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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine's internal affairs minister visits D.C. for talks with U.S. officials

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON — Ukraine's Minister of Internal Affairs Yuriy Lutsenko held three days of talks here on February 8-10 with U.S. government officials and other interested parties, discussing bilateral cooperation in combating international crime and related issues, and political developments in Ukraine under the post-Orange Revolution administration of President Viktor Yushchenko.

His schedule included official meetings with Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and senior officials of the departments of State, Treasury, and Homeland Security as well as the National Security Council, and members of Congress.

He also had discussions with non-governmental organizations that have shown an interest in developments in Ukraine, such as the Center for Strategic and International Studies, the Marshall Fund and the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace.

Minister Lutsenko underscored the

importance of the issues on his agenda during a briefing at the Ukrainian Embassy on February 9.

"There is no longer any doubt after the tragic events of September 11 that crime has no boundaries and that cooperation will only be effective if it is global," he said, noting that his visit focused on improving cooperation with his American colleagues in resolving such existing problem areas as combating trafficking of people, drugs, immigration issues and other crimes.

He said he was especially interested in reaching agreement on finalizing a bilateral extradition treaty, which has been sidetracked since 1999. Ukraine's human rights record, which was one of the obstacles to such an agreement, he said, is no longer a stumbling block after the changeover in Ukraine's government in the last presidential election.

Mr. Lutsenko said he received a favorable response on this issue from Undersecretary of State Paula Dobriansky earlier that same day and he expected a simi-

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Yanukovich promises economic growth when Party of the Regions gains power

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Suggesting that the Party of the Regions would once again return Ukraine's economic growth to double-digit levels, Viktor Yanukovich delivered a strategy for economic development of improving the investment climate and drawing closer to Russia.

Addressing hundreds of Party of the Regions members and journalists on February 14, Mr. Yanukovich stressed the economic accomplishments during his tenure as prime minister and criticized his successor Yulia Tymoshenko and President Viktor Yushchenko for driving the economy to near ruin.

"People are starving and freezing as a result of the abysmal economic policies of the government," Mr. Yanukovich declared.

Mr. Yanukovich's speech was part of a vigorous Party of the Regions political campaign heavily concentrated on attacking the Orange political forces as incapable of handling Ukraine's economy.

Among the triggers of Ukraine's "spiral-

ing" 10.3 percent inflation last year were the massive increases in social spending and pensions that the government couldn't afford, Mr. Yanukovich said.

He vowed to deliver a budget surplus, instead of the deficits in the 2005 and 2006 budgets. The government is printing money to please voters, he said.

"When we come to power, we will stick to our principles of financial responsibility and we will throw in the garbage pail of history the incompetent economic policies of the current government," Mr. Yanukovich said. "I came here today to say that the closed circle of inflation will be broken if the Party of the Regions comes to power."

Under his tenure as prime minister in 2004, Ukraine's Gross Domestic Product grew more than 12 percent, Mr. Yanukovich pointed out, far superior to the 2.4 percent growth last year.

Other economic accomplishments, Mr. Yanukovich said, consisted of reducing entrepreneurial profit taxes from 30 percent to 25 percent, reducing personal income taxes from 40 percent to 13 percent and introduced substantial tax benefits for health care and education, which the Yushchenko government canceled.

(Continued on page 3)

The Orange Circle briefing focuses on gas crisis

by Adriana Melnyk

NEW YORK — On the first day of 2006, following an unprecedented gas dispute, Russia cut off natural gas supplies to Ukraine, disrupting their delivery to other European nations dependent on gas from Russia. And so, as the New Year began, Europe saw a new chapter being written in the economically and politically strategic natural gas sector.

Observers and experts who have been following the constantly evolving gas crisis agree that its implications go well beyond the borders of the two countries most directly involved — Ukraine and Russia — what needs to be better understood is the nature of these implications.

On Wednesday, February 1, the New York-based non-governmental organization The Orange Circle held the first in a series of public briefings for media, business and policy-makers, this one titled "The Ukraine-Russia Gas Crisis: Lessons for Business and the International Community." The event took place at the Ukrainian Institute of America, and was attended by members of the investment banking and financial communities, journalists, United Nations officials, diplomats and members of the Ukrainian Institute of America.

Speakers at the briefing were Anders Aslund, Senior Fellow at the Institute for International Economics in Washington, and Marianna Kozintseva, associate direc-



Dr. Anders Aslund speaks at The Orange Circle briefing.

tor at Bear Stearns in New York. The discussion was opened and moderated by Adrian Karatnycky, founder and president of The Orange Circle, following introductory remarks by Adriana Melnyk, The Orange Circle director of research and outreach, and the president of the Ukrainian Institute of America, Jaroslav Kryshchalsky.

The briefing centered on themes relevant to the business and investment communities. The presentations includ-

ed the speakers' perspectives on the implications of the recent gas crisis for Ukraine's economic and political stability, and on the effect the crisis has had on Ukraine's relationship with Russia and with its European neighbors. Underlying the thread of the discussion was the impact of the gas crisis on Ukraine's upcoming parliamentary elections.

Having just returned from a trip to

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Ukraine earns its first medal at Torino Games

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Six days into the competition at the Winter Olympics in Torino (a.k.a. Turin), Italy, Ukraine earned its first medal of the Games: a bronze won on Thursday, February 16, by biathlete Liliya Efremova in the women's 7.5 kilometer sprint.

The next highest finish for Team Ukraine was a sixth place earned by Liliya Ludan in the women's singles of the luge competition on Tuesday, February 14.

Her teammate Natalia Yakushenko, who was ranked seventh in the World Cup standings, crashed during one of her runs and did not finish the competition.

Ms. Yakushenko's crash came on a portion of the track that has daunted lugers, including several of world-class caliber. Six women lugers were not able to finish their races and one did not start after crashing during training.

In the luge men's doubles, the duo of Oleg Zherebetsky and Roman

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ANALYSIS

New Black Sea Fleet crisis arises

by Taras Kuzio

Soon after signing a new gas contract on January 4 that defused a Europe-wide gas crisis, Ukraine and Russia are again embroiled in a low-intensity conflict over the Black Sea Fleet. The issue is not just control over lighthouses, but reflects a far more fundamental campaign since President Viktor Yushchenko's election: Ukraine taking back control over lands and buildings in Crimea that are illegally held by the Black Sea Fleet.

Ukraine and Russia signed an agreement to divide the Black Sea Fleet in 1997 at the same time as a treaty recognizing their land border. Russia obtained 80 percent of the Fleet and Ukraine 20 percent, with its reduced share offsetting some earlier energy debts to Russia.

The issue of the Black Sea Fleet was never fully resolved, as many smaller additional agreements were negotiated in subsequent years. Under the Leonid Kuchma regime, encroachments by the Russian Black Sea Fleet onto land not leased to it became common place.

Soon after Mr. Yushchenko was elected, the new government sought to force the Russian Black Sea Fleet into legal compliance with the 1997 treaty and subsequent agreements. Demands for this new and tougher approach to treaty infringements by the Russian Black Sea Fleet grew exponentially throughout 2005.

During the winter gas crisis, Ukraine threatened to retaliate for the price rise in two ways. First, to increase the rent charged to the Russian Black Sea Fleet for the lease of bays in Sevastopol and other installations. The new rent would be four times higher at \$400 million, up from the low annual rent of \$95 million. Ukrainian polls show that the majority of Ukrainians would back an increase in rent paid by the Russian Black Sea Fleet.

Second, to either increase rent paid by Russia for its use of two early warning radars in Zakarpattia and Crimea or to ask Russia to vacate them. These would then be offered to the United States. During her December visit to Kyiv U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice raised this issue in her meetings with President Yushchenko.

Russia threatened to scrap the 1997 border treaty if Ukraine re-visited the rent paid by the Russian Black Sea Fleet. Russia claimed that Moscow's recognition of the Ukrainian border was tied to a resolution of the division of the Soviet Black Sea Fleet.

Contrary to Russian claims, the 1997 treaty and agreement on the Black Sea Fleet never fully resolved all outstanding issues. Russia refused to demarcate its border with Ukraine and in autumn 2003 launched territorial claims against the small island of Tuzla, off the eastern coast of the Crimea. Russian marines and sailors have also regularly infringed on Ukrainian territory by holding exercises outside of their designated compounds.

Many Russian nationalist politicians, such as Moscow Mayor Yuri Luzhkov, have never reconciled themselves to Ukrainian control over Crimea and the port of Sevastopol. Ukraine, therefore, has sought to take control of the situation surrounding the fleet ahead of the 2008 Russian elections out of fear that a more staunchly nationalist president could replace Vladimir Putin.

The Ukrainian side has persisted in

insisting that it has a right to undertake an inventory of the facilities leased to the Russian Black Sea Fleet. In mid-December 2005 a Ukrainian government plan was released to this effect. Russian fleet commanders have refused access to Ukrainian facilities they rent, one reason being due to their corrupt sell-off and renting of these properties to commercial structures.

The Ukrainian side has sought to place the terms of the lease of Ukrainian land and facilities to the Russian fleet in line with "international standards," in President Yushchenko's words. The Ukrainian side points to the large number of unresolved problems that were ignored during the Kuchma era. These include the fleet's lease of land, its unwillingness to pay for its use of social facilities in Sevastopol (such as schooling for naval personnel's children and health care), and the fleet's non-compliance with environmental legislation. Ukraine is responsible for the safety of shipping in its territorial waters for which the lighthouses are indispensable.

Presidents Yushchenko and Putin met on January 11 to publicly show that the tension surrounding the gas crisis had been ended. However, a high degree of instability in Ukraine-Russia relations remains. Two days later the Ukrainian authorities took control of a Yalta lighthouse from the Russian Black Sea Fleet. Since then the conflict has escalated into a military stand-off.

At issue are the Ukrainian government's demand to transfer 35 coastal installations outside Sevastopol to Ukraine's Ministry of Transport. Under President Kuchma, Ukraine turned a blind eye to Russia controlling these since 1997. The "hydrographic installations" are lighthouses and communications stations along Crimea's coastline. Crimean courts had ruled in 2003 that the fleet should transfer these hydrographic installations to Ukraine; President Kuchma never reinforced the decisions. In July 2005 the Sevastopol economic court again ruled in Ukraine's favor. Russia, however, has refused to acknowledge the jurisdiction of these court decisions.

After Ukraine had taken control of one lighthouse, the Russian Black Sea Fleet illegally sent units of 20 marines with APCs to guard other hydrographic installations and provocatively hung up signs stating "Territory of the Russian Federation." The commander of Russia's Black Sea Fleet, Admiral Aleksandr Tatarinov, held a meeting with the head of Yalta's merchant port but he failed to browbeat him into backing down and acquiescing to Russia's demands to maintain the illegal status quo.

Ukraine's National Security and Defense Council Secretary Anatolii Kinakh has stressed that Ukraine will step up all measures within international and Ukrainian law to protect its national interests and security.

Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk has commented that, "Russia unlawfully retained all these facilities of the navigation and hydrology service" and reiterated that "there are no legal foundations whatsoever for Russia to say that these facilities have anything to do with the Black Sea Fleet."

On February 16 the next round of the Black Sea Fleet commission with Ukraine will begin, and this escalating tension will be the main item on the agenda. It is doubtful that the will to speedily resolve the new crisis exists as it did during the gas crisis in the middle of a harsh winter.

NEWSBRIEFS**Comments on Black Sea Fleet talks**

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko has said that Ukraine should have a clear strategy for defending its national interests in talks with Moscow on terms for Russia's Black Sea Fleet, Interfax reported on February 14. "All lease terms should be guided by the appropriate international agreements and take account of international experience and today's trends on the real estate market," he said. Hryhorii Lutsai, a representative of the Sevastopol administration, suggested on February 14 that the annual rent for the naval base in Crimea should be raised to \$200 million from \$97 million, as set by a 1997 agreement. However, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Grigory Karasin said on that same day, after meeting with his Ukrainian counterpart, Volodymyr Ohryzko, that Ukraine should stop "speculation" on the issue and comply with the 1997 agreement. "There will be no speculation, there will be pragmatic relations," Mr. Ohryzko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Talks begin on fleet's stationing

KYIV – The Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry will insist on withdrawal of judicial establishments, the prosecutor's office and military patrols of the Russian Black Sea Fleet (RBSF) from the territory of Ukraine, First Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Ohryzko told a government session on February 15. He said the stationing of these establishments in Ukraine violates the Constitution of Ukraine. Mr. Ohryzko expressed his hope that the matter will be settled in several months at meetings of the subcommission of the Yushchenko-Putin Commission. He added that Ukraine intends to complete an inventory of the RBSF assets and facilities in Crimea in two months' time. A session of the Ukrainian-Russian subcommission on the Russian Black Sea Fleet temporary stationed in Ukraine was held in Kyiv on February 14. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko wants clarity in gas sector

KYIV – President Yushchenko said on February 14 that Ukraine will not allow non-transparent activities in its gas sector,

Interfax reported, citing the presidential press service. Mr. Yushchenko also said that he shares the concern expressed by the NGOs, political and business groups, and international organizations, including the European Union, over the lack of information on the Swiss-based company RosUkrEnergo, which holds a monopoly on gas supplies to Ukraine through Russia. The government, if necessary, will look for alternative approaches to the gas sector and cooperation with Russia, Mr. Yushchenko added. He also ordered the government to gather complete information on RosUkrEnergo and to make it public in order to ensure transparency in Ukraine's gas supplies. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Investors sought for gas pipelines

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov said on February 11 that the government will propose to the European Union and other foreign investors that they take part in the construction of new gas pipelines in Ukraine, Interfax reported. Mr. Yekhanurov also said that the pipelines will subsequently be privatized. Ukraine is currently building a 240-kilometer section of the Bohorodchany-Uzhhorod pipeline, which is part of Novopskov (Russia)-Uzhhorod pipeline. The expected annual capacity of this pipeline, which will cost around \$560 million, is 19 billion cubic meters. The tender to select the main contractor for the project is set for March 31. (RFE/RL Newsline)

President calls for energy efficiency

KYIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko promised on February 11 to set up a national energy-saving agency and outlined a program to improve energy efficiency in Ukraine, Interfax reported. The proposed program includes cutting energy consumption by half, diversifying energy supplies and using local energy resources. Mr. Yushchenko said that "it's time to introduce new energy technologies and replace outdated equipment. The government will support entrepreneurs' intentions to invest in energy efficiency by cutting

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Yanukovich promises...

(Continued from page 1)

Personal incomes rose an average of \$209 from 2003 to 2004, and only \$152 from 2004 to 2005, Mr. Yanukovich said.

"When the Party of the Regions was in power, the budget wasn't only balanced and realistic, but even experienced surpluses," he said.

While Mr. Yanukovich repeated several times that the Party of the Regions has a superior economic plan, he spent most of his speech attacking the policies of the current government and those of Ms. Tymoshenko, which he frequently derided as populist and primitive.

Rather than basing her economic policies on short-term or long-term plans, Ms. Tymoshenko's populist policies "tore apart Ukraine's economic base," he said.

She was responsible for destroying technology parks, canceling tax benefits for investment, accelerated amortization for business, and levying taxes on oil and natural gas imports, he continued.

Threats of reprivatization and cancellation of Ukraine's economic zones hurt Ukraine's investment climate, Mr. Yanukovich said.

Ms. Tymoshenko's attempt to control prices for such commodities as heating oil, meat and sugar resulted in sharp price increases, he said.

Under Mr. Yushchenko's leadership, Ukraine's trade surplus of \$4.5 billion in 2004 became a trade deficit of \$1.3 billion in 2005, he said.

The 2006 budget consists of mindless figures based on the old natural gas prices and an unrealistic expectation of 8.5 percent GDP growth, he said.

He went on to ridicule President Yushchenko's promise of creating 1 million jobs every year for the next five years.

"The current government doesn't understand the fundamental principles of economic policy," Mr. Yanukovich said.

Perhaps the most eye-opening part of his speech occurred when Mr. Yanukovich accused the Yushchenko administration of intentionally fomenting the natural gas crisis with Russia in order to create a foreign enemy that Ukrainians could rally against.

"They created instability with the goal of creating a foreign threat, confessing to Bismarck's principle 'To unify Germany, it's worth calling for war with France,'" Mr. Yanukovich said. "The results of such a policy have been catastrophic."

As for his own suggestions to improve the Ukrainian economy, Mr. Yanukovich offered many broad assurances of stabil-

ty, fiscal discipline and transparency, but very few specifics of how to ensure such conditions.

Among them are ensuring transparent privatizations, deregulating the economy, creating clearer and more precise rules on stocks, defending intellectual property rights in Ukraine, creating new accounting and auditing rules, introducing legal reforms to create a truly independent



Zenon Zawada

Viktor Yanukovich addresses party faithful on February 14.

court system, ensuring democracy, human rights and freedom of speech, and "fighting against corruption."

The Party of the Regions supports a free market and opposes the manipulation of prices, its leader said. Once it gains power, the Party of the Regions will immediately balance the budget and cut money spent on bureaucrats, "presidential palaces, residences and family ethnographic parks."

The Party of the Regions will also renew special relations with Russia and push for Ukraine's membership in the Single Economic Space. Playing a game similar to the one engaged in by former President Leonid Kuchma, Mr. Yanukovich also said the party supports integration with Europe.

In his speech, Mr. Yanukovich also accused the Yushchenko administration of firing "ten of thousands" of government employees and replacing them with "relatives, friends and the godfathers of those who came to power."

The Yushchenko government also systematically persecuted businessmen who supported him in the past elections, Mr. Yanukovich alleged.

Election Notebook

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

• KYIV – More than 36 million Ukrainians are on the nation's election lists and eligible to vote, which is 849,000 less than the 2004 lists, Central Election Commission Chair Yaroslav Davydovych told the Verkhovna Rada on February 9. The list is shorter partly because the CEC managed to exclude more deceased people and so-called "doubles," those casting their votes several times in different electoral precincts, Mr. Davydovych said.

Party of the Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich accused Our Ukraine city leaders of exploiting administrative resources and pressuring citizens. At a February 10 press event in Dnipropetrovsk, Mr. Yanukovich said these officials were pressuring the chairs and members of election commissions, threatening to fire them. Certain Cabinet ministers and government administrators have begun pressuring directors of schools and medical centers with certain election-related tasks, he said.

The Party of the Regions is using the resources of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate as part of its political campaign, alleged Yurii Artemenko, the Our Ukraine Bloc's election campaign chair in the Zaporizhia oblast. "To conduct political campaigning in a church is unacceptable and unethical," Mr. Artemenko said on February 13. "So how can [Viktor Yanukovich] talk about using administrative resources, when he himself shows no disdain from using church administrative resources?"

