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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Congress shows Yushchenko has lost control over Our Ukraine People's Union

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Although Viktor Yushchenko is still the figurehead of the Our Ukraine's People's Union (OUPU), the political party's real leadership demonstrated that the Ukrainian president has lost any control he ever might have had over the force that led the Orange Revolution.

Three weeks after Mr. Yushchenko called for the party to cleanse its failed leadership in favor of a line-up of fresh faces, its tight inner circle of wealthy businessmen ignored the president's advice and successfully fended off any such attempts at a November 11 party congress.

This tight circle consists mainly of OUPU Acting Political Council Chair Roman Bezsmertnyi; confectionary magnate Petro Poroshenko, whose wealth is estimated at \$505 million; and Mykola Martynenko and Oleksander Tretiakov, who made their millions in fuel and energy.

As a result, OUPU may continue to lose its relevance in Ukrainian politics as it is now apparent that the party is under the control of a tight circle of businessmen who demonstrated during the congress the extreme lengths they would take to retain their grip on power.

"The old party 'nomenklatura', the Poroshenko-Bezsmertnyi group, general-

ly controls the situation," said Oles Doniy, a Socialist Party member and chair of the Kyiv-based Center for Political Values Research, which is supported by Ukrainian citizens.

"Though the democratic opposition personified by Mykola Katerynychuk managed to get the majority's support, nonetheless, the 'nomenklatura' managed to stayed in power," Mr. Doniy added.

The farcical manner in which OUPU has conducted its party congresses revealed a party in deep crisis, spiraling towards rockbottom, political experts concurred.

Three weeks earlier, Mr. Yushchenko declared that the OUPU was mired in "a serious internal crisis," stating he didn't want the party to become "some kind of privately held stock company, where the main stockholders can monopolistically decide what is need for the party."

Following those dramatic words, Mr. Bezsmertnyi closed the meeting after only a half-hour and postponed it until November 11, in what political experts described as a political maneuver to reassert his grip on power.

The second session of the congress, meanwhile, was an 11-hour marathon session during which opposing delegates

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Ukrainian American community remembers the Famine-Genocide

by Matthew Dubas

NEW YORK — St. Patrick Cathedral's center section slowly filled to near capacity with an estimated 2,500 present, on Saturday afternoon, November 18 as the Ukrainian American community remembered the over 7 million victims of the Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Leaders of the Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox Churches, with respective clergy, concelebrated a memorial service on the occasion of the Holodomor's 73rd anniversary as members of the Dumka Choir of New York sang the responses.

Metropolitan Constantine of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. said that the Ukrainian community must remind people that the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide did indeed happen in 1932-1933, despite the contrary writings of pro-Soviet propagandist journalists like Walter Duranty.

Referring to the innocent victims of the Famine, the metropolitan said, "We pray that their souls reside in a place of no more sorrow, no more pain and no more sickness. We pray that their memories be eternal and that we never forget."

Dr. Oleh Shamshur, ambassador of

Ukraine to the United States, also attended the national observance of the Holodomor. He thanked all those who came to bow their heads for the deep tragedy of those who had been annihilated by Stalin's regime of terror. He emphasized that the Holodomor was an act of genocide against the Ukrainian people.

Ambassador Shamshur thanked the U.S. Congress and President George W. Bush for passing and signing into law HR 562, authorizing the government of Ukraine to establish a memorial on federal land in the District of Columbia to honor the victims of the Holodomor.

Michael Sawkiw, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, thanked the Ukrainian community for its participation and read a statement that reminded the international community to work together to prevent such tragedies in the future. Mr. Sawkiw also thanked the U.S. Congress and President Bush for HR 562. Additionally, Mr. Sawkiw read a statement by President Bush on the 73rd anniversary of the Holodomor. (For full text, see page

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Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey holds grand opening



Roma Hadzewycz

Metropolitan Stefan Soroka (center), Archbishop Antony (right) and Bishop Paul Chomnycky officiate at the blessing of the new Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.

by Roma Hadzewycz

WHIPPANY, N.J. — Three days of celebrations marked the grand opening here of the new Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey — a project years in the making that became reality as the edifice was officially blessed on Saturday, November 11.

The center's dedication was preceded by the blessing a day earlier of the rectory of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, which stands at the entrance to the new Ukrainian American community complex on North Jefferson Road, just up the street from the soon-to-be vacated church and parish hall on Route 10.

Then, on Sunday, November 12, the parish witnessed the consecration of its new temporary church, located inside the cultural center building. The temporary church will serve the community until the new St. John's Church is built on land situated between the rectory and the cultural center.

It was a historic weekend for the growing Ukrainian community of northern New Jersey, which long ago had outgrown the current church and the adjacent hall in Whippany and which had longed for a center that could accommodate its Ukrainian studies school, youth groups and dance ensembles, as well as various organizations, ranging from sports clubs to women's and professionals' groups.

The Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey (UACCNJ) was jointly blessed by Metropolitan Archbishop Stepan Soroka of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Stamford, Conn.

"What a privilege it is to be here today,

together with my brother Bishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church and Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Stamford Eparchy, with the many clergy and religious, with the very special government and civic representatives, with the representatives of the many Ukrainian organizations who have committed themselves to be a part of this parish center family, and all the faithful here present," said Metropolitan Soroka, addressing the crowd of hundreds gathered outside the cultural center for its dedication ceremony.

"Today, you and I are celebrating hope and confidence in the future of our Ukrainian American community in the Whippany area of New Jersey. We are making a dramatic statement of hope for our present and future generations of children, youth and adults, and for their formation in our rich Ukrainian American culture," emphasized the leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States.

In turn, Archbishop Antony congratulated the local community for this "new beginning." Commenting that the independence of Ukraine was, in some ways, not good for the Ukrainian community outside its borders, he said that Ukraine's independence had resulted in apathy toward our community life here. Today, Archbishop Antony said, it is obvious "the apathy is fading away."

Next to the hierarchs, beaming, was the Very Rev. Mitred Protopresbyter Roman Mirchuk, pastor of St. John's, who along with building, fund-raising, construction, financial and other committees of volunteers had shepherded the project to completion.

New Jersey State Assemblyman Joseph Pennacchio (26th District) pointed to the

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ANALYSIS

Scherban back home in Ukraine – a hot potato for politicians

by Oleg Varfolomeyev
Eurasia Daily Monitor

Former Sumy Oblast Administration Chairman Volodymyr Scherban has returned to Ukraine from self-imposed exile in the United States. In Ukraine, he is suspected of several crimes, and for those who helped Viktor Yushchenko come to power in 2004, Mr. Scherban epitomizes the corrupt regime of former President Leonid Kuchma.

For many years Mr. Scherban was a member of Mr. Kuchma's entourage. Ukraine, however, has changed since early 2005, when Mr. Scherban left Ukraine, and now he hopes he will not be punished. His tarnished reputation, however, may prompt his former allies to shun him, and his return to politics remains highly questionable.

Mr. Scherban was governor (the widely used title for chair of the oblast administration) of Sumy in 1999-2005, with a short break in 2002. He fled to the United States in April 2005 "so as not to be lynched" by Orange Revolution activists in Kyiv, as he recently explained. Shortly after his departure, Ukrainian prosecutors accused him of election fraud, extortion, tax evasion and abuse of office.

In July 2005 he unsuccessfully applied for asylum in the United States, and in

October 2005 he was imprisoned in Florida after his visa expired. He was later released on bail, only to be arrested again in May of this year. In early 2006, Kyiv asked Washington to extradite him.

Mr. Scherban returned to Ukraine on November 4, and Kyiv police escorted him to the Procurator General's Office. The prosecutors, however, released him almost immediately, as three national deputies from the Party of the Regions (PRU) of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich vouched for him. Since then, Mr. Scherban has given numerous interviews to journalists, denying the accusations against him and claiming to be a victim of political persecution. Despite Mr. Scherban's release, however, no case against him has been closed, and the investigation is continuing.

President Yushchenko expressed his disagreement with Mr. Scherban's release, saying that the deputies' vouching for him was "a dubious gesture." He warned them of possible negative consequences to their reputation. Mr. Scherban said that he returned to Ukraine voluntarily, but Mr. Yushchenko maintained that Mr. Scherban's case was "the expulsion of an individual suspected of serious criminal offenses," and expressed his gratitude to the U.S. government for

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Kyiv sends mixed signals on Odesa-Brody oil pipeline

by Vladimir Socor
Eurasia Daily Monitor

On November 15, Prime Ministers Viktor Yanukovich of Ukraine and Jaroslaw Kaczynski of Poland announced that they would support building an extension of the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline westward, to the Kralupy refinery in the Czech Republic. The announcement implicitly changes the original intention to extend that pipeline northward to Poland's refining center at Plock and potentially farther to Gdansk.

Mr. Yanukovich proposed the change during Mr. Kaczynski's visit to Ukraine, and the Polish prime minister indicated his acceptance after a detailed discussion.

Stunning perhaps to the public in both countries, the change had recently been considered by decision-makers in Kyiv. President Viktor Yushchenko proposed an extension to Kralupy via Slovakia during the European Union-Ukraine summit in Finland on October 27. Mr. Yushchenko asked the EU to encourage participation by top European companies and financial institutions in the Brody-Kralupy project.

The change of mind might have surprised the EU participants as well, inasmuch as Brussels had held talks with Ukrainian officials about possible EU support for the extension to Plock as recently as mid-October, and Mr. Yanukovich himself reaffirmed interest in that project during his Brussels visit in September.

As recently as November 7, Azerbaijan's President Ilham Aliyev had discussed his country's possible input into the Odesa-Brody extension project, following up on recent Ukrainian and EU proposals to Baku. Azerbaijan envisages its possible input into this project not only or necessarily in the form of crude oil supplies, but rather as participating in refining the oil and marketing the products.

On November 8 Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers tasked the state oil and gas com-

pany Naftohaz Ukrainy to reach an agreement with Kazakhstan until 2008 for oil supplies to an Odesa-Brody-Plock pipeline and to seek financing for the extension to Plock from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and the European Investment Bank.

And, on November 13, Mr. Yanukovich had received Kazakhstan's ambassador in Kyiv, Amangeldy Zhumabayev, to discuss Kazakhstan's possible participation in extending the Odesa-Brody pipeline into Poland. Underscoring the project's significance, Mr. Yanukovich proposed that the two sides jointly build and operate the extension to Plock.

Further mixing its signals, Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers also approved on November 8 the contents of a proposal to be submitted to Russia to connect Brody by pipeline with Ukraine's refinery at Kremenchuk. Given the Odesa-Brody pipeline's relatively modest capacity of some 9 million tons annually (expandable perhaps to 15 million tons through the addition of pumping stations and chemical agents), its possible extensions could hardly be commercially attractive if the oil flow is subdivided in several directions.

Proposals to extend the Odesa-Brody pipeline to Poland – or, now, the Czech Republic – are all part of efforts to restore the pipeline's originally intended use in the northward direction. Ukraine completed the pipeline and the Pivdenny maritime terminal in 2001-2002 to carry Caspian oil into European Union territory. However, the line stopped at Brody, near the Ukrainian-Polish border, and remained empty for another two years because Russia blocked the access of oil from Kazakhstan to Odesa.

In June 2004, Ukraine (with Mr. Yanukovich then serving his first term as prime minister and Yuri Boiko as chief of Naftohaz Ukrainy) signed an agreement

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NEWSBRIEFS

President wants probe into gas company

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said on November 17 that UkrGazEnergo, a company created by RosUkrEnergo and Naftohaz Ukrainy to sell imported gas to consumers in Ukraine, has posed a "threat to national security" by refusing to supply gas to 16 major industrial enterprises in the country, Interfax-Ukraine reported, quoting the presidential press service. Mr. Yushchenko ordered that the Anti-Monopoly Committee investigate the case and to find out if UkrGazEnergo has violated anti-monopoly legislation. The Financial Times on November 18 quoted Ukrainian energy analyst Volodymyr Saprykin as saying that UkrGazEnergo is being used as an instrument to put pressure on Ukrainian industrial giants in order to compel them "to fall under the ownership of Russian companies, possibly even Gazprom affiliates." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Liberalization of housing sector urged

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko said at a meeting of the National Security and Defense Council (NSDC) in Kyiv on November 17 that the housing and utilities sector in Ukraine is in a profound crisis and this poses a threat to national security, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "The technical state of major assets of housing companies is critical; the efficiency of technological processes in the sector is still low; it is traditionally unprofitable and the process to liberalize utility tariffs is very politicized," he said. "In fact, the state is a monopolistic owner of the services. It limits options that businesspeople can offer more efficiently," the president added. According to the Ukrayinska Pravda website, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz quit the NSDC meeting to protest what they reportedly saw as the president's meddling with the Cabinet's prerogatives. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yushchenko to veto bill on Cabinet

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko told journalists in Kyiv on November 17 that he will veto the bill on the Cabinet of Ministers that was passed in the first read-

ing by the Verkhovna Rada the previous day, Interfax-Ukraine reported. The endorsed bill was drafted by experts from the Cabinet of Ministers. Two other bills on the Cabinet of Ministers, one authored by the president and the other by a group of lawmakers, have also been submitted to Parliament. "When we are speaking about the discussion and passing of the bill on the Cabinet of Ministers, both the government and the Verkhovna Rada went about it the wrong way, I believe," Mr. Yushchenko said, adding that the issue should be agreed on by the government, the president and the legislature within a working group consisting of representatives of each branch of power. The president added that any attempt to pass this bill "unilaterally" has no prospects. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Foreign, defense ministers questioned

KYIV – Foreign Minister Borys Tarasyuk and Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko delivered reports in the Verkhovna Rada on November 15 on their Cabinet performance, as they were requested to do by Parliament last month, Ukrainian media reported. Lawmakers from the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party criticized Ministers Tarasyuk and Hrytsenko for what they saw as their unsatisfactory work and negligence in office. The Verkhovna Rada failed to pass any resolution on either minister during its morning sitting. Messrs. Tarasyuk and Hrytsenko were nominated to their Cabinet posts by President Viktor Yushchenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada delays decision on two ministers

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on November 15 backed away from a motion to fire Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk and Defense Minister Anatolii Hrytsenko and postponed its decision on the issue by two weeks, Ukrainian media reported. Earlier the same day, Ministers Tarasyuk and Hrytsenko, who were nominated for their posts by President Viktor Yushchenko, delivered reports on their work to the Verkhovna Rada and responded to accusa-

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30th anniversary of Ukrainian Helsinki Group marked in Kyiv

by Olena Labunka

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Ukrainian Helsinki Group members and their supporters commemorated the 30th year anniversary of the group's founding with a special gathering held on November 10 at the Smoloskyp publishing house in Kyiv.

