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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of U.S. launches fund-raising drive for Ukrainian university



Yaro Bihun

National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky (left) and former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William G. Miller, who was awarded the Petro Mohyla Medal.

by Yaro Bihun

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

SILVER SPRING, Md. — The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America launched its 2007 national fund-raising drive on February 11 with a dinner-reception at the St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in suburban Silver Spring, Md., just outside the nation's capital.

An estimated 150 participants came to hear about the accomplishments and plans of the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy from its president, Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, the foundation's co-chairman, Ambassador William G. Miller, and executive director, Marta Farion, who chaired the afternoon program.

Also offering his assessment and his blessing was Archbishop Vsevolod of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A., who had come to Washington from Chicago to receive an international award for his ecumenical work.

In the following two weekends, similar NUKMA fund-raising events were scheduled for the New York-New Jersey area, Chicago, Detroit and Philadelphia.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Farion called Dr. Briukhovetsky "one of the pioneers of building democracy in Ukraine." She stressed that the role his university is playing today is more important than it ever was since its rebirth in 1991.

"In the midst of new challenges, this is not a time to retreat," she said, stressing that the Ukrainian American community supports his institution's philosophy and mission and values his commitment to it.

Introducing Dr. Briukhovetsky to the audience, Ambassador Miller said that after a "terrible period of tyranny" the Kyiv Mohyla Academy was reborn

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Addressing investors' conference, Azarov criticizes policies of previous governments

by Yana Sedova and Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Disregarding the theme of Renaissance Capital's third annual Investor Conference "More Economy, Less Politics," First Vice Prime Minister Mykola Azarov sharply criticized the economic policies of the preceding Orange governments in his opening remarks.

Mr. Azarov told more than 300 international investors gathered on February 12 that the Anti-Crisis Program executed by the coalition government led by Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich had succeeded in improving the negative macroeconomic indicators of prior years in a short period of time.

The Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate slowed by five times in 2005, compared with 7 percent growth during the second half of 2006, he said.

"How were we able to change the situation so quickly?" Mr. Azarov asked rhetorically. "The answer is simple — we did everything 100 percent opposite from our predecessors. That's why we're again returning to high growth rates."

Ukraine's GDP rose 12.4 percent in 2004 under Mr. Yanukovich's leadership, 2.7 percent in 2005 under the prime ministerships of Yulia Tymoshenko and Yuri

Yekhanurov, and 7.0 percent in 2006 under the Yekhanurov and Yanukovich governments, according to Ukraine's State Statistics Committee.

"We understand that the political swaying of the last two years could have negatively influenced the faith of capital in Ukraine's investment attractiveness," Mr. Azarov said, stressing that the current government is renewing the lost faith.

The Ukrainian government will become "the biggest investor of infrastructure projects and guarantor of large investment in high-technology fields, where government politics are absolutely predictable, stable and loyal in relation to private capital," Mr. Azarov said.

He said the most favorable tax regime in Europe will emerge in Ukraine in the near term, neglecting to mention that he himself chaired Ukraine's Tax Administration for six years under President Leonid Kuchma's administration, between 1996 and 2002.

Mr. Azarov created a vicious, dysfunctional tax system that forced most Ukrainian businessmen to engage in illegal activity in order to avoid unrealistic tax rates, said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and

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Compromise reached in Ukraine on dubbing of foreign films

by Yana Sedova and Zenon Zawada

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Outraged Ukrainians battling for the right to watch foreign films dubbed or subtitled in the Ukrainian language achieved a compromise with



Zenon Zawada

Minister of Culture and Tourism Yuri Bohutskyi

their government and film distributors.

Ukraine's minister of culture and tourism, Yuri Bohutskyi, announced in January a voluntary memorandum of cooperation with film distribution firms and movie theater operators to dub or subtitle at their own cost 50 percent of foreign film copies shown in Ukraine by the year's end.

"We need to do everything so that our country is not only Ukraine in name, and that the national-cultural rights of every nation and people that make up the large Ukrainian community are not infringed on," Mr. Bohutskyi said.

"That's what's most important for us: a stable environment and situation in the humanitarian and social-political spheres. I would want for us together to find that path which will not infringe upon the national-cultural rights of Ukraine's citizens."

Last year, the majority of Ukraine's film distributors, who work very closely with their Russian counterparts, protested a January 2006 government decree requiring them to dub 70 percent of films by July 2007, arguing they couldn't afford the steep costs.

The Kyiv Appellate Court canceled the decree in October 2006, but a 1998

national law on cinematography still requires Ukrainian-language dubbing or subtitling of films.

"One's eyes can't be closed to the law's requirements, nor can it be harshly implemented," Minister Bohutskyi said at a January 22 press conference, at which ministry officials joined film industry leaders in signing the memorandum, which is not legally binding.

The 50 percent quota applies to film copies for viewing in Ukrainian movie theaters, not home DVDs or videos, which have been dubbed exclusively into Ukrainian as of last year.

Not only does the memorandum establish agreed-upon quotas for Ukrainian-dubbed films, but it also provides for the construction of a dubbing studio that will provide all the necessary equipment to completely dub films into Ukrainian at the Dovzhenko film studios in Kyiv.

Translation, dubbing, subtitling, voice processing and voice-over activity will occur at the dubbing studio, which will cost the government \$2 million to construct by the year's end.

The construction of a dubbing studio marks a significant, concrete step by the

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ANALYSIS

Yushchenko, Yanukovych lock horns over controversial new law on Cabinet

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

President Viktor Yushchenko and the ruling coalition in Kyiv have failed to find a compromise over the "Law on the Cabinet of Ministers." The law is meant to complement the Constitution, more clearly defining the remits of the president, the Cabinet and Parliament; at the same time, it cuts the president's authority.

Mr. Yushchenko has vetoed the law. Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych and the coalition argued that he had violated the Constitution by vetoing the same law twice. Mr. Yushchenko insisted that he had acted within his rights. The law came into effect despite Mr. Yushchenko's protests, as it was published in the official newspapers signed by Verkhovna Rada chairman Oleksander Moroz, an ally of Mr. Yanukovych.

It is now up to the Constitutional Court to decide who is wrong.

President Yushchenko argued that the law, originally passed last December, was out of tune with the Constitution. He particularly objected to provisions stating that Parliament appoints the prime minister and the ministers of foreign affairs and internal affairs if the president fails to do so in a timely manner; that the president has no power to veto the Cabinet's action plans; that vice ministers are to be appointed by the Cabinet; that ministers may not appeal their dismissal in courts; and that the National Security and Defense Council

may not influence the Cabinet's decisions.

Mr. Yushchenko vetoed the law for the first time on January 11, but on January 12 Parliament overrode the veto by more than 300 votes out of the 450-seat chamber. Mr. Yushchenko promised that his legal advisors would find a way to outplay Parliament, and he kept his word. On January 19 Mr. Yushchenko returned the law to Parliament again. He said that this was not a second veto, which would have been a violation of the Constitution, but a veto of a different law. It turned out that the texts he vetoed on January 11 and 19 differed on one point, where an original paragraph from the earlier version of the law was incorporated into the text of the previous paragraph in the newer version. This, according to Mr. Yushchenko, means that he vetoed a different law.

Messrs. Moroz and Yanukovych flatly rejected Mr. Yushchenko's argument, saying that the difference was a mere printing error, and the law would come into force without the president's signature. Mr. Yanukovych, who is backed by the ruling coalition in Parliament, suggested that Parliament should later amend the law, taking account of some of Mr. Yushchenko's objections. Mr. Yushchenko rejected the offer and warned Messrs. Yanukovych and Moroz against publishing the law in the official press, which, according to the Ukrainian Constitution, would mean it is coming

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Putin proposes greater pipeline cooperation

by Roman Kupchinsky
RFE/RL

During his February 1 press conference, Russian President Vladimir Putin said that Russian officials had discussed the "unification" of the Ukrainian-Russian gas-transportation system with Ukrainian officials. According to Mr. Putin, the Ukrainian government has not only suggested unifying the two countries' gas-pipeline networks, but it has also expressed interest in drilling for oil and gas in Russia.

Mr. Putin said he approves of these initiatives and added that it was in the interests of both countries to seek closer cooperation.

In the past, Ukrainian leaders, including Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, have said the Ukrainian gas pipeline would not be turned over to Russian control.

But that stance could be changing. Mr. Yanukovych has reportedly authorized officials from the Fuel and Energy Ministry, headed by Yurii Boiko, to conduct preliminary talks, which, if successful, could "unite" the gas-pipeline networks of the two countries.

If Ukraine turned over a part of its gas

pipeline and compressor stations to Russia's state-controlled gas monopoly Gazprom, the country would be even more dependent upon Russian energy supplies – and have less bargaining power. And the European Union would have to deal only with Moscow when it came to gas deliveries transiting through Ukraine.

For some time now, Russia has been making moves to acquire parts of its neighbors' gas-transit networks.

On December 31, 2006, Belarus and Russia's state-controlled gas monopoly, Gazprom, signed a deal securing Russian gas supplies to Belarus and Russian gas transit across Belarus for 2007-2011.

As part of the deal Gazprom is purchasing a 50 percent stake in Beltranshaz, Belarus's gas-pipeline operator. Gazprom agreed to pay \$2.5 billion for half ownership of Beltranshaz over five years.

Access to gas fields

For Russia – eager to have control over gas-supply networks in Europe – integration with Ukraine makes sense. But what about for Ukraine?

Ukraine's state-owned oil and gas monopoly, Naftohaz Ukrayiny, would gain much-needed access to Russian gas fields. Naftohaz is not a major oil or gas producer and is heavily in debt to Gazprom and RosUkrEnerg, the Swiss-based gas trader.

In 2006, Naftohaz entered into a joint venture with RosUkrEnerg to create UkrHazEnerg, a company with the right to sell gas to Ukrainian industrial consumers. By doing so, Naftohaz ceded to UkrHazEnerg millions of dollars in profits.

Serhii Yermilov, Ukraine's former fuel and energy minister, told Interfax on February 1 that he was skeptical of Mr. Putin's proposal.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Lugar supports Ukraine's NATO bid

WASHINGTON – U.S. Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) has proposed that Congress adopt a bill supporting Ukraine's entry in NATO. The proposal, dubbed the "NATO Freedom Consolidation Act of 2007," also supports NATO membership for Albania, Georgia, Croatia and Macedonia. Sen. Lugar, the bill's sponsor, said on February 6 as he introduced the measure that the membership of these five countries will be good for Europe, NATO and the United States as it will "extend the zone of peace and security." Sen. Lugar noted that each of these countries had expressed its NATO aspirations and that although Ukraine and Georgia are not part of the Membership Action Plan they have made significant strides toward Euro-Atlantic integration. The proposed resolution has now been referred to the Senate's Committee on Foreign Relations. The bill is co-sponsored by Sens. Christopher Dodd (D-Conn.), John Sununu (R-N.H.) and George Voinovich (R-Ohio). (Ukrayinski Novyny, Library of Congress)

CPU condemns Senate proposal

KYIV – The Communist Party of Ukraine has condemned the proposal of 14 U.S. senators of a resolution in support of Ukraine's NATO membership. According to the CPU press service, "The Communist Party decisively condemns the statement by a group of American senators and their introduction in the Senate of a resolution about Ukraine's membership in NATO and about extending financial assistance in support of its entry into the Alliance." The CPU said it considers this interference in the internal affairs of Ukraine and underscored that Ukraine alone will determine its foreign policy. The Communist Party also stated that it believes the question of Ukraine's entry into any international bodies should be subject to a nationwide referendum. "The Communist Party also believes that the announced Declaration of Sovereignty proclaimed Ukraine a non-aligned state and that this status should be enshrined via the Constitution and an appropriate law about Ukraine's neutrality." (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko in Turkmenistan

ASHGABAT, Turkmenistan – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko attended the inauguration ceremony of Gurbanguly Berdimukhammedov as Turkmenistan's new president in Ashgabat on February 14, Interfax-Ukraine reported. According to President Yushchenko's press service, during talks after the inauguration, the two leaders agreed that Turkmenistan will remain Ukraine's strategic gas provider. Ukraine is to import at least 55 billion cubic meters of gas from Central Asia in 2007, mostly from Turkmenistan, at a price of \$130 per 1,000 cubic meters. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko urges pre-term elections

KYIV - Yulia Tymoshenko, head of the eponymous opposition bloc, said at a news conference in Kyiv on February 12 that she would like to have early parliamentary elections preceded by the adoption of a new Constitution, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "Were a referendum to be held on the dissolution of Parliament, it would yield positive results and a minimum 60 percent of voters would vote to disband it," Ms. Tymoshenko asserted. She did not elaborate on how the current legislature could be disbanded to make new elections possible. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Grain exports authorized

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers has authorized shipment of 864,000 tons of grain, which was kept at ports' grain elevators, for export, the Agrarian Policy Ministry press service reported on February 14. This number includes 606,000 tons of barley, 30,000 tons of corn and 228,000 tons of wheat. The ministry is working on a draft law that would invalidate the regime of licensing grain, barley and corn export by the end of 2007. On December 14, 2006, Ukraine introduced quotas for grain by the end of the current marketing year in the amount of 1.106 million tons. In February the Cabinet of Ministers passed a resolution to increase the barley quota by 600,000 tons, corn quota by 30,000 and food grain (wheat)

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Correction

The Kyiv Mohyla Foundation news story and the "Faces and Places" column of February 4 mistakenly identified the founder and first benefactor of the Kyiv Brotherhood School, predecessor of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy, as "Halushka" Hulevychivna. Her name is Halshka, which according to an encyclopedia of names associated with the academy, stems from Halzbieta, Halzhbita or Yelysaveta/Elizabeth. (Background information on the name "Halshka" submitted by Jurij Dobczansky.)

NEWS ANALYSIS: Will the Orange team reunite?

by Pavel Korduban
Eurasia Daily Monitor

As Ukraine's Parliament reconvened after the winter recess, the caucuses of the pro-presidential Our Ukraine (OU) bloc and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) announced they would act as a unified opposition. OU and Ms. Tymoshenko have at least two common goals: early parliamentary elections and reversing last year's constitutional reform. It is difficult to predict, however, whether this unity will last for long, as many influential members of OU do not trust Yulia Tymoshenko.

"I have united the opposition," Ms. Tymoshenko announced on television on February 5. She said that the relevant agreement had been signed with the OU. Details of the accord emerged on February 6, the first day of the Verkhovna Rada's work after winter vacations. The document, signed by Ms. Tymoshenko and OU parliamentary faction leader Viacheslav Kyrylenko, proclaims: "Our joint opposition efforts will help to eradicate the criminal-oligarchic government as soon as possible and revive Ukraine's democratic and European development."

In order to achieve this, the opposition has proposed to jointly draft a new Constitution, disband Parliament and call new parliamentary elections. A new Constitution, the newly re-unified opposition believes, should put an end to the redistribution of powers in the state in favor of Parliament and the Cabinet, which was started by the constitutional reform of 2004-2006.

President Viktor Yushchenko is institutionally weaker than his predecessor, Leonid Kuchma, having comparatively few levers of influence on the Cabinet of Ministers. "The role of Parliament and the government is very strong at the

moment," Ms. Tymoshenko told television reporters on February 4. "Dictatorship from the presidential office has effectively been transferred to the Cabinet office."

Ms. Tymoshenko makes no secret of her presidential ambitions. She wants to approach the presidential campaign of 2009 with a different Constitution – one that would make the president stronger again. Mr. Yushchenko is as unhappy with constitutional reform as Ms. Tymoshenko, so it is logical that the two should unite their efforts in order to reverse constitutional reform.

President Yushchenko has welcomed the news. Speaking in Munich on February 9, he said that the two blocs' reunification had been prompted by the growing strength of the executive, which is dominated by the Party of the Regions (PRU). "This is a position that I respect," he said.

The People's Movement of Ukraine (Rukh), which is one of the biggest components of Our Ukraine, also is positive about the unification of efforts with the YTB, Rukh leader and former Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk announced on February 6.

Not everybody in Our Ukraine is as positive about the agreement with Ms. Tymoshenko as Messrs. Yushchenko or Tarasyuk. Many OU members still hold Ms. Tymoshenko responsible for the break-up of the first Orange government in September 2005. Her recent deal with the PRU, when the Tymoshenko Bloc helped the PRU override President Yushchenko's veto on the controversial law on the Cabinet, also has not made her more popular among OU members.

Those wary of a union with the YTB reportedly include such influential OU parliamentarians as the leader of the Union of Industrialists and

Entrepreneurs, Anatolii Kinakh; the former deputy head of President Yushchenko's office, Anatolii Matvienko; former Justice Minister Serhii Holovaty; and Yurii Yekhanurov, who replaced Ms. Tymoshenko as prime minister in 2005.

One of the opponents of the reunification with the YTB, National Deputy Pavlo Zhebrivskiy, said on February 6 that the OU caucus did not authorize Mr. Kyrylenko to sign the accord with Ms. Tymoshenko. Mr. Yekhanurov said on the following day, perhaps tongue-in-cheek, that Ms. Tymoshenko's party should rather unite with the Social Democrats – United, who were close to former President Kuchma. Their ideologies are similar, according to Mr. Yekhanurov.

OU and the YTB have apparently not been discouraged by the skepticism expressed by several senior Our Ukraine members. On February 9 Ms. Tymoshenko and OU signed an accord calling on OU and YTB members at the local councils to closely cooperate. For OU, the document was signed by Viktor Baloha, who formally chairs Yushchenko's Our Ukraine People's party and is the head of the presidential secretariat.

If the accords are not stillborn, a com-

bined opposition consisting of Our Ukraine and Ms. Tymoshenko's people will control 204 seats in the Ukrainian Parliament – 22 short of a majority. This number is enough to, for example, put on the agenda a no-confidence motion against the Rada chair.

On February 5 OU started collecting signatures to dismiss Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz. OU believes that Mr. Moroz signed the new law on the Cabinet of Ministers illegally. It is the president who signs laws, thereby putting them into force, according to the Constitution; the Rada chair may do so only in exceptional circumstances.

Ms. Tymoshenko on several earlier occasions spoke in favor of replacing Mr. Moroz in the post of Rada chairman. A clearly articulated common position on Mr. Moroz may become a litmus test for the unity of Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc.

