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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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Vol. LXXIV No. 25 THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY SUNDAY, JUNE 18, 2006 \$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Soccer mania grips the country as Ukraine debuts at World Cup

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

 $KYIV-For\ their\ vacations,\ Ukrainians\ typically\ flock\ to\ Turkey,\ Egypt\ or\ Crimea.$

Volodymyr Medvedev, 29, decided to take two weeks off to watch the World Cup, in its entirety. "Even Korea-Togo" he said.

Soccer mania gripped Ukraine as millions stopped what they were doing the afternoon of June 14 to watch the debut of its national soccer team in the World Cup.

While the weather was hot and sunny in Leipzig, Germany, heavy downpours drenched the streets of Kyiv just as the game commenced at 4 p.m. local time – perhaps a dark omen of things to come.

The rains failed to keep more than a hundred young fans from donning raincoats and crowding onto Independence Square to watch the historic game on the maidan's large screen.

"The rain doesn't mean anything," said Liudmyla Zakaluzhna, 16, who draped a Ukrainian flag around her shoulders. "The atmosphere is warm."

She and her classmates were visiting Kyiv from their hometown of Peremyshl (Przemysl), Poland. It was a thrill to witness Ukraine's debut in the capital city, she said.

As the students watched the match, two older women pulled up next to them



National deputy Rynat Akhmetov of the Party of the Regions wore his Ukraine soccer scarf to the Verkhovna Rada on June 14, the day of Ukraine's first-ever World Cup match.

with carts and began peddling their blueand-yellow souvenirs.

"Scarves, hats, flags, horns!" they called into the crowd, then providing a

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Ukrainian-language publishers hold first Children's Book Fair in Kyiv

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – More than 60 Ukrainian-language publishers held the first Kyiv Children's Book Fair at the Ukrainian Home in European Square between May 31 and June 3.

Such initiatives, sponsored by the Publishers Forum, come at a critical time when eastern and southern Ukrainians are rebelling against the Ukrainian language, voting to make Russian a regional language in three oblasts and five major cities.

Most recently, on June 6, Donetsk celebrated Russian Language Day during which the Party of the Regions donated 10,000 Russian-language books to the oblast's libraries.

"We're thinking about Ukraine's future – children's books," said Mykola Zhulynskyi, chair of the President's National Council for Cultural and Spiritual Issues.

"Everything has to be done to support Ukrainian books in the Ukrainian language as having priority in the Ukrainian nation. For such books, conditions are necessary in which a publisher isn't struggling to realize his goals," he said.

The Ukrainian government doesn't track the precise number of Ukrainian-language books, or children books, on the market, said Oleksandra Koval, president of the Publishers Forum, a citizens' group that promotes Ukrainian-language books and literature.

It doesn't even track how many Ukrainian-language books it buys with government money, she added.

About 70 Ukrainian publishers print children books in the Ukrainian language, Ms. Koval said.

Attending the book fair, Vice Prime Minister Viacheslav Kyrylenko said Ukrainian-language publishers are continuing to increase their production. However, they are in direct competition with their Russian counterparts, who continue to dominate the publishing market in Ukraine.

Sales of Ukrainian books topped 54 million last year, compared with 70 million Russian books sold, Mr. Kyrylenko said.

(Continued on page 3)

Party of Regions reported to be close to forming majority coalition in Rada

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – The Party of the Regions may be close to forming a parliamentary coalition with certain members of the Our Ukraine bloc or the Socialist Party of Ukraine after leader Viktor Yanukovych announced June 15 that he has enough votes.

"We already have the signatures of a majority in agreement," Mr. Yanukovych said, adding that he expects an accord will be signed by June 20.

In the event of such a coalition, the Our Ukraine bloc could splinter because it's unlikely that all six of its member political parties will come to agreement with the Party of the Regions.

Business-oriented parties, such as the Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs led by Anatolii Kinakh and the Our Ukraine People's Union led by Yurii Yekhanurov, indicated they are willing to compromise on many issues.

However, the People's Rukh of Ukraine led by Borys Tarasyuk and the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists led by Oleksii Ivchenko are unlikely to cede on ideological issues such as official status for the Russian language and recogni-

tion of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army.

The Christian-Democratic Union Party led by Volodymyr Stretovych said it will enter a coalition with the Party of the Regions only if the coalition agreement explicitly supports membership in the European Union and the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

Socialist Party leader Yosyp Vinskyi didn't rule out the possibility that some of his party's deputies would join a coalition with the Party of the Regions, but said the party's leadership would sign no such formal agreement.

Mr. Yanukovych's announcement came after National Deputy Roman Zvarych announced in the Verkhovna Rada the morning of June 15 that the Our Ukraine bloc has begun formal talks with the Party of the Regions.

Earlier in the week, Our Ukraine's leaders said they were quitting coalition talks with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party of Ukraine after intense lobbying by Oleksander Moroz for the Verkhovna Rada chairman's position.

"In relation to the Socialist Party's ultimatums regarding the Verkhovna

(Continued on page 21)

Yushchenko aide visiting Washington was optimistic about Orange coalition

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – Less than a week before the Orange Revolution coalition talks were apparently falling apart in Kyiv, one of President Viktor Yushchenko's top aides visiting Washington was expressing optimism about the prospect of the president's Our Ukraine party, the Yulia Tymoshenko bloc and the Socialist Party forming Ukraine's next government.

Briefing representatives of the Ukrainian American community at the Ukrainian Embassy here on June 7, First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Secretariat Ivan Vasiunyk said an announcement to that effect could be expected within a week or two.

He left himself some verbal wiggle room, however.

"As of now, almost all – almost all – participants of the coalition are convinced that the new prime minister should be Yulia Tymoshenko," he said, noting that negotiations aimed at getting a compromise candidate for the chairmanship of the Verkhovna Rada – a position openly sought by Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz – were continuing.

As it turned out, the impasse over the Rada chairmanship derailed the negotiations on June 12.

Mr. Vasiunyk was visiting Washington for talks with U.S. officials, members of Congress and the International Republican Institute about implementing a U.S.-funded reorganization and management reform program for the Ukrainian government.

He said that President Yushchenko was taking an active part in the negotiating process and that he has stressed that building a workable coalition did not depend solely on getting agreement on who would occupy which government position. The president insisted that achieving a unified political platform was paramount in the talks, he said.

These policy talks, which Mr. Vasiunyk described as being very intense but positive, were in the final stage, but with some issues still outstanding, among them, land ownership reform – a primary concern of the Socialists – and the "pace and scope" of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration process.

He said the president had also underscored the need to bring some order to a dysfunctional Constitutional Court, and radical reform of the judiciary, which, he said, has shown evidence of subjectivity and corruption, as well as what he called "judicial bacchanalia" in many jurisdictions – a total lack of judicial responsibili-

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ANALYSIS

Gas-price increase for Ukraine could cause severe problems

by Roman Kupchinsky

RFE/RL Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova Report

Ukraine's energy problems seem to be never-ending. Now, less than half a year after Gazprom briefly cut off gas supplies to Ukraine, the Russian gas monopoly is threatening to raise the price again.

On May 22 Aleksandr Ryazanov, Gazprom's deputy CEO, told the Komersant Ukrayiny daily that on July 1 the price of gas to Ukraine is to be increased from \$95 per 1,000 cubic meters to between \$120 and \$130.

The current price for a "mixed basket" of Russian and Central Asian gas was agreed upon in January during the course of tense negotiations that ended in the cut-off.

If Gazprom follows through on its threat, the impact on the Ukrainian economy could be huge.

And, the economy already is in trouble. A recent European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) projection said that Ukraine's GDP growth rate could halve from 2.4 percent in 2005 to 1.2 percent in 2006. According to the report, the likely cause is the higher prices Ukraine is already paying to import gas. Add to that the growing disarray in the country's state-

Roman Kupchinsky is the organized crime and terrorism analyst for RFE/RL.

owned energy sector, which is sliding into greater debt.

If Gazprom manages to get its way and increase the price of gas, this might mean an additional bill of \$625 million to \$875 million from July through

On May 31 the Ukrainian government announced that beginning on July 1 domestic consumers will pay \$82.80 for 1,000 cubic meters of gas – a 50 percent increase. Raising it again in the near future might prove difficult.

In the first six months of 2006, the increased cost of energy has seen consumer prices rising at an annualized rate of 19 percent. A further increase in the price of gas is likely to exacerbate inflation.

A severe economic downturn could bring down a pro-Yushchenko government and force the president to appoint a government from the pro-Russian Party of the Regions.

Ukraine has few, if any, options to avoid the price increase or to retaliate. The transit fee for Russian gas going through Ukrainian pipelines was set for 10 years in the January agreement and is unlikely to be raised before then.

Increasing the rent for the Russian Black Sea fleet based in Sevastopol is unlikely, largely due to President Yushchenko's

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Building coalitions, and nations, in post-Orange Revolution Ukraine

by Jan Maksymiuk RFE/RL Newsline June 8

The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, Our Ukraine and the Socialist Party - the three allies in the 2004 Orange Revolution – have been busy for weeks preparing a coalition accord to form a new government. Meanwhile, pro-Russian opposition groups have engaged themselves in fanning anti-NATO protests in Crimea and declaring Russian a "regional language" in some regions.

The June 7 session of the Verkhovna Rada, which resumed after a two-week recess, did not clarify the conundrum of who will form the next government in Ukraine. The Orange Revolution forces once again passed a motion adjourning the parliamentary session for one more week in order to finalize a coalition accord.

But the Orange Revolution allies, if reunited after their split in September 2005, are set to restart their government career in a turbulent political climate, in which the Russian language and NATO membership have once again become bitterly divisive issues.

Since the March 26 parliamentary and local elections in Ukraine, regional legislators have declared Russian a "regional language" in a number of eastern and southern Ukrainian regions and cities, including Kharkiv, Donetsk and Mykolaiv.

President Viktor Yushchenko made clear on June 6 that these decisions are unconstitutional: "Article 10 of the Constitution of Ukraine defines a common status of the state language, which is Ukrainian. And no regional or city council has the authority to

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

change the status of any language."

However, Mr. Yushchenko can do little more than make indignant statements on account. Only Ukraine's Constitutional Court can rule that a decision by a legislative body is unconstitutional and subsequently cancel it.

But the Constitutional Court has been nonoperational for nearly a year. The Verkhovna Rada refuses to swear in new judges, fearing that President Yushchenko will ask the court to cancel the 2004 constitutional reform that strips him of some substantial powers in favor of the Parliament and the prime minister.

Another blow to the apparently dwindling authority of the president came last week from Crimea, where pro-Russian opposition groups - including the Party of the Regions, the Natalia Vitrenko Bloc and the Communist Party - have launched anti-NATO protests.

The pretext for the protests was the visit in the port of Feodosiya of a U.S. naval cargo ship, which brought construction equipment and materials to upgrade a training range in Crimea before the multinational military exercise Sea Breeze 2006 scheduled for July. The protesters see the U.S. naval visit as an unwelcome NATO intrusion into Ukrainian territory and demand the sacking of Ukraine's ministers of defense and foreign affairs over the incident.

The deployment of foreign troops on Ukrainian territory must be approved by the Parliament for each individual case. It is not clear whether the Verkhovna Rada will be able to grant relevant permission before the Sea Breeze 2006 exercise. If not, then President Yushchenko will suffer international humiliation, since participation in the exercise has already been confirmed by 17 countries.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Bush cancels visit to Ukraine

KYIV - George W. Bush has canceled his planned visit to Ukraine, Reuters reported on June 8 quoting a White House press release. The Ukrayinska Pravda website, quoting Reuters, wrote that the cancellation was due to the lack of a government in Ukraine and possible fears of angering Russia. Other sources in Washington said that Russia's reaction surely was not the reason, and the Associated Press reported that the U.S. president would not visit since Ukraine's government and Parliament were in disarray. White House spokesman Tony Snow was quoted as saying that a visit by Mr. Bush to Ukraine would take place at a later date. (RFE/RL Newsline, The Ukrainian Weekly, Associated Press)

Moroz predicts crisis over coalition

KYIV - Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz said on June 11 that the coalition talks between his party, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine on forming a new government had reached an impasse, UNIAN reported. Mr. Moroz said that if President Viktor Yushchenko failed to intervene in the negotiation process, the talks would prove fruitless. "To conduct further talks with businessmen from politics, who represent Our Ukraine at the current moment, is devoid of any sense," the Socialist Party press service quoted Mr. Moroz as saying. Our Ukraine had reportedly agreed that Yulia Tymoshenko should head the Cabinet of Ministers but wants current Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov to become parliamentary chairman. The Socialist Party, however, wants that post for Mr. Moroz. Meanwhile, President Yushchenko said in a radio address to the nation on June 10 that he will not intervene in the coalition talks because "I do not want to form a coalition under pressure." He noted, "I think that the politician who aspires to the post of prime minister should shoulder the responsibility for coalition-building." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Orange coalition talks break down

KYIV - Our Ukraine has told its partners in coalition talks - the Yulia

Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party that it feels "free in its actions" and is under "no obligations at present" regarding the two allies in the 2004 Orange Revolution, UNIAN reported on June 13, quoting Roman Zvarych of Our Ukraine. In a statement issued on June 12, Our Ukraine said it sees "no prospects of success" in continuing talks on forming a ruling coalition with these two groups. However, negotiators from Our Ukraine have refused to confirm or deny that they will now turn to the Party of the Regions led by former Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych with an offer to form a new government. The three former Orange Revolution allies reportedly differ on the distribution of top government posts. The newly elected Verkhovna Rada, which began its work on May 25 and gathered shortly on June 7, was to reconvene on June 14. In accordance with a 2004 amendment to the Ukrainian Constitution, the president has the right to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada if it fails to form a ruling majority within one month. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yulia won't join "mishmash" coalition

KYIV - Yulia Tymoshenko, leader of the eponymous political bloc, told a reopened session of the Verkhovna Rada on June 14 that the recently deadlocked talks about the restoration of an Orange Revolution coalition were used as a "smokescreen" by Our Ukraine, which in Ms. Tymoshenko's opinion wants to conclude a coalition deal with the Party of the Regions, Ukrainian media reported. Ms. Tymoshenko was commenting on a statement by Our Ukraine on June 13, in which the party appealed to all parliamentary forces to sit at a negotiating table. According to Our Ukraine, the coalition talks reached an impasse because the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party "have put their ambitions regarding the key portfolios above the will of the Ukrainian people." "[The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc] will not agree to any coalition cooperation in such a mishmash format, which will include the Party of the Regions, Our Ukraine and some others," Ms. Tymoshenko stated in the Parliament on June 14. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Ukrainian-language...

