

**INSIDE:**

"A Ukrainian Summer" –  
a special 16-page pullout section.

# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

## Ukrainian and Polish presidents commemorate 1947 Akcja Wisla



UNIAN/Mykola Lazarenko

Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko prays alongside Polish President Lech Kaczynski during an April 27 ecumenical service in Warsaw commemorating the 60th anniversary of Akcja Wisla.

by Larysa Marchuk and Zenon Zawada  
*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

LVIV – Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko on April 27 commemorated the 60th anniversary of Akcja Wisla, the 1947 forced resettlement of 150,000 Ukrainians and Lemkos, with a visit to Polish President Lech Kaczynski in Warsaw and a Lviv requiem the same evening.

The two presidents prayed together at

an ecumenical prayer service led by Patriarch Lubomyr Husar of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, assisted by Ukrainian and Roman Catholic clergy, in the Presidential Palace's chapel.

They signed a joint statement to develop bilateral cooperation as part of an extended reconciliation process between the Polish and Ukrainian people and met with Ukrainian diaspora leaders.

(Continued on page 8)

## Former Canadian PM Brian Mulroney receives UCC's and Ukraine's top honors

*Ukrainian Canadian Congress*

WINNIPEG – At an April 1 banquet organized by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress with the patronage of the Ukrainian Embassy, Canada's 18th prime minister, Brian Mulroney, was honored with the highest award bestowed by the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, the Shevchenko Medal, and the highest honor Ukraine extends to a foreign citizen, the prestigious Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise.

These special awards – presented in the presence of current Prime Minister Stephen Harper and 14 of his Cabinet colleagues as well as numerous parliamentarians, Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash, former Premier of Saskatchewan Roy Romanow, Archbishop Yuriy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada, Bishop Stephen Chmilar of the Ukrainian Catholic Church – commemorate the decision of Prime Minister Mulroney's government to make Canada the first Western government and only the second in the world to recognize the independence of Ukraine in December 1991.

Additionally, Ukrainian Canadians remember that Mr. Mulroney appointed the first Ukrainian Canadian, John Sopinka, to the Supreme Court of Canada and it was under his government that the first Ukrainian Canadian, Ramon Hnatyshyn, became the head of state as Canada's governor general.

Mr. Mulroney called two Ukrainian Canadians from the province of Saskatchewan to the Senate of Canada:

David Tkachuk and Raynell Andreychuk.

Over 400 guests gathered at Ottawa's Chateau Laurier Hotel witnessed UCC President Orysia Sushko presenting the Shevchenko Medal to Mr. Mulroney. Earlier, Ambassador Ostash awarded him the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise on behalf of the president of Ukraine.

The importance of Mr. Mulroney recognizing Ukraine is very much understood and appreciated in Ukraine. The ceremony was reported on Ukrainian television the following day. (Readers may visit the UCC website, [www.ucc.ca](http://www.ucc.ca), to see footage from Channel 5)

The fact that such a large and important group of Ottawa decision-makers was present at this event shows the significance Canada's places in its relationship with Ukraine and acknowledges Canadians of Ukrainian descent have played and will continue to play a significant role in Canada's development.

There was a large turnout of national media at the banquet, impressing even long-time observers of the political scene in Ottawa. Indeed, it is doubtful if in the history of the Ukrainian community in Canada there has ever been such a high-powered assembly of politicians and journalists at a UCC-sponsored gathering.

UCC board member Bob Onyschuk related to the assembled audience how Mr. Mulroney, while in Kyiv in 1989, made a strong gesture of moral support to the emerging Ukrainian national liberation movement by meeting with pro-

(Continued on page 4)

## President fires two judges from Constitutional Court, as political crisis continues

by Zenon Zawada  
*Kyiv Press Bureau*

KYIV – As Ukrainian President Viktor Yushchenko began firing judges from the Constitutional Court, dismissing two this past week, his opponents called on the international community to intervene in the nation's political crisis before a civil war erupts.

"The president's latest unlawful decree to dismiss a second Constitutional Court judge forces us to state that Viktor Yushchenko is pushing Ukraine down a path of anarchy and chaos with his anti-constitutional acts," said coalition partners Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, Verkhovna Rada Chair Oleksander Moroz and Communist Party of Ukraine

(Continued on page 4)

## Ukraine's new foreign affairs minister visits D.C.

by Yaro Bihun  
*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk visited Washington last week for talks with Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice and other U.S. government officials, members of Congress, businessmen, representatives of Washington's think-tanks and other groups.

He used the last meeting of his April 30-May 1 visit – with representatives of the Ukrainian American community at the Embassy of Ukraine – to summarize some of the major points discussed during his talks, beginning with the internal political problems that have been plaguing his country over the past year: the political duel between President Viktor Yushchenko and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich.

"We have our internal problems. But every country has domestic problems," he explained. "And what is going on right

(Continued on page 5)



Yaro Bihun

Ukrainian Foreign Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk converses with a group of young professionals and students from Ukraine who came to see him lay flowers at the Taras Shevchenko monument in Washington.

## ANALYSIS

## Ukraine reaps harvest of presidential indecision

by Jan Maksymiuk  
RFE/RL Newswire

Following the tumultuous Orange Revolution in 2004, Ukraine is facing its second serious crisis in just less than three years. President Viktor Yushchenko on April 2 issued a decree dissolving the Verkhovna Rada and calling for early elections in May, but both the government and Parliament refused to obey it. On April 26 Mr. Yushchenko signed another decree, rescheduling the early elections for June.

Mr. Yushchenko's new decree on early parliamentary elections effectively annuls his decree of April 2, which has been undergoing examination for its compliance with the Constitution of Ukraine by the Constitutional Court since April 17. It is expected that the Constitutional Court, in accordance with its rules of procedure, will soon end consideration of this decree now that it is no longer valid.

Many Ukrainian legal experts and political commentators have opined that President Yushchenko's April 2 decision to disband the Verkhovna Rada was poorly justified, predicting that the Constitutional Court would invalidate it. According to them, by issuing another decree Mr. Yushchenko obviates such an unfavorable turn of events.

In his first decree, Mr. Yushchenko quoted Article 83 of the Constitution, which stipulates that a government majority in Parliament be formed by deputies factions. Since the ruling coalition had expanded its parliamentary representation with some 40 lawmakers from other factions in March, Mr. Yushchenko argued the coalition violated the Constitution, thus providing him with the right to disband the legislature in order to put the political process in the country back on a constitutional path.

However, the moot point for Mr. Yushchenko's opponents from the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party is that the reasons for early parliamentary elections are specified in Article 90 of the Constitution.

This article stipulates the president may call early elections if the Verkhovna Rada fails to form a majority in accordance with Article 83 within 30 days after its first sitting; fails to approve a new Cabinet within 60 days after the dismissal or resignation of the previous one; or fails to gather for a sitting within 30 days during an ongoing parliamentary session. None of these reasons was explicitly mentioned in Mr. Yushchenko's April 2 decree.

The new presidential decree refers to Point 1 of Article 90 as a reason for the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada. It remains to be seen whether, as Mr. Yushchenko implies, the defection of more than 30 opposition deputies to the ruling coalition in March may be considered the formation of a new majority. But at any rate, as one legal expert recently told RFE/RL's Ukrainian Service, the new decree at least provides the Constitutional Court with substance for discussion.

Apart from causing headaches for Constitutional Court judges, the current constitutional crisis poses the disturbing

question of whether democracy, which was so joyfully celebrated on Independence Square in Kyiv during the 2004 Orange Revolution, has a chance to survive in Ukraine.

Despite ongoing street protests by both supporters and opponents of the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada, the situation in Kyiv and in the provinces has so far been under the government's control. But it is evident Ukraine is slowly edging toward political and legal chaos, which may culminate in a violent scenario if the president, the prime minister, and Parliament fail to find a solution quickly.

Could the current confrontation between the key institutions of Ukraine's political system – the president and the Verkhovna Rada – have been averted?

The seeds of a potential institutional conflict in Ukraine were sown during the 2004 Orange Revolution in a hurriedly passed constitutional reform that enabled all political players at that time to find a way out of an electoral impasse and paved the way for Mr. Yushchenko's victory over Viktor Yanukovich in the repeat second round of the presidential election.

The 2004 political-reform package included many vague formulations and loopholes that Messrs. Yushchenko and Yanukovich both have subsequently tried to use to their advantage. Prime Minister Yanukovich eventually took the upper hand in January when the Parliament passed a law on the Cabinet of Ministers. This law expanded the prime minister's powers at the expense of the president even more than the Constitution amended in 2004, which essentially transformed Ukraine from a presidential republic into a parliamentary-presidential one.

However, this law was not enough for Mr. Yanukovich, who launched a campaign to lure away lawmakers from opposition caucuses in order to build a majority of at least 300 votes that would enable him to override presidential vetoes, amend the Constitution or even abolish the presidency in Ukraine. Had it not been for Mr. Yushchenko's decree on early parliamentary polls, Mr. Yanukovich might have succeeded in this plan.

But it would be totally wrong to put the blame for the current crisis only on Mr. Yanukovich's appetite for power. Mr. Yushchenko should also take a measure of responsibility, because on many occasions he indicated he would like to abolish the 2004 political reform and regain the executive prerogatives enjoyed by his predecessor, Leonid Kuchma.

In short, Prime Minister Yanukovich and President Yushchenko showed disrespect for the Constitution amended in 2004 and the checks and balances that were included in it to shift the country's authoritarian political system toward a more European model. Both leaders have failed to pass a test of political responsibility and moderation and have shown they are true representatives of the post-Soviet mentality, for which a "strongman" is still the ideal of a political leader.

Mr. Yushchenko's decision to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada should have been made in July 2006, when Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc and the Socialist Party buried all chances to recreate their post-Orange Revolution ruling coalition, and the Verkhovna Rada

(Continued on page 10)

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

## NEWSBRIEFS

### President sacks two judges

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko has dismissed two judges of the Constitutional Court, Valerii Pshenychnyi and Suzanna Stanik, Ukrainian media reported on May 1. The dismissal decrees, dated April 30 and May 1, respectively, say laconically that Judges Pshenychnyi and Stanik were released of their duties because of a "breach of oath." Both judges were appointed to the 18-member Constitutional Court by former President Leonid Kuchma. Lawmakers from the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party on May 1 appealed to the Constitutional Court to declare the decree on the dismissal of Judge Pshenychnyi unconstitutional. Party of the Regions leader Viktor Yanukovich, Socialist Party leader Viktor Moroz and Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko said in a joint statement the same day that Mr. Yushchenko's dismissal of Judge Stanik "is pushing Ukraine onto a path of anarchy and chaos." The three politicians added that the president "is trying to paralyze the work of the Constitutional Court, which is the only body capable of regulating the relations between power branches." They also called on the international community "to immediately intervene in Ukraine's situation and send its representatives, who could perform the role of intermediaries." (RFE/RL Newswire)

### Yatseniuk: no foreign mediators needed

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk said in Washington on April 30 that Ukraine is able to resolve the ongoing political standoff between the president and the Parliament without foreign intermediaries, Interfax-Ukraine reported on May 1. "The current political tension in Ukraine may be eased and the leading political players will find an acceptable solution without engaging international mediators," Mr. Yatsenyuk said in a speech at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. Mr. Yatsenyuk reportedly stressed that the Ukrainian political elite has repeatedly demonstrat-

ed its ability to bridge seemingly irreconcilable differences and tackle the most difficult problems through a peaceful and democratic dialogue even in more challenging conditions. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### President explains Piskun reappointment

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko told reporters in Warsaw on April 27 that his decision to reappoint Sviatoslav Piskun as procurator general had been dictated by his desire to see the Procurator General's Office more efficient when the country is in crisis, reported the presidential press service. "I want the Procurator General's Office to work like a clock. This can only be achieved if it has a leader," Mr. Yushchenko said, adding that certain political forces wanted to destabilize the office. He said he had not appealed against a court ruling to restore Mr. Piskun so as "not to waste time." (Ukrinform)

### PM urges early presidential elections

KYIV – In order to settle the political crisis, President Viktor Yushchenko should announce a snap presidential election simultaneously with the early parliamentary elections, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said on April 27, addressing a rally on Independence Square. "We demand that the president make a brave move. If he respects his country and the people, he should take this honest and brave step," the prime minister stressed. Mr. Yanukovich added that the political force he leads is not afraid of elections, but without a presidential election these will not ease tensions in the country. (Ukrinform)

### 160 deputies contest new decree

KYIV – More than 160 petitions from national deputies were registered at the Constitution Court on April 27 questioning the constitutionality of President Viktor Yushchenko's April 26 decree on dismissal of the Verkhovna Rada and scheduling of pre-term elections for June 24. At the same time the court continued its hearings about the president's April 2 decree. (Ukrinform)

(Continued on page 9)

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# Lemkos of Ukraine remember ethnocidal Akcja Wisla

by Zenon Zawada  
Kyiv Press Bureau

STRYI, Ukraine – Volodymyr Baisa was an infant when his family was forced to resettle 900 miles away, in the Kharkiv Oblast in 1945.

They refused to remain, and soon began a treacherous trek back with the hope of returning to Chorone, their native village in the heart of Lemkivschyna.

By then it was too late, as the revised Curzon line had already been drawn. “We couldn’t cross the border, which was closed at that point,” he said.

The Baisas reluctantly settled in Drohobych, a region more closely resembling their homeland than Ukraine’s eastern edge, in 1947.

Sixty years later, Mr. Baisa led Drohobych’s Lemko community in mourning the anniversary of an ethnocide committed against his people, several thousand of whom now live in Halychyna.

The modest ceremony, attended by 150 Drohobych residents, included a report on Akcja Wisla by Ivanna Uzdyhan, vice-rector of Ivan Franko State Pedagogical University, and a performance by the university’s Boian Drohobytshykyi chamber choir.

In neighboring Stryi, Lemko leader Oleksander Venhrynovych told more than 300 gathered in the Culture Building that the effort to preserve and rehabilitate the Lemko culture is only beginning.

Like the Jews in the Holocaust, Lemkos weren’t the only victims of Akcja Wisla, an ethnocide perpetrated by the totalitarian governments of Poland and the Soviet Union. However, their ethnic group suffered the greatest damage.

Akcja Wisla was the forced resettlement of Ukrainians and Lemkos from lands secured by Poland – an ethnic cleansing conducted under the pretext of fighting against Ukrainian insurgents.

“This argument doesn’t hold up to criticism from a military point of view,” Prof. Uzdyhan said in her Drohobych lecture. “Instead of waging military battles against insignificant Ukrainian insurgent forces, they apparently needed to implement a resettlement against a civilian population 100 times greater in size.”

Ukrainian insurgents numbered no more than 1,400 soldiers, based on her research, Professor Uzdyhan said.

## Ethnocide’s two main phases

The ethnocide occurred in two main phases.

Between 1944 and 1946, the Polish and Soviet governments collaborated in resettling more than 400,000 Ukrainians, including Lemkos, from lands procured by Poland to what is now independent Ukraine.

Those regions once settled by ethnic Ukrainians on territory that is currently Poland are Lemkivschyna, Nadsiania, Kholmschyna and Pidliashia.

Soviet and Polish communist propaganda mislabel this phase as voluntary, whereas the vast majority, such as the Baisa family, were forcibly resettled.

In the operation’s second phase, the Polish government between April and July 1947 uprooted about 150,000 Ukrainians and Lemkos from the Lemkivschyna, Kholmschyna, Nadsiania and Pidliashia regions and forcibly resettled them in northern and western Poland.

“If the resettlement of 1944 and 1946 was conducted on some formal, legal basis in the form of the September 9, 1944 agreement, then Akcja Wisla was a flagrant and brutal abuse of power that



Zenon Zawada

## Drohobych Lemkivschyna Association Chair Volodymyr Baisa.

had no legal basis,” Prof. Uzdyhan said.

Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin intentionally drew the Soviet-Polish border at the Curzon line in order to tear at the heart of the Ukrainian community and split it in two, enabling the Polish government to commit the ethnocide, she said.

“There were various phases to implement one intention – ridding historic lands and native homes of people whose only crime was that they were Ukrainians,” Prof. Uzdyhan said.

Currently, an estimated 80,000 to 100,000 Lemkos live in Poland, according to ethnographers, in addition to tens of thousands in Ukraine, with the highest concentrations in the Ternopil Oblast.

Evidence of the ethnocide’s success is that fact that only about 10,000 Lemkos presently inhabit Lemkivschyna.

The ethnic cleansing was so thorough that even mixed families, in which one spouse was Lemko or Ukrainian, were obligatorily included in the deportations.

For many Lemkos living in Ukraine, their identity is limited to the knowledge that they have Lemko roots.

## Pockets of Lemko culture

However, separate pockets of Lemko culture have flourished. In the Lviv Oblast, Lemko choirs thrive in Drohobych and Rudno. Lemkos gather for an annual June “vatra” (bonfire) in the town of Monastyrsk in the Ternopil Oblast, regarded as the Lemko hub of Ukraine.

The goal of the All-Ukrainian Lemkivschyna Association is to support the rebirth of the Lemko sub-ethnos and culture, said leader Oleksander Venhrynovych during an April 28 address in Stryi.

Plans are under way to establish Lemko cultural centers in Monastyrsk and Kyiv, and festivals have been held in Lviv, Chortkiv and even as far east as Luhansk.

Mr. Venhrynovych led the effort to enable Lemkos to successfully earn “war participant” status in Ukraine, qualifying them for benefits that other World War II veterans enjoy, such as a 50 percent reduction in utility bills.

The most important remaining political goal of Lemkos in Ukraine is to obtain deportee status from the Ukrainian government in the form of a law that condemns what happened, apologizes for its role and grants Lemkos compensation, he said.

“We are striving for material and moral compensation from the Cabinet of Ministers,” he said. “We also want visa-

free travel [between Ukraine and Poland]. We have the right to visit our graves and cemeteries. The government is supposed to help us.”