Sources: *Inter TV, February 4; 1+1 TV, February 5; UNIAN, February 6; Interfax-Ukraine, February 6-9.*

The article above is reprinted from *Eurasia Daily Monitor* with permission from its publisher, the Jamestown Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Yushchenko meets with Merkel during three-day visit to Germany

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko traveled to Germany on February 8-10 for a visit that focused on building closer ties between Ukraine and Germany, as well as Ukraine and the European Union.

He was accompanied by National Security and Defense Council Secretary Vitalii Haiduk, National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Volodymyr Stelmakh, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs Volodymyr Khandogiy and President Secretariat Deputy Chief of Staff Oleksander Chalyi.

Mr. Yushchenko met in Berlin with German Chancellor Angela Merkel on February 8. Speaking at a joint press conference after the talks, the Ukrainian president said: "There is no doubt Ukraine will be a member of the European Union, but we understand that this ambition is not immediate. ... Our priorities are economic association and political integration into European structures."

He expressed hope that a new agreement with the EU would "determine Ukraine's goals and aspirations in its dialogue with the European Union."

Chancellor Merkel said the document would "support Ukraine's desire for reforms" and confirmed her intention to visit Ukraine this fall to attend a Ukraine-EU summit.

Ms. Merkel said Ukraine and the European Union must first of all create conditions to liberalize visa procedures, launch scientific and cultural exchange programs, and sign a free trade agreement. "We will start with simple things like visas and will then proceed to signing a free trade agreement," she explained.

Mr. Yushchenko and Ms. Merkel agreed to formulate new energy policies ensuring that European consumers get oil and gas transparently and on time. The Ukrainian leader said Ukraine will adhere to the European Energy Charter to fulfill its obligations.

"Ukraine understands its important role in the formation of Europe's energy-security policy and is conscious of its

responsibility. I know that last year's story perhaps wasn't always presented [in the media] with complete objectivity, but I want to stress that Ukraine fully complies with its obligations under the Energy Charter," Mr. Yushchenko said at a joint news conference with Ms. Merkel.

Speaking at a business forum in Berlin later the same day, Mr. Yushchenko underscored that he had not authorized anyone to talk with Russia about the joint use of the Ukrainian gas-transportation network. Earlier this month Russian President Vladimir Putin said that Kyiv had made a "revolutionary" offer to unify both countries' gas-transportation systems in exchange for a share in Russia's gas-drilling sector.

Ms. Merkel said her meeting with the Ukrainian president reassured her that "Ukraine is ready to take responsibility for transporting energy to Europe."

Discussing Ukraine's politics, the two leaders agreed there should be no power struggle but reforms for the country's development as they help improve Ukraine's image as a reliable partner worldwide. Mr. Yushchenko said Ukraine was now "following the path of democracy, promoting traditions of national dialogue."

"I want the West, Germany in particular, to hear us, to see realities of how Ukraine's government functions and to make no tragedies about what is going on now," he said.

Mr. Yushchenko said Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich and Economy Minister Volodymyr Makukha were going to visit Germany in 2007.

On February 9 the Ukrainian president visited the site of the Flossenburg concentration camp, where his father, Andrii, was held during World War II.

On February 10, President Yushchenko attended the 43rd Munich Conference on Security Policy.

Source: *Press Office of Ukraine's President, RFE/RL Newline.*

Quotable notes

"Everything that is going on in this world today is a consequence of attempts to implement a unipolar concept of the world. And what is the result of that? Unilateral, often illegitimate actions have not resolved one single problem. On the contrary, they have caused new human tragedies and more tension."

"Today we are witnessing an almost unrestrained, excessive use of military force in international affairs, which is plunging the world into an abyss of new crises, one after another ... We see more and more disregard for the fundamental principles of international law."

"Some norms – in fact almost the entire legal system of one country, primarily the United States, of course – have overstepped their national borders and are being imposed on other countries essentially in all areas: in economic, political and humanitarian matters. Who is going to like that?"

– President Vladimir Putin of Russia, speaking at the 43rd annual Munich Conference on Security Policy on February 10, as reported by RFE/RL Newline.

"As an old Cold Warrior, one of yesterday's speeches almost filled me with nostalgia for a less complex time. Almost. Many of you have backgrounds in diplomacy or politics. I have, like your second speaker yesterday [Vladimir Putin], a starkly different background, a career in the spy business, and I guess old spies have a habit of blunt speaking. However, I've been to re-education camp."

"One Cold War was enough."

"We wonder ... about some Russian policies that seem to work against international stability, such as its arms transfers and its temptation to use energy resources for political coercion."

– U.S. Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, speaking on February 11 at the annual Munich Conference on Security Policy.

"Who should be worried that democracy and the rule of law is coming closer to their border? ... I can't hide my disappointment. I will not hide my disappointment [at Putin's speech]."

– NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, reacting to President Vladimir Putin's speech in Munich, as quoted by RFE/RL Newline.

Karpachova re-elected as human rights ombudsman, despite party allegiance

by Zenon Zawada
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament voted to re-elect Nina Karpachova as the country's ombudsman for human rights on February 8, despite appearances that she favors the Party of the Regions, an organization with an ongoing record of trampling the rights of Ukrainian citizens.

In a secret ballot vote, Ms. Karpachova's candidacy received the support of 255 national deputies, with full support from the three parliamentary factions that comprise the coalition government, as well as more than a dozen deputies from the opposition factions.

Criticized for disregarding her responsibility for political neutrality when joining the Party of the Regions in December 2005, Ms. Karpachova told reporters following

her re-election that she is leaving the party.

"In my opinion, undoubtedly the ombudsman is always supposed to be outside any party," said Ms. Karpachova, who moonlighted as the Verkhovna Rada's ombudsman for human rights while serving as a national deputy last year – violating both European standards and the Constitution of Ukraine.

In spinning her decision, Ms. Karpachova said she is rejoining the "opposition," which she said is what motivated her to join the Party of the Regions in the first place.

Such a statement is meaningless because Ms. Karpachova will be sacrificing her parliamentary seat to become ombudsman, and her loyalty to the Party of the Regions is undoubted by political observers.

Her approval signifies the regressive,

revanchist tone of the coalition government, critics said, which ignored pleas from European leaders to appoint a candidate without allegiances to any particular political force in Ukrainian politics.

"I think the world will simply whistle at the decision that we, God forbid, will make today on a human rights ombudsman who is exclusively running errands for a single political force, whose attitude towards freedom of speech, human rights and democracy we're all familiar with," said Yaroslav Kendzior, an Our Ukraine national deputy.

After independently serving as the ombudsman for human rights since April 1998, Ms. Karpachova shocked many by announcing in December 2005 that she was joining the Party of the Regions – a decision that tainted her reputation.

The Verkhovna Rada appoints the ombudsman, who is charged with repre-

senting the interests of the public by investigating and addressing human rights complaints reported by individual citizens.

Deputies from the Our Ukraine and Yulia Tymoshenko blocs gave 152 votes in favor of Yevhen Zakharov, chair of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union for Human Rights and co-chair of the Kharkiv Human Rights Protection Group.

Mr. Zakharov actively fought for human rights during the Soviet era, providing support to families of political prisoners, removing healthy people from psychiatric hospitals and helping to publish works by human rights activists.

After the secret ballot vote, Mr. Zakharov said he believes it was Tymoshenko Bloc national deputies, not Our Ukraine parliamentarians, who supported the Anti-Crisis Coalition in voting for Ms. Karpachova's candidacy.

President and first lady host reception for foreign diplomats

Press Office of Ukraine's President

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko and First Lady Kateryna Yushchenko hosted the annual reception for foreign diplomats at Kyiv's Mariinsky Palace on February 12.

Ambassadors, envoys, consuls and representatives of international organizations, such as the United Nations, the United Nations Children's Fund, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, the European Commission and the World Bank attended the event.

Also present were Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Acting Foreign Affairs Minister Volodymyr Ohryzko, National Security and Defense Council Secretary Vitalii Haiduk, Presidential Secretariat Chief of Staff Viktor Baloha, Cabinet ministers and members of Parliament.

In his speech to the gathering, President Yushchenko thanked the diplomats for contributing to Ukraine's "constructive dialogue" with other countries in 2006.

Outlining his priorities for 2007, Mr. Yushchenko said, "Ukraine is searching for ways to resolve the most difficult tasks in its development. We are shaping a culture of political compromise."

He reiterated his intention to form a commission to amend the country's Constitution. "We must effectively balance powers, ensure that the rights and freedoms of our citizens are observed, and forewarn society of any attempt at authoritarianism," he said.

Ukraine's priorities – a pluralistic democracy, a civil society, a knowledge-based economy and European choice – have not changed, the president said. Thus, the main challenge facing Ukraine is to boost its competitiveness.

As for Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic aspirations, Mr. Yushchenko said the country's most important objectives are to join the World Trade Organization and to start talks with the European Union to sign an

enhanced agreement designed to promote "political association and economic integration."

Speaking about relations with Russia, Mr. Yushchenko expressed confidence that the Ukrainian-Russian Commission would be "a powerful engine" to fill our cooperation with big projects. "We see our relations with all countries as strategic," he added.

Ukraine is also determined to reinforce its partnership with the United States of America to develop bilateral ties, and face global and regional challenges, Mr. Yushchenko stated.

"As Ukraine's president, I assure you that Ukraine will give up its policy of uncertainties resulting in a deficit of security. We will continue our practical dialogue with NATO in order to achieve security and stability," he said.

The president said Ukraine is quite active in the international arena as a member of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Council of Europe, adding, "We value our status as a reliable international partner that never stands aside global processes."

Ukraine will spare no effort to resolve the Transnistria conflict, Mr. Yushchenko said. It is also ready for constructive cooperation within the Commonwealth of Independent States and with the Group of Eight, and wants to develop regional projects like GUAM.

Building reliable partnerships and mutually beneficial cooperation with other countries and participation in international projects to face new challenges are among the country's major foreign priorities, the president said. "I believe our plans will materialize in all aspects. I count on your understanding and support," concluded Mr. Yushchenko.

During the reception, guests were able to view a photo display highlighting both the official and informal aspects of President Yushchenko's international activity, titled "President Yushchenko: An International Dimension," as well as an exhibit of Ukrainian art treasures.

Addressing investors...

(Continued from page 1)

Democracy, which is financed by Ukrainian business donations.

The dysfunctional system also enabled the government to persecute and abuse businessmen behind a smokescreen of tax enforcement, he added.



First Vice Prime Minister and Minister of Finance Mykola Azarov

More statements made by Mr. Azarov failed to reflect the reality of Ukrainian politics.

It was the Anti-Crisis Coalition, composed of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party of Ukraine and the Communist Party of Ukraine, that passed the necessary legislation for Ukraine's entry into the World Trade Organization (WTO), he said.

However, he neglected to mention that the Socialists and Communists firmly oppose Ukraine's WTO membership, and that the Party of the Regions received support from the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and Our Ukraine factions in passing the necessary legislation.

In fact, the Communists were notorious for violently disrupting and obstructing parliamentary sessions in order to prevent WTO bills from being passed in recent years.

Mr. Azarov characterized the 2007 budget as "absolutely realistic and pragmatic," in contrast to Ms. Tymoshenko's view that it is a "threat to Ukraine's statehood" and even a form of "genocide" against the Ukrainian people.

Mr. Azarov criticized the Orange governments for failing to fight corruption,

adding that only the Anti-Crisis Coalition is capable of effectively doing so.

"We aren't romantics who believe that campaigns along the lines of 'Clean Hands' and 'Contraband – Stop!' can fight against an obsolete phenomenon," Mr. Azarov said, referring to the prior government's programs to deal with corruption. "We have the task of significantly reducing corruption to that level which is considered acceptable in European countries."

Once again, Mr. Azarov neglected to mention that he was a member of Mr. Kuchma's Coordinating Committee to Fight Corruption and Organized Crime between 1999 and 2004 – a period during which the Ukrainian government gained global notoriety for its rampant corruption.

Mr. Azarov said the Ukrainian government will continue privatizing its enterprises, particularly national telephone service provider Ukrtelekom, assuring investors "maximum transparency and concreteness" in the process.

However, it was under the leadership of Mr. Yanukovich and Mr. Azarov that Ukraine's most valuable industrial asset, the Kryvorizhstal metallurgical plant, was sold to billionaires Rynat Akhmetov and Victor Pinchuk for \$804 million – a price considered highly undervalued.

A year later, under Mr. Yekhanurov's leadership and Ms. Tymoshenko's initiative, the same 93 percent stake in Kryvorizhstal stock was sold to the world's largest steelmaker, Mittal Steel Co., for \$4.8 billion, or five times the earlier price.

Perhaps it should come as no surprise that Mr. Akhmetov is reportedly interested in buying another strategic Ukrainian asset, this time Ukrtelekom, as reported on February 13 by Delo, a Ukrainian daily newspaper published in the Russian language.

Renaissance Capital Ukraine Chief Executive Officer Stephen Jennings also delivered eyebrow-raising remarks. He referred to Mr. Yanukovich as Ukraine's "new, more business-oriented prime minister," as compared to Mr. Yekhanurov.

Renaissance Capital is the leading independent investment banking firm operating in the former Soviet Union, with the strongest market position in each of its core business areas – equity capital markets, investment banking and debt capital markets.

It is part of the Renaissance Group, an independent group of finance and investment companies specializing in emerging markets. The company's headquarters are in Moscow, where it was founded in 1995; it has since built a significant presence in Kyiv.

Notice to publishers and authors

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

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

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Kyiv Mohyla...

(Continued from page 1)

because its president "had the courage, the idealism and the guts – but mainly guts – to make it work."

"There is no academic institution in Ukraine as good as Kyiv Mohyla," restored to its historical academic great-



Petro Mohyla Mykolaiv State University President Leonid Klymenko speaks at the Kyiv Mohyla Academy fund-raiser in Washington.

Ostroh Academy and the two Mykolayiv universities, whose presidents happened to be visiting Washington and came to the fund-raiser: Dr. Leonid Klymenko of the Petro Mohyla Mykolaiv State University and Dr. Viacheslav Shebanin of the Mykolaiv State Agricultural University. Accompanied by Prof. Oleksander Pronkevych of PMMSU, they were in the United States for meetings with representatives of educational institutions in Washington and later in Boston.

He pointed out that both of these universities developed into Ukrainian-language institutions within the totally Russian-language environment of Mykolaiv, a city that not too long ago was off limits to foreigners.

Dr. Briukhovetsky noted that every year there are about 100 Kyiv Mohyla students participating in exchange programs in the United States. Eight of them, he pointed out, who are pursuing graduate degrees in Washington-area universities were present in the hall.

Concluding his remarks, Dr. Briukhovetsky presented his university's highest award, the Petro Mohyla Medal to Ambassador Miller for his significant contributions to the revival and development of NUKMA since he headed the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv in the mid-1990s to the present, and to Andrew Bihun, who then was the Embassy's commercial attaché and now is the president of Global Trade Development Inc.

He also acknowledged the presence of yet another medal recipient in the audi-



National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky presents the Petro Mohyla Medal to Andrew Bihun.

ence, Dr. Marta Bohachevsky-Chomiak, who returned in December from Kyiv, where for seven years she was the director of the U.S. Fulbright academic exchange program office.

Also addressing the event was Minister-Counselor Olexander Aleksandrovych, of the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington, who spoke in behalf of Ambassador Oleh Shamshur.

In her opening remarks, Ms. Farion also noted the presence of a number of other prominent guests in the audience, among them America's first ambassador to Kazakhstan, William Courtney, and his wife, Laryssa Courtney, who founded the Cultural Fund of The Washington Group of Ukrainian Professionals; Ukrainian Congress Committee of America President Michael Sawkiw Jr.; Action Ukraine Reports Editor Morgan Williams; and Federal Judge Bohdan Futey.

She expressed a special thanks to St. Andrew's parish rector, the Rev. Volodymyr Steliac, and the head of the parish council, Valentyn Zabijaka, for hosting the event.

While in the Washington area, Dr. Briukhovetsky had meetings with representatives of educational institutions, including Georgetown University, where

he discussed the possibility of future cooperation and exchanges with its School of Foreign Service. In his remarks at the fund-raiser, he noted also that while in the United States he will be traveling to the San Francisco area, where he expects to sign a cooperation agreement with Stanford University.

According to Ms. Farion, the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America not only raises funds for the needs of the University in Kyiv; it also provides assistance to NUKMA professors and students teaching and studying in the United States and helps prepare American scholars going to NUKMA.

During his remarks at the fund-raiser, Dr. Briukhovetsky quoted the Russian writer Maxim Gorky, who, when asked why he always tried to help struggling young writers, replied:

"The talented need support; those without talent will make it on their own."

Tax-deductible contributions to the Kyiv Mohyla Foundation of America may be mailed to P.O. Box 46009, Chicago, IL 60646-0009.

All photos in this series by Yaro Bihun.



Kyiv Mohyla Academy students now pursuing graduate degrees in Washington-area universities with Viacheslav Briukhovetsky.

ness figuratively and literally on the old ruins that Dr. Briukhovetsky managed to wrest from the Ukrainian Navy, he said.

"Most importantly, he has put together a faculty, made a place for the best students in Ukraine, and he has given a vision of what Ukraine can be in the future," Ambassador Miller said. The students of his university, he added, will be the future leaders of Ukraine.

"Ukraine has a number of heroes, but President Briukhovetsky is a genuine hero, who has lived by his principles (and) never deviated from them," said the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine.

Dr. Briukhovetsky touched on the expectations coming out of the Orange Revolution and cautioned patience. Only 15 years have passed since Ukraine gained its independence.

"Important processes are going on," he said, repeating an earlier prediction that by 2015 the president of Ukraine may well be a graduate of Kyiv Mohyla. "We should be patient in our efforts."