(Continued from page 1)

"In such conditions, we aren't able to defend the domestic market nor ensure publication of the necessary supply of children's books in Ukrainian, which is the language of teaching in schools and institutions of higher education," he said.

President Yushchenko has appointed an investigative committee on book publishing and distribution to consider imposing import quotas.

"I think that approach is one of the most effective instruments to defend the domestic market," Mr. Kyrylenko said. "It's not about limiting languages, but any book that comes to Ukraine from outside. Until we defend the Ukrainian publisher, we can't talk about a new tempo of developing Ukrainian literature."

Import duties currently exist. Nevertheless, Russian books make it into Ukraine and evade such duties through the so-called "gray market," said Ivan Malkovych, president of A-Ba-Ba-Ha-La-Ma-Ha, a leading publisher whose product line includes the Ukrainian-language version of the Harry Potter series.

Without import duties, Russian books are less expensive than Ukrainian books because they're published in larger volumes, he explained.

"We need to defend our mass media and level out rights and prices so that Ukrainian publishers don't feel like Cinderellas in their native land," Mr. Malkovych said.

The Ukrainian government should also be taking an active role in buying contemporary Ukrainian-language books, he said. "That would renew children's appreciation for libraries so that, when they go there, they won't find some antiquated books about Soviet Pioneers and Lenin, but new, contemporary books for children," said Mr. Malkovych, a member of the National Council for Cultural and Spiritual Issues.

The Ukrainian government is committed to doing everything to defend Ukrainian publishers so that all Ukrainian children have access to books, Mr. Kyrylenko said.

But before imposing any import duties, the Ukrainian government will consult the Ministry of the Economy, as well as ensure that it won't be violating any international obligations, he noted.

Attending the book fair was one of the biggest contributors to contemporary Ukrainian culture, Sviatoslav Vakarchuk, lead singer of the rock band Okean Elzy.

He donated \$10,000 to a charity that will distribute new children's books to orphanages and village libraries.

As a boy, Mr. Vakarchuk said he read "Winnie the Pooh" books by A.A. Milne, The Surprising Adventures of Baron Manchausen by Jeff Thomann and Lewis Carroll books.

a far bigger problem than a lack of books however, he said. Ukrainian publishers are progressing, he said, but distribution and interest in books is lagging.

"If we don't read, we will become a nation of people with instincts, rather than people with intellect," Mr. Vakarchuk said. "The strength of the nation depends on learning and educa-

Yet another challenge in the Ukrainian children's book marketplace is the fact that few Ukrainian-born authors are writing such books.

Ms. Koval of the Publishers Forum estimated that 15 or 20 Ukrainian children's book authors are currently writing.

Mr. Vakarchuk admitted that he himself wasn't aware of any Ukrainian authors writing for children, only those who translate classics.

In addition, many of the books selling

at the fair were translations of Western contemporary authors, such as J.K. Rowling and Alice Hoffman.

About 600 new titles of children's books are published annually in Ukraine, which is "a drop in the ocean," Ms. Koval said.

If the government does introduce quotas to limit books from the Russian Federation, Ukrainian publishers have to be prepared to fill the subsequent vacuum, she said. "We need cheaper credit or investment," she said.

Yet another challenge is the fact that only 500 bookstores operate in all of Ukraine, Ms. Koval added.

Minister of Culture and Tourism Ihor Likhovyi said the administration is considering a proposal to open government enterprises that would operate bookstores in oblast centers.

The problem is so dire that Odesa hasn't a single Ukrainian bookstore, he said.

Whatever plans the Yushchenko government may have to support Ukrainianlanguage publishers, the consensus among industry leaders is that it's done nothing so far.

"The conditions practically haven't changed," Ms. Koval said. "The one thing is publishers have been freed from a profit tax. But bookstores continue to be lacking."

Nevertheless, Ukrainian-language publishers are selling more books and the market is improving, Mr. Malkovych

Even if the Orange Revolution hasn't yet changed the laws and economic conditions that publishers operate under, it certainly changed attitudes and re-awakened Ukrainian culture, he observed.

"In this atmosphere, the Ukrainian publisher feels more comfortable," Mr. Malkovych said. "He is starting to have the illusion that he's needed here and that he's involved in something beneficial."

Books weren't the only Ukrainian-language media at the fair.

Atlantic Project is a Kyiv-based company that produces animated, educational games for children between the ages of 5

The Atlantic "Children's Collection" CD-ROMs are interactive games on subjects such as Ukrainian history, ancient Rome, the ancient Orient, ancient Greece and the history of inventions and discov-

Each disc consists of riddles, rhymes, tongue twisters, games and cartoons. A test must be passed after each of eight levels in order to advance.

Atlantic began creating such games a year ago when its programmers realized that Ukraine has yet to create a Ukrainian-language computer environment for children.

"Even when a child is born into a Ukrainian-speaking family, they view exclusively Russian-language games or Ukrainians not interested in reading is English-language programs," said Yurii Handzyuk, the director of Atlantic.

> In the coming months, the company will release games on world history, famous composers, animals of Ukraine, icons of Ukraine and other subjects.

> Professors at the Institute of International Relations at Shevchenko State University of Kyiv verified the historical accuracy of the information, Mr. Handzyuk said.

(For more information visit http://www.atlantic-records.com.ua.)

The Ukrainian Forum is a group of concerned citizens who organized the children's book fair with the help of the Ukrainian Home, which donated use of its premises.

The group's main event, the 13th annual Publishers Forum Book Fair, will be held at the Arts Palace on September 14-17 in Lviv. For more information visit http://www.bookforum.com.ua.

A conversation with the lead singer of Okean Elzy about Ukrainian books

Okean Elzy lead singer Sviatoslav Vakarchuk talked about reading with reporters at the first Children's Book Fair held in Kyiv on May 31. Following are excerpts of the conversation.

What is your own contribution to promoting Ukrainian books?

There are many ways of promoting or making contributions. I would divide it into two parts: humanitarian and material. The humanitarian contribution is present in all of us, because we support such events. I can see many Ukrainian books published in the Ukrainian language children's books I had read in my childhood a long time ago which afterwards became lost and I hadn't seen recently. But now they are being published again nicely and I am happy about this.

As for my personal support in particular, it consists of two parts. I was an initiator of social advertising for reading. At the beginning of autumn we will see the results of this work. It's not just my work, but also the work of my partners and friends from advertising agencies and creative studios, and I hope that television networks will support this also. And we will do a good job.

Also, we are cooperating with the Publishers Forum and I've decided to donate 50,000 hrv (\$10,000) to purchase books for children at boarding schools and for libraries also - especially those that most need new children's books. I don't think this money is a lot on a national scale, but it is concrete, it's there and I'm ready to donate and to do something good.

What do you think is the bigger problem - that we don't have enough books or we just don't want to read

I think the much bigger problem is we don't want to read. We live too quickly. Daily problems and everyday moments draw us from the intellectual world, the world of thoughts and viewing the world from a distance. Reading broadens our world view and deepens our understanding of the world in which we live. If we don't read, we will become a nation of people with instincts, rather than people

(Continued on page 8)



Publishers Forum President Oleksandra Koval, Vice Prime Minister Viacheslav Kyrylenko and Okean Elzy lead singer Sviatoslav Vakarchuk talk to a Ukrainian boy about reading.

FOR THE RECORD: U.S. Embassy on Marine Reservists in Ukraine

Following is the text of a statement on tunate that a few people's misguided the departure of U.S. Marine Reservists agendas were able to interfere with comdelivered on June 13 by Brent Byers, pletion of a project that would have benespokesman for the U.S. Embassy in fited Ukrainian soldiers and would have

The U.S. Marine reservists invited to Ukraine by the Ukrainian government to construct infrastructure upgrades at Ukraine's military training facility at Staryi Krym in Crimea have departed Ukraine to return to their civilian jobs. As reservists, they are called up for active duty for only two weeks each year.

We are disappointed the Marines were unable to complete these upgrades that would have improved training conditions for Ukraine's armed forces. Those who claimed they had come to construct an American or NATO base were either misinformed or ill-intentioned.

The U.S. is a strong supporter of an independent, democratic Ukraine and this includes the rights of free speech and peaceful assembly. However, it is unfor-

pumped approximately \$150,000 into the economy of Feodosiya through local contracts for construction materials and

Although the engineering project was being undertaken in preparation for the upcoming Sea Breeze 2006 exercise, the departure of these Marine reservists will not necessarily influence any future decision regarding that exercise. We hope to move forward with the exercise, providing the Ukrainian government expresses a willingness to conduct Sea Breeze 2006 and the Rada passes the relevant legisla-

Ukraine has been a regular and active participant in Partnership for Peace exercises since 1994. These exercises benefit Ukraine's armed forces through training and improve cooperation and coordination between partner countries.

OBITUARY: Zynovij Sawyckyj, 93, attorney in Ukraine, administrator in the U.S.

RIVERSIDE, Conn. – Zynovij Sawyckyj, 93, who died of cancer at his home in Riverside, Conn., on May 30 waited nearly a century to see his dream of freedom realized in his native Ukraine. He said he was grateful to have lived long enough to witness the peaceful Orange Revolution in November-December 2004, when Ukrainians rose up and reclaimed their political right to determine their own future.

In his long lifetime, he was witness to the cataclysmic changes endured by Ukraine in the 20th century. Born during the waning days of the Austro-Hungarian Empire, as a child he and his family suffered from the repercussions of the Bolshevik Revolution and World War I. He then lived through Polish rule in Halychyna in the interwar years, Soviet occupation in 1939-1941, followed by Nazi occupation from 1941 onward.

When the Soviet Army advanced upon western Ukraine in 1944, he became part of the mass of 200,000 Ukrainians who chose to emigrate to freedom in the West – the largest political emigration in Ukrainian history. Then came the harrowing journey as a refugee through war-torn Europe, a precarious existence as a displaced person in post-war Germany, resettlement in the United States under the auspices of the United Nations' International Refugee Organization, and the difficult early years as an immigrant in a new land.

In spite of it all, Mr. Sawyckyj felt he had been extremely fortunate to have survived these experiences, and was keenly aware of the disparate fates suffered by his contemporaries, many of whom had been lost at war in competing armies of the great powers, had sacrificed their lives in the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA), had been deported to Siberia because of their political views or religious beliefs, had perished in Soviet gulags, or had been the casual victims of bombings by enemies or even by allies in the World War II period. This made him even more profoundly grateful to the United States for giving him and his family the opportunity to live as free people and to practice their Ukrainian Catholic faith.

Mr. Sawyckyj was born on November 26, 1912, in Bibrka, in the Lviv region of Ukraine, the only child of the Rev. Josyf and Ludmila (nee Levytska) Sawyckyj. His father was a catechist in the school system in Stryi and the initiator and cofounder of the St. Andrew's Society, a mutual aid society for priests and their families. His mother was a piano teacher, first at the Women's Academy in Peremyshl and later at the Lysenko Ukrainian Music Institute in Stryj.

Mr. Sawyckyj received a broad humanities education in a European-style gymnasium in Stryi, where he studied, among other things, Latin and ancient Greek. He was also an accomplished classical pianist, studying at the Ukrainian Music Institute in Stryi for 10

He studied law at Lviv University, where he received a law degree in 1936. It was there that he met his younger fellow law school student, Teodozia Klufas. The couple were married in 1943.

Mr. Sawyckyj, together with his wife and widowed mother, left Ukraine as war refugees in 1944, as, for the second time, the Soviet army advanced westward toward Lviv. The young couple's two children, a son and daughter, were born during the refugee years, in Poland and Germany, respectively.

In the United States, the Sawyckyj family settled in Utica, N.Y., in 1949. After a period in which he worked at various manual jobs in order to support his family, Mr. Sawyckyj assumed a position as an administrator at the Oneida County Department of Social Services, where he made use of his legal training and mind-set to monitor the implementation of government service programs and funding.

Mr. Sawyckyj was active in the cultural life of the Ukrainian community in Utica. For decades he was the piano accompanist for local and visiting Ukrainian singers and artists from the Northeast who performed during cultural events and historical commemorations in Utica and in other Ukrainian communities in upstate New York. For a time he

was also the head of the local chapter of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

His wife, Teodozia, was a 47-year activist in the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, on the local, regional and national levels. She dedicated many years of volunteer work to developing the UNWLA's worldwide scholarship program, and Mr. Sawyckyj would frequently find himself doing "mailroom duties" during busy scholarship award periods.

The Sawyckyjs were devoted members of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and parishioners at St. Volodymyr the Great Ukrainian Catholic Church in Utica for more than three decades and, after 1983, at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Stamford, Conn. They were also members of The Ukrainian Museum in New York City and over the years supported, on a modest but consistent basis, myriad community organizations and causes, believing this to be their community obligation.

Mr. Sawyckyj took an avid interest in events and issues relating to both Ukraine and the Ukrainian community in the U.S. and the world.

After Ukraine achieved its independence in 1991 following the collapse of the USSR, Mr. Sawyckyj traveled to Ukraine several times with his wife and later with his children and youngest grandson, Maksym. In the last decade of his life, he served in a pro-bono, unofficial capacity as a consultant to the Mykhailo Hrushevsky Museum in Kyiv, whose researchers valued his excellent historical memory, family archives (his mother's side of the family had ties to Hrushevsky's wife), genealogical expertise and sharp intellect, which remained intact until his death.

Mr. Sawyckyj and his wife, who died in 1998, transmitted their knowledge and appreciation of Ukrainian language, culture and history to their children and grandchildren, also leaving behind as their legacy an extensive and detailed family history that awaits publication.

Some of Mr. Sawyckyj's most gratify-

ing moments occurred in the last decade of his life, when, half a century after his emigration from the land of his birth, his grandchildren Danylo and Christine returned for a time to newly independent Ukraine to work and study there, respectively. In addition, in 2004, his son Jurij served as an election observer in Donetsk in the December 26 election in the aftermath of the Orange Revolution.

As Mr. Sawyckyj's life drew to a close, he saw succeeding generations of his family helping to fulfill the dream of a free Ukraine – a dream he had nurtured and held deep in his heart for nearly a century.