Ministers and Verkhovna Rada committee chairs change so often that it’s difficult to coordinate the cooperation in legislative efforts, Mr. Venhrynovych said. Furthermore, Ministry of Justice and Ministry of Finance representatives alleged Lemkos weren’t forcibly deported, but left voluntarily, he said.

“Ukrainian historians have supported that this was a deportation bordering on genocide,” Mr. Venhrynovych underscored.

The current coalition government has installed Communist Hryhorii Popov to chair the government committee that reviewed Lemko affairs and Communist Leonid Hrach to chair the Verkhovna Rada’s Human Rights Committee.

In the most far-reaching legislative attempt thus far, the Verkhovna Rada failed by six votes to include deportee status legislation on its daily agenda.

“Today in democratic European countries, they discuss the priorities of individuals,” Mr. Venhrynovych said. “But here, an entire sub-ethnos of the

Ukrainian people, which lost its land and roots, is dying. We can’t meet on our native lands.”

Among the least mentioned tragedies of Akcja Wisla are the massacres at Pawlokoma and neighboring villages, 66 murdered Ukrainian priests, more than 300 burnt Ukrainian churches and thousands of concentration camp prisoners at Jaworzno, he said.

“After 60 years, it would seem that time heals,” Mr. Venhrynovych said. “But no. The pain remains in our hearts. Nobody has apologized for this tragedy.”

He said he wanted to hear an apology from Mr. Yushchenko at the April 27 Lviv requiem on behalf of the Ukrainian government, as the successor to the Ukrainian Soviet Socialist Republic which collaborated in the first phase of Akcja Wisla.

However, no Polish or Ukrainian leader has yet to issue a formal apology for the deportation and ethnocide, Mr. Venhrynovych said. Neither has either Parliament.

“Yushchenko said he bows his head before our people,” he said. “He might have bowed his head, but he did not apologize.”

## FOR THE RECORD: Yushchenko’s address to the Ukrainian nation

Following is the English translation of the text of the president’s televised address to the nation. It was released by the Press Office of Ukraine’s President on April 25.

Dear Fellow Citizens:

On April 2, I issued a decree to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada. As I explained at that time, the motive behind my decision was clear and simple – Ukraine’s parliamentary coalition had been formed through unconstitutional means. Mandates of lawmakers were manipulated on the basis of political corruption, which led to the manipulation of your votes and your choice. This was, in fact, a revision of the political results of the elections and a brutal violation of the fundamental principles of the Constitution. The ruling coalition was deliberately expanding its majority to make its rule uncontrollable, posing a threat to the nation’s sovereignty and Ukraine’s constitutional order.

On July 11, 2006, the rules of coalition formation also were violated, when individual deputies joined it, but all the participants of the political process, including me, Ukraine’s president, thought it was an episode. We thought it was necessary to pass this episode, for the country needed political stability after two election campaigns. However, in March of 2007, the practice of luring opposition lawmakers into the majority became widespread and common. This led to massive violations of the Constitution. You, your choice, our freedom and our country, its sovereignty and unity were in grave danger. As the guarantor of Ukraine’s supreme law and the observance of your rights and freedoms, I stopped this assault and had to interfere in the situation in Ukraine’s Parliament by disbanding it.

I fulfilled my obligation as Ukraine’s president. I protected the national Constitution, and, in fact, I fulfilled my oath of office.

So today I want to state firmly: there

will be an early parliamentary election in Ukraine. This is the only way to vaccinate Ukrainian politicians with the sense of responsibility for each of you, because you are the real power. You rule the state and form the source of government and the country’s government. My position is uncompromising: I firmly demand the snap poll must be well-prepared and held.

I would like to say that I heeded a statement by the Central Election Commission, which had been made two days ago, that it had no quorum, creating very serious obstacles and making it impossible to hold the election on May 27, 2007. These impediments were also enumerated in yesterday’s ruling by the Supreme Administrative Court of Ukraine. I expressed my concerns to Ukraine’s prime minister over the refusal of the Cabinet of Ministers to finance your vote. This action is criminal.

At the same time, one month has passed since the Verkhovna Rada reformatted the coalition unconstitutionally. Now the president of Ukraine can fully exercise his right to dissolve Parliament according to Article 90 of Ukraine’s Constitution.

I am confident in the legality and political expediency of such a decision. I am convinced Ukrainian society will understand it, as will all responsible Ukrainian politicians.

So we will have the election. We will hold it peacefully, fairly and in a democratic manner, as should be done in a democratic state. In order to conduct it without problems to democratically resolve problems in the country’s life and guided by Article 5 of Ukraine’s Constitution, I am signing a decree to call an early election for June 24, 2007.

My step is sober and reflects constructive political will. Ukraine needs changes. The people of Ukraine deserve a better fate and better politics. I am determined and eager to achieve this.

Thank you for your attention.

## President fires...

(Continued from page 1)

Chair Petro Symonenko in a joint statement released on May 1.

"The president's next step could be a decree ordering tanks onto the streets," the statement further said.

While the president's opponents allege he is sabotaging the Constitutional Court because he fears it will overturn his decrees to dismiss Parliament and call pre-term elections, his supporters argue it's the Ukrainian president's prerogative to dismiss judges who violate the law.

Through whichever prism the conflict is viewed, Mr. Yushchenko's recent political gambits have demonstrated his willingness to resort to most any controversial measures short of violence to survive the ruling coalition's assault on the Ukrainian presidency.

"It looks suspiciously like politically motivated actions by Yushchenko, but given the machinations taking place between the judges, it seemed sufficient cause," said Ivan Lozowy, president of the Kyiv-based Institute of Statehood and Democracy, which is funded by Ukrainian business donations.

"He seized the procedural violations to buttress himself on the Constitutional Court. Now he has better chances for a more favorable decision," Mr. Lozowy added.

Beside the façade of its alarming statements warning of chaos and war, Mr. Yanukovich and Raisa Bohatyriova of the Party of the Regions on May 3 once again signaled their willingness to accept pre-term parliamentary elections as part of a political compromise.

The prime minister called for renewed roundtable discussions to hammer out a law on pre-term elections, which should take place within a "realistic timeframe."

Mr. Yanukovich made a particularly emotional, perhaps melodramatic, plea for peace at the May 3 Cabinet of Ministers session. "We are not supposed to allow the country to be divided, or spill a single drop of blood," Mr. Yanukovich said. "Are we

not people, and do we not have tongues? Can we not reach agreement? And we don't have heads, and consciences?"

### Dismissing judges

In an April 30 presidential decree, Mr. Yushchenko dismissed Assistant Court Chair Valerii Pshenychnyi, who violated the secrecy of the deliberation room by publicly disclosing how judges voted on several matters, the president's lawyers said.

They also revealed that Mr. Pshenychnyi illegally appointed fellow Judge Suzanna Stanik as the court's reporting judge.

The next day the president signed another decree dismissing Ms. Stanik, who was indirectly accused by the Security Service of Ukraine (SBU) on April 16 of accepting \$12 million in bribes through her elderly mother.

After the SBU's press conference, the Procurator General's Office led by Donetsk prosecutor Oleksander Medvedko claimed it had no legal basis to investigate the allegations.

Mr. Yushchenko has since replaced Mr. Medvedko with Sviatoslav Piskun, a Party of the Regions national deputy who served under former President Leonid Kuchma and was left in place when Mr. Yushchenko assumed the presidency in January 2005.

Both Ms. Stanik and Mr. Pshenychnyi were judges appointed under the president's quota, which Mr. Yushchenko claimed gave him the prerogative to dismiss them.

His opponents accused him of flagrantly violating Ukrainian law.

"There's not a country in the world in which a president, who is responsible for upholding laws and the Constitution, himself destroyed the legal playing field with his own hands," Mr. Yanukovich said at the May 3 Cabinet of Ministers meeting.

Ms. Stanik asked Mr. Piskun to review the legality of the president's dismissal decrees, while Mr. Pshenychnyi had a personal meeting with Mr. Piskun to air his complaints.

The Procurator General said he would investigate their complaints.

On May 3, Mr. Yushchenko announced Stepan Havrysh as a replacement judge. Mr. Havrysh was a leading supporter of former President Kuchma, openly supporting his re-election to a third term of the Ukrainian presidency.

He has always been an opponent of Mr. Yushchenko and Orange political forces. Mr. Havrysh is also member of the Social Democratic Party of Ukraine – United, notorious for its involvement in organized crime.

Presidential Secretariat Chair Viktor Baloha likely had a heavy hand in Mr. Havrysh's appointment, given his ties to the SDPU from Zakarpattia Oblast, Mr. Lozowy said.

### Keeping a distance

In response to the coalition's call for international intervention, the press office of the European Commission for Foreign and Neighborhood Policy stated on May 3 that the European Union (EU) will maintain its position that the Ukrainian political crisis is a domestic matter.

The nation's politicians should reach a political compromise based on the Constitutional Court's verdict, the press office stated. The EU isn't even considering intervening because Ukrainian politicians have "all the democratic instruments to resolve the situation," the press office explained.

During his visit to the United States on April 30-May 1, Minister of Foreign Affairs Arseniy Yatsenyuk said Ukraine's political players are capable of resolving the crisis in an acceptable manner without involving international intervention.

Mr. Yushchenko has held that position since the start of the crisis, while coalition leaders have been calling for international assistance for several weeks.

"The world waved its hand at us and told us to do whatever we want," said Hanna Herman, a Party of Regions national deputy.

### CEC in business

The Central Election Commission

(CEC), hampered for weeks by the Cabinet's freeze on financing and absent commissioners, achieved its first quorum in weeks, even working through the four-day weekend designated by the government for the May Day holiday break.

In preparation for pre-term elections, the CEC said it received the necessary election lists and nominations from most major political parties and blocs, with the exception of the coalition forces.

The three coalition political parties all ignored a May 3 deadline to register for pre-term elections set by CEC Chair Yaroslav Davydovych.

CEC Commissioner Andrii Mahera said the commission is working efficiently to prepare elections for the proposed June 24 date.

Parliamentary opposition leader Yulia Tymoshenko has firmly insisted pre-term parliamentary elections not be delayed beyond the new June 24 date, regardless of whether the coalition parties meet the deadline.

However, political observers concur that the public would not view any pre-term parliamentary elections as credible without the participation of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party.

### Supporting the opposition

Opposition forces held a rally on April 28 on European Square that was attended by about 20,000 supporters.

Among those addressing the crowd was Mr. Yushchenko, marking the first time the president participated in a rally since dismissing the Verkhovna Rada on April 2.

Once again, he fed the public's appetite for nostalgia by embracing Ms. Tymoshenko on stage.

He told his supporters pre-term parliamentary elections are a foregone conclusion. Ukraine is in the midst of a parliamentary crisis, in which the coalition had been unconstitutionally formed, he said.

"Today in Parliament a manipulation of deputies' mandates is taking place, in which the political results of the elections are essentially being rewritten," Mr. Yushchenko said. "This is a gross violation of the Ukrainian Constitution."

Furthermore, 171 national deputies have surrendered their mandates, which ensured Parliament's dismissal.

## Ukraine's ambassador visits Rochester area

WASHINGTON – Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Oleh Shamshur visited Rochester and Irondequoit, N.Y., on April 20-22.

He met with members of the Rochester and Irondequoit local governments, the leaders of the Irondequoit-Poltava Sister-Cities Committee and members of the board of directors of the Ukrainian Federal Credit Union based in Rochester, as well as representatives of financial, industrial and investment groups.

During the meetings the ambassador discussed Ukrainian-American bilateral relations at a regional level and stressed the importance of deepening sister-cities relationships between Poltava and Irondequoit. Dr. Shamshur also promoted investment opportunities in Ukraine, as well as its industrial, scientific, technological and human potential.

Ambassador Shamshur also met with the Ukrainian community of Greater Rochester and participated in a concert dedicated to the 15th anniversary of the Irondequoit-Poltava Sister-Cities Committee. (Embassy of Ukraine in the United States)

## Former Canadian PM...

(Continued from page 1)

independence protesters in front of the Taras Shevchenko monument.

In his acceptance remarks, Mr. Mulroney cited the contribution of Canadians of Ukrainian descent to the development of Canada and the importance that his government put on supporting democracy and national self-determination of the people of Eastern Europe and the Soviet Union.

Money raised at the testimonial ban-

quet will go to support the Children's Hospital of the Future project in Kyiv, an undertaking of the Ukraine 3000 Foundation. Sen. Raynell Andreychuk and Northland Power President James Temerty served as masters of ceremonies for the event.

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In a news release issued by the Office of the Prime Minister, it was noted that Prime Minister Harper applauded Ukraine President Viktor Yushchenko for awarding the Order of Prince Yaroslav

the Wise to Mr. Mulroney.

The release also noted "Our country stood with the brave people of Ukraine, of the Baltic republics and the other captive nations of Central and Eastern Europe, Prime Minister Harper said. Today they are free people living in free nations. And they are grateful to the strong Western leaders who stood firm against the Communists and their apologists.

"Ukrainians can rest assured, the Prime Minister concluded, that Canada's new government will continue to support Ukraine's right to determine her own destiny."



Ukrainian Canadian Congress President Orysia Sushko presents the Shevchenko Medal to Brian Mulroney.



The former prime minister of Canada receives the Order of Prince Yaroslav the Wise from Ukraine's Ambassador to Canada Ihor Ostash.

## Ukraine's new...

(Continued from page 1)

now is part of a normal political process.”

He said that President Yushchenko “has taken a strong but, we feel, correct position” on holding early parliamentary elections and other issues. The prime minister and his allies disagree, of course, he added, stressing that the dialogue between the opposing parties must continue.

“That’s how a democracy works,” he said. And if new elections do take place, they will be as democratic as the previous elections, he said.

Minister Yatsenyuk said he thanked the United States for not getting involved in these internal Ukrainian affairs. “Ukrainian political problems should be resolved by Ukrainian politicians and not by the U.S. Congress or government.”



**Arseniy Yatsenyuk, foreign affairs minister of Ukraine.**

During his meeting with Secretary Rice, he said, in addition to the obvious major bilateral and international issues, he said he also raised the possibility of improving bilateral cultural and educational relations, including student exchanges, which served their countries well in the past but had been neglected.

He said he presented the secretary of state with his government’s draft of an action plan – or “roadmap,” as he called it – for the “formalization” of the U.S.-Ukraine bilateral relationship.

The meeting at the State Department was one of the last of Mr. Yatsenyuk’s visit, which began the previous morning at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace with his speech and discussion focusing on Ukraine’s major political and economic concerns.

Ukraine’s economy was the dominant theme of the foreign affairs minister’s luncheon meeting with the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, where he highlighted Ukraine’s good economic performance, showing an 8 percent GDP growth rate. But he also mentioned some of its problem areas, including the lack of growth in foreign investment.

As one of the 50 American listeners later observed, it had been some time since they witnessed a senior Ukrainian official so “confident, comfortable and competent” as Minister Yatsenyuk. The 33-year-old Ukrainian official also surprised many with his English fluency, and his use of “idiomatic” English, as one long-time Washington observer noted after his appearance at Carnegie.

Economics and trade also dominated his talks with Deputy U.S. Trade Representative John Veroneau. (On his last visit to Washington, in March 2006, as Ukraine’s minister of the economy, Mr. Yatsenyuk and U.S. Trade Representative Rob Portman signed a bilateral World Trade Organization accession agreement.)

On Capitol Hill Mr. Yatsenyuk had sepa-



Yaro Bihun

**Foreign Affairs Minister Arseniy Yatsenyuk meets with Ukrainian American community representatives at the Embassy of Ukraine at the conclusion of his two-day visit. Seated to his right is Ukraine’s Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Shamshur.**

rate meetings with Sen. Richard Lugar (R-Ind.) of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee and David Price (D-N.C.), co-chairman of the House Advance Democracy Commission. He also had a luncheon meeting with members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, co-sponsored by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America.

During his meeting with Ukrainian American representatives, Mr. Yatsenyuk was asked about the possibility of opening a Ukrainian cultural center in Washington. He said the Ukrainian government is in the process of looking to buy an appropriate building or premise for such a center. Indeed, he added, on his first day here he inspected three possible sites.

“The problem is that they are somewhat overpriced,” he said, but expressed his hope that a suitable building would be found and that the Verkhovna Rada would approve funds for the project.

Asked about the plight of the Ukrainian diaspora in Russia, he pointed out that there is a Ukrainian cultural center in Moscow. He said he visited there two weeks earlier, but was embarrassed at the lack of unity in the Ukrainian community there. He said it was fragmented into three major associations and close to 150 smaller groups – unlike the large Ukrainian community in Siberia, which is well-organized.

Kyiv will try to promote Ukrainian educational programs in Russia, as Moscow is doing in Ukraine, he said. Russia, however, is not being very coop-

erative, he added.

As for the Ukrainian diaspora in the United States, he said Ukraine understands its importance and respects all that it has and continues to do for Ukraine.

Along that line, he made a surprising personal disclosure that he has Ukrainian American familial links – with non other than Petro Mirchuk, the lifelong prominent participant of the Ukrainian liberation movement and its historian who died in Philadelphia in 1999.

As have most of Ukraine’s high-level officials visiting Washington, Mr. Yatsenyuk paid his respects to poet Taras Shevchenko on his last day here by placing flowers at his monument. He did not have formal remarks to the 100 or so people who gathered there to witness the event. However, looking underfoot as he descended the steps from the monument, he expressed his dismay at the state of disrepair and neglect of the terrace below, where weeds were taking over gaps left by missing paving blocks and sprouting through cracks between those still there.

Without targeting any possibly responsible party, he strongly suggested that the situation should be remedied.

Asked later about who was responsible for the maintenance of the monument area, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America President Michael Sawkiw Jr., said that under the old regulations governing the Shevchenko monument, the National Park Service was responsible.

## OBITUARY: Jurij Solovij, 85, Ukrainian American artist

by Yuriy Tarnawsky

NEW YORK – The renowned Ukrainian American artist Jurij Solovij passed away on Monday, April 23, in Rutherford, N.J., at the age of 85, after a brief illness. He had been in poor health since being injured in a house accident in 1993.