He pointed out that during the post-independence period other noteworthy institutions of higher learning have also been reborn, citing among them the



Washington fund-raising dinner guests listen to NUKMA President Viacheslav Briukhovetsky.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The UNA's 113th anniversary

On February 22 the Ukrainian National Association celebrates the 113th anniversary of its founding back in 1894, when 10 brotherhoods banded together to form a fraternal benefit society that would look out for the welfare of Ukrainian immigrants to the United States – a segment of the U.S. population that was disregarded by mainstream American society. The association's first priority was to provide funds for the burial expenses of poor immigrants who worked in the dangerous conditions of Pennsylvania's coal mines and to provide some measure of financial assistance to the families of the deceased. But that was just the beginning.

The UNA's founding was the realization of the historic editorial in Svoboda of November 1, 1893: "Ukrainians scattered across this land need a national organization, namely such a brotherhood, such a national union that would embrace each and every Ukrainian no matter where he lives. ...in unity there is strength, and it is not easily defeated. ..."

Soon the new organization was involved in caring for all aspects of its members' lives, from education and culture, to sports and health, to political activity both in the U.S. and on the international scene. Through the years the UNA has extended its helping hand to its members, supported countless Ukrainian causes, and changed with the times to meet the needs of our community.

Perhaps the UNA's best-known fraternal benefits are its two newspapers: Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. Then there is its resort, Soyuzivka, that serves all segments of our community as a venue for cultural/educational events, summer camps, reunions, weddings, conferences, etc. The UNA Scholarship Program provides assistance to young members – for 2006-2007 it awarded \$20,275 in scholarships to 94 students throughout North America. And, the UNA continues to support causes near and dear to the hearts of its members, whether that happens to be education in Ukraine, medical assistance for an individual member, support for youth programs, or sponsorship of sports events. The causes are as varied as the UNA's members.

Now into its 12th decade, the UNA remains true to its founding principles as expressed in its modern-day mission statement: "to promote the principles of fraternalism; to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American, and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and to provide quality financial services and products to its members."

Just how does the UNA accomplish this? Again, this is clearly stated in its mission statement: "As a fraternal insurance society the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community."

And that, Dear Readers, is where you come in. The UNA, with its long and illustrious history of service, is a membership-based organization. The more dues-paying members it has, the more it can do for our community. It is an organization worthy of support through your membership.

Long may the UNA serve the Ukrainian community, the Ukrainian diaspora and the Ukrainian nation! Mnohaya Lita!

Feb.
22
1969

Turning the pages back...

Thirty-eight years ago, The Ukrainian Weekly reported on the festive observances of the 75th anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian National Association. On February 22, 1969, over 600 members of the Ukrainian community from the

United States and Canada gathered at the Commodore Hotel (currently the Grand Hyatt) to recognize the achievements of the largest Ukrainian fraternal benefit society in the world, which was founded on that exact date 75 years earlier in Shamokin, Pa., by a small group of Ukrainian pioneers and clergymen.

Patricia Reilly Hitt, assistant secretary of health, education and welfare, read a message by President Richard M. Nixon to the UNA, which read: "It is organizations such as your Ukrainian National Association which help most significantly in the preservation of our freedom at home and provide hope for those millions behind the Iron Curtain, including the 46-million Ukrainian nation, who are deprived of their national freedom and are aspiring for their rights as free men to be restored in the days ahead."

Cardinal Josyf Slipyj, who was in Rome at the time, called for a "united effort of all Ukrainians in America for the good of our people and our Church."

Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the U.S., who celebrated his 66th birthday on the previous Sunday, urged "further development, greater progress in the preservation of our Ukrainian culture with all its religious and civic traditions."

Canadian Sen. Paul Zuyk, the highest ranking public official of Ukrainian descent in the North America, praised the UNA for its role in establishing bases of Ukrainian organized life on the North American continent and "in preserving the Ukrainian heritage, fostering unity and supporting the cause of Ukraine's liberation."

In his opening remarks, UNA Supreme President Joseph Lesawyer called for a rededication "to combat inequities and evils that exist in our countries and in the world, so that all men will live and prosper as brothers."

The last speaker of the evening was Prof. Omeljan Pritsak, chairman of the Ukrainian Studies Committee at Harvard University, who acknowledged the great contribution of the UNA and its newspapers toward the establishment of the first chair of Ukrainian studies at Harvard.

A benediction was offered to conclude the festivities by the Rt. Rev. Artemiy Selepyna of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church.

Other organizations represented at the banquet included the Ukrainian Workingman's (Fraternal) Association, the Providence Association of Ukrainian Catholics, the National Aid Association and the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

Source: "Banquet in New York Attended by over 600," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, March 1, 1969.

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

Where does Yushchenko dwell?

Dear Editor:

Winston Churchill is making a huge come back lately; U.S. Sen. Christopher Dodd recently quoted Churchill before the Foreign Relations Committee. The Financial Times (January 13-14 weekend edition) picked up the same quotation and featured it in an article. It is very wise advice that every politician ought to recite like a mantra: "There is no worse mistake in public leadership than to hold out false hopes soon to be swept away."

One could only wish that President Viktor Yushchenko had read some of Churchill's writings, because if he ever did, he might not have been where he is now. The president's party, Our Ukraine, has about 14 percent in Parliament, which reflects Mr. Yushchenko's own deplorable rating that has nowhere to go now but down.

As expected, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich had no intention of following the Westward-leaning "Universal" that he signed a few months ago. Prospects of NATO membership are fading away, double-digit inflation is decimating the average person's salaries or pensions, Ukraine was rated a miserable 125th (below even the level of Pakistan, Burkina Faso and Yemen, in terms of distribution of global economic freedom) out of 165 countries surveyed by the Heritage Foundation and the Wall Street Journal, and birth rates are still in decline.

The hopes of most ordinary Ukrainians who voted for Mr. Yushchenko have evaporated because the president failed to fulfill the promises he made during the Orange Revolution and has sunk the country further into poverty and rule by corrupt oligarchs. In other words, he held out false hopes, of which Churchill was so descriptive.

As a result of broken promises, Mr. Yushchenko is no longer wanted by anybody in the country. The wisest thing he could do now is admit that he has completely failed his electorate and go back to his favorite activity which is rumored to be bee-keeping.

I personally would be surprised if Mr. Yushchenko could hold out until the end of his first, and most likely only, term as president for a few simple reasons: the people of Ukraine no longer want him; new polls estimate that his current approval rating is about or even below 10 percent; Mr. Yanukovich wants to transform his prime minister's seat into the No. 1 position in the country; Yulia Tymoshenko wants pre-term elections; Yurii Lutsenko also is aiming high.

Thus, the natural question is this: Who wants Mr. Yushchenko to continue to be in charge? Who will support a president who is wishy-washy, flops easily before his former opponents from Donetsk, dismisses his former allies from key positions, faces a very unruly Parliament and, most importantly, no longer has the support of his electorate? Perhaps, the answer is found once again by reading Churchill: "People face peril or misfortune with fortitude and buoyancy, but they bitterly resent being deceived or finding that those responsible for their affairs are themselves dwelling in a fool's paradise."

Where, then, does Mr. Yushchenko dwell?

Alex Kozhushchenko
Wilmington, Del.

We welcome your opinion

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

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

Please note: THE LENGTH OF LETTERS CANNOT EXCEED 500 WORDS.

The Ukrainian Weekly's 2006 issues online

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – As of February 22, the full texts of the 2006 issues of The Ukrainian Weekly will be available online at www.ukrweekly.com, the newspaper's official website.

The new addition is being unveiled, as has become tradition, on the anniversary of the founding of the Ukrainian National Association, the fraternal benefit society founded in 1894 that publishes The Weekly.

The 53 issues published in 2006 include 1,849 articles. Thus, The Weekly's website now contains 20,189 full-text articles.

Unveiled in August 1998, The Weekly's official website – called The Ukrainian Weekly Archive – is dedicat-

ed to archival materials published in the newspaper since its founding in 1933. It includes the full texts of articles published from 1996 through 2005, as well as articles from a variety of special issues published through the newspaper's more than 73 years of service to the Ukrainian community.

In addition, excerpts of the top news stories published each week during the current year are available on The Weekly's website.

The site is searchable. Readers may click on a year or the "Special Issues" section and enter their search terms. The Weekly index also may be searched (although the search is made only of the table of contents, not full texts of articles).

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PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



Aldridge and Shevchenko: an improbable friendship

February is Black History Month and March is when Ukrainians honor Taras Shevchenko. And so, in observance of both, allow me to reflect on the improbable friendship of an African American actor, Ira Aldridge, and the greatest of all Ukrainians.

The two met in November 1858 in Russia's imperial capital, St. Petersburg, just as the nights were getting longer. Shevchenko, who had only recently been released from more than 10 years in exile, attended Aldridge's opening performance of "Othello" and was deeply impressed, writing to a friend about "the African actor who performs miracles on stage."

Aldridge and Shevchenko soon became friends, linked by their mutual abhorrence of slavery and the oppression of their respective peoples, virtually all of whom were slaves. Of the two, ironically, only Shevchenko had actually been one himself. Aldridge was born in New York City in 1807, the son of free blacks – his father was a minister. As a boy, Aldridge attended the exclusive Afro-American Free School, where he developed a love for the theater.

Shevchenko, seven years younger than Aldridge, was born in a remote village south of Kyiv. As the son of serfs, he became the property of Paul Engelhardt, who owned the village and surrounding lands. Orphaned at an early age, Shevchenko lived a homeless existence until Engelhardt finally brought him in as a houseboy. Impressed by the young man's intelligence and artistic ability, Engelhardt took him on an extended trip that ended up in St. Petersburg. There a group of displaced Ukrainians and Russian intellectuals, astounded by the multi-talented slave, arranged to buy him his freedom. He was 24 years old.

Supporting himself as a professional artist, Shevchenko began writing wonderfully lyrical poetry that spoke to the heart of Ukrainians' psyche – their folklore, history and aspirations. In a brilliant series – circulated privately in manuscript-form only, he expressed outrage that the vast majority of his countrymen did not enjoy the freedom he had so miraculously received and called for the overthrow of an unjust system.

Betrayed by an informant, Shevchenko's poems led to his arrest and subsequent sentence to serve as a common soldier on the shores of the Caspian and Aral seas, 750 miles from Kyiv and 1,000 miles from St. Petersburg – it might as well have been on the far side of the moon. After 10 years and only with the death of Tsar Nicholas I was Shevchenko allowed to return to St. Petersburg. Ukraine was off limits.

Aldridge's path to St. Petersburg was also difficult, if not quite as arduous. In pre-Civil War America, it was impossible for an African American to have a career on the stage, so at 18 Aldridge emigrated to the British Isles and quickly asserted himself in the London theater, appearing as a suffering slave or a villainous figure of dark complexion. He performed Shakespeare's "Othello" countless times. He also developed a character he called Mungo. In an article in the African American Review, Bernth Lindfors described it as "almost a prototype of the blackface minstrel ... a humorous buffoon, singing and speaking in black dialect." Aldridge also applied white

make-up so he could play roles like Richard III and King Lear.

London critics reacted with hostility and racism. One reviewer complained about Aldridge's pronunciation of English, which he attributed to "the shape of his lips." Another was revolted to see white actresses "pawed about on stage by a black man." Yet another was struck by "the manifest incongruity of a black Hamlet, Macbeth, Shylock, etc." And so, effectively blocked from working the London stage, Aldridge toured the hinterlands of Ireland and Scotland. Finally, after seven years, he left Britain and started touring Europe: Brussels, Munich, Berlin, Vienna, Prague, Budapest and ultimately St. Petersburg, where he became one of the highest paid actors in the world. And that's when he met Shevchenko.

For several months, Shevchenko attended all of Aldridge's performances and the two often met to share a bottle, sing songs of their respective peoples, discuss art and no doubt social issues, especially slavery.

The friendship was short-lived. After several months, the actor moved on to other cities, including Kyiv, Kharkiv, Odesa and Zhytomyr. Still touring, he died in Poland in 1867. As for Shevchenko, he died in March 1861, just weeks after the abolition of serfdom in the Russian Empire. In America, slavery was not completely abolished until the defeat of the Confederacy and passage of the 13th Amendment in 1865.

As it turned out, true freedom did not come for Ukrainians or American blacks for more than a century. Viewing language as the vessel for national consciousness, Russian authorities in 1863 declared Ukrainian did not exist and then banned it, just to make sure. Horrifically, slavery returned in the 20th century in the form of collective farms, the gulag and forced labor in Nazi Germany.

As for African Americans, they were subjugated by Jim Crow laws, Ku Klux Klan terrorism and segregation. Only with the Civil Rights Movement in the 1950s and 1960s, were the descendants of slaves able to claim their right to equality and opportunity – something other Americans took for granted, including the immigrant writing this column.

In an era when all but a handful of American blacks were slaves, Ira Aldridge achieved success against great odds and on his own terms, but now he's just a footnote in history.

His friend, Taras Shevchenko, on the other hand, became a figure of major historical significance, inspiring generations of his countrymen to struggle for freedom and independence against the Tsar, Nazis and Communists. Today, he's honored by scores of monuments throughout the world; his image circulated on postage stamps and currency; his poetry published in dozens of languages and millions of copies; his paintings and drawings reproduced in countless publications.

Among those, I suggest you check out a pencil drawing he did on December 25, 1858, of Ira Aldridge, memento to an improbable friendship (<http://www.infoukes.com/shevchenkomuseum/art.htm>).

Andrew Fedynsky's e-mail address is fedynsky@stratos.net.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Winning in Chicago

When it comes to political representation, Chicagoland Ukrainians have been fortunate. Our community has had a state senator (Walter Dudycz) and two state representatives (Boris Antonovych and Myron Kulas).

Unfortunately, we've never had an alderman to represent the Ukrainian Village section of Chicago. Fortunately, that may change on February 27. Catherine A. Zaryczny, a dynamic young Ukrainian American attorney, has challenged Ted Matlak, the incumbent in the 32nd Ward.

Ms. Zaryczny has an impeccable resume. She majored in English and political science at Loyola University and earned a law degree from DePaul University. Asked by Chicago Journal staff writer Timothy Inkleberger what qualifies her to run for alderman, she answered: "I have a background in business management ... I'm a corporate counsel, I'm a fiscal conservative. I have the business and industry expertise to ask the tough questions. I've been ferreting out fraud, mismanagement, over-billing and graft for all the companies I've worked for, and I would like to do the same for the people of this ward." Among the cases Ms. Zaryczny worked on was the McDonald's Monopoly game, in which alleged fraud and theft was involved the distribution of the game pieces.

It's an uphill battle for Ms. Zaryczny, who is bucking the legendary Daley machine, perhaps the strongest and best organized political organization in the country. Ms. Zaryczny is not intimidated. On January 25 she was interviewed on a local television station. Hard-hitting, she accused Mr. Matlak of being out of touch with the ward which, she has alleged, has the second lowest voter turnout in the city. Her TV performance was flawless.

When it comes to political corruption, Illinois takes a back seat to no state. Two former Democratic governors spent time in prison. Not to be outdone, Republicans now have a former governor behind bars.

Nor are Chicago aldermen strangers to corruption. Four former aldermen, convicted felons who spent time in jail for accepting bribes, are openly running for office again. The Chicago Board of Elections has ruled that it's unconstitutional to prevent them from running locally, especially since felons, according to the state constitution, can run for state office. Admittedly corrupt Chicago Alderman Paddy Bauler was right in 1955 when he said, "Chicago ain't ready for reform."

If elected, Ms. Zaryczny plans to tackle shoddy rehab projects in the 32nd Ward. "Spot zoning is essentially the way an alderman, such as Alderman Andrew Matlak, can go under the radar so to speak and change the entire character of the neighborhood and completely ignore existing zoning laws," she told the Chicago Journal. "Unfortunately, the term developer has become a bad word in the 32nd Ward recently."

Asked what she would do to solve the problem, Attorney Zaryczny was adamant. "A strong alderman would not oppose development for the sake of opposing it but would eradicate the current system of secret handshakes and closed-door arrangements ... I would increase the amount of bond money

developers post to ensure adequate remedies in case of defective construction. I would also have truly publicized hearings regarding any changes so that anyone affected by it would have ample notice."

Like many wards in Chicago, the 32nd is multi-ethnic. "I understand and respect this community," Ms. Zaryczny told the Chicago Journal. "I'm a lifetime resident. I went to school here. I have deep roots in this community ... I also speak the languages that are spoken here: Polish,



Catherine Zaryczny, aldermanic candidate, 32nd Ward, Chicago.

Ukrainian, German, Russian, Italian, and I've been learning Arabic. As a first-generation American, I've been living the American dream. My parents and grandparents were European refugees. They arrived in this community penniless, homeless and not speaking a word of English. This community helped them when they had no voice in the City Council, and sometimes things do run full circle."

Way back in 1964, your columnist was a Republican precinct captain in the 32nd Ward. Believe it or not, Lesia and I cut our honeymoon short in order to campaign for GOP presidential candidate Barry Goldwater. We put up campaign posters and distributed campaign literature. By election day, the posters were torn down and we were told to remove our car from the polling place because we had a Goldwater bumper sticker. I do believe I was the last Republican precinct captain to ever set foot in Chicago's 32nd Ward.

Ms. Zaryczny is wiser than I was. She is a Democrat running in a Democratic primary. She's been campaigning mightily, going door to door, convincing voters of her sincerity. It hasn't been easy, and I wish her well. With her zeal and determination, she will be an asset to the Democratic Party. She will probably be an oddity in the Chicago City Council: a qualified, talented and honest politician working on behalf of her constituents.

The voters of Chicago's 32nd Ward have an outstanding candidate in Catherine Zaryczny, a woman who is contributing to the political lore of Chicago's Ukrainian community.

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Notes from Ukraine

Taras Kuzio's blog

January 31

Tarasyuk goes. What remains?

Borys Tarasyuk's resignation as foreign affairs minister on Tuesday (January 30) sends many signals to the outside world as well as domestically. As I wrote last week in the Eurasia Daily Monitor, the battle for power between President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich has reached into the dangerous field of the security forces.

Mr. Tarasyuk was removed in early December on the eve of Mr. Yanukovich's visit to the U.S.A. This move by the Anti-Crisis Coalition was a strange backdrop to Mr. Yanukovich's carefully choreographed visit organized by his American public relations advisers. Presumably, the leadership of the Anti-Crisis Coalition, including Mr. Yanukovich himself, did not care how Mr. Tarasyuk's unconstitutional dismissal by Parliament would be seen in Washington, and more broadly in the West.