• KYIV – More than 387,000 voters are registered to vote in foreign electoral precincts for the March 26 parliamentary elections, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Valentyn Nalyvaichenko told a February 13 press conference at the ministry. The Ukrainian government will make voting available at 114 precincts situated in 78 countries, including those where Ukrainian peacekeepers are based, namely Serbia and Montenegro, Lebanon and Liberia. Pre-registration is no longer a requirement at the various embassies and consulates, so voter participation is expected to be very high, he said.

• KYIV – Anticipation is growing for the announcement of a possible Orange coalition uniting for the parliamentary elections, as prompted by February 14

comments from Our Ukraine legal director Roman Zvarych. The Our Ukraine Bloc, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party, the Pora-Reforms and Order Bloc and the Kostenko-Plusch Bloc will sign an agreement by the weekend, he said. The signing has been delayed for weeks due to the poor health of certain leaders in the potential coalition, he said. "I can guarantee that the deal will be signed and the Orange coalition will be at least 90 percent restored in a matter of weeks," Mr. Zvarych said on February 10. Responding to reporters' questions, he said the Our Ukraine Bloc never has and never will enter talks to form a coalition with the Party of the Regions or the Lytvyn People's Bloc.

• KYIV – While there's plenty talk of a coalition, Pora-Reforms and Order Party Bloc leader Markian Lubkivskiy said he doubts an Orange coalition reunification will take place. At a February 15 press conference at the party's Podil headquarters, Mr. Lubkivskiy said the Pora-Reforms and Order Bloc has been doing all it can to form the coalition. If the efforts fail, the Pora-Reforms and Order Bloc will reveal who specifically is blocking its creation, he said. When asked by reporters who is standing in the way, Pora leader Yevhen Zolotariov hinted of "Pora black list members" and "Kuchmists" who have joined the Orange blocs. Mr. Lubkivskiy is skeptical that a coalition will result. "As an exceptionally practical and pragmatic person, I don't have any illusions," he said. It is well-known that as one of its prerequisites to forming a coalition, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc requires that Ms. Tymoshenko be nominated for the prime minister's post, a scenario currently opposed by the Our Ukraine bloc.

• KYIV – After the March 26 parliamentary elections, it is highly likely that at least one Ukrainian national of American descent will become a national deputy in the Verkhovna Rada. Roman Zvarych is listed as 25th on the Our Ukraine Bloc's electoral list. Mr. Zvarych had previously served in the Verkhovna Rada between 1998 and 2005. After the Orange Revolution, he served as Ukraine's justice minister until September 2005, when President Viktor Yushchenko sacked his Cabinet of Ministers.

POLITICAL BLOC PROFILE: The Party of the Regions

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

During the 2006 parliamentary election campaign, *The Ukrainian Weekly* will profile the leading political blocs. This week's installment features the Party of the Regions bloc.

KYIV – The Party of the Regions has learned a thing or two from the 2004 presidential elections.

Gone is blue and white. For the 2006 parliamentary campaign, its colors are the bright blue and yellow fields of the Ukrainian flag.

Rather than playing the politics of dividing and exploiting Ukraine's east-west divide, party leader Viktor Yanukovich has adopted the visionary rhetoric of uniting Ukraine.

"No region will receive special benefits and no region will become the single example for punishment," Mr. Yanukovich said during a February 14 speech outlining his party's economic development plan for Ukraine. "Businessmen in Kyiv and Lviv will have the same possibilities as businessmen who live in the south or the east. This is my solid, public promise."

After the embarrassing mishandling of the 2004 elec-

tions that brought Ukraine to the brink of an east-west split, the Party of the Regions has undergone a makeover that allowed it to emerge as the single most popular political bloc heading into the March 26 elections.

Party leaders

The Party of the Regions is trying to become respectable and broaden its appeal beyond the Donetsk Oblast, said Oles Donii, chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research, which is supported by Ukrainian citizens and is seeking international financing.

The party's top five electoral candidates are evidence of that strategy.

Yevhen Kushnariov is the former Kharkiv Oblast Administration chair who merged his New Democracy Party into the Party of the Regions and, in turn, received the 11th slot on the Regions electoral list. The Party of the Regions doesn't form blocs with other parties, but requires that they merge.

Mr. Kushnariov's decision to join will help secure many Kharkiv Oblast votes for the party.

Additionally, Ukrainian-speaking Lviv native Taras Chornovil is ranked fourth on the party list and is



"Prosperity to the people! Power to the regions!" reads a poster of the Party of the Regions.

among the party's most visible and recognized faces. It's unlikely that his presence will attract votes, however, as most western Ukrainians view him as a traitor to the legacy of his father, Vyacheslav Chornovil.

Mr. Yanukovich is once again leading the Party of the Regions, however, his access to the media is much

(Continued on page 4)

On its 15th anniversary, U.S.-Ukraine Foundation hosts open house briefing on Ukraine

by **Marta Matselioukh**
U.S.-Ukraine Foundation

WASHINGTON – To begin commemorating its 15 years of commitment to Ukraine's democracy, the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation hosted an open house with more than 70 participants and a panel discussion on January 19. Panelists Markian Bilynskyj, vice-president and director of field operations in Ukraine, and Marta Kolomayets, director of the Community Partnerships Project in Ukraine, reflected on their 15-year odyssey in this European country.

Nadia K. McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, underscored that "Whatever succeeds the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has had, it is because of the great staff, and the many supporters and friends of the foundation that we depend on."

The foundation also had a second reason to celebrate: its recent move to a new location on 17th and K streets. Only a few blocks from its old office, the USUF is now located among many Washington think-tanks and non-governmental organizations.

Exactly one week later, on January 26, the U.S.-Ukraine foundation's new office was once again bustling with activity. The foundation, along with Frishberg &

Partners (Ukraine corporate law specialists), and BISNIS (U.S. Commercial Service), co-sponsored a briefing on Ukraine.

The briefing, titled "Ukraine's Current Legal and Investment Climate," included an array of speakers. Desi Jordanoff, BISNIS, gave an introduction, and Mrs. McConnell moderated the event. The main speakers were Alex Frishberg and Alex Schay of Frishberg & Partners.

These two events are among many to be hosted in a yearlong series of events planned by the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation as it celebrates its 15th anniversary this year. Over the years, the foundation's most prominent programs have been the Community Partnerships Project (funded by the U.S. Agency for Development), the Ukraine Policy Dialogue Project (funded by the U.S. Department of State) and the Youth Leadership Program.

Using city-to-city partnerships between U.S. and Ukrainian communities, the Community Partnerships Project helps transform local government in Ukraine and supports grassroots and constituent-driven reform.

The Policy Dialogue Project facilitates democratic reform in Ukraine via meetings between government officials, mem-



U.S.-Ukraine Foundation President Nadia McConnell (left), accompanied by Marta Kolomayets (center), U.S.-Ukraine Foundation Community Partnerships Kyiv Project director, and Markian Bilynskyj, director of U.S.-Ukraine Foundation field operations in Ukraine, at U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's open house held on January 19.

bers of the Verkhovna Rada and Congress, and representatives of non-governmental organizations, the media and the business community.

The Youth Leadership Program focuses on the young leaders of tomorrow with

an intensive weeklong training program. The program has been conducted in Washington and in Ukraine.

For more information about U.S.-Ukraine Foundation's work, readers may log on to www.usukraine.org.

The Party of...

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more restricted in this campaign.

He has avoided any debates on television so far, a point increasingly being raised by Ukrainian media.

At the February 14 rally promoting the party's economic development strategy, Mr. Yanukovich read his speech, posed for photos and didn't take questions.

The Party of the Regions stunned many Ukrainians when announcing that it was giving Nina Karpachova the sec-

ond slot on its electoral list.

As the Verkhovna Rada's ombudsman for human rights, Ms. Karpachova earned a respected reputation for speaking out against abuses and defending the rights of victims, something she has been doing for more than a decade.

The inclusion of Ms. Karpachova was another move by the Party of the Regions to improve its legitimacy and credibility in the eyes of the electorate after many leaders had allegedly engaged in election fraud, political experts said.

Novokramatorskyi Automobile Factory President Heorhii Skudar and Motor Sich Airplane Engine Factory Board Chair Viacheslav Bohuslayev are pro-Russian business tycoons who have the party's No. 3 and No. 5 slots, respectively.

Political strategy

The Party of the Regions hasn't made any particular gains in the electorate, Mr. Donii said. Instead, it has demonstrated that it has a vast and formidable electoral base that supports the party in order to maintain economic and cultural ties with Russia.

Orange politicians weren't aware of the Party of the Regions' ability to represent the genuine interests of eastern Ukrainians, Mr. Donii said. "There was a myth that all Regions voters weren't aware and were being duped by television and billboards," Mr. Donii said. "But, for example, Kharkiv is an intellectual city that will vote for Yanukovich. It doesn't mean Kharkiv has less information, or that they've been fooled."

The Party of the Regions is trying to remain moderate in its politics, and Mr. Yanukovich has stressed the need to balance politics between the United States, the European Union and Russia.

Nevertheless, the Party of the Regions clearly has retained a pro-Russian bent and opposes Ukrainian membership into the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the European Union. Instead, the party advocates membership in the Single Economic Space, an economic alliance with Belarus, Russia and Kazakhstan.

Economically, the Party of the Regions can best be described as oligarchic, said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based

Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is exclusively financed by Ukrainian business donations.

Eastern Ukrainian oligarchs, or business tycoons, have an enormous presence on the party's electoral list with the expectation that the Party of the Regions will defend their business interests.

Therefore, the party can't be ascribed as having a free-market or socialist approach because it doesn't adopt economic policy along theoretical lines, experts said.

Campaign strategy

The Party of the Regions 2006 campaign has primarily based its strategy on one issue: the economy.

It's an area where President Viktor Yushchenko is particularly vulnerable, as Ukrainians have just lived through a year of 10.3 percent inflation and a natural gas crisis that may produce a ripple effect driving prices even higher.

"Strategy for Ukraine's Economic Development" was the theme of the Party of Regions' biggest press event held so far this year.

The government's economic performance is also the theme of the party's television ads that appear several times a day on the major stations. The Party of the Regions slogans have been "A Better Life Right Now!" and "Prosperity to the People, Power to the Regions!"

Party of the Regions television ads constantly stress the need to make Russian the second state language of Ukraine, even though that's not likely to occur because of a lack of political will in the Parliament. The party is merely exploiting the language issue to garner votes, political experts said.

About 24 percent of Ukrainians support the Party of the Regions, according to the National Institute for Strategic Research, a government research agency that performs work for the president and his Secretariat.

Most polls, however, show the Party of the Regions winning at least 30 percent of the vote. About 31 percent of the electorate will select the Party of the Regions, according to the Western-financed Democratic Initiatives Foundation.

Ukrainian Credit Union Calendar features photos of Orange Revolution

CHICAGO – A historic 2006 calendar titled "The Rebirth of Ukraine" has been released by the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association (UNCUA) in cooperation with the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions of Canada.

Measuring 21 1/2 inches high x 13 inches wide, the Ukrainian Credit Union Calendar features photographs taken at the height of the Orange Revolution, as well as historic photographs that depict key events in Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko's first year in office.

Text in the calendar is bilingual (Ukrainian and English). Dates of important events in Ukraine's history are listed and holidays are designated according to both the Gregorian and Julian calendars.

The 2006 Ukrainian Credit Union Calendar is dedicated to the late Dmytro Hryhorczuk, who passed away in October 2005. Active in the Ukrainian credit union movement for three decades, Mr. Hryhorczuk was president of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association from its inception as well as a long-time leader of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives.

Production of the calendar was the responsibility of the 2006 UNCUA Calendar Committee consisting of Myron Babiuk, Oleh Pawluk and Lubomyr Zielyk. Lesia A. Telega and Christine Wagenblaus coordinated the calendar design.

The 2006 calendars are being distributed free of charge to Ukrainian credit union members in all of North America under the auspices of the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association in the United States and the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions of Canada.

Headquartered in Chicago, the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association consists of 17 separate credit unions with over 100,000 members and more than \$2 billion in assets. The UNCUA chairman is Bohdan Watral and executive director is Orysia Burdiak.

With a headquarters office in Toronto, the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions of Canada comprises 12 credit unions in five provinces with over 71,000 members and over \$1 billion in assets. The president of the Council of Ukrainian Credit Unions of Canada is Olha Zaverucha-Swyntuch and administrator is Adriana Buyniak.



Front and back pages of the credit union calendar.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

NFCA designation cites UNA for highest membership standard

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian National Association has been designated a “Member in Good Standing” by the National Fraternal Congress of America (NFCA), the trade association of American fraternal benefit societies. This level of achievement for 2006 recognizes the UNA for the highest standards of performance – both in fraternal programming and financial operation – over a one-year period.

The Chicago-based NFCA, which celebrates its 120th anniversary in 2006, successfully links its 76 member-societies – fraternal benefit societies that are not-for-profit membership organizations offering life insurance, accident and health insurance and annuities – to encourage education, training and service to communities at the national and grassroots levels. The association represents approximately 10 million people in more than 36,000 chapters, making it one of the nation’s largest volunteer networks.

“The NFCA’s Member in Good Standing designation reflects the Ukrainian National Association’s commitment to maintaining a strong, viable fraternal benefit society for our members,” said Christine E. Kozak, UNA national secretary. “The UNA’s good standing within the NFCA demonstrates a standard of system-wide excellence for 112 years of continuous service to our members, families and their communities.

“The leaders of the NFCA’s 76 member-societies believe that the NFCA must enforce strict standards to promote exceptional performance,” said NFCA Chair of the Board Michael J. Wade. “The fraternal movement in the United States has a long and proud place in American history, stretching back nearly 150 years. As such, the NFCA has a responsibility to its member-societies to review and strengthen current membership standards to ensure outstanding fraternal benefit society performance. The NFCA’s standards show that each member-society is financially sound and meets or exceeds criteria upon which tax-

exempt and regulatory privileges are granted under federal and state laws. On behalf of the NFCA Board of Directors, we are honored to bestow the highest ranking on the Ukrainian National Association.”

The NFCA Membership Standards Program was established in 1993 to assess the integrity and uniqueness of NFCA member-societies and prospective members. Fraternal benefit societies are required to provide the NFCA with information regarding financial performance, organizational structure and fraternal outreach activities. This information is evaluated by the NFCA staff, with particular attention on a society’s common bond, an active chapter system, a representative form of government, sound financial management, and substantial, tangible fraternal and charitable activities. If the society being evaluated meets the minimum standards established within the program, an NFCA staff recommendation is submitted to the NFCA Board of Directors, which ultimately determines individual member compliance with program requirements. Societies achieving Member in Good Standing status in 2006 are evaluated on 2004 information, the most recent year for which complete information is available.

Fraternal benefit societies provide leadership, social, educational, spiritual, patriotic, volunteer, financial and social opportunities to members united by a common bond such as religion, ethnic heritage, trade, gender or other interests. In providing these services, fraternal benefit societies’ unique status as not-for-profit organizations allows millions of people to protect their families financially while making a significant difference in their communities.

Combined, the NFCA’s member-societies maintain more than \$315 billion of life insurance in force. In 2004 alone, these societies contributed almost \$390 million to charitable and fraternal programs and volunteered approximately 91.5 million hours.

CONVENTION PRIMER: The UNA, founded to benefit our community

As the Ukrainian National Association, its officers and members prepare for the organization’s 36th Regular Convention, which will convene on Friday, May 26, at the Soyuzivka estate in Kerhonkson, N.Y., The Ukrainian Weekly will publish a new series titled “Convention Primer” that will explain the UNA’s goals, structure and operations. Our first installment takes a look at the UNA Charter.

The Ukrainian National Association is a fraternal benefit society founded in 1894 to provide for the well-being of “Ukrainians and their descendants.” The UNA does this by providing life insurance and annuities to members and by using the profits earned from sales of these products to support fraternal activities that benefit members, as well as the entire Ukrainian community.

As noted in its Charter (Articles of Incorporation), “The purpose for which this corporation is formed are to promote unity and social relations, to diffuse principles of benevolence and charity among Ukrainians and their descendants residing within the United States and its possessions, within Canada and elsewhere, to secure their moral and mental development, to educate and instruct them in the principles of free government, American institutions and laws, and for those purposes to open, organize and maintain schools, libraries and other educational facilities, to arrange and provide for their entertainment and amusement, to publish and circulate among them literary and

educational publications and newspapers in the Ukrainian, English and other languages, and to provide and maintain an old-age home for its members under such conditions and in such manner as may be provided by the Rules and By-Laws of the Association, and allowed by law, and to provide recreational, sport, cultural and vacation facilities for its members, their families and children.”

Sounds like a tall order, doesn’t it? However, throughout its 112-year history the Ukrainian National Association has done all of the above. It has met the needs of the Ukrainian community in keeping with the exigencies of the times.

In the early years of its existence, for example, the UNA was known for organizing reading rooms where its members, humble immigrants from Ukrainian lands, could gather to read, to learn and to discuss pressing issues of the day, as well as their lives and needs in the new country of their settlement. Through its newspaper, Svoboda, the UNA taught these new Americans what it meant to be an American.

Today, the UNA provides the community with two weekly newspapers: the Ukrainian-language Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, published in English. It also owns and operates the Soyuzivka estate in the Catskill region of New York state and offers scholarships to student members. Plus, it offers a host of other fraternal benefits that serve today’s Ukrainian Americans and Ukrainian Canadians.

– Roma Hadzewycz

Hartford, CT, UNA Branch 277, St. John’s Society

will hold its annual meeting on
Saturday, February 25, 2006,
at 2:00 p.m.
in the lower hall at the
Ukrainian National Home
961 Wethersfield Avenue
Hartford, CT

We invite members to participate in the annual meeting.

For confirmation, call Myron Kuzio (860) 633-1172.

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Branch 175 meets, elects officers



DETROIT – Ukrainian National Association Branch 175 of Detroit held its branch meeting on January 15. Attendees of the meeting are featured in the photo above. Seated (from left) are Alexander Serafyn, Ph.D., president; Alexandra Lawrin, secretary/treasurer; and Roman Lazarczuk, secretary of the meeting.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Visit our archive on the Internet at: <http://www.ukrweekly.com/>

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The UNA's 112th anniversary

On February 22 the Ukrainian National Association will celebrate the 112th anniversary of its founding and 112 years of service.

The UNA's history is a proud and illustrious one. It was the UNA that provided leadership in the formative years of the Ukrainian American community, at a time when immigrants from Ukrainian lands found themselves in a strange new world where no one cared for their welfare. "Batko Soyuz" was the moniker earned by the UNA in recognition of its paternal role in the life of the Ukrainian community. Through the decades the UNA has played a key role in every facet of our community's life: education, culture, history, political affairs, sports, the arts. Its subsidiaries – first Svoboda, then The Ukrainian Weekly and later Soyuzivka – also have been vital to our community's well-being. These subsidiaries, we should point out, also happen to be the most noteworthy of the diverse fraternal benefits sponsored by the UNA.

