mrs. Leonov speaks Ukrainian to everyone who visits the lab. "Yevpatoria knows the Leonov family because 'they're the ones who speak Ukrainian,'" Mrs. Leonov said, gently laughing.

Apparently, it's having some effect.

"When children walk in here, instead of saying 'zdravstvuite,' they say, 'Dobroho dnia,'" Mrs. Leonova said with pride.

She taught Ukrainian language and literature to Yevpatoria's students for 30 years and belonged to the Communist Party before joining Rukh in the early 1990s, she said.

Her political activism influenced Eduard, who was one of the key leaders of Pora during the Orange Revolution.

In fact, Yevpatoria's core of Ukrainian nationalists played very active roles in the Orange Revolution from its very start in the Mukachiv mayoral elections, now known as the revolution's training grounds.

They were also among the first on Bankova Street when the Orange Revolution began, breaking the Presidential Secretariat building's gate and standing face to face with Special

Service officers.

Given his inside track on Ukrainian politics, Mr. Leonov said he wasn't as disappointed with the revolution's results as others because he wasn't so infatuated with its leaders and knew that crises would emerge.

Looking at it from the political technology angle, the split between President Yushchenko and former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko could have been very effective, he said.

In theory, the two leaders could have forged a political pact in which Ms. Tymoshenko's departure could have attracted votes from pro-Russian parties, thereby weakening Mr. Yushchenko's true enemies.

"Unfortunately, it's obvious that this was an ordinary argument between a boy, Yushchenko, and a girl, Tymoshenko," Mr. Leonov said.

Mr. Yushchenko squandered many opportunities during his first months in office, Mr. Leonov said. Crimeans had overwhelmingly voted for Mr. Yanukovich because he created an image of himself as a leader who was going to improve their lives, he said.

There were few positive expectations of Mr. Yushchenko among Crimeans, Mr. Leonov said, and any minimal improvement in their lives would have significantly boosted the president's popularity in the autonomous republic.

"Psychologically, Crimea feels worse. And economically also," Mr. Leonov said of the Orange Revolution. "People tied their hopes to Yanukovich or even Yushchenko. It was hoped that things would get better. With Yushchenko, they have seen that things haven't gotten better and they won't get better."

Mr. Leonov said he's quite concerned about the future sanctity of the Orange Revolution that his generation of political activists helped to bring about.

In Crimea, he said he's already witnessed the old guard of corrupt businessmen and politicians exchange their former party colors for the Orange-allied parties in order to retain their grip on power.

As a member of the Ukrainian People's Party, Mr. Leonov said he confronted Mr. Kostenko in October and told him the Crimean leadership was selling its Verkhovna Rada seats to people with ties to corrupt businessmen such as Ihor Franchuk, the first husband of Leonid Kuchma's daughter, Elena.

According to Mr. Leonov, Mr. Kostenko ignored his concerns and the Crimean leadership subsequently threw

him out of the party.

Mr. Leonov said he expects a similar scenario will occur in the national parliamentary elections, with corrupt, wealthy businessmen being able to buy seats within the ranks of the Orange-allied parties.

When trying to reinstate his party membership on October 27, Mr. Leonov alleges he was severely beaten and choked by two party leaders.

"There aren't any bright expectations of the upcoming parliamentary elections in Ukraine," Mr. Leonov said. "The configuration of forces will shift a bit. But, in essence, the same old people will enter into new [political] factions and gain parliamentary power."

"Shut your mouth, Banderivka!"

Though never physically attacked, Mrs. Sharapova says she has had to deal with her own fair share of abuse from local Crimeans.

When working at the polling station during the second round of voting, someone had hung orange Yushchenko banners nearby the night before.

A Yanukovich worker took them down, entered the station and flung them in Mrs. Sharapova's face.

"Why the aggression?" she said. "By the way, all the leaves on the trees are orange. Maybe you should go and take those down."

On another occasion, she told the Yanukovich staffer that a ballot was not legitimate.

"Shut your month, Banderivka!" he spat back at her.

She said she'll never forget walking in an underpass wearing orange bands during the revolution when suddenly two women began following her.

"You fool! Yushchenko will cut your tongue if you speak the Russian language," they yelled at her.

"What are you talking about?" Mrs. Sharapova replied.

"You American bitch!" they shot back.

Harassment even extended to her ninth-floor apartment, literally. One night, someone covered her door with signs that read, "Yushchenko 'is a liar' - Tak!" ("Tak," or yes, was a Yushchenko campaign slogan.)

Even at school, the political pressure was fierce.

The school's director, Mr. Semko, distributed to students anti-Yushchenko political booklets slandering him as a fascist, complete with doctored pictures of

(Continued on page 11)



Ukrainian People's Party Yevpatoria Chair Arkadii Sharapov smokes a cigarette on the balcony of his family's apartment in Yevpatoria, Crimea.

Residents of Yevpatoria...

(Continued from page 10)

the candidate in a fascist uniform.

Mrs. Sharapova collected the propaganda and threw it out.

Her fellow teachers accused her of selling out to the Americans and taking their money to vote for Mr. Yushchenko. She said it was impossible for them to comprehend that she was supporting Mr. Yushchenko's candidacy simply because she believed in the ideas that his campaign stood for.

"They look at us as if we're mammoths, or some spectacle," Mrs. Sharapova said. "They can't understand us doing something for a better Ukraine. All they understand is getting money in return for something."

Moreover, attitudes ranging from skepticism to outright antagonism toward Americans is more common in Crimea than perhaps any other Ukrainian oblast, largely because of its significant ethnic Russian and military population.

Additionally, most Crimeans have had little exposure to Americans other than what they see on Russian television networks or the political propaganda spread during the last elections.

When considering that an American journalist from The Weekly would visit her class, Mrs. Sharapova was nervous about seeking Mr. Semko's permission. She didn't know how he'd react.

Mr. Semko decided to allow the American reporter to sit in on Mrs. Sharapova's class, but only under his supervision.

On the morning of November 11, students were abuzz in conversation in their native Russian before the start of Mrs. Sharapova's Ukrainian language and literature class.

Mr. Semko entered the class accompanied by the school's two assistant directors. The entire class stood in respect and hushed their conversations.

Portraits of Taras Shevchenko and Ivan Franko hovered above the class as Mrs. Sharapova discussed another author, Ivan Karpenko-Karyi.

During the class, she corrected numerous students in their Ukrainian language: "Roku, ne rotsi."

Despite the fact she was teaching 10th grade students in their next-to-final year of high school, "this is the first year we are learning the letter 'g,'" Mrs. Sharapova said, explaining the difference between the Ukrainian "g" and "h," and the Russian "g."

She then later explained one of Karpenko-Karyi's plays, "Khaziyain" (Landlord), reflecting her own personal concern about contemporary Ukrainian society and the country's nouveau riche oligarchs.

"Karyi worries about Ukrainians who don't have values or culture," Mrs. Sharapova said. "They have no dignity and disgrace their people."

* * *

Mr. Semko declined to be interviewed by The Weekly.

Alla Shypilova, an assistant to the director, said that, up until recently, the school of 1,100 students had a single computer which was bought with parents' money and was used by a secretary.

It's unclear whether it was as a result of the Orange Revolution, but teachers' salaries increased 40 percent in the past year, acknowledged Ludmila Dorovskikh, the other assistant to the director. But a 40 percent increase just doesn't cut it, she said.

"If they raised our wages and nothing is done for the school ... then it's the same as it was during Soviet times when teachers bought literature with their own money," Ms. Dorovskikh said. "We can't

afford to live like that. However, we buy these things ourselves and limit our family budget as a result."

Political biases can shade how government politics are viewed.

Mrs. Sharapova was much more enthusiastic when describing the reforms she felt since Mr. Yushchenko became president. That same 40 percent pay hike, in her view, was "significantly felt."

The average teacher's base salary now is \$100 a month, without the added bonuses the Ukrainian government offers for such tasks as reviewing notebooks, which boosts her salary to about \$153 a month.

Teachers also received bonuses for Teacher's Day and New Year's Day for the first time. The Yushchenko government has also started to pay "accumulated service bonuses," which have been owed to teachers for several years.

Additionally, the new government has begun serving children cookies and compute as mid-day snacks.

Still, School No. 15 has the problems that most other Ukrainian schools face — an inadequate library, lack of technology, a leaking roof ...

"Integration or emigration"

And it's not just Yevpatoria's schools that suffer from a crumbling infrastructure.

Chunks of the exterior walls on many Soviet-era bleached apartment blocks are falling off.

Indoors, the Sharapovs have running water only between the hours of 6 a.m. and 9 a.m., and 6 p.m. and 9 p.m. daily. And it's only cold water. To cope, the Sharapovs' bathroom contains at least half a dozen tubs of water as their supply during the day.

Hot water, and only hot water, is available once a week — on Sundays.

The Sharapovs' demand for water has lessened ever since their twin sons, Oleksander and Oleh, began studying cybernetics at one of Ukraine's top universities, Taras Shevchenko University of Kyiv.

They gained admission because of the exceptional grades they earned at their Kyiv lyceum, or elite high school, where they studied under full scholarships earned via their strong performances during a regional mathematics competition in the eighth grade.

Otherwise, it's unlikely the Sharapovs could have afforded the tuition.

Life may be rough in Yevpatoria, Mr. Sharapov said, but its residents are surviving and a few are even thriving.

He refuses to listen to people who complain that there's no work, vividly recalling working three jobs in the mid-1990s when the government failed to deliver teachers' paychecks for six- or even nine-month stretches. At that time, he quit his teaching job and has worked as a security guard at his wife's school ever since.

Opening up a newspaper, he started reading aloud job announcements, "Head accountant, office manager, designer, bricklayer."

It's a matter of having the will to work and struggle, he said. "If you want something, you look for possibilities. If you don't want something, you look for excuses."

He personally knows of success stories in his own neighborhood, such as the woman who began sewing stuffed animals with her own hands when the Soviet Union fell, who now runs a profitable business.

Certainly, entering the European Union would open up more opportunities, particularly for their oldest son, Yevhen Sharapov, 24, an international chess master.

Having trained and competed with

Ukraine's top chess players, including Ruslan Ponomarev, Yevhen currently travels to Poland to earn prize money.

He wants to visit and compete in more countries like his Polish counterparts, who are able to travel throughout Europe without a visa. "We want a visa-

It will take a whole new generation of Ukrainians for the culture to change, he said, from being oriented around selfish and immediate needs to one in which people act on behalf of the needs of the nation.

"It's a matter of waiting for the old



Zenon Zawada

Standing next to a portrait of Ivan Franko, Kateryna Sharapova teaches her Ukrainian language students about the author's life at High School No. 15 in Yevpatoria, Crimea.

free regime," Yevhen said of his chess master colleagues. "Why can't Ukraine do the same [as Poland by] making international agreements? Let our politicians seek agreements" [with other countries].

Pavlo Sevostianov, a self-described ethnic Cossack who grew up in Chechnya, agreed. His family fled when the war broke out because Muslims were killing Slavs, he said.

The Orange Revolution was Ukraine's do or die moment, he said, but in order for it to materialize, its leaders must help Ukraine join the European Union. "It's integration or emigration," he said.

Just as the U.S. rebuilt West Germany with its Marshall Plan after World War II, it should help Ukraine out of its post-Soviet devastation, he added.

"There are many disappointments because many promises are unfulfilled, and the West is also guilty because it fails to help," he said.

"... waiting for the old generation ... to die out."

The beach is dear to Yevpatoria residents, and also to the Sharapovs.

When she feels she's on the brink of losing her sanity, Mrs. Sharapova said the Black Sea soothes her soul.

However, even the beach has fallen pray to Ukraine's version of unrestricted capitalism. Local businessmen are now charging people to enter certain beaches, which incensed Mrs. Sharapova this past summer.

"How can you charge money for me to enter this beach?" Mrs. Sharapova told a man requesting 40 cents for entry. "God gave us this beach."

As he strolled the Yevpatoria coastline on an unusually mild day in mid-November, the skin on Mr. Sharapov's face drew tight in frustration over what happened. He said local businessmen have hired tractors to dig the sand and sell it to foreign buyers.

"Forty years ago, there were 50 kilometers of beach," Mr. Sharapov said, referring to how wide it was. "Five years ago, there were between 25 and 30 kilometers. There's not even five meters of beach nowadays."

generation, my generation, to die out," Mr. Sharapov said. "An incredible number of people here haven't accepted the fact that they're living in Ukraine. They still think they're in Russia."

As for more immediate needs, Mrs. Sharapova is concerned about the March elections.

At one moment in our conversations, she said the Orange Revolution ensured freedom of speech, even declaring, "We're not afraid anymore." Yet, the next day, she revealed deep concern over the near future.

"People are afraid to express their thoughts in school," she said. "I'm afraid should all these people return to power. They won't give us freedom of speech."

She recalled how revenge was already on the minds of Yevpatoria's pro-Russian forces immediately after President Yushchenko's inauguration. In Soviet fashion, pro-Russian leaders and professionals gathered in the city center to read a list of 30 or 40 Yushchenko supporters, referring to them as "enemies of the city."

These "enemies" had protested the city government's decision to keep its education director, Marina Vidmedska, who had illegally distributed pro-Yanukovich propaganda to schools.

While things changed in Kyiv, there was no change in Yevpatoria's government and, as a result, "we have become victims of the revolution," said Ms. Tkachenko, the Ukrainian-language teacher.

Just this week, Yevpatoria officials cut the electricity to Mrs. Leonova's computer lab. The Ukrainian patriots' headquarters might have to move.

Their fears and uphill battles reflect how they are sacrificing their immediate happiness or well-being for something greater.

"We can't change those who were already in the Soviet system," Mrs. Tkachenko said. "But the children are the future."

And through it all, Mrs. Sharapova said she has no regrets and would not have done anything differently. "My kids are growing, and they need a future," Mrs. Sharapova said. "I don't want them to live in a nation of bandits."

FOR THE RECORD: Bill C-331

Following is the full text of Bill C-331, "An act to acknowledge that persons of Ukrainian origin were interned in Canada during the First World War and to provide for recognition of this event," as passed by the Canadian Parliament.