Mr. Solovij was born on June 6, 1921, in Lviv. He graduated from the Lviv Arts and Crafts school in 1944 before emigrating to Germany. He moved to the United States in 1952 with his German wife, Lotte-Liese, and son, Jurij Jr., and settled in New Jersey, working for many years as textile designer before retiring from that profession and devoting himself fully to his art.

Mr. Solovij was one of a handful of Ukrainian émigré artists of his generation who, after leaving his home country, managed to cut the umbilical cord of traditionalism that bound him to his past and walked the modernist road of contemporary Western art.

His early works show strong influence of German Expressionism, which over the years became more and more displaced by the elements of abstract American art. His favorite – practically his only – themes were existential ones: birth, pain, death. Crucifixion and martyrdom became the emblematic subjects of his paintings.

But he also painted portraits, often of well-known figures of the past and the present – Taras Shevchenko (with an ambiguous club in his hand), Stepan Bandera, Vasyl Barka, Pope John XX (in the shape of a space capsule) and perhaps his best known – a group portrait of the

avant-garde Ukrainian émigré writers, the New York Group (two versions).

Although an artist, he became a virtual member of the New York group by doing the art work for many of the group’s publications, in particular all 12 yearly publications of *Novi Poeziyi* (New Poetry). His modernist graphics became the face that the group presented to the Ukrainian reading public.

The few landscapes Mr. Solovij painted emit the same intense, existential air as his works with human figures – the empty space in them is just as tortured and disfigured as the miserable land and buildings in it. His most ambitious realized project was “1,000 Heads,” which resulted in works many times that number. In these, the artist explored different techniques, including those of sculpture. Even more ambitious were his designs for giant church frescoes, but they remained merely designs for lack of support.

Mr. Solovij’s work didn’t stop at visual art. He authored many articles on art and related topics, which were collected in the book “Pro Rechi Bilshi Nizh Zori” (About Things Greater than Stars, 1978), and which are charged with the same fierce modernist spirit as his works of art.

In 2000 the Ukrainian Institute of America hosted a retrospective exhibit of Mr. Solovij’s works which overwhelmed the viewer by its expressive power and scope. His most recent show was in a gallery connected with the Artistic Arsenal museum being constructed in Kyiv. It was hailed by critics as a homecoming of a key figure of 20th century Ukrainian art.

### DISTRICT COMMITTEE of UNA BRANCHES OF NORTHERN NEW JERSEY

*announces that its*

### ANNUAL DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

will be held on  
**FRIDAY, May 18, 2007, at 2:00 p.m.**  
at the UNA Home Office  
**2200 Route 10, Parsippany, NJ**

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

**25, 27, 37, 42, 70, 76, 133, 134, 142, 171, 172, 214, 234, 287, 340**

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:  
**Stefan Kaczaraj, UNA President**  
**Michael Koziupa, UNA 2nd Vice President**  
**Christine E. Kozak, UNA National Secretary**  
**Roma Lisovich, UNA Treasurer**  
**Eugene Oscislowski, UNA Advisor**

DISTRICT COMMITTEE  
**Stephan Welhasch, District Chairman**  
**Daria Semegen, Secretary**  
**Walter Honcharyk, Treasurer**

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### SUSTA is reborn

At the organizing meeting in July 1952, 40 students set in motion what was to become the Federation of Ukrainian Student Organizations (SUSTA). In August of that year, the organizing process, which was primarily entrusted to the student "hromada" in Cleveland, continued at a joint meeting with New York student clubs to lay the foundation for a November forum. Out of this forum was created an interim secretariat responsible for organizing SUSTA's founding congress held at Columbia University in April 1953. The 68 delegates representing 22 Ukrainian student clubs elected an 11-member executive board headed by Eleonora Kulchycka. Total membership at the time was 654 students at 50 universities.

Flash forward almost 50 years; The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America executive board earmarked \$5,000 to assist the organizing committee of the SUSTA conference that was to be held in Chicago on June 7-10, 2001. After nearly 10 years of dormancy, it was believed that SUSTA and its network of university Ukrainian clubs would arise once again to promote Ukrainian American issues on college campuses.

When students were asked, "What does it mean to be a Ukrainian student living in America?" their answers were divided based on whether students were reared in America or Ukraine. This, according to Christina Duzyj, director of American affairs at the Ukrainian Students Union of Canada (SUSK), was the reason why there was no unified Ukrainian student "movement" in the United States. According to the students' answers, American-born Ukrainians had emphasized the importance of Ukrainian culture, rather than on the country of Ukraine. These activities included varenyky-making, pysanka demonstrations and Ukrainian musical events rather than political activism.

However, according to SUSTA's current constitution, which was adopted on April 1, 2006, the organization is not politically affiliated and is non-denominational.

After the most recent SUSTA conference held on April 21, it seems that we are again witnessing the reawakening of a sleeping giant. But something feels different from 2001. Judging by the conference and talking with these students, we see a fierce determination to accomplish great things for Ukrainian studies and the community. Widespread use of new technology like the Internet and mobile phones, just as during the Orange Revolution, will surely help this revived organization bring its ideas to fruition.

We look forward to SUSTA's reaffirmed role as a training ground for the Ukrainian community's future leaders. Prove what you can do in SUSTA, translate your passion and your knowledge to your career, but use it also to sustain other Ukrainian organizations, whether professional, cultural or political.

We wish the newly revitalized SUSTA great successes in the coming years. May the new SUSTA continue the proud legacy of the early SUSTA, which was a symbol of hope for the future of the Ukrainian community as a whole.

Finally, as The Weekly said in 2001, we remind students of our "open invitation to students and student clubs to let yourselves be heard. Tell our readers about your activities and share your opinions. Use this paper as a networking tool. The pages of The Ukrainian Weekly will welcome you."

May  
9  
2006

### Turning the pages back...

Last year after the newly elected Verkhovna Rada came into power, the Socialist Party of Ukraine made it clear that it would not support any legislative effort to recognize the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) as a fighting force or grant

its veterans government benefits. This was despite the fact that Orange political forces comprised the parliamentary majority.

Oleksander Moroz, SPU leader, rejected President Viktor Yushchenko's call for UPA recognition to be among the conditions for forming the parliamentary coalition government.

After placing flowers at Kyiv's Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in the Park of Eternal Glory on May 9, Victory Day, which commemorates the defeat of the Nazis by the Soviets during World War II, Mr. Moroz said, "We don't need to include an issue that will divide society."

Without the Socialists, the votes from Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko blocs weren't enough to pass legislation that would grant UPA veterans equal status with Red Army veterans, both historically and financially.

Serhii Taran, director of the Institute of Mass Information in Kyiv, said that the Party of the Regions was more likely to support UPA recognition than the Socialists. According to Dr. Taran, recognition of the UPA by the Socialists would compromise the party's left-wing ideology that enabled its success in the elections, while the Party of the Regions, Dr. Taran continued, won the elections largely because it convinced eastern Ukrainian voters that it could provide for them materially.

In four years, eastern Ukrainians switched their support from the Communists to a party representing big business and bourgeois values. "When the Regions came to power and demonstrated the ability to provide material resources, eastern Ukrainians switched their party allegiance," Dr. Taran said.

Viktor Yanukovich, in a speech in 2004 as prime minister, seemed willing to support UPA recognition. He said: "I am sure that it's worth giving this status to all those who fought and freed our dear land. It's not necessary to separate them as 'ours' and 'foreign.' This is an issue for the nation, for city governments and in no case should there be such animosity within a nation."

In a May 6 radio address, President Yushchenko said that UPA recognition should be a condition for forming a parliamentary coalition. "This is our debt to the generation of our fathers," he said.

Source: *Recognition of UPA remains a controversial issue in Ukraine,* by Zenon Zawada, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, May 14, 2006.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Akcja Wisla: the event, its origins and context

by Tarik Cyril Amar

#### CONCLUSION

Akcja Wisla's effects, like its origins, were manifold. As Timothy Snyder has argued, Akcja Wisla was the final part in a series of population shifts, which made Poland an ethnically preponderantly Polish state. While the assimilation of the deported Ukrainians remained elusive, Akcja Wisla did bring the destruction of the last remnant of a traditional non-Polish settlement area in postwar Poland and made Poland's new south-eastern border unprecedentedly ethnic.

Some effects were paradoxical. Most obviously, by its quick and devastating success Akcja Wisla disproved its perpetrators' pretext of still having to fight a significant Ukrainian military underground. In fact, their victims were preponderantly helpless, while the UPA's and the OUN's combined losses of several thousand members were sufficient to essentially eliminate them in postwar Poland, even while some fighters escaped to Soviet Ukraine and shifted their target to the Soviet authorities.

The public presentation of Akcja Wisla as counter-insurgency also made the deportees hope that they would be allowed to return as soon as the underground was defeated. This, in turn, rendered them less likely to look on their new surroundings as permanent – the more so as the material conditions of the deportees, while not generally comparable to those inflicted on Soviet deportation victims, as Grzegorz Hryciuk has pointed out, were still very hard. Propaganda clichés of swapping poor mountain dwellings for the rich farms left behind by expelled Germans are silly.

A majority of the deportees did receive individual farms, but they were often in a dilapidated state with land classed officially as inferior and distributed according to labels of political unreliability stuck on the deportees during Akcja Wisla. Moreover, the deportees were impoverished not only by war but by the deportation itself, which led to a severe lack of tools, horses, furniture and even basic foodstuffs.

There were some state credits for them but, as analyzed by Igor Halagida, they amounted to little when distributed and also demonstrated discrimination: De facto, most deportees could expect about 10,000 zloty, while Polish settlers in the

*Tarik Cyril Amar, Ph.D., who is a Eugene and Daymel Shklar Research Fellow at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI), wrote his dissertation at Princeton University on the history of the city of Lviv between 1939 and the 1960s. (He lived in Lviv for two years.) He is currently preparing the dissertation for publication with the support of fellowships at the Harriman Institute Ukrainian Studies Program (last fall), at HURI (currently) and the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington (this summer).*

*The paper above is the basis for a presentation by Dr. Amar at the conference on Akcja Wisla organized by the Ukrainian Studies Program of the Harriman Institute at Columbia University on April 26. The conference theme was "Post-World War II Polish-Ukrainian Relations: Remembering the 1947 Forced Relocation Campaign 'Akcja Wisla.'"*

Regained Territories could claim between 100,000 and 200,000. Again, deportees hoping for a quick return sometimes refused any assistance or even to accept legal title to their new farms, fearing this would prejudice their claims back home.

Akcja Wisla, while aiming at assimilation, was also a great propaganda show, reinforcing a powerful and malignant image of a treacherous Ukrainian "Other," which could be dealt with only by an iron fist and deserved any punishment that might imply. With newspapers spreading the idea that all Ukrainians were at least potential pro-German "collaborators" – "bandits," "cut-throats" and "Banderites" – and that all Lemkos were Ukrainians – and Akcja Wisla obviously built on the same collective assumption, some communities in northwestern Poland were warned that the "murderers of Gen. Swierczewski" were about to arrive.

Moreover, other settlers in the Regained Territories included Poles driven out of former eastern Poland, i.e., those who were likely to have been radicalized in their attitude to Ukrainians by ethnic conflict and their own victimization there. Some local communities blocked train stations to prevent the disembarkation of the deportees and set up vigilante groups to watch them, while rumors spread about Ukrainians gathering former German weapons, uniting stereotypes of fear through the associative logic of the unconsciousness.

Yet such a nightmare situation, mightily worsened by authorities, who at the same time wanted the deportees to assimilate, obviously contradicted this aim. In fact, as reported from Olsztyn District, the region with the largest number of Akcja Wisla deportees, the latter kept having better contact with the so-called "autochthonous" and remaining German populations than with Polish settlers brought in to Polonize the area. Put differently, from the Polish party-state's repressive perspective, those regarded as unreliable found common ground instead of assimilating to the reliable.

Within a fundamentally lawless regime, Akcja Wisla created its own extra-legal space and practices, some of which doubled as propaganda by the deed. Those accused – rightly or wrongly – of membership in or support for the Ukrainian underground, combatants and civilians, faced public trials with organized publicity in a special military court set up for Akcja Wisla. Importantly, as Eugeniusz Misilo has pointed out, even the Army Penal Code articles most frequently employed in this judicial repression were different for Ukrainians and for Polish opponents of the regime. Ukrainians were sentenced mostly under article 85, emphasizing attacks on Polish independence or the integrity of Polish territory, Poles under Article 86, stressing attempts to change the political system or challenge its authorities. At the same time, the press, especially until 1948, kept reinforcing the image of the "fascist" Ukrainian nationalists, while applying similar stereotyping to at least parts of the Polish underground.

Thirdly, Akcja Wisla succeeded as well as failed in its assimilationist aims. It largely failed to make Poles out of Ukrainians but, as Timothy Snyder has suggested, it may have succeeded to some extent in making Ukrainians out of

(Continued on page 11)

# NEWS ANALYSIS: Boris Yeltsin, 1932-2007 – from populist to pariah

by David Marples

Boris Nikolaevich Yeltsin always seemed larger than life, and with a political career that spanned more than three decades, with two terms as president of Russia, he went a long way to determining the course of the post-Soviet Russian state.

As a politician he leaves a notable but essentially flawed record. Overall his failures appear to overshadow his triumphs, although the latter are far from negligible.

The most positive elements of his period in power came at the beginning rather than the end, essentially because Mr. Yeltsin was a more dynamic figure out of office than as the Russian president. To examine his career adequately, it needs to be analyzed in historical perspective to demonstrate how ultimately he turned against the Communist Party that nurtured him.

Mr. Yeltsin was born in the village of Butka, not far from the Siberian town of Sverdlovsk (formerly and currently, Yekaterinburg) on February 1, 1931. Though he was admitted to the Communist Party of the Soviet Union (CPSU) at the age of 30, his political advance began seriously in 1968, when he became a secretary of the Sverdlovsk Regional Committee of the party, and first secretary of this important industrial region in the period 1976-1985.

Robust, energetic and burly, Mr. Yeltsin had a reputation for productivity and for his ability to communicate with local workers. This "populism" would serve him remarkably well in the later Soviet period.

In March 1985 Mikhail Gorbachev became the general secretary of the Central Committee of the CPSU and before long brought Mr. Yeltsin to Moscow to take on the sensitive task of running the Moscow city party organization, formerly run by Viktor Grishin, allegedly a rival of Mr. Gorbachev for the leadership.

In the early days of glasnost and perestroika, as Mr. Gorbachev began weeding out party leaders who opposed radical changes, this seemed an appropriate move. But, within weeks of taking up his new position, Mr. Yeltsin mounted a frantic attack on corruption that offended many Moscow city bosses.

On November 11, 1987, and according to Mr. Yeltsin after he had been ordered by Mr. Gorbachev to get out of his hospital bed, the Siberian was given a dressing down by the Soviet leader and removed from office. In February 1988 he was also ejected from the ruling Politburo. However, this abasement did not end Mr. Yeltsin's political career.

Although he returned to the hospital and reportedly tried to commit suicide, he was permitted to serve the USSR as a deputy chairman of construction. Henceforth, however, he became disillusioned with Mr. Gorbachev and regarded him as a bitter enemy.

In the spring of 1989 Mr. Yeltsin returned to high office when he was elected a deputy of the Congress of People's Deputies, a new assembly in Mr. Gorbachev's reformed bicameral legislature. Though he narrowly missed being elected directly to the Supreme Soviet, the higher body, one of the latter's members gave up his seat to the

charismatic Mr. Yeltsin.

He now became the main political opposition to Mr. Gorbachev, always advocating that societal and economic reforms should take a more radical direction. He was a co-founder within the Supreme Soviet of the Interregional Group of Deputies, which included most of the reformist elements in the Soviet leadership.

Nevertheless, it was less through the federal structure of the USSR than that of the Russian republic that Mr. Yeltsin challenged Mr. Gorbachev.

In May 1990 he was elected chairman of the Russian Supreme Soviet, and two months afterwards gave up his Communist Party membership under the lights of the cameras at the 28th Congress of the CPSU. By now Mr. Yeltsin recognized that perestroika, Mr. Gorbachev's economic renewal program, had come to a standstill. Mr. Gorbachev had filled the Politburo with so-called "hard-liners" who were opposed to further reforms and felt that the progress toward a more diverse civil society was undermining the Soviet Union.

In March 1991 Mr. Gorbachev recognized the growing power of the USSR's constituent republics by holding a referendum on revising the union agreement of December 1922 to allow the republics full sovereignty over all aspects of their affairs other than defense and foreign policy. Russia demanded its own presidency, which was included as part of the referendum questions on Russian territory.

Thus, although the republics agreed to the notion of a revised union, the referendum served to notify the Soviet leadership that it now had to deal with a huge, newly empowered Russia.

Mr. Yeltsin duly won the first Russian presidential election in June, 1991 moved into the Kremlin, and embarked on a fairly ostentatious tour of the United States, where he was received warily, as one who might upset the carefully nurtured friendship between Mr. Gorbachev and President George H.W. Bush. Upon his return he banned the Communist Party from all Russian factories.

In August 1991 the hard-liners within Mr. Gorbachev's administration tried to sabotage the forthcoming union agreement by mounting a putsch in the streets of Moscow, placing the Soviet leader under house arrest at his summer home in the Crimea. It seemed that the USSR might return to the past after all.

Yet, the plotters inexplicably failed to arrest Mr. Yeltsin, who led resistance from the Russian Parliament, at one point climbing on to a tank and demanding the return of Mr. Gorbachev. The putsch collapsed within three days, but in that time Mr. Yeltsin had asserted control over weapons and military forces on Russian territory. His duplicity came to the fore when on the one hand he appeared to welcome Mr. Gorbachev back to Moscow, but on the other humiliated him before the Russian Parliament, furiously shouting that it was Mr. Gorbachev who had appointed the plotters to their posts and maintained faith in the treacherous Communist Party.