We approached the UNA's three full-time Executive Committee members for their thoughts on the occasion of the UNA's 112th birthday. Their answers revealed a focus on the future of the UNA and a firm belief that it will continue to play a pivotal role in our lives.

UNA President Stefan Kaczaraj pointed to the "historic moment" that will take place later this year when the UNA convenes its 36th Convention. "I'm extremely pleased that for the first time in its 112-year-old history the UNA's convention will take place on our piece of Ukraine's Karpaty in the Catskill region of New York state, at our estate, Soyuzivka." [Readers will recall that the breathtaking views at and around Soyuzivka are reminiscent of western Ukraine's Carpathian Mountains.] "This year a portion of the costs of our convention will go toward supporting our own estate instead of profiting various other businesses," added Mr. Kaczaraj, while expressing his appreciation for the importance our community attaches to Soyuzivka.

UNA National Secretary Christine E. Kozak expressed her conviction that the 112-year-old UNA, which has a proud track record of service to our community, "needs to be here for the next generation." However, for that to be possible, she added, "We need the support of the Ukrainian community, by way of purchasing major insurance policies." Simply put: in order to continue working for our community, the UNA needs our community's patronage. "It is the community component of our work that makes the UNA so much more than an insurance company," she explained.

UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich looked ahead from the perspective of the present. "The UNA today is meeting new challenges, and in the next five years we will see very large changes for the UNA – positive ones – as we enter a growth mode that will ensure the organization's future," she stated. "The impetus for growth will be provided by membership," she continued. "We have a good product to sell, and we need to sell it with the concept that membership in the UNA is a means by which to preserve your Ukrainian heritage."

Thus, all three executive officers expressed the truism that the community needs the UNA and the UNA needs the community. It is a time-tested relationship that has benefited all Ukrainians – a relationship that should be celebrated, and strengthened, as the Ukrainian National Association turns 112.

Feb.
22
2004

Turning the pages back...

Two years ago, as the Ukrainian National Association celebrated its milestone 110th anniversary, the UNA Executive Committee released a statement that was published on the front page of The Ukrainian Weekly. Following are excerpts.

... The founding ideals of the Ukrainian National Association – to help the ailing; to pay benefits after members' deaths so their families could be assured of a brighter future; to promote enlightenment among our people through the means of publications; to educate our youth and people with regard to their heritage; to preserve the culture, language and traditions of our native land; and to be a representative voice in the American political arena in order to help our countrymen both here and in Ukraine – have proved to be the guiding principles that remain relevant for our community today.

110 years – a milestone! And, as such, a time for reflection. ... For all of us on the Executive Committee, it is a time to analyze, contemplate and strategize for the future. We must ask ourselves where are we today and where are we going to take the organization in the next decade.

The UNA has always been here for Ukrainians. Can it continue to survive for the next 100 years? Will the UNA be able to face and overcome the continued growing fiscal and social challenges that confront our society, the changes in family structure, the diverse faces of the post-1990 wave of immigrants, the increased assimilation of our community, the shrinking spirit of activism and volunteerism, and an ever more transitory and dispersed population? How do we market ourselves to a community that has, for the most part, lost sight of the original purpose of the UNA and is unfamiliar with the structure or purpose of the organization?

... How many realize that it is the UNA's unique structure as a fraternal benefit society that allows us to take the profits collected by our insurance sales and put them right back into the community where needed, supporting cultural, educational and social programs within our diaspora community and in Ukraine? Will a Prudential or any other insurance company be willing to do this for our community?

As a not-for-profit organization, members' dues are what supports the publications Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly, our beloved resort Soyuzivka, and a multitude of other social and community services. Certainly this value-added benefit makes the significance of the UNA and its role in the community as valid today as it was 110 years ago. ...

Source: "Happy birthday, UNA! In celebration of our 110th year," greetings from the UNA Executive Committee, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, February 22, 2004, Vol. , No. 8.

COMMENTARY: The politics of public language use in Ukraine

by Stephen Velychenko

On January 29, Dmytro Pavlychko again warned Ukrainians about the threat of Russian becoming the official second language in Ukraine. At a time when the educated in every country in the world, including China and Russia, are learning English as a second language, because English is the de facto world language, Ukraine's neo-Soviet Russophile politicians threaten to isolate the country from the rest of the world with their Russian language legislation and throw Ukraine back culturally 100 years.

Continued use of Russian for business and in the public sphere would send the message that "capitalism speaks Russian"; it would reinforce Russophile orientations and the notion that Ukrainian is suitable only for domestic use. Russian as a second language would mean educated Ukrainians who want contact with the world would have to learn a third language.

Although the language issue is overshadowed in the domestic media by well-merited concern over poverty and corruption, and foreign neo-liberal commentators ignore cultural issues because they think them irrelevant, the economics and politics of public language-use in Ukraine should not be overlooked as language use is related to political orientations.

Fifteen years after independence, public life, business and the media are still Russian-speaking outside Ukraine's three western-most provinces. At the beginning of this century, in a country where 20 percent of the population were Russian-speaking Russians, 33 percent were Russian-speaking Ukrainians and 47 percent were Ukrainian-speaking Ukrainians; 10 percent of Ukraine's annual published book titles, 12 percent of its magazines, 18 percent of its TV programs and 35 percent of its newspapers were in Ukrainian (O. Kuts, "Movna Polityka v Derzhavotvorchykh Protseakh" [Kharkiv, 2004] 119).

The government does not enforce its language legislation. All government employees must speak Ukrainian on the job, but most don't and continued to be paid nonetheless. Whether or not foreign corporations use Ukrainian inside their stores is ignored. McDonald's does use Ukrainian on its menus. Baskin Robbins does not.

As of 2004, teachers still used Russian in "Ukrainian-language" schools, some of which also had separate Russian-language classes. Much more than the legally permissible 50 percent of TV programming is in Russian.

The neo-Soviet Russophile-dominated Parliament, for its part, has refused to follow the lead of the Russian government and abolish taxation on domestic publications, thus keeping Russian-language products in Ukraine cheaper than Ukrainian- or English-language products.

The fact that Ukrainian speakers buy fewer books and audio-visual products than Russian speakers because they are poorer also plays a role here. Perhaps Ukraine's moguls could produce and sell Ukrainian-language audio-visual products and books for less than Russian-lan-

Stephen Velychenko is resident fellow, Center for European, Russian and Eurasian Studies, and research fellow, Chair of Ukrainian Studies, University of Toronto. The commentary above originally appeared in The Action Ukraine Report, No. 653 (Article 25), Washington, February 3; Morgan Williams, publisher, morganw@patriot.net. It is reprinted here with the permission of the author and the publisher.

guage products and finance a Ukrainian-language mass culture. But they do not seem to have tried.

It is thought that as much as 80 percent of Ukraine's media is owned either by Russians or Russophile Ukrainian citizens. Sixteen years after independence, however, no one really knows who owns Ukraine's media. In 2006 the Ukrainian Helsinki Union, funded by George Soros's Renaissance Foundation, was able to reveal partial information about 10 stations.

Foreign companies, of which three are Russian, own all or part of at least nine, individuals unknown own all or part of three, and one is partly owned by a Russophile Ukrainian oligarch (maidan.org.ua/static/news/1138094819.html, "Khto Volodiye Efirom – Toi Volodye Ukrainoyu?").

Mass-circulation Russian-language dailies like Bulvar, Kievskie Viedomosti and Fakty i Kommentarii are not merely sympathetic to neo-Soviet Russophile politicians. They regularly belittle, ridicule and mock things Ukrainian, and highlight Russian rather than Ukrainian pop-stars, movies and television programs.

Ukrainian-language anti-Russian opinion is limited to low-run fringe publications. Russian popular newspapers and Russian domination of the public sphere, however, do not promote political loyalty to Russia. What it does do is promote Russophile/SES (Single Economic Space) orientations, thereby reinforcing the old imperial Russian tie and impeding the creation of new ties with the rest of world – which speaks English.

Logically, there is no necessary correlation between language use and loyalties. Scots, Irish, Indians, Americans, Australians and Canadians have all expressed their nationalisms in English. Corsicans and Bretons have used French, and Latin Americans have used Spanish. Viktor Yanukovich and Ukraine's Communist Party leaders even speak Ukrainian when they must, and use it as a medium for neo-imperial/neo-Soviet ideas.

On the other hand, no one can ignore the fact that few of Ukraine's Russian speakers support political reincorporation into Russia and that almost none have emigrated to Russia since 1991. Russian-speaking Ukrainians can be as pro-EU as Ukrainian-speakers, Russian-speaking Ukrainians can be Ukrainian patriots, and Russian-speaking eastern Ukrainian political leaders sooner see themselves as representing a territorial region than a Russian-speaking population.

Russian-speaking Kyiv voted overwhelmingly for Viktor Yushchenko in 2004 and Russian speakers were as critical of Vladimir Putin's gas price-rise policy as were Ukrainian speakers. Historically, however, Russian was not a medium for Ukrainian national ideas and today Russian is rarely used to publicly promote Ukrainian national ideas or integration with the European Union.

Consequently, to the degree that the correlation between Russian language-use and pro-Russian political/cultural orientations, though not political loyalties, remains high, Russian as Ukraine's second language would reinforce Russophile/SES orientations.

Russian language use in business and the public sphere will return Ukrainian to its pre-1991 status a second-rate medium suitable only for folk-culture and marketplace bartering.

Russian language use, in short, impedes Ukraine's integration with the EU and the rest of the world. Teaching Russian as a second language in Ukraine's schools will isolate it from the rest of the world. Teaching English would not.

FOR THE RECORD

UWC World Scholarly Council protest against Russian as second state language

Following is the text of a protest titled "No to Russian as a Second State Language in Ukraine!" that was released by the World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress on February 9.

The Ukrainian scientific community outside Ukraine feels obligated to raise its voice in a strong protest against the renewed efforts by certain political forces in Ukraine to declare Russian as a second state language.

If such legislation were to be adopted, the Ukrainian language would soon be replaced by Russian altogether, for the need to learn and to use Ukrainian would simply disappear. Schools would be justified in using Russian as a language of instruction while offering Ukrainian on a voluntary basis similar to a foreign language. This was done in Soviet times as an effective means of Russification.

Politicians who have their own agenda refuse to acknowledge the fact that language is more than simply a means of communication, particularly in financial matters. Today, in many countries English is used as lingua franca, but none of them made English a state or official language. The idea of nationhood and, by extension, of statehood is intimately tied to language as a particular way of expressing ideas using a unique sound system. If the Ukrainian language were to be replaced by Russian, the Ukrainian sovereign state would simply become a Russian province.

We appeal to you, Mr. Viktor Yushchenko, as the president of Ukraine,

as well as to members of the Verkhovna Rada and to all Ukrainian citizens, regardless of their ethnic origin, to reject this demeaning proposal and to protect and support the Ukrainian language.

Prof. Lubomyr Wynar, president, World Scholarly Council, UWC; president, Ukrainian Historical Association; head, History Section, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, U.S.A.

Prof. Assya Humesky, vice-president, World Scholarly Council, UWC; vice-president, Ukrainian American Association of University Professors; head, Philological Section, Shevchenko Scientific Society, U.S.A.; head, Language and Literature Section, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, U.S.A.

Prof. Rev. Oleh Kravchenko, vice-president, World Scholarly Council, UWC; ex-president, Ukrainian Free Academy of Sciences, Canada

Prof. Arkadii Zhukovskiy, vice-president, World Scholarly Council, UWC; president, Shevchenko Scientific Society, France

Prof. Stefan Kozak, president, Shevchenko Scientific Society, Poland

Prof. Dmytro Shtohryn, chairperson, Ukrainian Scientific Research Program, University of Illinois

Prof. Osyp Matryniuk, secretary, World Scholarly Council, UWC

ACTION ITEM

Ukraine's graduation from Jackson-Vanik provisions

Below is the list of the 40 co-sponsors of H.R. 1053 "To authorize the extension of non-discriminatory treatment (normal trade relations treatment) to the products of Ukraine" as of February 10. If your congressman is not on the list, the Jackson-Vanik Graduation Coalition, co-chaired by Ambassadors Steven Pifer and William Miller, asks readers to please contact him or her today.

Sponsor:

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Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Remembering and celebrating Joe Lesawyer

When a man like Joe Lesawyer dies at age 94, you mourn. Briefly. Then you move on to celebrate an extraordinary life of perseverance and great achievement.

If you're under the age of 35, you've probably never heard of Joe Lesawyer. Your loss. In his prime, the man was a walking, talking tribute to what Tom Brokaw called "The Greatest Generation," those Americans who suffered through the Great Depression, served honorably in the second world war and went on to carve out successful careers.

Born the son of Ukrainian immigrants, Joe earned his B.S. degree at New York University, where he played varsity baseball for three years.

During World War II, Joe served in Gen. George Patton's 3rd Army, attaining the rank of captain. He eventually earned the Bronze Star for meritorious service during the Battle of the Bulge in Bastogne, Belgium.

His military service behind him, Joe went to work for the Adam Hat Co., scouting out potential locations for retail stores, then purchasing the sites for his company. He left Adam Hat to become a successful real estate agent. It was Joe who found the Foord Estate that the UNA purchased and eventually transformed into what is now Soyuzivka. At the time Joe was serving his first term as UNA supreme vice-president.

Joe Lesawyer became active in Ukrainian affairs as a young man. He was in Chicago in 1933 when the Ukrainian Youth League of North America (UYLNA) was founded. Later, he served on the UYLNA executive.

Elected supreme vice-president of Ukrainian National Association in 1950, Joe was ousted from his post by Michael Piznak in 1954. Joe returned the favor in 1958, recapturing the post of supreme vice-president by a hair. It was one of the most raucous campaigns in UNA history. Joe ascended to the UNA presidency following the untimely death of Supreme President Dmytro Halychyn in 1961.

Joe Lesawyer was the last of the hands-on, community-oriented UNA presidents, a man willing to get out from behind his desk and hobnob with the folks. There was hardly a major event that did not include Joe. During his tenure, UNA membership rose to 89,117, an impressive figure considering the fact that by 1958 Ukrainian immigration was down to a trickle.

As a young supreme advisor stumbling up the UNA hierarchy, I recall Joe making membership his No. 1 priority. "How many members did you sign up?" he would ask everytime we met. I wasn't the only one he would cajole. Every Supreme Assembly member was expected to bring new applications to the annual sessions as well as to the quadrennial conventions. Joe wasn't embarrassed to ask every Ukrainian he met if he was a UNA member and he expected us to do the same.

Concerned always with the UNA image, Joe worked with the City of Jersey City to build one of the first "skyscrapers" along the city's revitalized riverfront. The 15-story UNA headquarters building on Montgomery Street was a monument to Joe's vision. Sadly, the building, now located in a prime real

estate area, is no longer ours. At the time, the UNA also had its own print shop and a bookstore, both long gone.

While the UNA was his first love, Joe was also active in other organizations, holding significant leadership positions in the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the Ukrainian American Veterans, the Ukrainian American Democrats and the Shevchenko Memorial Committee, where he served as executive director. What mattered to Joe was UNA visibility.

Joe was a political animal. "If we want a voice in American national affairs," he often said, "we must be active in American political life." A lifelong Democrat, he met every American president from Franklin D. Roosevelt to Bill Clinton. Every four years he would crank up the Ukrainian American Democrats and do battle with Ukrainian American Republicans. Always civil, Joe understood that once the campaign was over, we were all Ukrainian Americans who needed to work cooperatively to achieve common goals. That mindset also appears to be a thing of the past.

I have fond memories of Joe Lesawyer, especially when I worked in the White House as a special assistant to President Gerald R. Ford. I could always count on Joe to come to Washington to represent the Ukrainian American community. How ironic. Here was Joe, vice-president of the UCCA, a staunch Democrat in a Republican White House, while the president of the UCCA, a long-time Republican, refused to set foot in the White House because he felt slighted by the Ford administration. For Joe, the Ukrainian cause was more important than petty partisan politics.

I also have pleasant memories of Mary, Joe's wife, who was the charming starostynia at my Soyuzivka wedding to Lesia Waskiw in 1964. Born to a Ukrainian family in Shamokin, Pa., Mary was a lyric soprano with the New York City Opera for nearly two decades. She also appeared in numerous Ukrainian musical productions in the United States, Canada, Europe and South America. Mary preceded Joe in death in 2004.

Joe Lesawyer never quite recovered from his loss of the presidency to John Flis at the 1978 UNA convention in Pittsburgh. He refused to accept an honorary position on the UNA General Assembly because it would prevent his running for office again. His repeated efforts to regain the presidency never materialized, however.

On June 8, 1997, Joe Lesawyer, age 86, received the recognition he so richly deserved at a testimonial banquet sponsored by the UNA, the UCCA and Ukrainian Institute of America. Among the many VIPs present were Bishop Basil Losten, Ambassador Roman Popadiuk, and Michael Starr, former Canadian minister of labor.

As scratchy as Joe could often be, he was a man who cared deeply about the UNA, the hromada and Ukraine. He believed in rewarding his friends and punished those he perceived to be his enemies. You always knew where you stood with Joe. What you saw was what you got. Vichna Yomu Pamiat!

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

Detroit Regional Council of UNWLA celebrates three anniversaries

by Elizabeth Kuczer

WARREN, Mich. – Rarely do three important anniversaries fall within the same year as occurred recently in 2005 for the Detroit Regional Council of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA). On Sunday, November 6, 2005, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center here, a jubilee luncheon was held to commemorate the 80th anniversary of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the 70th anniversary of the UNWLA's Detroit Regional Council and the 60th anniversary of the UNWLA magazine *Our Life*.

Each of these events, though auspicious in its own right, tied in nicely with the others to provide for a wonderful opportunity to bring UNWLA members and the community together.

A special Jubilee Committee spearheaded by Maria Zarycky-Cherviovsky worked to properly recognize these special milestones, simply referred to as "80/70/60." This committee comprised 20 members representing the 11 active UNWLA branches in the Detroit area.

The day of the Jubilee saw many from the local Detroit Ukrainian community joining UNWLA members at the newly renovated Ukrainian Cultural Center which was further enhanced by beautifully decorated tables prepared by Annette Stadnyk and Helen Palmer. Exhibited, too, were vintage photos gathered by Anna Macielinski reflecting UNWLA Detroit history, and a display of *Our Life* issues organized by Stefania Korol and Daria Koniuch that highlighted memorable events.