After Mr. Tarasyuk's dismissal he was repeatedly humiliated by not being permitted to attend Cabinet of Ministers meetings. The most disconcerting step occurred a week ago when the Yanukovich government cut off funds to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Such a step was unprecedented in international affairs and further damaged Ukraine's international reputation. Following this step, senior Western leaders and ambassadors began to ask: Who is in charge in Ukraine?

Mr. Tarasyuk's dismissal answered this question: it is Prime Minister Yanukovich.

The Anti-Crisis coalition and Mr. Yanukovich have obtained what they wanted: the dismissal of the pro-Western Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasyuk.

This sounds all too similar to October 2000 when Mr. Tarasyuk was also dismissed. Both then, and today, Mr. Tarasyuk's dismissal was in the interests of Russia, whose leader lobbied for this staunch defender of Ukraine's Euro-Atlantic integration to be removed. On the eve of Mr. Yanukovich's visit to the U.S. he visited Moscow on an unexplained visit and without prior coordination with the Foreign Affairs Ministry. One wonders what they discussed in Moscow over vodka and "zakuski."

Following the resignation of Minister Tarasyuk, Ukraine's foreign policy is set to fully return to the multi-vectorism of the Kuchma era. This means a return to constant vacillation and deception. Furthermore, Mr. Yanukovich has brought back holdovers from the Kuchma era to assist him in this.

What of President Yushchenko's fate? In the U.S., presidents whose ratings have dropped below 30 percent are seen as such. It has taken Yushchenko, who has ratings of only 6 to 7 percent, only two years to reach the same low support that it took Kuchma seven or eight years to reach in his second term. A second term is simply out of the question for Mr. Yushchenko.

Mr. Yushchenko's low popularity is a consequence of his inability to fight back and to be constantly on the retreat in the face of the Party of the Regions

onslaught. As Ilko Kucheriv, head of the Kyiv-based Democratic Initiatives NGO, said to me in Washington recently, "vin nichoho ne robyt" (he's not doing anything) – apart from, that is, yet another roundtable on February 14.

As Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc (YTB) representatives said today in Washington, they will be there only in terms of symbols as that day is Valentine's Day and the bloc's symbol is a red heart.

If he continues to not fight back, or to not dismiss Parliament, by the next election cycle in 2009-2011 the country will have de facto become a parliamentary republic. Think of how Ukraine looks after five months of Yanukovich in office, and then close your eyes and think about how the country will look in 50 months when the next elections will be held.

Mr. Tarasyuk's only mistake was to remain as head of a political party (Rukh) which followed Our Ukraine, of which it is a constituent part, in going into opposition to the Anti-Crisis Coalition. Even a Ukrainian Kozak dancer would find it difficult to dance around the paradox of being a member of a government that you oppose.

But, I suspect that was more of an excuse than the real reason for this crisis.

February 6 Orange opposition gets together, again

The signing of an agreement on February 6 by Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc to work together, is of course, an important statement, in of itself (www.razom.org.ua). But, it has been a long time in coming as Our Ukraine went into official opposition five months ago.

Why has it taken so long to draft an agreement that is already cracking at the

seams??

The reasons lie with both Our Ukraine and President Viktor Yushchenko, rather than with the Tymoshenko bloc. Our Ukraine-2006 is a very different bloc from Our Ukraine-2002. What happened in the ensuing four years was that the business group took over Our Ukraine and most national democrats left. The twin paradoxes of Our Ukraine-2006 are that it firstly received 10 percent less support when its honorary chairman Mr. Yushchenko was president than when Leonid Kuchma was president; and, secondly, that national democratic parties deserted their president's party when he was president.

Our Ukraine-2006 is a bloc that has become, like the Party of the Regions, an ideologically amorphous shell. Our Ukraine-2002 had a clear center-right, pro-reform, national democratic profile.

Three problems that exist in Our Ukraine-2006 make me pessimistic about the new opposition's unity. Firstly, as Yulia Tymoshenko said in an Ukrayinska Pravda interview late last year, Our Ukraine's relationship with the opposition is like a patient standing outside a dentist's clinic, unsure of whether to enter or not. Our Ukraine's business wing just finds it impossible to go into opposition to the authorities.

Anatolii Kinakh is a clear example of this. Tymoshenko Bloc deputy Hryhorii Nemiria described him as "Kuchma-Chanel" (or "Kuchma-Lite" to Americans). Mr. Kinakh was the interim prime minister between Mr. Yushchenko and Viktor Yanukovich.

Secondly, most of the five parties that make up Our Ukraine-2006 are virtual parties. Not only Kinakh's Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs but also the Congress of Ukrainian Nationalists

(Continued on page 15)



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Cultural studies: An American student in a Ukrainian master's program

by Larissa Babij

Everyone said the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy (NUKMA) was the best in Ukraine. Considering my foreign-learned Ukrainian and weak Russian, I was reassured by the fact that its working languages are both Ukrainian and English.

After a year of researching architecture in Kyiv, I wasn't ready to leave the city. I had wanted to continue my education at the master's level for some time since graduating from Barnard College (Columbia University) and wondered if I couldn't combine my two desires by studying in Kyiv.

Commencing my master's program in cultural studies last fall (2006), I was nervous and excited, and in for a huge culture shock.

Though I was one of two Americans in the program, at first I felt like an exotic creature on display. I must admit that I, too, was observing my surroundings with the detached gaze of an anthropologist. With the passing of time, my fellow students and I began to see each other as friends rather than representative artifacts of alien cultures.

The students would get shy about speaking English, but I soon discovered that, on the whole, their command of the language is outstanding. I was equally impressed with their capacity to remember facts and articulate what they learned with poise and confidence. My difficulties expressing myself in seminars came not only from less-than-perfect mastery of Ukrainian, but also from being unprepared by my American education for formal public speaking.

American institutions take care to make all the circumstances of an academic campus – from quality of dorms and dining halls to easy access to information – as comfortable as possible. In contrast, European professors prefer to send students on an arduous quest for information. There is a teasing gleam in their eye when they assign readings with the caveat "... if you can find it."

So the group bands together and canvases all possible sources for a particular reading assignment as if seeking the Holy Grail. We share books, photocopies, files scanned or found online, anything



Larissa Babij

we can get our hands on. In place of cut-throat competition there is a division of labor; cooperation is valued as much as personal success.

I soon discovered that the research library in the early 18th century academic campus was my favorite place to study. With bookshelves wrapping the walls from floor to very high ceiling and rows of long parallel tables with chairs facing only in one direction to eliminate social distractions, the library is a shrine to knowledge.

However, I ran into countless problems using the library, based on the incongruity of my expectations (coming from one of the United States' most renowned and well-endowed universities) and the reality of an institution that has actually made remarkable progress in eschewing the inefficient conventions of the Soviet past.

NUKMA has done a tremendous amount of work over the last 15 years to offer its students the broadest research possibilities. Its libraries hold reputable

collections of scholarly literature in many languages, including new Ukrainian translations of important international thinkers and plenty of works in English.

A user-friendly electronic catalogue – one of the most sophisticated in Ukraine – allows students to search the collections and request books via computer. When all the elements of the system work accordingly (seldom the norm), you can pick up your books at circulation an hour later.

But the institution still does not trust its student population to browse the stacks or return borrowed materials. The fine systems to which I was accustomed in the U.S. are uncommon in NUKMA's libraries. Instead, students are simply not allowed to check books out until reaching the mature rank of master's candidate.

It turns out that most of my fellow graduate students hardly use the library at all. Some buy the latest releases at Kyiv's book market, and there is a sea of international scholarly literature in Russian translation available on the Internet.

All over the world, the library as an institution is changing. As with other technologies, perhaps Ukrainian libraries will skip the intermediary stages of building up formidable print collections and simply embrace and develop new virtual information systems. In addition to photocopy machines, NUKMA could use more computers and wider student accessibility, especially from offsite, to electronic databases and search engines.

While I met many obstacles in my first trimester studying at NUKMA, the quality of knowledge that I gained went far beyond facts and figures: I received a vibrant portrait of Ukrainian student life. NUKMA students have some of the best resources in the country and I couldn't point to a group of people better suited to take advantage of them.

I'm grateful to the bright, helpful people on whom I can depend and for the experience that is constantly teaching me how to get the most out of the vast pool of resources – continually growing – before me.

Dnipropetrovsk native awarded Rotary's world peace fellowship

Rotary International

EVANSTON, Ill. – Amid today's headlines of war, suicide bombings and violent crime, signs of peace are especially welcome.

Vadim Ostrovsky of Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine, has decided to make a career of working toward peace on earth, and Rotary International is helping by awarding him a world peace fellowship.

Mr. Ostrovsky, 26, says that because of current world events, including war and instability, he felt the call of duty to change the world for the better. "It is not enough to talk or even believe in peace. One must actively pursue it," said Mr. Ostrovsky, who started his peace fellowship at the University of Queensland in Brisbane, Australia, in 2005.

The fellowship allows him to earn a masters degree in peacemaking and conflict resolution at one of seven Rotary Centers for International Studies around the world. Centers are located at leading universities in France, the United Kingdom, the United States, Japan, Argentina and Australia.

Launched in 2002, this innovative approach to world peace is a two-year program aimed at helping the next gener-

ation of government officials, diplomats and humanitarian leaders develop the skills needed to reduce the threat of war and violence worldwide.

"My goal in life is to attempt to change as many people's lives as I possibly can. And, since the lives of many depend on the policies, whether domestic or international, I see myself gravitating towards the world of policy-making," commented Mr. Ostrovsky, who came to the United States in 1997 to study.

After earning a bachelor's degree in global marketing management and management science (with minors in political science and American history) from Averett University in southern Virginia, Mr. Ostrovsky worked for a small American corporation as a global business development manager. Simultaneously, he worked as the executive director of ClickUkraine (<http://www.usukraine.org/clickUkraine.shtml>), a program he started in 2003 while interning at the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation in Washington.

The main focus of this independent grassroots project is to bring computers and basic computer literacy education to

(Continued on page 11)



Vadim Ostrovsky (right) of Dnipropetrovsk, a Rotary World Peace Fellow and founder of ClickUkraine, a grassroots initiative that brings computers and computer training to foster children in Ukraine.



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BOOK NOTES

Politics of national identity examined in book of essays

"Rebounding Identities: The Politics of Identity in Russia and Ukraine," edited by Dominique Arel and Blair A. Ruble, Woodrow Wilson Center Press: Washington, 2006, 384 pp., \$55 (hardcover).

Russia and Ukraine have been struggling with an intertwined identity crisis for centuries and, 15 years after the break-up of the Soviet Union, top scholars offer a thorough critical analysis of the situation in the book titled "Rebounding Identities: The Politics of Identity in Russia and Ukraine."

This book of essays is the product of a series of workshops held in 2002 and 2003 at the Kennan Institute of the Woodrow Wilson International Center for Scholars that examined multicultural legacies in Russia and Ukraine. The introduction to the volume is by Dominique Arel of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa, and the conclusion is by Blair A. Ruble of the Kennan Institute.

Profiling the Russian Federation and the multiple ethnic groups that make up this vast country, Elise Guilano of the University of Miami presents the factors that have contributed to the "nationalist mobilization" in the republics, including Tatarstan, Chechnya, Sakha-Yakutia, Tuva and Bashkortostan, that threatened the disintegration of the Russian Federation, just as the Soviet Union was torn apart along ethnic lines.

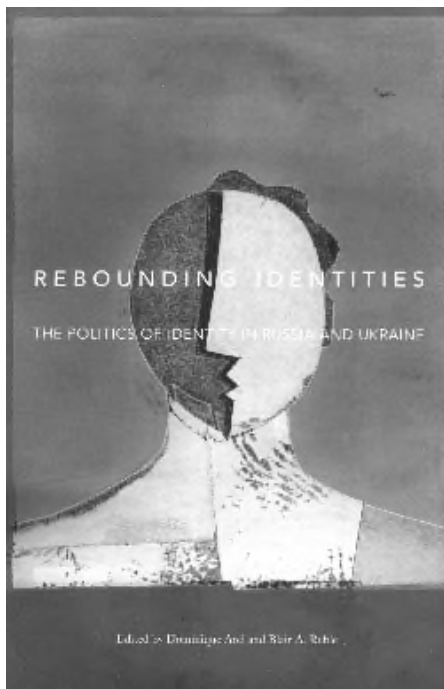
Dr. Guilano outlines the historical and economic institutions that have fostered the hierarchy of the republics from union republics to autonomous republics, to autonomous oblasts and okrugs. Other

ways that the Soviet system fostered a Russified identity, according to Dr. Guilano, were the institution of policies of "korenizatsiia" (indigenization) and the use of internal passports, which forced citizens to adopt nationalities approved by the state.

The creation of elites in the union republics of the centrally planned Soviet system allowed for the build-up of an intelligentsia in these republics that infuriated Moscow and directed resources toward the Central Asian republics. When economic conditions contracted in the 1980s, the infrastructure was in place to seek autonomy from Moscow.

According to Dr. Guilano, the ability of these republics, both union and autonomous, to be self-sustaining and requiring less assistance from Moscow was directly proportionate to the country's movement toward independence. Also, economic conditions that demonstrate modernity and industrialization gain more momentum for secession when key players feel that they will benefit personally from the move.

In explaining the reason nationalist movements failed in the Russian republics, one report cited by Dr. Guilano indicates that the success of a national movement was inversely related to the heterogeneity of the population, due to a lack of ability for mobilization. One conclusion is that the spatial dispersion of Russians in



strength throughout the bulk of the Russian Federation impedes separatism.

However, as Dr. Guilano points out, this cannot be used as an explanation, because exceptions such as Chechnya, where the majority of the ethnic population is Russian, proves this incorrect. Other examples include the fact that during the 1991 referendum for Ukrainian independence, in which over 90 percent of the population took part, ethnic Russians voted for independence as well.

A distinct cultural identity based on differences in religion, customs, language and history, according to the author, fuels a nationalist mobilization by those with a political agenda. Once these cultural identities are socially established, there is greater political motivation along ethnic lines. In addition the author also notes that the oppression and deportation of an ethnic group by the central authorities spur nationalist mobilization.

In another essay in the volume, Alexandra Hrycak of Reed College points to the revival of the Ukrainian language as an assertion of national consciousness. Both the acts of making Ukrainian the official language of Ukraine and making education in the Ukrainian language compulsory, demonstrates the state's commitment to the Ukrainian identity. Dr. Hrycak points to the shift away from Sovietized identities that blurred distinctions between a definitive Ukrainian or Russian identity.

The native language principle of education removed parental choice out of the equation and replaced it with one of national policy. This has not perpetuated conflicts along ethnic lines that have the potential to divide the country, but along political ones that remain in the background. Pro-Russian language forces have not attempted to change the policies adopted with the law from 1989 on Ukrainian language education.

Furthermore, according to Dr. Hrycak, the politicization of the language issue

loses momentum after election time, thus preventing separatism in Ukraine. In tracing the roots of the Ukrainian revival, which has its early beginnings in western Ukraine, Dr. Hrycak highlights the "Ukrainophile" movement of the mid-19th century, which conflicted with the idea of nationalism under the Russian and the Austro-Hungarian empires.

Following the native language principle, the Prosvita (Enlightenment) Society, a federation of civic organizations, began the first locally funded Ukrainian language education program in Ukraine in 1873. This allowed for the preservation of a base of national consciousness that would last to the present.

After the emancipation from serfdom in 1861, Ukrainian language study in eastern Ukraine was limited to Sunday school education, but these schools were shut down by officials who feared "Little Russian separatism." Further, these officials passed directives that prohibited any form of Ukrainian education in a policy that became known as Russification.

The Prosvita Society was dissolved in 1922 by the Soviet authorities, but by that time over 400,000 members had paved the way for Soviet Ukrainian educators to adopt the native language principle. Dr. Hrycak describes how the Ukrainian language experienced another revival in the 1920s as a result of popular unrest in the union republics. During this time of "nativization" or "Ukrainianization," the native language principle was reinstated where by party and government officials were commanded to respect the Ukrainian language and culture, and recruit Ukrainians into the Communist Party.

However, by 1933, this would come to an end and the entire educational system would be restructured. Dr. Hrycak chronicles the return of the native language principle in the 1980s, the current education policies in post-independence Ukraine and the public response to these policies.

Geared toward scholars but equally enriching for the layperson, this volume allows readers to gain a greater understanding of the situation in Russia and Ukraine.

Other topics covered by the contributing authors include: "Russian Islam" and religious multiculturalism (Katherine Graney); migration and associated tensions (Mikhail A. Alexseev); 19th century mapping practices in Ukraine (Steven J. Seegel); religion in Russia in the early 20th century (Paul W. Werth); post-Soviet nation-building and refugee protection (Oxana Shevel); the appeal of evangelicalism in Ukraine (Catherine Wanner); Soviet policies toward nationalities and assimilation (Dmitry Gorenburg); and the influence of the Tatar language revival (Helen M. Faller).

For more information, readers may log on to www.press.jhu.edu/books; write to Hopkins Fulfillment Service, P.O. Box 50370, Baltimore, MD 21211; phone 800-537-5487 or 410-516-6956; or fax 410-516-6998.



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NEW RELEASE: Scholarly journal focuses on Ukrainian literature and national identity

by Marta Tarnawsky

Mainstream Anglo-American journals publish occasional articles on Ukraine's politics, history, language and literature. To have a series of articles on a Ukrainian topic in one issue of a specific journal, however, is a rarity, indeed. There were but a few such occasions in recent history. The fall 1995 issue of *Slavic Review* devoted its pages to a discussion among several contributors of the provocative question: "Does Ukraine have a history?" Canadian *Slavonic Papers* gave its issue of June 1990 to a symposium on the poetry of Lina Kostenko. And now the *Slavic and East European Journal* presents in its Fall 2006 issue a scholarly forum on contemporary Ukrainian literature and national identity.

This series of articles is given an intriguing general title: "Mirrors, windows and maps: the topology of national identity in 20th century Ukrainian literature." The idea for such a scholarly forum developed from presentations at various national and international conferences sponsored by the Shevchenko Scientific Society of America and organized by the society's former president, Larissa Zaleska-Onyshkevych. It is Dr. Onyshkevych who needs to be credited with the present rare breakthrough, and she acts as the forum's guest editor in this issue of the *Slavic and East European Journal*.