The Ukrainian Helsinki Group (UHG) was founded November 9, 1976, as a means for Ukrainian dissidents to unite and form a legal front in their struggle for basic human rights in the USSR.

"For the first time after decades of repression, such a small group of Ukrainian intelligentsia organized and told the world about their own people's lack of liberty and lack of rights," said Vasyl Ovsienko, a dissident and human rights activist who joined the group in 1978. "In this sense, the Helsinki movement was much more important for Ukraine than those peoples who had their own nationhood."

More than 50 attended the anniversary, among them 12 of the original 41 Helsinki Group members.

For the event, Mr. Ovsienko and Osyp Zinkewych, of the formerly U.S.-based Smoloskyp, which published dissident documents, presented a new publication, "Ukrayinska Helsinska Hrupa" (Ukrainian Helsinki Group).

The book discusses the Ukrainian Helsinki Group's formation, and includes key documents, biographies, photographs and articles about the group's activity in Ukraine and in the West, particularly Washington.

The Ukrainian Helsinki Group was a direct result of an attempt by Western nations to apply pressure to the Soviet Union.

During the Cold War, representatives from the Soviet Union, the U.S., Canada and 33 European states, met in Helsinki, Finland, and on August 1, 1975, signed the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

With regard to human rights, the Helsinki Accords required the USSR to abide by the December 10, 1948, United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

Among the most important human rights documents of the 20th century, the Helsinki Accords opened up legal avenues for dissidents behind the Iron Curtain to fight against human rights violations and to speak out for national rights.

Within months, Ukrainian dissidents formed a committee to monitor compliance with the Helsinki Accords and began to document human rights violations.

More than a year later, 10 Ukrainian dissidents representing all corners of the country – Oles Berdnyk, Petro Grigorenko, Ivan Kandyba, Levko Lukianenko, Oksana Meshko, Mykola Matusevych, Myroslav Marynovych, Oleksii Tykhy, Nina Strokata and Mykola Rudenko (chairman) – formally launched the Ukrainian Helsinki Group.

To implement the Helsinki Accords, the group sought to make society familiar with the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to support freer exchange of information and to attain accreditation for foreign journalists in Ukraine.

The UHG accepted written complaints about violations of human rights in Ukraine and passed this information on to foreign mass media and national governments. It also published memoranda, manifests and appeals.

The human rights cause was directly related to the struggle for Ukrainian independence. The UHG managed to set Ukraine's national interests in the context of human rights and to raise the Ukrainian issue on the world stage,



Olena Labunka

Smoloskyp Director Osyp Zinkevych addresses a gathering in Kyiv marking the 30th anniversary of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group's founding.

Helsinki members said.

Mr. Zinkewych created the Helsinki Guarantes for Ukraine committee in Washington on November 17, 1976.

At its peak, the Ukrainian Helsinki Group had 41 members, all of whom became familiar with persecution, arrests, forced psychiatric confinement and imprisonment in response to their advocacy of human and national rights.

Ukrainians were at the forefront of the freedom movement among the nations of the USSR. Helsinki groups soon appeared in Lithuania in November 1976, Georgia in January 1977 and Armenia in April 1. The Moscow Helsinki Group was formed in May 1976.

The UHG was eventually recognized by President Ronald Reagan, who

declared November 9, 1982, the Day of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group.

The Helsinki Group veterans who addressed the 30th anniversary gathering expressed their disappointment with the apathy and indifference among Ukrainians today.

"Those who began acting in the 1950s and 1960s didn't get discouraged, even though they were only a handful," said Mykhailo Horyn, a former Soviet political prisoner. "We need to continue creating the Ukrainian nation and assisting in its rebirth."

Freedom of speech is the most important freedom achieved since the Soviet Union's fall, Mr. Ovsienko said. "Appreciate it and don't betray our accomplishment," he told the gathering.

Quotable notes

"... Ukraine belongs in NATO; there's never been any doubt about that, from a strategic point of view. It's the big player, the most significant part of the former Soviet Union that should be a part of Europe.

"It is also very clear, particularly since the Orange Revolution, that Ukraine is a democracy, in fact, a vibrant democracy. As we have seen recently, the process of building democratic institutions can be turbulent, full of unexpected reversals and twists and turns. Nonetheless, the people of Ukraine on the maidan [Independence Square] have emphatically embraced democracy as their system of governance.

"Over the past two years, the people have been struggling with their leaders, with the choice of leaders, and how those leaders should respond to their wishes. Their wishes, of course, were made very clear on the maidan and the program that Ukraine's leaders ought to follow was made very clear on the maidan.

"The problem has been for the institutions of governance, particularly the newly forming political parties, to translate the will of the people into meaningful political action. ..."

– William Miller, former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, in his opening remarks at Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood Roundtable VII: Ukraine and NATO Membership, October 17.

Ukrainian American community...

(Continued from page 1)

3.)

Bishop Paul Chomnycky of the Ukrainian Catholic Church's Stamford Eparchy compared the systematic starvation of Ukrainians in 1932-1933 under Joseph Stalin to the biblical story of the slaughter of the innocents in Bethlehem under King Herod. Bishop Chomnycky said, "the whole world

commemorates with the Ukrainian community today."

Oksana Hucul, 25, of New York, commenting on the low turnout of youth said, "This is an impressive gathering of Ukrainians, but on such an occasion, this is a typical representation of youth."

Lubomyr Ivasiv, 24, originally from Lviv, Ukraine, commented, "I came here to commemorate my relatives who were victims of the Holodomor. This observance connects us as a community, even

Yanukovych to visit U.S. on December 3-7

by Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych will visit the United States between December 3 and 7, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Taylor told Dyelo, Kyiv's Russian-language daily business newspaper.

Mr. Yanukovych is scheduled to meet with Vice-President Dick Cheney but won't have time to meet with U.S. President George W. Bush, Mr. Taylor said, explaining that foreign prime ministers meet with the vice-president as part of U.S. government protocol.

"Firstly, Washington officials will be interested in Ukraine's success in prepar-

ing for World Trade Organization entry," Mr. Taylor told Dyelo in an article published on November 21.

Vice-President Cheney will discuss with Mr. Yanukovych developing the Black Sea shelf, a matter he is particularly interested in, said Ambassador Taylor.

He also said U.S. officials are particularly alarmed by Ukraine's introduction of restrictions on grain exports. If the problem isn't resolved by December, it will receive particular attention during the visit, Ambassador Taylor added.

U.S. officials will also discuss Ukraine's prospects for joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), said the U.S. envoy.

President's statement on Holodomor

Below is the full text of the message issued by President George W. Bush on the occasion of the 73rd anniversary of the Famine-Genocide in Ukraine. The statement was read on Saturday, November 18, at the memorial gathering held at St. Patrick's Cathedral in New York.

Seventy-three years ago, the world witnessed horrific human suffering and deprivation in Ukraine when millions died as the result of Soviet crop seizures. On this solemn anniversary, I join Americans and people everywhere in remembering the victims of this atrocity.

Today, Ukraine has taken important steps forward to embrace democracy and improve the lives of its people. As Ukrainians take time during this observance to reflect on darker days, I encourage them also to celebrate their recent progress and look to their promising future with confidence. The democratic process in Ukraine is a power-

ful example that nations grow to strength not through conquest or tyranny, but by respecting the rights of citizens and allowing the talents and gifts of people to flourish.

The United States is prepared to stand with the citizens of a free Ukraine and to call their nation a friend. In October, I signed legislation authorizing a memorial in Washington, D.C., to honor the victims of the man-made famine that took place in Ukraine during 1932 and 1933. A memorial in the American capital will stand as a tribute to those who suffered from communist oppression and a reminder that the love of freedom outlasts the will of tyranny.

This anniversary is an opportunity to reflect on a sad chapter in human history and honor the lives lost to the injustice of a totalitarian regime. Let us also celebrate the cause of liberty and resolve anew to claim a future of hope and dignity for all.

May God bless you.

George W. Bush

Ukrainian American Veterans hold 59th national convention

by Atanas Kobryn

WARREN, Mich. – Ukrainian American veterans from all over the country were welcomed earlier this month by their comrades in Warren, Mich., members of UAV Michigan Post 101 headed by Lt. Col. Oleh R. Cieply. They held their 59th National Convention which included, among other important events, the election of national executive board officers for the 2006-2008 term.

Post 101 members are experienced in hosting national conventions, because this was the fourth national convention held there. Post Commander and Convention Committee Chairman Cieply, members of the Convention Committee, post members, and members of the Post's Ladies Auxiliary

Atanas Kobryn is past national commander of the Ukrainian American Veterans.

made all out-of-town veterans, their spouses and guests feel at home.

On the eve of the convention, Thursday, September 7, the national executive board met to go over unfinished business and to approve the convention's agenda and convention committee chairs. The meeting was chaired by National Commander Anna Krawczuk.

Mrs. Krawczuk called the 59th National Convention to order at 10 a.m., Friday, September 8, in the St. Josaphat Banquet Center. The reports of national executive board officers – Finance Officer Wasyl Liscynsky, Quartermaster Stephen Kostecki, Welfare Officer Myroslaw Pryjma and Scholarship Officer Nicholas Skirka – began after the traditional opening ceremonies, the roll call, quorum verification, and appointment of Acting Adjutant Michael Demchuk to record the proceedings of the convention.



Convention delegates at Warren's monument to Ukrainian veterans.

National Commander Krawczuk reported on UAV Registration Project and the National Memorial Committee, and read the written reports of Vice-Commander Walter Mychajliw, Adjutant Walter Bodnar, Historian Wasyl Luchkiw, and Public Relations Officer Michael Wowk, who were unable to attend the convention due to health and other reasons.

Mrs. Krawczuk also reported that UAV Post 14 of Hartford, Conn., was reactivated under the leadership of Post Commander Lt. Col. Wiroslaw J. Snihurowych, U.S. Army (Ret.). Post 41 was founded in Los Angeles and is headed by Post Commander Gregory Sachnewycz. Also, a new UAV Post, No. 42, is being formed in Lehigh Valley.

Additional information about the National Memorial and the formation of Post 42 came from Immediate Past National Commander (PNC) Mathew Koziak, co-chair of the UAV National Memorial Committee.

Following the discussion and approval of the national executive officers' reports, the Convention Committee chairs presented their reports and recommendations for convention's approval: By-Laws – Mr. Demchuk, Chaplain/Service Officer – Dorothy Budacki, Finance – Mr. Liscynsky, Historian/Archives and UAV National Monument – PNC Koziak, Membership – PNC Eugene Sagasz, Public Relations/Federal Charter – Col. Leonid Kondratiuk, Quartermaster – Mr. Kostecki, Resolution – PNC Atanas Kobryn, Scholarship – Mr. Skirka, Website and Tribune – NC Krawczuk, and Welfare – Mr. Pryjma.

The convention delegates also heard reports of by Convention Chairman Cieply, Convention Banquet Chair Myroslaw Pryjma and the Convention Journal Committee Chair Leo Cionka.

On deliberations on Saturday, September 9, started at 9 a.m. with the meeting of the Nominating Committee (past national commanders, state and post commanders) chaired by PNC Kobryn, member and past post commander of UAV Pvt. Roman G. Lazor Post 40 in North Port, Fla. At the conclusion of the Nominating Committee meeting Mr. Kobryn presented the committee's report and conducted the election of national executive board officers.

Mrs. Krawczuk, member of Major Myron Diduryk Post 30 of Freehold, N.J. was unanimously re-elected national commander.

Other elected or re-elected officers are as follows: Vice-Commander Paul J. Hlynsky (Post 28, Akron, Ohio), Finance Officer Liscynsky (Post 24, Cleveland), Judge Advocate Demchuk (Post 24), Quartermaster Kostecki (Post 31, Boston), Chaplain Budacki (Post 28),

Service Officer Hlynsky, Welfare Officer Pryjma (Post 101), Scholarship Officer Skirka (Post 301, Yonkers, N.Y.), Historian Luchkiw (Post 19, Spring Valley, N.Y.), and Public Relations Officer Bernard Krawczuk (Post 30, Freehold.)

The Nominating Committee also recommended and the delegates approved the appointment of Lt. Cmdr. Andrey Swystun, U.S. Navy (Ret.) of Norfolk, Va., as acting webmaster. The UAV By-Laws stipulate that national adjutant is appointed by the national commander, subject to the national executive board's approval.

The Post 101 Convention Committee's hospitality will be remembered for a long time. The hosts also treated the convention attendees to a sumptuous buffet with refreshments, and a concert of American military and popular Ukrainian songs on Friday evening, September 8.

All attendees had a wonderful time by joining the performers in the sing-along. The Post 101 Ladies Auxiliary under the direction of Alberta Cieply conducted two raffles during the evening, which resulted in a significant enhancement of the UAV National Scholarship Fund. Two lucky raffle winners (Stefan Fedenko and Mr. Kobryn) also donated all their winnings to the fund.

The traditional convention banquet, hosted by Post 101, was held in the St. Josaphat Banquet Center, on Saturday, September 9.

Approximately 220 guests were welcomed by Lt. Col. Cieply, rose for the presentation of colors and the singing of national anthems, and then attentively listened to a tribute to MIAs and POWs by Mr. Cionka, Post 101 service officer.

Following the introduction of distinguished guests, UAV past national commanders and local dignitaries by Lt. Col. Cieply and the formal installation of national executive board officers conducted by PNC Eugene Sagasz, National Commander Krawczuk and UAV Ladies Auxiliary President Oksana Koziak addressed the gathering. At the conclusion of her remarks Mrs. Koziak presented Mrs. Krawczuk a total of \$1,100 raised by the UAV National Ladies Auxiliary toward the UAV Scholarship and Welfare funds.