Preamble

Whereas, during the First World War, persons of Ukrainian origin were interned in Canada under the authority of an act of Parliament;

Whereas Parliament wishes to express its deep sorrow for those events; and

Whereas Parliament acknowledges that those events are deserving of recognition through public education and the promotion of the shared values of multiculturalism, inclusion and mutual respect;

Now, therefore, Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

Short title

1. This act may be cited as the Internment of Persons of Ukrainian Origin Recognition Act.

Negotiations

2. The Government of Canada shall undertake negotiations with the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko towards an agreement concerning measures that may be taken to recognize the internment of persons of Ukrainian origin in Canada during the First World War.

Objective

2.1 The measures shall have as their

objective a better public understanding of

(a) the consequences of ethnic, religious or racial intolerance and discrimination; and

(b) the important role of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms in the respect and promotion of the values it reflects and the rights and freedoms it guarantees.

Commemorative plaques

2.2 The measures may include the installation of commemorative plaques at certain places where persons of Ukrainian origin were interned in

(Continued on page 37)

Canadian Parliament...

(Continued from page 1)

ment, the chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, John Gregorovich, said:

"For many years Inky Mark has demonstrated his commitment to righting an historic wrong, the needless imprisonment of thousands of innocent Ukrainians and other Europeans during Canada's first national internment operations of 1914-1920. While many refused to accept what happened, or tried to ignore or dismiss its importance in Canadian history, Mr. Mark steadfastly insisted upon seeing justice done and today that goal has been achieved.

"We are all very grateful to him for his

perseverance, for his commitment to human rights and civil liberties, and to those in all of the parties represented in the House of Commons and Senate of Canada who supported his efforts over the past few years, and during the last few days in particular.

"Now that Bill C-331 has been passed we hope the government of Canada will honor its pledge to recognize officially what happened to Ukrainian Canadians during this particularly unhappy episode in our country's past and to complete the negotiations on redress.

"Thankfully this bill was passed while the last known survivor of the internment operations, Mary Manko, is still alive and able to witness to this critical step forward toward closure and reconciliation."

Russia pressures...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainians that the issue would soon be "yesterday's problem."

"I am sure that we will review the prices and transit fee, and reach an agreement in our mutual economic interests," Mr. Yushchenko said on December 14.

Ukraine gets 25 billion cubic meters of natural gas from Russia as a barter payment for transporting the gas to Europe, accounting for more than 31 percent of Ukraine's needed annual supply of natural gas.

The Ukrainian government has insisted on a step-by-step shift from barter transactions to money payments for natural gas. However, Gazprom representatives accused Ukraine of dragging negotiations out after Ukraine rejected a price of \$160 per 1,000 cubic meters offered earlier.

"Ukraine has wasted time in these talks and now there can be no talk about \$160," said Oleksander Medvedev, Gazprom's deputy board chairman. "The

market situation has changed."

Russian President Vladimir Putin has asserted that Ukraine could afford market prices given that it has received money from privatizations and Western loans.

Some Russian national deputies argued that, now that Ukraine has market economy status, it must accept the market economy rules.

Higher natural gas prices affect average Ukrainians because most apartments depend on gas heat. Ukrainian metallurgical and chemical industries that depend on natural gas would also face difficulties.

National Security and Defense Council Secretary Anatolii Kinakh said Ukraine's chemical industry is already unprofitable with the price for natural gas at \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters. The same applies to the metallurgical industry, which buys natural gas at \$106 per 1,000 cubic meters, he said.

Industrial Policy Minister Volodymyr Shandra said Ukrainian industry will survive if it begins using coal and shifts to energy-saving technologies.

The preferential terms that Russia gave Ukrainian industry for many years will likely cease eventually, however "nothing awful will happen," Mr. Shandra said.

Top Ukrainian officials still rest their hopes on bilateral agreements that would allow the country to receive discounted natural gas from Russia for many years.

"We've got a contract with the Russian monopoly [Gazprom]," said Mykhailo Volynets, a member of the Ukrainian Fuel and Energy Complex in the Ministry of Heating and Energy. "According to this document, the [gas] price is unchangeable until 2009. I am sure that Ukraine will sue Gazprom based on this document," he added.

Meanwhile, President Yushchenko said it is necessary to launch a new energy concept for Ukraine and increase domestic oil and natural gas production on the Azov and Black Sea shelves.

"My aim is to provide for the absolute energy independence of Ukraine," Mr. Yushchenko stated.



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New Jersey natives, cousins, display their creativity in Kyiv

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ola Rondiak and Damian Kolodiy are cousins who have a creative bent. The New Jersey natives recently put their artwork on display in Kyiv for Ukrainians to view.

Ms. Rondiak, 39, hosted her first solo art exhibit, "Conversation With a Dream," at the RA Gallery on Khmelnytsky Street between November 25 and December 1, while Mr. Kolodiy, 28, screened his film "The Orange Chronicles" at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy on December 2-3.

The theme of Ms. Rondiak's exhibit involved communicating with the subconscious mind, which most often occurs through dreams. The artist displayed 16 paintings on this theme which she created during a two-week art symposium in Hungary during the summer of 2005.

The symposium taught concepts of "free painting," an art form that is created from the subconscious mind. Ms. Rondiak worked in an old castle in the company of Austrian artists.

"As with most dreams, some images flow together, while others are abstract or disconnected," Ms. Rondiak said.

The 16 paintings, which placed together form one collective work, hung from a ceiling over five chairs and a bed, where participants were able to seat themselves and attempt to partake of Ms. Rondiak's subconscious experience.

"I welcome you to experience the undefined with me," Ms. Rondiak urged her guests. "Imagine that you have just awoken or are under the full impact of your dream."

Besides the paintings, "Conversation With a Dream" included 16 computer-

printed images in which Ms. Rondiak photographed herself in different poses, some provocative, and various outfits, some revealing.

Ms. Rondiak arranged the images in four columns, two considered outside and two inside. Each image had a corresponding one to the inside.

For example, in an outside image titled "A Message to Myself," Ms. Rondiak is huddled on the ground with her face hidden. The corresponding inside image, called, "Face Fears," is the same, except that a black silhouette replaces Ms. Rondiak's photograph.

"I wanted to get across that I love contrast because it represents the dichotomy in all of us," she explained. "We could be standing on the outside of a dream or artwork, or in contrast we could be inside, letting the dream or artwork enter our soul and enhance our lives."

Ms. Rondiak's interest in the subconscious stems from her earlier career as a psychotherapist.

Ten years ago, she moved to Kyiv with her husband, Peter Rondiak, to help launch his car dealership business and raise three daughters.

Ms. Rondiak said she "started artwork in my mom years" as a means of tapping and nurturing her creative side. She also designs clothing.

In the days immediately after Ms. Rondiak's exhibit, her cousin Mr. Kolodiy screened a rough cut of his documentary film, "The Orange Chronicles," on December 2 and 3.

The journalism department and film club of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy both invited Mr. Kolodiy to show his film. Audiences of nearly 100 viewers attended each of two screenings.

Mr. Kolodiy, a film school graduate

from Emerson University in Boston, shot his documentary when he traveled to Ukraine in November 2004 without knowing what to expect during the presidential elections.

With his portable camera, he happened upon the Orange Revolution –

next day.

He also captured Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast State Administration Chair Roman Tkach delivering an awe-inspiring speech on Bankova Street when snow-covered demonstrators stood face-to-face with armed troops in helmets and shields.



Ola Rondiak



Damian Kolodiy

four historic weeks during which Ukrainians rose up against their oppressors and gave new meaning to their identity, consciousness and society.

Despite it being his first time in Kyiv, Mr. Kolodiy managed to capture on film riveting scenes, including Yulia Tymoshenko's courageous speech on the evening of November 21 in which she urged outraged Ukrainians to arrive at the maidan – Independence Square – the

The film also revealed Mr. Kolodiy's tenacity and dedication to telling both sides of the Orange Revolution story when he embarked on a trip through southern and eastern Ukraine.

In the city of Kherson, an incensed and intimidating supporter of Viktor Yanukovich threatened to cut his throat when he learned that Mr. Kolodiy is an

(Continued on page 37)

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International architects and city planners take a close look at Kyiv

by Larissa Babij

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV – Prominent international architects and city planners spent a November weekend touring Ukraine's capital city, sharing project ideas and meeting with top officials, including Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko.

As construction and renovation projects have flourished in Ukraine's capital city during the last five years, input from international architects was long overdue.

"Ukrainian standards are not anywhere near international standards," said Karsten Fiebiger, an architect with Fiebiger GmbH, a German firm hired to ensure international five-star standards in the design of the Hyatt Regency hotel in Kyiv's center.

However, Ukrainian planning officials are receptive to input from international consultants and willing to improve building norms, he said.

On November 5, the first annual Kyiv

Architecture Forum at 1 Dniproviskyi Uzviz drew international architects and Ukrainian city officials among an audience of 400 to discuss the state of architecture in Ukraine's capital.

Serhii Babushkin, Kyiv's former chief architect, organized the forum with the support of Mayor Omelchenko and National Deputy Ihor Tarasiuk to offer a first-hand look at the capital city's development.

Speakers included Italian architects Roberto Bianconi and Nicola Giardina, Brazilian landscape architect Henrique Pessoa, Mr. Fiebiger and Moscow's chief architect, Aleksandr Kuzmin.

More than 40 Kyiv-based architectural firms exhibited their projects, which included angular glass cubes, tall brick apartment complexes with wavy roofs and space-age geometric shopping centers with disproportionately large towers.

Kyiv architects should maintain the historical traditions of existing buildings and create a dialogue between old and

new structures, Mr. Fiebiger said.

As for renovation, "everything is sleeping in old structures," he said. "Right now all of these buildings need to be renewed and rethought for the new Kyiv."

Throughout the weekend, international guests toured nearby historic landmarks and led a workshop for young Ukrainian architects.

They met privately with Mr. Omelchenko, who shared his vision for developing the city and listened to the architects' views.

They discussed how to avoid mistakes that had been made in other European cities that had recently undergone large-scale construction, such as Berlin, London and Paris, Mr. Fiebiger said.

"I haven't found any place in the world an open forum inviting architects to discuss the city," he said.

While conferences among chief architects from the former USSR occur annually, this is the first such forum to draw

architects from the former USSR, Europe and Latin America to Kyiv.

Tired of reading only critical reports of Ukrainian architecture in the foreign press, Mr. Babushkin wanted international professionals to see the city firsthand and offer their suggestions for improvement.

"For many, Kyiv is ... a dark place," said Mr. Babushkin, the chair of the forum's organizing committee. "They don't know what Kyiv is like ... The idea was for all the invited architects not only to look around, but to give them the opportunity, if interested, to work here."

Foreign architects should take advantage of the large pool of work in Ukraine, Mr. Fiebiger said, which is an exciting situation.

"After the political renewal of Ukraine ... people want to show what they've reached economically," he said. "There is money, and there is a very strong will to invest, and to create new and good architecture."

BOOK NOTES

A biography of political prisoner and writer Vasyl Stus by his son

"*Vasyl Stus: Zhyttia yak Tvorchist*" (*Vasyl Stus: Life as Creation*), by Dmytro Stus. Kyiv: Fakt, second edition, 2005. 368 pp., softbound. (For ordering info see: www.fact.kiev.ua; e-mail: office@fact.kiev.ua).

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO – He was 5 years old when his father was arrested and sentenced in 1972. After his father's release in 1979, he had only eight months to get to know his father before he was again arrested in 1980. He last saw his father in 1989 – when his perfectly preserved dead body was dug up out of the frozen ground of Kolyma and taken to Kyiv for reburial.

Dmytro Stus, son of poet and dissident Vasyl Stus, was in Toronto this fall to present the biography he wrote of his father "Vasyl Stus: Zhyttia Yak Tvorchist" (*Vasyl Stus: Life as Creation*). Chosen "Book of the Year 2004" in Ukraine, a second revised edition was published in May 2005.

Asked when was it more difficult to be the son of Vasyl Stus – when he was young and his father was considered an enemy of the people or today, or when his father is an idol and considered a classic of literature – Dmytro Stus replied: "Actually, it was not difficult either then or now, although there were difficult episodes. I remember in the 1980s when some of my friends were going spelunking in Yugoslavia – a passion of mine at the time – and I couldn't



go. Or when I couldn't enter the theatrical institute where I wanted to study. It was painful and humiliating but I had to overcome it. Seven or eight years ago, I began to experience complexes, doubt my self-identity because I could not be myself. I was the son of an eminent and famous person. But I overcame that. I believe it is bad to live with idols, but also bad to live without idols. For me, Vasyl Stus is neither an idol nor a fallen idol."

The title of Mr. Stus' biography of his father – "Life as Creation" – succinctly describes the approach the biographer has taken. He delves into the interrelation of work and life, and examines their contexts. He wants to understand who his father was and how he created himself, not only to withstand outside moral and physical torture and to accept separations from friends and family, but also to create an inner life and achieve self-affirmation. It was an inner life that produced not only poems but a certain style of behavior, one that did not allow for indifference – one had to fully accept or fully reject.

Mr. Stus begins the examination of the

father's life by looking at the dislocation caused by the move from village to industrial Stalino (as the city of Donetsk was then called) where Vasyl's father became part of the urban proletariat. The misery of urban Soviet existence during the war and early post-war years – pushing the ever-present wheelbarrow in case one found something that could be picked up, the hungry and bloated children of the famine of 1947, the dangerous mined fields where one of the Stus children was blown up – Mr. Stus sees this harsh and hostile environment as the first challenge to the young Vasyl, one that forced him to build up inner resources.

In the period 1955 to 1963 Vasyl Stus discovered world literature and learned about non-Marxist ideas, the most important of which was existentialism, a philosophy that placed individual self-awareness at the center. The incipient dissidents learned about existentialism not through the actual philosophical works, which were not available to them, but only through their Marxist-Leninist critique.

In 1963, Vasyl Stus left Donetsk and began graduate studies in Kyiv. For the next two years his life was "normal" – he studied, wrote and married, but on

(Continued on page 45)

Vasyl Stus, 1938-1985

Vasyl Stus was born on Christmas Eve, January 6, 1938, in the village of Rakhnivtsi, Vinnytsia Oblast. In 1940 the family moved to the Donbas, where Stus spent his childhood. He studied philology at the Donetsk Pedagogical Institute, and his first poems were published in 1959. After graduation, he worked as a teacher in the Kirovohrad Oblast, served in the army and taught Ukrainian language and literature in Horlivka, Donetsk Oblast.