Adding to the decorative touches throughout the hall were works by renowned Ukrainian artists from Detroit, Canada and Ukraine: Halyna Cisaruk, Jarema Kozak, Volodymyr Nemyra, Chrystyna Nykorak, Jurij Savchenko, Konstantyn Savchenko, Oleksandr Tkachenko and Eugenia Worobkewich. At the conclusion of the program, eight works of art became prizes in a raffle.

To further emphasize the threefold purpose of this event, the Jubilee Committee felt that a special emblem should be designed; artist Jarema Kozak created an original insignia interweaving the traditional UNWLA logo with the 80/70/60 theme. The insignia was available for purchase as a commemorative button.

Mistress of ceremonies Natalia Hewko officially began the program by introducing Jubilee Committee Chair Maria Zarycky-Cherviovsky, who provided the opening remarks, followed by greetings from UNWLA Detroit Regional Council President Lydia Kazewych and the singing of the UNWLA anthem.

The keynote address delivered by UNWLA National President Iryna Kurowyckyj not only thanked the organizers of this special day, but inspired guests with insightful information about the rich historical background of the Ukrainian women's movement and its impact in the U.S. and throughout the world. Briefly summarized, the UNWLA's mission remains to serve as a



UNWLA members gathered in Detroit to mark three anniversaries: the 80th anniversary of the UNWLA, the 70th anniversary of the UNWLA's Detroit Regional Council and the 60th anniversary of the UNWLA magazine *Our Life*.

provider of humanitarian aid, preserver of Ukrainian culture and a resource for educational scholarships.

The invocation delivered by the Very Rev. Daniel Schaikoski, pastor of Immaculate Conception Parish in Hamtramck, Mich., was followed by a delicious luncheon during which guests enjoyed piano music performed by Olga Dubriwnyj-Solovey.

Next on the agenda was the introduction of guest speaker and Ukrainian radio personality Anna Dydyk-Petrenko from Voice of America. Mrs. Dydyk-Petrenko, through her wide-ranging experience as a broadcaster, effectively and inspirationally wove together the importance of the roles of Ukrainian radio and women's organizations, and their effect on the betterment of life in Ukraine and the diaspora.

Former editor of *Our Life* Olia Liskiwskyj outlined the early days of the publication and its consistent importance as a communicative tool and link between not only UNWLA members but also all Ukrainian women throughout the world. *Our Life*, a monthly publication, continues as a beacon for the UNWLA, but much-needed monetary support is an ongoing issue.

The program continued as Mrs. Kazewych outlined the events of the early 1900s and the formation of four UNWLA branches in Detroit between 1929 and 1932. In 1935 these branches began to coordinate their activities, which led to the establishment of the first UNWLA Regional Council. Throughout its 70-year history the Detroit Regional Council carried out the resolutions passed by UNWLA conventions via its committees, the most active of which were the Social Welfare, Education, Cultural, Scholarships and Public Relations.

The Education and Cultural Committees organized "svitlychky" (preschools), and sponsored countless cultural exhibits, seminars and literary presentations in order to disseminate Ukrainian culture and traditions to future generations of Ukrainian Americans.

From the early 1930's the Public Relations Committees informed the American public and government officials about tragic events and political issues of concern to Ukrainian Americans, such as the Great Famine-Genocide, Polish and Communist repression, and the present-day problems of human trafficking.

The Social Welfare and Scholarship Committees collected hundreds of thousands of dollars for scholarships and the needy in local communities, in Ukraine and throughout the world.

In 1957 the Detroit Regional Council initiated two projects that were successfully realized in the 1980s: the purchase of a "domivka" (headquarters) by the Detroit Regional Council and the construction of the Ukrainian Village in Warren. The latter evolved from a UNWLA initiative into a Ukrainian community project and finally into federal HUD housing for senior citizens.

Mrs. Kazewych further stated that Detroit Regional Council's accomplishments during the 70 years of its existence are due to the hard work of hundreds of UNWLA members, known as "Soyuzianky."

President Kurowyckyj proceeded to acknowledge the contributions of the latest group of honorees, awarding 50-year pins and citations to Maria Diakiw, Genya Fitzsimmons, Olga Halushka, Ksenia Kuczer, Lesia Latyszewska, Olga Meyer and Olga Solovey.

She also bestowed citations on Branches 50, 53, 76 and 96 for their work with *svitlychky* and to Branches 26, 45, 50, 53, 63, 76 and 96 for sponsoring scholarships.

The following Soyuzianky from Branches 26, 45, 53, 63, 81, 96 and 115 were awarded citations for dedicated work spanning many years: Myroslava Capp, Maria Derkacz, Vera Hnatiuk, Wasylyna Hordynsky, Lidia Jachnycky, Nadia Juzych, Catherine Kizyma, Switlana Korduba, Stefania Korol, Elizabeth Kuczer, Olia Liskiwskyi,

Kateryna Melnyk, Maria Mykolenko, Lida Pakula, Helen Palmer, Irene Shumylo, Annette Stadnyk, Irena Tamavsky and Daria Zawadiwskyi.

Five Soyuzianky received citations for preserving Ukrainian heritage: Myroslawa Baranyk (Branch 76), Olha Hrynkiw (Branch 63), Joanna Kulchesky (Branch 58), Olena Papiz (Branch 81) and Olga Solovey (Branch 58).

Marcelene Chomiak (Branch 58) was awarded honorary membership in the Detroit Regional Council. Three past presidents of the Detroit Regional Council – Roma Dyhdalo (Branch 76), Natalia Hewko (Branch 45) and Olena Liskiwska (Branch 81) – were awarded the honorary presidency of the Detroit Regional Council.

As during all joyous Ukrainian occasions, music and song played an important role. The first portion of the entertainment was a wonderful medley of songs performed by soloist and bandurist Ostap Stachiw. Between songs, Mr. Stachiw told the audience about several of his personal experiences during the days of the Orange Revolution in Kyiv.

The second segment of the entertainment was provided by Detroit's own Soloveyky Quartet, which includes several UNWLA Branch 115 members and Olga Dubriwnyj-Solovey (Branch 58) as musical director. Resplendent in richly embroidered Ukrainian traditional costumes generously donated by Anna Hnatiuk from her private collection, the Soloveyky performed a selection of songs from their newly launched CD. The harmonious voices of the Quartet belong to Lisa Calice, Lily Litynskyj, Natalka Maruszczak and Kristie Olszewski.

Lastly, a raffle organized by Christina Panasiuk resulted in eight lucky guests taking with them special keepsakes from the jubilee – Ukrainian paintings and embroidery. The benediction by the Rev. Philip Sandrick, pastor of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Church in Warren, concluded a most eventful and inspirational day.



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As last-minute appeals fail, Karnaoukh family is deported back to Ukraine

by Camilla Huk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

RUTHERFORD, N.J. – It was a very cold weekend in New Jersey. We had a blizzard Saturday – but it was even colder in Kyiv, when the Karnaoukh family formerly of Little Falls, N.J., arrived there at 4 a.m. on Saturday, February 11.

Despite the very best last-minute emergency appeals before the Federal Immigration Appeals Board in Virginia, their motion to remain in the United States was denied for the entire family. All four – Vassili (the father), Maria (the mother) and their two sons, Igor and Sviatoslav – were flown to Ukraine. The situation is particularly tragic for Sviatoslav, who turned 22 on February 13 – he was only three months from graduation from Stevens Institute in New Jersey, with a degree in mechanical engineering. For him a bright future with a medical device manufacturer, for whom he was already working, was destroyed.

There were reports all day between Bob Braun of the Star-Ledger, who spent the entire day at the Detention Center, and Ollie Hawkins from Prosecutor Ted Romankiw's office. I was calling the Karnaoukhs' attorney, Vladislav Sirota, who was out of the office most of the day.

Mr. Braun was hoping, as we all were, that the boys would not be responsible for their parents' legal woes. He reported that Sviatoslav, known as Sviat, was sure that he and his 20-year-old brother would be allowed to remain in the U.S., and, even as he was being processed for deportation, when his state and U.S. ID cards were taken from him, he fought futilely to keep at least his Stevens Institute ID card. For this effort, he was handcuffed. He kept assuring his grandmother in phone calls that they would probably let him off the bus on the way to the airport.

Later, as we would learn from Sviat's e-mail from Kyiv, on the way to the airport, their weeping mother asked the driver of the van to please turn down the loud music. In response, he laughed, and turned up the volume.

Though they were promised that they would have an opportunity to see their grandmother, perhaps for the last time, as she is in poor health, it was a mute promise. The Karnaoukhs were kept in the van, with the motor running, locked in with all the windows shut, before they boarded the plane. Nauseated, they asked for fresh air – to no avail, Sviat reported.

Frantic about their safety, the grandmother, Olga Khoma, finally had a chance to say at least a short good-bye to her daughter, when Maria was able to call her mother from the plane on someone's borrowed cellphone. And it was not until they arrived in Kyiv, and after being questioned individually for an hour regarding Vassili's political asylum application in the U.S., that they were able to call their grandmother and talk, Sviat reported.

The family arrived in a city that is very different from the one they left 15 years ago. It is very, very cold. They are from western Ukraine; they are lost and they are crying, they told Mrs. Khoma.

There was no housing ready to accept them, save for the expensive tourist hotels. They had only enough money to pay for a week's stay, possibly in a youth hostel. Thanks to the efforts of a local family, they were invited to stay in a private apartment. From the U.S. we called and appealed to Michael Heretz of St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Society, who found housing at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy when the Karnaoukhs move out of their temporary quarters with a pri-

vate family. We have to wait to hear from the family. Here, the grandmother frets and worries. The Karnaoukhs are not reachable.

We spend Saturday afternoon at my home, going over the past and the future, over and over again. I get calls from fellow Ukrainian Americans; most offer solace and support, and ask questions.

Some have asked me why I think returning to Ukraine is such a tragedy. "After all, Ukraine is now a democratic nation," they argue.

"Ukraine has a long way to go yet," I tell them, "and these people have been away far too long. The children did not study in Ukrainian institutions, their language skills are not those of natives. They are Americans. They can't 'catch up.'"

Furthermore, I tell them, the Karnaoukhs had no choice in the matter of their lives, their destinies. If someone wishes to return to Ukraine, bless you – I offer you my support. But everyone should have a choice. Since you speak Ukrainian so well and think it's a great opportunity, perhaps it's one you'll consider for yourself, I suggest to those who continue to argue.

The greatest tragedy is for us as Americans, because this deportation was based on bureaucratic malfeasance, poorly prepared legal submissions and a merciless INS. The Karnaoukh family can do well anywhere, because they are bright and hard-working people, who have never asked for assistance. It is our loss – for they had much to contribute here, just as they had over the 15 years of their stay.

It is also a lesson and eye-opener for our community, which is so shocked by the methods used to take this family to the deportation center in Elizabeth on our Christmas Eve (January 6), when 10 security guards burst into their home that morning. Family members were searched, handcuffed and led away – like criminals. Their crime: wishing to be Americans, to contribute to this country, just as we and our forefathers have. They were immigrants from Ukraine whose immigration paperwork had gone awry.

It is time our community recognized that we need to know who is taken away this way. We need to stand firm in protecting them and their rights as human beings.

I have heard from more detainees in these facilities. They are told that they will be candidates for organ donation. They are intimidated. Polish women deportees from other facilities claim that they were raped just before being taken onto planes. Who would stand up for them? Who would believe them once they returned to the land of their birth?

The Polish Consulate General visits each Polish citizen so detained. No one in the Elizabeth facility was visited by anyone from Ukraine's Consulate.

We Ukrainian Americans need to visit the detainees. We need to establish ways to help them legally. To this end, Branch 18 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America in Passaic-Bergen is working on a free seminar on immigration: what to do and what not to do. With the support of local activists of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America we will hold the seminar in the Ukrainian Center in Passaic. As soon as details are finalized, we will make sure to announce them so everyone can plan to attend.

It is also encouraging that God blessed us with the likes of Brian Donohuem and Mr. Braun of the Star-Ledger and State Sen. Ray Lesniak, who helped us establish contacts. And there are those within our own commu-

nity, like Bohdan Domaradsky, who first brought this matter to my attention; and the proactive outreach by people like attorney Bohdan Vitvitsky, Union County Prosecutor Romankiw and his assistant, Ollie Hawkins, who all worked to support the efforts of the family's last attorney, Mr. Sirota.

In addition, there are people who got the story out and got support from Seton Hall University for future efforts. The support of St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Passaic, led by its Pastor Ihor Roik, and Father Joseph Szupa of Elizabeth's St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church, who helped with the prayer vigil held at the detention center on Sunday, February 5, was something our community can be proud of. Even people who didn't know the family came to pray, to support them, to join the efforts of the students of Stevens Institute, classmates of Sviat, and Sviat's boss, Frank Occidentale,

in demanding their release.

Iryna Kurowyckyj, national president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, reached out to her contacts to find support. Others, like Lidia Kramarchuk, continue to work to help the family abroad.

In the meantime, if readers have any information they wish to share or need help with, please contact Camilla Huk: 138 Vreeland Ave., Rutherford, NJ 07070; telephone, 201-933-2580.

Remember Sviat's appeal: "We hope that this story will help to reshape the American immigration system and enable it to see a human being in everyone, no matter what passport we hold. ... Please don't forget about us because we really need your help."

Let's pray that we don't.

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<p>CLEVELAND, OH Saturday 7 P.M., March 4 Hall of Ukrainian Pokrova Church, 6812 Broadview Rd., Parma, OH 44134 216-240-4997</p>	<p>CHICAGO, IL Saturday 7 P.M., March 11 Hall of the St. Nicolas Ukrainian Catholic School 2200 West Rice St., Chicago 60622 773-774-5997 ("Ukrainian Wave" Radio)</p>
<p>DETROIT, MI Sunday 4 P.M., March 12 Hall of Ukrainian Cultural Center 26601 Ryan Rd., Warren, MI 586-757-1306</p>	<p>WASHINGTON D.C. Saturday 7 P.M., March 18 Hall of the Ukrainian Catholic Shrine of the Holy Family 4200 Harewood Rd., Washington D.C., 20017 410-952-8374</p>
<p>PHILADELPHIA, PA Sunday 2:30 P.M., March 19 Hall of the Ukrainian Cultural Center 700 Cedar Road, Jenkintown, PA 215-663-1166</p>	<p>NEW YORK, NY Friday 7 P.M., March 24 Hall of Ukrainian National Home 140 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003 216-240-4997</p>
<p>TORONTO, CANADA Sunday 6 P.M., March 26 Ukrainian Cultural Center 8385 Christi St. Toronto, Ontario, Canada 416-236-9357</p>	

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Ukraine's internal affairs minister...

(Continued from page 1)

lar reaction from Attorney General Gonzales.

One person in whose extradition Ukraine is particularly interested, according to Mr. Lutsenko, is the former head of the Sumy Oblast, Volodymyr Shcherban, who is now living in Florida.

Another major problem area for Ukraine is illegal immigration, he said. Ukraine has become the home for tens of thousands of foreign refugees who enter its territory through the porous eastern borders of the former Soviet Union. Their intention is to ultimately cross over into the European community, he explained, but they are stopped by that community's strict border regime, leaving the immigrant problem and the related rise in criminal activity in Ukraine.

"This is a real problem, and I would like for the international community – not only Europe, but the United States as well – to help us in resolving this global problem," Mr. Lutsenko said.

He said he also informed his Washington interlocutors about the progress made by his Internal Affairs Ministry and the Yushchenko administration in fighting government corruption and other criminal activity over the past year.

He said that the cleansing by his ministry resulted in some 2,500 employees being terminated and 600 more being brought up on corruption and other criminal charges. They also launched 3,700 bribery corruption investigations in other government departments, focusing on higher-level officials and not just the lower echelons, as was the practice in the past. They have also filed charges against an additional 1,200 officials – 100 of them from the new administration – for the theft of more than

\$4 billion.

These cases are now in the hands of the prosecutor's office, but only 200 of these cases have been brought to trial, he said, noting that "the public is dissatisfied with the slowness of this process."

But that is the way democracy works, he explained, pointing out that it has taken quite a while for the Enron cases to be brought to court in the United States.

Mr. Lutsenko reported also that his department documented some 5,500 voting irregularities in the last presidential election and has cleaned up the voter rolls, which included purging 1.3 million "voters" from the lists in the Donbas region alone.

Another important aspect of his discussion in Washington was explaining the political situation in Ukraine as it prepares for the all-important elections to the Verkhovna Rada next month, he said.

"We very clearly felt the support of the American people and that of other Western democracies during the revolutionary events on the maidan [Kyiv's Independence Square]," he said. "And today we feel that there is some apprehension about the possible results of the coming parliamentary elections."

He said he expects that after the elections Ukraine will have a strong opposition, which will be based on no less than 30 percent of the vote going to the coalition of Viktor Yanukovich, who lost to Mr. Yushchenko in the presidential election.

"This is good for any democracy," he said, and should not be feared. In his unsuccessful presidential bid a year ago, he added, Mr. Yanukovich's base of support was around 45 percent.

The deciding factor in the formation of the post-election government, Mr. Lutsenko said, will be the 100 or so deputies allied with Yulia Tymoshenko, President Yushchenko's Orange Revolution partner who was removed last year from her position as prime minister. Mr. Lutsenko said he expects her to join with her former maidan allies (Mr. Yushchenko and Socialist party leader Oleksander Moroz) and that together their more than 250-deputy bloc will form the next government of Ukraine.

To this end they were helped by Moscow's New Year "gas attack" against Ukraine. "It was a very good lesson for us all," Mr. Lutsenko said. "Our voters are demanding that we unite, put the country's interests first and



Yaro Bihun

Minister of Internal Affairs Yurii Lutsenko speaks about his talks in Washington during a briefing at the Embassy of Ukraine.

continue the work we began on the maidan."

It resulted in weaning Ukraine off the cheap gas "we received in exchange for our independence," he added. "And this is good."

Minister Lutsenko said that regardless of the pros and cons of the gas deal that is reached, "Strategically, Ukraine retained its independence; it demonstrated the independence of its economic and national interests."

On Capitol Hill, Mr. Lutsenko had discussions with Rep. Curt Weldon (R-Pa.), co-chairman of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, and Sen. Richard G. Lugar (R-Ind.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee.

While visiting the Center for Strategic and International Studies, he met with, among others, three former U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine: William Miller, Steven Pifer and Carlos Pascual.

Addendum

In the story "Winter mountaineering camp heads to Rockies in Alberta" (January 29) by Deanna Yurchuk, it should have been noted that the camp, known as ZMT (for "Zymoyvi Mandrivnyi Tabir") is organized by the Lisovi Chorty fraternity of the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.