The highlight of the evening was the address of Col. Leonid Kondratiuk, U.S. Army (Ret.). Col. Kondratiuk, a member of UAV Nikolaus Zozula Post 31 of Boston, served on active duty primarily as a military historian. His assignments included serving as a historian at the U.S. Army Center of Military History and the National Guard Bureau as the chief of historical services.

Col. Kondratiuk, a graduate of the

(Continued on page 10)



The leadership of the Ukrainian American Veterans, with National Commander Anna Krawczuk (front row, right).

OBITUARY: Bernard Korchinski, 100, community leader, provincial legislator

REGINA, Saskatchewan – Bernard Leo Korchinski, a well-known Ukrainian community leader who was a founding member of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and a former member of the Saskatchewan Legislative Assembly, died on October 13. He was 100.

Born on December 25, 1905, in Beaver Hills, Saskatchewan, he was the fifth of 13 children of Lev and Pauline (Hryciw), who had emigrated to Canada in June of that year.

A graduate of St. Joseph's College in Yorkton, Saskatchewan, Mr. Korchinski was a teacher for 39 years in various communities in the province, including Ituna, Holdfast, Hafford, Rama, Speers and Regina.

He was also a Liberal member of the provincial legislature for two terms (1948-1952, 1956-1960); served as the provincial director of the Emergency Measures Organization; and was a judge of the Saskatchewan Citizenship Court.

During World War II, Mr. Korchinski served in the Royal Canadian Air Force.

Among the Ukrainian organizations in which he was active was the Ukrainian National Association. Mr. Korchinski attended all UNA conventions between 1970 and 1994, and served on the Credentials Committee in 1978 and 1982. He was a member of UNA Branch 421 and was the longtime branch secretary.

Mr. Korchinski was also a member of the Knights of Columbus; a founding member of the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood, St. Athanasius Ukrainian Catholic Church and

the Ukrainian Catholic Youth; and a long-time scoutmaster.

In addition, he wrote articles for the Ukrainski Visti newspaper in Edmonton, specializing in topics of interest to youth, and authored the book "Pioneer Bishop" about the first Ukrainian Catholic bishop in Canada, Nykyta Budka.

He was named to the Order of the Knights of St. Volodymyr in recognition of his service to the Ukrainian Catholic Brotherhood of Canada.

Mr. Korchinski was the first president of the Saskatchewan Provincial Council of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and was on the UCC's national executive, serving as secretary. The UCC awarded him the prestigious Shevchenko Medal.

The UCC's Saskatchewan Provincial Council presented him its Nation Builders Award in November 2000.

In 2005 he received the Centennial Medal from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. It is noteworthy that he was born in that same year that Saskatchewan became a province of Canada.

Mr. Korchinski was predeceased by his wife, Slawka (née Marak), his parents, seven brothers, and four sisters. Surviving are: his brother Bonace; four children, Bernadine, Leslie and Barry Korchinski, and Linda Weimer; 11 grandchildren; 21 great-grandchildren; and five great-great-grandchildren; and as many nieces and nephews.

The funeral liturgy was offered on October 19 at St. Athanasius Church in Regina. Interment was at Riverside Memorial Park, also in Regina.



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

The Ukrainian Weekly editor-in-chief addresses audience in Warren

by Alexander Serafyn

WARREN, Mich. – “The Ukrainian Press in America: Do We Need It?” was the topic addressed by the editor-in-chief of The Ukrainian Weekly, Roma Hadzewycz, during a speech here on Sunday, October 29. The meeting was sponsored jointly by the local chapter of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Detroit District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association.

The meeting was opened by Dr. Paul Dzul, president of the local chapter of the Shevchenko Scientific Society.

Ms. Hadzewycz was welcomed by a former colleague from the Svoboda editorial board, Wolodymyr Lewenetz, on behalf of the Ukrainian Cultural Center, where her presentation took place, as well as by him personally, speaking for his family.

Mr. Lewenetz said that Ms. Hadzewycz and The Ukrainian Weekly under her stewardship defend the high moral and ethical values without which neither political unity nor national identity are possible, let alone the creation of healthy political structure of a nation.

Mr. Lewenetz continued. “The subject of Ms Hadzewycz’s presentation is, without a doubt, very timely. Mass media are powerful tools of every nation. Let’s use them to help solve many problems in our community and in Ukraine that need our urgent attention.”

Ms. Hadzewycz was then introduced by Dr. Alexander Serafyn, president of the UNA’s Detroit District Committee,

who underscored the speaker’s UNA connections, journalistic qualifications and community involvement.

Ms. Hadzewycz began her presentation with a capsule history of The Ukrainian Weekly, the first issue of which was published in 1933, by noting that during its 73 years of service it has covered myriad developments within the Ukrainian community in the United States and Canada, U.S., Canadian and other international developments that affect Ukraine and Ukrainians, and the major news from Ukraine.

She praised the visionaries of the Ukrainian National Association who brought the paper into existence, and noted that The Weekly was born with a dual mission: to tell the world the truth about the Great Famine then raging in Ukraine and to keep a new generation of Ukrainian Americans involved in the Ukrainian community.

She underscored that The Weekly “was a pioneer in propagating the idea that one did not have to speak, read and write Ukrainian to be Ukrainian, that what mattered most was what was in one’s heart and mind.”

In its premiere issue, as well as in the future ones, the paper informed the world about the genocidal Famine, about purges of the Ukrainian intelligentsia, the Chernobyl tragedy, the demise of the Soviet Union and the proclamation of Ukraine’s independence. Throughout its history The Ukrainian Weekly informed the world about all that was happening in Ukraine. “It was the voice of Ukraine at a



The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz (second from right) in Warren, Mich., with UNA and Shevchenko Scientific Society leaders (from left) Lubomyr Hewko, Dr. Alexander Serafyn, Lidia Kizyma and Dr. Paul Dzul.

time when Ukraine could not speak for itself,” Ms. Hadzewycz stated.

The Weekly also defended Ukrainian displaced persons and refugees, it reported on the persecution of Ukrainian human and national rights activists; it was a crusader, like its sister-publication, Svoboda, for the erection of the Taras Shevchenko Monument in Washington and the establishment of chairs of Ukrainian studies at Harvard University.

In 1983, on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the Famine, The Ukrainian Weekly published a book titled “The Great Famine in Ukraine: The Unknown Holocaust” and a special edition of the newspaper. The Weekly was in the forefront of the campaign that led to the establishment of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, Ms. Hadzewycz related.

To maintain close contact with Ukraine and to report the latest news first-hand, the Kyiv Press Bureau was opened in 1991 – more than seven months before the proclamation of Ukraine’s independence. In the almost 16 years since the bureau was opened, its correspondents have reported on unprecedented events in Ukraine, Ms. Hadzewycz pointed out.

The paper is read by the members of Congress and other policy-makers in Washington and elsewhere, the speaker continued. It is an important source of reliable information for these and other readers, including researchers and the news media. Also noteworthy is The Ukrainian Weekly’s website, which includes a wealth of archival material.

During its entire existence the paper promoted and defended countless Ukrainian causes, Ms. Hadzewycz said. Therefore, history proves that, yes, our community does need the Ukrainian press.

Ms. Hadzewycz’s presentation was received very enthusiastically by the audience, which then posed questions and offered comments on the day’s topic.

Dr. Jaroslaw Sawka reminded the speaker that The Weekly also was key in calling for the revocation of Walter Duranty’s Pulitzer Prize, in reporting on the John Demjanjuk case, and in fighting for a retraction of the slanderous CBS “60 Minutes” report about Ukraine titled “The Ugly Face of Freedom.”

Closing the meeting, Dr. Dzul thanked the participants for attending and invited all to continue the dialogue over coffee and sweets.

Brooklyn Ukrainian Group releases calendar to raise funds for Soyuzivka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Thanks to the efforts of the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group, a wall calendar for 2007 will be sold to benefit the Ukrainian National Association’s estate, the beloved Soyuzivka.

Members of the Brooklyn Ukrainian Group (BUG) gathered photos of the resort and worked with Peter Fil from Bulava Promotions to create the wall calendar.

BUG is an organization of Ukrainians from Brooklyn and beyond that is active in promoting Ukrainian arts and culture, plus camaraderie. BUG members Olesia Guran, Ruta Lew, Maya Lew, Paul Mulyk, Brandon Nohr, Dianna Shmerykowsky, Marco Shmerykowsky and Francis Samu contributed their photos of Soyuzivka scenes for the color calendar. Maya Lew, it should be noted, was elected a UNA advisor at the association’s most recent convention, which was held in May at Soyuzivka.

Mr. Fil is the son of UNA Advisor Nicholas Fil of Latham, N.Y. His business, Bulava Promotions, is based in New Britain, Conn.

All proceeds from sales of the limited-edition calendar will benefit the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation.

The cost of the calendar is \$12, plus \$1.35 shipping; checks should be made payable to Ukrainian National Foundation – Soyuzivka Fund. (Additional donations are appreciated.) Orders should be sent to Soyuzivka Calendar 2007, c/o Olesia Guran, 216 Foordmoore Road, P.O. Box 529, Kerhonkson, N.Y. 12446.

The calendar is available also at the Soyuzivka gift shop.



The cover of the Soyuzivka Heritage Foundation calendar for 2007.

IN MEMORIAM

Archbishop Stephen Bilak

August 17, 1917 – November 10, 2006

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly and to the UNA membership at large that His Eminence Archbishop Stephen Bilak, Honorary Member of the General Assembly, and member of the UNA Auditing Committee from 1978 to 1990, died on Friday, November 10, 2006.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their deepest and sincerest sympathy to his daughter Irene and her husband Valerii Lavruk, and the U.S. and Canadian parishes of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate

Vichna Yomu Pamiat

To subscribe: Send \$55 (\$45 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

A new beginning in northern New Jersey

Three days in November, the 10th, 11th and 12th of 2006, will no doubt be written down in the history of the Ukrainian American community as the dates when our community in northern New Jersey took a giant step forward as it celebrated the grand opening of a new community complex anchored by the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.

It is a huge step from the first days of the Ukrainian community in these parts, where in 1920 a small group of immigrants from the Lemko region of Ukraine decided to build their own spiritual-cultural center – a church. Yet, it must be underscored that each generation here has built on the success of its predecessors.

"Today, you and I are celebrating hope and confidence in the future of our Ukrainian American community in the Whippany area of New Jersey. We are making a dramatic statement of hope for our present and future generations of children, youth and adults, and for their formation in our rich Ukrainian American culture," said Ukrainian Catholic Metropolitan-Archbishop Stepan Soroka, speaking at the dedication of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, located in the heart of Morris County.

Archbishop Antony of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. called it "a new beginning" which demonstrates that "the apathy [that had characterized our community life] is fading away."

Father Roman Mirchuk, pastor of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, stressed that the cultural center's opening "exemplified cooperation between the community and the church ... which worked together to realize this dream"

It is "the fulfillment of the vision for a strong and vibrant Ukrainian American community not only for ourselves, but also for future generations," said Orest Kucyna, parish trustee and construction chairman. "It was gratifying to see the looks on people's faces as they entered the [cultural center] building for the first time."

And a group of Plast youths and their counselor, who stopped by the new UACCNJ on their way back from the annual Orlykiada competition (they'd missed the weekend's grand opening events), put it most succinctly: "Awesome!"

Awesome is also how one could describe the responsibility that comes with this new center.

The Ukrainian community members who came out for the dedication events were abuzz with excitement over this beautiful new addition to our community life. But much remains to be done, beginning with paying off the \$3.9 million mortgage on the property and continuing until the new St. John's Church is built adjacent to the center to serve the growing community's spiritual needs.

Mr. Kucyna emphasized that approximately 85 families had played a key financial role in getting the cultural center project to this point. "Now is the time for others to step up to the plate," he said, adding, "There's some momentum now, with the center's gala opening, and we need to take advantage of that." He explained that it is crucial for others to sign up as members of the facility and in doing so provide financial support for the cultural center that will serve them, their children and their children's children for many years to come.

Victor Hatala, the chairman of the UACCNJ board of directors, which encompasses the center's member-organizations, described the board's role as leading efforts "to transform this beautiful building into a place that houses and fosters vibrant cultural, educational and sports programs for all the members of our hromada: youngsters, students, young adults, seniors, immigrants..."

Indeed, the new center has much to offer: a banquet hall/ballroom, a gymnasium, meeting rooms and classrooms, a library, kitchen facilities and a social club. In short, it is designed to meet all the needs of our diverse community.

If you build it, they will come... That is the hope of the community leaders behind the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.

The welcome mat has been put out. Now it's time for others to visit, to use and enjoy this center, and to join its growing ranks of members and supporters.

Dec.
1
1956

Turning the pages back...

It was 50 years ago that The Weekly reported on the appointment of Canada's first Ukrainian Catholic metropolitan.

On November 18, 1956, by Vatican decree, as announced by the papal nuncio in Ottawa, Bishop Maxim Hermaniuk of

Winnipeg took ecclesiastical command of 500 Ukrainian Canadian parishes. Bishop Hermaniuk was the first metropolitan in the Ukrainian Catholic Church ever to hold this high office outside of Ukraine. Several Orthodox metropolitans in various national groups had already been appointed, but this was a first for a Catholic Metropolitan.

In addition to the new metropolitan, serving the needs of Ukrainian Canadian Catholics were the Bishop Isidore Borecky, eparch of eastern Canada; Bishop Andrew Roborecky of Saskatoon, eparch of Saskatchewan; and Bishop Neil Savaryn of Edmonton, eparch of western Canada.

Metropolitan Hermaniuk joined the Redemptorist order in 1933 and was ordained in 1938. He studied at Louvain University, Belgium, where earned a doctorate in theology in 1943. He arrived in Canada in 1948 and took up duties as supervisor of the Ukrainian Redemptorist Vice-Province of Canada and the United States. He taught at the Ukrainian Redemptorist Seminary in Waterford, Ontario, where he founded and edited the theological journal Logos.

He was consecrated bishop and named as auxiliary bishop of Winnipeg in 1951, serving under Archbishop Vasyl Ladyka of Winnipeg until he was appointed Metropolitan.