Mr. Sawyckyj is survived by his son Jurij Sawyckyj, M.D., of Riverside, Conn.; a daughter, Anisa Handzia Mycak with husband George of Forest Hills, N.Y.; granddaughter Christine Hladky with husband Alexander of Randolph, N.J.; grandson Dan Sawyckyj with wife Natalia of Philadelphia; grandson Maksym Mycak of Forest Hills, N.Y.; and two great-granddaughters, Olenka and Roma Hladky of Randolph, N.J. He also leaves behind a cousin, Ksenia Antypiw of Warren, Mich., and more distant relatives in the U.S., Canada and Ukraine

A panakhyda was held at Gallagher & Son Funeral Home in Greenwich, Conn., on June 2. A funeral liturgy was celebrated on June 3 at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral in Stamford, where Mr. Sawyckyj was a parishioner for 24 years. Burial was on June 3 at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

In lieu of flowers, donations can be made to The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003 (Memo: Zynovij and Dr. Teodozia Sawyckyj Memorial Fund); to the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv through the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622-4828 (Memo: Sawyckyj Memorial Fund); or the UNWLA Scholarship Fund (Dr. Teodozia Sawycka Memorial Fund), 171 Main St., P.O. Box 24, Matawan, NJ 07747-0024.

CCRDF delivers advanced medical equipment to Chernivtsi

CHERNIVTSI, Ukraine – The Ukrainian Mobile Communications Company (UMC) held a press conference on May 23 at Chernivtsi Maternity Hospital No. 2 to celebrate the arrival of advanced medical technology that can help to save the lives of children and to provide effective treatment for mothers with pregnancy complications and difficult deliveries.

The new equipment was purchased and installed by the Children of Chornobyl Relief and Development Fund (CCRDF), an award-winning charity based in Kyiv and Short Hills, N.J., that has delivered over \$55 million worth of medical technology and humanitarian aid to Ukraine since it was first established in 1989.

The new technology included an advanced Fukuda-Denshi ultrasound scanner with color Doppler (UF-750XT) manufactured in Japan, complete with a variety of diagnostic probes for the examination of both mothers and children. The ultrasound will enable obstetricians and neonatal specialists in Chernivtsi to examine the internal organs of adults and infants, including the heart, thyroid gland, abdomen, reproductive and urinary tracts.

CCRDF also purchased a fetal heart monitor manufactured by the Huntleigh Corp. in Great Britain, a neonatal incubator produced by Fisher & Paykel Healthcare and an Optica Hopkins hysteroscope, which enables doctors to carry

out minimally invasive operations.

Speaking on behalf of his medical staff, the hospital director, Dr. Albert Kuritsyn, expressed his thanks to UMC and CCRDF for their generous donation of high-quality equipment. "We expect that this new technology, which is the first of its kind in Chernivtsi, will enable our team to significantly reduce the level of infant mortality in this city," said Dr. Kuritsyn.

Located in the southwestern corner of Ukraine in the foothills of the Carpathian Mountains, the historic and picturesque Chernivtsi region has been afflicted with a number of environmental hazards. In the late 1980s a large number of children in the region suffered from hair loss and other unexplained maladies. Although these were never conclusively linked to any particular source of pollution, concern for the health of local children has remained heightened, especially in light of the region's high infant mortality rate and the lack of funding for medical improvements in the local municipal budget.

The city's re-elected mayor, Mykola Trokhymovych Fedoruk, recently visited Chernivtsi Maternity Hospital No. 2 and came away so impressed with the new equipment installed by CCRDF that he pledged 500,000 hrv (about \$100,000) to supplement the UMC gift with additional priority medical technology.

At the May 23 press conference, the



At the press conference in Chernivtsi, Ukrainian Mobile Communications (UMC) spokeswoman Viktoria Andriyevska introduces UMC's regional director for western Ukraine, Lyudmyla Vorko. To Ms. Vorko's right is Chernivtsi city medical director Dr. Valentyna Tarasiuk, CCRDF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma and the medical director of Chernivtsi Maternity Hospital No. 2, Dr. Albert Kuritsyn.

city's health director, Dr. Valentyna Tarasiuk, re-affirmed the mayor's commitment and called on other businesspersons to lend their support to UMC's joint campaign with CCRDF to save the lives of Chernivtsi's children.

Representing UMC was Western Ukrainian Regional Director Lyudmyla Vorko, who expressed her company's deep satisfaction with the achievements of this charitable initiative. "We are proud to be part of a program that can bring so much good to so many people." The UMC grant to CCRDF was made possible by last summer's telethon when UMC customers raised over \$133,000 in small contributions to sup-

(Continued on page 18)



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Michael Mark Watson, son of Lana and Michael Watson of Gillette, N.J., is a new member of UNA Branch 172. He was enrolled by his grandparents Romana H. and Bohdan D. Fedasiuk.



Delaney Lenyk Gyure, daughter of Andrea and Nick Gyure of Phoenix, Ariz., is a new member of UNA Branch 102. She was enrolled by her greatgrandparents Nicholas Bobeczko and Mary Szmagala Bobeczko. Delaney is the eighth great-grandchild enrolled into the UNA by Mr. Bobeczko, who is secretary of Branch 102.



Anya Myroslava Nirschl, daughter of Alexandra Holubec and David Nirschl of Yardley, Pa., is a new member of UNA Branch 358. She was enrolled by grandparents Zenon and Myroslawa Holubec.



Ksenia Margaux Devriendt, daughter of Dr. Adrianna Slyz and Dr. Julian Devriendt of Lyon, France, is a new member of UNA Branch 194. She was enrolled by her grandparents Bohdanna and Wolodymyr Slyz.



Hugh James Watters IV, son of Jane and Hugh Watters of South Lyon, Mich., is a new member of UNA Branch 292. He was enrolled by his grandparents John and Joanne Orlyk.



Rose Grega of Buffalo, N.Y., is a new member of UNA Branch 360. He was enrolled by his grandfather Joseph Grega and his great-grandfather Joseph Janik.



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Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; or call (973) 292-9800.

Detroit UNA'ers participate in annual clean-up at Dibrova



BRIGHTON, Mich. - The spirit of Dibrova Day was in full swing on May 20, when members of the Detroit District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association and the Dibrova Estate spent the day beautifying the grounds of Dibrova in preparation for the season. Seen above are some of the participants.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

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

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



Nikolas Howard Lewis, son of Adriana Karanec-Lewis and Brian Lewis of Kalamazoo, Mich., is a new member of UNA Branch 292. He was enrolled by his grandparents Roxolana and Oleh Karanec.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Coalition chaos

Back on April 2 we wrote in this space that Our Ukraine's decision on a coalition that would form the parliamentary majority had been postponed until April 7. At that time, of course, it was a mere days after the March 26 parliamentary elections in which Viktor Yanukovych's Party of the Regions emerged with a plurality (33.12 percent), though not a majority of votes. The Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc came in second (22.27 percent), with Our Ukraine, President Viktor Yushchenko's political bloc, in third (13.94 percent) and the Socialist Party of Ukraine in fourth (5.67 percent).

The day after the elections Ms. Tymoshenko called on the president to recreate the Orange alliance in the Verkhovna Rada. The partners of the Orange Revolution negotiated for weeks, with some hopeful and some not-so-hopeful signs along the way. If the words of the partners were to be believed, they all wanted to establish an Orange coalition. Yet, there was always one impediment or another.

Now, 11 weeks later, things are no better. In fact, they're probably worse. The latest news from Ukraine is that the Party of the Regions is close to forming a majority coalition with certain members of Our Ukraine and possibly the Socialist Party. Mr. Yanukovych claimed on Thursday, June 15 (the day this week's issue was completed) that he already has the signatures of a majority and that he expects the accord to be signed by Tuesday, June 20. Furthermore, Roman Zvarych of Our Ukraine announced on June 15 that the bloc had begun formal talks with the Regions Party.

While previously the hold-up to Our Ukraine's approval of an Orange coalition appeared to be Ms. Tymoshenko's desire to once again become prime minister, now it appears to be Oleksander Moroz's desire to once again become chairman of the Verkhovna Rada. (We say "appears" because few people know what is really going on behind the scenes.) It seems that Our Ukraine had reluctantly accepted the concept of a Tymoshenko prime ministership. But now there was another obstacle – one previously not on the radar screen. However, Mr. Moroz has stated that he would sacrifice the Rada chair if the distribution of all posts was based "on a proportionate system."

President Yushchenko replied that he agrees with this principle, but feels that it calls for an Our Ukraine deputy to be the Rada chairman. Furthermore, he said that Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Moroz were divvying up positions they had no right to claim.

Back in April President Yushchenko had stated that an alliance with the Party of the Regions was "unacceptable and not understandable to me." Soon thereafter he said that what was most important in forming a coalition was agreement on a set of coalition principles covering such key topics as NATO, the European Union and the World Trade Organization; next he said it was necessary to define exactly how a coalition would function.

Now – three Verkhovna Rada session postponements later – Our Ukraine appears to be turning toward the Regions, never mind that the two do not agree on Ukraine's cooperation with NATO or its participation in the Single Economic Space, not to mention the issue of the Russian language's status in Ukraine and the issue of federalism. And who knows how they could possibly function together. And so, the Parliament is in recess, again.

President Yushchenko and his cohorts continue their coalition games as the country flounders. "Hanba" – Shame!

June 23 2002

Turning the pages back...

In an article carried by The Weekly on June 23, 2002, Dr. Taras Kuzio, then a resident fellow at the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Toronto, covered a perennial problem in Ukraine; its foreign policy toward Russia. At that

time, Leonid Kuchma was Ukraine's president, Vladimir Putin was recently elected as Russia's president and Borys Tarasyuk was replaced as Ukraine's foreign affairs minister.

The article states that an inter-factionary group had been formed calling itself "To Europe with Russia," led by Andrii Derkach, a leading member of the Dnipropetrovsk-based Labor Ukraine oligarchs. This shift in Ukraine's orientation from the West to Russia was made possible by the opaque dealings of President Kuchma and Russia's ratification of a 1997 treaty with Ukraine.

The view that "nobody is waiting for us in the West," – a slogan that President Kuchma first aired in his 1994 election campaign – propagated the lack of national pride and self-confidence of Ukraine. President Kuchma did further damage when he said, "Ukraine cannot make any progress without Russia."

This shift toward Russia also reinforced the Russophile view among many Western Europeans that Ukrainians, Belarusians and Russians should be treated as one group. Mr. Kuchma included in his "Little Russian" foreign policy a decree in March that would commemorate the 1654 Treaty of Pereiaslav that placed Ukraine under Russian rule.

Dr. Kuzio wrote that, "'Little Russianism, like 'multi-vectorism,' is a reflection of an amorphous and confused national identity, and hence of an inability to choose between East and West. Indeed, Mr. Kuchma has changed Ukraine's foreign policy goals this year on a month-by-month basis."

Further, Dr. Kuzio pointed to the path of contradictions and the signs of indecision earlier that year. In February President Kuchma had urged preparations for integration into the European Union and the World Trade Organization, which showed that Ukraine was looking toward the West. The following month Mr. Kuchma said that Ukraine would take steps toward the Eurasian Economic Community (EEC), but referred to the body as the defunct CIS Customs Union. In April state officials called the move toward the EEC a contradiction of Ukraine's long-declared goal of joining the EU.

As Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko said, "No country can be in several customs unions or in several unions. It can choose only one union."

Source: "Analysis: Ukraine's 'Little Russian' foreign policy proclaims 'To Europe with Russia!'" The Ukrainian Weekly, June 23, 2002, Vol. LXX, No. 25

FOR FATHER'S DAY

Our fathers' gifts

by Anisa Handzia Sawyckyj

In tribute to my Tato, Zynovij Sawyckyj

November 26, 1912 – May 30, 2006

When Father's Day comes around, we think of gifts and cards and special surprises for our fathers. As we think of what we could get them – tool kits, ties, car accessories or even trips abroad – we also sometimes, but not always, recall what it is that our fathers gave and continue to give us on a daily basis.

For those of us whose fathers are no longer among the living, there can no longer be the giving and getting of material things. We are by necessity left only with things of the spirit: the memories of what our fathers said, what they did, what principles they lived by and what legacy they left us.

Good fathers in every generation leave wonderful gifts for their children. But every generation lives in different circumstances, and in every generation those gifts can be different.

There were other generations of Ukrainian fathers both in Ukraine and in the United States who left their children great legacies. But I want to pay tribute to one specific generation, the fathers of the World War II era who came to the United States as young men, that transitional generation of the 1940s, '50s and '60s who were born in Ukraine but raised their families in a completely different world – the U.S.A.

My late father, Zynovij Sawyckyj, who died on May 30, at the age of 93, was of the generation of the World War II period, a political émigré from Ukraine, whose life and the life of his children was shaped by the momentous decision to leave his country at the age of 32. When he, his young wife and widowed mother joined the mass of 200,000 political émigrés who left Ukraine in 1944 as the Soviet Army approached, the options of what he as a father would be able to offer his yet unborn children changed forever.

The choices of what to bring with him would echo down the generations of his family: family photos, diaries, letters, prayerbooks, his late father's, the Rev. Josyf Sawyckyj's, priestly vestments and cross. It had to be small and it had to be light. But it had to be heavy with meaning for him and his family.

The experience of World War II and the great migration westward toward freedom was the great crucible that shaped our fathers' generation.

Some were destroyed by the trauma of the experience, for others it served as a great testing ground for their spirit, for their faith in God and for their commitment to the native land that they had to leave forever. And they were made stronger by the experience.

And then came the children. Born in refugee camps in Austria and Germany, or in the early years of immigration in the United States and Canada, we opened our eyes and saw fathers who, weary from a day (or night) of work at the factory, looked at us with hope and awe, seeing their past, present and future lying in their arms. We became their inspiration

As we grew, we became aware that our fathers were different from the fathers of other "American" kids we knew. These were dads who, after a hard day's work, didn't put up their feet, have a martini and watch TV; they came home, changed out of their work clothes, checked the pages of (the then daily) Svoboda, put on their ties and went down

to the Ukrainian church hall for an UCCA meeting. In the small town of Utica, N.Y., where I grew up, my Tato wasn't playing baseball or golfing on weekends – he was at the "tserkovna zalia," (church hall), playing the piano in a Taras Shevchenko "akademia."

Our fathers showed us the dignity of hard work. No matter that they were attorneys who found themselves sweeping supermarket floors, or physicians pumping gas, or professors working on a G.E. assembly line – they were grateful to have a job that would allow them to bring food to their families and put a roof over their heads. Our fathers showed us how to bear indignities with dignity, and to fulfill their primary responsibility as breadwinners for their families with consistency and with an eye to the future.

Our fathers showed us pride – pride of the good variety, what they now call selfworth: pride in their Ukrainian heritage, pride in their children's success in school, pride in a Ukrainian community project well done.