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	Tour Name	Tour Dates	# Days	Itinerary	Price
S C O P E T R A V E L I N C Est. 1967	Mini Ukraine I	May 18 - May 26	9	L'viv, Kyiv	\$1975
	Ukraine & Russia I <i>Escort: Dr. Walter Karpinich</i>	May 20 - May 30	11	Kyiv, Moscow, St. Petersburg <i>plus: Pushkin/Petrodvorets. Special Features: "White nights" in St. Petersburg</i>	\$2990
	Best of Ukraine I	May 25 - Jun 09	16	Kyiv, Odessa (Bilhorod Dnistrovsky), Yalta, L'viv <i>plus: Bakchysaray, Sevastopol and Chersonesus, Karpaty-Slavsk</i>	\$3390
	Dnipro Cruise <i>"MS Dnipro Princess"</i>	May 30 - Jun 11	13	Kyiv, Kaniv, Kremenchuk, Zaporizhia, Kherson, Sevastopol, Odessa (rate includes: air + cruise)	\$2475
	Western Ukraine + Poland I	Jun 23 - Jul 07	15	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, L'viv, Krakow <i>plus: Rohatyn, Ivano Frankivsk, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Zarnavtycia</i>	\$3350
	Best of Ukraine II	Jun 29 - Jul 14	16	Kyiv, Odessa (Bilhorod Dnistrovsky), Yalta, L'viv <i>plus: Bakchysaray, Sevastopol and Chersonesus, Karpaty-Slavsk.</i>	\$3590
	Mini Ukraine II	Jul 06 - Jul 14	9	L'viv, Kyiv	\$2290
	Ukraine & Russia II	Jul 08 - Jul 18	11	Kyiv, Moscow, St. Petersburg <i>plus: Pushkin/Petrodvorets</i>	\$3190
	Ukraine, Poland + Hungary I	Jul 12 - Jul 23	12	Kyiv, L'viv, Krakow, Budapest <i>plus: Wieliczka Salt Mines and Szentandre Village</i>	\$2690
	Western Ukraine + Poland II	Jul 21 - Aug 04	15	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, L'viv, Krakow <i>plus: Rohatyn, Ivano Frankivsk, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Zarnavtycia</i>	\$3350
	"TAK" – Student Tour <i>Escort: Dr. Adriana Helbig Chaperon: Oresta Fedyniak Age: 18-35</i>	Aug 02 - Aug 21	20	Kyiv, Odessa, Yalta, L'viv, Yaremche, Budapest <i>plus: Kaniv, Bakchysaray, Chersonesus, Sevastopol, Rohatyn, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Ivano Frankivsk</i>	\$3790
	Eastern Ukraine	Aug 15 - Aug 29	15	Kharkiv, Poltava, Chernihiv, Kyiv (Independence Day), L'viv <i>plus: Sorochynskiy Yarmarok</i>	\$3290
	Western Ukraine + Poland III	Aug 18 - Sep 01	15	Kyiv, L'viv (Independence Day), Yaremche, Krakow <i>plus: Rohatyn, Ivano Frankivsk, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Zarnavtycia</i>	\$3090
	Mini Ukraine III	Aug 17 - Aug 25	9	L'viv, Kyiv (Independence Day)	\$2150
	Hutsul Festival Tour	Aug 22 - Sep 01	11	Kyiv (Independence Day), Kolomyja (Festival), L'viv	\$2490
	Best of Ukraine III	Sep 07 - Sep 22	16	Kyiv, Odessa (Bilhorod Dnistrovsky), Yalta, L'viv <i>plus: Bakchysaray, Sevastopol and Chersonesus, Karpaty-Slavsk.</i>	\$3290
	Dnipro Cruise <i>"MS Gen. Vatutin"</i>	Sep 09 - Sep 24	16	Kyiv, Kaniv, Kremenchuk, Zaporizhia, Odessa, Sevastopol, Kherson, Dnipropetrovsk, Kyiv (rate includes: air + cruise)	\$2650
	Ukraine, Poland + Hungary II	Sep 13 - Sep 24	12	Kyiv, L'viv, Krakow, Budapest <i>plus: Wieliczka Salt Mines and Szentandre Village</i>	\$2490
	Western Ukraine + Poland IV	Sep 22 - Oct 06	15	Kyiv, L'viv, Yaremche, L'viv, Krakow <i>plus: Rohatyn, Ivano Frankivsk, Vorokhta, Kolomyja, Zarnavtycia</i>	\$2890
	Mini Ukraine IV	Sep 28 - Oct 06	9	L'viv, Kyiv	\$1875
Ukraine & Russia III	Sep 30 - Oct 10	11	Kyiv, Moscow, St. Petersburg <i>plus: Pushkin/Petrodvorets</i>	\$2790	

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2006 WINTER OLYMPICS – TORINO, ITALY

Ukraine's Olympic Team

Ablaev, Enver
 Abramenko, Oleksandr
 Batyuk, Alexander
 Beloglazova, Julia/Bekh, Andrei
 Bilanenko, Olexander
 Bilosyuk, Ivan
 Boschuk, Volodymyr
 Derkach, Vyacheslav
 Deryzemlya, Andriy
 Didenko, Nadiya
 Diyachuk, Sergei
 Efremenko, Galina
 Efremova, Lilia
 Golovina, Julia/Voiko, Oleg
 Grushina, Elena/Goncharov, Ruslan
 Grygorenko, Kateryna
 Grygoriev, Volodymyr
 Gumenyak, Mikhail
 Hayduk, Yuriy/Kis, Andriy
 Ishutko, Igor
 Ivanyshyn, Oleksandr
 Jakimchuk, Vita
 Khvostenko, Oksana
 Korobeynikov, Alexei
 Kovalevski, Anton

freestyle skiing, men's aerials
 freestyle skiing, men's aerials
 cross-country skiing
 pairs figure skating
 biathlon
 cross-country skiing
 ski jumping
 biathlon
 biathlon
 freestyle skiing, women's aerials
 Nordic combined
 ladies' figure skating
 biathlon
 ice dancing
 ice dancing
 cross-country skiing
 short-track speed skating
 cross-country skiing
 doubles' luge
 freestyle skiing, men's aerials
 bobsled
 cross-country skiing
 biathlon
 biathlon
 men's figure skating

Kozachenko, Tatiana
 Kozlov, Mykola
 Kravchuk, Stanislav
 Lemesh, Nina
 Leybyuk, Roman
 Ludan, Liliya
 Lysenko, Ruslan
 Malets Lisogor, Marina
 Martsyv, Vitaly
 Olschanski, Vladimir
 Petrova, Olena
 Putsko, Olexandr
 Semerenko, Valj
 Shevchenko, Valentina
 Siparenko, Yulia
 Skriabin, Nikolay
 Trachuk, Volodymyr
 Volkova, Olga
 Volosozhar, Tatiana/Morozov, Stanislav
 Yakushenko, Natalia
 Yazvinsky, Roman/Zherebetsky, Oleg
 Zavalij, Tatjana

freestyle skiing, women's aerials
 Nordic combined
 freestyle skiing, men's aerials
 biathlon
 cross-country skiing
 luge
 biathlon
 cross-country skiing
 cross-country skiing
 cross-country skiing
 biathlon
 cross-country skiing
 biathlon
 cross-country skiing
 slalom
 Alpine skiing
 Nordic combined
 freestyle skiing, women's aerials
 pairs figure skating
 luge
 doubles' luge
 cross-country skiing

Names are listed in alphabetical order and in accordance with spellings given on the official Torino 2006 website.



Getty Images

Andriy Kis and Yuriy Hayduk compete in the men's doubles of luge.

Ukraine earns...

(Continued from page 1)

Yazvinsky suffered a serious crash that eliminated them from the competition. Fellow Ukrainian lugers Andriy Kis and Yuriy Hayduk placed 12th in the men's doubles.

The pairs figure skating competition on Monday, February 13, saw Tatiana Volosozhar and Stanislav Morozov place 12th. The duo of Julia Beloglazova and Andrei Bekh came in 19th.

Other events in which Ukraine's athletes placed in the top 20 were: biathlon – men's 20-kilometer individual, where Ruslan Lysenko placed 18th; and cross-country skiing – ladies' 15-kilometer pursuit, where Valentina Shevchenko was in 14th place. (A complete list of Team Ukraine's results appears on the right.)

Ukraine's presence in Torino began with the raising of the Ukrainian national flag on February 9. The Ukrainian team, consisting of 53 athletes, is participating in 10 sports in the 20th Winter Olympics.

Vice Prime Minister Viacheslav Kyrylenko told Ukrainian news media that Ukraine hopes for medals at least in four or five sports. He noted that he had flown to Torino in order to visit the athletes at the Olympic villages where they are staying. "I rubbed shoulders with our athletes. They are all in a good mood and are all seeking success," Mr. Kyrylenko commented.

During the Torino Games' opening ceremonies on Friday, February 10, Ms. Yakushenko, 33, a native of Kyiv who is

competing in her third Winter Olympics, carried the Ukrainian flag.

Ukraine's biggest European celebrity, soccer star Andrii Shevchenko of AC Milan, had the honor of carrying the Olympic torch through a tight corridor of sports fans who shouted, "She-va!" Just before the Milan's main square, Duomo, he passed the torch to Italian gymnast and Athens gold medalist Igor Cassini.

Vice Prime Minister Kyrylenko and Minister of Family, Youth and Sports Yuriy Pavlenko represented the Ukrainian government at the opening ceremonies, as well as the raising of the Ukrainian flag. Serhii Bubka, chair of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine, also attended.

Ukraine's government delegation to Torino was sharply reduced to about a dozen officials this year after the Summer Olympics in Athens resulted in scandal. More than 200 representatives attended those Olympics, far outnumbering those on the Ukrainian Olympic team.

Mr. Kyrylenko noted that "Italy has a huge amount of experience organizing such competitions, winter sports in particular." He added, "Ukraine lacks this kind of experience. So we're also here to learn from the gains made in Europe and the world. I think that our managers, representatives of the Ministry of Youth and Sports, directors of the National Olympic Committee and sports federations deeply hope in their hearts that this experience and these observations will be applied to organization of competition in Ukraine on a large scale."

Results for Team Ukraine

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11

Biathlon – Men's 20 km Individual

18. Ruslan Lysenko
 39. Andriy Deryzemlya
 49. Olexander Bilanenko
 54. Alexei Korobeynikov

Nordic Combined – Individual Gundersen 15 km

45. Sergei Diyachuk
 48. Volodymyr Trachuk

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

Alpine Skiing – Men's Downhill

47. Nikolay Skriabin

Cross-Country Skiing – Ladies' 15 km Pursuit

14. Valentina Shevchenko
 26. Vita Jakimchuk
 40. Kateryna Grygorenko
 45. Tatjana Zavalij

Cross-Country Skiing – Men's 30 km Pursuit

47. Mikhail Gumenyak
 50. Roman Leybyuk
 53. Olexandr Putsko
 58. Alexander Batyuk

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Biathlon – Women's 15 km Individual

21. Oksana Khvostenko
 30. Olena Petrova
 37. Lilia Efremova
 47. Valj Semerenko

Figure Skating – Pairs

12. Tatiana Volosozhar/Stanslav Morozov
 19. Julia Beloglazova/Andrei Bekh

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Skiing – Men's Combined Downhill

DNF Nikolay Skriabin

Biathlon – Men's 10 km Sprint Biathlon

29. Andriy Deryzemlya
 36. Olexander Bilanenko
 46. Ruslan Lysenko
 74. Vyacheslav Derkach

Cross-Country Skiing – Ladies' Team Sprint

DNQ for final Marina Malets Lisogor and Tatjana Zavalij



Reuters

Luger Liliya Ludan.

Cross-Country Skiing – Men's Team Sprint

DNQ for final Ivan Bilosyuk and Vitaly Martsyv

Luge – Women's Singles

6. Liliya Ludan
 DNS Natalia Yakushenko

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Luge – Men's Doubles

14. Andriy Kis/Yuriy Hayduk
 DNS Oleg Zherebetsky/Roman Yazvinsky

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 16

Biathlon – Women's 7.5 km Sprint

3. Lilia Efremova
 44. Olena Petrova
 49. Oksana Khvostenko
 50. Nina Lemesh

Cross-Country Skiing – Women's 10 km Classical

21. Valentina Shevchenko
 27. Tatjana Zavalij
 44. Kateryna Grygorenko

DNQ = did not qualify
 DNS = did not start
 DNF = did not finish

Source: Torino 2006 website

Wisconsin journalist Olga Halaburda earns professional awards in 2005

GREEN BAY, Wis. – Olga Halaburda, reporter for CBS 5 WFRV-TV, earned several professional awards in 2005 for her work as a journalist as well as recognition for civic achievement.



Olga Halaburda of WFRV-TV.

Ms. Halaburda, daughter of John and Eva Halaburda, grew up in Warren, Mich. She attended Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic Grade School and High School in Hamtramck, Mich. Ms. Halaburda earned a B.A. in journalism from Wayne State University in Detroit. Since 1990 she has worked as a television news reporter in Mason City, Iowa; Longview, Texas; and Green Bay, Wis., as the creator of the "Ukrainian Power" educational children's video series.

Ms. Halaburda spent two months investigating an old murder case, in which a Green Bay police officer (John Maloney) was convicted of killing his estranged wife. Ms. Halaburda dug into the Maloney case file and produced a seven-part series with new information

in the case. In the series, which raised questions about Mr. Maloney's conviction, Ms. Halaburda showed viewers evidence and documents never publicly seen before and revealed new allegations of misconduct against the prosecutor in the case. The prosecutor had previously been convicted of accepting bribes to fix court cases and is currently serving a federal prison sentence.

Ms. Halaburda's series, "Maloney Murder Case Re-examined," won a First Place Award for Hard News Reporting from the Wisconsin Broadcasters Association (WBA). Ms. Halaburda also won a Merit Award for Hard News from the WBA for another series of reports, "Mark Price Conviction Re-examined."

Ms. Halaburda went on to win the prestigious Edward R. Murrow Award for Investigative Reporting for "Maloney Murder Case Re-examined." Ms. Halaburda's series was also nominated for an Emmy Award by the Chicago/Midwest Chapter of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences. The category for the award was Outstanding Achievement within a Regularly Scheduled News Program – Investigative Series. It was Ms. Halaburda's second Emmy nomination.

Ms. Halaburda's reporting on the Maloney case also caught the attention of the CBS network news magazine program "48 Hours Mystery." Ms. Halaburda was hired by "48 Hours" to serve as associate producer as the program retold the story of the Maloney murder and examined the possibility of misconduct in that case.

The "48 Hours" report, "A Question of Murder," caught the attention of the Wisconsin Supreme Court, which had heard Mr. Maloney's case in 2005. Based on information in that "48 Hours" report, which was filed with the high court by the State Attorney General's Office, the Wisconsin Supreme Court, in an unprecedented move, offered Mr. Maloney an appeal for a new trial "in the interest of

justice." That appeal is currently being considered.

For her civic involvement, Ms. Halaburda received the 2005 Outstanding Young Wisconsinite Award from the Wisconsin Junior Chamber.

The Outstanding Young Wisconsinites are awarded to people age 21-39 who have excelled in academics, leadership and/or community service.

One of the reasons Ms. Halaburda was nominated by the Green Bay Chapter of the Wisconsin Jaycees for the award was because of her mission to foster the Ukrainian language and culture through her company, Ukrainian Power Videos Inc. The mission of "Ukrainian Power" is to allow children to enjoy the Ukrainian language and culture through the use of fun, educational toys and colorful, musical puppet programs on video and DVD. Ms. Halaburda used her television background and connections to assemble a skilled staff of 47 people, in 2000 and 2002, to work on the "Ukrainian Power" productions. Among those hired: a Sesame Street puppeteer, professionals from the television industry and several leaders from various Ukrainian communities around the United States. Ms. Halaburda also launched free, educational interactive Ukrainian games on her website www.ukrainianpower.com.

The Wisconsin Jaycees also honored Ms. Halaburda, a first-generation Ukrainian American, for her involvement in Ukraine's repeat presidential election in late 2004. Ms. Halaburda traveled to Ukraine to serve as a registered election observer in the controversial political race. Ms. Halaburda reported on the Orange Revolution, as well as on her experience as an election observer, in an eight-part series that aired on local Viacom-Owned CBS or UPN stations in Green Bay, Sacramento, San Francisco, Dallas and New York.

The response to Ms. Halaburda's reports on Ukraine was overwhelming in northeast Wisconsin. After returning from

Ukraine, Ms. Halaburda delivered numerous speeches in the Green Bay area to educate students and adults about Ukraine.

"It was very surprising to me to see how much genuine interest there was from the Green Bay community in Ukraine's history and current events," Ms. Halaburda said. She spoke to several groups, ranging in size from 50 people to 300 people.

"I spoke to a wide range of audiences, from students at the University of Wisconsin to senior citizens who took part in a program called 'Learning in Retirement.' Employees of Green Bay's largest hospital, which occasionally sees Ukrainian immigrants as patients, also invited me to speak about the Ukrainian culture and Ukraine, as did a community globalist organization, which is interested in learning about global issues," Ms. Halaburda said. "I couldn't believe how many great questions people asked at these events and how much enthusiasm they had for learning about Ukraine."

The Wisconsin Jaycees also recognized Ms. Halaburda for her local civic achievement.

Ms. Halaburda is an advocate for finding missing children and adults. In February 2006 she will speak at a national Missing Children and Adults conference in Appleton, Wis., which is aimed at sharing information with law enforcement agents and community leaders about the best practices in finding the missing.

Since 2000 Ms. Halaburda has also been active in inspiring entrepreneurs in her community. She has served as an advisory board member and volunteer marketing teacher for Urban Hope Entrepreneur Center in Green Bay. Urban Hope is a non-profit organization that gives individuals an opportunity to realize the American dream of owning and operating their own business.

"I enjoy sharing the story of how I started my small business," said Ms. Halaburda. "I'm happy to fill a small niche in the Ukrainian market."

Kobzar Literary Award 2006 finalists are announced

TORONTO – The board of directors of the Shevchenko Foundation has announced the short list for the Kobzar Literary Award.

Presented biennially, the \$25,000 Kobzar Literary Award recognizes a Canadian writer who best presents a Ukrainian Canadian theme with literary merit through poetry, play, screenplay, musical, fiction, non-fiction or young people's literature.

The four finalists are (in alphabetical order by author):

- Lisa Grekul for "Kalyna's Song," published by Coteau Books;
- Laura Langston for "Lesia's Dream," published by HarperCollins Publishers Ltd.;
- Danny Schur for "Strike! – The Musical," script by Danny Schur and Rick Chafe, lyrics and music by Danny Schur; and
- Larry Warwaruk for "Andrei and the Snow Walker," published by Coteau Books.