Source: "Most Reverend Maxim Hermaniuk appointed first Ukrainian metropolitan in Canada," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, December 1, 1956.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Re: Ukrainians at Auschwitz

Dear Editor:

Re: "Ukrainian World Congress appeal to Yushchenko regarding the museum at Auschwitz-Birkenau" (October 22), we are very pleased to see the World Congress of Ukrainians following in the footsteps of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

On November 6, 2002, the UCCLA asked Poland's State Museum of Auschwitz-Birkenau to allow us to unveil a commemorative plaque there, hallowing the memory of the thousands of Ukrainians interned in the Nazi concentration camps.

Unfortunately, the museum's administration has not evidenced much sympathy for this proposal, although we did learn from the head of the archives, Dr. Piotr Setkiewicz, that a study on the "story of the so-called 'Bandera group' prisoners who were deported to Auschwitz for their activity for an independent Ukrainian state" was being prepared by Dr. Adam Cyra.

Unfortunately, we have never been able to locate a copy of that report. Perhaps one can be secured through the good offices of the president of Ukraine, Viktor Yushchenko?

Lubomyr Luciuk, Ph.D.
Kingston, Ontario

The letter-writer is director of research for the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association.

Kuropas: there he goes again

Dear Editor:

Once again, your veteran columnist Myron Kuropas indulges in his slippery stuff. In the October 29 issue he took on Yaro Bihun's alarm about the current U.S. administration's botched job of governing. At the same time Dr. Kuropas also takes on George Soros.

For Dr. Kuropas, Mr. Soros' whole role in current events is that of some rich leftist who invested considerable funds for the opposition in our 2004 presidential election. Mr. Soros, let me remind Dr. Kuropas is a richer personality than that. Compounding his ignorance, Dr. Kuropas embarrassingly characterizes the Open Society Institute (OSI) as some "anti-Bush organization." Good grief.

That that might be the defining feature of OSI would surprise many valiant non-Americans whose democracy-building free-market-dedicated NGOs were able to get organized, registered and operating in their native lands because of workshops and funding grants from this very Soros organization. When the post-Communist government of Uzbekistan began clamping down on all progressive activity having to do with women's legal rights, religious freedom, English-language instruction, independent media outlets, economic opportunity for the marginalized, one of the first organizations that regime targeted was Mr. Soros' OSI. Since, they've been banished from Uzbekistan. And the people who undertook those brave initiatives suffer.

That Dr. Kuropas would seem to be ignorant of the real nature of the Open Society Institute is appalling. Does his anti-communism stop where his Republican tribe faces challenge? I'd suggest he try googling "OSI,

Uzbekistan" before dashing off such provocative less-than-half-truths.

Then, we get another of Dr. Kuropas' carefully crafted but slippery moments. "Personally, I have no problem with the way we treat terrorists captured in battle or while in the process of committing crimes against humanity." This comes as a response in large part to Mr. Bihun's concerns about what's going on with the Guantanamo detainees. Does your columnist willfully ignore substantial findings that significant numbers of those detained were indiscriminately scooped up in Afghanistan and Pakistan by bounty hunters; that for real numbers among the Gitmo detainees even the authorities admit they now have no indictable evidence; that the possibilities of the U.S.A.'s mistakenly keeping and torturing individuals there are greater than Ukraine's soon becoming a truly European country?

Dr. Kuropas wails: "Should these murderers now be read their Miranda rights on the battlefield?" Why would such a bright Ukrainian American utter such mob-inciting stupidity? Why would The Ukrainian Weekly editors not finally ask this senior columnist to dedicate the rest of his production to output he really shines at: great reviews of movies like "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," and nifty reminiscences of old Soyuzivka, and of wooing his wife. No joke. Those were great.

Matthew-Daniel Stremba
Baltimore, Md.

Kupchinsky's view most enjoyable

Dear Editor:

I thoroughly enjoyed Roman Kupchinsky's "pessimistic view" of the Ukraine-NATO saga (News and Views, November 12 perhaps because his take on the issue also reflects, for the most part, my own views. Besides, there is great entertainment value in the piece.

Mr. Kupchinsky may well be right in his estimation of NATO as a collective defense organization; it may well be, as Paris Hilton might say, like so 10 years ago.

However, NATO may have some redeeming features insofar as Ukraine is concerned.

First, being accepted into the alliance may do something for Ukraine's self-esteem, given that NATO membership is viewed by former members of the so-called Socialist Commonwealth like Poland or Hungary as a form of recognition and acceptance by the "civilized" West. I suspect that when the former East European countries were falling over each other to join the alliance in the 1990s they were doing so in no small measure in order to distance themselves from Moscow and forcefully declare to anyone who would listen that they were not "Soviet people," but Europeans.

A second plus is that NATO demands the fulfillment of certain preconditions from prospective members – let's call them democratic values for lack of a better term. Heaven knows Ukraine could use some of that.

And, finally, if the pursuit of NATO membership does little else other than to demonstrate a foreign and security policy that is independent of that other "unmentionable" strategic partner – who, by the way, has a more robust program of cooperation with NATO than does Ukraine – then all the better.

Roman Solchanyk
Santa Monica, Calif.

Why not? Let's talk

BY YARO BIHUN

Remembering veterans, and others

I had not gone to see a war movie for more than a quarter century — not since “The Deer Hunter,” which came out in 1978, and “Apocalypse Now,” a year later. The story and setting of the first drew me in, being about the effect of the Vietnam War on a group of Carpatho-Rusyns (could be Ukrainians) living in a coal-mining town near Pittsburgh, but with a lot of the filming done in Cleveland, where I grew up, including the wedding reception in Lemko Hall, not unlike the Ukrainian American wedding receptions I attended there in the 1950s-1960s.

After “Apocalypse,” I stopped for some reason, and I’ve missed a number of first-rate films of that genre since then: “Platoon,” “Full Metal Jacket,” “We Were Soldiers,” to name a few about Vietnam, and, more recently, “Saving Private Ryan,” about World War II.

On November 14, however, I went to see “Flags of Our Fathers,” based on the book of the same title about the flag-raising on Iwo Jima written by James Bradley, one of the soldiers in the famous photograph of that event.

I had no intention of breaking my long war-movie fast until this past Saturday, when, at the invitation of Washington area School of Ukrainian Studies Deputy Director Roman Ponos, I had a session with its students about the Ukrainian immigration experience in America. I brought along some family documents and photographs I had written about in Ukrainian Weekly articles on the subject over the years.

Among them was a letter from my aunt, Maria Fedorka, written in 1945 from Colver, a small coal-mining town in Pennsylvania, to our family, then refugees in Germany, when she first got the news that at least some members of the family she left in Ukraine in 1913 had survived World War II. She also described her war years here — a widow, with both of her sons and only daughter’s husband serving in the military overseas.

I’m sure that the experiences and feel-

ings expressed in her letter were not unique to our family; in many respects they were shared by hundreds, if not thousands, of Ukrainian American mothers, fathers, aunts and uncles at that time.

Here are some excerpts, translated from the original Ukrainian:

Colver, August 5, 1945

My dearest brothers, sisters, brothers-and sisters-in-law, children.

You cannot imagine the boundless joy I feel today. I was beginning to fear that one day I would die, not knowing whether any of you were still alive. In December of last year I gave the Red Cross, which was searching for relatives in the old country, Hanka’s (sister Anna Jesersky) and Olena’s (sister Olena Dub) address. In April, I was told that they could not locate you. Then I lost all hope.

My sons also went to war: Ivan (John Fedorka) two years ago in April, and Stefan (Steve Fedorka) two years ago in May. Ivan spent a year in England and France. In October he returned to America and spent a month at home. He was here until July 1, when he left for Japan. Stefan, who hadn’t been home for a year in June, returned home yesterday for five days. Today he went to the Post Office and returned with your letter.

My dearest, you cannot imagine my happiness over these two days — to see my son and to receive your letter.

Stefan serves on a ship, sometimes not seeing land for a few months at a time. He’s been everywhere. His ship transports men and food to these places and returns with the wounded and prisoners. Ivan, too, doesn’t serve on the front lines where there is still fighting; his unit comes in to rebuild everything. But even then the enemy sometimes attacks.

I’m left alone on the farm, weary and in ill health. I also care for Hanka’s (daughter Ann McKavish) 6-year-old boy. For the past two years Hanka has been working as a cook in a hospital, and her husband is in the military, too. ...

Our mother’s (Anastasia Bihun) sufferings are finally over; she had more than her share. May the earth be as soft as down feathers for her. ...

Where is Stefka (sister Stefania) and her husband? I received a letter from her back in 1939 and responded, but have heard nothing in return. And I haven’t heard from Hanka or Olena. ...

I’m sorry for all of the smudges in the letter. As I write, the teardrops keep falling on the paper, smudging the ink. ...

May God keep you in his care.

Please write.

Your Maria Fedorka

Rereading Aunt Maria’s letter later that same Saturday evening — which happened to be Veterans Day — I decided that I would have to see “Flags of Our Fathers.” Maybe it would help me feel how they felt, those who went to war and those who stayed behind. I think it did. It’s a good, serious film. But I don’t think it cured me of the strange phobia I have about seeing Vietnam War movies.

I did see a documentary about Defense Secretary Robert McNamara,

(Continued on page 17)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Manoly's memoirs: triumph and setback

For years I have marveled at the accomplishments of Canada’s Ukrainian community, especially in the political arena. Ukrainians have served as Canadian governors-general, senators, members of Parliament and mayors.

Ukrainians have also impacted Canadian education, especially in the area of multiculturalism. Sen. Paul Yuzyk, for example, originated the “third force” concept — the idea that all ethnic groups, not just the British and the French, should have a place at the Canadian table.

The person who took Sen. Yuzyk’s concept to the next level was Prof. Manoly Lupul, one of the leading lights in the emergence of multiculturalism as the model for Canada’s true identity. Last year, the Institute of Canadian Studies published Prof. Lupul’s latest book, “The Politics of Multiculturalism: A Ukrainian-Canadian Memoir.” As defined in his meticulously referenced 508-page chronicle, multiculturalism is essentially “the development of a consciousness of one’s ancestral roots or ethnicity for creative purposes in the hope that a distinctive Canadian identity will emerge.”

Manoly Lupul is a true son of the Canadian prairie. Born in 1927 in the Willingdon district of Alberta, he grew up with feelings of second-class Canadian citizenship, as well as a certain ambivalence towards “things Ukrainian.”

“I liked the music and singing (especially the public performances),” he writes, “but it was easy to sense the distance between what the Ukrainian institutions emphasized and what the radio, newspapers, the magazines and the school were transmitting.” Canada beckoned.

Although most of the settlers in the Willingdon area were from Orthodox Bukovyna, Prof. Lupul never really accepted his religious roots. “On Good Friday or earlier we went to confession, which even then seemed pointless,” he writes. “Besides an inclination toward democratic socialism, I was also gradually moving toward a philosophy of life that was both skeptical of the claims of organized religion and drawn to the origins of human life in natural evolution ... To me, the anthropomorphic God of most Christians made no sense, and if that made me an atheist, so be it.”

Later in life Mr. Lupul enrolled at Harvard in the Ph.D. in education program where he became enamored of John Dewey, a secular humanist whose ideas regarding “science rather than religion and the supernatural” fit right in with the young Canadian’s emerging worldview. Dr. Dewey’s pragmatism, especially his “insistence that the worth of any idea was its practical consequences,” helped convince Mr. Lupul that “liberal intellectual democracies required people who could constitute their own independent intellectual authority.”

John Dewey’s Progressive educational ideals were once lauded by Vladimir Lenin’s wife, Krupskaya, but were discarded with the ascension of Stalin. In the United States, however (and I suspect in Canada as well), Deweyism remains the dominant mindset in schools of education.

Teaching a university course titled “Issues” Mr. Lupul writes that one of its goals was “to encourage teachers to give children more than just an attitude of anti-communism. If people better understood Communism and the conditions which encouraged it,” he writes, “it would be easier for politicians to cope with the Cold

War in more than ‘black and white’ terms.”

Reading between the lines of his memoir one gets the impression that Dr. Lupul’s ideas about the “new social order” changed during a sabbatical leave in Ukraine and other Communist-dominated countries in 1967-1968. Witnessing the ravages of the Russification process in Ukraine he became more determined than ever to push his multicultural and multilingual agenda in Canada. His association with John Kolasky, author of “Education in Soviet Ukraine,” convinced him that preserving the Ukrainian identity in Canada meant preserving the Ukrainian language.

Overcoming many governmental hurdles and setbacks, and working with politically prominent Ukrainian Albertans such as Peter Savaryn and Laurence Decore, Dr. Lupul’s first major triumph was the passage of school legislation in Alberta permitting Ukrainian as a language of instruction in the public schools. Alberta’s example led to similar bilingual legislation in Saskatchewan and Manitoba.

Another major triumph was the establishment of a publicly funded Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Alberta in 1976. Dr. Lupul headed the institute — now the largest Ukrainian studies center outside of Ukraine — until 1986. Unlike Harvard’s Ukrainian Research Institute, still mired in arcane academe and floating on the fringes of Ukrainian American life, the Canadian institute remains an integral part of the Ukrainian Canadian community.

Dr. Lupul’s two major setbacks occurred outside of Alberta. Pushing for a more dynamic Ukrainian Canadian Committee (today known as the Ukrainian Canadian Congress), he supported activist Stanley Frolick for president at the UCC convention of 1980. Mr. Frolick lost to John Nowosad, 223-219. “The attempt to liberalize the Ukrainian Canadian Congress,” writes Dr. Roman Petryshyn in his foreword, “had very limited success because of contrasting generational goals, differing values and styles of management, and lack of significant and dependable financial support from both the federal and provincial governments.”

A second disappointment was the faculty of the University of Toronto that rejected Prof. Orest Subtelny for a position in the history department despite his superb research and teaching credentials. The position eventually went to Paul Robert Magocsi, a Ph.D. from Princeton, whose teaching credentials were minimal, but who apparently enjoyed the support of Harvard’s Omeljan Pritsak. Interesting irony. Dr. Subtelny, the first Harvard Ph.D. in Ukrainian studies, did not have the full support of Prof. Pritsak, while Dr. Magocsi, who believes that Carpatho-Ukrainians (Rusyns) are not really Ukrainian, apparently did. Despite widespread Ukrainian protests, Dr. Magocsi demanded and received immediate tenure.