And then there is faith. Our fathers gave us a well-grounded belief system that had sustained them in the trials of their life, an abiding personal faith. Our fathers actually prayed, and they actually went to church each and every Sunday, and weekdays on important holy days, too. They observed the fast, they held candles for the priest at the reading of the Gospel during liturgy, they sang in the church choir, they carried the "plaschanytsia" on Good Friday and they took us caroling at Christmastime. They gave us a profound respect for the institution of our Church. Along with this came the responsibility of financial support for the Church, the small but consistent contributions from their meager wages that sustained our churches.

And then there were the aunts and uncles, the cousins and the godparents. For close to 20 years, on weekends we were on the road, visiting relatives in farflung Northeast cities. As we children played, our elders sat at the dining room table, reminiscing about their youth in Ukraine, recalling lost worlds, reliving the trauma of their migration during the war years, and in the process healing their wounded hearts, gathering strength to face the future.

Our fathers built and maintained families, but they also built a bigger family: the Ukrainian community and its myriad institutions. On the foundations of the generations of Ukrainian American men before them, and sometimes completely from scratch, they built Ukrainian Saturday schools, scouting organizations, academic societies, Church institutions. This network of organizations was a safety net for our community, a safe haven to nurture its young and old. But it was a porous net, not a solid wall that held us in. We were free to come and go. Some went, but many stayed and took advantage of our fathers' sheltering arms, that built up protection for our communities that lasted more than half a century.

Our fathers were not materialists who worked hard to acquire "stuff" to show off to their friends and neighbors. They had lived through the war, and they saw first-hand that material possessions can be gone in a puff of smoke. They lived on a different plane. They taught us about sacrifice, about delaying gratification, about saving for a rainy day, about giving up short-term pleasures for long-term gains.

We didn't get fancy clothes, we didn't

(Continued on page 17)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"The way it was..." and our history

Dear Editor:

Myron Kuropas's column "The way it was and could be again, if...," (May 28) was probably the best analysis I've read of our current position in the U.S. and how we got to where we are. His assessment of the 1950s and 1960s, and their influence on following decades, are all borne out by the facts he points out. And the UNA's achievements, in hindsight, are extraordinary considering the economic status of the average Ukrainian, be he a "staryi imigrant" or a DP.

I came here in 1950 as a little boy and experienced all that he wrote about. He succinctly summarized over half a century of our history in two columns. What is more is that there is no political whiff at all in his editorial.

I look back now at all that I've experienced and try to make sense out of it. There is a common thread. But there is something that scares me. While much of our communal history is recorded in various publications (like Svoboda) and documents, the actual feelings of those times may be lost.

This possibly unique period of our history, those years from the second world war to the mid-'60s, represent three cultures: the old world, the hybrid émigré (DP) world, and the American world all convoluted together. In another generation or two, our descendents will be able to find out what we accomplished and achieved as a group. But will there be any way for someone in the future to get a glimpse of what it was really like to be a displaced person in the United States?

The Fourth Wave of Ukrainians is beginning to make its imprint on our everchanging society. And the way we looked at the "stari imigranty," and the way they looked at us in the '50s, is almost identical to the way the Fourth Wave looks at us and we at them. Another repeating cycle.

Yes, there will be archives and documents available for historical analyses, but where will one find what it was like to have been a Fourth Waver? It is these types of stories and recollections of individuals that add meaning to dry historical data.

Andrew Zwarun Austin, Texas

Ukraine's future: "Oligarchs United"

Dear Editor:

A lot of ink and paper have been wasted in the press on the futile efforts of restoring the Orange Coalition. The simple fact is that the Orange Coalition was blown apart the moment President Viktor Yushchenko fired Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko and her Cabinet. Later he sealed his own doom by signing an agreement of cooperation with the oligarchic clique from the Donbas and his opponent Viktor Yanukovych.

In the process, he has scattered to the four winds the brilliant team that brought him to power in the first place. As a result, he was left with a title, but without any visible means of political support. And the day of reckoning was not long in coming. The voters rejected his party, Our Ukraine, in the parliamentary elections this spring. Once the smoke cleared, Our Ukraine was left with only 14 percent of the vote.

Since then, the ongoing negotiations to restore the Orange Coalition were no more than a face-saving farce.

But the first truly democratic election in Ukraine has changed the political landscape of the country forever. For the first time ever, the fog of political chaos that prevailed in Ukraine for the past 15 years has lifted. Now one can clearly see the landscape and the two political forces at work. On one side we find progressive forces for change and social justice, on the other the reactionary forces of the "status quo" of oligarchic syndicates.

Ms. Tymoshenko of the eponymous bloc and Oleksander Moroz of the Socialist Party represent the progressive forces for change. Petro Poroshenko plus acting Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov of Our Ukraine and Mr. Yanukovych plus Rynat Akhmetov of the Party of the Regions represent the pro-status quo forces of the oligarchic syndicates.

We should stop using the worn-out terms of "Orange" or "Blue," pro-Russian or pro-Western, pro-democracy or pro-authoritarian. Those terms are history. What we see today in Ukraine is simply a contest between two forces: progressive versus reactionary.

On a strictly numerical basis, the reactionary oligarchic forces have the upper hand over the progressive forces. In the new Parliament the so-called "grand coalition" of oligarchs from Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions have a comfortable majority. You could call them "Oligarchs United." Furthermore, they have the tacit support of the president and the administrative apparatus at their disposal.

And this oligarchic force is not averse to reverting to the old methods of the KGB and Kuchma "oprichnyky." The recent attempt by the security forces of Ukraine to intimidate two high-ranking and newly elected national deputies of the Tymoshenko Bloc is a case in point (www.pravda.com.ua, April 18).

As events of the past weeks indicate, President Yushchenko has for all practical purposes abdicated his position and functions of leadership, and led the country into anarchy and banditism, with political assassinations against deputies of the Tymoshenko Bloc on the rise (two in the past week). The central authorities have lost control over the regions and President George W. Bush has wisely canceled his trip to Ukraine.

However, the people of Ukraine have lost their fear of "vlasti" (the authorities) and demonstrated their mettle during the heady days of the Orange Revolution. Any attempt at political repression in Ukraine will fail; it is a thing of the past.

So, what of the future? Most likely we will see a ruling oligarchic coalition of Our Ukraine and the Party of the Regions for the next three and a half years. Meanwhile, Our Ukraine will lose however little support it had in western Ukraine, and will be absorbed into the Party of the Regions.

The president, with grossly diminished powers, will wither on the vine, while the Yanukovych-Poroshenko apparatus will take over the running of the country for the benefit of "Oligarchs United" from both the western and the eastern parts of the country. And the people of Ukraine will suffer for a bit longer under corrupt oligarchic rule.

And then what? In three and a half years there will be a presidential election in Ukraine. And the most likely candidates for president will be Ms. Tymoshenko, Mr. Yushchenko, and Mr. Yanukovych. Mr. Yushchenko probably will lose in the first round of voting (unless the Party of the Regions decides to keep him as their standard bearer), and then the contest will be between the progressive forces under the banner of Ms. Tymoshenko and reactionary forces under the banner of Mr. Yanukovych – a classic contest of good versus evil.

Democracy has arrived in Ukraine.

Ihor Lysyj Austin, Texas

NEWS AND VIEWS

Quest for "Nazis" hurts the innocent in Canada

by Marco Levytsky

In a recent commentary ("Remember the murderers," Winnipeg Free Press, April 26), David Matas, senior legal counsel to B'nai Brith Canada, attempted to justify a process that undermines the civil liberties of more than 6 million naturalized Canadians, under the guise of bringing "Nazi war criminals" to justice.

He named four individuals – Jacob Fast, Wasyl Odynsky, Helmut Oberlander and Vladimir Katriuk – and claimed that because of compelling evidence linking them to Nazi-era crimes against humanity, the War Crimes Unit of the Department of Justice had prosecuted them.

As any lawyer knows, prosecuting attorneys may determine whatever they wish, but it is meaningless if the court finds otherwise. In none of these four cases did the federal courts find any evidence of any individual crimes whatsoever – let alone "compelling" evidence.

What the court did find was that "on a balance of probabilities" they lied about their past upon coming to Canada. Balance of probabilities means simply that the decision is 51 percent on one side, as opposed to 49 on the other.

It falls way short of the "beyond a reasonable doubt" standard of criminal court. And there is no way to prove conclusively whether they lied or not upon coming to Canada, because all the immigration records of that period have been destroyed.

The final decision on the revocation of a person's citizenship rests with a committee of cabinet, which makes the government both prosecutor and court of last appeal.

Since there is no judicial appeal process, no precedents can be established. Judges have ruled both for and against respondents in similar cases, so the whole system amounts to a judicial lottery where the victim's fate depends upon whichever judge he gets.

But because the government is under no obligation to present any evidence of any individual crimes under our current citizenship revocation system, they haven't done so. And in the most recent cases they haven't even bothered to charge the individuals with any individual crimes.

In the three cases where the Department of Justice did attempt to

Marco Levytsky is the editor and publisher of the Edmonton-based, nationally distributed Ukrainian News, and a member of the National Justice Committee of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress. The article above was published in the June 9 issue of the Winnipeg Free Press. It is reprinted here with the author's permission.

bring evidence to court, it was thrown out by the judges because it had been obtained by the KGB through torture.

One may well ask what is the government doing bringing forward evidence by an agency well-known for its crimes against humanity? This question should have been raised when, upon announcing the launch of the denaturalization and deportation policy in a January 1995 news release, the government stated that a major step forward in its investigations was an agreement that gave it access to KGB files. But unfortunately it wasn't.

Considering the source of the government's charges against these men, it is not a coincidence that all four individuals cited by Mr. Matas come from Ukraine as do the two individuals whose cases are now before the court: Josef Furman of Edmonton and Jura Skomatchuk of St. Catharines.

In the Odynsky case, one of those where no individual crime was alleged in the government's statement of claim against him, Justice Andrew MacKay found that his service as a guard at a labor camp was involuntary (in fact he was threatened with death after he attempted an escape) and that there was no evidence that he participated in the mistreatment of any prisoner anywhere at any time.

In the case of Mr. Oberlander, whose citizenship was actually revoked by Cabinet order, it was reinstated by a unanimous vote of the Federal Court of Appeal, after Mr. Oberlander's lawyer took the unique step of appealing the revocation process itself.

In the May 31, 2004 ruling, which was not appealed to the Supreme Court, Justice Robert Décary, with the concurrence of Justices J. Edgar Sexton and B. Malone told the government "it cannot apply the war criminals policy to a person unless it first satisfies itself, to use the very words of the policy, that 'there is evidence of direct involvement in or complicity of war crimes or crimes against humanity.'"

The fact that revocation of citizenship can be used in such an arbitrary manner prompted the Parliamentary Standing Committee of Citizenship and Immigration last year to determine "that the potential loss of citizenship is of such fundamental significance to the person concerned that fraud should be proven beyond a reasonable doubt in a criminal court, that the legal protections of the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms – specifically Sections 7 to 14 – must apply, and there should be no special limits placed on the right to appeal."

Until those recommendations are enacted, the charter rights of every immigrant are in jeopardy.

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A conversation...

(Continued from page 3)

with intellect.

I want us to remember that intellect makes us people, and what guarantees the strength of the nation is learning and education. I'd say this as a person who went through serious schooling and, looking from a distance, I understand that perhaps that was the most important thing.

When we look at financial problems, we are looking forward two, three, five years ahead. But when we look at problems related to education, they will give results, bad results unfortunately, in 20 or 30 years and it won't be reversible. That is why we have to do something right now.

We have to take an active role in promoting reading. I think that it doesn't have to be an initiative of famous people, "Let's get together and discuss how reading is good." That would seem to me a PR event. People decided to create a PR event named, "Let's call on people to read." The fact that this problem already exists is already a big problem and a very alarming signal. We have to remember that books make us more intelligent and that intellect is a guarantee of material success.

Do you read frequently?

Yes, of course. I read regularly – in planes, at hotels, at home, everywhere it's possible. It helps make me who I am, particularly in these areas in which I don't know a lot. What kind of books? Whatever – books by Ukrainian authors, contemporary books, classics, world classics and some avant-guard literature. I can name a lot.

What did you read most recently?

The last book I read was by Ukrainian writer Mariah Matios, "Solodka Darusia." It is a very nice, contemporary book that takes us back to the time when Stefanyk wrote in the authentic Hutsul language. I'm very, very satisfied with the language it's written in and its ideas. I think that's the future of Ukrainian literature.

What is your opinion of the status of children's books, and how long has it been since you looked through a children's book?

With pleasure, I look for any publications of children's books, particularly world classics such as "Alice in Wonderland" or stories [Alice] by Hoffman. These books are also for

adults, which is why they are interesting.

Publication quality has significantly improved because there are a lot of books made according to global standards. If only we could promote all this by world standards, it would be very good. Unfortunately, so far publication has progressed, but distribution and the culture of reading these books lags behind.

And what about Ukrainian children's books?

Well, I said the situation is significantly better now. Do you mean written by Ukrainians?

Yes, contemporary books, and which have you read most recently?

Honestly, I haven't seen many books recently written by Ukrainians for children. That's the truth. I can't think of many new books for children that I personally looked through. I know they exist, I know these writers personally, but these books haven't reached my hands. More so classics for children.

What books did you read in your childhood?

Well, I mentioned them. By the way, a very nice Ukrainian book I recommend to all is "Tereodor iz Vasiukivky" by Vsevolod Nestayko. I liked this book very much in my childhood, and it was a best-seller at that time. I hope we can regenerate interest among present-day children to this book because it is very interesting.

The first book I read in my life – I was quite young – was a book about the adventures of Baron Munchausen. I was only 5 years old. But I look through it often because I don't think it's for children only. Also, Hoffman's stories or Lewis Carroll's books.

Moreover, literature for those a bit older – but it's children's literature also – the adventure books of Jules Verne or Jonathan Swift. In this literature, there are lots of moments that could be interesting for adults, too. In general, the concept of children's books is very conducive for conveying deep, appropriate messages.

When you are reading books written in language for 10-year-olds, and truly there are deep truths, then children mature with such books while adults can very often see, in childlike forms, mature themes. So I remember "Winnie the Pooh" books, which also have many interesting, I would say not banal, things that are worth re-reading when you are 20, 30 or older.

Quotable notes

"I stand for a diversity of languages in communication. The more languages a person knows, the higher the chance of that person realizing himself creatively. But I am opposed to speculation on the language issue. The Constitution of Ukraine clearly stipulates that the only state language is Ukrainian. Ukraine is the only country that is obliged to preserve and develop the Ukrainian language.