The finalists were selected by an esteemed judging panel comprising: Myrna Kostash, journalist and non-fiction author, actor Mieko Ouchi, writer and director for theater, film and TV; Bill Richardson, writer and CBC broadcaster; and Antanas Sileika, journalist, fiction author and artistic director of the Humber College Writer's Program.

"We are very pleased with the exemplary and innovative approaches taken by

the shortlisted authors in their treatment of Ukrainian Canadian themes," said Andriy Hladyshchynsky, president of the Shevchenko Foundation.

The finalists will be honored and the inaugural Kobzar Literary Award 2006 winner will be announced at a dinner and awards ceremony on Thursday, March 2, at Toronto's Eglinton Grand.

The finalists

Lisa Grekul's "Kalyna's Song" (Coteau Books, ISBN: 1-55050-225-5) is a startling debut novel about coming of age in Alberta and Africa, a portrait of the artist as a young Ukrainian woman.

Growing up in the small northern Alberta community of St. Paul, Colleen Lutzak has both positives and negatives to deal with. She has an abundance of musical talent, excellent grades in school and a close extended family. On the other hand, she has a melodramatic mother, an older sister who doesn't always appreciate Colleen's talent, a nemesis named Carla Senko who manages to screw up every triumph Colleen closes in on, and a cousin named Kalyna.

Kalyna is Colleen's alter ego – they have the same name in different languages – and Kalyna is a mystery. She used to be normal, but something happened to her that no one will talk about. A grown woman who once had a family, Kalyna talks and acts like a child. She loves Colleen's music more than any-

thing in the world, and brings out every protective instinct in her young cousin.

Colleen vigorously practices her youthful idealism as well as her talent; this mindset means life's lessons will be particularly hard on her. Her beloved music teacher, who shared and supported her pride in her Ukrainian heritage, suddenly dies. Colleen fails miserably in her first attempt at university in Edmonton, mainly because she resents and resists any reality that is other than what she expects. She is so determined to get away from all the "disappointments" of home that she registers to attend the United World College campus in Swaziland for one year.

Obviously, Swaziland is an utterly foreign experience. Her sense of identity and self-worth is challenged by her foreign surroundings, her homesickness, the suicide of her closest friend and the sudden death of Kalyna. This final tragedy forces Colleen to face adult decisions about the purpose to which she should devote her life and her talent.

Ms. Grekul lives in Kelowna and teaches Canadian literature in the Department of Critical Studies at the University of British Columbia – Okanagan. She grew up in St. Paul, Alberta, with a Ukrainian heritage, worked as a musician and attended school in Swaziland. She received a creative writing award from the University of Alberta and a doctoral fellowship from the Social Sciences and Humanities

Research Council. Her novel "Kalyna's Song" (2003) was shortlisted for the Amazon.ca/Books in Canada Best First Book Award. She is the author of "Leaving Shadows: Literature in English by Canada's Ukrainians" (2005).

In Laura Langston's "Lesia's Dream" (HarperCollins Publishers Ltd., ISBN: 0006392830), Baba (grandmother) had made Lesia a promise: "Just remember the flower is not always open. But if your effort is true, your rewards will be sweet." Lesia treasures those words as she and her family leave Baba and flee for Canada. Disturbed by rumors of war, taxed and persecuted by their Austrian rulers, and worn down by years of hunger and poverty in their homeland, the Magus family clings to the hope that their 160 acres of uncleared prairie land will give them wealth, security and respect.

But even though there is no fighting in Canada, the first world war hunts the family down in their adopted country. Declared enemies of Canada, Lesia's father, brother and other immigrants are shipped off to an internment camp, leaving Lesia, her pregnant mother and her little sister to survive the winter alone in their sod hut on the prairie. And now the government official has told them that if they do not clear the obligatory 10 acres a year, they will lose their land, too.

Wrapped around a little-known episode in Canadian history, "Lesia's

(Continued on page 13)

\$100 million film and TV industry complex planned for Kyiv suburbs

by Yana Sedova
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – An all-encompassing film and television industry complex that includes movie making, digitized video production and Ukrainian-language dubbing is in the planning stages in a Kyiv suburb with the hope of breathing new life into Ukrainian filmmaking.

Business moguls Viacheslav and Oleksander Konstantynovsky will finance the \$100 million project, currently referred to as CityKyiv. The brothers earned their fortune through Kyiv-Donbas, a Kyiv-based company that runs two construction firms and the Carte Blanche restaurant franchise.

"This is a unique project not only for Ukraine, but for the whole territory of the former Soviet Union," said Volodymyr Khorunzhyi, a Hollywood producer. "This complex will be the largest in Eastern Europe and will make it possible to renew the bygone glory of Ukrainian cinema."

Among participants in the project is the Hollywood-based Culver Studios, which produced such films as "Gone with the Wind" and "Armageddon."

Culver Studios will manage the selection and training of complex personnel and serve in attracting big-budget American and European film projects to Ukraine.

Gary Bastien & Associates Co., which built such film studios as Sony Pictures and CBS-Los Angeles, will manage design and construction of the 124-acre complex, consisting of 12 separate studios and a family amusement park.

"The film complex is like a hotel,"

said Viacheslav Konstantynovsky. "One can get the best service and stay as long as is needed for film production."

The CityKyiv project may resuscitate a moribund Ukrainian film industry, whose current climate is rather unfavorable considering that the government offers no tax incentives for investors.

Conditions are so limiting that Ukrainian filmmakers have no equipment or location to digitize or dub their television series and movies. They usually travel to Russia or Poland.

"Things haven't changed since the time I left Ukraine 20 years ago," Mr. Khorunzhyi said. "There is still no possibility to record an orchestra or chorus in Kyiv. Ukraine has been left far behind compared to other countries."

To pursue their entertainment careers, many Ukrainian natives now work in Hollywood and Moscow.

"Well-known Kyiv cartoonists have helped to create popular blockbusters such as 'Monsters, Inc.' and 'Shrek,'" said Mr. Khorunzhyi, assuring that there will be a separate building at the complex where cartoons will be produced.

The complex will be built in stages, enabling filmmakers to work in laboratories and dubbing studios, even while later phases are under construction.

"This is a dream of every filmmaker," Mr. Khorunzhyi said. "One could devote himself to creative work and not have to think about sending people to Poland or some other place."

Ukrainian filmmakers will have access to complex facilities at reduced rates compared to those for American, European or Russian cinematographers, he said.



Yana Sedova

Brothers Oleksander (left) and Viacheslav Konstantynovsky have invested \$100 million into building a film and television industry complex in suburban Kyiv.

The complex will create between 800 and 1,000 support staff jobs, according to Mr. Khorunzhyi.

"Without Ukrainian technical specialists, this studio is good for nothing," said Oleksander Konstantynovsky. "We could invite foreign specialists for key positions, but instead Ukrainian personnel will master all the equipment under their supervision since we all are interested in having then work at the studio."

Building the film complex is not the company's only investment, the brothers said. Part of the \$100 million investment will be spent producing Ukrainian movies.

The company recently produced a

Ukrainian drama called "Orangelove," a story about a red-haired Ukrainian conservatory student and her love interest, a Russian photographer. The movie will be presented at Cannes Film Festival this year.

The film complex project's leaders said they can foresee a time when that foreign film companies will soon come to Ukraine not only to shoot on location for beautiful Ukrainian landscapes, but to produce films. They hope to open their complex in two years.

"Maybe the next Bond [James Bond movie] will be shot in Ukraine, or the next King Kong," Mr. Khorunzhyi said.

Kobzar...

(Continued from page 12)

Dream" is a powerful story, gripping in its unvarnished portrait of a people whose spirit and strength of character could not be crushed. An accomplished children's writer, Ms. Langston blends a fast-paced adventure, a moving immigrant tale and a sensitive coming-of-age story that will resonate with its adolescent audience.

Ms. Langston is the author of several books for children and adults. "No Such Thing As Far Away" was a Children's Choice pick by the Canadian Children's Book Center; "The Fox's Kettle" was nominated for a Governor General's Award for Illustration; and "Pay Dirt!" her non-fiction book for junior/young adult readers, was nominated for the Red Cedar and Silver Birch awards. A former writer and broadcaster for the CBC, she is a regular contributor to Canadian Gardening magazine. Ms. Langston lives in Victoria, British Columbia.

Danny Schur's "Strike! – The Musical" deals with the period of May-June 1919, when the eyes of North America were fixed on the "Chicago of the North" – Winnipeg, Manitoba. Even The New York Times watched in disbelief as the third-largest city in Canada came to a total halt due to a general strike. A general strike had been quickly quashed in Seattle earlier that spring, but in Winnipeg the strike lasted six weeks and resulted in sympathetic strikes all across Canada. Revolution, it was thought, had been imported from Russia and taken root in Winnipeg.

Winnipeg's great general strike of 1919, so hot on the heels of the war, occurred in a climate of xenophobia, paranoia and overt discrimination directed toward the immigrants of Winnipeg's North End, of which Ukrainians were so

much a part. And within this setting is the story of Mike Sokolowski, the Ukrainian immigrant everyman, who finds himself at the epicenter of Canada's most famous labor uprising. So much of the shame, and yet so much of the nobility, of the Ukrainian experience in Canada can be traced to this fateful six weeks in Winnipeg in 1919. This is the story of "Strike! – The Musical."

Dubbed Canada's "Andrew Lloyd Webber" by the CBC, Winnipeg's Mr. Schur was raised in Ethelbert, Manitoba, and demonstrated musical talent at an early age. A gifted pianist, he studied composition at the University of Manitoba before pursuing a career as an eight-time Juno-nominated composer/producer.

In 2000, Mr. Schur tread down his current career path of composer/producer of original musicals with his first musical, "The Bridge," commissioned to celebrate 100 years of Ukrainian settlement in Canada. Mr. Schur's third musical, "Strike!" premiered in Winnipeg in May 2005 to universally positive reviews. "Strike!" will open the 2006 season at Saskatoon's Persephone Theater in September.

Rick Chafe is a Winnipeg playwright and dramaturge with more than a dozen productions to his credit, including "The Secret Mask," produced at the Carol Shields Festival of New Works and "The Odyssey," produced by Shakespeare in the Ruins. He collaborated with Mr. Schur on the final production-ready version of the script to "Strike!"

Larry Warwaruk's "Andrei and the Snow Walker" (Coteau Books, ISBN: 1-55050-213-1) recounts the story of 12-year-old Andrei and his family who move in search of a better life from Ukraine to a Canadian homestead near Batoche, Saskatchewan, in the spring of 1900. Andrei's grandfather brings with them an ancient Scythian bowl given to him by an old hermit – a strange, glowing bowl

which may have magical power.

Andrei has never worked so hard, helping to build a home, breaking land and learning to hunt with two Metis friends, Gabriel and Chi Pete. They tell him about Snow Walker, a man of unusual powers and wisdom – a man some say can change into a bear. Sometimes, in the woods, Andrei thinks he sees a figure moving through the trees.

Near Christmas, Andrei is caught in a swirling blizzard while trying to use the strange bowl's magic to help his family. When he falls through river ice, he sees not only that the magic bowl cannot save him, but also that he must let it go to have a chance of surviving. Suddenly, someone strong pulls him from the river. In a cabin in the woods, Andrei at last meets Snow Walker and learns that this land has its own wisdom and power.

Mr. Warwaruk is the author of the novels "The Ukrainian Wedding" and "Rope

of Time" and the non-fiction book "Red Finns of the Coteau," published in 1984, as well as a number of short stories published in GRAIN, NeWest Review and elsewhere. He is the general editor of "Sundog Highway: Writing from Saskatchewan," Coteau's definitive anthology of Saskatchewan literature. Several of his works have won Saskatchewan Writers Guild literary awards.

He is also active in community theater – he founded the Snakebite Players in Beechy, Saskatchewan, and won several best director awards in Saskatchewan Community Theater festivals.

Born in Regina, Mr. Warwaruk grew up in southern Saskatchewan, took his academic degrees in Regina and at the University of Oregon, and was a teacher and principal in central Saskatchewan for many years. He lives with his family in Outlook, Saskatchewan.

Skoryk's opera "Moses" premieres in Kyiv

KYIV – Myroslav Skoryk's opera "Moses" premiered in the Ukrainian capital at the National Opera of Ukraine on January 27. "Moses" on the Kyiv stage is the second incarnation of the opera, based on Ivan Franko's poem of the same title. Five years earlier it was premiered in Lviv by the Krushelnytska Opera House to coincide with Pope John Paul II's visit to Ukraine.

The Kyiv production is staged by the young director Anatolii Solovianenko and the distinguished musician and conductor Ivan Hamkalo.

The stage setting is by Maria Levytska, and the choir is conducted

by Lev Venedyktov. The choreographer is Aniko Rekhviashvili. The opera's libretto was written by Bohdan Stelmakh.

Maestro Skoryk was to conduct one act of the Kyiv production.

Bass Mykola Shopsha, one of four singers preparing for the role of Moses, told The Day's correspondent Tetiana Polishchuk that "Moses" is "a profoundly spiritual composition, and one must perform it with a pure soul. Skoryk has written very interesting music. I will be singing this part for the first time and am thrilled to rub shoulders with this original composer, who is a subtle and intellectual individual."

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taxes and tariffs." (RFE/RL Newline)

Rice has doubts on Russia's democracy

WASHINGTON – U.S. Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice said in Washington on February 12 that she is skeptical about the future of democracy in Russia, mosnews.com reported. "We are very concerned, particularly about some of the elements of democratization that seem to be going in the wrong direction," she said. Dr. Rice recalled what was widely seen as Russia's recent use of gas supplies as a political tool against Ukraine, as well as new legislation to establish greater control over non-governmental organizations. She added that "the question is open as to where Russia's future development is going." The secretary of state nonetheless stressed that the overall state of U.S.-Russia relations is "very good" and that today's Russia "is not the Soviet Union." She added, "Let's not overstate the case" for critical observations. (RFE/RL Newline)

Rada bans privatization of Nikopol

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on February 9 voted to include the Nikopol Ferroalloys Plant on a list of enterprises that cannot be privatized, the Ukrayinska Pravda website reported. The measure was supported by 287 deputies. Last month the Supreme Court ruled that the 2003 sale of a 25 percent stake in Nikopol for some \$80 million to Viktor Pinchuk, the son-in-law of former President Leonid Kuchma, was illegal and returned it to the state. The government intended to sell a 50 percent stake plus one share in Nikopol at an open auction later this year. (RFE/RL Newline)

Six candidates for Kyiv mayor

KYIV – Six contenders have been formally registered to vie for the mayoralty of Kyiv, with the elections to be held on March 26, the day Ukrainian voters are to elect a new Parliament. The contenders are Verkhovna Rada First Vice-Chairman Adam Martyniuk; self-nominated candidate Eduard Kovalenko; the leader of the Kyiv City organization of the Ukrainian People's Party, Valerii Asadchev; the leader of the People's Democratic Party, Valerii Pustovoitenko; Valentyn Khaletskyi from the Public Council organization; and former boxing champion Vitalii Klitschko, No. 1 candidate of the Reforms and Order-Pora bloc. Registration documents were also filed by Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Leonid Chernovetskyi, a banker with PrivatBank. (Ukrinform)

No Ukrainian rep in RosUkrEnergo

KYIV – Naftohaz Ukrayiny head Oleksii Ivchenko told UNIAN on February 8 that "the Ukrainian side is not represented legally" in the obscure Swiss-based RosUkrEnergo company, which was made the monopolist of gas supplies to Ukraine via a controversial Russian-Ukrainian gas deal in January. Mr. Ivchenko was commenting on Russian President Vladimir Putin's statement to Spanish journalists the previous day, in which he said that a 50 percent share in RosUkrEnergo belongs to Ukraine. "RosUkrEnergo with its non-transparent 50 percent Ukrainian share is nothing compared to 15 years of gas cheating [by Ukraine]," ITAR-TASS quoted Mr. Putin as saying. "This is the share of Ukraine, so you should ask them the question." Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said earlier this month that there are no Ukrainian government bodies among the owners of RosUkrEnergo. According to media reports, a 50 percent stake in RosUkrEnergo is owned by Gazprom, while the other half belongs to undisclosed owners represented by the

Vienna-based Raiffeisen Investment AG. (Ukrinform)

Five-year price cap imposed on gas

KYIV – The Ukrainian government on February 8 decided that \$110 per 1,000 cubic meters will be the maximum price at which the newly created joint venture UkrGazEnergo can sell gas in Ukraine within the next five years, Interfax-Ukraine and ITAR-TASS reported. "If any economic entity decides to sell gas at a price above \$110, a fine will be imposed [on it] and the entire proceeds will be confiscated. This will also be a reason for annulling the entity's registration with the state," Economy Minister Arsenii Yatseniuk told journalists. UkrGazEnergo was created by the Swiss-based gas trader RosUkrEnergo and Naftohaz Ukrayiny. Under an agreement reached in January, RosUkrEnergo was made the monopolist of gas supplies to Ukraine in 2006-2010. Ukraine imports gas mostly for corporate consumers, while the population uses gas that is primarily extracted at home and is priced much lower than imported gas. (RFE/RL Newline)

Ukraine's new envoy in Poland

KYIV – Ukraine's Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassador to Poland Oleksander Motsyk presented his credentials to Polish President Lech Kaczynski, reported Ukrinform on February 7. In diplomatic circles Mr. Motsyk is known mainly for conducting complicated negotiations with Russia on the conflict around Tuzla Island and delimitation of the Azov-Kerch area. He also led a Ukrainian delegation to negotiations with Romania and participated in several rounds of negotiations on settlement of the Transdnister conflict. Before being appointed ambassador to Poland, Mr. Motsyk worked as vice minister of foreign affairs and deputy head of the Secretariat of President of Ukraine. (Ukrinform)

400 enterprises to be privatized

KYIV – The State Property Fund intends to offer for privatization over 400 establishments, the chairwoman of the State Property Fund, Valentyna Semeniuk, said. Among the establishments exposed to competition she marked the Merydian enterprise and the Kryvyi Rih Ore Mining-Dressing Works Plant. These are the most significant facilities for us, Ms. Semeniuk said. Moreover, the fund decided to put up 76 percent of the shares of LuhanskTeplovoz (Luhansk Diesel Locomotive) for sale. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko awarded Atlas Prize

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko won with the Italian Atlas 2005 Prize for his "heavy contribution to development of ideas in support of solidarity, cooperation and peace." The award was presented to the Ukrainian Embassy in Rome for delivery to the president. The Atlas award is annually presented by the Center of Social Action Programming together with the City Hall and the Province Council of the city of Agrigento in Sicily. Laureates of the prize, which was established in 1977, include Presidents Vaclav Havel of the Czech Republic, Ugo Mifsud Bonnici of Malta and Arpad Goncz of Hungary as well as outstanding figures of art and culture. (Ukrinform)