In 1963 Stus began graduate studies at the Institute of Literature in Kyiv. His poems and critical articles started to appear in journals, and he took an active part in the rich literary life of the time. But in 1965 he was dismissed from the institute for taking part in a protest meeting that denounced the secret arrests and closed trials of members of the Ukrainian intelligentsia that had begun that year. He was forced to work at various menial and unsatisfying jobs, but he continued to write poetry, literary criticism and appeals protesting the restoration of the personality cult, Russification and the denial of freedom of thought.

Mykhailyna Kotsiubynska, in her introduction to the collected works of Vasyl Stus, writes: "There was a constantly present conviction that he was wasting his life. This, coupled with an early developed consciousness of his vocation and an objective self-evaluation of his potential, produced a state of mind he later called 'death-existence' or 'life-death' ... The little compromises with life, the times one had to

remain silent – all this gnawed at his soul and pained him. It is rare to meet a person so unamenable to compromise."

In 1972 Stus was arrested with other dissident writers – Ivan Svitlychny, Yevhen Sverstiuk, Ihor and Iryna Kalynets – and sentenced to five years in a labor camp and three years' exile. He spent his imprisonment in Mordovia and exile in Kolyma. He returned to Kyiv in 1979 and soon joined the Ukrainian Helsinki Group. Eight months later, he was again arrested and sentenced to 15 years (10 years' imprisonment and five years' exile).

The circumstances of his second incarceration in the strict-regime camp in the Perm Oblast were unbearable. He was allowed no visitations, was continually harassed by the authorities and his health was deteriorating – he suffered from chronic stomach ulcers and heart problems. Worst of all for him, he had no opportunity to smuggle out a single line of his writings. His letters were confiscated and everything he wrote in the camp was taken away.

In a state of total nervous exhaustion and during a protest hunger strike, Vasyl Stus died in solitary confinement on September 4, 1985. He was buried at the camp cemetery in a grave marked only No. 9. On November 19, 1989, his remains were interned at Baikove cemetery in Kyiv along with those of his fellow inmates Yurii Lytvyn and Oleksa Tykhy, who had died in 1984.

– Oksana Zakydalsky, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 3, 1995.



Vasyl Stus

Church in Ukraine designed by Radoslav Zuk reaches completion

MONTREAL – The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos, referred to in the German journal of architecture *Baumeister: Zeitschrift für Architektur* as “one of the most rigorous yet at the same time most beautiful church projects” in the collective work of Ukrainian Canadian architect Radoslav Zuk, has been completed after years of planning and construction.

The internationally recognized architect and professor of architecture at McGill University in Montreal was commissioned to design the church in 1992 for the newly established parish community in the city of Sychiv, which is part of greater Lviv.

The building of the church was undertaken at the time of the legalization and revitalization of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church, which had suffered relentless persecution by Soviet authorities since 1946.

The Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos was designed by Prof. Zuk in association with the *Mistoproekt* Institute in Lviv, which oversaw construction and documentation of the project. Construction proper was undertaken by the parish itself.

This year saw the completion of the exterior of the main body of the church. While the building has been in service for several years, work on finishing the interior is continuing.

The church is situated on a large open space in the city center, along a major street, and is visible from a great distance along the axis of another important approach to this center. The building is thus given the significance of a focal civic monument.

Rising to a height of 30 meters at the central dome, the building accommodates approximately 1,000 faithful on the main church level. On the lower level, the structure contains a smaller assembly hall and meeting rooms. A school and a rectory are planned also on the lower level, as separate but connected buildings.

The congregation comprises a very large, and for the most part young, parish community.

The Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos was selected as the site of the meeting of Pope John Paul II with the youth of the country during the pontiff's pastoral visit to Ukraine in June 2001.

Mistoproekt Institute architects responsible for the execution of the project are: Zinovi Pidlisnyi, former director of the institute and associate architect; Mykola Koshlo, current director of the institute; Oleksandr Baziuk, principal project architect; Lida Kutna, architectural team leader; Vasyl Kniazzyk, lead architect; and, Valeriy Kulikowskyi, principal structural engineer.

“Simply Complex”: A review of Radoslav Zuk's latest work in church design

Radoslav Zuk gained international recognition for his design of Ukrainian churches in North America, seven of which have been built in Canada and two in the United States, in association with or as consultant to a number of architectural firms.

The Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos is Prof. Zuk's 10th church design, and the first to be built in Ukraine, in a project undertaken in association with Mistoproekt Institute in Lviv.

Prof. Zuk's award-winning churches have been featured in the leading international architectural press, including such publications as The Architectural Review, Progressive Architecture, Domus, Parametro, and Church Building.

Exhibitions of his design work, devoted predominantly to Ukrainian churches, have also been shown in North America, Europe and the Middle East, as well as in Ukraine.

Most recently, the Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos, his latest church design, was featured in the August issue of Baumeister: Zeitschrift für Architektur, in an article titled “Einfach komplex” (Simply Complex).

The review, penned by Gerold Esser, follows in translation from the German.

After more than 10 years of planning and construction, one of the most rigorous yet at the same time most beautiful church projects in the oeuvre of this Canadian architect is nearing completion.

Radoslav Zuk, who is also known in his homeland as an architect of many Ukrainian Catholic churches in the New World, was commissioned in the mid-1990s to design a new church in Lviv's satellite city of Sychiv for its revitalized Christian community, which emerged in the aftermath of the collapse of the Soviet Union.

Given the active participation of the parishioners



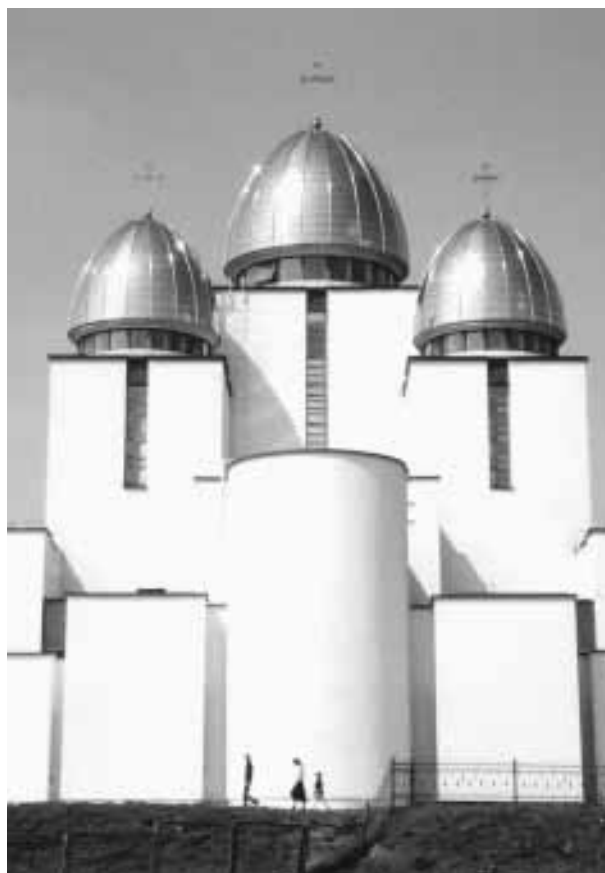
The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos, designed by Radoslav Zuk for the parish community of the city of Sychiv (part of greater Lviv), as seen from Chervona Kalyna Boulevard.

themselves in the construction work of the project, Zuk developed a structurally and geometrically simple, yet otherwise in its overall configuration complex, design, which transcends the concept of time and place – an architectural entity that effortlessly rises above the neo-Baroque and post-modern kitsch that one presently finds in church building throughout Eastern Europe.

The ground plan represents a subtle variant of the traditional church plan which oscillates between a central and a longitudinal scheme. While the building's main space underwent a five-aisle expansion of the basic cross-cupola scheme, the small narthex and the apse which houses the Blessed Sacrament are joined to the main body of the church through accentuated recessed building links.

Thus, a new interpretation of the tripartite schema – one which is deeply rooted in, but not limited to, the tradition of Ukrainian church building – is created, with emphasis placed on the center: a design that responds also to the accommodation needs of the large post-socialist congregation.

The spatial proportions in both plan and elevation on the other hand, follow old, Renaissance-based theories



View of the church from the east, showing the apse and sacristy ensemble against the backdrop of the main towers and domes.

regarding the harmonious whole number relationships in music and architecture, an homage to old Lviv and its historical center that is marked by buildings from the 16th and 17th centuries.

Extreme simplicity predominates in the church's materiality. The exposed concrete of the interior and the crystalline volumes of pure white stucco surfaces of the exterior define this architecture in relation to its surrounding space.

At the same time, the vertical bands of light, the upward-rising tower-like projections of the structural bays, and the five golden cupolas convey the close relationship of this building to the heavenly sphere.

In his architectural statement with regard to the Church of the Nativity of the Theotokos, Prof. Zuk notes:

“The design of the church shows a new interpretation of an archetypal plan, still fastidiously adhered to in most Eastern Churches. Thus it constitutes a clearly stated modern version of the typical Byzantine cross-in-square + narthex + apse(s) plan. This allows a contemporary, geometrically pure, yet in its abstract rhythm distinctly Ukrainian, volumetric configuration.

“The aim has been to point to a possible way of resolving the conflict between the liturgical demands of a traditional plan and a contemporary three-dimensional articulation, not only in Ukraine, but also in other East European countries where rigid conservatism prevails.”

Architekturgalerie presents Zuk project

MUNICH – Radoslav Zuk was invited to take part in the 20th anniversary celebrations of the Architekturgalerie in Munich which, since its inception in 1985, has served as a premiere venue for the exhibition of architectural design work and a forum for discussion on contemporary architecture and related fields.

In 1996 the traveling exhibition “Radoslav Zuk – Tradition and the Present – Ukrainian Churches in North America and Museum Projects in Ukraine” was first shown at Architekturgalerie. An exhibition catalogue was published, in German and English, in conjunction with the exhibition as part of the gallery's monograph series.

At the 20th anniversary exhibition, which opened April 7 and was on view through May 7, Prof. Zuk presented his 1994 project for the expansion of the National Museum of Ukrainian Art in Kyiv (now known as the National Fine Arts Museum of Ukraine).

To date, Architekturgalerie has hosted exhibitions of the work of some 130 architects, including the work of such notable figures as Norman Foster, Daniel Libeskind, Peter Eisenman, Aldo Rossi, Richard Meier, and Herzog & de Meuron.

U.S. Plast youths compete in annual Orlykiada event

by Andrew Olesnycky

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – It was November 5, but Paul Mulyk, the master of ceremonies of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization's 44th Orlykiada competition, took advantage of the unseasonably warm weather and called the contestants and guests to gather on Soyuzivka's Veselka patio. Standing in rows and facing the center of a 184-person rectangle, 16 teams of Ukrainian scouts – who had traveled here from 12 cities throughout the United States and Canada – consecrated the opening ceremony with a slow, melodic prayer. As they sang, a warm breeze moved through the tops of golden-leaved trees above and out into the bronzed, sunlit Roundout Valley.

It was a precious calm moment in a weekend that would offer the 13- to 17-year-old contestants little time for rest. The teams had spent two months preparing for the two-day competition, during which the scouts would showcase their knowledge of Ukrainian history and culture by answering questions in a panel format, presenting pieces of interpretive artwork and performing lighthearted historical skits.

"Last night we were up until two or three in the morning studying," said Alexa Milanytch, 22, counselor to nine girls representing Newark, N.J. "It's the Friday night tradition at 'Orlyk.' It's when everything comes together."

The girls met three times per week over the previous two months to prepare for Orlykiada – on top of already busy high-school schedules – which is about the standard amount of preparation among competitive teams.

"There's competition, but it's more about the excitement and speculation over who will win this year." Ms.

Milanytch said. "It's such a huge commitment."

Even getting oneself to Orlykiada can exact its toll: two teams flew in from Chicago, and two Canadian teams, Toronto and Ottawa, had to deal with the hassle of international travel.

But, as the games commenced, any sign of trepidation or fatigue in the contestants or their counselors was imperceptible.

"We traveled 12 hours to get here, so we'd might as well bring home some accolades for our parents," said John Fedynsky, a 26-year-old attorney who drove his team from Detroit in a rented van. "I think my group's got a real shot. They're a small group, but they're lean and mean, and they've put all the work in."

Closer to the stage, groups of scouts were similarly confident – if not as breezy – as they awaited their turn in the first round of judging. As his Washington, D.C., team gathered in a tight huddle, hands-on-shoulders as they awaited their turn, 16-year-old Andrew Oryshkevych could be heard above the nervous chatter of his teammates: "We got this, we got this," he shouted.

Each Orlykiada revolves around a single historical or cultural subject, and this year's was Ukraine's Orange Revolution. In the main hall, where the competition took place, there wasn't a direction you could look without seeing orange. Art expositions lining the walls were all orange. Scouts held orange folders while they answered questions on the main stage. The Chicago boys looked identical in black berets and wearing orange vests over their green Plast uniforms. Girls wore orange ribbons tied around the laces of brown shoes.

The games began with a question and answer panel. Passing a microphone among various team members, the scouts displayed their knowledge of the Orange Revolution, explaining in detail the specifics of Ukraine's disputed vote count, the poisoning of then-presidential candidate Viktor Yushchenko, and the role of foreign citizens and their governments in regulating subsequent rounds of elections.

The atmosphere was festive, and, above all, supportive. Deftly answered questions were as likely to elicit rousing applause as were clumsy, but spirited attempts. The scouts knew one another from Plast summer camps and readily cheered for their competitors.

To the delight of Orlykiada organizers Andrew Lencyk and Bohdan Kopystianskyj, clumsy answers have lately been losing ground to surprisingly eloquent ones: In the past few years, they've seen a remarkable improvement in the spoken Ukrainian of Plast scouts at Orlykiada. "It's hard to say why language has improved so dramatically," Mr. Lencyk said. "But it seems that the most recent wave of Ukrainian immigration has had a positive effect on everyone by raising the bar."