"Great and wise nations understand that language is not only a means of communication, but also a way of thinking and a foundation of culture. Therefore, they not only preserve, but also develop their languages, demanding that other people respect their languages. ...

"I am happy to see increasingly more young people, who have a brilliant command of Russian and speak fluent English, French and German, using Ukrainian for communication. I welcome the youth that has taken a patriotic stance and says – we are Ukrainians and our native language is Ukrainian. The younger generation is wise, patriotic and educated. As president, I pin great hopes on young people."

- President Viktor Yushchenko in his weekly radio address on June 3 that was devoted to problems of children and youths.

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Soccer mania...

(Continued from page 1)

loud demonstration of their wares.

"Don't blow your horn," an irritated fan barked, his eyes fixated on the screen

"This is my job," she shot back.

Those Kyivans seeking more comfortable accommodations made reservations at Planeta Sportu, a popular sports bar in the city center.

Fans began reserving seats in May, and all 200 places were reserved a week before the match, said restaurant director Viktor Khayit.



National deputy Andrii Shevchenko of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc wore his Andrii Shevchenko jersey to the Verkhovna Rada on the day of Ukraine's first-ever World Cup match.

"Today is such a historic day in the life of Ukraine that I think even if we had a thousand seats, they all would have been occupied," he said.

While there aren't seats left for the June 19 match with Saudi Arabia, there's room left for the June 23 match with Tunisia, he said.

With politicians in low esteem among Ukrainians, the World Cup provided the perfect opportunity to win some favor with the public.

On the morning of the big match, Party of the Regions deputies each showed up for the Verkhovna Rada session wearing blue-and-yellow soccer scarves.

"My heart is in Germany, but I'm in Parliament," said Rynat Akhmetov, a national deputy and owner of Donetsk Shakhtar, the soccer team that won Ukraine's national championship this year.

"Today is an important day so I had to be here," he seemed to say with some regret.

Party of the Regions National Deputy Vitalii Khomutynnik said he was hoping that the Rada session would conclude in time for the match's start so he could watch with his wife.

Ukraine's debut in the World Cup was among the few things that could unite the Rada's national deputies, who have been

unable to form a majority parliamentary coalition since the March 26 elections.

That point even seeped into the day's political rhetoric.

"I am convinced that (our players) will do today a thousand times more for Ukraine than our president, prime minister and national deputies combined," said former Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko.

"Because they truly defend Ukraine, and don't embarrass her unreservedly before the entire world. And I am convinced that our boys won't make a coalition agreement with the Spaniards and won't back down from the struggle that is absolutely needed for Ukraine."

Instead of his suit and tie, National Deputy Andrii Shevchenko of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc wore a bright yellow jersey bearing the name of Ukraine's top player, also Andrii Shevcheno.

He planned on watching the game with his close buddies and drinking beer. "Then we'll hopefully visit a sauna afterwards feeling very good," Mr. Shevchenko said.

Unfortunately, Mr. Shevchenko's trip to the sauna wouldn't turn out the way he would have preferred.

The Ukrainian team had impressed soccer fans worldwide when it became the first European team to qualify for the 2006 World Cup while competing last year.

However, its debut was nothing short of disastrous, as the team gave up goals 13 and 17 minutes into the game.

The team didn't fare any better in the second half, when defender Vladyslav Vaschuk was given a red card for interfering with Spanish forward Fernando Torres, though in replays it became apparent the Ukrainian didn't cause his fall within the penalty area.

The Spaniards were also awarded a penalty kick which they capitalized on.

The call drew outrage among Ukrainian fans.

Among those disappointed was Ukrainian rock star Sviatoslav Vakarchuk, who offered emotional playby-play commentary of the historic match for the television network Inter.

"Where's the fair judging?" Mr. Vakarchuk asked in disgust. "Fair judging is when you can pity Spanish players, call an unfair offsides three times against our team and then award this kind of a penalty kick? That's fair judging?"

After the controversial call, the Ukrainians had little chance of recuperating, playing the rest of the match one man short. The game concluded with a 4-0 Spanish win.

Afterwards, Soviet soccer legend and team coach Oleh Blokhin apologized to Ukrainian fans and criticized his team's performance.

"Spain has a strong and highly technical team, but at times we looked like the worst team in Europe," said Mr. Blokhin, who was named European Footballer of the Year in 1975 when playing for the USSR team.

Forward Andrii Shevchenko said the two initial goals broke the team's spirit. "Let's hope that we'll do well in the next two matches," Mr. Shevchenko said.

Yushchenko...

(Continued from page 1)

ty. Other areas in need of reform include the police and procuracies, he added.

These governmental decisions, Mr. Vasiunyk said, are being made transparently and without, as under previous administrations, influence from oligarchs or "our northern neighbor."

"Until now those in the Kremlin have not been able to accept the fact that the prime ministership of Ukraine is decided at a negotiating table and not in the Kremlin," he said.

As President Yushchenko has noted, the road to democracy in Ukraine, as in all countries, has not been an easy one, he said.

"On this road we have had accomplishments and encountered problems after the Orange Revolution." He added, however: "We prefer to say that, as of now, we are unsatisfied rather than disillusioned," and Ukraine being a democratic state is no longer in question.

Mr. Vasiunyk singled out some notable economic and social improvements since the Orange Revolution – a fourfold increase in foreign investments in the first quarter of this year as com-



First Deputy Chief of Staff of the Presidential Secretariat Ivan Vasiunyk.

pared to the same period last year, and a 6 percent increase in the birth rate nine months after the government's announced its family assistance program.

But he also noted that reform is still lacking in other sectors, such as housing, energy, health and education.



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- News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
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- ♠ Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned
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- $\ensuremath{\hbar}$ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
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PHOTO REPORT: The 36th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association



At the convention banquet: (seated, from left), Donald and Gloria Horbaty, Nancy and Michael Bohdan, (standing) Ihor and Nadia Salabay, Christine Brodyn and Roman Hawryluk.



Californian Luba Keske speaks in support of Soyuzivka.



Convention Committee Chair Oksana Trytjak addresses the banquet audience.



Members of the Elections Committee at work: (from left) Oksana Koziak, Andrew Hrechak, Roman Kuropas, Christine Brodyn and Nadia Salabay. (Photo courtesy of Andrew Hrechak)



At the Hutsul-theme dinner: (from left) Andrew Hrechak, Andre Worobec, Omelan Twardowsky, Michael Koziupa (elected second vice-president of the UNA) and Peter Hawrylciw. (Photo courtesy of Andrew Hrechak)



During the Sunday afternoon concert: (from left) Ukraine's Consul General in New York Mykola Kyrychenko, National Secretary Christine Kozak, outgoing First Vice-President Martha Lysko and President Stefan Kaczaraj.



Guests at the banquet: Kvitka Semanyshyn of the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics in America and Bohdan Harhaj of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM).



Maya Lew (left), who was later elected a UNA advisor, is introduced during the women's caucus by former UNA Vice-Presidentess Gloria Paschen.

PHOTO REPORT: The 36th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association



Canadian delegates at the convention banquet: (from left) Myron and Janina Groch, Anna Burij, Tatiana Miskiw and Vera Plawuszczak.



The convention's recorders: (from left) Maria Drich, Nina Wasylkevych and Andre Worobec.



Pennsylvania delegates (from left) Tymko Butrej, Michael Hrycyk and Tim Ganter seated among branch representatives during the convention deliberations.



Guests in the convention hall: (from left) Eugene Serba (who was later elected a UNA advisor), Luba Lysiak and Patricia Romanovich.



Convention Chairman Taras Szmagala Sr. leads the session as (from left) President Stefan Kaczaraj, Treasurer Roma Lisovich and parliamentarian Andrij V.R. Szul look on.



Delegates and members of the Convention Committee, (from left) Anna Slobodian, Stephanie Hawryluk and Slavko Tysiak (elected as a UNA auditor), during an outdoor session of the convention's deliberations.



Advisor Paul Prinko with Natalia Bukvych of the Ukrinform news service at the convention banquet.



Svoboda Editor-in-Chief Irene Jarosewich with videographer Vlodko Artymyshyn.



Advisors Gloria Horbaty and Myron Groch (who was elected director for Canada) during a convention session

Plast U.S.A.'s largest campground hosts spring camporee

by Laryssa Czebiniak

EAST CHATHAM, N.Y. – East Coast Plast youths flocked to Plast U.S.A.'s largest campground, "Vovcha Tropa" for the annual camporee during Memorial Day weekend, May 27-29. This springtime eveny known as "Sviato Yuriya" translates as the Feast of St. George – an event devoted to the scouting organization's patron.

Twelve troops of 12 to 17 year-old "yunaky" and "yunachky" took part in this year's Sviato Yuriya, totaling 131 scouts, 22 counselors and three members of the Lisovi Chorty fraternity in command positions as organizers of the event.

Troops represented cities around the East Coast, including Boston, Hartford, Conn., New York, Newark, Passaic, Philadelphia and Washington. Troops competed against each other in various tasks.

This year's theme centered upon the phrase, "Ya ye Plast" (I am Plast). "We chose it in order to help instill a sense that each scout is important in the overall structure of Plast," explained Adrian Podpirka, the camp scribe.

Sunny skies gave the organizers a chance to implement all planned activities, such as a round-robin sports competition, a weekend-long scavenger hunt and a "fox run," during which pairs of scouts trekked all over the vast campground utilizing their compasses and cartography skills to find as many points on a map as possible within an allotted time frame.

Physical agility, mental strategy and teamwork skills in particular were tested during the terrain game, which took troops to twelve stations. Some points included a slingshot accuracy contest, creative building with ropes and branches, timed tent-pitching, memory games and a "spiderweb" test, where one scout is blind-folded and needs to crawl through a web of rope while the troop tells him or her where and how to move.

Scouts were challenged at every turn during the day. In contrasts, the warm star-studded nights were devoted to more relaxing or social events. Saturday's outdoor dance in the new pavilion inspired a hopping kolomyika. Though Memorial Day weekend has often been a rainy weekend in past years, rain gear was instead utilized as protective ground cover during Sunday night's campfire. Troops were judged on their original skits, based on the camporee's theme.

There were high expectations for the chili cook-off, as it was to serve also as a meal. Troops made a true effort to prepare delicious chili in a creative setting. The Washington boys' venison chili was the only one of its kind. The Newark girls created wooden placemats out of sticks and others poured chili into bread bowls. Hartford, the eventual winner of the contest, served the judges chili with a side dish of varennyky under a private awning, while one scout serenaded them with a musical instrument.

"Many of the kids had never cooked



Cook-off judges Stefko Stawnychy, Tymish Halibey, Adyo Podpirka and Petro Stawnychy, all members of the Lisovi Chorty fraternity, conduct a taste test.



"Yunachky" during the opening ceremonies of "Sviato Yuriya."



The Hartford group completes the spiderweb task during terrain game.

before and all of them did very well. They showed a lot of creativity and initiative," said program coordinator and chili judge Tymish Halibey. "A few of them thought outside the box, such as making chili dogs." The program director, Pavlo Mulyk, and several other Lisovi Chorty also judged this contest.

Father Ivan Kaszczak made a special trip to Vovcha Tropa to ensure that Sviato Yuriya participants were able to attend divine liturgy.

During Monday's closing ceremonies plaques were given out for highest troop

point totals – three for girls' troops and three for boys' troops. The New York girls won first place, followed by Newark and Philadelphia in second and third, respectively.

In the boys' category, Hartford's mixed troop of boys and girls won first place, with New York and Passaic in second and third places.

With the lowering of the Ukrainian and American flags, another Sviato Yuriya came to a close, its prematurely hot weather giving everyone a taste of summer camps to come.



Conscious of their "presentation," Newark girls serve up their version of chili.



New York girls at one of the stops during the terrain game.

Ukrainian American Youth Association holds 47th annual "Zlet"

by Orest Kozicky

ELLENVILLE, N.Y. – The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) sponsored it's 47th consecutive annual "Zlet" on May 27-28 here at the SUM Youth Resort (known as "oselia").

Zlet is the annual spring youth rally for members ranging from 4 to 17 years of age from the East Coast SUM branches. Zlet presents the opportunity for youths to engage in academic and athletic competitions and poetry recitations that demonstrate their knowledge about various aspects of Ukrainian history and cultural traditions, their usage of the Ukrainian language, as well as the opportunity to perform with their dance, choral and drama ensembles within a talent contest concert forum.

The athletic events include individual competitions in 50-,60- and 100-yard sprints, 440-,880-yard and mile runs, competitions in long jump, shot put and discus, and in team obstacle course and relay races. A soccer tournament was revived for the 6-7, 8-9 and 10-12 age groups this year to complement the traditional 13-17 age group volleyball tournament.

The SUM youths socialized at a barbecue and "zabava" (dance) featuring Chornozem on Saturday night, May 27.

The highlight of this year's Zlet was the visit of Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford. On Saturday night Bishop Chomnycky took part in the talent concert: on Sunday morning he returned to bless the newly built children's playground and to take part in a SUM group photo prior to celebrating liturgy with the Very Rev. Mitred Archpriest Ihor Midzak and Father Bohdan Danylo. The bishop then toured oselia with the head of the SUM national board, Bohdan Harhaj, who together with Komandant Andrij Burchak presented him with several SUM archive momentos.

This year's Zlet included 326 participants from the following 11 SUM branches located on the Eastern Seaboard: Baltimore; Binghamton, N.Y.; Goshen, N.Y.; Hartford, Conn.; Irvington, N.J.; Jersey City, N.J.; New

Orest Kozicky, M.D. is press secretary of the Ukrainian American Youth Association national board.



Bohdanka Stolar and Alexander Zelez, top winners in the 6-12 age group.



The shot put competition.

York City; Passaic, N.J.; Philadelphia; Whippany, N.J.; and Yonkers, N.Y.

Responsibility for the colossal task of coordinating the various Zlet events was undertaken this year by the Yonkers branch. The komandant was Andrij Burchak and the bunchuznij was David Odomirok. Together with the enthusiastic team of individual event coordinators from the Yonkers ranks they successfully conducted the multiple aspects of Zlet.

This year's Zlet featured the introduction of "Konkurs Royiv" for the 13-17 age group in a multiple terrain format upon the initiative of Lesia Kozicky, the reintroduction of a soccer tournament for the age 6-12 age groups, a special zabava with live music held within a carefully supervised camp forum, and the ability of track and field crews led by Peter Duda and Orest Kozicky to rescue the sport venues from last minute torrential rain flooding.

A formal review of the SUM ranks

(Continued on page 18)



A view of the discus competition.