By December 1991 Mr. Yeltsin had asserted control over all resources in the Russian republic, thereby leaving Mr. Gorbachev as a puppet ruler. It was a coup from within. On December 8 he assured the expiry of the Soviet Union by signing an agreement with Ukraine and Belarus at Belavezha, near Brest, which formed the Commonwealth of Independence States. Mr. Yeltsin had reached the pinnacle of his power.

His eight years as president were less auspicious and are today correctly associ-

ated by many Russians with internal decline, corruption and the rise of oligarchs who were able to exploit the mass sale of government resources at cut-rate prices for immediate profits. Russia under Mr. Yeltsin embarked on shock therapy (initiated by Yegor Gaidar) that dramatically lowered the living standards of most of the population. By 1998 the state was bankrupt and the ruble collapsed.

Mr. Yeltsin's political directives were equally questionable. In October 1993 he "resolved" a critical impasse with the Parliament by sending in tanks, which destroyed the building where he had defied the putsch leaders two years earlier, killing more than 150 people.

In 1994 he ordered the Russian army to invade the autonomous republic of Chechnya, a volatile region that had formally declared its independence in 1991. It was a fundamental blunder, and the ill-prepared troops proved unable to match the Chechens' guerrilla tactics, sustaining an embarrassing defeat and armistice in

1996. However, undeterred, at the end of his presidency in 1999 Mr. Yeltsin agreed to the renewal of the war, which continues today with heavy losses of life and atrocities on both sides.

Though Mr. Yeltsin adhered to agreements with neighboring republics, he at times resorted to bullying tactics, particularly with Ukraine, where he continued to demand control over the Black Sea Fleet and the city of Sevastopol until his reelection as president in 1996. Thereafter he was mollified and signed a Treaty of Friendship with Ukraine in 1997, agreeing to a 20-year lease for the fleet, 83 percent of which remained in Russian hands. In return he was prepared to waive Ukraine's energy debts to Russia (something his successor, Vladimir Putin, would clearly not do).

With Belarus, he initiated a union state, in which Russia would be the dominant partner, though it was never formal-

(Continued on page 10)

## Quotable notes

"...in the longer historical perspective, it is clear that [Boris] Yeltsin, unlike his predecessor [Mikhail] Gorbachev, was a genuine man of transition.

"He knew things had to change, but he had neither the ideas nor the tools to change them. He had some of the instincts of a populist democrat but all the habits of a lifetime Communist Party apparatchik. He admired Western abundance but never understood how Western societies actually work.

"In truth, he belonged neither to the Soviet Union, which Gorbachev had hoped to revive, nor to the West, which [Vladimir] Putin now rejects.

"Had we ever been realistic about him, we would have understood his limitations from the beginning – and appreciated his strengths. And had we not embraced him uncritically, we would have been less disappointed when things turned out differently from what we, too, had hoped.

– Anne Applebaum, writing in her column titled "Russia's Agent of Change," *The Washington Post*, April 24

"He thought that it would be easier for Russia to carry out reforms if it unloaded other republics. What did unloading other republics mean? It meant the dissolution of the country. And he went down this path. Without Russia, Ukraine and Belarus, the Soviet Union could not be the same. It was a break-up.

"I think however that both he and I thought of one thing, to do more for the people. Our approach to this task was different. I was against shock therapies. I thought that we had to do it step by step. To be fair, the nation supported him at the time. This is history."

– Former Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, in his message of condolence aired on April 23 on *Ekho Moskvy*, as reported by the BBC Monitoring Service.

"Yeltsin was a historic figure who served during a period of momentous change. He played a key role as the Soviet Union dissolved, helped lay the foundations of freedom in Russia."

– George W. Bush, president of the United States, as quoted by *The Independent of London*.

"... Though Mikhail Gorbachev began the dismantlement of Soviet-style communism, it was Mr. Yeltsin who ensured that the process led, albeit temporarily, to democracy and liberal capitalism.

"He was also the chief protagonist of the Soviet Union's peaceful break-up, which has allowed 14 nations besides Russia to pursue their own destinies, including three that are now members of the European Union and NATO.

"Had Mr. Gorbachev, or Russia's current leader, Vladimir Putin, had his way, neither of these extraordinarily positive changes would have happened. Tragically, Mr. Yeltsin ended up destroying much of what he had achieved. ..."

– editorial, *The Washington Post*, April 24.

"Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin helped to destroy the Soviet Union and did much to bring Russia's democracy into existence. The former construction engineer was not a great builder of institutions; the democracy was flawed. But he had the right instincts.

"For liberating Russians from the yoke of the one-party state and the planned economy, he deserves immense gratitude. Yet his nepotistic and capricious rule spawned colossal lawlessness and corruption, paving the way for his authoritarian successor, Vladimir Putin. ..."

– *Economist.com*, April 23.

David Marples, Ph.D., professor of history at the University of Alberta and director of the Stasiuk Program for the Study of Contemporary Ukraine. He is the author of "Motherland: Russia in the 20th Century" (2002) and "The Collapse of the Soviet Union, 1985-1991" (2004). This article was originally published in the *Edmonton Journal*.

# Ukrainian Canadian curlers compete for Bulba Cup

by Wasyl Wysoczanskyj

OTTAWA – The 2007 Bulba Cup was contested on Saturday, April 13, at the Ottawa Curling Club and for the third straight year, a team from Ottawa won the trophy symbolizing Ukrainian Canadian men's curling supremacy.

Ottawa, skipped (captained) by Mychajlo Wysoczanskyj, took early control of the championship game against Montreal by stealing a single point in each of the first two ends. The teams then traded single points through the next three ends, leaving Ottawa leading 3-2 with last rock in the last end.

Montreal, skipped by Wasyl

Wysoczanskyj, appeared on the way to getting the steal it needed to send the game to an extra end when it buried a rock in the four foot. However, with his second rock, Ottawa's Zenon Woychyshyn executed a double angle raise takeout of the Montreal shot rock, leading Ottawa to a 6-3 victory. The win not only avenged an earlier loss to Montreal in the round robin but was Mychajlo Wysoczanskyj's first Bulba Cup title as skip (captain).

Two-time defending champion Brian Muzyka's Ottawa rink (team) struggled to find its form through the round robin, while John Hladky's Montreal rink could not recover from the last minute with-



Ottawa skip Mychajlo Wysoczanskyj delivers the rock on the way to the 2007 Bulba Cup championship.



Participants of the 2007 Bulba Cup.

drawal of their third.

Named after Taras Bulba, the Bulba Cup was initiated in 1990 by a group of avid Ukrainian Canadian curlers and, with a short break in the mid-1990s, has been held annually as a competition between curling rinks from Montreal, Ottawa and Toronto.

Originally, the Bulba Cup was a competition between one rink from Montreal and one from Toronto, but it evolved into a provincial rivalry pitting Quebec against Ontario. In 2000 it reverted to a competition among cities, with Ottawa being represented for the first time.

The record of wins by the rinks partic-

ipating since the cup was first played is as follows: Montreal and Ottawa, four championship titles each; Quebec and Ontario, two each; and Toronto, one.

The winning skips in the Bulba Cup championships were: Wasyl Wysoczanskyj, five wins; John Hladky, four; Brian Muzyka, two; and Ihor Kovalew and Mychajlo Wysoczanskyj, one each.

The 14th Bulba Cup will be held in March 2008 at The Royal Montreal Curling Club in Montreal; six rinks are expected to compete.

*Mychajlo Wysoczanskyj and Zenon Woychyshyn contributed to this story.*

## Ukrainian and Polish...

(Continued from page 1)

"With words of support, I turn to the Ukrainian diaspora in Poland and assure you that our country will do everything possible to satisfy your national rights to create new centers of Ukrainian culture, to open Ukrainian schools and other projects," Mr. Yushchenko said in his speech in Lviv.

"I am continuing the work of transferring the national home (narodnyi dim) in Przemysl (Peremyshl) to the Ukrainian community."

At the evening commemoration, Mr. Yushchenko declared that the two nations

had created "a culture of strategic partnership" between Ukraine and Poland. "I consider this process one of the biggest historical victories that our two large nations achieved," the Ukrainian president said.

He said Ukraine and Poland face large-scale and far-reaching tasks and are called "to unite Europe, give it a new political, economic and spiritual stimulus, and open a new European epoch."

Mr. Yushchenko blamed Akcja Wisla on the "Communist, totalitarian regime," which should be arrested and prosecuted. He also referred to the Jaworzno concentration camp, where 800 were imprisoned and 650 were killed.

[For more on observances of the 60th anniversary of Akcja Wisla, see story on page 3.]

As regards financing various projects, however, Mr. Yushchenko apparently hasn't reached a consensus with local leaders.

In accordance with his April 5 presidential decree, the president stated that a monument will be erected in Lviv this year to honor all Ukrainian victims of forced deportations and resettlements, to be financed by western Ukrainian benefactors.

However, that same day the chairs of the Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne and Zakarpattia oblast councils and

state administrations held a special session and voted to finance the monument with their respective oblast budget funds.

In his address, President Yushchenko also stated that the Lviv, Ternopil, Ivano-Frankivsk, Rivne, Zakarpattia and Volyn oblast councils had agreed to finance the renovation of 44 graves of Ukrainians in Poland, in accordance with the Bilateral Protocol on Joint Actions for 2005-2007.

But the special session of oblast state administration and council chairs also passed an appeal to the president expressing their concern for the lack of government financing for restoring Ukrainian military cemeteries and burial sites on Polish territory, indicating they would not finance it.

The oblast leaders also formed a commission to select the monument's design.

Mr. Yushchenko has taken significant initiatives on behalf of Akcja Wisla victims, community leaders said.

"I think Ukraine has entered a new, quality stage in evaluating Akcja Wisla," said Volodymyr Sereda, chair of the Zakerzonnia Union of Associations of Deported Ukrainians.

"Today is a historic chance to correct injustices that Ukrainians experienced in Poland during the rule of totalitarian regimes. And they have been voiced in the president's remarks and his decrees."

President Kaczynski did not travel with his Ukrainian counterpart to Lviv for the requiem at the Opera and Ballet Theater.

Alexander Kwasiński was the first Polish president to verbally condemn Akcja Wisla in April 2002. However no Polish president has issued a decree or resolution officially condemning the event.

The upper chamber of the Polish Parliament, the Senat, officially condemned Akcja Wisla – doing so in August 1990; however, the lower house, the Sejm, has not followed suit.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

### Six deputies initiate impeachment

KYIV – Six national deputies have initiated impeachment proceedings against President Viktor Yushchenko, it was reported on April 27. The six are: Kateryna Samoilyk, Oleksii Baburin and Mykola Kravchenko of the Communist Party, Yurii Karakai of the Party of the Regions, and Serhii Polischuk and Oleksander Kovtunenکو of the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. In their draft resolution, which was registered on April 26, the deputies argued that via his April 2 decree the president had attempted to curtail the constitutional mandate of the Parliament. They cited Mr. Yushchenko's violation, on several occasions, of the Constitution of Ukraine. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

### President insists on new elections

KYIV – President Viktor Yushchenko appeared at an opposition rally on European Square in Kyiv on April 28, assuring a crowd of some 20,000 supporters of the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada that early parliamentary elections will take place on June 24, as scheduled by his latest decree. "I will soon announce decisions that will guarantee the election takes place in a calm and appropriate manner," Mr. Yushchenko said without mentioning specific measures he plans to take. "I have sufficient means to ensure the preparation and staging of these elections. I will overcome any criminal sabotage. Any failure to act will be brought to account," he added. Meanwhile, Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich said at a rally of his supporters on Independence Square in Kyiv on April 27 that by issuing his decree to reschedule snap elections for June 24, President Yushchenko violated all the agreements the two of them had reached prior to that decree. (RFE/RL Newline)

### Deputies call for December elections

KYIV – Lawmakers from the ruling coalition of the Party of the Regions, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party on April 30 passed a resolution calling for early presidential and parliamentary polls to be held not later than December 9, following the introduction of relevant amendments to the Constitution, UNIAN reported. The resolution tasks an ad hoc parliamentary commission with preparing appropriate constitutional amendments by June 10. It is not clear what legal force, if any, the resolution will have in the ongoing institutional crisis in Ukraine. After issuing his two decrees on the dissolution of the Verkhovna Rada and early elections, President Yushchenko does not consider the current Rada a legitimate legislature. Meanwhile, lawmakers from the ruling coalition continue to hold parliamentary sittings pending the Constitutional Court's verdict on the presidential decrees. (RFE/RL Newline)

### Kyrylenko: Rada decisions are void

KYIV – Decisions that recently have

been adopted in the Verkhovna Rada have no legal effect since, starting from April 2, according to a presidential decree, the Verkhovna Rada of the 5th convocation has been dismissed, Our Ukraine leader Viacheslav Kyrylenko stated when commenting the Parliament's resolution on holding simultaneous pre-term parliamentary and presidential elections. "According to President Viktor Yushchenko's decree, the parliamentary elections will take place on June 24. Our Ukraine and other democratic forces are within the electoral process, and the nationally elected president is a guarantor for the election process to be transparent and democratic," Mr. Kyrylenko pointed out. Earlier he said in an interview with Channel 5 that integration of the Our Ukraine Bloc with the People's Self-Defense and the Ukrainian Pravysia bloc is absolutely possible. (Ukrinform)

### Rada announces extraordinary session

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada has announced an extraordinary session to move amendments to the state budget for 2007. It has also put on the agenda a draft resolution on conducting snap parliamentary and presidential elections. Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz noted that Parliament plans to adopt the resolution in line with Articles 3 and 5, Part 2, of the Constitution. The draft resolution states that the Parliament considers it necessary to hold parliamentary and presidential elections within 90 days after the relevant amendments proposed to the Constitution, but no later than December 9. The Rada ordered the government to take appropriate measures to provide financing of the elections, and the Central Election Commission should ensure timely preparations for the elections. The Rada's Committee on State-Building should draft a new version of the law on the election of national deputies, taking into account introduction of the open voters' list by June 10. A draft law on amendments to the Constitution should be elaborated by June 15 and provide for conducting snap presidential and parliamentary elections. (Ukrinform)

### Rada says new decree is illegal

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine at its April 26 sitting passed a resolution with 255 voices stating that there are no legal grounds for the presidential decree announcing a new date for elections. The resolution said the Rada considers the presidential decree of April 26 to be illegal. It also said the Cabinet of Ministers must be guided by the Verkhovna Rada resolution of April 2, which banned financing the elections. (Ukrinform)

### Moroz says president usurps power

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Oleksander Moroz said he believes the president's second decree on new parliamentary elections violates the Constitution. he charged that Mr. Yushchenko signed the decree to evade the Constitutional Court's verdict invalidating

the first presidential decree. Mr. Moroz expressed his readiness to file a new case with the Constitutional Court questioning the validity of this order. Referring to Article 5 of the Constitution, Mr. Moroz called the president's order an attempt to infringe on the authority of the Verkhovna Rada and usurp power. (Ukrinform)

### Opposition welcomes new decree

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc leader Yulia Tymoshenko welcomed the presidential decree of April 26 postponing new elections to the Verkhovna Rada to June 24. She said she believes the president signed the decree to meet the requirements of the Central Election Commission and the ruling coalition. The president's representative to the Verkhovna Rada, Roman Zvarych, noted that the president signed the decree dismissing Parliament based on his reasoning that any revision of electoral results could result in usurpation of power. Referring to Article 5 of the Constitution, Mr. Zvarych noted that the Ukrainian nation is the only source of power and that power should not be usurped by senior officials. (Ukrinform)

### 31.7 % would vote for Yanukovich

KYIV – Of the 2,039 respondents polled by the Kyiv International Institute of Sociology on April 14-19, 31.7 percent said they would vote for Viktor Yanukovich for president if the elections were held that week. Other respondents voiced their preferences as follows: 18.8 percent for Viktor Yushchenko; 14.7 percent for Yulia Tymoshenko; 2.5 percent for Petro Symonenko; 1.9 for Yurii Lutsenko; 1.5 percent for Oleksander Moroz; 1.4 percent for Volodymyr Lytvyn; and 1.4 percent for Natalia Vitrenko. Other poll findings indicated

that 4.4 percent would vote for a candidate other than those listed above; 13.9 percent said they could not cite their choice; and 8 percent said they would not vote. The margin of error for the poll was 3.5 percent. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

### Pope to meet with Yushchenko

ROME – Pope Benedict XVI will meet with President Viktor Yushchenko of Ukraine on May 7, when the Ukrainian president visits the Vatican. Mr. Yushchenko also expects to meet with Italian business leaders. (Ukrinform)

### CPU: no confidence in president

KYIV – The leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, Petro Symonenko has initiated a drive to collect signatures on a statement expressing no confidence in President Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Symonenko announced the drive, which he said would be conducted throughout Ukraine, during a speech in Parliament on April 27. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

### SPU questions president's health

KYIV – National Deputy Vasyl Volha of the Socialist Party said he wants to initiate medical supervision of President Viktor Yushchenko. Speaking in the Verkhovna Rada on April 27, he called on fellow deputies to establish a temporary investigative committee to determine the president's state of health. This committee, as well as an international experts' group should be created and should propose that the president undergo a medical screening. Mr. Volha said it might be appropriate to seek the president's dismissal based on his health status, in accordance with Article 110 of the Constitution of Ukraine. (Ukrayinski Novyny)

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## Ukraine reaps...

(Continued from page 2)

clearly overstepped the Constitutional  
time frame for forming a majority. At  
that time Mr. Yushchenko could have  
recaptured the political initiative and pre-  
sented himself as a decisive leader of the  
nation. What we see now is the direct  
consequence of his indecision in 2006.

The current political crisis seems to  
have been cunningly provoked by his  
enthusiastic ally in the Orange  
Revolution, Yulia Tymoshenko, who  
helped Mr. Yanukovich overcome the  
president's veto on the law on the  
Cabinet of Ministers and thus goaded  
Mr. Yushchenko into action against Mr.  
Yanukovich. Ms. Tymoshenko, for  
whom there has been no government role  
following the March 2006 elections, is  
the actor who most wants early elections  
and a new political opening.