As the question and answer session drew to a close and the scouts prepared their skits, the atmosphere in the main hall grew more lighthearted. They returned from a short break in costume, carrying props that would serve to illustrate their interpretations of the Orange Revolution: large dome tents (to portray the tent city), guitars and drums (to add a live soundtrack) and odd items like mangos and basketball hoops. There were girls dressed as Yushchenko and boys dressed as Yulia Tymoshenko. It was clear that each team's sense of humor would be in the spotlight.

The Chicago boys, who would go on to win first place in both the skit and the overall competition, pitted presidential candidates Mr. Yushchenko and Viktor Yanukovich against one another in a battery of athletic contests. The climax, to the delight of the crowd, was a dramatic one-on-one rhythmic gymnastics standoff between the candidates. Chicago's skit was met with rousing applause from both the crowd and the judges.

During the last few skits of the evening, judges circulated about the room, grading the art expositions that lined the walls. The

expositions were, beyond their aesthetics, a serious academic undertaking. The Newark girls' piece explored the symbiotic relationship between popular Ukrainian music and the Orange Revolution – how music affected the political climate and, in turn, how the climate created a new market for musical acts.

While Ms. Milanytch, one of their counselors, attempted to explain the complicated relationship, she hit a snag and paused. "You should really ask the girls," she said. "They did all the research themselves. They know more than I do."

After nightfall on Saturday, groups of scouts were huddled around the entrance of Soyuzivka's Main House, mingling before the evening's "vechirka" (dance party), creating giant scent-clouds of perfume and cologne. They would spend the remainder of the night socializing and celebrating the weekend while the judges tabulated the scores behind closed doors.

Though none of the scouts could have known the official outcome, the word on the street said that the Chicago boys had won – the Orlykiada speculation Ms. Milanytch had alluded to apparently picked the real winner. At closing ceremonies on Sunday morning, Chicago's boys would win first prize, followed by Mr. Fedynsky's "lean and mean" Detroit squad; New York's girls would take third, followed by the Newark girls in fourth.

A separate competition of individual scouts also crowned a new "hetmanych" and "hetmanivna," honorary titles given to those contestants who best exemplify the Plast spirit of leadership and well-roundedness. Stephan Tarnawsky of Toronto, and Melanie Hurin of New York won the titles this year.

And though they didn't know the score on Saturday night, it didn't seem to matter to the Chicago boys; they stood in a tight group, laughing, shouting, looking victorious. They knew they'd done well enough to emerge as a favorite, and were glad to be done.

"It's really stressful getting ready for the competition. But then we get to party with our friends – as winners," said 15-year-old Chicagoan Mikhail Bobel, who portrayed Mr. Yushchenko in their winning skit. "We come here to see our friends and represent Chicago. So they know what we're about."



Andrew Olesnycky

A view of the opening ceremonies on Soyuzivka's Veselka patio.



Detroit Plast youths on stage during the Orlykiada competition.

SPORTSLINE

Soccer

Ukraine will play its first World Cup match against Spain on June 14, 2006, in Leipzig, Germany, followed by a game against Saudi Arabia in Hamburg, Germany, on June 19, 2006, and their final match of the first round against Tunisia in Berlin on June 23, 2006.

The schedule was determined by the Federation Internationale de Football Association (FIFA), which held the draw for the 2006 World Cup on December 9. The draw, held in Leipzig, Germany, was televised around the world to some 350 million people.

Thirty-two national teams from around the globe qualify for what is called the world's greatest sporting event. Once those teams have qualified, a draw is held by the sport's governing body, FIFA, to determine the first-round match-ups.

The teams are broken into eight groups of four teams. In the first round each team within the group will play every other member of the group; the top two teams advance to the second round. The rest of the tournament is played single elimination.

The World Cup, held every four years, is being hosted by Germany for the first time since the country was reunified in 1990.

Spain, the top seeded team in Ukraine's group H, has been to the World Cup 11 times, and made it to the quarterfinal in 2002, matching its best ever finish.

Tunisia, the reigning African champions, made three previous World Cup appearances, but has never made it past group play. Saudi Arabia has made three previous World Cup appearances, and made it to the round of 16 in 1994. The Saudi team beat Korea (the semifinalists at the 2002 World Cup) both at home and away to win their Asian qualifying group.

In other news, the University of Rochester inducted soccer legend Zenon Snylyk into its Athletic Hall of Fame on November 18, according to the Rochester Democrat and Chronicle. Snylyk, editor-in-chief of the Svoboda Ukrainian-language daily newspaper (1980-1998) and prior to that editor of The Ukrainian Weekly, was an accomplished athlete and three-time member of the U.S. Olympic soccer team. He died in 2002 at the age of 69.

Boxing

Ukrainian World Boxing Council heavyweight champion Vitalii Klitschko retired on November 9 after spending nearly a year trying to recover from a knee injury.

Four days before he was to defend his title against Hasim Rahman in Las Vegas, Klitschko again injured himself and could not fight Rahman.

Klitschko, 34, hurt his knee while sparring in preparation for the bout against Rahman. He underwent arthroscopic surgery in Inglewood, Calif., according to the Associated Press.

Klitschko addressed his decision to retire in a statement, saying that he was tired of battling against injuries.

"Unfortunately, I've been fighting injuries recently more than facing rivals in the ring," Klitschko said. "The decision to end was hard to make. But I would like to end my career on top and with my retirement make the way free for my successor."

Klitschko last defended his title against Danny Williams in December 2004. He was supposed to have met Rahman in April, but the fight was postponed when Klitschko pulled a thigh

muscle. He then also injured his back.

The WBC announced in a statement that Rahman would replace Klitschko as the official heavyweight champion during a ceremony held in Cancun, Mexico, on December 20.

The WBC also said that, during the December 20 ceremony, Klitschko would receive an emeritus championship belt, which would make him a WBC World Ambassador for Peace and Good Will in the World. Klitschko "brought prestige to the heavyweight championship of the world," the WBC statement said.

Meanwhile, Klitschko's younger brother, Volodymyr, beat Samuel Peter in a unanimous decision in September. The win put Volodymyr into the role of mandatory challenger for the International Boxing Federation heavyweight championship belt currently held by Chris Byrd.

With regard to his future after boxing, Vitalii Klitschko announced on December 10 that he was running in Ukraine's Parliamentary elections in March 2006. The Associated Press reported that Klitschko will sit at the top of the party list of a newly formed bloc that includes a party headed by the country's finance minister, Viktor Pynzenyk, and the Pora youth movement.

Figure skating

Ukraine's Olena Liashenko took third place with a score of 156.52 in the women's competition during an International Skating Union Grand Prix event in Osaka, Japan, on December 4. Yukari Nakano of Japan took first place with a score of 158.66, while her teammate Fumie Suguri took second place with a score of 158.48.

Anna Zadorozhniuk and Serhiy Verbillo of Ukraine took 10th place with a score of 140.11 in the ice dance competition. Marie-France Dubreuil and Patrice Lauzon of Canada took first place with a score of 189.72, while Albena Denkova and Maxim Staviski of Bulgaria took second place with a score of 173.23. Anastasia Grebenkina and Vazgen Azrojan of Armenia took third place with a score of 162.64.

Biathlon

Ukraine took fifth place in the men's 4 x 7.5-kilometer relay at a World Cup event in Hochfilzen, Austria, on December 11. The Ukrainian team of Viacheslav Derkach, Oleksander Bilanenko, Alexiy Korobeinikov and Ruslan Lysenko finished the race 1 minute and 33.5 seconds behind the German team, which won the race with a time of 1 hour, 20 minutes and 58.92 seconds. Russia took second place, finishing 36.6 seconds back, while France took third place, finishing 1:02.5 behind the German team.

Ukraine finished eighth in the women's 4 x 6-kilometer relay on December 10. The Ukrainian team of Lilia Efremova, Olena Petrova, Nina Lemesh and Oksana Khvostenko finished the race 4 minutes and 13.7 seconds behind Norway, which won the race with a time of 1:15:27.41. Russia took second place finishing 10.9 seconds back, while Germany took third place finishing 53.4 seconds behind Norway.

Ruslan Lysenko took 28th place in the men's 20-kilometer individual event on December 8 finishing 3:19.1 behind Raphael Poiree of France who won the race with a time of 53:48.6. Ole Einar Bjoerdalen of Norway took second place, finishing 10.3 seconds back, while Micael Greis of Germany took third

place, finishing 12.8 seconds behind the race winner.

Oksana Khvostenko of Ukraine took 36th place in the women's 15-kilometer individual event on December 7 finishing 6:22.6 behind Anna Carin Olofsson of Sweden, who won the race with a time of 49:06.3. Russia's Olga Zaitseva took second place finishing 40.6 back, while her teammate Natalia Guseva took third place finishing 1:45.7 behind the race winner.

Arm wrestling

Olena Skoryk of Ukraine took first place in the women's open 60-kilogram (132-pound) right arm division at a World Cup event in Tokyo. Veronika Bonkova of Bulgaria took second place, while Felicia Rydstedt of Sweden took third place.

Skoryk then took first place in the women's open 60-kilogram left arm division. Natalia Torseeva of Russia took second place, and Bonkova of Bulgaria took third place.

Ukraine's Yana Onishchenko took second place in the women's open 50-kilogram (110-pound) right arm division. Russia's Diana Albegova took first place, while her teammate Oxana Trikolich took third place.

The result in the women's open 50-kilogram left arm division was the same as the result for the women's open 50-kilogram right arm division.

Natalia Truskalova of Ukraine took first place in the women's open 65-kilogram (143-pound) right arm division. Daria Zeyfert of Russia took second place, and her teammate Tatyana Onanova took third place.

Truskalova of Ukraine took second place in the women's open 65-kilogram left arm division. Zeyfert of Russia took first place, and Natsuko Kamei of Japan took third place.

Ukraine's Mykhailo Rudakov took first place in the men's open 90-kilogram (198-pound) right arm division, while his teammate Serhiy Ivanov took fifth place. Russia's Maxim Maksimov took second place, and Farhod Khudayarov of Uzbekistan took third place.

Ivanov of Ukraine took first place in the men's open 90-kilogram left arm division, while his teammate Rudakov took fourth place. Maksimov of Russia took second place, while Armen Chapukyan of Armenia took third place.

Baseball

With the baseball season wrapping up, both in North America and in Ukraine, Vasyi (Basil) Tarasko provided The

Ukrainian Weekly with a brief baseball report on how the sport is developing in Ukraine.

Mr. Tarasko, the head coach of the City College of New York baseball team and a part-time scout for Major League Baseball's San Diego Padres, is responsible for forming at least several dozen Ukrainian baseball teams. He is also the prime organizer and country director of Ukrainian Little League Baseball, officially recognized by the sanctioning body based in Williamsburg, Pa.

The junior team (age 13-15) from Kirovohrad won third place in the Little League European Championships in Kutno, Poland, on July 17. Ukraine beat Lithuania to take third place, but lost to Belgium in the semifinals 7-6.

The team from Donetsk won the sixth annual Ukraine Little League Championship held at Puscha Vodytsia school on June 2-5. Donetsk beat the team from Kirovohrad 9-1. During the tournament, all star teams from two orphanages, Donetsk and Radomyshl played exhibition games. U.S. Ambassador John Herbst presented both teams with uniforms.

The Tech University baseball club from Kirovohrad won the Confederation of European Baseball (CEB) qualification tournament in Utena, Lithuania, on June 18. Ukraine shut out its first three opponents by a combined score of 70-0. The Ukrainian side defeated the host team, Vetra, 7-6 and then faced Silesia from Rybnik, Poland, for the title. Ukraine's dominance in pitching continued with another shutout, with the final score of 4-0.

The Ukrainian Atma Sport Baseball Club from Kyiv took third place at the European Cup qualification tournament in Karlovac, Croatia, on June 19. Atma defeated club teams from Bulgaria and Greece, but lost 5-3 to host Karlovac. Ukraine took the bronze medal by beating BC Athletica Sofia 8-3.

Ukraine took fourth place at the European Juvenile Championship (under age 12) on July 12. The Ukrainian team defeated Lithuania and Moldova, but lost to Poland, the Czech Republic and to the eventual winner Russia.

Ukraine finished in 10th place at the Pool A European Senior Baseball Championships held in the Czech Republic on July 17. Ukraine had won the Pool B European Championships in 2004 and moved up to face the elite baseball powers in Europe this year. Ukraine scored five runs in losing its first four games, but then beat Croatia, England and Russia to finish with a record of three wins and five losses.

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Ukrainian Sports Federation of U.S.A. and Canada holds 50th anniversary general meeting

by Omelan Twardowsky

EAST HANOVER, N.J. – The 50th anniversary general meeting of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) – in which 31 delegates representing Ukrainian sports clubs in Chicago, Toronto, Rochester, Philadelphia, New York, Yonkers, N.Y. and Newark, N.J., participated – took place here at the Ramada Hotel on October 8.

The meeting was opened by the outgoing USCAK president, Myron Stebelsky, who welcomed all present and asked them to honor with a moment of silence two USCAK activists who had passed away during the last term, Roman Hlushko and Theodore Hoshko.

Elected to the presidium of the meeting were: Ihor Chyzowych, chairman; Roman Kucil, vice-chairman; and Katrusia Matskiv, secretary.

Next came a series of reports by members of the outgoing governing board, as well as the directors of the various sports divisions of USCAK. First to report was First Vice-President Irenaes Isajiw, who ran the USCAK-East Division during the last term of office. It was in the USCAK-East area that all of the annual USCAK championships – in soccer, swimming, tennis, skiing and chess had taken place. An important event in its activity was the renewal of the Ukrainian Youth Games – the 24th of which took place on June 30, utilizing the sports facilities of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) resort in Ellenville, N.Y.

Next to report was the second vice-president, Volodymyr Pavelchak of Chicago, who first introduced himself to those present, and then presented in great detail the state of Ukrainian sports on the territory of USCAK-West. He spoke about attempts to organize a world championship in soccer for Ukrainian teams

from all countries in the diaspora, with the tournament to take place in Lviv and neighboring towns in Ukraine. More information about this plan was later provided by Oleh Beresky, the coach of the Chicago soccer team Levy.