Participants in this forum are Maria Zubrytska of Lviv National University in Ukraine, Dr. Onyshkevych of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New

York, Ola Hnatiuk of Warsaw University in Poland, Michael M. Naydan of Pennsylvania State University, Marko Pavlyshyn of Monash University in Australia, and Valerii Polkovsky of the University of Alberta in Canada.

Prof. Zubrytska provides a general introduction to this forum. She describes its primary focus as "an attempt to consider the socio-political and cultural aspects of the rich and multi-faceted transformations of national identity in Ukrainian culture," with national literature serving both as "a mirror of reality" in which one sees a reflection of oneself, and as a window, where one sees the world of others. The mirror/window metaphors explain the symbolic title of the forum and shed additional light on the search for identity in present-day Ukrainian culture.

Dr. Onyshkevych, in her paper, considers how "national or ethnic stereotypes and symbols manifest themselves in new Ukrainian drama." Having examined some 120 plays written in Ukrainian after 1990, Dr. Onyshkevych notes the absence of Soviet-era negative stereotypes, of xenophobia toward the West or toward ethnic minorities, and the presence of a frank acceptance or non-acceptance of individuals based on their own merit. She also finds more references to well-known Western individuals than to Russian or Soviet ones, and comments on the curious phenomenon where Ukrainian protagonists in the plays are often criticized more harshly than non-Ukrainians.

Ms. Hnatiuk calls the readers' attention to a debate among two schools of

present-day Ukrainian writers which resembles the debates held a hundred years ago between so-called "narodnyky" and "modernisty." Today it is the "nativists" versus the Westernizers, the so-called "Zhytomyr school" of Pashkovskiy, Danylenko and Medvid versus the "Stanyslaviv phenomenon" represented by such writers as Andrukhovych and Izdryk. The "nativists" stress traditional values, "the soul" and organic national culture, while the Westernizers are associated with European orientation, post-modernist style and rationalism.

Prof. Naydan's paper concentrates on the so-called Bu-Ba-Bu generation of Ukrainian writers. These young writers, who appeared on the literary scene as early as the late 1980s, created, according to Prof. Naydan, "a new sense of literary identity by breaking with the traditional icons of the Ukrainian past, by, in fact, playfully mocking them and by focusing on aesthetic freedom as their primary concern." In their subject-matter and their poetic language these young writers "broke both Soviet and nationalistic taboos" and introduced a "spirit of Rabelaisian carnival."

Mr. Naydan, who is well-known as a translator of literary texts from Ukrainian into English, illustrates his paper with excerpts of poetry by Viktor Neborak, Yuri Andrukhovych, Oleksander Irvanets and Nazar Honchar.

Prof. Pavlyshyn, though one of the most prominent Western scholars of Ukrainian literature, this time discusses not a literary but a socio-cultural phenomenon. Ruslana Lyzhychko, the singer from Ukraine who won the globally televised Eurovision Song Contest in 2004,

is given credit by Prof. Pavlyshyn of "conferring upon Ukrainian culture the dignity of presence in Europe and the world equally with the cultures of other modern nations." Prof. Pavlyshyn considers the music, the dance movements, the special effects and the words of Ruslana's song "Wild Dances" to be "rhetorically relevant" to Ukrainian cultural identity and analyzes them in considerable detail.

Dr. Polkovsky, a linguist, focuses on lexical changes in the contemporary Ukrainian language since independence. He has analyzed examples from the Ukrainian periodical press and books published in the period between 1991 and 2005, and calls attention to a wealth of new words and expressions, to the use of former clichés with a new ironic or humorous effect, to the growing role of allusions and puns, to the appearance of new word combinations and many lexical borrowings from English, as well as some tendency to create Ukrainian equivalents to international terms. The present day Ukrainian language, according to Dr. Polkovsky, "can adequately reflect societal changes on different levels, adjusting itself to the demands of the present time."

What is very unusual in this forum organized and edited by Dr. Onyshkevych for the *Slavic and East European Journal* is the fact that all scholarly papers, with the exception of the introductory remarks by Prof. Zubrytska, have in addition to the text of the article and its bibliography – an added summary of the paper – in the Ukrainian language. This must surely be a historical first for an Anglo-American Slavic journal.

Dnipropetrovsk...

(Continued from page 9)

foster children in his homeland. ClickUkraine has been largely supported by the Danville-Riverview Rotary Club (southern Virginia), the Dnipropetrovsk Rotary Club (eastern Ukraine) and the Samuel Huntington Fund in Massachusetts.

"Through ClickUkraine, I'm capable of affecting change in the lives of orphaned children. They are part of the population who are least protected from socio-economic injustices in Ukraine. However, there are millions of other people around the world who fare even worse, and they need help as well," Mr. Ostrovsky explained.

The peace fellows in his class, Mr. Ostrovsky noted, come from seven different countries, bringing their own experiences to the program. "Our class is so diverse. People come from places such as Uganda, Iceland, Japan, the United States, Indonesia, India, Argentina and Canada," he said. "That promotes the global thinking and impact they want."

Up to 70 Rotary World Peace Fellows are selected each year in a globally competitive selection process based on their professional and academic achievements. They come from 52 different countries and represent a wide array of academic and cultural backgrounds. Their interests and areas of expertise include public health, sustainable agriculture, international law, public policy, economic development, journalism and social justice.

As part of the fellowship, Mr. Ostrovsky interned this year in Egypt with the United Nations Development Program, where he worked with the regional HIV/AIDS program for Arab States. "This internship was very valuable. I learned about the field operations of the United Nations and saw how the organization is involved on the ground

level in changing the world for the better one step at a time," he said.

Efforts to foster international understanding and peace not only reflect Rotary's deepest conviction, but also an important part of its heritage. For example, the founding of the United Nations was highly influenced by Rotarian participation and Rotary still enjoys a special observer status at the U.N. Also, Unicef and several other international organizations were founded with the participation of Rotary. The Rotary Centers for International Studies represent an equally important investment in the future of peace.

"You have only to pick up a newspaper to realize how vitally important it is that our world leaders be skilled in the arts of conflict resolution and peaceful negotiation," said Luis Giay, chairman of The Rotary Foundation. "Everything we do through our Rotary clubs – from fighting poverty to eradicating polio – is intended ultimately to promote world peace. What better way to contribute to that effort than by helping to develop future world leaders committed to achieving peace and understanding."

Rotary is an organization of business and professional leaders united worldwide who provide humanitarian service and help to build goodwill and peace. Paul P. Harris founded the world's first service club in 1905 in Chicago. Today, 1.2 million Rotarians belong to some 32,000 Rotary clubs in nearly 170 countries worldwide. Seven hundred twenty-nine Ukrainian Rotary members from 41 clubs work on programs to combat issues ranging from poverty to health care, technology programs and vocational training.

Application for the Rotary World Peace Fellowship must be made through a local Rotary club. The deadline for the 2008-2010 class is July 1.

For more information readers may log on to: www.rotary.org/foundation/educational/amb_scho/centers/index.html

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EOE M/F/D/V

Gudziak speaks on Church and society in post-Orange Ukraine

by Peter Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – As part of the ongoing series of speakers sponsored by the Ukraine Study Group at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI), the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv, spoke on the topic of “Church and Society in Post-Orange Ukraine.” Father Gudziak, a Syracuse native, holds a doctorate in Slavic and Byzantine cultural and ecclesiastical history from Harvard (1992) and is also an alumnus of the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute.

Father Gudziak’s November 30, 2006, talk – the last of the fall semester – was drawn from research that he has been doing on the Church and religion in contemporary Ukrainian society. It focused on the re-emergence and rapid growth of the Church after the fall of the Soviet Union, the problems encountered under Presidents Leonid Kravchuk and Leonid Kuchma, the role that the Church played during the Orange Revolution in late 2004 and the changes that have occurred since then.

“The Communists attacked the Church immediately after they took over, and by February 1918 the Orthodox metropolitan of Kyiv had been killed. Within 10 years the hierarchical structures of all religious organizations in the country had been destroyed; all monasteries, seminaries, and religiously affiliated schools and publishing facilities had been eliminated; and more than 80 percent of all the clergy had been killed,” Father Gudziak pointed out.

“Although the ultimate goal of the Communists was the total elimination of religion, as an intermediate step they were content to totally marginalize the remnants of the Church in society,” Father Gudziak continued. “Religious expression was limited to specific rites within specific buildings. The Church was completely separated from society,



The Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak

and its functions and beliefs were mocked and primitivized.”

“With the possibility of war, Stalin and Metropolitan Sergei reached a modus vivendi that gave organized religion some visibility and a role in the preservation of the state,” Father Gudziak said. “With the end of the war and the ascendancy of Khrushchev, there was a renewed crackdown on religion and this continued almost up until the demise of the Soviet Union.”

“The 1990s saw the re-emergence of religion in Ukraine and throughout the lands of the former Soviet Union,” Father Gudziak noted. “Churches were full, new churches appeared everywhere, seminaries, convents and monasteries had more applicants than they could han-

dle. However, the legal status of the Church did not change. Religion was still excluded from public life, and the barriers remained between Church and society, between religion and science.”

“This all changed with the elections of 2004,” Father Gudziak added. “The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Moscow Patriarchate supported Viktor Yanukovich, and its hierarchy actively campaigned for him in Donetsk, Odesa and even in Kyiv. A number of its bishops even accompanied him on a visit to Mount Athos in Greece. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church – Kyiv Patriarchate supported Viktor Yushchenko, while the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church was split. The Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church officially refused to take sides, but included prayers for a fair election at the end of every liturgy, and more than half of its clergy participated in the events on the maidan [Independence Square]. Neither the Roman Catholic Church nor the various Protestant churches took direct stands, but were active in working for free and fair elections particularly in central and eastern Ukraine.”

“During the weeks in December on the maidan, church leaders were visible in society for the first time since the beginning of the 20th century,” Father Gudziak said. “Each day began with ecumenical prayer services, and senior representatives of the clergy were clearly visible with each candidate.”

“Unfortunately, the promise of the maidan has been largely unfulfilled. However, for the Churches, the picture has changed as a result of what happened. It is now accepted that religion and the Churches have a place in society, and a role and a function,” Father Gudziak pointed out. “There have been discussions about drafting new legislation recognizing this reality, and there

have also been discussions about introducing courses on morals and ethics, with particular reference to Christian morals and ethics, into the public schools of the country. And this will impact millions of children.”

“From various polls and surveys it is clear that the people of Ukraine look to the Churches for moral and social leadership. Religious leaders are more trusted than anyone else in the country. And this is in a country that is the most secularized in all of Europe,” Father Gudziak emphasized.

“Ukraine is a society with major problems,” Father Gudziak said. “The rate for abortions, AIDS and the use of drugs are the highest in Europe, and in many villages, particularly in western Ukraine, the majority of the working population has emigrated, leaving only the very young and the very old, who are supported by regular remittances from abroad. Unfortunately, the lack of parental supervision combined with relative availability of money has given rise to a whole new set of problems.”

“As a result of the Orange Revolution, the way has been cleared for the Churches to reach out to society,” Father Gudziak said. “The way that they do it will not only impact society but will also determine their own status for the foreseeable future.”

“The various Protestant denominations are leading the way in impacting society and confronting the major problems; the Greek-Catholics are rapidly beginning to develop their own outreach programs; while the various Orthodox Churches lag behind. Ironically, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the Moscow Patriarchate has few social programs yet it has the most intensive media outreach, the most up-to-date publications, and the most state-of-the-art websites,” Father Gudziak concluded.

McGill Ukrainian Students’ Association holds “Ukrainian Week 2007”

by Adriana Luhovy

MONTREAL – The McGill Ukrainian Students’ Association (MUSA) organized a series of events during their “McGill Ukrainian Week 2007” – a tradition that dates back to 1953 on McGill campus.

Among the varied weeklong events held on January 18-28 was a talk by Prof. Yarema Kelebay marking the 75th anniversary of the 1932-1933 Famine-Genocide titled, “Reflections on the Black Book of Communism”; a talk on trafficking in Ukraine with three guests from Ukraine coordinated by Halyna Zalucka from Toronto; a talk by Dr. Evhen Kaluzny titled “Spiritualism and Capitalism”; a pub night at McGill’s Gerts as a fund-raiser for “Help Us Help the Children”; the showing of the internment documentary “Freedom Had a Price;” and a wine and cheese reception with the Ukrainian Canadian Professional and Business Association (UCPBA) of Montreal.

Because of the successful projects organized last year by the revived Ukrainian club, MUSA was nominated as one of three best active clubs on McGill campus for 2006. Their hard work and achievements were recognized, and MUSA was given its own office space in the McGill Students’ Union Building and provided with a computer and server space for MUSA’s new website www.ssmu.ca/musa.

McGill University also now recognizes Ukrainian studies at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy in Kyiv as six-credit courses for McGill students, due to the efforts of the MUSA

president.

With financial support from the Montreal Ukrainian community, including individual and business card ads, a 20-page McGill Ukrainian Week 2007

booklet was printed, which included information on and photos of past student events and an article by Prof. Roman Serbyn on the famine-genocide.

Activities were organized by a dynam-

ic executive with Artem Luhovy, president; Roxanne Zalucky, vice-president; Jaroslaw Holowka, treasurer; as well as members Layla Shbat, Ksenia Yatsenko, Jesse Marynowycz, Nick Saldan, Christina Szuper, Michael Duchnay and George Diets.

The McGill Ukrainian Students’ Association has 125 members with students from Montreal, throughout Canada, the United States and Ukraine.

In the words of President Luhovy, “Students with a Ukrainian background, come and sign up at our annual registration table and life friendships are eventually forged through the events MUSA organizes throughout the year. We are also in contact with the Toronto Ukrainian Students’ Association and with them hope to revive the Ukrainian Canadian Students’ Union (SUSK), so all existing Ukrainian clubs across Canada could get to know each other, work together and have a presence on the various campuses.”

MUSA’s next project is on March 20 at the McGill Faculty Club and is organized with the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa, the McGill Department of Education and the UCPBA of Montreal. The guest speaker will be a British Ukrainian writer-journalist, who is presently at the Keenan Institute, Jaroslaw Koshiw. He is writing a book on the famous “Melnichenko tapes,” the recordings of President Leonid Kuchma, that created a major scandal in Ukraine.

For further information, readers may contact MUSA at 514-398-4400, ext. 09964.



Executive members of the McGill Ukrainian Students’ Association with President Artem Luhovy (front center).

Chervona Kalyna Plast fraternity blesses new flag in Ukraine

KYIV – December 3, 2006, was a very significant day in the history of the “Chervona Kalyna” fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. The Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Basilian Fathers in Kyiv was the site of the blessing of the new flag of the 5th unit of senior Plast members and the 23rd unit of young adult “plastuny” of Chervona Kalyna. The blessing was performed by the patriarch of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, Lubomyr Husar, in the presence of the fraternity's members, representatives of other Plast groups and invited guests.

Patriarch Husar is himself a member of the 5th unit of Chervona Kalyna. The flag is an exact copy of the original flag that was blessed 70 years ago by Father Josyf Slipyj, who became patriarch of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

The blessing of the flag took place after the holy liturgy. Patriarch Husar expressed his wish that future generations of faithful citizens, Ukrainian patriots and people of good will would be fostered. He also mentioned the importance of the flag, and with a calm and assured voice, expressed his happiness to have this opportunity. At the end of the ceremony, the faithful sang a “Prayer for Ukraine.”

The original flag of the Chervona Kalyna fraternity was blessed on April 27, 1930, by the Rev. Mitred Slipyj. The blessing took place on Mount Makivka in the Carpathian Mountains, which has its own significance in Ukrainian history.

During that first blessing, members of the fraternity took an oath on their new flag – “We will not bring shame to Ukraine” – and this phrase was embroidered on one side of the flag. The flag-bearer at the time was Mychajlo Potochniak. Upon returning from Makivka to Lviv the flag was given to the Museum of Shevchenko Scientific Society in Lviv for safekeeping. It is not known what happened to this flag, and to this day its whereabouts are unknown.

After members of Chervona Kalyna



Patriarch Lubomyr Husar with fellow members of the Chervona Kalyna fraternity of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization.

emigrated to the U.S. and other countries, it was decided to recreate the flag, after the design of Edward Kozak (EKO), a well-known Ukrainian artist and a member of Chervona Kalyna.

Another member, Oleksander Kot, who at the time resided in France, financed this project. The flag was executed by the Basilian Sisters in France, and Mr. Kot himself brought it to the U.S. for the blessing which was performed on September 2, 1962, at the Vovcha Tropa campground, during the 50th jubilee of Plast.

The flag-bearer this time was Ivan Luchehko, and the blessing was performed by Archbishop Joseph Schmondiuk immediately after the holy

liturgy. Hundreds of Plast members, representatives of the Plast leadership and other organizations witnessed this festive moment. Also present was president-in-exile of the Ukrainian National Rada Stepan Vytvyckyj.

Over 50 members of Chervona Kalyna swore on this second flag “never to bring shame to Ukraine.” Over the years the flag became worn and discolored and a decision was made to create an exact copy yet again.

And so, this past December 3, 2006, the Plast fraternity witnessed another great moment in its 80-year history, when a younger generation of Chervona Kalyna members in Ukraine participated in the blessing of this new flag. It is

hoped that this flag will have the same meaning for this new generation and that they will proudly carry it high, marching toward the same goal for which so many members of Chervona Kalyna gave their lives.

After the official ceremony, members of the fraternity invited their Plast friends and guests to an informal get-together, in which Patriarch Husar also participated. Members of other Plast groups – “Verkhovynky,” “Pershi Stezhi,” “Buryverkhy,” “Vovkulaky,” “Celibat Murlyky,” “Orden Zaliznoyi Ostrohy” and representatives of the Kyiv branch of Plast and the National Plast Command in Ukraine expressed their greetings and best wishes on this occasion.

Connecticut's Yevshan ensemble performs in Christmas concert

NEW BRITAIN, Conn. – In a special Christmas concert on January 7, the Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble performed before a standing-room-only audience of over 1,000 concert-goers here at Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church.