Bishop Paul Chomnycky (center) with Zlet 2006 participants.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

Moroz willing to cede Rada chairmanship

KYIV - Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz said in the Verkhovna Rada on June 14 that his party will give up its aspiration to obtain the post of parliamentary chairman if this move prolongs talks on the creation of a coalition of democratic forces with the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine, Ukrainian media reported. "We are ready to give up this claim, but on condition that the distribution of all [other] posts will be made proportionally, beginning from raion administration heads and ending with ministers," Mr. Moroz said. He added that the Socialist Party will not agree to a comeback of the "Kuchma power system" in which, according to Mr. Moroz, a party with public support of 6 percent "fully controlled the country." The coalition talks of the Orange Revolution allies reportedly broke down because Our Ukraine would not agree to Moroz's wish to obtain the post of Rada chairman. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Our Ukraine keeps all options open

KYIV - Our Ukraine leader Roman Bezsmertnyi called on deputies in the Verkhovna Rada session hall on June 14 to find a compromise in creating a ruling coalition, Ukrainian media reported. "We

should not scare each other but look for a compromise," Mr. Bezsmertnyi said, after noting that the legislature has only 10 more days to form a ruling majority. Mr. Bezsmertnyi did not respond to Mr. Moroz's proposal to resume talks among the Orange Revolution allies after the latter abandoned his aspiration to become Parliament chairman. Meanwhile, Party of the Regions parliamentary caucus chairman Mykola Azarov said in the Verkhovna Rada that his party is ready to negotiate the formation of a ruling majority. "When the country is on the brink of catastrophe, [party] leaders should sit at a negotiating table with everyone who is ready to assume responsibility for the country's future," Mr. Azarov added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Is G-8 energy deal in the offing?

NEW YORK - The New York Times reported on June 12 that Russian, European, Japanese and U.S. negotiators are preparing a text for the July summit in St. Petersburg of the Group of Eight (G-8) industrialized countries on mutual access to each other's energy markets. Russia wants to invest in Western utilities, pipelines, natural gas facilities and other infrastructure. It has, however, been reluctant to endorse market principles for its own energy sector, which is increasingly the preserve of staterun monopolies that President Vladimir Putin uses to project Russian power abroad.

(Continued on page 15)

Building coalitions...

(Continued from page 2)

On top of that, the Crimean Parliament on June 6 passed a resolution declaring Crimea to be a "NATO-free zone." Perhaps, as President Yushchenko asserts, the resolution will have no impact on Ukraine's relations with NATO. But the resolution flagrantly defies Ukraine's official policy of integration with NATO.

Why is there no clear and decisive reaction from Kyiv to what is happening in Crimea? Ukrainian political scientist Ihor Losev said Orange Revolution forces are so busy with haggling over the composition of a future government that they have no time to think about national interests: "When today we are watching this shameful story with the coalition [building], when it is necessary to save Ukraine but the authorities are totally focused on how to prevent [Yulia] Tymoshenko from taking the chair of prime minister - it is a pathological situation. It is something outside the boundaries of common sense."

According to Mr. Losev, the political class that came to power in Ukraine following the Orange Revolution pursues the same "clannish" and "egoistic" interests that were characteristic of the ruling elite during the previous presidency of Leonid Kuchma.

There are also many commentators who see the current anti-NATO protests and the rekindled Russian-language controversy in Ukraine as elements of a broader campaign inspired from Russia in order to undermine President Yushchenko's authority in Ukraine.

According to this line of reasoning, Moscow has realized that Ukraine under Mr. Yushchenko has a real chance of integration with Euro-Atlantic structures. Therefore, Gazprom's increase of gas prices for Kyiv in January and the current political turbulence in Ukraine can be seen as Moscow-supported attempts to discipline Mr. Yushchenko and keep Ukraine "in the Russian orbit."

Incidentally, President Yushchenko and Foreign Affairs Minister Borvs Tarasyuk have both suggested that the ongoing anti-NATO protests are sponsored by anti-Ukrainian forces in Russia.

Kyiv-based political scientist Hryhorii

Perepelytsia said that Ukrainians, because of their blurred national identity, can still be provoked by pro-Russian politicians into conflicts about the Russian language and Ukraine's foreign-policy goals. "The problem is that a large part of Ukrainians, particularly those living in the eastern regions and Crimea, cannot identify themselves as Ukrainians. They consider [Ukrainians] to be an alien nation with relation to themselves. They do not want to learn or speak the Ukrainian language. This puts them in a situation of terrible discomfort, psychological and ideological discomfort, and this leads to conflict," Mr. Perepelytsia noted.

According to Losev and Perepelytsia, President Kuchma did not actually want to bridge the west-east divide in Ukraine during his rule, while President Yushchenko has not yet proposed any plan for doing so.

What does President Yushchenko need to do in order to defuse the current rebellious sentiments over the Russian language and NATO in the country? Ukrainian political analyst Oles Donii believes that Yushchenko must employ a carrot-and-stick tactic regarding the Russian-language controversy: "In the first place it is necessary to show the authorities' strength. That is, the decisions of local self-government bodies that overstep the limits of their authority should be indisputably canceled by prosecutors."

As for the anti-NATO protests, Mr. Donii advises caution and even abandoning the idea of holding military exercises with NATO troops. He reasoned that: "If the population is now against [staging exercises with NATO troops], it is not [advisable] to break the people's will by force. The worst will happen when this [opposition to NATO] becomes a romantic idea among the population. One thing is to fight political opposition or to fight Russia [and] the Kremlin, but it is quite a different thing if [you have to fight] a romantic idea among Russian-speaking youths in the south and east [of Ukraine]. It is impossible to kill a romantic idea."

Whatever President Yushchenko is going to do in this situation, it is already evident that he needs to be guided not so much by short-term concerns connected with coalition-building as by long-term considerations linked to nation-building.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 14)

The daily reported that Lukoil is buying a chain of 2,000 gas stations in the United States and that unnamed Russian businesses are interested in U.S pipelines and facilities for converting liquefied natural gas (LNG). Igor Shuvalov, who is an aide to President Putin and his chief planner for the G-8 summit, told the newspaper that "the summit should recognize that Russia plays a key role in providing energy security, and that Russia is ready to open its energy reserves to foreign investment. ... We think that after this summit, no one will again question the membership of Russia in the G-8." Some of Russia's Western critics have suggested that it be dropped from that group on the grounds that it is neither industrialized nor democratic. An unnamed senior U.S. official told the daily that nobody is trying to exclude Russia, but only to ensure that it does not have monopolies that can manipulate markets. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Some U.S. reservists leave Ukraine

SYMFEROPOL – A group of U.S.

reservists from a contingent of 225 flew home from Symferopol on June 11 without completing their mission in Crimea, UNIAN reported, quoting Ukrainian military sources. The remaining reservists were scheduled to leave the peninsula on June 12. The reservists arrived in Ukraine last month to upgrade a military training range near the Crimean port of Feodosiya, ahead of the planned multinational Sea Breeze 2006 exercise. The docking of a U.S. naval cargo ship in Feodosiya on May 27, which brought construction equipment and materials as well as small arms, has triggered continuing anti-NATO protests in the port and cast doubt on whether the exercise will be authorized by the Ukrainian Parliament. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian language official in Serbia

KYIV – As of July 1, the Ukrainian language will be an official regional language in Serbia. Local authorities, courts and educational institutions will use Ukrainian. This is the first time that a foreign country has given the Ukrainian language official status. Serbia is home to a large Ukrainian diaspora community. (NTN Television)



З великим смутком повідомляємо родину, приятелів і знайомих, що 7 червня 2006 р. з волі Всевишнього відійшов на вічний спочинок наш найдорожчий і невіджалуваний МУЖ, БАТЬКО і ДІДУСЬ

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нар. 17 травня 1924 року в селі Воля Сотківська, Мистецький район, Львівська обл.

ПАНАХИДА була відправлена 11 червня 2006 р. у Kutch Funeral Home,

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Gregory Bemko

February 7, 1916 - May 27, 2006

Eminent cellist Gregory Bemko has died at age 90 after a lengthy illness. His parents, Tekla Ratushny, and Stefan Bemko, came to the United States from Toky in the Ternopil region, and Halychyna, Ukraine. Gregory was born in New York City. He studied at the Juilliard School of Music in New York. During WWII he was a bomber pilot in the 9th Air Force. He and his wife, concert pianist Yoshiko Niiya, performed as soloists and together in many of the greatest halls in Europe and the United States. For many recitals, Mr. Bemko included a set of variations based on "Oi Ne Khody, Hrytsiu." In 1989 he and his wife founded the Lake San Marcos Chamber Music Society. Over the years, many outstanding Ukrainian artists have performed for the Society, including pianist Mykola Suk, and cellist, Natalia Khoma. Donations may be made to the Lake San Marcos Chamber Music Society, c/o 6035 Piros Way, Oceanside, CA 92056.



With infinite sadness, we inform our dear Ukrainian diaspora about the passing into eternity on June 8, at the age of 102, of our dearest Father, Grandfather and Great-Grandfather



Mykola Kolessa

patriarch of Ukrainian music, renowned composer, conductor and pedagogue, founder of the Ukrainian school of conducting, community and cultural activist, academician of the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and professor.

He was honored by the President of Ukraine with the government's highest distinction, the title of "Hero of Ukraine," and the Order of Yaroslav the Wise, and was the recipient of numerous other high honors.

In deep sorrow:

great-grandchildren

daughters Kseniya, Kharytyna and Solomiya

grandchildren Adrian, Orest, Halyna, Yarema, Oleksander,

Anna, Pavlo and Maria Yurii, Andrii and Oleksander



(nee Witiuk)



Born November 21, 1926, in the village of Denysiv, Oblast Ternopil, Ukraine, passed away June 5, 2006.

In deep sorrow:

husband Nicholas Mykola

son Joseph Ihor with wife Helena

grandchildren Nicholas, William, Katherine

and Alexander

son Michael with wife Anna

grandchildren Tatyana and Daniel brothers and sister Iwan Witiuk

Iwan Witiuk Bohdan Witiuk Olya Hawryluk Myron Witiuk

Parastas was held Wednesday, June 7, 2006 at 8:00 p.m. at Lytwyn & Lytwyn Funeral Home in Union, N.J. Funeral services were held June 8, 2006, at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Newark, N.J., followed by the interment at St. Andrew's Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.





My mother, father, brother and sister and the rest of the family have life insurance. What about me?
Rates are low. See the chart on the next page for more information.

Gas price...

(Continued from page 2)

reluctance to anger the Kremlin.

Some energy conservation efforts have only begun to be implemented and will not produce significant savings for another five to 10 years.

One option could be Ukraine handing over control of its pipeline system and underground storage system to Russia in return for cheaper gas. That, however, is highly unlikely to happen as Mr. Yushchenko has often stated that he will not give these up.

Why has Russia chosen to make the decision to raise prices now?

The simple answer is the fact that, according to Moscow, the contract signed in January is up for review in six months.

"In our contract, the price was agreed upon for the first half of 2006," Gazprom deputy head Aleksandr Medvedev told RIA Novosti on May 26. "The end of this period is approaching, and both sides will discuss the price for the following period."

But Ukraine seems to understand the terms of the contract a little differently. President Yushchenko has offered numerous assurances to his countrymen that the price agreed upon in January will remain at the \$95 level for five years. Now that his promise has been challenged by Gazprom officials, the Ukrainian government might well feel the need to protect the image of the president and put up fierce resistance to any price increase.

It's also possible that policy-makers in the Kremlin are timing their decision to increase gas prices for Ukraine to coincide with the upcoming Group of Eight (G-8) industrialized economies meeting in July.

That could be Russia's signal to the West that it will conduct business in the CIS to promote its own geopolitical

interests, regardless of how any of the G-8 members might react.

Another possible explanation for the thinly veiled threat to raise gas prices for Ukraine is that this is a form of pressure being applied by the Kremlin to prevent the appointment of Yulia Tymoshenko as prime minister. During her short term as prime minister in 2005, Ms. Tymoshenko was outspoken about the need to remove RosUkrEnergo, the controversial middleman for gas deliveries from Central Asia from the Ukrainian market.

After Ms. Tymoshenko left office, RosUkrEnergo, reportedly at the insistence of the Kremlin, was given a lucrative role to play in the delivery and sale of gas to Ukraine. The January contract provided for RosUkrEnergo to create a joint venture company with Naftohaz Ukrayiny, the state-owned oil and gas monopoly, named UkrHazEnergo. The newly created company recently announced that it is expanding and intends to drill for gas in Ukraine and Russia.

If Ms. Tymoshenko is appointed prime minister, Moscow fears she might exclude UkrHazEnergo and RosUkrEnergo from the Ukrainian market.

On May 30 Russian Ambassador to Ukraine Viktor Chernomyrdin linked the gas issue with political relations. Mr. Chernomyrdin was quoted by Interfax as saying that Ukrainian-Russian relations were affected by relations between Ukraine and NATO, the problems with the Russian Black Sea Fleet, Kyiv's "search for democracy" and the creation last month of the Organization for Democracy and Economic Development-GUAM

He also said that Kyiv and Moscow could settle the problem of a possible gas-price rise with an improvement in political relations.

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Kyivan among dancers competing in international ballet competition

JACKSON, Miss. – Yevgen Babachenko of Kyiv has been selected to compete in the 2006 USA International Ballet Competition, scheduled for June 17-July 2 in Jackson, Miss. Designated as the official USA competition by a joint resolution of Congress, the event is held every four years and showcases the best dance talent the world has to offer.

Mr. Babachenko, 23 will be among 121 dancers competing for scholarships, cash awards and medals during the USA IBC's three rounds of competition. He will compete in the senior division and perform variations from the classical repertoire and a contemporary work.

The USA IBC's selection process is rig-

orous and requires that dancers submit written entries and performance videos from the classical ballet repertoire. Mr. Babachenko was selected by a world-renowned group of dance professionals who chose him out of a 300-person applicant pool.

Mr. Babachenko has 11 years of dance training. When not dancing, he enjoys playing sports. He says that he was inspired to dance by a desire to see the world and express himself.

The USA IBC is held in the traditions of sister competitions in Moscow, and Varna, Bulgaria, where the first international ballet competition was held in 1964. The first USA IBC was held in Jackson, Miss., in 1979.

Our fathers'...

(Continued from page 6)

get cars when we were 16, we didn't get sent to Europe on class trips. We got college scholarships based on need. Our parents were saving for their first family car, for a first house, for a particular Ukrainian organization or even for food packages to send to relatives back in Ukraine. But we did not feel poor, we were in the same boat as other Ukrainian American children, and we knew we were special and "different" from the other "American kids," but different in a good way. Our fathers taught us not to see this difference as a source of shame, but as a source of honor and pride in our uniqueness.