Sociological surveys indicate that Mr.  
Yanukovich's Party of the Regions and  
Ms. Tymoshenko's eponymous bloc are  
poised to win a new poll and effectively  
inaugurate a two-party system in  
Ukraine. For any other country in transi-  
tion such a situation could be a blessing.  
For Ukraine – with Mr. Yanukovich's  
electorate entrenched in the east and the  
south and Ms. Tymoshenko's supporters  
grouped in the west – such an election  
outcome could turn into a nightmare.

For President Yushchenko, any reso-  
lution of the current standoff does not  
bode well. If he fails to enforce early  
elections, he will suffer the humiliation  
of being marginalized in Ukraine's polit-  
ical arena. If early elections take place  
and, as generally expected, the results  
reinforce the Party of the Regions and  
the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc at the  
expense of Mr. Yushchenko's Our  
Ukraine, his political stature will hardly  
improve. The time when Mr.  
Yushchenko could impose his will on  
Ukraine appears to have been lost.

## Boris Yeltsin...

(Continued from page 2)

ized. He also periodically demanded  
more rights for Russians living abroad,  
particularly in the Baltic states.

His term in office was plagued by sus-  
tained illness, including a quintuple cardiac  
bypass and bouts of drunkenness. On one  
occasion he was unable to alight from the  
presidential plane during a stopover in  
Ireland, as a band played on the tarmac.  
Yet, as a Russian analyst once commented,  
the key point was not that Mr. Yeltsin  
drank, but that he could not hold his liquor.

Despite economic problems, when Mr.  
Yeltsin handed over power to Mr. Putin  
in December 1999, he bequeathed a state  
that had the groundwork for a democrat-  
ic future: a freely elected Parliament, a  
free press and a civic society. These bene-  
fits have not disappeared, but they are  
clearly under threat.

Thus, it is simplistic to regard Mr.  
Yeltsin as the founder of Russian democ-  
racy. Russia's first president was a peo-  
ple's politician whose time as president  
was marred by physical illness, as well  
as erratic and unpredictable policies.  
Truly he stayed in office too long.  
Without doubt most Russians prefer Mr.  
Putin and the current stability.

However, it is in the late Soviet years  
that the figure of Mr. Yeltsin really  
shines as a stubborn and defiant politi-  
cian who played a major role in the  
demise of the Soviet Union (and the  
career of Mr. Gorbachev) that was at  
least as important as the arms race or  
economic stagnation and decline. For  
that alone, his place in history is assured,  
and historians will perhaps choose to for-  
give the sorry years that followed.

## Akcja Wisla...

(Continued from page 6)

Lemkos. Yet we need to bear in mind that this is a clearly under-researched issue, which, moreover, is marked by strong points of view, partly colored by politics of national identity reaching back to the 19th century and currently undergoing some revival. Thus, Lemko reactions varied – also, importantly, according to region.

Some Lemkos supported the UPA units fighting in their area, especially in the East. As Grzegorz Motyka and Peter Potichnyj argue (with, however, different emphasis on the significance of regional divides), the majority of the soldiers in two important units, under commanders “Khrin” and “Stakh,” were local Lemkos. According to Peter Potichnyj, there is even more and earlier evidence of Lemkos in UPA and UPA-directed units as well as leadership positions. The UPA was not merely an outside intruder.

While Akcja Wisla was not the only factor pushing some Lemkos toward a modern Ukrainian identity, common victimization as Ukrainians with Ukrainians may have been important in producing this result. At the same time, as Ewa Michna has stressed, the extent of assimilation among Lemkos has not really been researched yet.

Prima facie, faced with Polish resettlement, some Lemkos fighting with the UPA may well have been motivated not by Ukrainian nationalism but a simpler my-enemy’s-enemy logic, as historian Bogdan Horbal has stressed and UPA commander “Khrin” acknowledged to an extent, describing how he first talked to his Lemko soldiers about defending their village, then the Lemko region, and only finally all of Ukraine. Some forced drafting into UPA units did also occur, although its extent is unclear. Lemkos, one should also keep in mind, were also drafted into the Soviet forces, yet, notwithstanding the fact that many Lemkos were poor, it would be hasty to suspect that this reflected widespread pro-Soviet commitment.

In the central and western Lemko regions especially, the UPA complained that the locals were often hostile and likely to inform to the Polish authorities. Faced with anti-Ukrainian propaganda and prejudice, Lemkos may also have felt a need to emphasize that they were not Ukrainians or have been embittered by being officially identified with the latter. Some tried to

escape resettlement by adopting Polish identities through conversion and forged documents. Those who resented being seen as Ukrainians but were driven to assimilation were likely to choose a Polish identity over a Ukrainian one. Moreover, Akcja Wisla weakened the Greek-Catholic Church in Poland, which in turn may have amounted to removing a traditional Ukrainianizing factor among Lemkos.

The history of the Lemko-Ukrainian relationship from the 19th century on, while beyond the scope of this paper, was clearly ambiguous: While some Lemkos self-identified as Ukrainians, others have continued to resist this identity until now, preferring local, Rusyn, Old-Ruthenian, Carpatho-Slavonic, or simply Lemko identities. The first as well as the second world war left legacies of tension and mutual recrimination not only between Ukrainians and Poles but also between Ukrainians and some Lemkos.

During Akcja Wisla some Lemko victims as well as some representatives of the Polish authorities, for instance Wladyslaw Gomulka, who may have remembered being sheltered by Lemkos in 1943, were still arguing that Lemkos should be exempted from deportation. Thus, the inhabitants of Krosno village petitioned Gomulka, arguing that they were Lemkos, loyal to Poland and that the latter’s targeting them for repression and deportation contradicted the spirit of proletarian internationalism, corresponded to the Nazi “gospel of race hatred and superiority,” and would, if not stopped, leave a “black spot in history on our young worker-peasant republic.”

Yet, according to current estimates, nearly three-quarters of Poland’s Lemkos were deported to Soviet Ukraine, while Akcja Wisla removed 30,000 to 35,000 to north-western Poland. That the option of sparing at least the self-identifying Lemkos largely lost out as much as the option of making distinctions between Ukrainians marked an important turn. Yet it was also, again, an incomplete turn. When the Polish authorities permitted the establishment of a Ukrainian Association in 1956, the inclusion of a Lemko section and some Lemko-oriented publications did not satisfy some Lemko representatives. The tensions between Ukrainian and Lemko identities had clearly not been obliterated by Akcja Wisla. In 1958, an internal Soviet Ukrainian report for Mykola Pidhornyi was still – or again? – making a distinction

(Continued on page 13)

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нашої дорогої  
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**в Українських католицьких церквах:**

- св. Юра в Нью-Йорку,  
субота, 12 травня 2007 р., год. 9:30 ранку;
- церква св. Пророка й Предтечи Йоана Хрестителя в Сан-Дієго,  
год. 9 ранку;
- св. Михаїла в Нью-Гейвен,  
год. 8:30 ранку;
- каплиця при Українському Католицькому Університеті у Львові,  
п'ятниця, 11 травня 2007 р.

Вічна їй пам'ять!



## EUGENE JAROSEWICH

January 6, 1926 – April 30, 2007

With deep sadness, the family of Eugene Jarosewich, born in Peremyshl, informs our community that our beloved husband, father, brother and grandfather passed away April 30, 2007, at his home in Washington, DC.

The parastas was held on Friday, May 4, at Hines Rinaldi Funeral Home in Silver Spring, Maryland.

The funeral liturgy was held Saturday, May 5, at the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family in Washington, DC, followed by interment at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Maryland.

He leaves behind in sorrow his

wife	Lydia
daughter	Irene with husband Aleksandr Burakovskiy
daughter	Martha with husband Stephen Holder
son	Andrew with wife Tania and their sons Nicholas and Daniel
brother	Myron with wife Daria and their children Christine and Myron, Jr
brother-in-law	Roman Makarushka and family in Europe

In lieu of flowers, the family suggest that charitable contributions can be made to the Ukrainian Catholic National Shrine of the Holy Family (please note Jarosewich/Belltower Fund in memo) or to the Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation. In order for the family to properly thank everyone, please send contributions to Martha Holder, 3101 New Mexico Avenue NW, Unit 512, Washington DC 20016.



In loving memory of

**HALYNA LOBAY**

**nee MAKARENKO**

SEPTEMBER 1, 1919 – MARCH 15, 2007

our dear Wife, Mother and Grandmother,  
a direct descendant from the Kuban Cossacks,  
economist, university librarian, historian, artist.

The funeral liturgy was held on March 19, 2007, at St. Michael’s Ukrainian Catholic Church in New Haven, CT, followed by interment at the Orange Center Cemetery.

Memorial masses for the happy repose of her soul:

Ukraine:	Kyiv, Lviv, Hayi-za-Rudoyu
U.S.A.:	New Haven, CT; West Haven, CT; Hartford, CT; Orange, CT; Los Angeles, CA; Apopka, FL; New Rochelle, NY
Canada:	Montreal
Spain:	Torreciudad (Huesca)

She is also remembered at daily Masses in Connecticut, Florida, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Washington, D.C., Massachusetts, Illinois and Rome, Italy.

We thank our extended family and friends for their prayers and condolences and kindly ask to continue praying for Halyna.

Husband:	Ivan Lobay
Daughters:	Maria Lobay Halyna Vitagliano with husband Francis
Granddaughter:	Michaela

*May she rest in peace!*

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## Akcja Wisla...

(Continued from page 11)

between "Ukrainians" and "Lemkos," following a Polish party commission in accusing the latter of nationalist agitation and western-instigated "separatism," denying their Ukrainian identity.

As seen above, it is not easy to say when exactly Akcja Wisla ended. It is, however, easier to see when its underlying principles started being undermined and when it began to become history – even if, at first, in a deeply distorted way.

Akcja Wisla cannot be explained without reference to assimilationist or Polonization strategies. Yet if this was an essential element, then it is also important to note that it was quickly weakened: Even during Akcja Wisla, Ukrainians were at least partly resettled in larger groups than initially planned, thus subverting the aim of assimilation by dispersion. According to Grzegorz Hryciuk, the Polish authorities retreated quite soon from assimilationist maximalism. For whatever reasons, many surely opportunistic or contingent, Greek-Catholicism was severely repressed and abused but never fully and formally abolished as in Ukraine, while Orthodoxy had even a little more leeway.

For Akcja Wisla to enter the process of becoming history, which we still are participating in today, two inter-related things had to happen: Poland had to be permitted to abandon Stalinism and the official attitude to Ukrainians and to Akcja Wisla had to start changing. These factors coincided in the mid-1950s and, not coincidentally, it was also in the second half of the 1950s that first signs of a public history of Akcja Wisla appeared in Poland.

By 1956 an internal report of the Polish Ministry of the Interior could,

within the context of the times, hardly have been clearer in condemning Wisla's counter-productive effects:

"... implementing Akcja Wisla was incorrect and has brought irrecoverable losses. The application of the principle of collective responsibility, alien to socialism, of a whole part of the population for the activity of bands, [in] mass repressions (forced resettlement) was accompanied by serious infringements of the principles of Leninist nationality policy. As a result, ... Akcja 'W[isla]' has brought – next to economic losses ... – serious, still uncorrected political losses, namely: a strong feeling of injustice among the deported and an increase in nationalist attitudes among the deported as well as [their] Polish surroundings. The still unchanged discrimination in various spheres of life has reinforced this situation."

Stung by Ukrainian diaspora publications, by 1958 the Soviet Ukrainian authorities, too, stated openly – if internally – that, before 1955, postwar Polish policy toward the Ukrainian minority had contained "mistakes ... especially during" the first postwar years, adding, quite insightfully, that the mass population movements of 1945-1946, the deportation of the Germans from Poland, and the moving of Poles to Poland had "created an incorrect idea that the national question was completely solved for Poland, that in Poland there were, so to speak, no minorities left, [and] that Poland had become monolithic in national matters [jednolitnoiu v natsionalnomu vidnosshenni], which had led to policies of "forced Polonization [prymusovoi polonisatsii]."

Regarding history, Akcja Wisla and its context were first discussed at an official conference of the Polish Academy of Science and the Ministry of Defense. While the speaker, Gen. Ignacy Blum, conferred historiographic authority on

the misleading and apologetic explanation of Akcja Wisla as a necessary counter-insurgency operation against UPA "terror," he also, in a backhanded way, admitted its dubious nature, describing it as not fully justifiable by the "criteria of a broadly understood humanitarianism" but nevertheless worthy of "positive appreciation by history." He repeated the same line in an important article published in 1959 and several monographic publications of the Polish postwar army.

1958 was also the publication year of Jan Gerhard's "Luny w Bieszczadach," a milestone in the postwar Polish mythology of the fight against Ukrainian nationalism. It featured Akcja Wisla as well as a Gen. Swierczewski, justifying forced resettlement by international comparison, military necessity, and the alleged economic advantages for the resettled themselves. Interestingly, however, Gerhard, joining the discussion of Blum's work, also seemed to publicly qualify the military necessity of Akcja Wisla by writing that without it the fight against the UPA would

have lasted longer, implying that it would have been won anyhow, while recognizing that Akcja Wisla had been "painful from a humanitarian point of view."

Major advances in the historiography of Akcja Wisla, still marked by official propaganda but for the first time naming specific figures and mechanisms, including the Jaworzno camp and the special Wisla court, however, had to wait until the early 1970s. They were also still accompanied by direct censorship.

Even within Communist Poland, the extreme convergence of ethnic nationalism and Communism producing Akcja Wisla lasted for only a comparatively short period and was increasingly challenged from the later 1950s. Ultimately, however, we can see now that even a "liberalized" or "de-Stalinized" Communist regime could not allow a principal reassessment of Akcja Wisla. This had to wait for the end of Communism and, while not complete, has, by historical standards or if we think in terms of generations, been developing quickly.



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## Art Exhibition

Michael Murphenko

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www.ukrainianinstitute.orgUkrainian Federation of America  
honors two former congressmen

JENKINTOWN, Pa. - Ukrainian Federation of America Appreciation Awards were presented to founders and chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus, former Congressmen Charles F. Dougherty and Jon D. Fox on the occasion of the 10th anniversary of the re-establishment of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. Seen above (from left) are the guests of honor and UFA board of directors members: Dana Judyna, Marijka Tatunchak, Taras Lewyckyj, Lada Pastushak, Andrew Horbowy, Daria Lissy, Mr. Dougherty, Zenia Chernyk, Mr. Fox, Vera M. Andryczyk, Walter Maruschak, Roksolana Harasymowych, Bohdan Korzeniowski and Roman Cyhan. The awards were presented during the UFA's general membership meeting and awards reception held on March 24 at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center.

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# OUT AND ABOUT

- |                                 |  |                          |  |
|---------------------------------|--|--------------------------|--|
| May 10<br>Winnipeg, MB          | Lecture with Alexis Kochan, "Ukrainian Ritual Songs: A Personal Journey," Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center, 204-942-0218   | May 18<br>Toronto        | Lecture by Myroslav Shkandrij, "Kyiv Under the German Occupation, 1941-1943: Dokia Humenna's Memoirs," University of Toronto, 416-926-2075 |
| May 11<br>Seven Hills, OH       | Bowling Party, sponsored by the Buryverkhy Sorority of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, Seven Hills Bowling Lanes, 216-447-1868  | May 18<br>Jenkintown, PA | Film screening, "Pirates of the Caribbean: Dead Man's Chest" in Ukrainian, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166         |
| May 11<br>Parma, OH             | Klooch CD release party, Ukrainian American Youth Association hall, 216-870-8955 or 440-655-6230   | May 18-20<br>New York    | Ukrainian Festival, St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 201-805-1545 or maestroandrij@aol.com  |
| May 12<br>Independence, OH      | Debutante Ball, "Bal' Buryverkh," featuring music by Zahrava, DoubleTree Hotel, 440-237-2631   | May 19<br>Jenkintown, PA | Graduation banquet and ball, School of Ukrainian Studies, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166                          |
| May 12<br>Whippany, NJ          | 3-on-3 Basketball Tournament, sponsored by Whippany and Irvington Branches of the Ukrainian American Youth Association, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, 908-370-2210 or 908-377-7797 | May 19<br>New York       | Book presentation, "Like Blood in Water" by Yuriy Tarnawsky, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110  |
| May 12<br>Whippany, NJ          | "Vechirka" (dance for teens), sponsored by the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization Spartanky Sorority, Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, larissanycz@gmail.com                       | May 19<br>New York       | Memorial evening for Dr. Jaropolk Lassowsky, Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130   |
| May 12<br>New York              | Book presentation, "Poetry Translations" by Ostop Tarnawsky, Shevchenko Scientific Society, 212-254-5130   | May 20<br>Alexandria, VA | "Dueling Violins: The Krechkovsky Sisters," sponsored by The Washington Group Cultural Fund, The Lyceum, 202-244-8836                      |
| May 13-September 16<br>New York | Art exhibit, "A Collection Revealed: The Ukrainian Museum at 30 - Painting and Sculptures," The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110   | May 20<br>Jenkintown, PA | Concert, featuring the Voloshky dancers, Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 215-663-1166   |
| May 17<br>New York              | Bandura Downtown concert series, "Saints and Sinners: Songs of Worship, Penitence and Celebration," New York Bandura Ensemble, The Ukrainian Museum, 212-228-0110                                      | May 20<br>Parma, OH      | Barbecue dinner, Taras Shevchenko School of Ukrainian Studies, 440-886-3223 or 330-554-6429  |
| May 17-June 10<br>New York      | Art Exhibit by Michael Murphenko, "Hilism," Ukrainian Institute of America, 212-288-8660   |                          |  |

Entries in "Out and About" are listed free of charge. Please send e-mail to [staff@ukrweekly.com](mailto: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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## Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation Prepares to Expand



The Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation continues to be successful at raising funds to help the Church in Ukraine. Consequently, it needs more "workers for the vineyard," and is carrying out a search for a new Executive Director (see Job Description below for more details).

"Our major donors deserve more attention. By stepping down as executive director of the UCEF, I will have more time for them." So said John F. Kurey, Esq., who will continue to serve as President of the Foundation.