The predominantly Polish American parish invited the 30-voice Yevshan choir to be part of its Christmas celebration titled “Gwiazda Twa” which also featured popular Polish-born vocalist and recording artist Irena Jarocka. Msgr. Daniel Plocharczyk, the pastor of Sacred

Heart parish, welcomed the Yevshan chorus and thanked the members for taking time out of their Christmas day celebration to grace the seasonal holidays of the New Britain community.

Yevshan performed a suite of carols by Kyrylo Stetsenko including “Dnes Poyushche,” “Oi Vydyt Boh” and “Po Vsomu Svituu,” as well as “Nebo i Zemlia” accompanied by bandurists Joanna Boutsko O’Flaherty and Irene Kytasty Kuzma.

The choir also premiered two original works from the Dnipropetrovsk Orthodox Cathedral Choir – a setting of the Galician carol “V Vyfleyemi Dnes Maria” and a Hymn to the Mother of God “Zadostoinyk” by G. Trubachov.

Yevshan’s performance evoked a standing ovation and won the praise of local newspaper critics, who remarked on its spirited performance, clear intonation and diction.

“In recent years the Ukrainian and Polish communities of Connecticut have felt a special kinship and have been very supportive of one other,” said Yevshan’s music director, Alexander Kuzma. “This concert was especially inspiring for us as it came just days after the Polish Parliament (Sejm) recognized the Ukrainian Holodomor (Terror Famine) as one of the great acts of genocide of the 20th century.” The Sacred Heart Parish has invited Yevshan to return for another concert during the Easter season.

Yevshan comprises 30 vocalists from eight Ukrainian Catholic and Orthodox parishes across Connecticut. The choir has released three CDs, including its latest, “Icons of Faith,” and a set of seldom recorded folk songs “Yevshan in Concert.” (To obtain a copy of any of the choir’s CDs, collectors may contact Roman Zastawsky at 860-665-0155 or e-mail ikkuzma@yahoo.com.)

The choir has scheduled a joint concert with the Zolotyj Promin Ukrainian Dance Ensemble under the direction of Orlando Pagan at the Theater of the Performing Arts in Hartford, Conn., on June 8.



The Yevshan Ukrainian Vocal Ensemble performs during a Christmas concert in Sacred Heart Roman Catholic Church in New Britain, Conn.

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Christmas Eve traditions celebrated at Ukrainian Homestead in Lehighton

LEHIGHTON, Pa. – A traditional
Christmas Eve dinner was held at the
Ukrainian Homestead here in Lehighton,
Pa., on January 20. The large group of
area residents that gathered in the spa-
cious hall was impressed by the well-
organized event.

Covered with white linen, the tradition-
al Christmas table was centered in the hall
with hay and garlic evident under the
tablecloth; framed by traditional embroi-
dery were the breads and the 12 Christmas
Eve courses arranged on the table. The
traditional sheaf of wheat, or "didukh,"
rested under an icon set against the back-
drop of a wall-hung tapestry, or "kylym."

As the guests filled the hall, the presi-
dent of the Homestead, Alexander
Prociuk, greeted them and then began the
dinner with the carol "Boh Predvichnyi."
As the guests began dinner, Ulana
Prociuk gave a summary of Ukrainian
Christmas traditions and the Kazka
Ukrainian Folk Ensemble sang a number
of Ukrainian carols.

Near the end of the program, a 23-mem-
ber group from St. Michael the Archangel
Church in Jenkintown, Pa., presented a
Nativity play. Composed of members rang-
ing in age from 5 to 16, the Carolers
troupe's performance was enthusiastically
appreciated by the attendees, among them a
large number of descendants of Ukrainian
coal miners and local Americans.

Attired in beautiful costumes, the
group expertly presented the Nativity
story intertwined with Ukrainian
Christmas carols, Epiphany carols, or
"Schedrivky," and good wishes for the
New Year.

The guiding force behind the Carolers,
which is making a name for itself among
Ukrainians, is Inna Romanyshyn whose
talent and dedication have won the sup-
port of all the parents whose children are
involved with the group.

At the end of the evening, Mr. Prociuk
thanked all who contributed to the success
of the evening, as well as all the guests
who enjoyed the traditional gathering.

Yushchenko, Yanukovych...

(Continued from page 2)

into force.

The president's warning was ignored.
The text of the law was published in the
newspaper of the Cabinet, Uriadovi
Kurier, and of Parliament, Holos
Ukrayiny, on February 2. This was the
first case in Ukrainian history when a law
was signed not by the president, but by
the Rada chairman. Mr. Moroz argued
that he was legally authorized to do that,
as Mr. Yushchenko failed to sign the law
within 10 days, as required by Ukrainian
law. Mr. Yushchenko's Our Ukraine par-
liamentary caucus said that the publica-
tion of the law meant "complete usurpa-
tion of power by the Yanukovych Cabinet
and the ruling coalition."
Mr. Yushchenko met Messrs. Moroz
and Yanukovych in his office on
February 5, probably in an effort to nego-
tiate a way out of the situation. The talks
failed. The same evening, Mr.
Yushchenko referred the law to the
Constitutional Court. "The Cabinet can-
not work or live with a fake passport," he
said. "I am absolutely confident that the
Constitution does not empower the
speaker [Rada chairman] to sign laws
returned by the president to Parliament
for revision."

It is now up to the court to decide the
fate of the law. It may take the court sev-
eral months to deliver a verdict, and it is
hard to predict the outcome.

If Mr. Yushchenko takes the upper
hand, and the law is returned to

Parliament, his veto may not be overrid-
den again, depending on Yulia
Tymoshenko's position. On January 12
Parliament overrode Mr. Yushchenko's
veto thanks to the votes of Ms.
Tymoshenko's faction. This was reported-
ly part of a deal between her and the rul-
ing coalition in exchange for the coal-
ition's support for laws on the opposition
and on the binding mandate. The law on
the binding mandate, allowing Ms.
Tymoshenko to secure her grip over local
councils, has since been passed, but the
fate of the opposition law is still not clear.

On February 5 Ms. Tymoshenko and
the leader of the Our Ukraine faction in
Parliament, Viacheslav Kyrylenko,
signed a statement proclaiming a unified
opposition. They declared that they aim
to reverse constitutional reforms that
decreased the president's powers in favor
of the Cabinet and Parliament, and to
hold an early parliamentary election to
get rid of the pro-Yanukovych majority
in Parliament.

If Ms. Tymoshenko is serious about a
union with Mr. Yushchenko's party, there
is a slim chance that the coalition will
secure her support for the Cabinet law for
a second time.

Sources: UNIAN, January 19; Channel
5, January 24, 31, February 2, 5; I+1 TV,
Kommersant Ukraina, February 5;
Interfax-Ukraine, February 6.

The article above is reprinted from
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Foundation, www.jamestown.org.

Foreign minister's resignation

President Putin's comments came on
the heels of the resignation of Ukraine's
pro-Western Foreign Affairs Minister
Borys Tarasyuk.

Mr. Tarasyuk had been an ardent
opponent of turning over control of the
gas-pipeline network to Gazprom. But
after Prime Minister Yanukovych man-
aged to push Mr. Tarasyuk out, some
observers have said Gazprom's path is
now clear.

In the past Ukrainian President Viktor
Yushchenko has strongly opposed turn-
ing over control of the gas-pipeline net-
work to Russia. Mr. Yushchenko is
scheduled to visit Moscow in late
February for talks with Mr. Putin where
energy questions are expected to play a
major role.

Putin proposes...

(Continued from page 2)

"Russia has always wanted to gain
control over the Ukrainian gas-transport
system, so I do not see anything new in
what Russian President Putin said," Mr.
Yermilov said. "If Putin's proposals are
transparent, and if the Ukrainian
Parliament abides by them, then we can
discuss the matter, otherwise it is only
another attempt to cheat Ukraine."

Mr. Yermilov reminded policy-makers
that Russian Prime Minister Mikhail
Fradkov has said that foreign companies
operating on Russian soil will not be
allowed to control the majority of shares
in oil and gas production. At best,
Naftohaz could only be a minority share-
holder of any joint venture.

Taras Kuzio's...

(Continued from page 8)

([CUN] which is jokingly renamed in Ukraine as Komitet Upravlinnia Naftohazu after its leader headed Naftohaz in 2005). The Ukrainian Republican Party Sobor is split between Our Ukraine and the Tymoshenko Bloc. Indeed, as CUN is a virtual party it was never clear to me why it was included in Our Ukraine in the first place and more importantly how Our Ukraine-2006 expected to win votes in eastern Ukraine with CUN in its bloc.

Rukh is the only serious party from Our Ukraine-2002 remaining in Our Ukraine-2006. In the 1990s under Vyacheslav Chornovil, Rukh could obtain 10 percent by itself during elections. Our Ukraine-2006 obtained only 4 percent more in the 2006 elections than

what Rukh could have obtained fighting the elections alone.

Thirdly, Mr. Yushchenko himself is undecided, lacks strategy and has what Vasyl Baziv described on www.obozrevatel.com as "Yuliaphobia."

Why am I, therefore, not in the least bit surprised that almost immediately Our Ukraine leaders began to denounce the new opposition agreement?

Our Ukraine's Viacheslav Kyrylenko said the statement was not agreed to by the Our Ukraine faction and that there are issues in the statement that Our Ukraine could not support, such as early elections and the law on the opposition (why?). He said that Anatolii Matvienko, Mr. Kinakh and Serhii Holovaty (all three under the influence of "Yuliaphobia") would not support the statement. Mr. Kinakh rushed to agree that he did not back it.

To commemorate the First Anniversary of the passing of our beloved Son, Brother and Uncle

Rev. Bohdan (Barry) Kin



Memorial masses with Panakhyda will be celebrated at the following churches:

Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church in Johnson City, NY on Thursday, February 22, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

St. Andrew's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Hamptonburg, NY on Sunday, February 25, 2007 at 9:00 a.m.

The family kindly asks for prayers for the repose of his soul!

This again shows the acute "Hetmanshyna" in Our Ukraine that we saw after last year's elections. Following the elections, one wing under Roman Besmertnyi negotiated for an Orange coalition, while another wing led by Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov negotiated with the Party of the Regions – both negotiations backed by Mr. Yushchenko. Maybe this was an example of multi-vector coalition building?

The unity of the opposition in the face of the Party of the Regions and the govern-

ment's bulldozer is crucial in defending the democratic gains of the Orange Revolution, which are now under threat. If Our Ukraine and President Yushchenko still do not understand this, then it will be up to the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc to single-handedly fight for Ukraine's democratic future.

The view in Washington is increasingly that President Yushchenko seems to be a lost cause who, if he was not willing to fight for Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk, could not be expected to fight for other important issues.



It is with great sadness that we inform you of the passing of our dearest father and grandfather

ANDREW KUN

on January 4, 2007, in Woonsocket, RI

Born on April 17, 1912, in the village of Volya Zhovtanetska (Kam'yanka-Buzka raion, L'viv Oblast)

The immediate survivors are:

Daughter	Olga
Sons	John and his wife, Paula Michael and his wife, Cathy
Grandchildren	Stephanie, Jennifer, Julie and Andrew

The funeral services took place on January 10, 2007 at St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Woonsocket, RI and interment at the St. Michael's Cemetery in Blackstone, MA.

MAY HE BE REMEMBERED FOREVER!



Ділимося болючою вісткою, що з волі Всевишнього у вівторок, 6 лютого 2007 р., в Чикаго відійшла у вічність на 95-му році життя наша найдорожча МАМА, БАБЦЯ, ПРАБАБЦЯ, СЕСТРА І ТЕТА



СВ. П.

СОФІЯ КУЛЬЧИЦЬКА з дому ПРОКУРАТ

нар. 21 вересня 1912 р. в Жовтанцях, Галичина.

Довголітня пластунка, основоположниця куреня Орликівці й новацького гнізда в Чикаго, член Орлиної Ради, пластова виховниця, нагороджена орденем св. Юрія в золоті, член Марійської Дружини і Клубу Сеньйорів при катедрі св. о. Миколая в Чикаго, активна в Інституті Модерного Мистецтва, провадила балі деб'ютанток.

ПОХОРОННІ ВІДПРАВИ відбулися в суботу, 10 лютого з катедрі св. о. Миколая і на парафіяльний цвинтар.

В глибокому смутку:

діти	– МАРІЯ і чоловік ЛАМАР БРЕНТЛІ – ДАРІЯ (МУНЯ)
внуки	– НІНА БРЕНТЛІ – КАТЕРИНА СЕВЕДЖ і муж КЛАРК – НЕНСІ САУТГЕЙТ і муж РИЧАРД – ФИЛИП БРЕНТЛІ
правнуки	– НИКОЛАС і РЕБЕКА СЕВЕДЖ – ОЛІВЕР БРЕНТЛІ – ОВЕН САУТГЕЙТ
сестра	– ДАРІЯ ШЕПАРОВИЧ
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та дальша родина в Америці, Австралії, Європі і Україні

Вічна їй пам'ять!



It is with great sadness that we share the news of the sudden and unexpected passing on February 12, 2007, of our beloved son, brother, brother-in-law, uncle, fiancé and nephew

Dr. Stefan Roman Bodnarenko

Associate Professor at Smith College in Northampton, MA
Department of Psychology

Born January 2, 1958, in Elizabeth, New Jersey

A funeral liturgy was held on Saturday, February 17, 2007, at St. Vladimir Ukrainian Catholic Church in Elizabeth, New Jersey, followed by interment at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.

Left in mourning are his:

Parents	Ewdokia and Paul
Sister	Marusia Borkowsky and husband Taras
Nieces	Olenka and Laryssa
Nephew	Markian
Fiancée	Kim Urban
Extended Family	Wolodymyr and Anna Rak with family Tymko and Marika Shorobura with family Evhen and Halyna Kurywczak with family Family in Ukraine

Stefan was a long-standing member of Plast and belonged to the Khmelnychenky Kurin. In Stefan's memory, donations may be made to Plast, Inc. at 144 Second Avenue, New York, NY 10003 for the rebuilding of Plast camps in Ukraine.

Cinematographer Andrij Parekh's film gets Oscar nomination for best actor

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Andrij Parekh, 35, a cinematographer of Ukrainian descent, will be watching the Academy Awards on Sunday, February 25, with special interest as his film "Half Nelson" has been nominated for an Oscar in the best actor category.

The psychological drama directed by Ryan Fleck tells the story of an inner-city history teacher with a drug habit, played by Ryan Gosling, who attempts to mentor a 13-year-old girl, played by Shareeka Epps, whose own difficult family life has left her in desperate need of a father figure.

Produced on location in New York City, "Half Nelson" was shot in an improvisational, documentary style, almost entirely using handheld cameras, which Mr. Parekh believes brings an honest, naturalistic and straightforward appearance.

Speaking about the development of his methods, the New York resident said he took a field trip with Mr. Fleck and co-writer Anna Bowden to the Metropolitan Museum of Art and looked at 17th and 18th century paintings. According to Mr. Parekh, "It's a very concise way of determining what a director likes and doesn't like. I can translate that palette or feeling through the choice of film stock, processing and lighting."

Mr. Parekh studied cinematography at New York University's Tisch School of the Arts and at the FAMU film school in Prague. In 2004 he was named one of Filmmaker Magazine's "25 New Faces of Indie Film"; he was ranked fifth.

His award-winning work includes directing the short "Mertvi Pivni" (Dead Roosters), shot in Ukraine, which won the Grand Marnier Film Fellowship at the New York Film Festival (2003) and the Future Filmmaker Award at the Palm Spring Film Festival (2004). Also filmed in Ukraine was his "Zimove Vesilya" (Snowblink), with writer and co-director Sophie Barthes, which was screened at the Tribeca Film Festival in 2005.

The 106-minute, R-rated "Half Nelson" was screened at the Sundance Film Festival in 2006. It is Mr. Parekh's sixth feature film in three years and is distributed by THINKfilm. His other recent cinematographic credits include "Sonhos de Peixe," "The Treatment" and "The Favor." Currently, Mr. Parekh is working on "Noise," directed by Henry Bean and starring Tim Robbins.

Mr. Parekh is the son of Lesya Hlyniansky Parekh of Wayzata, Minn., originally from Wilmington, Del.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Szeremeta heads Otolaryngology Dep't

PHILADELPHIA – Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta was appointed to serve as interim chairman of the Department of Otolaryngology, Head and Neck Surgery at the Temple University School of Medicine in Philadelphia on November 6, 2006.

Dr. Szeremeta joined the full-time fac-



Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta

ulty as associate professor on the Clinician Educator Track in 1996. He was awarded his M.D. degree from Jefferson Medical College in 1989 and, following his residency in otolaryngology at Henry Ford Health System, he completed a fellowship in pediatric otolaryngology at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh.

In 2002 he was awarded an M.B.A. degree in health care management and an M.S. degree in health care finance from Fox School of Business, Temple University.

Dr. Szeremeta has been instrumental in building a viable pediatric otolaryngology service and has been a leader among the medical staff. He is the past president of the Medical Staff and currently is the chairman of the Medical Executive Board of Temple University Children's Medical Center. He also is the chair of the Finance Committee of the Temple University Children's Medical Center Board and is a voting member of the board of the directors.

He is an active and proficient educator at all levels and has made numerous national presentations in his field of interest. He is also the Residency Program director of the otolaryngology – head and neck surgery residency.

Dr. Szeremeta currently serves as an auditor for the Ukrainian National Association and is a member of Branch 247 in Wilmington, Del.

Topological degree named for Petryshyn

by Roman Voronka

MAPLEWOOD, N.J. – There are fields of immense importance in our technological society that are so esoteric that it is impossible to convey to the general public the importance and the level of contributions to these fields. Proper description demands the use of terminology, which is incomprehensible to the uninitiated. Mathematics is one of such area. In this case the level of achievement and its importance can best be viewed in reflected light, in what fellow mathematicians are writing about the individual, in what honors the individual has garnered.

In mathematics, one honor that is bestowed upon a contributor to the field is the use of his or her name in identifying the problem or result. Thus we speak of Banach spaces, Legendre polynomials, Weierstass-Erdman corner conditions, etc.