Although Dr. Lupul’s memoirs, are a must read for Ukrainian Canadians seeking to revitalize their community, Ukrainian Americans will also benefit from a close perusal of the book. When it comes to community mores and quirks, we Ukrainian Americans have much in common with Ukrainian Canadians. Like us, they have political and religious divisions. Unlike us, they seem to be better organized and better led.

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



Maria Fedorka with her son Steve, home on leave from the war in 1945.

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

tions of poor performance and negligence in office. Mr. Tarasyuk told journalists that only the Constitutional Court can rule whether Parliament has the right to dismiss ministers nominated by the president. "The Constitution, which was amended hastily [in December 2004], does not stipulate how these ministers [appointed by the president] can be dismissed. There is a legal collision here, whether the Verkhovna Rada can dismiss the two ministers [Tarasyuk and Hrytsenko] without a presidential request. I don't think it can, because there is a notion of analogy in law: if the dismissal procedure is not defined while the appointment procedure is, legal analogy must apply and the same procedure should be used," Mr. Tarasyuk asserted. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lutsenko suspected of corruption

KYIV – Deputy Procurator General Renat Kuzmin said in a television interview on November 14 that Ukrainian prosecutors believe that Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Lutsenko has been involved in corruption, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Kuzmin said

the alleged corruption is linked to an investigation into the killing earlier this year of Roman Yerokhin, a colonel in the Internal Affairs Ministry. Asked by a journalist to be more specific about Mr. Lutsenko's alleged corrupt actions, Mr. Kuzmin said the issue involves the "unlawful promotion of police officers, unlawful issue of combat handguns to individuals who have no right to carry weapons, and a lot of other [violations]." Mr. Lutsenko was one of President Viktor Yushchenko's nominees to Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's Cabinet. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Court fines internal affairs minister

KYIV – A district court in Kyiv on November 20 fined Internal Affairs Minister Yuri Lutsenko the equivalent of some \$70, finding him guilty of unlawfully promoting police officers and unlawfully presenting pistols in the form of Internal Affairs Ministry awards to two subordinates, Ukrainian media reported. Yuri Bergelson, Mr. Lutsenko's lawyer, told journalists that the court declared Mr. Lutsenko's actions unlawful and punishable under a law on corruption, but it did not conclude that Mr. Lutsenko had benefited personally from these actions. Last week, Deputy Procurator

General Renat Kuzmin said in a television interview that Lutsenko was involved in corruption linked to unlawful promotions and issuing handguns. Mr. Lutsenko, formally with no party affiliation, was proposed to the Cabinet of Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich by President Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Lutsenko was known as one of the most prominent "field commanders" of the 2004 Orange Revolution, which helped Mr. Yushchenko win the presidential post. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Baloha: verdict is politically motivated

KYIV – Presidential Secretariat head Viktor Baloha has commented that the court ruling against Internal Affairs Minister Lutsenko may be a link in a longer chain leading to his potential dismissal, the Ukrayinska Pravda website reported on November 20. "I will say straightforwardly: A brutal discrediting campaign has been launched against the current internal affairs minister, an outstanding activist of the Orange team of President Yushchenko. There has been an apparent political order to remove Lutsenko from his post by any means," Mr. Baloha said. "The court could not find any motives of personal gain in [Lutsenko's] actions but called him a cor-

rupt official, despite the fact that everybody knows that there is no corruption without personal gain," he added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Health minister wants to stay on

KYIV – Health Minister Yuri Poliachenko said on November 15 that he is ready to stay in Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich's government, Interfax-Ukraine reported. Mr. Poliachenko added that he does not support the decision of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine People's Union to go into opposition. Mr. Poliachenko was appointed health minister in the Cabinet of Prime Minister Yuri Yekhanurov in September 2005 and proposed by Our Ukraine for the same job in the Yanukovich Cabinet in August 2006. After the Our Ukraine parliamentary caucus decided to go into opposition in October, Mr. Poliachenko and three other ministers proposed by Our Ukraine tendered their resignations. The Verkhovna Rada on November 1 accepted the resignations of Justice Minister Roman Zvarych and Culture Minister Ihor Likhovyi. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Polish PM vows to extend oil pipeline

KYIV – Polish Prime Minister Jaroslaw Kaczynski pledged in Kyiv on November 15 that Warsaw will work toward extending Ukraine's Odesa-Brody oil pipeline to Plock in Poland, thus making it possible for Caspian oil to reach Poland and Europe in a detour of Russia, Ukrainian media reported. Mr. Kaczynski said there is sufficient financial support to complete the project, but did not elaborate. He also declined to give a precise completion date, saying only that the pipeline link "will be a top-priority bilateral project." The Polish prime minister met in Kyiv with President Viktor Yushchenko, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, and opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S., Russian presidents affirm WTO deal

MOSCOW – U.S. President George W. Bush and Russian President Vladimir Putin confirmed at a brief Moscow meeting on November 15 that they expect to sign a bilateral agreement in Hanoi, Vietnam, on the margins of the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation (APEC) summit on November 19, paving the way for Russia's admission to the World Trade Organization (WTO), Russian and international media reported. Kremlin spokesman Dmitry Peskov called the session "extremely positive and friendly." President Putin's aide Sergei Prikhodko said that the U.S. administration's decision shows that it has "the political will to promote trade and economic and political ties with Russia. It is a tribute to Bush and the U.S. leadership." Iran, the Middle East and Kosovo were among the other topics that the two presidents discussed. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukrainian-Russian rocket delivers satellite

KYIV– The Ukrainian-Russian carrier rocket Zenit 3SL was successfully launched on October 31 from the Odyssey Launch Platform in the Pacific Ocean. The rocket was launched under the Sea Launch Program to deliver the American satellite XM-4 of the XM Satellite Radio company to orbit. A ground station has already acquired the spacecraft's first signals. The launch was implemented by the Sea Launch Co., which is a leading company in the provision of such services and is the only company capable of launching rockets from the sea. The Sea Launch Program was established in 1995 among the Ukrainian Pivdenne State Design Office and the production enterprise PivdenMash, the American company Boeing, the British-Norwegian Kvaerner Group and the Russian Energiya Corp. (Ukrinform)

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Works of Ukrainian nationalists Teliha, Bahriany released in Kyiv

by Olena Labunka

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – To honor the 100th anniversary of their births, the Kyiv-based publishing house Smoloskyp published “Selected Works” of Olena Teliha and Ivan Bahriany, two prominent Ukrainian authors whose names were erased from history during the Soviet era and only recently revived.

In addition to the “Selected Works,” which were published in October as part of the “Rozstriliane Vidrozhennia” (Executed Renaissance) series, Smoloskyp also published Bahriany’s “Publitsystka,” a collection of his editorial work.

“We celebrate those people for whom the soul grieves, which every generation will uncover,” said Yevhen Sverstiuk, a Soviet dissident who discussed the authors’ significance at an October 27 book presentation in Kyiv.

“Someone will open the texts, someone will open the person, someone will open Teliha’s ‘civil bravery,’ someone will open Bahriany’s ‘Kozak bravery.’ All this is lacking in our zombie, fearful, passive world. We all lack Bahriany and Teliha.”

Teliha and Bahriany were at the forefront of a pre-World War II Ukrainian nationalist phenomenon in Soviet Ukraine, he said. They were so different, yet at the same time so similar in their yearnings, Mr. Sverstiuk said.

“Bahriany was the Zaporizhian type, and Teliha was the aristocratic type,” he continued.

Bahriany was an example of Kozak resistance, “a traditional type of Ukrainian person who never gives up under any circumstances” he said.

Instead, a type of faux Kozak-nationalist is cloning itself today, which repeats slogan after slogan, but really demeans the patriotic idea in deeds and doesn’t do anything to support it, Mr. Sverstiuk said.

What distinguishes Teliha and Bahriany is their stalwart Ukrainian patriotism during an era of diabolical Soviet persecution.

Born July 21, 1906, in Russia, Teliha was a “poet of infinite anxiety” who demonstrated “high culture and great bravery,” and was a “Ukrainian nationalist who didn’t write (overt) patriotic poems and slogans,” as Mr. Sverstiuk described her.

Ms. Teliha’s family moved to Kyiv in 1918 when her father, a prominent engineer, accepted a professorship at the Kyiv Polytechnic Institute and became a minister in the short-lived Ukrainian National Republic government.

Teliha’s “Selected Works” include poetry and editorial essays, memoirs written by her close confidante Oleh Zhdanovych, critiques of her work and a bibliography.

They play a valuable role in revealing how her contemporaries and the current generation view her, said Osep Zinkewych, the collection’s editor and Smoloskyp international charity fund chair.

“The works by our proud Ukrainian Teliha will always be relevant, and entire

generations of Ukrainians will now be verifying her thoughts with her words,” said Olena Lohvynenko, a prominent Ukrainian literary scholar.

“Her books should be in school libraries and in the other libraries of our nation,” she added.

After a life spent as a political activist, poetess, writer and unbroken fighter for Ukrainian independence, Teliha was shot by German National Socialists in 1942 in Kyiv’s Babyn Yar along with her husband, Mykhailo.

Another talented Ukrainian writer, poet and political activist of the same era was Ivan Bahriany, whose works were forbidden for a long time but nevertheless inspired the struggle for the Ukrainian people’s dignity and independence, in the view of many intellectuals.

Bahriany was born on September 9, 1906, in a village in the Poltava region but grew up in the Sumy Oblast.

Despite fierce persecution and arrests by Communists for his writings, Bahriany would eventually become recognized as the most prominent eastern Ukrainian writer of his era.

Bahriany’s prose, poetry, journalistic work, literary critiques, as well as critiques of his own work, appear in his “Selected Works,” edited by the young Kharkiv scholar Maksym Balaklytskyi, who also authored the collection’s preface and commentary.

The other collection, “Publitsystka,” includes Mr. Bahriany’s lectures, articles, pamphlets, reflections and essays, which were published when he lived in Germany between 1946 and 1963 in the magazine, Our Positions and the newspa-



Ivan Bahriany’s “Selected Works” and Olena Teliha’s “Selected Works” released in Kyiv by Smoloskyp.



per Ukrayinski Visti.

Oleksii Konoval edited “Publitsystka” and both collections of Bahriany’s works were published with financing from the U.S.-based Bahriany Foundation.

To this day, Ukrainian society is still not able to properly appreciate its true heroes and honor their self-sacrifice for the great Ukrainian idea, Mr. Sverstiuk said.

For example, during a recent parliamentary hearing to consider a proposal commemorating Bahriany’s 100th anniversary, Communist Party National Deputy Valentyn Matveyev labeled him an “enemy of the people,” who stained

himself with cooperation and participation in subversion against communism.

The lack of objective historical information gives rise to twisting of facts and political speculation, Mr. Sverstiuk said, which is why it’s so important today to publish books of forgotten authors, or those repressed by the Soviet Union.

Smoloskyp was launched in Baltimore, Md., in 1967, publishing dissident literature, samvydav materials and works of Ukrainian authors in the English language.

After Ukraine regained its independence, Smoloskyp moved to Kyiv.

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Congress shows...

(Continued from page 1)

shouted and shoved each other throughout the day, coming close to fisticuffs with Mr. Poroshenko, who led the proceedings from the on-stage presidium.

A vote was held to replace the members of the party's leadership, the Political Council, which is largely blamed for the party's diminished popularity and government influence.

However, the reform-minded opposition led by Mr. Katerynychuk, a national deputy, failed to muster the necessary two-thirds vote to usher in a new leadership, throwing the congress into near chaos.

Voting against the proposal were Messrs. Bezsmertnyi, Poroshenko and Martynenko, directly thwarting Mr. Yushchenko's recommendation that a new leadership emerge.

"Our Ukraine has been exposing internal problems without solving them, which is dirty laundry in the minds of voters," said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is exclusively financed by Ukrainian business donations.

Messrs. Poroshenko, Martynenko and

Tretiakov control the votes of large blocks of OUPU delegates through financial obligations in the oblast party organizations, political experts said.

"These three people control well over two-thirds of the regional organizations," Mr. Lozowy explained. "They are very difficult to dislodge, without a complete shake-up of the party, which is very difficult. They are the major stumbling block in turning Our Ukraine 180 degrees around and gaining public support, instead of losing it as they are currently doing."

Despite the "serious internal crisis," President Yushchenko demonstrated his now legendary detachment from Ukrainian politics by not attending the second session of the congress, instead joining his family for a concert performed by Italian pop star Toto Cutugno.

The president's lack of involvement in OUPU's leadership has created a vacuum in which the inner circle freely operates and often abuses its authority, political experts said, as demonstrated repeatedly during his presidency.

During this year's coalition-forming negotiations, Mr. Poroshenko proved to be a major stumbling block in forming a revived Orange government when he aggressively vied to become chairman of

the Verkhovna Rada instead of Oleksander Moroz.

During negotiations to join the National Unity Coalition, many political experts believe Mr. Bezsmertnyi was simply ignoring Mr. Yushchenko when declaring Our Ukraine's opposition as the president was simultaneously calling on him to return to talks to join the coalition government.

"Our Ukraine has been on a suicide course for the last year and a half and it doesn't seem likely to veer off its path because the lack of direction given by President Yushchenko," said Mr. Lozowy.

"It's not only his lack of leadership as president, but lack of leadership as the informal chair of Our Ukraine," he added.

Rather than follow Mr. Yushchenko's advice to elect a new political council, the party's inner circle announced it would hold primaries in regional elections to select new candidates during the next several months.

Political experts described the idea of primaries as a mere delaying tactic enabling members of the inner circle to prolong their place in OUPU's power structure.

The congress fiasco prompted Mr. Katerynychuk to announce on November 13 that he was quitting the ranks of OUPU and launching a new political party that he hopes will provide the Ukrainian electorate with a more democratic alternative.

"In a year, this party [OUPU] won't interest anyone in society," he said.

The most interesting development of the party congress, in the view of Mr. Doniy, is the appearance and speech delivered by Yuri Lutsenko, Ukraine's minister of internal affairs, who was a key figure in the Orange Revolution who still enjoys a fairly strong public rating. Mr. Lutsenko has close ties with the Socialist Party of Ukraine, though he isn't an official member.

Rather than declaring his willingness to join OUPU, Mr. Lutsenko offered to lead a new political force that would include OUPU regional leaders, as well as Pora and Reforms and Order Party members.