Third Vice-President Constantino Czolij of Toronto briefly reported on the status of Ukrainian sports in Canada. Significantly, the soccer tournament for the Great Lakes Cup took place in 2005 in Canada. This tournament simultaneously represents the soccer championship of USCAK-West and USCAK-Canada, and it was organized and run by Mr. Czolij and his co-workers.

Alexander Napora, financial secretary, reported on the positive state of the USCAK treasury.

Omelan Twardowsky, press officer, reported on his work, his cooperation with the Ukrainian press and the publication of the magazine *Our Sport* – the only Ukrainian sports magazine outside Ukraine – which has received good reviews from sports journalists and historians in Ukraine. On the occasion of the 50th anniversary of USCAK, the press office prepared a Jubilee Almanac that appeared in print on the eve of the meeting.

Reports were delivered also by the directors of the active sports divisions of USCAK: George Sawczak, tennis; Orest Fedash, volleyball; Severyn Palydowych, skiing; Eugene Chyzowych, soccer; Dr. Orest Popovych, chess; and Marika Bokalo, swimming. Except for volleyball, all the above divisions held annual USCAK championships in the preceding term.

The series of reports was completed by the outgoing president, Mr. Stebelsky, who first of all reported about his recent trip to Ukraine, where both in Kyiv and in Lviv he held meetings and construc-

tive discussions with Ukrainian sports leaders about past and future cooperation between USCAK and sports structures in Ukraine. In his talks with the Minister of Youth and Sports Yurii Pavlenko, National Olympic Committee of Ukraine President Serhii Bubka, NOC member Volodymyr Brynzak, the sports historian Petro Bezpalko and former Vice-President of the NOC Volodymyr Kulyk, Mr. Stebelsky heard words of respect and gratitude to USCAK for its significant support for sports in Ukraine in the critical initial years of independence. Mr. Stebelsky said he heard similar words of praise in Lviv, expressed by a number of sports and government personalities.

Furthermore, the USCAK president mentioned his meetings with the sports leaders of USCAK member-clubs in the U.S. and Canada, and his attendance at USCAK annual championships and other functions.

After a short and businesslike discussion of the reports, the Auditing Committee, chaired by Vasyl Ciurpita, granted the outgoing governing board a vote of confidence.

On the proposal of the Nominating Committee, composed of Messrs. Twardowsky, Isajiw, Pavelchak and Mark Howansky, the meeting named the following candidates to the new governing board: Mr. Stebelsky, president; Mr. Isajiw, first vice-president; Mr. Pavelchak, second vice-president; Mr. Czolij, third vice-president; Roman Pyndus, secretary, Andrew Panas, organizing secretary (Mr. Howansky, alternate); and Mr. Twardowsky, press officer.

Chosen as directors of sports divisions were: Eugene Chyzowych, soccer, Mr. Fedash, volleyball; Mr. Sawczak, tennis; Marika Bokalo, swimming (Taissa Bokalo, alternate); Dr. Popovych and the Rev. Marian Procyk, chess; and Mr.

Palydowych, skiing.

Auditing Committee members are Mr. Ciurpita, Ms. Matskiv and Greg Serheev, and the Arbitration Board includes Mr. Kucil, Ihor Chyzowych and Bohdan Lypka.

After the above slate was elected by the delegates and several resolutions were passed, the program was handed over to the re-elected USCAK president, Mr. Stebelsky. He thanked the delegates for their large turnout and for their expression of confidence in re-electing him, assuring all that the board will continue its fruitful work for the benefit of USCAK, Ukrainian sports and the glory of Ukraine. He then invited all to adjourn to the banquet hall for the anniversary dinner and entertainment.

The entertainment was provided by the bandurists and vocalists Mykhaylo and Ola Stashyshyn, as well as by the humorist known as "Stefan from Dolyna."

During the dinner, Mr. Twardowsky read the greetings that had arrived on the occasion of the USCAK jubilee from the following: Ukraina Toronto Sports Club; Mr. Bubka of the NOC of Ukraine; Mr. Bezpalko, a journalist and historian from Kyiv; Yurii Maiboroda, chief administrator of culture and sports of the Lviv regional administration; the Lviv State Institute of Physical Culture – from Rector Myroslav Hertsyk, Vice-Rectors F. Muzyka, Y. Petryshyn and O. Vatsaba, as well as the president of the student council, Olha Bas; Stepan Rodak of the Lviv School of Physical Culture; and the head of the Lviv Oblast Administration, Petro Oliinyk.

Greetings delivered in person came from George Popel on behalf of the Carpathian Ski Club (KLK) and Stach Haba on behalf of the sports commission of the Ukrainian World Congress.

Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Ruslan Fedotenko: a Kyivan in Tampa Bay

Ukrainian pro hockey star Ruslan Fedotenko was only 7 years old when the worst nuclear disaster in history happened not far away from his doorstep.

Having grown up in the Ukrainian capital of Kyiv, Fedotenko and family lived some 70 miles south of Chernobyl. There, in April of 1986, a nuclear reactor accident unleashed a radiation wave that contaminated the now-abandoned town to its very core. Even today, Ukrainian health officials continue to estimate at least 3.5 million people have been affected by Chernobyl-related illnesses. Indeed, Fedotenko's own 29-year-old brother, Vitaly, who has endured bone and stomach problems for about 10 years, may be one of those victims.

The incidence of thyroid-related cancer in Chernobyl affected areas skyrocketed, especially among many who were young children at the time of the nuclear disaster. Today, Fedotenko has legitimate fears for his 5-year-old baby brother, David. "So far, David is healthy, thank God," the Tampa Bay Lightning left-winger told Mark Weisenmiller, Florida correspondent for *Agence France-Presse*.

Fedotenko, 26, is currently going

through the procedures of attaining American citizenship. Once this arduous process is completed, he plans to permanently relocate his parents and brothers out of Chernobyl's dark shadows to the United States. "The sooner that all of them are here in America, the more comfortable I'll be, knowing that they are away from all of that," he said.

Firmly ensconced in his memory are those somber days when the name Chernobyl became synonymous with cancer and death.

"I was in what over here is called pre-kindergarten," Fedotenko related to Mr. Weisenmiller. "When it happened, we didn't even find out about it for two weeks because of government censorship. Even the firefighters who fought the fire (from the explosion) didn't fully understand what they were dealing with."

Preliminary media reports were incomplete, but today it is safe to presume at least 31 firefighters perished at the time of the original explosion, with countless more suffering subsequent ailments. "Once we found out about the accident, no evacuation could be done because Kyiv is a city of 4 million people, and

how are you going to move 4 million people quickly away from such a disaster?"

Fedotenko recalls being forced to drink a sweet-tasting, honeylike syrup with every meal, which the government ordered everyone to drink in order to minimize the probabilities of health problems caused by radiation poisoning. "It had no Soviet emblems on the cans, but what looked to be some sort of Oriental letters on them," Fedotenko said. "There was much talk back then that, because the Japanese had experience with radiation when the Americans dropped two atomic bombs on them during World War II, the cans came from Japan."

As a big contributor in Tampa Bay's Stanley Cup victory during the last season of NHL hockey (2003-2004), Fedotenko has some fantastic memories. Among them was scoring both of the team's goals in the Game 7 clincher versus Calgary. (Final score: Fedotenko 2, Calgary 1).

With no NHL hockey in Tampa or anywhere else for that matter during the lockout of 2004-2005, Fedotenko passed away lots of time in the Chicago area with his in-laws. To keep in some semblance of physical condition and to earn a few bucks, he taught at a hockey clinic with his brother-in-law.

Although he calls America his home these days, Fedotenko has never forgotten the roots of his home land. He aspires to play for Team Ukraine in the 2006 Winter Olympics in Torino, Italy.

Fedotenko last laced up his hockey skates for his native Ukraine in the 2002 Olympics when he, along with many other NHLers from the weaker hockey republics, suffered through the early

scheduling nightmares of the Salt Lake City Winter Games.

"I got there for the preliminary rounds," said Fedotenko, who realized a lifelong ambition of playing with childhood teammate Sergei Varlamov, then of the St. Louis Blues.

"At the time, I was with the Philadelphia Flyers. Anyway, the Flyers (who willingly permitted Fedotenko to participate) were playing in St. Louis and I remember that the team flew back to Philadelphia, but I stayed in St. Louis and flew on to Salt Lake City. Then we (Ukraine) lost and I had to hurry up and fly back to Philadelphia to get ready for a home game there. I was flying all over the place," he recalled.

As a solid NHL regular with star potential and one Stanley Cup ring, it is safe to say Ruslan Fedotenko has a bright future ahead of him.

Despite such rosy prospects, however, the shadow of Chernobyl is constantly present. Fedotenko is amazingly pragmatic regarding how he would ever cope with the still everlasting possibility of falling ill himself because of the Chernobyl consequences.

"I just go on with my life," he said. "If it happens, it happens."

Quick facts:

Ruslan Fedotenko: born in Kyiv on January 18, 1979; left wing, shoots left; 6'2", 195 lbs.; played in Ukraine and Finland before coming to the U.S., where he played in the SJHL, USHL, ECHL and AHL; joined the Philadelphia Flyers of the NHL during the 2000-2001 season; traded to Tampa Bay Lightning in 2002.

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та
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Патріярха Любомира Кардинала Гузара,
о. Ректора А. Чировського, о. Л. Голдейда,
члена Курії Василян, о. Івана Хміля в Україні
Пластові Проводи,
усе Пластове Братство в Україні та в діаспорі,
і всіх братчиків нашого славного Загону
та їхні родини**

і бажає

**Веселих і радісних Свят та
щасливого Нового Року!**

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та життєвих успіхів*



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One of the real joys of this Glorious season is the opportunity to say Thank You, to wish you a very Blessed and Merry Christmas, and a New Year of health, happiness and prosperity.

Bohdan Watral

Chairman of the Board, UNCUA

Orysia Burdiak

Executive Director of the UNCUA and the Ukrainian Cooperative Agency



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всім Членам, Їх Родинам та Прихильникам

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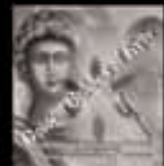
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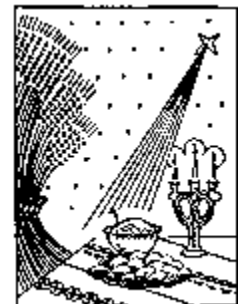
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Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 8)

numbers. And the Fourth Wave was joined by representatives and descendants of all the preceding waves of immigration to the countries of our settlement.

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Source: "Orange Wave = unity" (editorial), *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 19, 2004, Vol. LXXII, No. 51.

Bill C-331

(Continued from page 12)

Canada during the First World War.

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3. The measures may also include the following public education measures:

(a) the exhibition of information concerning internment camps and the contribution made by persons of Ukrainian origin to the development of Canada; and

(b) the preparation of related educational materials.

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4. The Government of Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko may request the Canada Post Corporation to issue a commemorative stamp or set of stamps.

Other commemorative measures

5. The Government of Canada and the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko may consider any other measure that promotes the objective described in section 2.1.

Interpretation

6. Negotiations undertaken pursuant to section 2 shall not be interpreted as constituting an admission by Her Majesty in right of Canada of the existence of any legal obligation of Her Majesty in right of Canada to any person.

New Jersey...

(Continued from page 13)

American citizen. Mr. Kolodiy didn't back down, asking him why he was so angry. The disturbing exchange brought uneasy laughter among the audience.

Mr. Kolodiy said he hasn't screened the film in the United States because he is still raising funds. However, excerpts of his work have been shown at gatherings dedicated to the events of the Orange Revolution.

So far, Mr. Kolodiy's film is the only documentary film on the revolution produced by a Westerner. It is also the only documentary film encompassing the entire Orange Revolution to have surfaced so far.

In November, Ukrainian journalist Volodymyr Arieiev and director Oles Sanin showed their film, "Siomyi Den (Seventh Day), a documentary on the tense seventh day of the Orange Revolution when the Ukrainian government nearly resorted to violence.

A trailer of Mr. Kolodiy's film can be viewed at <http://www.orange-chronicles.com>.

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Pora unites...

(Continued from page 2)

opted to remain on the SPU ticket.

Serhii Taran, head of the Reporters without Frontiers Kyiv office, and Pora leaders Vladyslav Kaskiv and Yevhen Zolotariov are also well-known. These Pora leaders belong to the wing of Pora commonly referred to as "Yellow Pora" because of the color of their symbols.

The other wing, "Black Pora," condemned the yellow wing's creation of a Pora political party, noting that after Serbia's Otpor (Resistance) group established a party, failed to enter Parliament.

The head of the Pora-Rip list is Vitalii Klitschko, a world-class boxer. Mr. Klitschko explained that he wants to help young people to enter Parliament – individuals "who never figured in corruption scandals" (Ukrayinska Pravda, December 13). This was a clear reference to the September accusations that rocked the Yushchenko entourage. "It is pleasant to stand together with people who have clean hands," Mr. Klitschko commented.

In the 2004 Ukrainian elections, as in earlier democratic revolutions in Serbia and Georgia, youth sought to pressure their elders to unite the opposition in

order to successfully oppose the regime. The Pora-Rip bloc also wants to reunite the Orange coalition into a new, pro-Yushchenko Parliamentary majority in the new Parliament.

This strategy arises out of two fears.

First, as Mr. Filenko warned, "Our aim is also to slap on the wrists those who are thinking about joining with Yanukovich," (Ukrayinska Pravda, December 12). This threat refers to the September memorandum signed by Messrs. Yushchenko with Yanukovich, as well as opposition within the Yushchenko camp to Ms. Tymoshenko's return as prime minister.

Second, the democrats fear the threat posed by the "revenge" of former President Leonid Kuchma's regime through a victory by the Party of the Regions. The threat of "revenge" was outlined in alarmist tones by Ihor Zhdanov, first deputy head of the central executive committee of OUPU (Ukrayinska Pravda, December 8).

Mr. Zhdanov called for unity within the Orange camp to fend off the Party of the Regions. What he ignores is that the threat exists because President Yushchenko has failed to honor his oft-repeated 2004 campaign pledge that "bandits would sit in prison."

A new Pora leaflet pointedly asks, "Why are they not sitting [in prison]?" alongside portraits of Mr. Yanukovich and other senior Kuchma administration officials. The Tymoshenko bloc, therefore, will not be the only force to draw support from the radical wing of the Orange camp.