Of immense importance in mathematics is the field of nonlinear functional analysis. This field has major impact on solvability of problems in applied mathematics relating to models in aerodynamics, meteorology, astronomy, economics and branches of engineering. It is in this field that a Ukrainian American, Dr. Wolodymyr Petryshyn, made seminal

contributions of far-reaching impact, especially with his theory of A-proper mappings. Dr. Petryshyn is credited with the development of the field of Generalized Degree Theory for Densely Defined A-proper Mappings.

The international recognition and universality of Dr. Petryshyn's results is evident in a recently (2006) published book written by three authors, Donal O'Regan from Ireland, Yeol Je Cho from Korea and Yu-Qing Chen from China. This book "Topological Degree Theory and Applications" has a large chapter devoted to Dr. Petryshyn's work and appends the appellation Dr. Petryshyn's to the results. Now, in this book, for the first time, these results, are called "The Petryshyn generalized degree theory for A-proper Mappings."

At present Dr. Petryshyn is professor emeritus. He was a professor and, indeed, one of the "distinguished" professors at Rutgers University in New Brunswick, N.J. for 29 years. He obtained a Ph.D. from Columbia University in 1961; his thesis was of such interest that he was invited for a three-year stint of post-doctoral research at the renowned Courant Institute of Mathematical Sciences.

Dr. Petryshyn has contributed broadly across many areas in mathematics. He also played a leading role in transforming the Rutgers University mathematics department into one with a first-rate reputation.

Dr. Petryshyn was and is an active member of the Ukrainian community in

Dr. Roman Voronka is professor emeritus of mathematics at the New Jersey Institute of Technology.

(Continued on page 19)

Msgr. Hrynuck gets 95th birthday surprise

by Janice Decker

OLYPHANT, Pa. – The Rev. Msgr. Stephen Hrynuck, pastor of Ss. Cyril and Methodius Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church in Olyphant, Pa., marked his 95th birthday. The monsignor was honored at a surprise birthday party on January 21 attended by hundreds of parishioners, clergy and friends, including Archbishop Metropolitan Stefan Soroka.

Msgr. Hrynuck's family hails from Pavliv, western Ukraine, but he was born in Philadelphia, in 1911. At the age of 6, he moved to Ukraine where he remained until 1930.

Ordained in 1938, Msgr. Hrynuck has been a dedicated priest for 69 years. He

studied theology in Rome for six years, returned to teach philosophy at St. Basil's Seminary in Stamford, Conn., earned his doctorate in philosophy at Fordham University. He then served in Minneapolis, Stratford, N.Y., Chester, Pa., and New York City.

He was rector of the Major Seminary of St. Josaphat in Washington before being assigned to Ss. Cyril and Methodius, where he continues to serve today at the age of 95. In addition, over the years he has held several diocesan assignments and consultations.

Impressive degrees, lofty titles and prestigious appointments aside, today his most amazing credential at the forefront of most people's curiosity is Msgr. Hrynuck's stamina and longevity, to which he humbly responds, "By the grace of God."

Highlights of the surprise party were captured and broadcast locally by WBRE-TV on the "Windsor Park Stories" series aired on January 28. Asked why he was blessed with such a gift of long life, he replied, "Do you pray for me? That's why." He said of the surprise party, "I'm speechless."

When he realized the archbishop-metropolitan was present, he quipped, "Am I still of this world?" much to the delight of the party planners who had successfully pulled off the surprise.

Patrick Marcinko, current choirmaster at the parish, served as toastmaster. In describing Msgr. Hrynuck, Mr. Marcinko told the show's producer, "He is a very holy man, a very devoted man. A man who's dedicated his entire life to his job. And within the last many number of years, he's had no assistance. He serves alone doing all the aspects of the church from the liturgies, through confession, sick calls, marriages, baptisms, funerals and all the work that priests have to do."

"He's an amazing man with amazing health," he added. Citing statistics, Mr. Marcinko mused that in the last 56 years in the Olyphant parish alone, Msgr. Hrynuck has celebrated a minimum of over 20,000 liturgies. "The amount of giving is enormous, and for this we are grateful."



The Rev. Msgr. Stephen Hrynuck

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Compromise reached...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian government to support the Ukrainian language.

In issuing its January 2006 decree, the Cabinet of Ministers led by former Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov had set admirable goals, but placed an immense burden on film distributors, who were offended by the lack of any pragmatic assistance.

The memorandum also provides for other gains in Ukrainian-language cinema.

By the year's end, all films for children will have to be dubbed into the Ukrainian language. And, the Ministry of Culture and Tourism plans to offer benefits to Ukrainian film producers, as well as those who distribute Ukrainian-dubbed films.

Exceptions to the Ukrainian-language quotas will be made for films imported in volumes no greater than 5,000 copies, such as documentaries, independent productions, or what Ukrainians called "art house" films.

Representatives of 15 distribution and movie theater firms signed the memorandum, including Bohdan Batruk, the owner of B&H Distribution, Ukraine's largest film distribution company, and Kinopalats, the nation's largest network of movie theatres.

It was through Mr. Batruk's efforts that the Oscar-nominated Disney animated film "Cars" was dubbed into the Ukrainian language last summer, to immense popularity and success.

"Our figures show that movie-goers want a choice in watching films in Ukrainian or Russian," he said. "There is supposed to be a choice, and the Ministry of Culture responded to the demand for Ukrainian-language films."

No one representing the smaller, Russocentric distributors who rebelled against the January 2006 decree was present at the press conference, though Mr. Bohutskyi said 90 percent of Ukraine's film distributors were in agreement.

It remains unclear whether they will abide by the memorandum, and nine have yet to sign.

The Ministry of Culture and Tourism won't necessarily "shake this memorandum and punish someone," Mr. Bohutskyi said. At the same time, failing to uphold distributor quotas can lead to the loss of a film distribution license.

The unique language situation in each of Ukraine's oblasts will be taken into account in determining whether to issue or cancel licenses, Mr. Bohutskyi said, and the ministry will handle each case individually. More than 19,000 such licenses were issued last year, he said.

If the ministry is to achieve its goal of

half of film copies becoming Ukrainian-dubbed by the year's end, enormous progress would have to be achieved.

So far, only 21 percent of film copies have been dubbed or subtitled into the Ukrainian language since March 2006, according to Kino-Pereklad, a grassroots organization boycotting Russian language films in Ukraine. More than 5,300 Ukrainians have joined the boycott, according to the Kino-Pereklad Web site, <http://kino-pereklad.org.ua>.

Aside from Mr. Batruk, a Polish-born ethnic Ukrainian, most of Ukraine's film distributors are ethnic Russians who are Ukrainian citizens, said Hanna Chmil, director of the state service for cinematography at the Ministry of Culture. They have been working with Russian film distributors ever since Ukraine's independence and haven't adjusted to Ukraine's changing market.

None have made a public statement that they're willing to foot the \$50,000 cost for dubbing a single film into the Ukrainian language.

Such investments are affordable only for large companies, and profitable only for dubbing blockbusters, said Mykhailo Sokolov, chair of the Association for Promoting Ukrainian Cinematography, the organization representing the Russocentric film distributors.

"Ukraine receives these copies for free," Mr. Sokolov said. "Distributors don't spend this money for translating, and as a result, the viewer also doesn't pay higher prices."

The initiative is also unproductive because eastern and southern Ukrainians don't want to watch films in the Ukrainian language, based on research performed by the association, Mr. Sokolov said. "More than 80 percent of film viewers said they prefer to continue watching films in the language they are used to," he said.

Therefore, Ukraine's Russian-language regions are ignoring the Ukrainian-language showings, Mr. Sokolov said, while distributors have to bear financial losses.

However, not everyone agrees with those conclusions, especially Mr. Batruk. "Our figures show that when we have an equal amount of Russian- and Ukrainian-language copies of the film 'Déjà vu' for example, 70 percent of ticket sales are for the Ukrainian version," he said. "These results startle me, but that's what they are."

B&H Distribution remains the leader for Ukrainian-language dubbing, providing the voice-over for 75 percent of the films it imports.

The lion's share of the market for Ukrainian-language films is in Kyiv, according to B&H Distribution. Russian-speaking Odesa accounts for between 20 and 25 percent of sales, and 16 percent of box office sales occur in the remaining regions.

"Truly there are zones where if there isn't mass rejection, then there is an absence of a tradition of accepting the Ukrainian language in film distribution," said Oleksander Tkachenko, a prominent Ukrainian film producer and chair of Odesa Film Studios. "It's necessary to approach this with understanding and gradually transition towards quality dub-

bing and economic justification in order for it to be favorable to dub films into the Ukrainian language."

Reaching agreements with home video distributors was significantly easier for the Ministry of Culture and Tourism, since the companies voluntarily agreed to produce the videos exclusively in the Ukrainian language.

"Films from 2006 dubbed or subtitled in the Ukrainian language will signify they are a licensed product automatically," Ms. Chmil said. Pirate distributors will be much more easily apprehended since their films are in the Russian language, she added.

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Topological degree...

(Continued from page 17)

the United States. He is an active member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and the Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences in the U.S.

In 1992 the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine granted Dr. Petryshyn the prestigious Krylov Award in recognition of his prolific and original research results. The presidium of the academy elected him as a full foreign member in 1992.

Outstanding mathematicians do not ride into the proverbial sunset. Their students carry on their work, and their ideas percolate through many leading universities of the world. So it is with Dr. Petryshyn's work. His presentations in the United States, Canada, China, East and West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Romania, Italy, France, Russia, Israel and Ukraine have engendered groups of scholars who study and extend his work.

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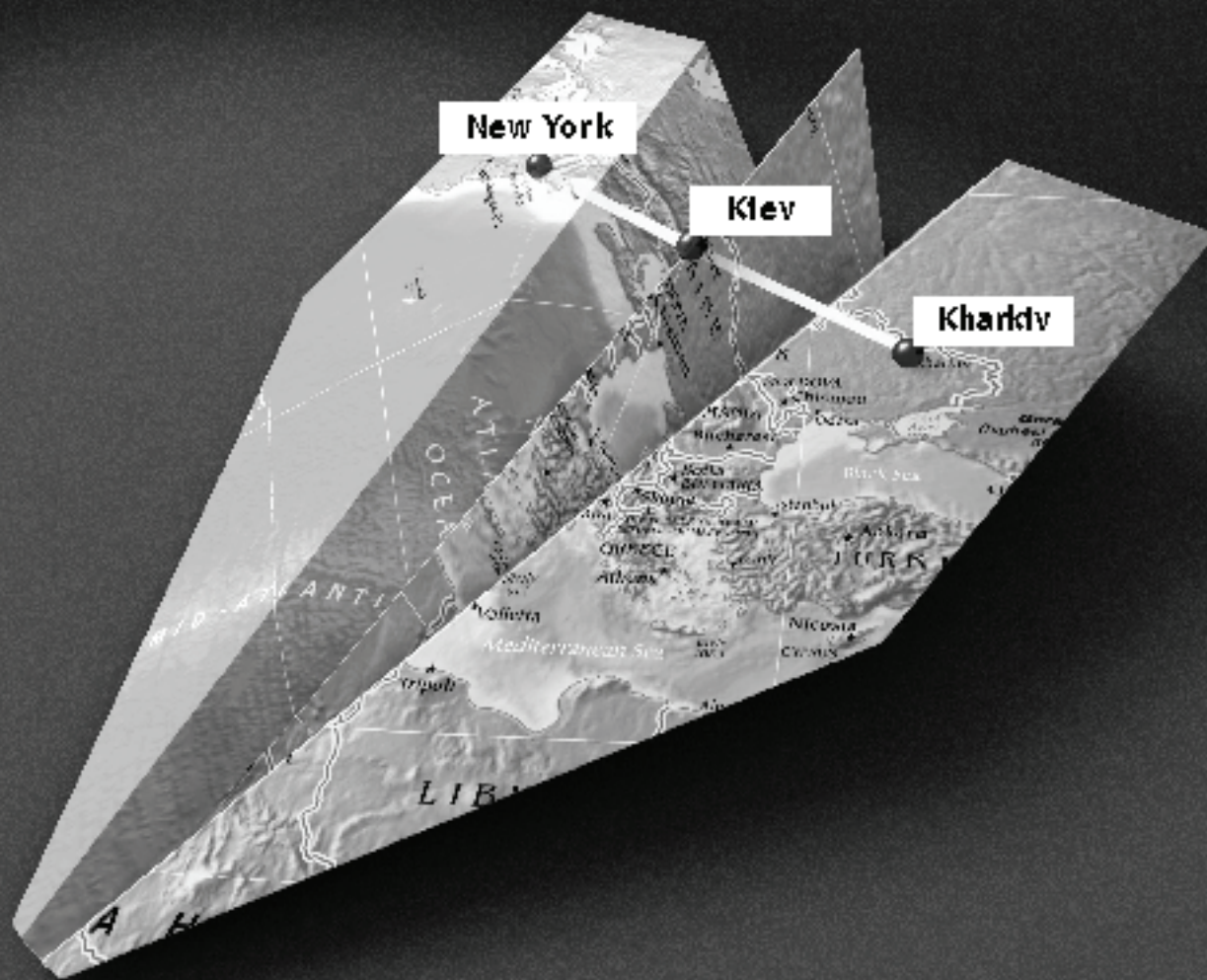
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Minor league star Darren Haydar

The numbers piled up by Ukrainian Darren Haydar in four years with the AHL's Milwaukee Admirals strongly suggested there's no doubt he can play the game. The parent club Nashville Predators, however, plainly didn't agree with this scouting report. He was always among the first or second waves of cuts in training camp. Almost all of the rest of the NHL apparently wondered about his qualifications as well, since Haydar was on the waiver wire several times the past two seasons and went unclaimed.

"Wherever I go, I always have to prove to people I can play," Haydar said in a 2005 interview with The Hockey News' correspondent Kevin Oklobzija. "I don't think that will stop."

Thus, as Haydar embarked on his fifth season in the American Hockey League, the 5-foot-9, 170-pound right winger was once again out to prove all of his critics and detractors wrong.

After all, he did it in college, when he scored 102 goals and 219 points in 158 games at the University of New Hampshire. (More on his college days coming up.) A complete after-thought in the 1999 entry draft (he was finally selected in the ninth round, 248th overall by Nashville), he did it again as a first-year pro in the AHL, tallying 29 goals and 75 points in 75 games to earn league rookie-of-the-year honors.

"He has always been told why he can't do it," said Milwaukee Coach Claude Noel in the column by Mr. Oklobzija. "He's a very mentally strong young man. He has always been challenged, and he has always produced."

Produced he certainly has. In his second AHL season, Haydar's opponents guessed he'd never withstand two months of physical punishment in the playoffs, so they tried physically abusing him every chance they got. All he did was score 11 goals and a league high 26 points in 22 games while leading Milwaukee to the city's first hockey championship.

"People were going after him hard, but look what he comes out with," Coach Noel said. "He leads the league in scoring (playoffs) and we win the championship."

In the lockout 2004-2005 season, with talent at what was probably an all-time

high in the AHL, Haydar scored 24 goals and 50 points in 59 games. Last season he upped the ante even higher, finishing fifth in the league in scoring, having notched 35 goals, 57 assists for 92 points in 80 games. In his four AHL seasons he has produced 110 goals and 276 points in 293 regular season games.

He doesn't do it with blazing speed. As a matter of fact, his skating is far from great, perhaps mediocre, at best. On the flip side, his on-ice vision allows him to see a game others don't even imagine.

"He's a very clever player," Noel said. "He thinks at another level than other people. He can create space because he can feel his way around the ice."

In the American Hockey League, one level below the "big show," that's good enough.

"Now, is he able to transcend that game to the NHL? That's the question," Noel said. "He and we have to ask ourselves why he can or why he cannot. If he's going to be a National Hockey League player, what's going to be his role? Is he going to be a third-line winger and check? Probably not. Is the size difference and speed difference insurmountable? I think he can play in the right situation, but I think he'll need a coach he has played for to give him a chance, someone who is in his corner."

The situation was, unfortunately for all, never right in Nashville. The up-and-coming Predators already had a number of small, skilled forwards, while Paul Kariya, Steve Sullivan, Martin Erat and Scottie Upshall filled the roles of scoring wingers. Haydar knew it was an uphill battle.

"I have to be realistic about the situation and deal with where I am now," he said at the time. "I want to be positive about where I am, I can't be negative. If I do get frustrated, it will affect my play, so I have to live day to day and be happy I have the job I have."

Old college connection rekindles their magic

A geography wizard may lay claim to it being a long way from Durham, N.H., to Chicago. Or is it?

Reunited for a while for the first time in eight years, former University of New Hampshire linemates Jason Krog and Darren Haydar rekindled some Wildcat magic earlier this season with the Chicago Wolves.

Prior to being claimed by the New

York Rangers on waivers, Krog, a center, had 19 goals and 52 points in the season's first three months of action. Haydar, his right winger, had 25 goals and 80 points as of the third week in January. They didn't begin the season as linemates, but Wolves coach John Anderson paired them in late October, and it was like they'd never been apart.

"It has been a long time since we played together, but it seemed to click right away," Krog told Mr. Oklobzija in another Hockey News column. "The way we see the game is very similar. Our thought process is a lot alike. We know what each other is thinking."

The common bond was formed in 1998-1999, when Krog was a senior and Haydar a freshman at New Hampshire. Krog scored 34 goals and 85 points. Haydar produced 31 goals and 61 points – totals he didn't achieve again until he was a senior.

Both came to the AHL's Wolves with the same thought: get to the NHL's Atlanta Thrashers. Krog, 31, spent the past two seasons in Europe, but figured his shifty, smallish frame would fit in well in the new NHL.

Haydar's four productive seasons in the Nashville organization got him basically nowhere. He has been an elite AHL player, but thus far has played only two NHL games, both for Nashville, as a rookie back in 2002-2003.

As this article was being written, Ukrainian Darren Haydar was leading the entire AHL in scoring, with 25G-55A-80PTS – 20 points ahead of the second leading scorer. His goal total was good for fourth in the league, while he was also tops in assists. He ranked second in the league's plus/minus category with a +20. He also set a new American Hockey League record by scoring in 39 straight games.