In his November 13 press conference, the 38-year-old Mr. Katerynychuk called on Ukraine's up-and-coming politicians to unite into a new political force, naming specifically Mr. Lutsenko, first assistant to the Presidential Secretariat Chair Arsenii Yatseniuk, Presidential Advisor Taras Stetskiv and Our Ukraine politician Ruslan Kniazevych.

He said he hopes the party will support liberal economic principles.

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Ukainian American...

(Continued from page 4)

U.S. Army War College, became a member of the faculty of that prestigious college. In 1993 he helped plan and participated in the first U.S. military mission to Ukraine. Since his retirement from active military service he continues his service as a colonel in the state militia, and is active in several military, veterans, and civic Ukrainian American organizations.

A professional historian, Col. Kondratiuk spoke about the distinguished careers of hundreds of thousands of Ukrainian Americans and of thousands of native Ukrainians in the armed forces of the United States throughout its history. He said that Ukrainian American soldiers played a distinctive role in our nation's conflicts although his participation is conspicuously absent in the UAV and in other historic archives.

Among other important facts, Col. Kondratiuk noted that some 24 Ukrainians in the expeditionary Forces of World War I alone were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross, the nation's second highest honor, and Matej Kocak, a Marine, won the Medal of Honor. Of this group, 20 were born in Ukraine, fighting for their adopted country.

More Ukrainian American servicemen won the Medal of Honor during World War II: Peter Tomich for his disregard of personal safety and heroism during the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor; and Pvt. Nicholas Minue, native of Ukraine, for his heroic deeds in the European theater of operation; as well as Anthony Krotiak, John Dutko and Nicholas Oresko, said Col. Kondratiuk.

There were many other names mentioned by Col. Kondratiuk, along with the heroic deeds for which they were recognized including the first Ukrainian American general, Steve Melnik, Maj. Walter A. Kostecki, M.D., and Lt. Col. Theodore Kalakula. Many Ukrainian names can be seen on the grave markers of fallen U.S. military personnel throughout the world, as well as on the black marble of the Vietnam Memorial in Washington.

Col. Kondratiuk concluded his remarks with an appeal to honor all who served and to continue the research on Ukrainians in the U.S. armed forces because only a relatively small number of the estimated 300,000 Ukrainian Americans who served are now included in the UAV registry.

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Cultural Center...

(Continued from page 1)

achievements of immigrants who arrived in America, where they could live freely and enjoy their God-given rights. "This center," he said, "connects us to God, our creator. This center gives honor and glory to God."

Designed by architect Taras Dobusz, the cultural center encompasses a banquet hall, gymnasium, temporary church, library, meeting rooms, classrooms, offices, kitchen and social club. Mr. Dobusz also designed the parish rectory, as well as the church that is to be built in the coming years.

A historic day

"Welcome to this history day," stated Michael Koziupa as he and Anna Denysyk, masters of ceremonies, opened the banquet in the new cultural center. The excitement inside the new center was palpable.

"This is a miracle, really a miracle," said Irene Doll of Morris Township, N.J. Her husband, Ron, chimed in: "People are looking forward to coming here."

The leader of the local branch of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, George Shypailo, said of the new center: "Having seen only the drawings and sketches of the center, the completed facility far exceeded my most ambitious expectations."

It's truly a first-class facility that rivals any of the high-end motel chains in elegance. The color schemes, the quality of materials and the workmanship are all outstanding. I'm proud to be even a small part of this project," he enthused.

Christine Syzonenko, group coordinator of the Iskra Ukrainian Folk Dance Ensemble, which will be among the new center's tenants, said: "Iskra's membership has grown quite a bit over the last several years. It's very exciting for us to be moving to a venue which not only gives us more room to rehearse, but has a wonderful stage on which our dancers can perform."

In fact, Iskra became the first group to perform in the UACCNJ as it welcomed the capacity crowd to the center's inaugural event and later in the evening danced the ever-popular "Hopak."

A special guest at the banquet was Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Oleh Shamshur, who noted the significance of the new center in sharing Ukrainian culture, as well as knowledge about Ukraine's history and its people, with the American public. The ambassador pledged that the Embassy of Ukraine and the Consulate General in New York City stand ready and able to help the new center in its activity. New York Consul General Mykola Kyrychenko also was present at the banquet.

Local officials, including the mayor of Hanover Township (of which Whippany is a constituent part), Ronald F. Francioli, and Township Committeeman Howard Olsen, also attended. U.S. Congressman Rodney Frelinghuysen, who was present for the groundbreaking ceremonies of the Ukrainian community complex back on April 25, 2004, could not attend this time due to family obligations, but sent a greeting.

Among the many other VIPs in attendance who were introduced to the banquet guests was Bohdan Watral, president and CEO of Selfreliance Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union, which granted the complex a \$3.9 million mortgage and made a sizeable donation to the UACCNJ.

Also present was a group from the Ukrainian National Association, led by President Stefan Kaczaraj and Treasurer Roma Lisovich, whose corporate headquarters is located just a few miles west of the new cultural center.

Belief in a vision

"Congratulations to all of you," said Victor Hatala, chairman of the board of



Roma Hadzewycz

Parishioners walk in a procession from the old St. John's Church (seen in the background) to the site of the new UACCNJ.

directors of the UACCNJ. "On faith and belief in our vision, we purchased land, we hired an architect, we developed a plan, we raised money, we borrowed additional funds, we cleared the property, and we built this magnificent building."

Mr. Hatala went on to introduce the members of the board of directors who represent each of the UACCNJ's member organizations and who will work together, he said, "to make this cultural center a beacon to all Ukrainian Americans in northern New Jersey and throughout the United States." He also presented Markian Hamulak, who has been retained as the center's interim manager.

Orest Kucyna, parish trustee and construction chairman, also addressed the banquet, calling the center's grand opening "a milestone for all Ukrainians in northern New Jersey" and thanking the many volunteers who had spent the last few days working to get the cultural center ready for its debut.

However, he said, "this is only the beginning" and the job is not over as the community looks ahead to paying off the mortgage on the cultural center and building a 300-seat church and a bell tower.

"Our hope is that we can raise the required funds to begin Phase 2 of the construction within five years," Mr. Kucyna explained. "Our community has the ability and energy to accomplish much more," and the hope is, he said, that "today's momentous event will help stimulate others to participate" and "the community will pull together to complete the job."

Finally, the Rev. Mirchuk came to the podium. He offered thanks to a long list of people involved in making the UACCNJ a reality: the members of the Building Committee, the Ways and

(Continued on page 12)

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Cultural Center...

(Continued from page 11)

Means Committee, the Women of Whippany, the Fund-Raising Committee, and others. He singled out stalwarts like Mr. Kucyna, Peter Binazesky, Lubodar Olesnycky and Michael Zawadiwsky, who spent countless hours on various projects, tasks and events that led up to the grand opening, as well as the architect, Mr. Dobusz, Bjork Builders and officials of the Township of Hanover. In conclusion, the pastor offered thanks to "all the organizations which worked together to realize this dream."

The capacity crowd of nearly 400 was in a celebratory mood, uplifted in spirit by their community's very visible success. Approximately \$200,000 in new donations was collected that evening – funds that will go toward the current "furnish and finish" campaign at the UACCNJ.

At the conclusion of the formal part of

the banquet, the popular singer Pavlo Dvorsky of Ukraine took to the cultural center's stage to sing a few selections. Afterwards, the Luna band provided music for dancing.

Blessing of rectory

On the day before the UACCNJ gala, St. John's Rectory was blessed by Bishop Emeritus Michael Kuchmiak and the Rev. Mirchuk, with priests of the New Jersey Deanery of the Ukrainian Catholic Church and clergy from area congregations in attendance. Also present were parishioners and other guests.

Father Mirchuk thanked God "for making this day" and noted that this was just the beginning of the community's celebrations. "Our celebrations will end when our glorious church rises," he said.

The blessing was followed by a small reception inside the rectory and a guided tour of the new cultural center – a beehive of activity where volunteers were

putting in place all the finishing touches for the next day's grand opening.

The temporary church

On Sunday, November 12, community members and parishioners returned to their old church to attend a special service in memory of the parish pioneers and trustees, thus beginning that day's celebrations of the parish's 85th anniversary.

Afterwards they walked in a procession to the temporary church housed in the UACCNJ. There, Metropolitan Soroka and Bishop Kuchmiak, assisted by clergy blessed the new house of worship and celebrated a pontifical divine liturgy. Among the priests participating in the services that day was the Rev. John Ciurpita, a native son of the Whippany parish.

In his homily, the metropolitan spoke of the "joyous and successful renewal" of St. John's Parish. "Today, we have blessed and we worship in this new temporary

chapel – a few steps away from the planned new church. Let no one here harbor any doubts in their hearts and minds. There will be a new St. John the Baptist Church, and soon," Metropolitan Soroka underscored. "Why am I so confident? Because I believe in God's power in you – His people. Your patron saint is St. John the Baptist. He went into the world to proclaim the coming of the Messiah. He proclaimed this with certainty, with no doubts. He responded to the challenges set before him with hope and conviction."

85th anniversary banquet

The subsequent anniversary banquet, attended by another capacity crowd, was emceed by the Rt. Rev. Mitred Msgr. John Terlecky of Stamford, Conn. The event paid tribute to all the pastors of St. John's Church, the founders of the parish, parishioners who served in the U.S. armed forces, trustees and parish committee members, and all parishioners through the years. As all in attendance shared "prosfora," the youth of the parish sang "My Ye Rodyna" (We Are Family).

A brief play presented by the youth of the parish recalled the founding of St. John's Church by immigrants from the Lemko region of Ukraine and the early years of parish life. The program also included performances by the younger members of the Iskra dance ensemble, the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization and the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies.

Special recognition was given to two longtime activists of St. John's Parish, Don Singalewicz and Peter Binazesky, and the Rev. John Ciurpita, a parishioner who went on to enter the priesthood.

As the afternoon drew to a close, banquet guests viewed a slide show of photographs from the parish's 85 years of activity.



Children of the parish and the youth organizations Plast and SUM with Church hierarchs following the blessing of the UACCNJ.



Fathers Roman Mirchuk and John Ciurpita lead a memorial service at the old St. John the Baptist Church on Route 10.



Orest Kucyna, construction chairman, at the center's ribbon-cutting ceremony.



State Assemblyman Joseph Pennacchio speaks at the UACCNJ blessing.



Flag-bearers of Plast and SUM walk from the new rectory (seen in the background) to the cultural center before the UACCNJ's grand opening.



Metropolitan Stepan Soroka, assisted by (from left) the Rev. Roman Mirchuk, Bishop Emeritus Michael Kuchmiak and the Rev. John Ciurpita, officiates at the blessing of the new temporary church.



Ukraine's Ambassador Oleh Shamshur speaks at the banquet. Looking on are masters of ceremonies Michael Koziupa and Anna Denysyk.



Faithful and guests, including renowned singer Pavlo Dvorsky (center) at the blessing of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey.



A view of the new cultural center. In the foreground is the cross erected during the groundbreaking at the site of the soon-to-be-built St. John's Church



Celebrating the grand opening is architect Taras Dobusz (second from right) with (from left) Prof. Taras Hunczak of Chatham, N.J., and Russ and Karen Chelak of Mendham, N.J.



Bishop Emeritus Michael Kuchmiak and the Rev. Roman Mirchuk bless the rectory.

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Scherban...

(Continued from page 2)

sending him back home.

Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Lutsenko expressed his dismay over the prosecutors' decision, speaking after a meeting with Interpol director Ronald Noble in Kyiv on November 7. He complained that police had encountered difficulties detaining Mr. Scherban at the airport, as other law-enforcement agencies, which Mr. Lutsenko did not name, "interfered."

Apparently there is not much that Mr. Lutsenko can do, as he has no authority over the prosecution, and, moreover, the chair under him is shaky. On November 2 the PRU-dominated Verkhovna Rada passed a motion asking Prime Minister Yanukovich to suspend Mr. Lutsenko over allegations of official abuse at his ministry. Mr. Lutsenko doubted the legality of the move, and both Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich came to his defense, saying that he will carry on as minister. Mr. Yanukovich, however, made it clear that he may change his mind. Speaking on TV on November 3, Mr. Lutsenko linked the threat to suspend him to Mr. Scherban's upcoming return.

Mr. Scherban is apparently confident of his future. Speaking on his arrival, he announced that he would like to return to politics and said he hopes for protection by well-positioned "friends" who, he noted, are not only members of the PRU, but also of Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine party and the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. Among such friends, he named Mr. Yanukovich, National Security and Defense Council Secretary Vitalii Haiduk, Mr. Haiduk's business partner and board chairman of the Industrial Union of Donbas (IUD) Serhii Taruta, and National Deputy Rynat Akhmetov, reportedly Ukraine's richest tycoon.

In an interview with Ukrayinska Pravda, Mr. Scherban told amusing anecdotes about several of these friends, including Messrs. Akhmetov and Haiduk with whom, according to Mr. Scherban, he founded the IUD in 1995. He hinted that he might tell more about people in top positions. Many of them hail from Donetsk, and Mr. Scherban, who was Donetsk governor in the mid-1990s, was the cradle of "the Donetsk clan," now Ukraine's most influential regional group.

Association with the disgraced Mr. Scherban may taint the PRU's image, Segodnya quoted analyst Mykhailo Pohrebynsky as saying. Mr. Pohrebynsky should know, as he helped the PRU in previous election campaigns. Mr. Scherban is a political hot potato now. Those who helped Mr. Yushchenko come to power using the famous slogan "Bandits to Prison," like Mr. Lutsenko, cannot do much about Mr. Scherban, as their hands are tied. And the heavyweights like Mr. Haiduk and Mr. Yanukovich are unlikely to be happy to hear Mr. Scherban calling them his friends.

Speaking at a press conference on November 8, Prime Minister Yanukovich reluctantly admitted that he used to be on friendly terms with Mr. Scherban, but tried to distance himself from him. "I just don't remember," he said, when asked by a journalist whether he once presented Mr. Scherban with the gun that police found at Mr. Scherban's home in 2005.

Sources: 1+1 TV, ICTV, November 3; Interfax-Ukraine, November 4; Channel 5, November 4, 7; Ukrayinska Pravda, November 7; UNIAN, November 8; Segodnya, November 9.

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Kyiv sends...