All of the senior Kuchma-era officials who participated in abuse of office and election fraud appear on the Party of the

Regions 2006 list, as none of them have been charged. They could obtain immunity after their party enters next year's Parliament.

As Mr. Zhdanov pointed out, the 2006 elections should, in reality, be seen as the fourth round of the 2004 elections. The Orange Revolution will succeed or fail depending on the outcome. Yet again, Pora will play a central role.

Melnychenko...

(Continued from page 2)

Mr. Melnychenko gave sworn testimony in the United States before he departed for Ukraine (Ukrayinska Pravda, November 29). In Ukraine he was summoned to the Procurator General's Office (PGO), where he testified for another three hours. The PGO also received copies of Mr. Melnychenko's tapes from the Boris Berezovsky Foundation and former Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) Chairman Oleksander Turchynov.

Mr. Melnychenko's latest statements also implicate Mykola Azarov, the former head of the State Tax Administration; the late Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Kravchenko; former SBU Chairman Leonid Derkach; and former Kuchma adviser and energy oligarch Oleksander Volkov.

Accusations against the latter two could cause problems for President Yushchenko and former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. Mr. Derkach's son, Andrei, heads the media outlets Kievski Telegraf, Versi.com, and Era TV and Radio, which all supported Mr. Yushchenko in the 2004 elections.

Mr. Volkov could be a complication for Ms. Tymoshenko. His high-profile presence in the Tymoshenko bloc tarnishes her image as a populist, anti-oligarch politician. It also raises questions about whether Ms. Tymoshenko could support an investigation of Mr. Melnychenko's accusations when they could affect one of her key advisers.

Mr. Melnychenko's return may not lead to charges against senior Kuchma officials. In the past year, no high-ranking Kuchma official has been charged with election fraud or abuse of office or corruption, let alone the Gongadze affair. Now, all of the likely suspects appear prominently on the Party of the Regions 2006 election list. If no charges are filed before the 2006 vote, they will be shielded by parliamentary immunity.

As for Mr. Kuchma himself, two factors make the Yushchenko administration reluctant to accuse him of involvement in the Gongadze murder.

First, Mr. Yushchenko may have been pressured into giving some form of immunity to President Kuchma during the December 2004 roundtable negotiations to

stop the Orange Revolution protests. Mr. Yushchenko is also reluctant to set a precedent of filing criminal charges against former presidents, fearing he could be next.

Second, Mr. Yushchenko and his entourage believe that Russia was in some way behind the Melnychenko affair, particularly how Mr. Kuchma's alleged order to "rough" up Gongadze ended with murder. Some other force likely wanted President Kuchma implicated.

Four Internal Affairs Ministry policemen abducted Gongadze on September 16, 2000. The leader of the group, Gen. Oleksii Pukach, is accused of actually murdering Gongadze. After Gongadze was murdered, his body was decapitated and dumped in Mr. Moroz's Kyiv Oblast constituency, where it was quickly discovered. Why would Mr. Kuchma want the body to be found, if he had indeed ordered the killing?

The alleged Russian link comes via local Ukrainian politicians seeking to weaken President Kuchma, force him to resign early and transfer power to a successor. Russia's likely partners would have been the Kyiv clan's Social-Democratic Party – United.

While living abroad, Mr. Melnychenko occasionally released selected fragments of conversations, but never the full tapes. "Each time the release of the recording was timed to a certain extent, it became clearer that Mr. Melnychenko was not acting independently," commented Dzerkalo Tyzhnia (November 26-December 2).

Few observers believe Mr. Melnychenko's claim that he taped Kuchma's office single-handedly. The cloud of suspicion and other still-unanswered questions have led to the Mr. Melnychenko's partial discrediting. Twelve presidential guards who attended Mr. Melnychenko's press conference insist that Mr. Melnychenko was given access to Kuchma's office only in the company of other officers, never alone. They scoffed at his claim that he had placed a digital dictaphone under Mr. Kuchma's sofa (Inter TV, December 5).

Mr. Melnychenko's tapes unleashed the Kuchmagate scandal, emboldened the opposition and compromised the Kuchma government. If the tapes were intended to make President Kuchma leave office early they failed; instead they led to Mr. Yushchenko's election and the Orange Revolution.



With deep sorrow we announce that on Tuesday, November 29, 2005, at the age of 94 passed away in North Port, Fla., our beloved mother and grandmother,



Miroslawa Powch née Bilyk

Born on September 29, 1911, in Horodenka, Ukraine.

Funeral Services were held on December 2, 2005, in North Port, Fla. Interment was held on December 17, 2005, at St. Andrew's Cemetery in South Bound Brook, NJ.

In deep sorrow,

Son	George with wife Hania
Grandchildren	Maya and Andrew
Brother	Lubomyr Bilyk with wife Luba
Sister	Marika Skorupsky with children
Sister-in-law	Halia, widow of Roman with children

And extended family scattered in the U.S., Canada and Ukraine.

Eternal memory!

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Sister Julia Karpiak...

(Continued from page 6)

After retiring from teaching, Sister Julia assumed new responsibilities. As dean of students at Manor College from 1963 to 1976, she was a respected mentor to hundreds of young people who were inspired by her gentle guidance. When St. Josaphat Residence Hall opened in 1964, Sister Julia also served the facility's first dean. Devoted to the students and the educational mission of the college, she served on Manor's Middle States Self-Study Task Force in 1965 and as a member of Manor's board of trustees from 1967 to 1970.

When she retired from her administrative responsibilities, Sister Julia remained active in other ways. A frequent visitor to the Montgomery County Senior Center in Horsham, Pa., she enjoyed the company of other seniors, who were appreciative of her attention and delighted by her deft

ability to design and create intricate craftwork. At the Motherhouse, she took on the responsibility of decorating the convent bulletin board, a task she continued to perform with diligence and enthusiasm just days before her death.

Parastas services for Sister Julia were held on September 21 at the Holy Trinity Chapel of the Basilian Spirituality Center with the Rev. Petro Semenysh officiating. The following morning, requiem liturgy was celebrated by the Rev. Andriy Dudkevych, with the Basilian Sisters singing responses. In his homily, the Rev. Dudkevych remarked that the 93-year-old nun had come to the convent to serve God and that after 77 years as a servant of God she was going to "live with Him in heaven where there is no pain, no sorrow, no mourning." Sister Julia's mortal remains were interred at the sisters' cemetery at Fox Chase in the presence of her spiritual sisters and family members who had journeyed from far and near to bid her a final farewell.

Ukrainian Festival in Toronto's Bloor West Village draws 400,000 visitors

by Melanie Melnyk

TORONTO – Once again, Ukrainians proved they are a hearty bunch.

It's become a bit of a running gag that some rain will fall at each year's Ukrainian Festival, and this year, as promised, it poured on Saturday afternoon. But no amount of rain could dampen the festive atmosphere surrounding the ninth annual Bloor West Village Ukrainian Festival, which took place in Toronto's West End on August 26-28.

Over 400,000 people jammed Bloor Street West to enjoy food, beverages, vendors, attractions, and song and dance

from the two festival stages between Jane Street and Runnymede Road. This year's attendance set a new record, surpassing last year's figure of 300,000 visitors.

Among this year's headliners were singer-songwriter Vika Vasilevych from Kyiv, contemporary violin virtuoso Vasyly Popadiuk and the world-renowned Syzokryli dancers from New York. Cabaret performances featuring these and many other exciting musical, dance and vocal acts from Toronto and abroad captivated audiences at the main stage on Friday and Saturday nights.

Popular groups such as the Kubasonics from Edmonton, Taran from Winnipeg and the Dunai band got the crowd dancing at the Friday and Saturday night "zabavy" (dances).

The roar of the Brampton Motorcycle Club cleared the way for the ever-popular Saturday morning parade. While featuring Ukrainian Canadian groups ranging from marching bands, veterans and youth clubs to kindergartners, the parade reflected an increasingly multicultural presence through the participation of Chinese, Croatian and

other ethnic groups. Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians alike who served as observers in Ukraine's 2004 election marched alongside former Prime Minister and 2005 Festival Parade Marshall John Turner.

The opening ceremonies were well-attended by local and federal politicians, including Conservative leader Stephen Harper, local MP Borys Wrzesnewskyj, Edmonton East MP Peter Goldring and Waterloo-Kitchener MP Andrew Telegdi. All applauded the contributions of the Ukrainian community to Canada and wished the festival continued success.

Non-stop performances sponsored by the Ukrainian Credit Union continued throughout Saturday and Sunday at the Jane Street Main Stage, featuring the Pid Oblachkom vocal ensemble, the Metelytsia a cappella singers, the Zoloti Struny bandura ensemble, Ozornie Ogonki from Belarus, the Desna Ukrainian Dance Company of Toronto and Montreal's Carpathia Ensemble. Up and coming acts were showcased on the intimate Youth Stage at Windermere Avenue, sponsored by So-Use Credit

Union.

Despite a light drizzle that persisted after Saturday afternoon's downpour through to the evening, the Lvivske and Slavutych beer gardens remained packed to the rafters with revelers enjoying Ukrainian food and beverages.

By Sunday, the sun shone again over the "Birds of Prey" exhibit, which proved a much-sought-after returning attraction. Hundreds attended its three free shows to get up close and personal with rarely seen birds indigenous to Ukraine. The crowds remained well beyond the festival's 5 p.m. closing, no doubt in hopes they had won the raffle for two free tickets to Kyiv, courtesy of Aerosvit Airlines.

The Ukrainian Festival grows bigger and better each year thanks to the tireless efforts of its volunteers and the generosity of its many sponsors. Next year's festival, scheduled for August 25-27, 2006, this will mark the 10th anniversary of the festival, with many surprises already being planned for this landmark celebration. Mark your calendars – and pack your rain gear – it's going to be the biggest one yet.

Basilian Sisters host pilgrimage

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. – On October 1-2, the Sisters of St. Basil the Great of the Jesus, Lover of Humanity, Province hosted their annual pilgrimage honoring the Mother of God. Responding to the sisters' invitation to renew their faith and refresh their spirit within a community of the faithful, nearly 700 pilgrims converged on the beautiful grounds of the Basilian Motherhouse at Fox Chase, Pa., to participate in a tradition that has spanned more than seven decades.

As in previous years, the pilgrimage revolved around a special theme: "What Are You Seeking? I Seek to be Healed." These words, were echoed by the clergy, the sisters, and the pilgrims of all ages who had gathered on this beautiful autumn night and day in anticipation of a healing touch.

Chant and prayer filled Holy Trinity Chapel for the divine liturgy on Saturday afternoon. Afterwards, candles lit the night as pilgrims gathered to process to the Grotto of Our Lady of Pochaiv for the celebration of the Akathist by Metropolitan Archbishop Stefan Soroka, the Very Rev. John Sianchuk, the guest homilist, and the clergy of the Archeparchy of Philadelphia. Responses were sung by the sisters and the seminarians from St. Josaphat Seminary in Washington.

A healing service followed, led by Father John Sianchuk and six priests assisting him. Each pilgrim whispered into a priest's ear a private sorrow and a plea for healing. The priests blessed the supplicants, anointing their foreheads with holy oil that was blessed that evening.

The highlight of the weekend was the pontifical divine liturgy celebrated on Sunday. Metropolitan Soroka officiated and was assisted by Bishops Basil Losten and Walter Paska, the Rev. Sianchuk and clergy from the archeparchy.

This was preceded by a children's program after which the children from St. Josaphat School, Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) processed to the auditorium to attend the divine liturgy. During the divine liturgy the children from St. Josaphat's School sang the communion hymns. Responses to the liturgy were sung by the choir of Holy Ghost Ukrainian Catholic Church in Chester, Pa.

The day ended with a moleben service at the grotto with the choir from St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church of Elizabeth, N.J., singing the responses.

A special pilgrimage icon, Our Lady of Protection (Pokrova), donated by the Rev. John Ciurpita in memory of his mother, was blessed and carried in procession during the two day pilgrimage.

The pilgrimage was a happy and holy event graced by good weather and an abundance of good will. The pilgrimage committee is already making plans for the 75th annual pilgrimage to be held in 2006.

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Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America

Greetings with the upcoming Christmas and New Year Holidays!

On behalf of the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation, we send all our donors, supporters and friends our best wishes for good health, prosperity and the fulfillment of all your plans in coming year!

Let the upcoming year bring success to all your endeavors and let the hopes we all share for a democratic and prosperous Ukraine become a reality. Let the year 2006 be blessed with peace and stability throughout the world!

It is a pleasure to share with you the latest events, projects and future plans of the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation and the Kyiv Mohyla Academy. Lists of donors and information about our projects have been published throughout the year. At this time of Christmas and New Year holidays, we extend our sincere appreciation to all our donors and friends who supported our work in the past and will join our efforts in assisting higher education in Ukraine and the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in its position as proponent in education reform. We thank all the donors for their generosity and commitment to the future of Ukraine, and for their support of the education of a new generation of leaders.



ELECTRONIC LIBRARY PROJECT

KMFoundation initiated work for the establishment of the Electronic Library Project - the first centralized and accessible information network for Ukraine's universities, with its center of operations and administration at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy. The E-Library Project will be one of first priority in the upcoming year.

NAUKMA LIBRARY PROJECT

The Ukrainian community in the United States and particularly the Omelian Antonovich Family Foundation contributed substantially to the NaUKMA Library reconstruction project. These funds allowed for the exterior restoration of the historic library building. The KMFoundation appreciates all the generous donations for this project. However, in order to finalize the Library Project, there is still an urgent need to provide funding for the interior of the building and to equip the library with current standards in technology. Your continuous support for the Library is of a high priority.

NAUKMA PROFESSORS' SCHOLARSHIP FUND

NaUKMA's goal is to provide academic excellence. In order to reach this goal, it is indispensable for the University to engage the best professors and researchers. This goal cannot be reached without the required financial incentives. We urge you to support this essential academic component and to donate to the NaUKMA Professors' Scholarship Fund.