The main recipient of the UCEF's support is the Ukrainian Catholic University, a leading educational institution of the Ukrainian Catholic Church.

### UCEF Executive Director—Job Description

**Basic Job Description:** The Executive Director is responsible for the overall management of the Foundation's operations and for fundraising duties.

#### Some necessary qualifications:

- Committed, energetic and motivated by a desire to serve God, the Ukrainian Catholic Church and the Ukrainian Catholic University.
- Experience in managing a team of people and finances.
- Fundraising experience preferred.
- Organized and efficient.
- Willing to travel 25-50% of time and as required.
- Education level: College degree or higher.
- Respect for Ukrainian Catholic teachings and the Magisterium of the Catholic Church.

**Compensation and benefits:** Compensation will be competitive and based on experience and qualifications. The UCEF also offers a competitive benefits package.

For a more detailed job description please see:

<http://www.ucef.org/executivedirector>

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## Soyuzivka's Datebook

### MONDAYS, June 25-August 27, 2007

Steak Night with Soyuzivka House band located on Veselka Patio

### WEDNESDAYS, June 27-August 29, 2007

Hutsul Night with Soyuzivka House band located on Vorochta Lawn

### FRIDAYS, June 29-August 31, 2007

Odesa Seafood Night with Soyuzivka House band located on Veselka Patio

### SATURDAYS, June 30-September 1, 2007

Ukrainian zabavas (dances) featuring a live Ukrainian band

#### May 13, 2007

Mother's Day Luncheon 11:30 a.m.-  
2 p.m., \$15++

#### 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  
Weekend 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 15, 2007

Walkkill High School Retirement Party

#### June 15-17, 2007

4th Annual Adoptive Parents  
Weekend

#### June 16, 2007

Party

#### June 17, 2007

Father's Day Luncheon and program  
featuring Syzokryli Ukrainian  
Dance Ensemble, tenor Roman  
Tsybala and band Vidlunnia with  
Marian Pidvirnyj, 1 p.m., \$20++

#### 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

#### July 1-8, 2007

Plast Camp – Tabir Ptashat, Session #2

#### July 1-15, 2007

Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian  
Dance Workshop, Ages 16 and up

#### July 2-6, 2007

Exploration Day Camp, Session #2,  
ages 7-10

#### July 6-8, 2007

Fourth of July Festivities: Tiki Bar  
Entertainment, Concerts, Zabavas

#### July 8-10, 2007

Discount Days, 25% off all room rates

#### July 11-15, 2007

Ukrainian Film & Cultural Festival –  
featuring Roma Pryma  
Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance  
Workshop, Ukrainian films  
coordinated by Yuri Shevchuk,  
founding director of UFCCU,  
Ukrainian arts and crafts, and more

#### July 13-15, 2007

Ukrainian Language Immersion  
Weekend offered at SUNY  
New Paltz

#### July 15-20, 2007

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp,  
Session #1, ages 4-7

#### July 15-21, 2007

Discovery Camp, ages 8-15

#### July 22-27, 2007

Ukrainian Heritage Day Camp  
Session #2, ages 4-7

#### July 22-28, 2007

Sitch Sports Camp, Session #1,  
ages 6-18

#### July 27-29, 2007

Ukrainian Language Immersion  
Weekend offered at SUNY  
New Paltz

#### July 29-August 4, 2007

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

### Friday, May 11

**WHIPPANY, N.J.:** The Arts and Culture Committee of the Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey and the initiative committee of the New Jersey branch of the Shevchenko Scientific Society invite one and all to view a video from Ukraine and take part in a discussion on the topic "The Genesis of the Political Crisis in Ukraine." Participants in the video presentation: Yulia Tymoshenko and Viacheslav Kyrylenko; video program participants: political scientists, journalists, politicians and the Ukrainian public. The program begins at 7:30 p.m. at the UACCNJ, 60 N. Jefferson Road, Whippany, NJ 07981. For information call 973-585-7175.

### Saturday, May 12

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all to a presentation of the book "Poetry Translations" by Ostap Tarnawsky. This book, published on the occasion of the author's 90th anniversary, comprises translations of American and European poets, among them nine Nobel Prize winners. After an introduction by Vasyl Makhno, Marta Tarnawsky will report on her work on the bio-bibliographic index of the life and the creative heritage of Ostap Tarnawsky, as well as her new findings regarding his biography. Selected poems will be read by Svitlana Makhno. The program will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call 212-254-5130.

### Thursday, May 17

**NEW YORK:** The "Art at the Institute" program presents "Hilism" an exhibition of recent and past works by Michael Murphenko a contemporary artist from Kyiv. The public is invited to the opening reception for the exhibition at 6 p.m. The exhibition will continue through June 10.

The Ukrainian Institute of America is located at 2 E. 79th St. To attend the opening reception RSVP by calling 212-288-8660 or e-mailing programs@ukrainianinstitute.org.

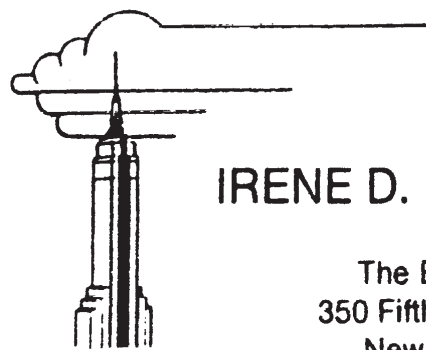
### Saturday, May 19

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Museum and the University of Alabama Press/FC2 invite everyone to a reading on the occasion of the publication of Yuriy Tarnawsky's new book of mini-novels, "Like Blood in Water." Mr. Tarnawsky will be joined by Jeremy Davies, Adam Jones, Steve Katz and Joseph McElroy. A reception will follow the reading. The event takes place at 6 p.m. at The Ukrainian Museum, 222 E. Sixth St. (between Second and Third avenues). Reservations are required; please call 212-228-0110 or write to info@ukrainianmuseum.org. For further information visit the museum's website at www.ukrainianmuseum.org.

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society invites all of its members to participate in the society's annual meeting with reports, which is scheduled for 2-4 p.m. Preceding the meeting will be sessions of the society's scholarly sections, starting at 1 p.m., after a noontime lunch. The program will take place at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets). For additional information call 212-254-5130.

### Sunday, May 20

**JENKINTOWN, Pa.:** The School of the Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble is hosting its annual Spring Festival at St. Michael Ukrainian Church, 1013 Fox Chase Road. The festival begins at 1 p.m. with a performance by the Voloshky School at 2:30 p.m. Admission: adults, \$5; children between the ages of 3 and 12, \$3. Come join us for an entertaining day on the beautiful grounds of St. Michael's. For additional information contact Andreja Kulyk, 856-755-9280.



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# A Ukrainian Summer

**Supplement to The Ukrainian Weekly, May 6, 2007**

*If it's 2007, then it must be the 11th year of "A Ukrainian Summer," our annual supplement dedicated to summertime activities that offer participants a little, or a lot, of something Ukrainian.*

*This year's 16-page pull-out section contains info on places to go, things to do, events to attend – from dance camps in New York state to spelunking in the Ternopil region of Ukraine; from Ukrainian studies at Harvard to sports camp at Soyuzivka. not to mention youths camps all over the place. And, of course, there are Ukrainian festivals – we just can't do without them!*

*Our thanks, as usual, go to the readers and community activists who submitted materials for this annual issue – and on deadline – thus enabling us to promote the diverse activities offered in the United States, Canada and Ukraine for everyone from preschoolers to adults.*

*We extend a special thank-you to Ukrainian Canadian mountain climber Danylo Darewych, who shared with us his exciting experiences in the Andes.*

*And to you, Dear Readers, we say: Enjoy this special supplement as a prelude to your wonderful "Ukrainian Summer"!*

## Roma Pryma Bohachevsky summer dance programs slated for Soyuzivka

by Chryzanta Hentisz

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – If you've ever watched in amazement as dancers glided, jumped and whirled around the stage, executing perfect moves in a dizzying kaleidoscope of color, and wondered where they learned to dance like that – the answer is simple. The dancers were trained by the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Foundation, whose summer programs are well-known as the premier training ground for young dancers wishing to improve both their basic skills and their Ukrainian dancing. This summer the programs will all take place at Soyuzivka, the estate of the Ukrainian National Association.

The workshop and camps will be under the direction of Ania Bohachevsky Lonkevych, who has ably continued her mother's legacy of training the finest Ukrainian dancers in the states and beyond. Ms. Lonkevych began dancing at an early age, attending the first-ever dance camp and then workshops since 1978. She also became one of the original members of the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble when it was founded in 1978. She ultimately assisted her mother and taught classes in Bridgeport and Fairfield, Conn., and Perth Amboy, Passaic and Clifton, N.J., in addition to helping run Ms. Bohachevsky's various programs.

Ms. Lonkevych will be assisted by Kristine Izak and Orlando Pagan, both of whom were trained by Ms. Bohachevsky to carry on her work. Ms. Izak, artistic director, earned a B.A. summa cum laude in dance, majoring in choreography and performance, and has taught at private dance schools in the Philadelphia area since 1991. She attended her first workshop in 1988 and was soon given the opportunity to assist Ms. Bohachevsky in teaching and choreographing. Ms. Izak has recently choreographed such popular works as "Don't Be Afraid To Live," set to the music of Maria Burmaka, and "Reach," a modern lyrical piece which has been presented numerous times at the opening and closing ceremonies of Race for the Cure at the Philadelphia Museum of Art. Ms. Izak is also a talented artist who creates beautiful scenery and costumes to enhance the fanciful fairy tales we see performed every year.



Dancers perform the "Pryvit" on stage at Soyuzivka.

Mr. Pagan is known and admired not only for his exceptional dancing but his charismatic teaching and exciting choreographies. Most recently, his energetic "Culture Shock" and whimsical "All Work and No Play" thrilled audiences at the Verkhovyna Youth Festival and other venues. Mr. Pagan began dancing with Ms. Bohachevsky in 1987 and under her tutelage became a principal dancer in Syzokryli as well as a choreographer and teacher of Ukrainian dance. He was a demi-soloist with the Dance Theater of Harlem and worked in film and onstage with world-renowned dancers and choreographers, including Mikhail Baryshnikov, Mark Morris, Arthur Mitchell and Alvin Ailey.

Mr. Pagan is artistic director of the Syzokryli Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, and the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Schools in New York as well as Zolotyj Promin in Hartford, Conn., Barvinok in Astoria, N.Y., and Mriya in Hempstead, Long Island.

Larisa Pagan, a soloist with Syzokryli and an experi-

(Continued on page 4)

## Camp ignited a love of Ukrainian culture

by Anna Chelak

MORRISTOWN, N.J. – The most important thing an adult can provide for a child is the guarantee of a successful future. Although some may set up college funds, there is a different way to assure that your child will have the confidence, peer support and happiness needed to achieve that goal.

Ten years ago this summer, I attended my first dance camp directed by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky at the beautiful resort of Soyuzivka. I was a tiny, shy and anxious 7-year-old, a first grader who couldn't speak Ukrainian and reluctantly danced only once a week during the year. It was the first time I would be spending more than a night away from my parents and had only the comfort of my older sister there with me. I was absolutely, positively terrified. Waking up early every morning for highly disciplined and rigorous ballet and character rehearsals was not my idea of a good summer. I cried almost every night the first week.

Yet there was something so amazing, so exciting and fantastic about those two weeks, something that has made me return to the camp year after year and has led me to a summer of Ukrainian dance for the 11th time this summer. The camp truly changed my life because it ignited a passion and love of the unique Ukrainian culture reflected in the Ukrainian community in the United States. The joy of being

(Continued on page 4)



Dance campers and instructors at Soyuzivka in 2006.

Russ Chelak

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### *Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute = university courses + special events*

by Peter Woloschuk

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute (HUSI) 2007 is offering an intensive eight-week curriculum of accredited university instruction in Ukrainian studies which will run from Monday, June 25, through Friday, August 17.

A wide variety of special events will supplement the institute's academic offerings. The program for 2007 includes guest lectures by prominent faculty, roundtable discussions with visiting scholars on current events in Ukraine, and cultural presentations, such as screenings of Ukrainian films and readings by a number of noted Ukrainian authors.

In speaking about the upcoming summer program, Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) Director Michael S. Flier stressed the fact that "as in past years, students have the opportunity to come to Harvard in the summer to immerse themselves in a unique, intensive Ukrainian experience they will not soon forget."

The intensive program is sponsored jointly by the Harvard University Summer School and HURI, and has offered courses since 1971. HUSI was developed to offer college- and graduate-level courses in Ukrainian topics – it is the only program of its kind in North America. Ukrainian language training is a principal but not sole focus of the program.

HUSI's language courses are proficiency-based and are aimed at developing communications skills in a variety of real-life situations. An entry test determines placement. The language program relies on Harvard's extensive language resources, including a library of recorded material, video films and programs, access to Ukrainian radio and television news and other programs, regular language labs, and extracurricular activities aimed at creating a near immersion language environment.

Students enrolled in HUSI can take advantage of Harvard's many research and instructional facilities – including the largest Ucrainica library collection outside of Eastern Europe – various museums and a state-of-the-art language resource center.

Over the years participants have included undergraduate and graduate students as well as professionals from North and South America, Asia, Africa, Australia, Western and Eastern Europe



The students of the 2006 Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute in front of the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute.

and Russia. Many students now come from Ukraine, taking advantage of new academic opportunities; these students also serve as a resource for other students on present-day Ukraine.

In its 36-year history HUSI has welcomed more than 2,000 students and boasts some outstanding alumni, including Father Borys Gudziak, rector of the Ukrainian Catholic University; Timothy Snyder, professor of history at Yale University; Federigo Argentieri, professor of History at John Cabot University in Rome who was instrumental in getting Robert Conquest's "Harvest of Sorrow" published in Italian; Kazuo Nakai, a prominent specialist in Ukrainian studies at the University of Tokyo, Japan; and William Gleason, formerly the first director of the Fulbright Program in Ukraine and a member of the U.S. Foreign Service Institute. Kateryna Yushchenko, the first lady of Ukraine, is also an alumna.

In reviewing the offerings of the summer program, Prof. Flier said, "Over the summer we offer a range of Ukrainian language courses taught by our experienced staff: Alla Parkhomenko (beginning), Yuri Shevchuk (intermediate) and Volodymyr Dibrova (advanced). Additionally, students can take topical courses from specialists in the fields of literature (George G. Grabowicz on reassessing the 20th century Ukrainian literary canon), political science (Alexander Motyl on theoretical approaches to current Ukrainian politics), and socio-linguistics (Prof. Flier on the competition between the Ukrainian and Russian languages in Ukraine and the phenomenon of the hybrid "surzhyk"). And finally, through the lectures, roundtable discussions, films and readings, HUSI participants gain a valuable broad perspective on current Ukrainian history and culture."

The summer program in Ukrainian studies was launched in 1970 by Prof. Omeljan Pritsak, HURI's founder, to maintain and strengthen a solid foundation of Ukrainian studies in the West and to open the Ukrainian course offerings at Harvard to college students at other institutions. Since the fall of the Soviet Union in 1991, the program has been enhanced by the increasing enrollment of students from Ukraine. In recent years, the program has attracted more and more graduate and post-doctoral students, whose enrollment has enriched the level of scholarship during the eight-week summer session. An additional and important new component in the student body consists of professionals in such fields as government service, journalism and business.

As a result, HUSI's mission has expanded and, while still supporting Ukrainian studies in the West, it also serves to break down the barriers isolating Ukrainian studies in Ukraine from the rest of the world. And this has benefited the advancement of true scholarship on both sides. Many American and

Ukrainian HUSI students have become lifelong contacts and professional collaborators. Ukrainian HUSI alumni often go on to greater academic achievement or reform in their home country. Take for instance Lviv National University's Center for Master's Program Development in Sociology and Cultural Studies. The director, Iryna Starovoyt, is a HUSI alumna, and many of the center's faculty are also HUSI alumni. This center supports some of the most sophisticated and up-to-date graduate education and research in Ukraine, and is instituting a reformed doctoral curriculum that will serve as a model for other academic departments and institutions in Ukraine.

Admission to the HUSI is based on academic performance, a letter of recommendation and an essay. To be eligible to apply, candidates must be 19 years old or have completed one year of college; exceptional high school students may be considered through the Secondary School Program. They must submit the Harvard Summer School registration form, the non-refundable \$50 registration fee (payable to Harvard Summer School), a separate Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute application form (available on the institute's website, [http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi/husi\\_admissions.html](http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi/husi_admissions.html)) and the supplementary materials that are listed on that form by May 25 to: Ms. Tamara Nary, Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, 34 Kirkland St., Cambridge, MA 02138. International applicants must include Summer School Form F with their applications.

Students are required to enroll for a minimum of eight units of undergraduate or graduate credit from the courses offered this summer. Although full tuition for the Harvard Summer School is \$4,550, students enrolled in the HUSI program pay a subsidized tuition rate of \$2,650 for eight units of credit.

For further information contact the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute at 617-495-7833.



Celebrating the Fourth of July in Harvard Square (from left) are: Andriy Vulochyn (Lviv), Natalia Budnikova (Moscow), Tomasz Kapusniak (Lublin), Tetyana Pechonchuk (Kyiv), Olena Ovchynnikova (Uman) and Olha Tychkivska (Rohatyn).

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### An enriching summer at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy

by Michael Jaskiw

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – Around this time last spring, I decided to enroll in the summer program at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy. The program is designed for college and advanced high school students from outside of Ukraine. The first four weeks are spent in Kyiv, studying Ukrainian language, history and culture; an optional fifth week takes students on an extended field trip to another region of the country.

In preparation for my first trip to Ukraine, I found myself addressing multiple concerns, from the pedestrian to the existential. The first task was to assure my parents, to their satisfaction, that the underlying logistics were solid. In this regard, the program's coordinators helpfully provided information about arrival, accommodations, etc.