(Continued from page 2)

with Russian oil producer companies for "reverse-use" of the pipeline, to carry Russian Urals Blend oil southward to Pivdenny for export via the Black Sea. TNK-BP is the main user of the pipeline in the reverse direction. This agreement set back attempts by Ukraine and the EU to reduce their dependence on Russian oil.

The contract for reverse use, in force since September 2004, never met Ukraine's expectations in terms of transit revenue. The

contract stipulated a transit volume of up to 9 million tons annually southward. Instead, the pipeline has carried only 7.9 million tons in the two-year period from September 2004 through October 2006. The forecast for the calendar year 2006 is maximum 4.5 million tons. Ukraine received \$123 million in transit fees for the reverse-use to date, which is Kyiv's main rationale for having chosen reverse use over an idle pipeline.

Irrespective of political color, all Ukrainian governments have sought agreement with Poland and the EU to use the Odesa-Brody as originally intended in

the northward direction for Caspian oil. Ukraine's and Poland's state pipeline operators, UkrTransNafta and PERN, signed a series of agreements to that end in 2004-2006 and formed the Sarmatia consortium to plan the construction and raise the financing for the pipeline's extension from Brody to Plock and Gdansk.

While the EU endorsed these efforts, Russia did not allow either Kazakhstan or U.S. companies in Kazakhstan to use Russian territory or the Novorossiysk maritime terminal for delivering oil to Ukraine.

Securing deliveries from Kazakhstan is

the key to this oil supply diversification project for Ukraine and the EU, and this is possible only through transit routes that bypass Russia or swap deals, by companies that do not already feel hostage to Russia in their extraction or transit projects.

Source: Glavred (Kyiv), November 3; UNIAN, Interfax-Ukraine, November 7-15.

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John Romanition

Attorney specializing in American-
Ukrainian Affairs
Former Essex County Assistant
Prosecutor, 91



John Romanition, 91, of South Orange died on Saturday, October 28, 2006, at home.

Born in Newark, Mr. Romanition moved to South Orange 43 years ago. An attorney at law, he was a former Assistant Prosecutor of Essex County and prominent in American-Ukrainian affairs. Mr. Romanition was also the lawyer for Trident Savings and Loan in Newark. He retired from practicing law in 2001. He was a graduate of Rutgers College and Law School.

Mr. Romanition was a past president of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America and a past president of the Ukrainian University Society of New Jersey as well as a Supreme Director of the Ukrainian National Association. He was founder and past president of the Ukrainian Republican Committee of New Jersey and founder of the Ukrainian "Trend" magazine.

He was a past chairman of the Army Relief Committee of Newark and a World War II veteran of the Army Air Corps, having served in the Asiatic Pacific Theater of Operations.

Mr. Romanition was the beloved husband of 62 years to Mildred Youshock Romanition and the devoted father of Jeffrey and Joan Romanition.

In lieu of flowers, donations to the Saint Barnabas Hospice and Palliative Center, 95 Old Short Hills Road, West Orange, N.J. 07052, would be greatly appreciated.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

Boychuk) will be screened at the Anthology Film Theater in the East Village for a one-week run. Mr. Bojack's previous work includes "Glass Necktie," which was praised in the La Weekly, the Los Angeles Times and Film Threat and is available on DVD throughout the United States and Canada. The Anthology Film Theater is located at 32 Second Ave. (corner of Second Street); shows are nightly at 8 p.m. The film is rated R. Tickets are available at the box office for \$8 (\$5 for seniors and students). For more information e-mail info@filmslb.com, visit www.filmslb.com or call 212-505-5181.

Sunday, December 31

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American

Sport Center Tryzub, located at County Line and Lower State Roads, invites all to a New Year's Eve 2007 Extravaganza: "Romance the Gypsy in Your Heart." The New Year's Eve festivities will commence at 7:30 p.m. with a two-hour open specialty wine, beer and martini bar and dinner. Feast on a delectable array of hors d'oeuvres, carving stations, seafood, a taste of Tuscany, Viennese sweets, flambé table, coffee and tea; and enjoy a champagne toast at midnight. Welcome "Stesha," the mysterious Gypsy fortuneteller and dance the night away to the music of the Fata Morgana orchestra. Price: \$120 per person. For reservations, due by December 19, call: Mika Chajkowsky, 215-860-8384; Natalia Luciw, 215-362-5331; or Kristine Rizanow, 610-272-0678. Advance ticket sales only.

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES:

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.

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; longer 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 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, senders are asked to include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours, as well as their complete mailing address.

Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, 973-644-9510; e-mail, preview@ukrweekly.com.

Why not? ...

(Continued from page 7)

"The Fog of War," when it came out about three years ago, and in one scene it confirmed what I suspected was at the root of my "problem." As they were discussing the passage of the Gulf of Tonkin Resolution by Congress, which allowed the president, without any declaration of war, "to take all necessary steps, including the use of armed force ..." in that region, the date came up on the screen: August 7, 1964.

I knew I was very lucky to have served in the Army just before the Vietnam War started full force, but I didn't realize exactly how lucky until then: my enlistment ended on August 8, 1964.

"There but for the grace of God ..." I thought almost out loud in the theater.

And that's how I characterize my "problem" with Vietnam, which since then has spread to our wars in Iraq and Afghanistan in the form of my feeling compelled to acknowledge and honor every American soldier killed there by reading every single one of their names when they are listed every other day or so in the newspaper and repeated periodically on combined multi-page layouts along with their photos.

Maria Fedorka's sons and son-in-law came home alive from World War II. Indeed, our extended family, both here and in Ukraine, lost only one member to that war — my mother's brother, Volodymyr Kubrak, who perished in Auschwitz in 1942 — and none in wars since then.

God must have heard Aunt Maria and kept us in His care, as she implored in that old letter. And I thank her for that.

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

CONCLUSION

Continuing our preview of the 2006-2007 hockey season, here's a look at the NHL's Western Conference.

WESTERN CONFERENCE

1. Anaheim Ducks

Key ingredients: D Chris Pronger, D Scott Niedermayer, C Andy McDonald. Recipe for success: Shorter nickname (not Mighty in name), new logo/colors and another All-Star defenseman in Chris Pronger will be identifiable for all of hockey world. Pronger-Niedermayer form top 1-2 blueline duo in league. Solid goaltending and offensive depth mean only injuries or unknown factors can derail these Ducks from Stanley Cup finals. Ukrainian flavor: TODD FEDORUK patrols the left side on any of the four forward lines, providing muscle and physical presence. Minor leaguer ZENON KONOPKA signed lucrative deal in Europe.

2. San Jose Sharks

Key ingredients: C Joe Thornton, RW Jonathan Cheechoo, GT Vesa Toskala. Recipe for success: Continue the biggest turnaround of any team last season after acquiring eventual MVP Joe Thornton from Boston. Mark Bell brought in to join Thornton and Cheechoo on top line. Curtis Brown and Mike Grier arrive to take face-offs and kill penalties. Great depth on defense. Evgeni Nabokov and Vesa Toskala two top-flight netminders. Ukrainian flavor: DAVID BARARUK invited to training camp, but released.

3. Calgary Flames

Key ingredients: RW Jarome Iginla, LW Alex Tanguay, GT Mikka Kiprusoff. Recipe for success: Former Avalanche sniper Tanguay must add scoring punch to club's top line. He should make captain Iginla an even better performer. Watch new coach Jim Playfair's more factful management style relieve the tension in the dressing room. However, GM Darryl Sutter's (ex-coach) defense-first strategy will remain in place. Ukrainian flavor: 2005 top draft pick MATT PELECH projected in NHL by 2008-2009 campaign.

4. Detroit Red Wings

Key ingredients: GT Dominik Hasek, C Pavel Datsyuk, LW Henrik Zetterberg, D Nicolas Lidstrom. Recipe for success: Torch passed to younger players after captain Steve Yzerman retired after 20 years in Detroit and Brendan Shanahan left as free agent. Torch must remain lit while held by very potent 1-2 forward punch of Datsyuk and Zetterberg. Newcomer Jiri Hudler was third in AHL scoring last season. Wings will rely on experience to keep opponents from scoring. Goalie Hasek and old-timers Chris Chelios, Nicklas Lidstrom and Mathieu Schneider must produce. Ukrainian flavor: None

5. Nashville Predators

Key ingredients: GT Tomas Vokoun, LW Paul Kariya, C Jason Arnott. Recipe for success: Any success in Nashville is predicated on the health of goalie Tomas Vokoun. New arrival Jason Arnott gives team a bonafide No. 1 center. If club overcomes some uncertainty on blue line, Vokoun plus plentiful goal scorers could usher in a new era in Nashville. Ukrainian flavor: Double trouble: left wings DARCY HORDICHUK can skate and intimidate, while right wing JORDIN TOOTOO will score more and fight less.

6. Dallas Stars

Key ingredients: GT Marty Turco, C Mike Modano, D Sergei Zubov. Recipe for success: Marty Turco must learn to win more in the playoffs (8-14 record).

His 137-62-26 record in regular season games got him a four-year, \$22.8 million deal, but patience with him is wearing thin. Team brought in Eric Lindros, Patrick Stefan and Matthew Barnaby, all wily veterans. Come to think of it, this is an aging squad which must win soon. Ukrainian flavor: DARRYL SYDOR a most welcome returnee to a strong defense corps. Speaking of which, wait until No. 1 pick IVAN VISHNEVSKY graduates from the Quebec Junior League.

7. Edmonton Oilers

Key ingredients: GT Dwayne Roloson, RW Joffrey Lupul, C Shawn Horcroft. Recipe for success: Must plug the holes on the blue line after trade of Pronger and loss of point men Jaroslav Spacek and Dick Tarnstrom. Joffrey Lupul, over from Anaheim in Pronger deal, must at least duplicate 28 goals from last year. Of course, goaler Dwayne Roloson must prove his masterly post-season performance was not an anomaly. Ukrainian flavor: Potentially awesome! ALEXEI MIKHNOV over from Russia to finally try the NHL; KYLE BRODZIAK was part-time Oiler last year; DEVAN DUBNYK is Oiler goalie of future.

8. Minnesota Wild

Key ingredients: GT Manny Fernandez, RW Marian Gaborik, C Pavolo Demitra. Recipe for success: Implementation of a new team strategy stressing more offense, allowing newcomer Demitra, Mark Parrish and Kim Johnsson some freedom to wheel and deal. Unheralded superstar Marian Gaborik could be even more dangerous playing with Demitra if he can stay healthy. Fernandez finally has the nets to himself. Ukrainian flavor: Two Ukes toiling in Houston (AHL) this season: JOEY TETARENKO and PETER RATCHUK, back from a stint in Europe

9. Los Angeles Kings

Key ingredients: GT Dan Cloutier, D Rob Blake, C Craig Conroy. Recipe for success: Change the pattern of starting the season strong before falling out of playoff contention required wholesale changes. Enter new GM Dean Lombardi, new coach Marc Crawford, new goalie Dan Cloutier and returning star defenseman Rob Blake. Without any superstars on offense, the onus will be on limiting the opposition's chances. Ukrainian flavor: Just before the start of the season, the Kings traded for defender OLEG TVERDOVSKY, victim of a numbers game in Carolina.

10. Phoenix Coyotes

Key ingredients: D Ed Jovanoski, LW Ladislav Nagy, GT Curtis Joseph. Recipe for success: No distractions for second-year coach WAYNE GRETZKY, unlike his rookie coaching season. Last year was sudden retirement of Brett Hull, gambling scandal involving former assistant Rick Tocchet and Gretzky's wife and the death of his mother and grandmother. Signing of All-Star Ed Jovanoski and trade for Boston's Nick Boynton help blue line. Ukrainian flavor: Prospect DANIEL WINNIK, C, was a scorer in college. He starts down on the farm.

11. Vancouver Canucks

Key ingredients: GT Roberto Luongo, LW Markus Naslund, C Brendan Morrison, D Mattias Ohlun. Recipe for success: Finally they've got their franchise netminder in the big off-season deal with Florida. Roberto Luongo had 35 career best wins for lowly Florida last year – he's a huge difference-maker. Name tags were necessary in camp as club invited 14 new players, hired a new coaching staff and changed the team's defensive philosophy incorporating for-

(Continued on page 21)



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Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 19)

wards into the scheme. The theme in Vancouver: a fresh start. Ukrainian flavor: Defenseman SHAWN HESHKA participated in Canucks' training camp.

12. Columbus Blue Jackets

Key ingredients: GT Pascal Leclaire, LW Rick Nash, C Sergei Fedorov. Recipe for success: Should continue to score plenty of goals if healthy, but keeping the puck out of the net could be a problem. Sergei Fedorov out weeks after hurting his shoulder. Ukrainian NIKOLAI ZHERDEV signed to a new contract a week before start of season. ZHERDEV, along with David Vyborny and Rick Nash are the big scorers. Gilbert Brule a promising rookie. Ukrainian flavor: Blue Jackets had to resign ZHERDEV or risk having him return to Russian ranks. JOE MOTZKO begins play in Syracuse (AHL).

13. Colorado Avalanche

Key ingredients: GT Jose Theodore, C Joe Sakic, RW Milan Hejduk. Recipe for success: League's fourth-best offense (283 goals) will decrease in production with loss of Alex Tanguay and Rob Blake (combined 43 goals). Avalanche did uncover potential superstar in RW Marek Svatos (32 goals in 61 games as rookie). This year's version could be Wojtek Wolski. New acquisitions Tyler Arnason (C) and Jordan Leopold (D) must step up and contribute. Ukrainian flavor: Organization totally crushed when STEVE KONOWALCHUK retired a week before the puck dropped. Medical experts cautioned continued play might risk permanent heart damage. D JOHNNY BOYCHUK should see some time as a call-up this season, while youngster VICTOR ORESKOVICH is a couple years away from the show.