NAUKMA DISTINGUISHED VISITORS

NaUKMA's high academic standards, the University's historic role, and the students' foreign language proficiency are key factors that attract the interest of world renown political and business leaders. Jaap De Hoop Scheffer, Secretary General of NATO and Poland's President Alexander Kwasniewski were the latest of numerous dignitaries who visited NaUKMA. In his speech "Why NATO?", Secretary General Jaap De Hoop Scheffer pointed out that intensification of relationships between NATO and Ukraine must be considered a priority. Alexander Kwasniewski was awarded the title of Honorary Professor. President Kwasniewski delivered a speech titled "Poland - Ukraine: Chances and Challenges of the Twenty-First Century", and answered questions from students and faculty.

NAUKMA CELEBRATES ITS 390TH ANNIVERSARY

On October 15, 2005 the Kyiv Mohyla Academy celebrated its 390th anniversary. Among the special guests present at the commemoration filled with dignitaries, faculty and students were Ukraine's First Lady, Kateryna Yushchenko, Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley, former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine and Chairman of the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation William G. Miller, the Ambassadors of Germany, France, the United Nations and others. Ukraine's President Victor Yushchenko issued a congratulatory proclamation on the occasion of NaUKMA's 390th anniversary.



Ludmila Nakonechna, executive director "SAN Interbrew Ukraine", Vitaly Klychko, Viacheslav Brukhovetsky, president of NaUKMA

KLYTCHKO BROTHERS ESTABLISH A STUDENT SCHOLARSHIP PROJECT

In a Project titled "Follow your Heart", the Charitable Fund of Vitaly and Volodymyr Klytchko, together with the "SAN Interbrew Ukraine" Company, joined efforts to finance scholarships for the education of students in the fields of science and liberal arts. The Project "Follow your Heart" is a great example to follow for other Ukrainian celebrities and firms.

KMBS RATED NUMBER ONE IN UKRAINE

The Kyiv Mohyla Business School was rated as the best business school in Ukraine in the July issue of "Dilovyj Journal". The rating process and criteria were audited by Price Waterhouse Coopers.

NAUKMA COOPERATION WITH OTHER UNIVERSITIES

KMFoundation continues its work linking NaUKMA and leading universities in Ukraine with universities in the United States. These efforts are directed toward the integration and improvement of all academic programs. After the previous year's successful exchange, in July-August 2005, the second group of Kyiv Mohyla Business School MBA graduates consisting of 55 business professionals, visited Northwestern University Kellogg School of Management and top technology companies in California.

NAUKMA SCHOOL OF PUBLIC HEALTH

The NaUKMA School of Public Health presented a course titled "Reforms and Stable Financing of Public Health", the first such course ever offered in Ukraine. The semester program was developed by the World Bank Institute in cooperation with leading world universities and the support of international research centers and organizations, such as the Institute for an Open Society, the International Fund "Renaissance", and the World Public Health Organization.

2005-2006 SCHOOL YEAR

NaUKMA opened its 2005-2006 academic year with the commencement of 726 incoming new undergraduate students and 384 graduate students.

COLLABORATION WITH UNA

The collaborative Life Insurance Program of the Ukrainian National Association with the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation has been established. Interested individuals can enroll into the UNA Life Insurance Program and name the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation as the beneficiary. This is an excellent opportunity to receive a tax deduction and provide a legacy for future generations.

Congratulations to the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy for its achievement in 2005 in becoming a full member of the Association of European Universities.



Viacheslav Brukhovetsky received a gift from First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko on NaUKMA's 390th anniversary celebration

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Ukrainian American Veterans award student scholarships

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) held their 58th annual convention at the Soyuzivka estate in Kerhonkson, N.Y. from September 29 to October 2. Each year at the convention, the Scholarship Committee awards scholarship money to college students who are descendants of Ukrainian American veterans.

One of the requirements is to write an essay (400 to 500 words) about a current military topic. The topic this year was "What role or strategy should the United States take in its continued efforts in the war on terrorism?"

Six students were selected as recipients of the 2004-2005 scholarship awards. Christina S. Maksymiuk from Redford, Mich., who is majoring in chemistry at Carnegie Mellon University received \$400 for having the best essay. The best essay award is made possible by the UAV National Ladies Auxiliary.

Daniel Myron Shegda from Springfield, Pa., who attends Gloucester County Technical School for Automotive Technology, received \$300. Natalie Terlecky from Poland, Ohio, who is majoring in political science at Miami University of Ohio, received \$300.

Three other students – all of whom were 2004 scholarship recipients – received \$200: Markian Andrew Hadzewycz, a history major from Morristown, N.J., attending Drew University. Juliana Sophia Wynohradnyk of Stony

Point, N.Y., attending Sacred Heart University in Fairfield, Conn., and majoring in Communications; and Victor William Cannuscio of West Palm Beach, Fla., attending Palm Beach Community College and studying to become a professional pilot.

Students interested in applying for the UAV scholarship awards should fill out an application, write an essay on this year's military topic and send a photograph of themselves. Applications are available on the UAV website, www.uavets.org.

To be eligible for a UAV scholarship, applicants must be descendants of Ukrainian American veterans and be full-time matriculated college students in a degree program. Students from accredited trade schools or institutions that have degree programs also are eligible.

Students can apply while in their senior year of high school, as college attendance will be verified before the awards are given in the fall semester. Applications are accepted from November through August of each year. Moreover, students may reapply for the scholarship awards.

The UAV thanked all who made donations to make this program possible. Special acknowledgement and appreciation were extended to the UAV National Ladies Auxiliary for raising and donating \$500 each year. Organizations and/or individuals wishing to make tax-exempt dona-



Christina S. Maksymiuk



Daniel Myron Shegda



Natalie Terlecky



Markian Andrew Hadzewycz



Juliana Sophia Wynohradnyk



Victor William Cannuscio

tions should make out their checks payable to: UAV National Scholarship Fund. Contributions should be mailed to National Scholarship Officer Nicholas Skirka, 109 Windsor Terrace, Yonkers, N.Y., 10701.

Applications for the scholarship also should be sent to the aforementioned address. For additional information, readers may e-mail nskirka@optonline.net or call (914) 965-3707.

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



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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

samples provided by President Viktor Yushchenko have shown that the quantity of dioxin in his body is 1,000 times above the acceptable limit. The press service of the Procurator General's Office announced on December 8. Mr. Yushchenko provided blood samples on November 9 for testing in connection with the criminal case launched into the attempt on his life. The case alleges that Mr. Yushchenko was poisoned in September 2004 with the aim of murdering him. The blood samples were sent to laboratories in Belgium, Great Britain and Germany. (Ukrinform)

President will not head party list

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko told journalists on December 6 that his name will not be on the list of candidates of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine People's Union (OUPU) for the March 2006 parliamentary elections, Interfax-Ukraine reported. The previous week an OUPU convention approved a list of its parliamentary candidates with the name of Mr. Yushchenko, as OUPU honorary chairman, at the top. "I want other democratic forces that will come to the Ukrainian Parliament in a coalition with Our Ukraine to feel the president's support as well. I don't want the president's name to split our political partners," Mr. Yushchenko said. The OUPU is planning to form an election coalition called the Our Ukraine Yushchenko Bloc with five other parties. The OUPU wants its coalition partners to provide 35 percent of the candidates to be included on a joint election list. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lytvyn against lifting deputies' immunity

KIROVOHRAD – While on a working trip to the Kirovohrad region on December

9, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn told journalists that stripping Verkhovna Rada and local Rada deputies of immunity would be inexpedient under the current conditions. Mr. Lytvyn opined that this could be done after Ukraine has become a fully democratic, civilized state. He maintained that, for the time being, deputies must enjoy immunity to tell the truth without fears of likely persecution. Ukrinform reported that on December 8 the chairman of the Ukrainian People's Party, Yuriy Kostenko, unveiled his intention to initiate an all-Ukrainian referendum on doing away with deputies' immunity. The party, he said, will form, within a month, initiative groups for organizing sign-ins in support of the referendum. The referendum's date, Mr. Kostenko noted, will be set by the Central Election Commission. (Ukrinform)

Filaret urges laity, clergy to unite

KYIV – Patriarch Filaret (Denysenko), head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate (UOC-KP), has called upon all clergy and laity of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC) to unite with the UOC-KP without the consent of the hierarchs of the UAOC. "Our Church is ready to accept parishes and clergy to the Kyiv Patriarchate in order to create a single national Orthodox Church in Ukraine," said Patriarch Filaret, speaking at a press conference on November 17. He reported that, because of the position of the bishops of the UAOC, agreements about unification reached between the Churches in September-October 2005 were broken. Patriarch Filaret emphasized that the bishops of the UAOC are trying to blame the UOC-KP for the halt in the unification process. He noted that most bishops of the UAOC began to impose demands which meant only one thing: a necessary prerequisite for unification should be the resignation

of the head of the UOC-KP, which, he said, absolutely coincides with the position of the Moscow Patriarchate. Patriarch Filaret said he is convinced that "external powers" stand behind all this. "Our neighboring country [Russia] and the Russian [Orthodox] Church are against the unification of Ukrainian Orthodoxy and the creation of a single national Church. The Moscow Patriarchate gains advantages from discord, not only in the political sphere but also in Church life. These powers are doing their best not to allow this unification," noted the patriarch. The patriarch said that, nevertheless, Ukrainian Orthodoxy will unite into a single national Church sooner or later. When he was asked when this will happen, Patriarch Filaret said: "Only God knows that. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

UAOC leader responds to Filaret

KYIV – "Ukraine will have a single national Church, but without the interference of political forces," said Metropolitan Mefodii (Kudriakov), head of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church (UAOC), on November 18. Speaking at a press conference, he presented the position of the UAOC concerning unsuccessful negotiations on unification into a single Church with the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate. "The unification did not become a reality for one reason: it was not built by Patriarch Filaret [Denysenko, head of the UOC-KP] in the spirit of love," said Metropolitan Mefodii. The head of the UAOC noted: "Initially, my suggestion was to preserve the structures of both Churches, to revive eucharistic communion, and, for two or three years, or for as long as needed, to look for ways to full union and understanding, so that the clergy of both Churches would get used to it and felt no pressure." According to Metropolitan Mefodii, "All we were asking for was that,

during the joint sobor [assembly], there should be not just Filaret but also other candidates running for the position of patriarch. We even suggested drawing lots, but the head of the UOC-KP rejected even this." The head of the UAOC said that it is impossible to continue negotiations with the UOC-KP under the conditions presented by Patriarch Filaret. Metropolitan Mefodii said: "The statement of the bishops of the UOC-KP requesting the faithful and clergy of the UAOC to transfer freely to Patriarch Filaret was the last straw. I spoke to my priests and said they could go to Patriarch Filaret if they wish. Nobody will persecute them." Metropolitan Mefodii added that he is convinced that the creation of a single national Orthodox Church in Ukraine is impossible without the participation of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate, the biggest Orthodox Church in Ukraine. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

UOC-MP to avoid politics

KYIV – "The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP) is not going to support any political party during Ukraine's 2006 parliamentary elections, but it will bless everybody who is willing to work for the good of Ukraine," said Metropolitan Volodymyr (Sabodan), head of the UOC-MP, at a press conference held on November 14. The metropolitan told journalists about the problems of Orthodoxy in Ukraine, claiming that the Orthodox are not yet ready for union. He also reported on Catholic proselytism in Ukraine and what he described as the "seizure" of church buildings of the UOC-MP. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

UGCC calls for prayer before elections

KYIV – The press service of the head

(Continued on page 43)

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 42)

of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church (UGCC) on November 14 released a call to the faithful of the UGCC and all people of good will to pray. Major Archbishop and Cardinal Lubomyr Husar called upon Ukrainians not to give up hope before the parliamentary elections to be held in March 2006 and to pray again "for the Ukrainian state, for the supremacy of law, equal for everybody; for the good service of the elected and appointed officials of Ukraine and all citizens and not to their personal or group interests; and for the improvement of the moral level of the nation." The head of the UGCC recalled the joint prayers of Ukrainians during the Orange Revolution of November-December 2004. "The crucial change that happened in our country due to the providence of God demands more prayers because perhaps God wants our prayer to be so deeply grounded that we could never return to the state of spiritual servitude under which we had suffered for decades," said Cardinal Husar. (Religious Information Service of Ukraine)

Bird flu spreading across Crimea

KYIV – The Ukrainian Health Ministry said in a statement on December 9 that it has detected new cases of suspected bird-flu cases in Crimea, Interfax-Ukraine reported. According to the statement, bird-flu cases were confirmed in nine villages and unexplained mass deaths of poultry were registered in eight more locations. Preliminary tests from a Russian laboratory on December 8 established that the bird-flu outbreak in Crimea was caused by the H5N1 strain of the virus, which is also dangerous to humans and killed nearly 70 people in Asia earlier this year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

WHO to help battle avian flu

KYIV – Officials from the World Health Organization (WHO) arrived in Ukraine on December 12 to evaluate a recent outbreak of avian flu in the Crimea region, RIA-Novosti reported. The WHO experts plan to review and evaluate measures taken by Ukrainian authorities to battle the virus and to prevent it from spreading to other areas. The Ukrainian Health Ministry said on December 9 that it had detected bird flu cases in the region. Poultry imports from the region have been banned, and vaccinations of the population are under way, RIA-Novosti reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Naftohaz chief is reappointed

KYIV – The Ukrainian government on December 12 reappointed Oleksii Ivchenko as head of the state gas company Naftohaz Ukrainy, Interfax-Ukraine reported the same day. On December 9 Ivchenko was fired from the post of first vice minister for fuel and energy, which he had combined with the job of Naftohaz head. Some Russian media speculated at the time that the move indicated a possible softening of Ukraine's position in tense gas talks with Moscow since Mr. Ivchenko was a key player in those talks, mosnews.com reported on December 12. But Ukrainian officials said it was part of ongoing changes under way at the ministry, under which the first vice minister's post will no longer be filled by the head of Naftohaz. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Presidents discuss gas prices

MOSCOW – After a telephone conversation with Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on December 7, Russian President Vladimir Putin said he is pleased with Kyiv's readiness to liber-

alize prices on Russian natural gas supplies and transit fees, RIA-Novosti and Interfax reported the same day, citing the Kremlin press service. The press service said experts will continue discussing the technicalities of issue. The details of the conversation between Presidents Yushchenko and Putin are unclear. Gazprom has been supplying natural gas to Ukraine under a barter agreement for \$50 per 1,000 cubic meters. Gazprom is seeking to raise the price to \$160 per 1,000 cubic meters, which is roughly the market price in Europe. Ukraine said it would agree to the price hike if Gazprom agreed to pay transit fees of \$3.50 per 1,000 cubic meters per 100 kilometers to transport gas across Ukrainian territory. Ukraine has said that it would agree to gradual price increases on some gas items. In a press release on the previous day, Gazprom sharply criticized Ukraine. "Another round of talks between Gazprom and the Ukrainian delegation brought no result, despite the Ukrainian leadership's assertions [of its readiness] to resolve shortly the issues of gas supplies and transit on the basis of market principles," the company said in a news release cited by RIA-Novosti. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Russian gas transit rights guaranteed

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on December 13 that Ukraine has given Russia "unconditional" guarantees that natural gas can be transported across its territory to Western Europe, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "Ukraine has given government guarantees of transit and these guarantees are unconditional," he said. President Yushchenko added that he is confident that Kyiv and Moscow will find a mutually beneficial solution to the gas price issue. "Ukraine is ready to pay for natural gas on purely market principles, but after a gradual transitional period," Mr. Yushchenko said. Gazprom has been supplying natural gas to Ukraine under a barter agreement for \$50 per 1,000 cubic meters. Gazprom is seeking to raise the price to \$160 per 1,000 cubic meters, which is roughly the market price in Europe. The Ukrainian president spoke as a Ukrainian delegation led by Fuel and Energy Minister Ivan Plachkov left for Russia for talks. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lviv leader's death is probed

LVIV – Regional prosecutors in Lviv have opened a criminal case in connection

with the murder of Stepan Senchuk, Lviv Oblast Administration chairman in 1999-2001, Interfax Ukraine reported on November 29. Mr. Senchuk was found shot dead on November 29, lying beside his car in a village near Lviv. Mr. Senchuk joined the pro-presidential Our Ukraine People's Union earlier this year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Chornobyl a nuclear waste dump?