Our fathers gave us a sense of history, a sense that we were tied to a long line of ancestors who made us what we are and toward whom we owed a certain spiritual obligation. In the days before TV and video games, looking at family albums and listening to stories about eccentric uncles and important historical figures in our family's ancestry was actually a source of entertainment.

Our fathers gave us our language and our culture. We would not dream of speaking to our fathers in any language other than Ukrainian, nor to speak to them with disrespect. Our fathers taught us that we must speak Ukrainian not only because it is our ancestors' language, but because we were carriers of a language that was slowly being eradicated in Ukraine and we were its representatives abroad whose mission it was to save it from destruction. We were little crusaders of sorts. It was an intriguing concept to us. We often lapsed into English among ourselves, but deep inside we knew that Ukrainian was the language of our parents, and hence of our hearts.

Our fathers gave us bedrock stability. We knew that no matter what, our fathers would be there to protect us and to help us. We grew up in an age before divorce, and we knew that our fathers were there to stay, and we took comfort in that without even being aware that it could be any different.

Our fathers gave us hope. As we watched our fathers struggle with the

vicissitudes of immigrant life, with traumatic memories of wartime experiences, with marital or parenting problems, with financial issues, with community challenges, we saw that with faith, hope and trust in themselves and in God, they managed to cope with all the challenges life brought them. As children, we picked up these life lessons from our dads subliminally. We began to appreciate them more fully only as we matured and became parents ourselves. Our fathers' lives were an inspiration – we knew we would be able to cope with our problems because we had seen our fathers, against overwhelming odds, cope successfully with theirs.

Our fathers showed us how to live. But another great gift, if we were really fortunate, is that they showed us how to die. With the same stoicism and faith that sustained them in their long life journey, they went to meet their maker with profound strength, dignity and amazing grace that we can only hope and pray to find someday in ourselves.

Finally, our fathers gave us the greatest gift a human being can have. In choosing to leave their beloved Ukraine which was about to fall to a totalitarian Russian Communist system that would seek to obliterate individualism, root out the ancient Ukrainian culture and the Christian faith, and crush the human spirit, they were making a profound choice not just for themselves, but for their unborn children and grandchildren. They were asserting their God-given right to a life as a free human being.

In this, they were one in spirit with the Founding Fathers of the United States of America, whose great principles established a country that has given millions of refugees like our fathers a chance to live in freedom.

In their lifetimes, our fathers of that great World War II generation were a powerful influence on our lives. In their deaths, their power is not diminished, because their power came from their indomitable spirits, which live on in us. Our memories of what they were and what they represented will sustain us from generation to generation.

So here's to our beloved Fathers, living and deceased. God bless them, every one.

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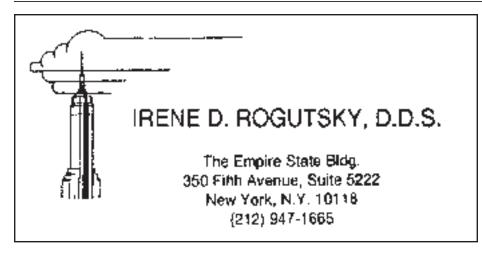
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CCRDF delivers...

(Continued from page 4)

port CCRDF. UMC then matched this amount and added an additional \$150,000 to expand the medical program to include children's hospitals in Kherson and Uzhhorod.

Following the press conference, Dr. Kuritsyn and his staff escorted journalists and UMC representatives to several areas of the hospital where medical technology installed by CCRDF is currently in operation. In addition to the equipment financed by UMC, Dr. Kuritsyn also showed the state-of-the-art neonatal station funded by the family of the late Martha Andriuk and Col. Basil Andriuk of Darien, Conn.

Mrs. Andriuk served as the vice-president of CCRDF from 1990 until her untimely death in 2003. In honor of her late husband, a native of the Bukovyna-Chernivtsi region, Mrs. Andriuk and her sons, Alexander, Andrew and Mark Andriuk of Norwalk, Conn., funded the neonatal station to launch the fund's partnership with the maternity hospital.

CCRDF is also working to improve conditions at Chernivtsi City Children's Hospital with the financial support of the fund's Central Maine Chapter under the direction of Dr. Bohdan Slabyj.

"We are very pleased with the strides

that have been made in Chernivtsi with the support of UMC," said CCRDF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma. "We will be working with the medical staff to assess the positive impact of this aid, and to ensure that as many patients as possible can fully benefit from this technology."

To support CCRDF's programs in Chernivtsi or other cities, tax-deductible donations may be forwarded to: CCRDF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078.

Ukrainian American...

(Continued from page 13)

arranged as individual branches, with scoring based upon strict adherence to the SUM uniform dress code, was won by the Hartford branch.

The Irvington branch took first place in overall points achieved, while Hartford took second place and Yonkers took third.

Bohdanka Stolar of Baltimore and Alexander Zelez of Hartford tied for the "pershun" (first place winner) trophy for the most points in the 6-12 age group, while Yurij Symchyk of Irvington was the pershun for the 13-17 age group.

In the volleyball tournament, coordinated by Semen Warycha, the final standings were as follows:

- mixed category: 1. Yonkers A, 2. Hartford and 3. Whippany;
- Girls category: 1. Passaic, 2. Philadelphia and 3. Yonkers A.

In the soccer tournament, coordinated by Michael Hlushko and Bohdan Kucyna, the final standings were as follows:

- Age 6-7 category: 1. Passaic and 2. Yonkers:
- Age 8-9 category: 1. Yonkers and 2. Passaic;
- Age 10-12 category: 1. Passaic G, 2. Yonkers and 3. Passaic M.

Andrij Bihun, the bulavnyi of the SUM national executive board, closed the awards ceremonies by expressing his gratitude to Mr. Burchak and to his entire Yonkers team, as well as to all of the "SUMivtsi" for their participation in another successful Zlet.

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Graduate program in Ukrainian folklore completes successful academic year

EDMONTON – The graduate student program in Ukrainian folklore at the University of Alberta completed another year of its popular lunch-and-seminar series. Begun in 2004-2005 on the initiative of Natalie Kononenko, Kule Chair of Ukrainian Ethnography, the series allows students and faculty to share their research.

This year Vincent Rees spoke about his research for his master's thesis. He is examining dance groups in Ukraine and how they modified folklore for the stage. He is also looking at the influence of staged folklore on Ukrainian Canadians.

Mariya Lesiv also spoke about the work that she did for her master's thesis. She discussed pysanka writing in Canada and classified pysanka art into categories that range from the traditional to the individualistic.

Katherine Bily spoke about pregnancy beliefs, looking at traditional beliefs and beliefs in Canada. Svitlana Kukharenko spoke about animal magic. In the summer of 2005, she collected beliefs about animals and the taboos associated with their care. She presented her research at the University of Alberta and also at the national meeting of the American Folklore Society.

Roman Shiyan talked about Ukrainian Kozaks. Stories about the Kozaks were collected by historians, folklorists, philologists and others. Mr. Shiyan showed how collector interests and biases are reflected in their work.

Andriy Chernevych, who has been working with the Local Culture Project, a monumental interview effort conducted by the Ukrainian Folklore Center and its French, German and English partners, reported that he is planning to use narratives found in this collection for his dis-

sertation.

Another event connected to the Local Culture Project was the debut of a film based on the collection. Andriy Nahachewsky, the principle investigator on the project, introduced the film and explained the work behind it.

Prof. Kononenko presented her work with traditional religious stories that she collected in Ukraine, showing how these narratives both reflect the growing interest in religion and help resolve changes in social roles that came with Ukrainian independence.

Because technological issues are important to folklore documentation and preservation, several sessions were dedicated to equipment. The group enjoyed a hands-on demonstration of a high-quality video camera purchased by the center and Peter Holloway's discussion of modeling techniques that create three-dimensional virtual replicas of folk houses and village churches.

Mr. Holloway also demonstrated the new sound file database which is available on the Ukrainian Traditional Folklore website, http://www.arts.ualberta.ca/uvp/. This database was developed with the help of Yue Zhang of TAPoR, the Text Access Portal for Research, and Ms. Kukharenko.

The lunch/seminar series had a number of special visitors. Sogu Hong, who received his Ph.D. last year, returned to talk about the Ukrainian studies program that he is launching in Korea.

Oleksandra Britsyna of the Folklore Institute in Kyiv spoke about her research in Ukrainian narrative. Oksana Lutsko came from Lviv to use the Bohdan Medwidsky Ukrainian Folklore Archives and offered the group a Ukrainian perspective on Ukrainian



The Ukrainian folklore group at the University of Alberta.

Canadian song.

Mykhailo Koval, a kobzar from a village in Ukraine, sang songs and answered questions about his artistry and about his efforts to preserve Ukrainian traditions. Another bandura-related event

was Andrij Horniatkevych's presentation of Zinovyi Shtokalko's recordings to the archive. Mr. Horniatkevych provided biographical information of Shtokalko, whom he knew personally, and discussed his artistry.



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CHILDREN'S UKRAINIAN HERITAGE DAY CAMP AGES 1-7

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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 S340 Per Camper, \$145 for Day Campers

GOLF DAY CAMP IN BEACH VOLLEYBALL DAY CAMP AGES X-ADULTS

Instructional golf sessions w/golf instructors, between 8-11am & evening beach volleyball w/professional instruction by All American Volleyball Player between 6:30-8:30 pm. Session #2 SITCH campers may participate—call for details.

July 31- August 4, 2006

GOLF-835 Per Camper/Per Day &VOLLEYBALL-820 Per Camper/Per Day

TRADITIONAL UKRAINIAN FOLK DANCE CAMP AGES 8-16

Directed by Ania Bohachevsky-Lonkevych (daughter of Roma Pryma Bohachevsky). This sleepover camp has been a Soyuzivka favorite for over 25 years, offering expert instruction for beginning, intermediate and advanced dancers. Attendance is limited to 60 students. The camps end with a grand recital which is always a summer highlight!

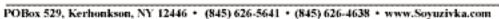
Session #1: July 23— August 5, 2006 (NEW ADDED WEEK)

Session #2: August 6- August 19, 2006 S610- UNA Members, S660- Non UNA Members + S300 Instructors Fee Per Student

\$75 Deposit Required to Register Child into most Camps.

For more information & for camp applications call: (845) 626-5641

or check out our website at: www.Soyuzivka.com





Party of Regions....

(Continued from page 1)

Rada chairman position, Our Ukraine believes further talks to form the coalition are without prospects," an Our Ukraine statement noted. "Our Ukraine expresses deep regret that the personal ambitions of the Socialists' leader ruined the discussions to form a coalition."

Political experts concede that a coalition with the Party of the Regions would decimate the Our Ukraine electorate, much of which would flock to the Tymoshenko Bloc, and potentially splinter the Our Ukraine bloc.

A bloc is a union of several political parties. A faction is a political grouping in the Parliament that may consist of politicians from different parties, but typically reflects the bloc structures.

Five parliamentary factions represent the five political blocs that qualified for Parliament. However, a Party of the Regions coalition may transcend those factions to include Our Ukraine and Socialist Party politicians.

It's too early to get excited over Mr. Yanukovych's claim, which might be a bluff, said Oleh Donii, chair of the Kyivbased Center for Political Values Research, which is supported by Ukrainian citizens and is seeking international financing.

If Mr. Yanukovych has secured politicians from Our Ukraine or the Socialists to join a coalition, it's likely because they're fed up with the way coalition-building is taking place, Mr. Donii commented.

Our Ukraine is interested in dragging out the coalition-forming process as long as possible, without any results, because the bloc doesn't benefit from a union with the Tymoshenko Bloc or the Party of the Regions, he said.

While President Viktor Yushchenko can dismiss the Parliament after June 25, he isn't required to do so as long as some tenuous agreement is reached.

A coalition agreement doesn't have to designate any posts.

Moreover, dismissal is the last thing Mr. Yushchenko would do because, in a repeat election, it's likely the Our Ukraine bloc will lose much of its votes, Mr. Donii said.

In the ideal scenario for President Yushchenko, the prime minister and Cabinet ministers will remain in power as an acting government – a goal that Our Ukraine's leaders are working towards, Mr. Donii said.

The latest political developments resulted in the first full session on June 14 of the newly elected Verkhovna Rada taking on the appearance of a political circus, as politicians staged their latest public relations ploys.

Ms. Tymoshenko pounced on the news that Our Ukraine was open to talks with the Party of the Regions, declaring that such a coalition had already been in the making and attacking Our Ukraine for betraying the Orange Revolution.

"It's obvious today, and absolutely understood, that this entire drawn-out, demeaning and disgraceful Orange negotiating process was an absolute smokescreen for their true intentions, true plans and true likings," Ms. Tymoshenko thundered.

"And they set the very goal of not creating a coalition, but destroying and discrediting the process ... so that time runs out to form a coalition and then say, 'Look, nothing came of it. So let's turn to a more compromising and understandable process of forming a coalition with the Party of the Regions."

As part of a well-orchestrated strategy to solidify her image as the Orange Revolution's torchbearer, Ms. Tymoshenko repeated her stance that her bloc would never unite with the Party of the Regions, and its union with Our Ukraine would benefit Ukraine's elite businessmen at the expense of its common people.

"Once they announce their coalition, we will declare a plan to fight for Ukraine, because we will never give it up for the clans to tear apart," Ms. Tymoshenko told reporters on June 15.

More so, an Our Ukraine-Party of the Regions coalition would certainly benefit the Tymoshenko Bloc, which would become the main opposition force rallying central and western Ukraine against what Ms. Tymoshenko has portrayed as big business interests represented in such an alliance.

To respond to Our Ukraine's criticisms of his political ambitions, Mr. Moroz took to the parliamentary podium and declared that his party was willing to sacrifice the Rada chairman's post for a revived Orange coalition, but only on a certain condition.

"The entire distribution (of posts) will be based on a proportionate system, beginning with the assistant chair of the district administrations, and ending with the ministers, committee chairs, procurator generals and other positions," Mr. Moroz said to strong applause, particularly from Tymoshenko Bloc deputies. In the afternoon of June 15 Mr. Yushchenko gave a brief speech in which he stated that he agrees with this principle, but understands it to mean that an Our Ukraine politician should be the Rada's chairman because that bloc finished third in the elections.

Mr. Yushchenko also said he was willing to concede the prime ministership to Ms. Tymoshenko, but she had insisted that Mr. Moroz should chair the Rada. The president offered Mr. Moroz the position of National Security and Defense Council chair instead, which was then declined.