14. Chicago Blackhawks

Key ingredients: GT Nikolai Khabibulin,

C Michael Handzus, LW Martin Havlat, D Adrian Aucoin. Recipe for success: Not enough ingredients for success in the Windy City. Club adept at developing young defensemen last year (Brent Seabrook and Duncan Keith) and, hopefully, this year (Cam Barker). Scoring will have to come from new additions Handzus, Havlat and Bryan Smolinski. Pricey goaltender Nikolai Khabibulin bombed in his first season (3.35 GAA and lowly .886 PCT). Ukrainian flavor: None

15. St. Louis Blues

Key ingredients: LW KEITH TKACHUK, C Doug Weight, GT Manny Legace. Recipe for success: Nowhere to go but up for the team which finished last in the entire NHL in 2005-2006, ending a run of 25 consecutive playoff appearances. Doug weight and Bill Guerin hope to rejuvenate personal and team fortunes. Long-time broadcaster John Davidson hired to be team president by new ownership. Will be another long year in St. Louis. Ukrainian flavor: KEITH TKACHUK bounced back with strong second half last year (15-21-36 in 41 games), while rookie LEE STEMPNIK (14-13-27 in 57 games) had a nice NHL debut. Defenseman JEFF WOYWITKA somewhat of an enigma, once again starting out in AHL in Peoria.

UKRAINIAN UTTERINGS: Just a sample of the inside stuff coming this hockey season ... Wayne Gretzky agreed to a five-year deal in exchange for an increase in his minority ownership stake stock option, eh??? The Blues picked up the option of left-winger Keith Tkachuk. He will make \$3.8 million next season, but will count \$5.7 million against the cap. Tkachuk would like to sign an extension, but the two sides can't discuss a long-term deal until after January 1 ... Former Pens coach and ex-Hawk Eddie Olczyk was hired to be Chicago's new TV analyst...



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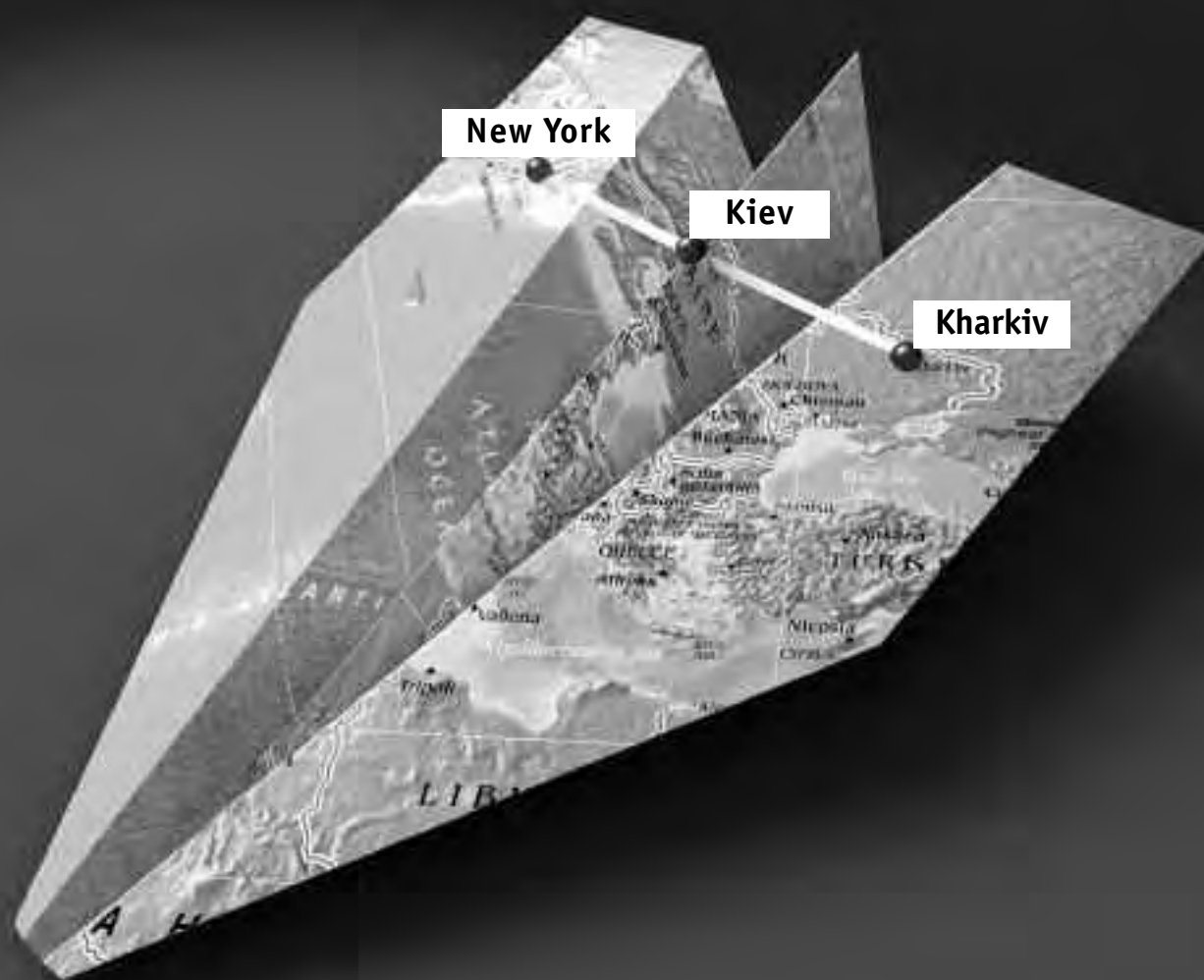
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OUT AND ABOUT

November 28 Montreal	Fall lecture by Rosaria Puglici, "Two Years After the Orange Revolution: The Consolidating Power of the Ukrainian Oligarchs," McGill University Faculty Club, 514-481-5871	December 3 Ottawa	Christmas Bazaar, sponsored by the Ottawa Branch of the Ukrainian Catholic Women's League of Canada, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Shrine, 613-723-1673
November 29 New York	Discussion and reception, "Ukraine: Two Years After the Orange Revolution," The Orange Circle, Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-388-0177 or amelnik@orangecircle.org	December 3, 9-10 New York	Ukrainian Christmas tree ornament workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110
December 1 Washington	Ukrainian Social, The Washington Group, Leopold's Café, 240-381-0993 or 703-548-8534	December 8-10 Philadelphia	Concert, "Still the River Flows: A Glimpse into Winter Rituals from the Carpathian Mountains," featuring Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, sponsored by the Yara Arts Group, Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 215-684-2180
December 1-3 Jenkintown, PA	Art exhibit, by three generations of the Sayenko family, sponsored by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-379-1861	December 9 Baltimore, MD	Holiday cocktail party and auction, Branch 59, Ukrainian National Women's League of America, St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church, 410-828-6922
December 2 New York	Ukrainian Christmas traditions workshop, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110	<p>Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Priority is given to events advertised in <i>The Ukrainian Weekly</i>. 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.</p>	
December 3 New York	"Koliadnyky in Concert," featuring the Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia, sponsored by The Ukrainian Museum and the Yara Arts Group, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110		
December 3 New York	140th anniversary of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's birth, featuring presentations by scholars and a book presentation, Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, 212-222-1866		
December 3 Horsham, PA	Thanksgiving dinner, Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub, 215-343-5412		
December 3 Ithaca, NY	Brahms' Double Concerto with the Cornell Symphony Orchestra, featuring violinist Stephen Miahky with cellist John Haines-Eitzen, Cornell University, 607-255-3430		
December 3 Minneapolis	Reception for Ukrainian American astronaut Heidemarie Stefanyshyn-Piper, St. Constantine Parish Hall, 612-378-9833		

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

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| December 1-3, 2006
Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization
"KPS Vidprava Stanychnykh" | December 24, 2006
Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve Supper |
| December 2, 2006
UNA Christmas Party | December 31, 2006
New Year's Eve Extravaganza |
| December 10, 2006
KOZAK Hockey Team Christmas Party | January 27, 2007
Soyuzivka's 2nd Annual Malanka sponsored by The Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America |
| December 11, 2006
Kerhonkson-Accord Senior Citizen Association Christmas Party | March 3-4, 2007
Plast Fraternity "Khmelnynchenky" Annual Winter Rada |
| December 15, 2006
UNWLA Branch 95 Christmas Party | March 23-25, 2007
Plast Sorority "Chornomorski Khvyli" Rada |
| December 21, 2006
Jeremiah Flaherty Esq. Christmas Party | |



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Wednesday, November 29

NEW YORK: The Orange Circle holds a briefing on the topic "Ukraine: Two Years after the Orange Revolution: An Analysis of its Political, Cultural and Geopolitical Impacts." The event will feature a discussion with: Prof. Mark Von Hagen, Columbia University; Prof. Robert Legvold, Columbia University; and Prof. Joshua Tucker, New York University. Adrian Karatnycky, president of The Orange Circle, will moderate. A reception is scheduled for 6-6:45; the discussion will begin at 6:45 p.m. This event is being organized jointly with the Ukrainian Studies Program at Columbia University and the Ukrainian Institute of America, and will take place at the institute, 2 E. 79th St. RSVP to Adrianna Melnyk via e-mail, amelnky@orangecircle.org, or phone, 212-388-0177.

Friday, December 1

NEW YORK: A CD release party for the Toronto Ukrainian rock band Klooch will be held at Snitch, 59 W. 21st St., at 7-11 p.m. Advance tickets are available at www.kloochmusic.com. Admission at the door: \$10; VIP admission, \$40. CDs will be available for purchase. For more information e-mail kloochmusic@hotmail.com or visit www.myspace.com/klooch.

Saturday, December 2

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) invites all to a roundtable on the theme "The Translation of Text: Theory and Practice" dedicated to the 100th Anniversary of Sviatoslav Hordynsky (1906-2006), poet, translator, artist and a full member of NTSh. Scheduled to participate in the roundtable are: Dr. Larissa Onyshkevych, Dr. Michael Naydan, Dr. Maria Rewakowicz and Prof. Vasyl Makhno. The program will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

Sunday, December 3

WARREN, Mich.: A benefit luncheon for the Ukrainian Catholic University featuring Myroslav Marynovych, senior vice-rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University, will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 26601 Ryan Road. For more information call the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation, 773-235-8462.

NEW YORK: The public is invited to a conference commemorating the 140th anniversary of Mykhailo Hrushevsky's birth. This special event is co-sponsored by Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, Ukrainian Historical Association, Shevchenko Scientific Society, Ukrainian American Association of University Professors and World Scholarly Council of the Ukrainian World Congress. Two sessions will feature presentations by scholars Alla Atamanenko, Alexander Dombrowsky, Assya Humesky, Taras Hunczak, Albert Kipa, Anna Procyk and Lubomyr Wynar. A book presentation will introduce four newly published historical works. This event is free and will be held at the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences building located on 206 W. 100th St. For more information call 212-222-1866 or e-mail ukrhist@aol.com.

Friday-Sunday, December 8-10

PHILADELPHIA: The Ukrainian League of Philadelphia and the Yara Arts Group present "Still the River Flows: A Glimpse at Winter Rituals from the Carpathian Mountains" featuring: Koliadnyky of Kryvorivnia performing a winter song ritual, a scene from Yara Arts Group's "Koliada: Twelve Dishes" performed by Olga Shuhan, and an art installation with video and photographs created by Watoku Ueno, Virlana Tkacz, Andrea Odezynska, Alexander Khantaev and Wanda Phipps. Special guests on Saturday: the Svitanya vocal ensemble. The event takes place on Friday and Saturday, December 8 and 9, at 8 p.m. and Sunday,

December 10, at 2 p.m. at the Ukrainian League of Philadelphia, 800 N. 23rd St. For information log on to www.brama.com/yara. For tickets call 215-684-2180.

Saturday, December 9

NEW YORK: The "Music at the Institute" chamber music series invites the public to its opening concert of the season, a recital by cellist Natalia Khoma and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky performing as a critically acclaimed duo. The program, which also marks the presentation of their new CD "Dances," will feature Schubert's Arpeggione Sonata in A Minor, D. 821, Franck's Sonata in A Major for Cello and Piano, Chopin's Polonaise Brillante in C Major, Op. 3, Bartok's Romanian Folk Dances, Brahms' Hungarian Dance No. 2, and Volodymyr Vynnytsky's own composition, "Lost Tango." The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m. Donation: \$30; UIA members and senior citizens, \$25; students, \$20. For additional information and reservations call 212-288-8660 or visit www.ukrainianinstitute.org.

Sunday, December 10

NEW YORK: The Chornomorsi fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization will celebrate the blessing of its new flag at 2 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue). Plast members are encouraged to wear their uniforms and to bring the flags of their respective fraternities and sororities. Donations welcome at the door. For more information call 301-646-0890.

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Chorus Dumka will give a Christmas concert at St. Patrick's Cathedral (Fifth Avenue and 53rd Street) at 2 p.m. The performance will include traditional Ukrainian Christmas carols, an instrumental arrangement, plus well-known favorites, Handel's "Hallelujah" and "O Holy Night" with organ accompaniment. The concert will be conducted by Vasyl Hrechynsky. Admission is free. For more information call 718-896-7624.

PHILADELPHIA: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Philadelphia branch, cordially invites the Ukrainian American community in the Philadelphia area to attend its traditional annual fun-filled "Christmas Bazaar and Welcoming of St. Nicholas" in the church hall of Annunciation Ukrainian Catholic Church at Old York Road and Cheltenham Avenue in the Melrose Park section of Philadelphia. Starting time is 9:30 a.m. Throughout the day there will be plenty of delicious food for breakfast and lunch, hot and cold drinks, games and entertainment for children, a "Wheel of Fortune" and a basket of cheer for adults, many interesting items for sale, including Christmas cards, the traditional Christmas Eve "kutia," poppyseeds, books and much more. St. Nicholas will pay a visit at 1:30 p.m. The Heavenly Office will be open from noon.

Tuesday, December 12

WASHINGTON: The Washington Group Cultural Fund under the patronage of the Embassy of Ukraine invites you to do some early Christmas shopping and meet the authors: Askold Krushelnysky, British journalist, author of "An Orange Revolution: A Personal Journey Through Ukrainian History"; and Andrew Evans, travel writer, author of "Ukraine: The Bradt Travel Guide." The event will be held at 6:30 p.m. at the Embassy of Ukraine, 3350 M St. NW. Seating is limited; please RSVP to ibezverkha@ukremb.com or 202-349-2937. Suggested donation: \$10; free for students. A reception and book signing will follow the presentations.

Friday-Thursday, December 15-21

NEW YORK: "Resilience," a feature film by Paul Bojack (a.k.a. Roman Paul

(Continued on page 17)