Somebody please give this talented young man a chance in the NHL. He's certainly most deserving!

MINOR UKRAINIAN UTTERINGS: Wichita Thunder (Central Hockey League) left winger JASON DUDA has survived 11 years of pro hockey, but it took his ability to work his mouth to make him the ultimate survivor. Duda won the title of "Local Celebrity Survivor" on a Wichita radio call-in show by besting his opponents, who competed in a 17-week "smack-talking" contest. The competition was decided by callers who voted weekly. Duda survived the inferior verbal assaults of Wichita notables such as former NFL star Barry Sanders, actors Don Johnson and Kirstie Alley, and rock star Joe Walsh ... Lada Togliatti of the Russian Super League dissolved its contract with ZENON KONOPKA, freeing the veteran center to return to the Portland Pirates. He had two assists in the Pirates opener and is back as one of the team's top scorers in 2006-2007 ... RICK KOWALSKY is now coaching in Trenton after leading Titans to Kelly Cup in 2005 ... Rookie defenseman SHAUN HESHKA hopes his initial trip to the Manitoba Moose is not a bad omen. He was involved in a one-vehicle accident while on his way to Winnipeg following his re-assignment from the Vancouver Canucks' training camp in late September. Heshka dozed off near Glendive, Mont., and his car left the highway and rolled. He was not seriously injured, but Moose GM Craig Heisinger told the Winnipeg Sun Heshka exhibited concussion-like symptoms. A free agent signee, Heshka played three seasons with Everett in the Western Hockey League (juniors). The defender tallied 59 points in 66 games last season ...

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Director, Institute of Ecumenical Studies
Ukrainian Catholic University

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

quota by 228,000 tons. According to preliminary data, the grain crop in Ukraine in 2006 reached 34,300 tons. (Ukrinform)

New controversy over Serpents Island

KYIV - The Romanian Foreign Ministry has requested that Ukraine demonstrate restraint in populating the tiny Serpents Island in the Black Sea, Interfax reported on February 12. "Bucharest insistently advises Ukraine to refrain from attempts at establishing artificial settlements in a territory that is a subject of dispute between the two states," the ministry said in a recent statement. Romania and Ukraine have been in litigation before the Hague-based International Court of Justice since 2005 over the delimitation of their maritime border around Serpents Island. Ukraine regards the island as an area entitled to its own territorial waters, while Romania sees it as a cliff without such a right. The island has an area of 1.5 square kilometers and a population of some 80 people, including lighthouse keepers, naval surveyors, biologists and geophysicists. The Ukrainian Parliament passed a resolution last week giving the name Bile to the settlement on the islet. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tarasyuk's goal: union of Rukh and UNR

KYIV - Ex-Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk, who is the leader of the Rukh Party, said on February 12 that the main goal of his political activity is to unite Rukh and the Ukrainian People's Party. He made that comment during an Internet conference with Korespondent. Mr. Tarasyuk said that, now that he is no longer foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, he has more time to engage in political activity. "Naturally, as head of Rukh, I will focus much more attention on political activity, on unity and con-

solidation of, first of all, political forces of the democratic right sector. The most fundamental in these efforts will be the renewal of unity between Rukh and UPP," he said. As reported earlier, the two parties have created a working group aimed at reuniting the two parties, and a declaration on organizational unity was released on December 20, 2006. A declaration to that effect was signed by party leaders Yurii Kostenko of the UPP and Mr. Tarasyuk of Rukh, who called on all national-democratic political forces to together uphold their political position, to work toward uniting deputies' factions and to work on joint efforts during the next presidential, parliamentary and local elections. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

Yushchenko on energy transit countries

MUNICH - Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said at the Munich Conference on Security Policy on February 10 that Europe needs to take into account the interests of the countries that serve as transit routes for Europe-bound energy supplies, Interfax-Ukraine reported. "[These countries] should be equal partners within a predictably reliable, economically effective and environmentally favorable mechanism for ensuring the energy security of the European continent," Mr. Yushchenko noted. He recalled that Ukraine transported 45 million tons of oil and 129 billion cubic meters of natural gas to Europe in 2006. He added that these volumes could and should be increased, but only if Ukraine's partners in Europe show their interest in new projects, including the transportation of oil from the Caspian region and Central Asian countries. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv to continue NATO campaign

MUNICH - Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko said during a meeting with NATO Secretary-General Jaap de Hoop

Scheffer at the Munich Conference on Security Policy on February 10 that Ukraine will continue playing an active role in NATO-led peacekeeping operations, Interfax-Ukraine reported. Mr. Yushchenko assured Mr. de Hoop Scheffer that NATO membership remains Ukraine's strategic objective. He also pledged that the Ukrainian government and he personally will continue giving special attention to impartial and politics-free awareness-raising campaigns addressing NATO's activities and Ukraine's integration with Euro-Atlantic organizations. He added that the 2007 budget allocates 5 million hrv (\$1 million U.S.) for these efforts. Mr. Yushchenko said Ukraine appreciates NATO's readiness to contribute to such campaigns. "I am convinced that our joint efforts will help debunk all old myths and stereotypes regarding NATO in Ukraine," he noted. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Gongadze monument planned for Kyiv

KYIV - Mayor Leonid Chernovetskyi of Kyiv has directed the relevant entities to hold the second phase of the competition for the best proposal for a monument to Heorhii Gongadze and all murdered journalists. The competition started on October 4 and ran through December 4, 2006. Unfortunately, results were poor and Kyiv authorities resolved to hold another competition. The competition will start on February 22 and continue through June 7. The first stage of the competition aimed to select the three best projects. According to Mr. Chernovetskyi, the monument will be inaugurated on the Heorhii Gongadze Square. Meanwhile, Kyiv artists expressed their disapproval of the competition. Kyiv Chief Artist Viktor Glib said he believes the competition lacks openness and transparency, and that the venue for the monument's unveiling is inappropriate. He believes the monument must be inaugurated in front of the Kyiv Institute of Journalism or the office of the Union of Journalists. (Ukrinform)

Yushchenko visits Flossenburg

KYIV - Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko, while on a visit to Germany, on February 9 visited the site of the Flossenburg Nazi concentration camp, where his father, Andrii, was imprisoned during World War II. He placed a wreath of flowers at the memorial plaque erected on the site to commemorate Ukrainians and observed a moment of silence for the deceased. Andrii Yushchenko wound up in Flossenburg in December 1944 after he escaped from the Auschwitz death camp. President Yushchenko presented soil from Kyiv's Babyn Yar, a ravine in Kyiv that was the site of mass killings by the Nazis in 1941, to the memorial complex in Flossenburg. (Ukrinform)

Rada begins changing CabMin law

KYIV - The Verkhovna Rada began on February 9 to make changes to the law "On the Cabinet of Ministers," which went into effect on February 2. National deputies voted on a series of changes that deal with procedures via which the Cabinet is formed. President Viktor Yushchenko's representative in Parliament, Roman Zvarych, said after hearing the proposed changes that it is clear the Anti-Crisis Coalition has no intention of compromising with the president. Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz said before the changes were to be discussed that the Parliament will not vote on three key changes the president seeks to make to the law. The coordinator of the parliamentary majority, Raisa Bohatyriova, stated that the ruling coalition will continue the discussion of the Cabinet of Ministers law among the branches of government, but that it will do so after the Constitutional Court examines the president's appeal. Mr. Yushchenko appealed to the court on February 6, asking it to rule that the Cabinet of Ministers law is unconstitutional. (Ukrinform)

Tomenko elected Rada vice-chair

KYIV - The Verkhovna Rada on February 8 approved Mykola Tomenko of the opposition Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc as vice-chairman of Parliament. Mr. Tomenko was backed by 340 lawmakers. The Rada is headed by Oleksander Moroz from the Socialist Party. Until Mr. Tomenko's appointment, Moroz had just one deputy - Adam Martyniuk of the Communist Party. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tarasyuk encourages Belarus opposition

KYIV - Ex-Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk urged the Belarusian opposition to unite in a fight against the totalitarian regime, it was reported on February 8. Taking the floor at a seminar on development of relations between Belarus and the European Union, initiated under the aegis of the European People's Party, Mr. Tarasyuk expressed solidarity with leaders of the Belarusian opposition. Referring to the experience of Ukraine, Mr. Tarasyuk said it is crucial to shift to democracy through delineation of a common goal by the country's democratic forces, to create mass media to fight the blockade of truthful information by representatives of the totalitarian regime and to demand parliamentary seats for the opposition. Mr. Tarasyuk reminded his audience that Ukraine twice offered to the EU that it could serve as a mediator in negotiations with Belarus. He announced that the offer still stands and that the EU is welcome to accept it at any time. Mr. Tarasyuk pointed out that Ukraine once served as a mediator between Poland and Belarus, thus promoting the improvement of relations between the two countries. (Ukrinform)

Kyiv announces anthem competition

KYIV - The municipal authorities of Kyiv have announced a competition for the writing of a city anthem (both lyrics and music), it was reported on February 7. The city's press service made the announcement, noting that proposals must be submitted by March 1, after which they will be published in the news media. The winning anthem will be selected by April 1 by a special nine-member committee headed by Anatolii Avdiyevskyi, director of the Veriovka Choir. The anthem must be written in Ukrainian, must be patriotically inclined, and must express love for the city of Kyiv. The anthem will be premiered during this year's Kyiv Days. Kyiv, the capital city of Ukraine, already has its own flag and emblem. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

Rada moves to ban group hypnosis

KYIV - The Verkhovna Rada on February 7 approved in the first reading a bill that would ban the hypnosis of a group of people for any purpose, Interfax-Ukraine and the dpa news service reported. The bill was supported by 392 lawmakers. In particular, the postulated ban reportedly targets the use of hypnosis at mass events for healing purposes and religious practices. (RFE/RL Newsline)

To become a Ukrainian citizen...

KYIV - Ukraine will accept a limited number of new citizens during 2007 who invest into its economy a sum of no less than \$100,000 (U.S.). The Cabinet of Ministers set an immigration quota for 2007 which provides for accepting 7,323 persons who want to live in Ukraine. That number encompasses 675 slots for persons prominent in the fields of scholarship and the arts whose talents can enrich Ukraine's social fabric. In addition, the quota sets aside 2,465 places for relatives of Ukrainian citizens; 349 places for former citizens of Ukraine; 714 places for those who lived on Ukrainian territory for three years or more; as well as 3,120 places for relatives of immigrants. There is no quota set for persons who can invest \$100,000 or more into the economy, although in 2006 the allotted slots for such new citizens totaled 22. (Ukrinform)



The Ukrainian American Professionals And Businesspersons Association

is very pleased to present Ukraine's internationally renowned
public intellectual

Mykola Ryabchuk

who will speak on the subject

Climbing Up or Just Muddling Through? - Democratic Transitions in Today's Ukraine

On Saturday, March 3, 2007, at 7:30 p.m.

At the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey
in Whippany, NJ

Mr. Ryabchuk, a resident of Kyiv, has lectured in Europe, Canada and the United States. His books and articles on nation building, civil society, nationalism and national identity have been translated into Polish, French, German and Serbian. He is a former Fulbright scholar and a winner of the Antonovych Prize. He will speak in English.

OUT AND ABOUT

- | | | | |
|------------------------------------|---|--------------------------|--|
| February 5-March 2
Lakewood, NJ | Trypillian ceramics and pottery exhibit, featuring Myron Bokalo, Georgian Court University, 908-851-0617 or 732-987-2200 | March 2
Toronto | Film screening and lecture by Yuri Shevchuk, "Language Wars in Ukrainian Cinema: The Triumphs and Defeats of Film Dubbing," University of Toronto, 416-946-8113 |
| February 23
New York | Concert, "Epic Songs Across the Steppe: An Intercultural Collaboration," featuring Ukrainian and Kyrgyz epic songs, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110 | March 3
New York | Lecture with Andriy Legkyj, "Trends in Contemporary Instrumental Chamber Music in Ukraine: Names and Works," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130 |
| February 24
Windham, NY | Annual ski and snowboard races, Carpathian Ski Club Ski Windham, 518-263-4866 or 201-387-8061 | March 3
Baltimore, MD | March Madness, Ukrainian National Home Dnipro, 410-529-5375 or 410-967-0501 |
| February 24
New York | Lecture with Dr. Ihor Husak, "Sudden Cardiac Death: Causes and Mechanisms," Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130 | March 3
Whippany, NJ | Discussion by Mykola Ryabchuk, "Climbing Up or Just Muddling Through? - Democratic Transitions in Today's Ukraine," Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 973-292-9800 x3071 |
| February 24
Jenkintown, PA | Ukrainian Cartoon Festival, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166 | | |
| February 24
Mississauga, ON | Ukrainian Dance Festival, featuring Barvinok, Desna, Vatra, Ukraina, Yavir and Academy, The Living Arts Center, 905-306-6100 | | |
| February 25
New York | Lecture by Tatiana Kulish Shestopalova, "The Sun Clarinets' as the central theme in lyrical poetry of Pavlo Tychyna during 1918-1924," Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences, 212-222-1866 | | |
| February 25
Buffalo, NY | Mardis Gras party, featuring music, beer, Cajun punch and New Orleans food, Ukrainian Home Dnipro, 716-847-6655 | | |
| February 25
Jenkintown, PA | Banquet to benefit the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166 | | |
| February 25
Colebrook, CT | Ice skating party, Bobrivka, 203-932-4376 or 860-883-1391 | | |
| February 25
Chicago | Concert featuring Solomiya Ivakhiv, Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art, 773-227-5522 | | |

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

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Soyuzivka's Datebook

- March 3-4, 2007**
Plast Fraternity "Khmelnychenky"
Annual Winter Rada
- March 9-11, 2007**
Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekends offered at SUNY
New Paltz
- March 23-25, 2007**
Plast Sorority "Chornomorski
Khvyli" Rada
- April 8, 2007**
Traditional Blessed Ukrainian Easter
Day Brunch, doors open at
11:30 a.m.
- April 13-15, 2007**
Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekends offered at SUNY
New Paltz
- April 20-22, 2007**
BUG (Brooklyn Ukrainian Group)
Spring Cleaning/Volunteer
Weekend
- April 21, 2007**
Alpha Kappa Sorority Semi-Formal
Dinner Banquet
Wedding
- April 27-29, 2007**
Plast Sorority "Shostokryli" Rada
- April 28, 2007**
TAP New York Beer Festival at Hunter
Mountain - 10th Anniversary!
Round-trip bus from Soyuzivka,
special room rate \$60/night
Alpha Phi Delta Fraternity Semi-
Formal Dinner Banquet
- May 4-6, 2007**
Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekends offered at SUNY
New Paltz
- May 13, 2007**
Mother's Day Luncheon
- May 19, 2007**
Tri Valley High School Prom
- May 25-27, 2007**
Memorial Day Weekend BBQ,
Orchidia Patrons' Reunion,
Summer kick-off and zabava
- June 1-3, 2007**
Ukrainian Language Immersion
Weekends offered at SUNY
New Paltz
- June 4-8, 2007**
Stamford Clergy Days -
Spring Seminar
- June 9, 2007**
Wedding
- June 10-15, 2007**
UNA Seniors Week
- June 17, 2007**
Father's Day Luncheon and Program
- June 21-24, 2007**
UMANA Convention
- June 24-July 6, 2007**
Tennis Camp
- June 24-July 1, 2007**
Plast Camp - Tabir Ptashat,
Session #1
- June 25-29, 2007**
Exploration Day Camp Session #1,
ages 7-10



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

ONGOING

LAKELAND, N.J.: An exhibit of Trypillian ceramics and pottery created by Myron Bokalo will be on display through March 2 here at the Christina Geis Gallery, located in the Arts and Science Building of Georgian Court University. For more information contact Myron or Marika Bokalo, 908-851-0617, or the gallery, 732-987-2200.

Friday, February 23

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Museum will present "Epic Songs Across the Steppe: An Intercultural Collaboration," featuring a performance of Ukrainian (dumy) and Kyrgyz (dastans) epic songs. Co-produced by New York Bandura Ensemble (NYBE) and Yara Arts Group, the evening features renowned performers of Kyrgyz dastans Omurzak Kaipov, Asylbek Nasirdinov and Kenzhegul Satybaldieva counterpointed by examples of dumy and other epic repertoire performed by Julian Kytasty and NYBE's lira and husli expert Ilya Temkin. The program begins at 7 p.m. Admission: \$15; \$13 for seniors and museum members; \$10 for students. The Ukrainian Museum is located at 222 E. Sixth St., New York, NY 10003. For more information see www.brama.com/yara Reservations are required; call 212-228-0110.

Saturday, February 24

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society and its Scholarly Section of Medicine and Biology invite all to a lecture by Dr. Ihor Husak, department of pharmacological and physiological science, St. Louis University School of Medicine, on the subject "Sudden Cardiac

Death: Causes and Mechanisms." The lecture will be presented 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, February 25

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Academy of Arts and Sciences (UVAN) invites the public to a lecture by Tetiana Kulish Shestopalova on the topic "The Sun Clarinets" as the central theme in lyrical poetry of Pavlo Tychyna during 1918-1924." Ms. Shestopalova is an associate professor of Ukrainian literature at Luhansk Taras Shevchenko National Pedagogical University; this year she is a Fulbright Scholar at Columbia University. The event will take place at 2 p.m. at UVAN, 206 W. 100th St. (between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue). For additional information call 212-222-1866.

Saturday, March 3

WHIPPANY, N.J.: The Ukrainian American Professionals and Businesspersons Association presents the renowned public intellectual Mykola Ryabchuk, who will speak on the subject "Climbing Up or Just Muddling Through? - Democratic Transitions in Today's Ukraine" at 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey. Mr. Ryabchuk, a resident of Kyiv, has lectured in Europe, Canada and the United States. His books and articles on nation-building, civil society, nationalism and national identity have been translated into Polish, French, German and Serbian. He is a former Fulbright scholar and a winner of the Antonovych Prize. He will speak in English. For information call 973-292-9800, ext. 3071.

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.



Ukrainian Film Festival

March 9-11 2007

friday: Short Feature Films & Documentaries
saturday: Best Short Films of 2006
sunday: Ukraine - A View from the West

Films introduced and discussion led by
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