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on December 8 that he does not rule out using the site of the former Chornobyl nuclear plant as a dumping ground for spent nuclear fuel from abroad, Interfax and ITAR-TASS reported. "We should study the political side of this matter. The economic expediency is evident," Mr. Yushchenko told reporters after visiting the Chornobyl site. The president stressed that the so-called "exclusion zone" around Chornobyl will be unfit for "traditional use" for centuries. Mr. Yushchenko also said the construction of a new shelter over the Chornobyl reactor destroyed by a blast in 1986 will be completed in 2010. He added that donor countries promised to supply \$1.1 billion for the shelter but have so far donated \$790 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)



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Vitalii Klitschko...

(Continued from page 1)

will break the 3 percent vote barrier necessary for a party or bloc to occupy seats in the next Parliament.

Mr. Klitschko's name will appear first on the bloc's lists, thereby giving him first priority for a parliamentary seat. However, that's not his main goal, he said.

"My goal is to help ambitious people enter Parliament, not to become a national deputy," Mr. Klitschko said. "Also, my priority will be the Kyiv mayoral elections."

His decision also further divides the Orange Revolution team into three primary political blocs: the ones led by President Yushchenko, former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and Mr. Pynzenyk.

Reforms and Order didn't unite with the Tymoshenko Bloc because the former prime minister wanted Mr. Pynzenyk to resign from his finance minister post as a pre-condition, said Ivan Lozowy, presi-

dent of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is exclusively financed by Ukrainian business donations.

At the same time, Reforms and Order didn't join the Our Ukraine coalition because some top party members were at odds with the Yushchenko government's policies, including Serhii Teriokhin, former minister of the economy.

Despite the split, the Orange forces are not necessarily weaker, said Dr. Serhii Taran, the director of the Kyiv-based International Democracy Institute, which is financed by mid-level Ukrainian businesses and the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs. Instead, they are broader, he said.

He estimated that between 10 and 15 percent of Orange Revolution supporters want to vote, but not for Mr. Yushchenko's or Ms. Tymoshenko's blocs.

The Reforms and Order-Pora bloc will attract those voters who supported the Orange Revolution but became disillusioned with both its two quarreling leaders.

A biography...

(Continued from page 14)

September 5, 1965, during a screening of the film "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors" at the Ukraina cinema, Ivan Dzyuba announced that arrests were taking place across Ukraine and Vasyl Stus, who was in the audience, stood up and shouted: "All those who are against the arrests, stand up." By his action, which was consistent with his rejection of indifference, Vasyl Stus became a marked man for the authorities and in 1972 he was arrested in the big sweep in Ukraine.

In writing his book, Mr. Stus had access to his father's diary which was not part of the poet's six volumes of collected works published over the last decade. Based on the diary, Mr. Stus called the later Kyiv years a period of maturation when Vasyl Stus re-ordered his collection of poems according to their degree of self-affirmation. The younger Stus calls the writings of this period "the diary of existence of a man who thinks of his own existence as a small part of the life of something bigger and truer."

"Gradually the texts were purged of obviously biographical motifs, becoming more estranged and abstract. ... He buried within himself the modern artist nurturing instead the man and the patriot," Mr. Stus notes.

Mr. Stus ends the biography in November 1972 with his father's sentencing and departure from Kyiv for the camp in Mordovia. For the years of imprisonment Dmytro Stus provides two parallel texts: one is called "Epilogue" and it describes his own life in the years 1972 to 1985; the other, called "Chronicle of Opposition," provides details of the various charges against Vasyl Stus during his periods of impris-

onment, describes the ongoing arrests and persecution in Ukraine, and quotes from the poet's prison notebooks.

In an interview, Mr. Stus gave this explanation of why he did not write about the years of imprisonment: "I didn't want to write about 'the zone,' because today I can't write everything I know. To write about the zone you have to write the whole truth, you have to show how some people fell, how others picked themselves up. But today we live in a society whose members feel they can judge everything. And they would be pleased to read some things and be able to say: Aha, he fell, we have to judge him. But you were not in that situation, you know nothing about it! ..."

At the presentation Mr. Stus was asked to comment on the various stories about the role of Viktor Medvedchuk, who was his father's defense attorney, including the charge that he had asked for the maximum sentence. Dmytro Stus said this was not true and that Mr. Medvedchuk had been part of a system that paid him a wage. If people want to judge Mr. Medvedchuk for the fate of Vasyl Stus, then "they should also judge the Union of Writers, the Institute of Literature, many poet-colleagues as well as society itself, which were also part of a system that paid them wages and who were silent but today want to find "those who were to blame."

Mr. Stus' biography of Vasyl Stus will be of interest not only to literary critics and literature students but also to anyone interested in that period of history. The author reconstructs the historical milieu of the poet to understand how it shaped him. As for himself, he wants to solve the biggest riddle of Vasyl Stus - where did he get the strength to rise above it all, even when there was no hope.

"These people came from their electorate, but most of them won't vote for [Viktor] Yanukovich," he said. "They still want some new generation of politicians - those not related to any corruption scandals or Kuchma-style politics. So now these people have an option."

Mr. Klitschko, 34, said he joined the Reforms and Order-Pora bloc because it's the one he felt closest to and it's "formed by honest people who aren't stained by corruption scandals."

"I am sure that these people will be able to realize their strengths and knowledge in a way in which life in Ukraine will get better," he said.

President Yushchenko personally invited Mr. Klitschko to join his Our Ukraine bloc, said Volodymyr Polokhalo, the editor of the website and former magazine Politychna Dumka.

Mr. Klitschko's strong instincts and feelings of future potential led him to reject Our Ukraine, he said.

"I independently made my decision, it's final, well-thought-out, although I did have low-level talks with various forces," Mr. Klitschko said at his press conference. "The spirit of Pora and the Reforms and Order Party is close to me."

What drew Mr. Klitschko to Reforms and Order-Pora was that "they are not involved with oligarchs and they are young," Dr. Taran said. "Most of them were never in Kuchma's government. They claim they will establish new methods and forms of politics."

Following Mr. Klitschko on the bloc's list are Orange Revolution field com-

mander Taras Stetskiy and Pora party leader Vladyslav Kaskiv.

While the Klitschko name is ubiquitous, "I'd have very serious doubts that Klitschko could swing that many votes," Mr. Lozowy said.

Arnold Schwarzenegger proved that a superstar athlete could lead a successful political career. The difference, Mr. Lozowy commented, is that "Schwarzenegger is a smart guy and he hasn't had his head boxed around."

Mr. Klitschko is motivated by defending and promoting his business interests in Ukraine, which include a supermarket chain and gas stations, Mr. Lozowy added.

Despite Mr. Lozowy's doubts, a poll conducted in October revealed that Pora would earn 7.6 percent of the vote if Mr. Klitschko were to head the party's electoral list.

In the same poll, the Party of Regions had 17.9 percent of the vote, while the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc had 9.2 percent and the Our Ukraine Bloc had 9.1 percent.

The poll was conducted by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology, which surveyed 1,224 respondents.

As for the Kyiv mayoral race, Mr. Klitschko would rank in third place with 10.9 percent of the vote, according to a November poll conducted by the SocioVymir Center for Sociological and Political Research in Kyiv.

Incumbent Oleksander Omelchenko would finish in first place with 25.1 percent of the vote, followed by former vice prime minister for humanitarian affairs Mykola Tomenko with 13.7 percent.

Regional leaders...

(Continued from page 5)

institutions. "I believe that our community, representing as it does a possibility for integrating those countries that have chosen a European orientation, should [consider] creating its own parliamentary assembly and synchronizing its markets and human resources," he said.

"That would help our countries to adapt in the event they later join the European Union. If [EU membership]

does not happen [quickly], that would still give those countries whose entry remains a longer-term objective the possibility to develop with dignity," Mr. Voronin added.

In their final declaration, the Democratic Choice Community country members said they would meet again in Bucharest in March 2006. Vilnius and Tbilisi will host two other regional forums later that year.

RFE/RL correspondent Viktor Minyaylo contributed to this report from Kyiv.

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Chicago women's group raises funds to help Gift of Life Program

by Chrystya Wereszczak

CHICAGO – The Alla Horska Branch of the Women's Association for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (WADFFU) in Chicago on September 30 held a fund-raiser called "One Heart to Another" to benefit children in need of heart operations under the Ukrainian Gift of Life Program (formed in 1994 under the Rotary 7250 Gift of Life Program).

The Ukrainian Gift of Life Program has a partnership with the Ukrainian American Freedom Foundation and the Sobornist Foundation in Kyiv.

The benefit event was held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago. During the first hour, over 200 guests had the opportunity to view the silent auction table, purchase raffle tickets for an array of themed baskets, purchase "Willie Wonka" chocolate "prize" bars, and partake of cocktails and a large variety of appetizers. Classical works on piano and flute were performed by Irena Dychiy and Marianna Skavinska.

Chrystya Wereszczak, master of ceremonies, opened the program with a warm welcome to all present. A visual presentation about the Ukrainian Gift of Life Program followed. Dr. Vassyl Lonchyna, a local cardio-thoracic surgeon who has gone to Ukraine on various medical missions, shared his experiences in Ukraine and gave attendees insight into the state of medical facilities and programs in Ukraine.

The evening's entertainment began with the Vinok vocal ensemble of the Mykola Pavlushkov branch of the

Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM). Particularly touching was their first number, "Gift of Life," specially written for this occasion by their director, Wolodymyr Popowycz, and performed in conjunction with a slide presentation of children who have already undergone surgeries under this program. Piano students Anna Maria Bagan and Marianna Krasko performed works by Schumann and Saint-Saëns.

The evening's humor was provided by "Prof. Marmalyga" (Myron Kulas) whose satirical monologue about the Ukrainian community invoked an immense response from the audience. A comedy skit by the theater ensemble "Spalenyi Teatr" entertained à la "Saturday Night Live." The final number, choreographed by Kateryna Kulas, was a presentation by young girls to the song "It's a Hard Knock Life" from the musical "Annie."

The tremendous response by the Chicago community to this event is but one example of how deeply the community is connected to Ukraine. The evening's proceeds in the amount of \$33,287 will save the lives of many children in Ukraine. There are plans to expand this program from Kyiv to include Ternopil, Lutsk, Odesa and Kharkiv.

Throughout its many years of multi-faceted activity, the Alla Horska Branch of WADFFU has dedicated much attention to aid to Ukraine. It has adopted a senior citizen under the program organized by the United Ukrainian American Relief Committee and sent shipments to help orphans.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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| December 23, 2005
Jeremiah Flaherty Law Office
Christmas Party | January 27-29, 2006
Church of Annunciation Family
Weekend, Flushing, N.Y. |
| December 24, 2005
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve
Supper, 6 p.m., \$25 per person,
overnight packages available | January 28, 2006
2006 Ukrainian Engineers' Malanka |
| December 24-27, 2005
Skoczylas Christmas Family Reunion | February 10-12, 2006
Valentine's Day Weekend |
| December 31-January 1, 2006
New Year's Eve Extravaganza Package | February 17-20, 2006
Family Winter Weekend |
| January 1, 2006
New Year's Day Brunch, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.,
\$14 per person | February 25, 2006
Wedding |
| January 6, 2006
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, December 31

PALOS PARK, Ill.: A New Year's Eve celebration at the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church, sponsored by the congregation's Parish Hall Manager Mark Bregin, will be held at church parish hall, 8530 W. 131st St., at 6 p.m.-12:30 a.m. Ticket price includes an open bar, appetizers, dinner and dessert. At midnight, there will be a Cash Balloon Drop. Tickets: \$45, single adults; \$80, couples. Tickets will not be sold at the door. For reservations and additional information call Hanya Kikcio, (708) 361-8876, or e-mail: mkak75@yahoo.com.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of

America (UIA) and the Ukrainian Professionals at the Institute present "New Year's Eve at the Institute," to be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 9 p.m.-3 a.m. Welcome 2006 at this elegant evening, with dancing to the music of Luna, and a silent auction benefiting the Ukrainian Children's Aid and Relief Effort and the UIA. Tickets include a buffet, open bar and midnight champagne toast. Dress is black tie. Capacity is limited, and guests are encouraged to buy their tickets early. Ticket prices: members, \$125; non-members, \$150; students, \$100. After December 7, ticket prices increase \$25. For tickets and information call the UIA, (212) 288-8660.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$20 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

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

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.

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