PM comments on lighthouses

KYIV – Prime Minister Yuriy Yekhanurov said in Symferopol on February 4 that the use of lighthouses by the Russian Black Sea Fleet in Crimea is an economic issue rather than a political one, Interfax-Ukraine and ITAR-TASS reported. "If the lighthouses are Ukrainian and the Russians are using them, they must pay for them," Mr. Yekhanurov told journalists. According to him, there have been illegal "cottages"

(Continued on page 15)

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

erected around some lighthouses used by the Russian Navy in Crimea. Mr. Yekhanurov said the use of land in Crimea by the Russian Black Sea Fleet is also an issue of primarily legal and economic importance. He claimed that some 160 hectares of land are used by the Russian fleet illegally. "The position of the Ukrainian side is as follows: You must pay for what you have not paid," Mr. Yekhanurov said. "If you don't want to pay, then free it. I don't want the budget to suffer losses." (RFE/RL Newswire)

Crimea: properties used illegally

SYMFEROPOL – The Property Fund of the Crimean Autonomous Republic has charged that the Russian Black Sea Fleet illegally occupies 96 facilities in Crimea, Interfax-Ukraine reported. According to the fund, these properties are not mentioned in a Russian-Ukrainian agreement on the division of belongings of the former Soviet navy. The fund also charged that the fleet command has sublet 25 properties it leases in Crimea without seeking the approval of the Ukrainian side, as stipulated by the agreement. (RFE/RL Newswire)

Student Brotherhood pickets BSF

SEVASTOPOL – Studentske Bratstvo (Student Brotherhood) activists pitched five tents near the Russian Black Sea Fleet's headquarters in Sevastopol on February 13. According to Bratstvo leader Oleh Yatsenko, the protest action was meant to alert Russia to the organization's demand, on the eve of the bipartite talks on the Russian Black Sea Fleet, that the terms of the previous bipartite agreements on the fleet must be observed. On February 14 Kyiv was expected to host a session of the Subcommittee for Black Sea

Fleet-related problems. The session is supposed to address unsettled issues of the Russian fleet's presence on Ukraine's soil. According to a 1997 agreement, the Russian Black Sea Fleet is to be based in Ukraine for 20 years. (Ukrinform)

Orthodox Choice: Communist Party

KYIV – Orthodox Choice, an organization formed by the Society of Orthodox Brotherhoods, will support the Communist Party in the Ukrainian parliamentary elections in March 2006, the society's head, Valentin Lukiyanyk, said on January 27. "To date we are becoming actively involved in campaigning for the Ukrainian Communist Party," Mr. Lukiyanyk said. The party's principles are close to Orthodoxy in spirit, he said. He called the Our Ukraine party, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialists and the Popular Rukh party "anti-Orthodox forces" because their programs contradict the principles of the Orthodox Church. The chairman of the Orthodox Choice coordinating committee, Yuri Yegorov, told the conference that the Communist Party consistently defends Orthodox values and is "closer to the people." The Communist Party "proposed that we join their election ticket," he said. Mr. Yegorov said Orthodox Choice's cooperation with the Communists was based on the two groups' "similar" social principles: combating illegal enrichment, seeking a unification of Slavic peoples, supporting the use of the Russian language in Ukraine and a negative attitude toward NATO. (Interfax)

New terms of military service

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine has passed a new version of the law on military service, which, in particular, specifies the terms of military service for conscripts. The term is limited to 12 months for privates and sergeants who have no college

education. Those who have college education, which corresponds to requirements for the ranks of specialist or master, will serve for up to nine months. (Ukrinform)

Rada rejects foreign troop exercises

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on February 9 rejected President Viktor Yushchenko's motion to allow foreign troops to practice on military training grounds in Ukraine in 2006, Interfax-Ukraine reported. Only 215 deputies voted in support of the measure, which

required 226 votes to pass. Under Ukrainian law, the Parliament must review each year whether to allow foreign troops on Ukrainian soil. "It is advantageous for Ukraine because the matter concerns creating combat-like conditions [for our troops]," Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko commented on military exercises in Ukraine with the participation of foreign troops. "It is economically advantageous for us because the lion's share of expenses on holding such exercises is covered by other states." (RFE/RL Newswire)



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1946 – 2006

нар. у Ландек, Австрія.

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The Board of Directors of the
Ukrainian Institute of America regrets
to announce to its members and the
general public that our former
Treasurer and long-time member,



JOSEPH LESAWYER,

died Tuesday, January 31, 2006, in Florida at the age of 94. The funeral liturgy took place in North Port, Florida, on February 6, and was followed by internment at Indiantown Gap Military Cemetery in Pennsylvania, where Mr. Lesawyer's wife, Mary, is buried.

The Board wishes to convey its sincere sympathy to the
Lesawyer family.

У ПЕРШУ РІЧНИЦЮ ПЕРЕХОДУ НА ВІЧНИЙ СПОЧИНОК
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відправлені будуть

у суботу, 25 лютого 2006 р.

у таких Українських Католицьких церквах:

- св. Архистратига Михаїла, Милвокі, Вискансин о год. 8:30 ранку;
- св. Івана Хрестителя, Ньюарк, Нью-Джерзі о год. 7:45 ранку;
- Покрова Пресвятої Богородиці, Парма, Огайо о год. 8:30 ранку;
- Різдва Пресвятої Богородиці, село Нижня Білка, Пустомитівський район, Львівська область.

Вічна їй Пам'ять!



Orest Kociuba,

80, of Chestnuthill, Township, passed away Friday, February 10,
at Pocono Medical Center in East Stroudsburg, PA.

He was the husband of Irene (Eingartner) Kociuba whom he married on April 16, 1949. Born on May 15, 1925, in Chorzow, Poland, formerly Ukraine, he was a son of the late Ludwig and Genovefa (Mackiewicz) Kociuba.

He was employed at New Jersey Iron & Steel Corp. in Passaic, NJ as a steel worker for 35 years until his retirement in 1990. He was previously employed as a mechanic for BMW Corp. in Germany. He was a member of St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Palmerton, PA. He was of Ukrainian Catholic faith. He was a veteran of World War II and a former POW. He was a member of the Ukrainian Veteran Association in Newark, NJ, and of the Ukrainian National Center in Passaic, NJ. He was also the founder of YMCA Chess Club in Stroudsburg.

In addition to his wife Irene, he is survived by daughters Ulrike, wife of Alvaro Perdomo of Albrightsville and Susanne, wife of Michael Robinson of Bartonsville; a son, Roman and wife Leslie Kociuba of Rochester, NY; a sister, Leontina Shuwska of Chesnyke, Ukraine; a brother, Omeleran Kociuba of Tumracz, Ukraine; six grandchildren; and four great-grandchildren.

Visitation was held on Monday, February 13 and Tuesday, February 14 at the Campton Funeral Home Inc., in Palmerton, PA. A divine liturgy was held on Tuesday, February 14 at St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Palmerton with the Rev. Evhen Moniuk officiating. Burial was at St. Vladimir's Lower Cemetery in Palmerton, PA.

Memorial contributions may be made to the Church Renovation Fund.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

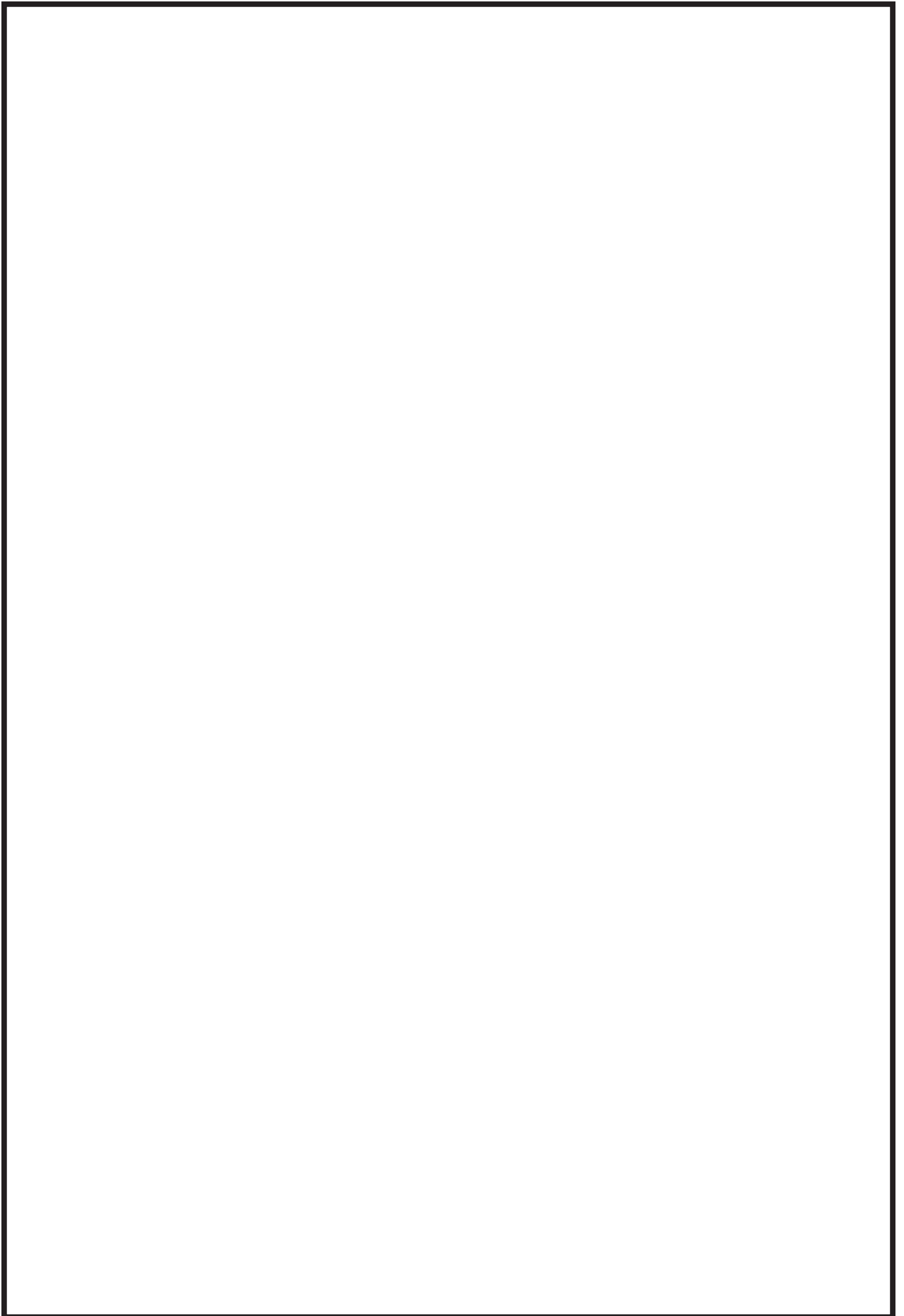
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Gretzky and tradition

Prior to the end of last year's lockout, Wayne Gretzky always understood what the next generation of super centers like Joe Thornton, Patrick Marleau and Vincent Lecavalier has gone through during their brief careers. To a degree, he even sympathized with these young superstars, who, up until the new look NHL of 2005-2006, were fed up with being hooked, poked and held as they attempted to strut their stuff.

Although "The Great One" always held out hope things would change for the better in the immediate future, traditional hockey always had its share of poking and clutching.

"Bobby Hull had to fight through the hooking and grabbing," Gretzky related to Mike Brophy of The Hockey News. "Guy Lafleur had to fight through hooking and grabbing. I had to fight through it. It has always been part of the game. People are paid a lot of money to try to score goals, and there are others who are paid a lot to try to stop them. It was that way when Bobby Hull played, it was that way when I played, and now, with youngsters like Sidney Crosby in the league, it'll still be the same."

Well, not really, not that much anymore. With the dedicated enforcement of the rulebook in the current 2005-2006 campaign, most, if not all, of the hooking, holding and interfering have been whistled down as two-minute penalties. Centermen like Pavel Datsyuk, Jason Spezza and Shawn Horcroft have been afforded the opportunities to utilize their creativity on the ice, resulting in plentiful scoring chances. Supposedly the obstruction crackdown is here to stay – good news galore for the league, its loyal fans and the future selling of a marvelous sport.

But, back to Gretzky. "The Great One" can now be seen doing what he did best throughout his illustrious 20-year NHL career and more.

Gretzky's hockey career – from his minor league hockey days in his hometown of Brantford, Ontario, to his first pro games in the World Hockey Association to his glory years with the Edmonton Oilers and beyond – is featured in the two-DVD set Ultimate Gretzky. During an informal press gathering at his Toronto restaurant a while back, Gretzky commented on both his career and the state of the game.

Below is the best of what he had to say in his conversation with Mr. Brophy.

On what he remembers about playing for the Oilers:

"The great thing was how hard we pushed for each other. If a guy got a hat trick, the entire team felt like it contributed to the feat. By the end of the night, you didn't even remember who got the three goals; it was a team accomplishment."

On how the game has changed:

"When I came into the league, the whole focus was on trying to win 7-6. We couldn't even comprehend a 2-1 game. Now players are taught defense in bantam. They come into the NHL knowing how to check."

On his feelings about changes he'd make:

"I'm a traditionalist. I say leave the red line in, keep playing 5-on-5, and I like the size of our rinks."

On eye protection:

"I tell all our kids in Phoenix to wear visors. They wore them on the way up so it doesn't make sense to take them off."

On having to name his initial roster for the World Cup in mid-May:

"It's not good for us. If a guy is playing in the cup final and he's not named to the team, it could affect his play. Let's

face it, the guys are only human. I wouldn't want the announcement to affect a guy in the final. Why not wait until the final has been played?"

On the skating ability of his son, Ty:
 "If I skated as well as (him), I would have been something."

Gretzky mourns mother's death

Phoenix Coyotes Coach Wayne Gretzky took several days' leave of absence just before the team's game against Los Angeles on December 17, 2005, to be at the side of his gravely ill mother in the family's hometown of Brantford.

Phyllis Gretzky, 64, died on December 19 at Brantford General Hospital following a bout with pneumonia after being admitted four days prior. Her husband, Walter, and all five of her children, Wayne, Kim, Keith, Glen and Brent, were by her side when she passed away.

"Throughout my career, she was in the background, but she was the glue," Gretzky told Jerry Brown of the Mesa Tribune when his mother was diagnosed with lung cancer late in 2004. "She's always been the toughest in the family."

Gretzky also took a temporary leave of absence from his position as executive director of Canada's Olympic hockey team. His leave lasted only enough time to take care of arrangements and comfort his father and family.

In contrast to Walter Gretzky's outgoing relationship with the media and his son's celebrity, Phyllis Gretzky kept a low profile. She preferred maintaining the family home in Brantford and blending in as a member of her community.

The elder Gretzkys last travelled to Phoenix in October of 2005 to be on hand for their son's first NHL coaching win over Minnesota.

Associate Coach Rick Tocchet assumed the coaching duties in Phoenix, with both Barry Smith and Rick Bowness on staff ready to assist. The three coaches normally handle practices during the regular season. Bowness remained the "eye in the sky" coach (sitting in the press box) during games, with Tocchet and Smith behind the bench.

Coyotes officials were quick to stress that Gretzky, who had agonized over the decision to become a coach because of the importance of family, had every intention of returning to the coaching position. In fact, he publicly mused earlier this season that he loved the job so much, he wondered why he didn't take it sooner.

Coach of Team Canada

Gretzky, it should be noted, is also the coach of Team Canada for the Winter Olympic Games under way in Torino, Italy. Unfortunately, his role and his team's prospects have been overshadowed by a recently uncovered gambling scandal that apparently involves his Coyotes associate coach, Tocchet, and Gretzky's wife, Janet Jones.


Reports had surfaced in early February that Jones had placed bets with a multi-million-dollar gambling ring operating

out of New Jersey. Tocchet was one of the three people charged in connection with the gambling ring by New Jersey State Police. And, to make matters worse, there is much speculation about Gretzky's own involvement, especially after a police wiretap caught Gretzky talking with Tocchet about the case.


Meanwhile, Gretzky struggled to keep focused – and to keep the media focused – on hockey.

UKRAINIAN UTTERINGS: Columbus Blue Jackets President and GM Doug MacLean acknowledged on his weekly radio show that he turned down a deal at the 2003 trade deadline which would have sent Ray Whitney to the Toronto Maple Leafs for Alexei Ponikarovsky. Whitney signed the following off-season with Detroit. Ponikarovsky, 25, emerged in 2003-2004 as a solid third-liner ... St. Louis rookie Lee Stempniak was issued jersey No. 65 in his first pro season camp. "Those were also my odds of making the team," he said at the time. He was the last cut in camp, but has since rejoined the team ... Ottawa Senators owner Eugene Melnyk bought his favorite hangout – Bert's Bar in Barbados – with plans of turning it into the official "Sens Headquarters" in the sunny south. "We hope to have it open in December, and we're going to have a big party," Melnyk told Bruce Garrioch of the Ottawa Sun ... Former NHLer Perry Berezan said players should accept a salary cap. In a conversation with the Calgary Sun's Randy Sportak, Berezan said, "If I'm a player right now, I'm not worried about any system. Even if the majority (of owners) are willing to fol-

(Continued on page 18)



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The Orange Circle...

(Continued from page 1)

Kyiv, Dr. Aslund, emphasized the strength of Ukraine's position in negotiations with Russia, and reminded the audience that 80 percent of natural gas leaving Russia is transported through Ukraine, with the balance being transited through Belarus and Poland. According to him, Russia is not able to store this gas, but Ukraine is.

He underscored that there is little incentive for either side to cooperate with the other, mainly because Russia holds a monopoly on gas supplies, while Ukraine holds a monopoly on transit pipelines. His recommendation is that a multilateral agreement on gas delivery be reached by all major European consumers of gas.

Dr. Aslund also spoke of the enigmatic intermediary entity, RosUkrEnerg, through which all gas will be sold to Ukraine under the new deal. While in Kyiv in late January, Dr. Aslund met with two RosUkrEnerg officials who told him that they will not publicize the identity of the company's beneficiaries until after Ukraine's March 26 parliamentary elections. According to Dr. Aslund, it is the general view in Kyiv that President Vladimir Putin stands behind the secretive Swiss-registered joint venture company. Fifty percent of RUE is owned by Gazprom, through its Swiss-registered

ARosgas Holding A.G., and another 50 percent by Centragas Holding, owned by the Austrian Raiffeisen Investment A.G.

Dr. Aslund stated his belief that the United States government considers itself to have a stake in the crisis, as evidenced by the fact that the U.S. secretary of the treasury has written a letter to Austrian President Heinz Fischer asking him to reveal who is behind RosUkrEnerg, which he has not done to date. President Fischer currently holds the rotating presidency of the Council of the European Union.