However, some of my other concerns were weightier. – I had spoken Ukrainian from infancy, had attended "Ridna Shkola" (School of Ukrainian Studies) and was a member of Plast. Up to that point in my life, however, the expression of my Ukrainian identity had been largely confined to family circles and diaspora organizations. I had been introduced to the complicated and often tragic history of Ukraine, and had already formed a certain image of the country and its people.

As I grew older I became increasingly aware of differences between Ukraine as portrayed in family narratives and Ridna Shkola textbooks on the one hand and Ukraine as described in the general media on the other. My trip would provide a reality check. Would the language skills and information base I had acquired serve me well? Was I in for a pleasant surprise or a rude awakening?

My experience at Kyiv Mohyla gave me the opportunity to address these questions.

The summer program has two major strengths. The first and most obvious is location. Kyiv remains at the center of Ukrainian history, culture and political activity. No other city can provide visitors with a better sense of both the past and the potential future of Ukrainian society.

For the diaspora student making a first visit, the city holds many surprises. Kyiv is the seat of the Ukrainian federal government. As expected, all official messages – from signs to advertisements to announcements on the subway – are in Ukrainian. However, the language of most day-to-day activity in Kyiv is Russian. Indeed, a fluency limited to Ukrainian makes the diaspora visitor at times awkwardly conspicuous.

But this fact gave way to an even more surprising observation. An extended trip to Kyiv reveals that the popular characterization of Ukraine as hopelessly torn between Western-leaning Ukrainian elements and Russian-speaking Eastern elements is quite inaccurate. I met strong Ukrainian patriots from the younger generation who supported a unified Ukraine free from Russia's centripetal pull – but who spoke primarily Russian. This raised the interesting question as to how Ukrainian identity should be defined. As far as modern Kyiv is concerned, that identity is not confined to those with full Ukrainian fluency.

The second major strength of the Kyiv Mohyla summer program is its integration of classroom teaching with daily immersion in Ukraine's history and culture. On Monday through Friday students take classes in the morning and go on field trips in Kyiv and its environs in the afternoon.

The level of classroom instruction is tailored to the needs of students. My session consisted of around 20 students; we were assigned to classes based on our level of fluency. The instruction is high quality and the individual classes are short enough – around three hours a day – to maintain the attention even of students on their summer vacations. It is particularly interesting to hear how the instructors perceive the linguistic and political divisions in Ukraine. After all, these professors study these phenomena and live with them on a daily basis.

The series of field trips, led by full-time Kyiv Mohyla students, are intended both to satisfy the tourist impulse and to reinforce the language, literature, folklore and history taught in the mornings. Participants in the program visit the most notable tourist attractions of the city; the Zoloti Vorota, the Sobor of St. Sophia, the maidan (Independence Square), the World War II Museum, etc.

In addition, the trips include less obvious but equally interesting attractions, such as the Museum of National

*Michael Jaskiw is completing his sophomore year at Harvard University. Questions may be addressed to him at [mjaskiw@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:mjaskiw@fas.harvard.edu). Information about the 2007 Kyiv Mohyla summer school is available at <http://www.summerschool.ukma.kiev.ua/program.htm>.*



Participants of the 2006 summer program at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

Architecture and Culture (which contains full-scale recreations of traditional Ukrainian homes from all corners of the country) and the small but poignant Chornobyl museum. Since the visits are escorted yet unhurried, students leave not just with a postcard image of the location, but with an appreciation of how that particular site or museum relates to Ukraine's historical and cultural legacy.

Finally, the program also provides an ample amount of free time for students. It is summer, after all, and students are free to pursue their desired form of relaxation during evenings and on weekends, whether it is further exploring the city or swimming in the Dnipro River.

As I had assured my parents, the underlying logistics were solid. Our group lived in downtown Kyiv just off the university campus and had excellent accommodations. The provided meals (breakfast and lunch on weekdays) were good, and Kyiv offers an impressive selection of restaurants, supermarkets and entertainment. The city is very metropolitan, and can provide virtually every amenity that a U.S. student expects.

The Summer Program at the National University of Kyiv Mohyla Academy certainly provides a wonderful opportunity to improve language skills and to brush up on Ukrainian history and culture. I would suggest, however, that the greatest benefit is the chance to gain a more nuanced appreciation of modern Ukrainian identity.

For the vast majority of our lives, diaspora Ukrainians connect with their heritage by proxy. We learn a language

that in most of our families has not been the primary language of daily interactions since the time of our grandparents. On Saturdays, we learn about historical events and artistic achievements that are generally remote from our own place and time. We participate in organizations – Plast/SUM, dance groups, church choirs – that were recreated decades ago by immigrants from Ukraine. Through these activities, we develop an appreciation for Ukrainian traditions and culture. These experiences contribute to our Ukrainian identity and foster a certain conception of the country from which that identity flows.

Our common experiences are effective both in transmitting information (such as language skills) and in generating a sense of community. But, in isolation, these experiences have a shortcoming. Our history books, songs, poems and family narratives risk conveying a limited image that fails to capture the depth and complexity of contemporary Ukraine.

The diaspora's efforts to perpetuate Ukrainian language, traditions and culture are welcome and valuable, but we should always be mindful of their genesis. The Ukrainian linguistic and cultural literacy that we enjoy in North America can only be improved by an understanding of the country that provided this legacy. An extended trip to Ukraine provided the impetus for me to challenge and re-evaluate my understanding of Ukraine and its influence on my identity.

For those interested in having a similar experience, the Summer Program at Kyiv Mohyla is an ideal starting point.

### An immersion program in language and culture

by Father Jeffrey Stephaniuk

SASKATOON, Saskatchewan – A summer program of Ukrainian language and culture is being offered in Saskatoon from July 1 through August 6. The Mohyla Institute, named after the great Ukrainian metropolitan of the 17th century, Petro Mohyla, has been offering this immersion program since 1970.

It is a five week Ukrainian immersion program for students in grades 10, 11 and 12. No prior knowledge of Ukrainian is needed for the Grade 10 course. Computers and the Internet are a big part of the instruction, and an online learning component is a major part of the grades 10 and 11 program.

Program participants are offered a high school language credit for Ukrainian by teachers certified in the province of Saskatchewan. All students who successfully complete the program receive a school credit, recognized by every province in Canada.

Additionally, lessons are offered in Ukrainian song, dance and instrumental music. Finally, presentations on Ukrainian history and contemporary Ukraine are made by various visiting lecturers.

This internationally recognized immersion summer camp is the only one of its kind in Canada; students attending hail from various parts of North America.

The daily routine includes classroom instruction, arts and crafts, preparation of concert material for performances, and excursions within Saskatoon and around Saskatchewan.

A sports program is a highly valued part of the routine, including soccer. New for 2007 will be activities utilizing some of the sporting venues around the city of Saskatoon. The weekend routine includes travel opportunities, family visits and Sunday church services.

The Mohyla Language and Cultural Immersion Program concludes with examinations for the Ukrainian language course materials, a final concert and a trip to Dauphin to perform onstage at Canada's National Ukrainian Festival.

Financial support comes from several organizations within the Ukrainian community, especially from lay organizations and parishes of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Other support comes from Sask Lotteries, the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Saskatchewan Provincial Council and the Taras Shevchenko Foundation.

Registration is open to interested teenagers from an Orthodox background, as well as Catholics, who are interested in the Ukrainian cultural content of the program.

For information on tuition, early-registration discounts and applications, readers may call 306-653-1944 or visit [www.mohyla.ca](http://www.mohyla.ca).

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Camp ignited a love...

(Continued from page 1)

on stage and the thrill of performing is only magnified by the pride and enthusiasm of the audience.

The friendships I made as a young girl are now stronger than ever. We have grown as a generation with admiration and respect for older dancers. We now attend the Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance



Anna Chelak and Yarko Dobriansky during a performance of Syzokryli's "Pryvit."

Foundation Dance Workshop for advanced dancers. I will return for my fourth workshop this coming summer. Memories of my first timid moments at the ballet barre and the nervousness and uncertainty I felt before stepping onto the stage for the first time constantly return to my thoughts, but they only help me to appreciate the wonderful opportunity and experience I had as a young camper.

I will be a junior counselor this year and am excited as ever to not only help the young dancers, but to learn from them as well. I am now a former apprentice and young member of the Syzokryli ensemble and attribute who I am today, as a dancer and as a person, to the memories and friends I made during the summers I spent at these camps. That experience has given me the personal strength and perseverance that has helped me

succeed in all aspects of my life.

For more information on how to enroll in these programs, please visit the summer camps section at [www.syzokryli.com](http://www.syzokryli.com).

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*Anna Chelak, 17, is a junior at West Morris Mendham High School in Mendham, N.J., where she is a diploma candidate for the International Baccalaureate program as well as a member of both the National Honor Society and World Language Honor Society. She is an ardent member of her school's music program, service club and student government. She performs as a senior member of the Ukrainian dance school Iskra of Whippany, N.J., and as a young new member of the semi-professional Ukrainian dance ensemble Syzokryli in New York City.*

### Roma Pryma Bohachevsky...

(Continued from page 1)

enced costume couturier and make-up artist, will work her magic in presenting beautiful costumes and creative make-up for the performances.

The first program, the Ukrainian Dance Workshop, will run from July 1 through July 14. The workshop is intended for advanced dancers at least 16 years of age. All of the dancers will participate in a rigorous and exacting program, taking classes in ballet, character or Ukrainian dancing and repertory.

The traditional final performances by the workshop participants will be the highlight of the first Soyuzivka Ukrainian Film and Cultural Festival.

Beginning to advanced dancers age 8 to 16 will have the opportunity to attend either one, or both, of the camps being offered in two sessions: Dance Camp I from July 22 to August 4 and Dance Camp II from August 5 to August 18.

Nina Kobryn will be on hand as "komendantka" for both camps, along with a large group of counselors to ensure 24-hour supervision of the campers.

Dancers at these camps, no matter what their level,

will work on developing their technique and dancing ability while taking classes in ballet, character or Ukrainian dance and repertory. A large group of counselors, hand-picked by Ms. Lonkevych, is ready to help students on a one-on-one basis, enhancing the dancers' learning experience. Each camp will present a final program that will highlight not only the dancers' achievements in Ukrainian dance but also character and ballet.

While all of the participants in the dance programs work intensively, dancing long hours every day, there are also many opportunities to enjoy the facilities at Soyuzivka and socialize with their fellow campers. Campers get to enjoy a "vatra" (bonfire) with skits prepared by the dancers and the counselors; "Clash" Day, when everyone, including counselors, instructors and the director, dresses in outrageous outfits for rehearsal; and a farewell banquet. They also show off their new-found skills and tricks at the Soyuzivka "zabavy" (dances) – making the traditional kolomyika fun and exciting not only for the participants but for the crowds of onlookers as well.

For further information regarding registration and requirements readers may look under the heading "Summer Camps" at [www.syzokryli.com](http://www.syzokryli.com).

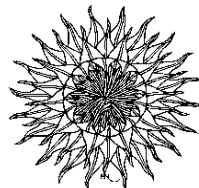


## Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute 2007

### June 25 to August 17, 2007

#### For more information contact:

Tamara Nary, Program Administrator  
Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute  
34 Kirkland Street  
Cambridge, MA 02138 USA  
E-mail: [huri@fas.harvard.edu](mailto:huri@fas.harvard.edu)



#### Language courses:

Beginning Ukrainian - Alla Parkhomenko  
Intermediate Ukrainian - Yuri Shevchuk  
Advanced Ukrainian - Volodymyr Dibrova

#### Application Deadlines for HUSI 2007:

Graduate students interested in FLAS -  
Monday, February 26, 2007  
All scholarship requests - Monday,  
April 16, 2007  
Foreign students requiring a U.S. visa -  
**No later than Friday, April 27, 2007**  
All other applications - Friday, May 25, 2007

#### Literature, Linguistics, and Politics courses:

20th-Century Ukrainian Literature: Rethinking the  
Canon - George G. Grabowicz  
Ukraine as Linguistic Battleground - Michael S. Flier  
Theorizing Ukraine: Politics, Theory, and Political  
Theory - Alexander J. Motyl

~ A limited number of scholarships are available for qualified students ~

~ Students whose primary language is not English must meet the English proficiency requirement ~

Ukrainian Research Institute - Harvard University

Phone: 617-495-7833 | Fax: 617-495-8097 | Web: [www.huri.harvard.edu/husi.html](http://www.huri.harvard.edu/husi.html)

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Consider exploring the natural wonders of Ternopil Oblast in Ukraine

by Natalie Rudnichenko

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

TERNOPIL, Ukraine – If you haven't yet planned your summer vacation, consider the Ternopil Oblast, an oasis for both the capricious traveler and beginner tourist.

One of three oblasts that comprise Ukraine's cultural cradle of Halychyna, Ternopil is home to 25 waterfalls, 34 castles and the Dnister River canyon, one of Europe's longest.

Perhaps most overlooked are its 100-plus caves, which make the region distinct on the global tourism map. Similar large, horizontal gypsum caves with their peculiar form haven't been discovered anywhere else, scientists confirm.

Ukrainian speleologists continue to make discoveries on a daily basis, estimating that only 20 percent of caves hidden in the depths of the Ternopil region have been uncovered.

Ternopil's caves were formed between 15 million and 20 million years ago, according to experts, when a section of the Rus geological platform, which these lands were a part of, was covered by a shallow, continental sea.

As a result of many natural factors, firm, stratified gypsum layers were formed, as well as separate reservoir-lagoons resulting from the sea's flow.

More than 10 million years ago, this territory became dry land, leaving mighty dense forests in its bed.

During the subsequent millennia, numerous tracks, corridors and underground lakes formed from various geological events, allowing for geologists and tourists to now visit.

Interestingly enough, the formation of caves continues to this day.

Along with atmospheric waters, which penetrate layers of limestone, carbonate compounds are carried underground. They create various forms – stalactites, stalagmites and columns – creating an underground beauty that attracts hikers.

The region's largest cave, Optymistychna, located in the Nichlava River basin near the village of Korolivka, is a grandiose labyrinth that has no equal among gypsum caves in terms of its length.

Today, the overall length of explored tracks amounts to more than 220 kilometers (136 miles). In fact, Optymistychna holds the Guinness World Record for the world's biggest labyrinth of gypsum caves.

However, so far its mysteries are accessible only to experienced speleologists.

Several kilometers from Optymistychna near the village of Strikivtsi lies another interesting cave, Ozerna. It floods periodically, creating a sixth ocean underground, amidst stone labyrinth aquariums where it's possible to go boating or scuba diving.

But not everyone is capable of such courageous journeys.

Inexperienced tourists are better off starting at Kryshdaleva cave in the village of Kryvche, which is 15 kilometers (nine miles) from the city of Borschiv.

Called "the underground pearl of Podillia," Kryshdaleva's lit pedestrian tourist route is 2,800 meters long (1.7 miles), and an interesting excursion plunges

visitors into a true fairytale world of the underground. It's possible to examine the outlines of animals, flowers and other interesting and strange bas-reliefs in crystal contours and stone blocks. Another cave not far from Borschiv called Vertebe is a museum of archaeology and Trypillian culture that is unique – even by world standards. It's called the Dnister Pompeii for the unprecedented number of artifacts found on its territory, and its structure is different from that of nearby caves.

Vertebe is simply an enormous hall of several hundred meters in length and width, the ceiling of which is supported by hundreds of massive stone columns. It's impossible to get lost there, even without a guide.

For the ultimate extreme, it's worth a trek to Mlynky, a cave on the outskirts of the village of Zalissia, 25 kilometers (16 miles) from the city of Ternopil.

Guides equip hikers with overalls and helmets with flashlights, the better to navigate a very thin and perilous track.

The entire hourlong route forces an explorer to proceed on his or her stomach, on his or her back, pushing through narrow paths – first the arm, then the leg, afterwards the rest of the body.

There's no lack of adrenaline, rush impressions and romance, because the underground kingdom is filled with colorful red, white and black crystals.

It's worth pointing out that this cave hike is only for those with strong nerves and excellent health.

You can organize excursions to the caves on your own, but it's always better to rely on an experienced tour guide who can prepare the entire route.

The Ternopil region's low prices will impress Western tourists.

An individual or group tour for a day, during which hikers visit three or four caves, costs between \$30 and \$45 per person, including transportation, entrance passes, two meals, medical insurance and organizational and excursion services.

The price of an entrance pass to a cave, if it's not included in the tour package, ranges between \$1 and \$6, depending on the route's length and difficulty.

By the way, the caves are all absolutely safe, but it must be stressed that following the instructions of the tour guide or instructor is mandatory.

It's now possible to buy anything in Ukraine that may come in handy to hikers.

Taking into account the changeable weather in the

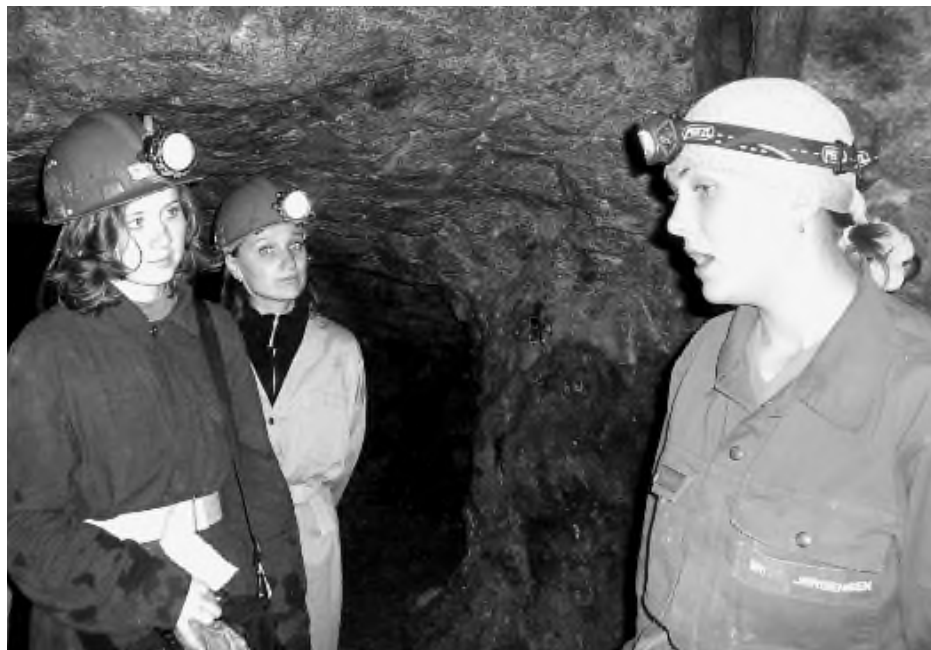


A hiker emerges from Mlynky cave.