Mr. Yushchenko also complained that Ms. Tymoshenko and Mr. Moroz were laying claim to positions they don't have a right to under the Ukrainian Constitution, including those of the ministers of defense and Foreign Affairs, director of the Security Service of Ukraine and chair of the National Bank of Ukraine.

Amidst the politicking in the Rada, the Party of the Regions and the Communists appeared to be the only serious politicians interested in conducting political business.

Their parties were the only ones to make any legislative proposals.

A Party of the Regions national deputy proposed creating an investigative committee to find out why Regions deputies were denied access to the Dnipropetrovsk Oblast Council on June 2, the day of elections for the council chair.

Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko called for an investigation

into the incident involving the USS Advantage in Feodosiya, demanding the dismissal of Ukraine's defense, justice and foreign affairs ministers.

He mocked the failure of the Orange forces to form a coalition. "Please tell us what do we need to do to help you because you are playing with the Ukrainian people and nothing has been borne to this very day," Mr. Symonenko said.

As a result of the government's ineffectiveness, Ukraine's economic and military security is threatened as a result of rising natural gas prices and the unlawful presence of foreign soldiers, he added.

"The Orange leadership has demonstrated its incapability," Mr. Symonenko said. "In their fight for positions, they forget about government that's supposed to serve the people. And in this manner, they've created a systemic crisis."

In his address to the Ukrainian public, Mr. Yushchenko called on Ukrainians to ignore the claims that Ukraine is in crisis.

Ukraine's Gross Domestic Product growth is 4 percent so far this year, among the best rates in Europe, he said. An inflation rate of 2.8 percent is the slowest in five years. During the last five months, Ukrainians' real income has grown 23 percent, the best rate in Ukraine's 15 years of independence, he noted.

"I call on everyone to be realists and for politicians to refrain from rocking the boat where there are significant processes taking place for the Ukrainian nation," President Yushchenko said.



UKRAINIAN SPORTS FEDERATION OF U.S.A. AND CANADA AND KLK

USCAK - EAST 2006 Tennis Tournament Singles, Doubles and Mixed Doubles

Dates: July 1-2, 2006.

Place: Soyuzivka, UNA Resort, Kerhonkson, NY

Starting Times: Singles will start 10 a.m. on Saturday, July 1. Doubles will start 1 p.m. on Saturday.

Entry: *Advance registration is required for singles*. Entry fee is \$20 per individual or a doubles team. Send registration form including the fee to:

George Sawchak

724 Forrest Ave., Rydal, PA 19046 (215) 576-7989

Singles registration must be recieved by June 24. Doubles teams may register at Soyuzivka by 10 a.m. on Saturday. Do not send entry form to Soyuzivka.

Rules: All USTA and USCAK rules for tournament play will apply.

Participants must be Ukrainian by birth, heritage or marriage.

Players may enter up to two groups of either singles or doubles.

Awards: Trophies will be presented to winners and finalists in each group.

Host Club: KLK, USCAK Tennis Committee will conduct the tournament.

Registration Form Make checks payable to KLK

Name _	Name Phone No				
Address	i				
Group	Men	Men 45's		Boys	Age Group
	Women	_Sr. Wome	en	Girls	Age Group
Doubles	Partner		Mixed D	oubles	Partner
EAST 20	006				



VISIT UKRAINE was SCOPE TRAVEL



Best of Ukraine

Aug 7, 2005

A lovely combination of Kyiv, Odesa L'viv and Crimea – with extensive sightseeing to Yalla, Bakchysaraj and Chersonesus + a day excursion to the Carpathian Mts. from L'viv. (16 days)

Western Ukraine + Poland

Aug 18, 2006

Kylv + L.viv with an accent on the Carpathian area -Yaremche-Kolomyla-Vorokhta-a most colorful ethnic splendor that ends in fascinating Krakow! An Independence Day Tour. (15 days)



Ukraine -Poland -Hungary

Jul 12 & Sep 13, 2006 on one tour - Kviv L viv

See the best of Eastern Europe in 12 days on one tour - Kylv, Livik Krakow, Budapest: Special Features: Wieliczka Sait Mines, and Szantandre Artisan Village. (12 days)



Mini Ukraine

Aug 17 & Sep 28, 2006

This four combines the East and the West of Ukraine – Kylv and L'viv, the Capital of Galicia during the Austria-Hungary reign. An Independence Day Tour . (9 days)



Eastern Ukraine

Aug 15, 2006

We fly to Kharkiv, continue to Poltava, and attend the awesome Scrochynskyj Yaimarok, Continue to Cheminiv and than to Kyrv for the festivities! End tour in L'viv or join the Hutsul Fest Tour in Kolomyia!! An Independence Day Tour. (15 days)

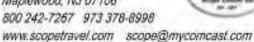


Hutsul Festival Tour

Aug 22, 2006 - Waitlisted Only

Kyiv - take part in all the festivities before boarding your plane towards Karpaty. Be in Kolomyia for the Hutsul Festival - the most colorful dence/song competition you can imagine! End tour in lavely L'viv. An Independence Day Tour. (11 days)

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Kalyna School of Ukrainian Dance performs at St. Petersburg fair



The Kalyna School of Ukrainian Dance of St. Petersburg, Fla.

ST. PETERSBURG, Fla. – The St. Petersburg International Folk Fair Society (SPIFFS) celebrated its 31st annual International Festival on March 20-26 at the beautiful Vinoy Park overlooking the Gulf of Mexico. Over 50 countries participated in the annual event, and Ukraine was represented by the Kalyna School of Ukrainian Dance for the fifth consecutive year.

The Kalyna School of Ukrainian Dance of St. Petersburg, Fla., was founded in 1997 and is run under the artistic direction of Andrew Slywka and assisted by Lena Slywka and Jenni Haire. Kalyna currently has 30 students ranging in age from 3 to 36 with some of Ukrainian her-

itage and some of non-Ukrainian descent.

Kalyna performed at the 2006 SPIFFS festival on Saturday and Sunday, March 25-26, and entertained the crowd with its exciting, high-energy choreography and colorful costumes. The dancers also participated in the Parade of Nations and showcased Ukraine's flag and traditional costumes.

Kalyna will be celebrating its ninth anniversary this fall and is proud to promote the tradition of Ukrainian dance in Florida. Kalyna welcomes new dancers to the group. For more information contact Lena or Andrew Slywka, 813-264-1078; email kalynadancers@gmail.com or visit www.geocities.com/kalynadancers.



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OUT AND ABOUT

June 13-July 4 New York

"Gulag: Soviet Forced Labor Camps and Struggle for Freedom" exhibit, Ellis Island Immigration Museum, www.gulaghistory.org/exhibits/nps, or

212-363-3200

June 23-25 Ellenville, NY Lemko Vatra, Organization for Defense of Lemko Western Ukraine, Oselia SUM, 973-772-3344 or

203-762-5912

June 24 Champaign, IL Chornobyl Symposium and Concert, speaker David Marples, music by Scott Wyatt and readings by Irene Zabytko, University of Illinois at Urbana-

Champaign, 217-333-1244

documentary on Velychkovsky

June 24 Uxbridge, ON Ukrainian Golf Across Canada tournament, Wooden Sticks Golf Club, 416-763-7000

St. Catharines, ON

June 24

Golf Course, zchytra@cogeco.ca

Ss. Cyril and Methodius Golf Tournament, Garden City

June 25 Horsham, PA UNWLA Ivan Kupalo Festival, Region 1 Soccer Finals, U.S. Open and Amateur Cups, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412

June 25 Warrington, PA St. Anne Ukrainian Catholic Church festival, 215-343-3948, HalaMich@aol.com or www.stanneukrainiancc.com

EWTN Catholic network to air

WINNIPEG - On Friday, June 30, at 4:30 p.m. (Central Daylight Time) viewers will be able to tune in to EWTN Catholic television for the premiere presentation of the life journey of a martyr in our times.

This documentary, produced by Ignatius Productions, introduces the life of Blessed Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky beginning in Ukraine, where he ministered as a Redemptorist priest. He preached the Gospel with his life, encountering numerous arrests and imprisonments in the Soviet gulag for refusing to deny his Catholic faith.

After his last imprisonment he was exiled from his home country. In 1972 he found refuge in Winnipeg, but his time in North America was short-lived. He died in 1973.

In 2001 the late Pope John Paul II on his historical visitation to Ukraine announced the beatification of 27 martyrs. Blessed Vasyl was among this group of spiritual heroes.

Today Bishop Velychkovsky's holy relics are a part of a special martyr's shrine in Winnipeg. To learn more about this inspirational martyr's journey, readers can watch EWTN or log on to



Bishop Vasyl Velychkovsky

www.ewtn.com.

For more information about the blessed bishop log on to www.bvmartyrshrine.com.

Notice to publishers and authors

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: Editorial Staff, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

June 30 - July 2 Wellington, OH

Ivan Kupalo weekend, SUM Cleveland Resort Khortytsia, 216-870-1811 or 216-548-1333 or

www.ivanakupala.com

June 30 Lehighton, PA Learn Ballroom Dancing, Ukrainian Homestead, 610-377-4621 or 484-695-0395

July 1 Vernon, BC Canada Day Festivities, featuring the Sadok Ukrainian

Dancers, Polsen Park, 250-558-2959

July 1 Lehighton, PA

Kazka dance camp performance, zabava wtih DJ Captain Mike, Ukrainian Homestead, 215-235-3709

or 610-377-4621

July 1 Media, PA Delaware County Summer festival, Voloshky Dancers, Rose Tree Park, 610-891-4663 or 610-891-4464

July 3 Jewett, NY Papa Duke Band at the Grazhda, Music and Art Center of Greene County, 518-989-6479

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; photos will be considered. Please note: items will be printed a maximum of two times each.

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Flights to Kylv —Travel Jun 1-Aug 31

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Fly on Aerosvit from New York to

Outbound Date		Lviv/IvanoFrankivak
Jun 10 — Aug 14	\$860 +tax	\$960 plus tax
Aug 15- Sep 5	\$780 +tax	\$880 plus tax

Rates do not include taxes that may range from \$185.00 to \$267.00. This offer is limited and is subject to availability by the airline corners. Other cities eveilable. Please call for rates and availability.



Soyuzioka's Heritage Foundation 1st Annual Golf Fundraiser Saturday August 5, 2006

Golf Tournament, Prizes, Banquet Dinner & More! For More Onformation Call: (845)626-5641, Ext. 108

Soyuzivka's Datebook

June 23-24, 2006 Plast Kurin "Shostokryli" Rada

June 24, 2006 Wedding

June 25-July 2, 2006 Tabir Ptashat, Session #1

June 25-July 7, 2006 Tennis Camp

June 26-30, 2006 Exploration Day Camp

July 2-9, 2006 Tabir Ptashat, Session #2

July 9-15, 2006 Discovery Camp, Session #1

July 16-21, 2006 Children's Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp, Session #1

July 16-22, 2006 Discovery Camp, Session #2 SCUBA Diving Course

July 23-28, 2006 Children's Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp, Session #2

July 23-29, 2006 Ukrainian Sitch Sports Camp, Session #1 July 23-August 5, 2006 Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #1

July 30-August 5, 2006 Ukrainian Sitch Sports Camp, Session #2

July 31-August 4, 2006 Golf Day Camp and Beach Volleyball Day Camp

August 5, 2006

Dance Camp Session #1 Recital, Auction Fund-Raiser sponsored by Chornomorski Khvyli and Soyuzivka's Heritage Foundation Golf Tournament

August 6-19, 2006 Ukrainian Folk Dance Camp, Session #2

August 12, 2006 Miss Soyuzivka Contest followed by zabava with Tempo

August 19, 2006
Dance Camp Session #2 Recital, followed by zabava with Fata Morgana

To book a room or event call: (845) 626-5641, ext. 140
216 Foordmore Road P.O. Box 529
Kerhonkson, NY 12446
E-mail: Soyuzivka@aol.com
Website: www.Soyuzivka.com

The Ukrainian Weekly announces a special section

Congratulations, Graduates!

Every year tens of thousands of students throughout North America receive undergraduate and graduate degrees at colleges and universities, cresting a pinnacle of personal achievement.

The Ukrainian Weekly's special section – Congratulations, Graduates! – offers readers of The Ukrainian Weekly the opportunity to place a note congratulating family members and dear friends on their recent achievements. This annual section will be published on July 9, 2006.

To place an ad congratulating a recent graduate, please send us the following by June 26:

- your note of congratulations, in Ukrainian or English, which should be no more than 50 words, including names
- in English, the full name of the graduate, the degree completed or diploma received, along with the date it was presented, a list of awards and honors given the graduate, and the name and location of the school;
- a photo of the graduate (optional);
- payment for the ad;
- your daytime phone number.

The ad sizes for the greeting are a 1/8 page horizontal for \$100 or a 1/4 page for \$180.

Please make checks payable to The Ukrainian Weekly and mail along with above information to:

The Ukrainian Weekly – Congratulations Graduates! 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280 Parsippany, NJ 07054 Attn. Maria Oscislawski

Or e-mail: adsukrpubl@att.net

For further information, please call (973) 292-9800 ext. 3040 (Maria O.) or visit www.ukrweekly.com

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, July 2

JEWETT, N.Y.: "Music at the Grazhda" presents violinist Vasyl Popadiuk playing a fusion of East European and gypsy melodies in a pop rock style, joined by vocalist Marianna Vynnytsky. The concert, held under the auspices of the Music and Art Center of Greene County, takes place at 7 p.m. The Grazhda is located on Ukraine Road, off Route 23A; it is five miles west of the town of Hunter, N.Y., in the Catskill Mountains. For directions log on to www.grazhdamusicandart.org; for

additional information call 518-263-4619.

Save the date

CHICAGO: The 35th anniversary celebration of the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art will be held on Saturday, October 7, at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 2247 W. Chicago Ave. Please plan to attend this very special event. An exciting program with special guests, music and surprises is planned. Let's celebrate 35 years of this significant Ukrainian cultural institution. For more information contact the UIMA at 773-227-5522.

PLEASE NOTE REQUIREMENTS:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$20 per submission) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$20 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Items may be e-mailed to preview@ukrweekly.com.

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This way, you'll be sure to enjoy each issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, and will keep yourself informed of all the news you need to know.

Subscription renewals, along with a clipped-out mailing label, should be sent to: The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Subscription fees are: \$45 for members of the Ukrainian National Association, \$55 for all others. Please indicate your UNA branch number when renewing your subscription.

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