In terms of the impact of the gas crisis on foreign investment, Dr. Aslund shared his observations of Kyiv as awash with eager potential foreign investors who are laying the groundwork for future participation in Ukraine's economy. His belief is that the question investors ask is "not if, but when," and that the most booming sectors for investment are retail, banking and real estate.

Dr. Kozintseva painted a somewhat different picture of the investment climate in Ukraine. According to her, uncertainty over the gas pricing deal and the deal's intermediary - RosUkrEnerg - need to be resolved before foreign investors show significant interest in the Ukrainian market. She believes that, as a result of the gas crisis, Ukraine suffered a considerable loss in attractiveness as a market for investment. According to Dr. Kozintseva, the deal and the subsequent attempt by the Verkhovna Rada to dismiss the govern-

ment of Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov have had four major impacts on the investment community's perception of Ukraine.

First, Dr. Kozintseva argued, the agreement has led to a political destabilization in Ukraine and has created major barriers to forming a stable pro-government coalition ahead of the March 26 parliamentary elections.

Second, the agreement raised major questions about corporate governance and transparency on the part of the Ukrainian government.

Third, higher gas prices for the first half of 2006 will have a substantial downward pressure on Ukraine's already stalled economy.

Finally, higher gas prices will result in lower margins and higher costs for energy-intensive Ukrainian export industries such as metallurgy, machine-building and chemicals.

As an illustration of her argument that the foreign investment community has negatively revised its perception of Ukraine as a result of the gas crisis, Dr. Kozintseva noted that Deutsche Bank, which had previously provided a 2 billion euro (\$2.4 billion) credit to Naftohaz, suspended loans to the Ukrainian state-owned energy giant because of "political uncertainty."

Throughout the briefing, all three speakers alluded to the underlying political situation in Ukraine in the run-up to the parliamentary elections. Mr. Karatnycky stated

that while the Orange Revolution had not met the high expectations of the public, polls suggest there is a steady majority that will support parties from the "Orange camp" in the March 26 parliamentary elections. "The divide is still roughly 55 percent in favor of the Orange groupings, and 45 percent opposed. This is roughly the same split as existed in December 2004, when President [Viktor] Yushchenko was elected," Mr. Karatnycky said.

He suggested that there is a high likelihood of an Orange coalition in the event that the Our Ukraine bloc receives the highest amount of support from among the "Orange" parties, an outcome that now appears increasingly probable.

The February 1 discussion was the first in a series of Orange Circle briefings that will focus on timely and relevant topics related to economic and political events in Ukraine.

Founded in the fall of 2005, The Orange Circle is a coalition of political, civic, cultural, educational and business leaders from the United States, Canada, and Europe. Its goals are to further democracy and economic reform within Ukraine and to promote Ukraine's integration into global and European economic and political structures, including the World Trade Organization, European Union and NATO.

As part of its mission, The Orange Circle promotes better international understanding of economic and political developments in Ukraine, builds public and official support for Ukraine in the United States, Europe and Canada, and organizes discussions and briefings with experts, government officials and business leaders from Ukraine, the United States, Canada and Europe.

The Orange Circle is a nonpartisan, U.S.-based not-for-profit organization with representatives in Canada, Ukraine and major European countries. It is governed by a board of directors made up of citizens from the U.S., Europe and Canada, and relies on financial support from private individual donors, corporations and membership fees.

Mr. Karatnycky, who has made the new organization his major arena of work, serves as its president and CEO. He also continues a relationship with Freedom House as a senior scholar.

Adriana Melnyk is The Orange Circle's director of research and outreach.

Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 17)

low a salary cap, it still only takes one to mess it up. Owners will find ways to break their own rules." ... Three-time Stanley Cup champion Ken Daneyko joined with former New York Giants center Bart Oates and ex-Yankees catcher Rick Cerrone to form a real estate company in New Jersey called Stellar Realty Group ... The St. Louis Blues unveiled a life-sized statue of retired star Bernie Federko in the main concourse of Savvis Center last November 1. The statue honors the Ukrainian Federko as the first Hall of Famer to spend the majority of his career as a Blue ... Mighty Ducks center Zenon Konopka, in his fifth NHL game, scored his first NHL goal on November 6, 2005, in a 4-3 overtime loss to Minnesota ... Right winger Jordin Tootoo was reassigned to Milwaukee (AHL) on October 10, 2005, to get more playing time. He was ejected 32 seconds into his second contest and earned a three-game suspension. There were no immediate plans to recall him until about two weeks prior to Christmas. Tootoo returned as an offensive force, tallying five points in his first six games back in Nashville ...

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Chicago filmmaker to walk 5,000 kilometers from Madrid to Kyiv

by Anya Antonovych

CHICAGO – The Young Friends of the Institute are excited to hold a send-off party on Thursday, February 23, at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art here to raise interest in an upcoming project of 23-year-old Chicago filmmaker Lee Kazimir.

On February 28 Mr. Kazimir will fly to Madrid. From Madrid he will walk approximately 5,000 kilometers to Kyiv, via Paris, Berlin and Warsaw. During the trek, which he estimates will last from six to seven months, he will film whatever catches his eye, interview people he meets and write about his experiences. Upon returning to Chicago, he will edit the footage and writings into a feature-length film to be called "More Shoes."

In a recent interview, the young filmmaker said that the idea for the film has been lodged in his mind for some time now. While hiking in the Pyrenees several years ago, his companion misquoted Werner Herzog to him, saying that one could learn more about filmmaking by walking a great distance – for example, from Paris to Rome – than from attending film school. This registered with Mr. Kazimir.

He was greatly dismayed, then, while reading "Herzog on Herzog," a compilation of interviews with the filmmaker edited by Paul Cronin, to discover that the arbitrary trek to which Mr. Herzog referred was from Madrid to Kyiv. Madrid to Kyiv seemed impossible.

What Mr. Herzog said is this: Instead of school, you should make a journey of approximately 5,000 kilometers, alone, on foot, "let's say from Madrid to Kyiv. While you are walking, you would learn much more about filmmaking and what it truly involves than you ever would in a classroom. Your experiences would be the very opposite of academic knowledge, for academia is the death of cinema."

Mr. Herzog has been making films for over 40 years. An independent filmmaker before the term was invented, Mr. Herzog produced his first film at the age of 19. Epic in scope, his films include "Aguirre, The Wrath of God," "Fata Morgana" and, most recently, last year's critically acclaimed documentary "Grizzly Man." Mr. Herzog has also published about a dozen books of prose and has directed a similar number of operas.

Unable to shake himself of the idea, Mr. Kazimir wrote to Mr. Herzog. Mr. Herzog responded, and counseled him: "Start your walking slowly the first week. You will settle in naturally. Do not circle around your own navel, the world out there is the center. Keep your eyes open for the tiny things as well."

Mr. Kazimir studied anthropology at University College London, where he also began writing and directing theater and video. His plays have been performed in both London and Chicago, and his video "Three True Stories" was included in the Raindance Festival in London.

With only a few weeks left before departure, Mr. Kazimir is training daily. Also in preparation for his journey, he has visited local cultural institutions to learn more about the countries he will travel through. At the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, he met Karin Patzke, chairperson of the Young Friends of the Institute.

The Young Friends enthusiastically agreed to help publicize the project by sponsoring a send-off party. They also plan to hold a progress report during Mr. Kazimir's trek, possibly showing some raw footage of his journey. Mr. Kazimir, who is of Polish ancestry, said he is especially pleased to have the support of a Ukrainian organization, as his grandfather was born in Kyiv.

Funding for this ambitious project is as unusual as the project itself. In a drive called "Fellow Travelers," Mr. Kazimir is

asking 1,000 people to donate \$20 each. In return, they will receive a postcard from somewhere along the route and will be listed in the film credits. To donate, or to find out more about "More Shoes," readers may log on to www.madridtokiev.com.

Mr. Kazimir will speak about the proj-

ect and screen a trailer for the film at 8 p.m. on Thursday, February 23, at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 2320 W. Chicago Ave., 773-227-5522. Refreshments will be served. Doors open at 7 p.m. Admission is free. For more information visit www.uima-org.

Rutgers – Newark hosts reading of political science professor's novel



Kristina Lew

NEWARK, N.J. – Alexander Motyl, Rutgers University professor of political science, artist and author, read from his new novel, "Whiskey Priest," at the Rutgers – Newark campus in New Jersey in November 2005. The thriller, set in Vienna and Kyiv, explores themes of identity, faith and redemption as it follows a disillusioned KGB assassin and an insecure female U.S. diplomat tracking down an Ivy League professor running a prostitution ring in Ukraine. Prof. Motyl is deputy director of the Center for Global Change and Governance, and co-director of the Central and East European Studies Program, both at Rutgers – Newark. Seen at the reading (from left) are: Rutgers University Profs. Yale Ferguson, Mary Segers, Myroslava Zhayenko, Alexander Motyl, George Repic and Margaret La Scala. Prof. Lisa Hull is seated in the center.



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New Year's Eve celebrated amidst Soyuzivka's winter wonderland

by Bohdanka Puzyk

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The arrival of the New Year is always a very festive occasion here, especially when you have the management and staff of Soyuzivka doing everything in their power to ensure the best.

Soyuzivka is always a magical and wonderful place in the winter, when snow covers the ground and the evergreens all glisten with a dusting of snow. The entire estate looks like a winter wonderland. The Main House was decorated with a beautiful Christmas tree (thanks to Olesia Guran, sales manager), a warm

fire roared in the fireplace, and the room was filled with the sound of traditional Ukrainian Christmas carols. Friday night started the New Year festivities early with entertainment in the Main House where guests talked and danced.

Saturday, December 31, brought a clear and beautiful day with a hint of snow in the air. By evening, just in time for the cocktail hour, a nice snowfall added to the splendor of the evening. The Main House was the gathering place for hors d'œuvres and cocktails, as ladies in evening gowns and men in tuxedos met and greeted family and friends. The



Soyuzivka's winter wonderland on New Year's Eve.



Young ladies in their New Year's Eve finery.

excitement of another New Year at Soyuzivka was electrifying.

At the appropriate hour the guests started moving toward the Veselka Hall, where dinner was served. While walking slowly and carefully through the snow, everyone was able to enjoy the exterior decorations bestowed by nature.

The Veselka hall had been transformed into a fantastic winter wonderland, dressed up in sparkling and shimmering silver and blue. As guests entered, Tempo was playing traditional carols making for a very festive atmosphere. Well over 200 people had dinner, which was served by the wait staff of Soyuzivka. These young people worked very hard to be attentive to everyone. Chef Andriy Sonevytsky

truly outdid himself this year with an exquisite menu that offered a delicious meal for any pallet.

After dinner Tempo let out all the stops, and the party began. The New Year was greeted with great fanfare and excitement, as everyone hugged and kissed and wished each other the best in the coming year. The zabava lasted until after 2 a.m.

The next morning at brunch, people were still wishing each other a happy New Year and talking about making plans for next year's festivities. And I suggest that with Soyuzivka's new booking policies, if anyone is considering celebrating New Year's Eve 2006 at Soyuzivka, making a reservation now is a "dobra dumka" – a good idea.

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Walter Prochorenko, Ph.D.
 Director of Publications
 Ukrainian National Association

The Ukrainian Weekly Reader Survey

By completing the questionnaire below, you could win a free weekend at Soyuzivka!

- How often/thoroughly do you read The Ukrainian Weekly?
 - Weekly _____ Cover to cover _____ Partially _____
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 - 3-4 times per year _____ Cover to cover _____ Partially _____
- How do you receive The Weekly?
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 - Obtain free copy _____
 - Read excerpts online _____
- What do you think is a FAIR price for an annual subscription to The Weekly? (please consider the quality, content and cultural aspects of the publication).
 - \$25/year _____
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 - Other _____
- In ADDITION to news about Ukraine and news about Ukrainian events in the diaspora, what other features or articles you would like to see in The Weekly on a regular basis?

	More	Less	Same
Business news from Ukraine			
Ukrainian businesses in the U.S. and Canada			
Sports in Ukraine			
Sports in the U.S. where Ukrainians are involved			
Columnists, commentary			
Community events calendar			
Reviews of (Ukrainian) restaurants			
Art/music/book reviews			
Religion/Church affairs			
Education news			
Children's corner ("UKELODEON")			
Political cartoons			
Historical and geographical information about Ukraine			
Cultural heritage, including traditions			
Recipes			
Famous Ukrainian people in the U.S. and Canada			
UNA information: members, products, benefits			
Legal issues (e.g., immigration, Social Security, etc.)			
Personal finance			
Puzzles			
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We are grateful for your participation. To thank you for taking the time to complete this survey, your name and address will be placed in a random drawing for a free weekend at Soyuzivka during 2006 (except on the Fourth of July and Labor Day weekends, and subject to room availability).

– Administration of UNA Publications, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly

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TENNIS CAMP
AGES 10-18

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AGES 7-10

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Session #2: July 16- July 22, 2006

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AGES 4-7

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AGES 12-ADULTS

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UKRAINIAN "SITCH" SPORTS CAMP
AGES 6-18



This is the 37th Annual Ukrainian "SITCH" Sports Camp that will take place here at Soyuzivka for the 1st time. Run by the Ukrainian Sitch Sports School, this camp will focus on soccer and tennis and is perfect for any sports enthusiast. Registration for this camp is done directly by contacting Marika Bokalo at 908/851-0617.

Session #1: July 23- July 29, 2006

Session #2: July 30- August 5, 2006

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GOLF DAY CAMP and BEACH VOLLEYBALL DAY CAMP
AGES 8-ADULTS



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AGES 8-16

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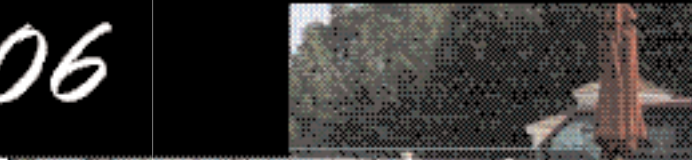
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OUT AND ABOUT

- February 14-March 10
New York "Masterpieces of Ukrainian Architecture," art by Yuri Khymych, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660
- February 23
Chicago Send-off party for filmmaker Lee Kazimir, who will walk from Madrid to Kyiv, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522
- February 25
New York Music at the Institute concert by "Laryssa Krupa and Friends," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660
- March 3
Sarasota, FL "The Whisperer," film by Andrea Odezynska, Through Women's Eyes International Film Festival, 941-284-1027
- March 5
Philadelphia Fashion show and tea reception, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Philadelphia Regional Council, 215-742-3227
- March 23-25
Madison, WI Conference on 20th anniversary of Chernobyl nuclear accident, University of Wisconsin, 608-265-6298

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in The Ukrainian Weekly. However, we also welcome submissions from all our readers; please send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com. Items will be published at the discretion of the editors and as space allows. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each.

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

February 24, 2006 KAFAS Banquet, Kerhonkson Accord First Aid Squad Installation Banquet	Brunch, doors open at 11:30 a.m.
March 10-12, 2006 Plast Kurin "Khmelnynchenky" and "Chornomortsy" Annual Winter Rada	April 22, 2006 Alpha Kappa Sorority Formal Dinner Banquet
March 31 - April 2, 2006 Plast Kurin "Chornomorski Khvyli" Annual Rada	April 23, 2006 Traditional Ukrainian Easter Day Brunch, doors open at 11:30 a.m.
April 16, 2006 Traditional Ukrainian Easter Day	April 28, 2006 Ellenville High School Junior Prom
	April 28-30, 2006 UNWLA Branch 95 Spa Weekend

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, February 25

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute's "Music at the Institute" (MATI) series presents "Laryssa Krupa and Friends" at 8 p.m. Enjoy an evening of classical entertainment by Borys Deviatov (viola), Wanda Glowacka (cello), Marta Krechkovsky (violin), Laryssa Krupa (piano) and Barbara Siesel (flute) in their performance featuring the works of Mozart, Hummel and Brahms. Tickets for general admission are \$30; \$25 for UIA members and senior citizens. For additional information call 212-288-8660.

Tuesday, February 28

WASHINGTON: Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, will speak on the role of the diaspora in the post-Orange Revolution era at 7 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3550 M St. NW. The talk is sponsored by the Embassy and the Shevchenko Scientific Society, Washington, D.C., branch. Admission is free. Those planning to attend must reserve by e-mailing nholub@ukremb.com by Friday, February 24. For further information call 202-514-1822 daytime or 301-230-2149 evenings and weekends.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University will host a lunchtime lecture by Ernest Gyidel, a Fulbright Scholar at the Harriman Institute, titled, "National, Social and Situational: Revising the Civil War(s) in Post-Imperial Russian South, 1918-1920." This lecture will discuss recent developments in both Russian and Ukrainian historiographies of this topic, which share similar features but are almost unknown to one another. Mr. Gyidel will also report on his findings at the Bakhmetteff Archive (Columbia University) on the history of

the White movement in Ukraine. The lecture will take place in Room 1219 of the International Affairs Building at Columbia University, 420 W. 118th St., starting at 1 p.m. Free and open to the public. For more information, contact Diana Howansky at 212-854-4697 or ukrainianstudies@columbia.edu.

Sunday, March 5

OTTAWA: Roman Hurko, an accomplished Ukrainian-Canadian composer of sacred music, will be in Ottawa to launch his latest CD, "Vespers-Vechirnia." The event will take place in Room 113 of Perez Hall, 610 Cumberland (near corner of Laurier and Cumberland), on the University of Ottawa Campus, at 1 p.m. This latest CD of vespers is sung by the renowned Vydubychi Choir of Kyiv. This event is free. It is sponsored by the Eastern Catholic Student Chaplaincy of Ottawa. For more information, contact Father Peter Galadza, 613-230-0997.

NORTH PORT, Fla.: The Ukrainian Club of Southwest Florida presents "Art Ukraine 2006" – an exhibit of Ukrainian icons and other art forms, at the Venice Art Center, 390 Nokomis Ave. S., in Venice. Comprising the exhibit, in addition to icons, will be the following Ukrainian folk art forms: bead work ("gerdany"), ceramics, Easter eggs ("pysanky"), embroidery and wood carvings. Lectures on the exhibited art forms will be presented during the exhibition; and, there will also be live performances of Ukrainian music. Gallery hours: Monday-Friday, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. The exhibition is on view through March 7. For additional information contact Club President Daria Tomashosky, 941-426-2542, or "Art Ukraine 2006" Committee Co-chairs Christyna Bodnar Sheldon, 941-460-9890, or Klara Szpiczka, 941-423-6590.

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.

Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Attention Debutante Ball Organizers!

As in the past, The Ukrainian Weekly is planning to publish a special section devoted to the Ukrainian community's debutantes. The 2006 debutante ball section will be published in March. The deadline for submission of stories and photos is March 6.