Ternopil region, tourists are advised to bring with them a warm jacket, two sets of sportswear, hiking boots, a raincoat, a cap and a pair of sunglasses.

The standard hiking items should go in a backpack – a mug, spoon and kettle.

Hotel accommodations are not a problem, as the local



A tour guide leads a group of hikers through Mlynky cave.



A group photo after a hike through Mlynky cave.

industry is being actively developed, offering visitors various options based on personal taste and budget.

For example, the Alligator Hotel in Ternopil's city center costs about \$50 a night, including breakfast. After the cave excursions, its guests can try bowling, enjoy the aqua-park, or relax in the sauna or spa center.

On the other hand, a small motel in a local district center provides lodging for one-fifth the price and offers a tired tourist the basic necessities – clean bed sheets and hot water.

Ukrainian tourism, however, faces one problem – roads which, particularly in local regions, leave something to be desired. But that's a matter the tourist industry can't address on its own (government assistance is much-needed in this sphere).

Any possible discomforts are compensated by sincere Ukrainian hospitality, the delicious national cuisine and unforgettable excursion routes.

#### Information for tourists

To make reservations for a tour of the caves: Tour company Oksamyt-KL, log on to <http://www.oksamyt-kl.com.ua>, or call (80352) 43-09-23, 52-70-48.

For tourist information: Ternopil State Oblast Administration Department on Tourism Issues: <http://www.ternotour.com.ua>, (80352) 43-35-29.

For information about the Ternopil Oblast: <http://www.terinvest.com.ua>, <http://www.oda.te.gov.ua>.

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Chornomorska Sitch's 39th annual Sports School to be held at Soyuzivka

by Andrij Panas  
and Omelan Twardowsky

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Chornomorska Sitch is holding its 39th annual Sports School at Soyuzivka, the upstate New York estate of the Ukrainian National Association, located in Kerhonkson, N.Y. This year's program will encompass two one-week sessions that will be held from July 22-August 4.

As in previous years, the Sitch Sports School offers campers four sports: soccer, volleyball, tennis and swimming. The experienced hand-picked staff of trainers includes Andrij Panas, Hryts Serheev and Yaroslav Twardowsky for soccer; Michael Zawadiwsky for volleyball; and Stephan Sosiak for tennis. Marina Nozhenko, a graduate of the Dnipropetrovsk State Institute of Physical Culture and Sports, will teach swimming.

In addition to the day-to-day activities of camp, participants will have the opportunity to use their newly honed skills at the Ukrainian Youth Olympics. The event, which is sponsored by the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK), will be held at the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) resort in Ellenville, N.Y., on July 28-29.

With its tradition of coupling sport with Ukrainian culture, the Sitch Sports School prides itself on giving its campers both



Campers and staff of Chornomorska Sitch's Sports School at Soyuzivka.

moral and physical enrichment. Many graduates of the school have gone on to hold positions of prominence in various Ukrainian organizations and sports clubs throughout North America, including the

newly established Ukrainian American Cultural Center of New Jersey, where former Sitch School participants Markian Hamulak, Daria Twardowsky-Vincent, Mr. Serheev, Mr. Twardowsky, Mr. Zawadiwsky

and Mr. Panas all hold various posts.

More information about the Chornomorska Sitch Sports School can be found at [www.soyuzivka.com](http://www.soyuzivka.com) or [www.chornomorskasitch.org](http://www.chornomorskasitch.org).

### Kobzarska Sich provides an opportunity to study bandura, vocal music

by A. W. Murha

EMLENTON, Pa. – The Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus will hold its summer educational program, Kobzarska Sich, here at All Saints Ukrainian Orthodox Church Camp from Sunday, August 5, to Sunday, August 19.

Kobzarska Sich is organized by a highly qualified staff; participants will have the privilege to learn from some of the most talented and distinguished Ukrainian musicians.

Joining the Kobzarska Sich staff this year will be Oleh Mahlay, artistic director and conductor of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus; Julian Kytasty, artistic director of the New York School of Bandura; and Natalia B. Mahlay, artistic director of the Zorya Female Vocal Ensemble.

In addition, master bandurists Oleh Sozansky and Taras Lazurkevych of the Bandurna Rozmova duo will be returning from Ukraine. Mr. Sozansky is an instruc-

tor at the Lviv Secondary Musical Arts School, and Mr. Lazurkevych is the director of the Lysenko Lviv State Musical Academy Bandurist Chorus.

The two-week bandura course, for students age 12 and up, starts August 5 and culminates in a concert on August 19. Students spend seven hours a day learning about the history of Ukrainian music and techniques of the bandura. Every level of bandura playing, from beginners to advanced, is welcome, as is Kharkiv-style playing.

The one-week Bandura Workshop, for students age 9-11, is slated for August 5-12. The Vocal Workshop for aspiring singers age 12 and up runs August 11-19. Daily individual and small group vocal lessons with two to three different voice instructors will be available for participants in the Vocal Workshop.

A new feature of Kobzarska Sich is the Ukrainian Sacred Music 101 (USM101) course, which will give

participants a unique opportunity to sing sacred works by Ukrainian master composers. USM101 will also provide practical pointers for church singers, cantors and conductors alike relative to common problem areas of church singing.

The goals of the workshop are to provide participants the chance to sing musical works that are difficult to accomplish in a usual church setting and improve the church singing experience. USM101 will be directed by Dr. Mahlay, a former conductor at St. Vladimir Cathedral Choir of Parma, Ohio.

Designed for busy individuals who can only make a long weekend as opposed to a week long vocal workshop, USM101 begins Thursday, August 9, in the evening and ends Sunday, August 12.

This year's programs are dedicated to the 100th anniversary of the birth of Hryhory Kytasty, who founded Kobzarska Sich in 1979. Over the years a generation of young people have had an opportunity to learn bandura and to continue the maestro's work.

While Kobzarska Sich concentrates on music, participants have free time to enjoy activities such as tennis, basketball and swimming – all on 90 acres of land on the Allegheny River.

Call Anatoli Murha, camp administrator, at 734-658-6452 for more information or send an e-mail to [UBCbanduracamps@bandura.org](mailto:UBCbanduracamps@bandura.org). Visit [www.bandura.org/bandura\\_school.htm](http://www.bandura.org/bandura_school.htm) to download an application.

### Tourism to Ukraine is on the increase

KYIV – The number of foreign tourists visiting Kyiv in 2006 was registered at 208,930. According to the chief of the Kyiv City Administration for Tourism, Hotel and Resorts, Mykola Hrytsyk, Kyiv travel agencies provide services for one-third of the foreign tourists and two-thirds of Ukraine's tourists visiting the capital city. He added that in 2007 Kyiv will see the inauguration of two five-star hotels and that the city expects a tripling of foreign tourists by the end of 2008. During 2006 a total of 18.9 million foreign citizens visited Ukraine – a 7 percent increase from 2005. (Ukrinform)



Participants from Kobzarska Sich 2006 after their final camp concert.

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Four-day festival will highlight 2007 summer season at Soyuzivka estate

by Nestor Paslawsky

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Soyuzivka is awakening from its winter slumber and has been aggressively preparing for the rapidly approaching 2007 summer season. This summer there will be several additions and changes that should make this the most exciting summer season yet.

The managing staff led by Olesia Guran, Sonia Semanyshyn and, of course, Andriy Sonevtsky, a.k.a. Chef Snake, are preparing the cultural center for everyone's summer enjoyment.

The season kicks off with Memorial Day weekend. Last year Soyuzivka hosted the UNA convention; this year the estate starts off with a more traditional "zabava" (dance) weekend featuring Hrim. The weekend also includes an Orchidia reunion.

After that, in rapid succession, the estate will host the UNA Seniors as well as several reunions, graduations and christenings.

This will lead up to a new group meeting at Soyuzivka: the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), arriving for its annual convention. Soyuzivka is very excited about hosting this event and looks forward to welcoming this medical group as only Soyuzivka can.

And, what would summer at Soyuzivka be without "Tabir Ptashat," the Plast day camp for preschoolers, which is now in its 19th year, along with Tennis Camp for two weeks at the end of June.

July will be an exciting month, with a new camp and a new major event on the Soyuzivka schedule.

The Roma Pryma Bohachevsky Ukrainian Dance Workshop will be held at Soyuzivka for the first time.

With the dance workshop's decision to come to the estate, it made sense to showcase these fabulous dancers. Thus was born the Soyuzivka Cultural and Film Festival. This four-day event will begin on July 11 and end on July 14.

Besides the dance workshop there will be several artists from Ukraine featured at the festival. It'll be an event not to be missed with dancing, singing, music and, of course, several feature-length Ukrainian- and English-language films, plus a vendor plaza.

After that torrid start to July, Soyuzivka begins its camp season, traditionally kicked off with the Heritage Day Camp, designed for children age 4-8 and a new group for kids 8-10, plus Discovery Camp. The camps are designed for the children to learn about their Ukrainian heritage and culture, and also about the surrounding wildlife.

The end of these camps brings the start of the Sitch Sports School. This will be the camp's second year at Soyuzivka.

Also at the end of July, the Soyuzivka Dance Camp begins its two-session/four-week run. These dance camps are becoming more and more popular, and each session ends with a recital.

Besides the camps, August weekends

are events in and of themselves. With the first weekend's Sports Jamboree and golf tournament followed by the traditional Miss Soyuzivka event, and the two dance camp recitals, there is something happening for everyone.

The official end of summer comes with Labor Day weekend and, as anyone who's ever been to Soyuzivka can tell you, this is a weekend that outshines all others – the last blast of the summer with dances, tennis and swimming championships, and many other fun happenings that attract guests from near and far. Be there!

It doesn't matter whether you are coming for a relaxing vacation, an exciting weekend or attending one of Soyuzivka's many camps. Guests can be sure that they will have a memorable time at Soyuzivka, enjoying our gourmet meals and theme nights, dancing under the stars, tanning at the pool and having cocktails at the Tiki Bar. See you soon!

For more information or to make reservations call 845-626-5641.

### Soyuzivka's Heritage Day Camp now offers programs for kids age 4-10

by Bohdana Puzyk

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – Summer is quickly approaching and the camp season is right around the corner. Here at Soyuzivka, the estate of the Ukrainian National Association, we are making plans for this year's Heritage Day Camp.

The day camp program has been expanded this year to include children age 4-10 years old. In the past our program was designed for children age 4 to 8, however, we have seen that not all 8- to 10-year-olds are ready for a sleep-away camp. As a result, this year "older" children are being encouraged to participate in Heritage Day Camp.

The camp's aim is to further children's knowledge of their Ukrainian heritage through song, dance, crafts, games and stories.

The camp instructors from last year are returning again this year to continue making the program interesting and fun for the children.

Renowned Ukrainian singer Olya Fryz

returns to teach the children an array of traditional Ukrainian camp songs and some of the newer songs. Dusia Hanushevska and Natalka Junas have planned quite a selection of crafts, from decorating wooden boxes to creating embellishments for a traditional Hutsul costume. Andriy Oprysko, who has worked with Heritage Day Camp since it was known as Chemney Camp, returns to continue teaching Ukrainian dancing. Mr. Oprysko introduces the younger campers to dance with some simple steps and works with the older children to enhance their dancing talents.

Bohdana Puzyk engages the children in games that build on their Ukrainian language vocabulary. The games are fun and exciting and reinforce team play.

New to this year's group of counselors is Chrystyna Mandicz-Centore who will introduce the children to new and exciting Ukrainian "kazky" (tales) along with some of the old and familiar stories that all children love to hear.

A new addition this year is a program for campers age 8-10 with Svetlana



Do you want to dance? Andriy Oprysko with his pupils.

Kurras. Along with dance and music their program will include daily nature

hikes designed to teach the campers the Ukrainian names of the trees and animals that they will see. For the craft sessions they will learn the art of making a pysanka, will create their own kypitar (Hutsul vest) and will do other fun-filled projects that are age-appropriate.

Heritage Day Camp program is fun and educational, and campers learn many different things about their Ukrainian culture and heritage in a warm and nurturing environment – not to mention at a great location. For information call Soyuzivka, 845-626-5641.



2006 participants and staff of Soyuzivka's Heritage Day Camp.

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'Levko Durko' Comedy Show from Lviv, Ukraine

'Bandura Rozmova'— Bandurist Duo Taras Lazurkevych & Oleh Sozansky, Lviv Ukraine

Violinists- Innessa Tymochko-Dekajlo & Marian Pidvirnyj, from Lviv, Ukraine

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Opening Ceremony- 5 pm  
'HUTSUL' Dinner w/show- 6 pm  
Film Festival Opening- 8 pm

### Thursday, July 12

Ukrainian Craft Demonstrations  
Film Festival 2-4 pm & 6:30 pm  
Dinner in Dining Room 5-7 pm  
Musical Concert 9 pm

### Friday, July 13

Ukrainian Craft Demonstrations  
Ukrainian Arts & Craft Vendor  
Plaza 12 pm  
Film Festival 2-4 pm & 6-8 pm  
Food Court BBQ 4 pm  
Dinner in Dining Room 5-8 pm  
Evening Stage Show 8-9:30 pm  
'Zabava' (Ukrainian Dance)  
Featuring Ukrainian Bands  
'Burya' & 'Luna' 9:30 pm

### Saturday, July 14

Ukrainian Craft Demonstrations  
Ukrainian Arts & Craft Vendor  
Plaza 10 am  
Food Court/BBQ/Pig Roast 11 am  
Stage Shows 1-2:30 pm AND 7 pm  
Film Festival 2-6 pm  
Children's Show featuring 'Levko  
Durko' 3 pm  
Dinner in Dining Room 5-8 pm  
'Zabava' Featuring Ukrainian Bands  
'Burya' & 'Luna' 9:30 pm  
*\*all times subject to change*

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## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Ukrainian American Youth Association camps offer wide range of activities

by Andriy Bihun

NEW YORK – As nature produces its first hints of fair weather and warm temperatures, the Ukrainian American Youth Association's (UAYA) campgrounds bustle with activity in anticipation of a summer chock full of super activities and camping fun for all ages. This year's vacation line-up promises a combination of the traditional camping adventures we've grown to expect and love, along with a number of exciting new surprises.

The season opens with early offerings beginning on June 24 at the UAYA campground in Baraboo, Wis. Baraboo offers six camps for children of all ages, starting with the youngest "sumenyata" at age 4. One of the annual favorites here is the Soccer Camp, which is the only UAYA camp in the U.S. exclusively dedicated to this popular sport.

Soon after, the summer camp schedule shifts into full gear at our other campgrounds around the United States.

At camp "Khortytsia" in Huntington, Ohio, not only will kids enjoy the warm weather at a widely renowned recreational camp, but the more adventuresome can enjoy nature at an outdoors camp as well. At the Kyiv resort near Detroit, this year's summer program has been expanded to a four-day program for children of all ages – you won't want to miss it!

In upstate New York, Filmore's "Kholodnyi Yar" also expects some changes this year. Last year's "Praktychnyi" camp was a huge success, and a joint camping adventure is planned this year together with UAYA's Ellenville resort. Participants of Praktychnyi will



Some of the Ukrainian American Youth Association's future leaders enjoy themselves at camp.

spend a week at Kholodnyi Yar, followed by a second week in Ellenville. This camping program teaches participating youth much about outdoor life and includes a number of offsite experiences on the rivers as well as in the forests and mountains of New York state.

The Ellenville line-up offers new additions as well. This year's Recreational ("Vidpochynkovyi") camp is expanded to offer a special program for older kids, age 12-14 in mid-July. Praktychnyi (traditionally known to Ellenville campers as "River Camp") moves to a new time slot as part of the joint camp with Kholodnyi Yar.



Smiling faces are evidence of the new friendships made during summer camp.

As a result of last year's hugely popular bandura program at Arts Camp, Ellenville is proud to announce the addition of Kobzar Camp, dedicated to Ukrainian musical arts and the bandura. Headlining the two-week camp will be well-known musical masters from Ukraine, Oleh Sozansky and Taras Lazurkevych (widely known in the United States for their 2006 "Bandurma Rozmovna" tour). Ellenville also re-introduces its "Mama and Ya" (or "Tato and Ya") program

this year, with two one-hour get-togethers full of magical fun each day.

Don't know what to do all summer? Want to meet some new Ukrainian friends and make memories that will last a lifetime? Explore the Ukrainian American Youth Association's summer camps and you'll never want to do anything else. Check out the website at [www.cym.org/us/ellenville](http://www.cym.org/us/ellenville), write to us at [EllenvilleCamps@cym.org](mailto:EllenvilleCamps@cym.org) or call 845-647-7230 for more information.

### Ukrainian street festival planned for New York City on May 18-20

by Taras Schumylowych

NEW YORK – On Friday, Saturday and Sunday, May 18, 19 and 20, Seventh Street (between Second and Third avenues) will be closed to traffic and open for a celebration by the Ukrainian community of New York City.

St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church is sponsoring the 31st annual street festival, which promises to be the biggest and best yet. The official opening will be on Friday evening, May 18.

There will be many booths featuring Ukrainian food – varenyky, kovbasa, holubtsi, home-baked goods. Others will sell Ukrainian arts and crafts – embroideries, wood carvings, ceramics and pysanky (traditional Ukrainian Easter eggs).

The famous Ukrainian chorus Dumka of New York will give a concert of Ukrainian sacred music at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church on Sunday, May 20, at 1:15 p.m. The Dumka Chorus performs under the direction of Maestro Wasyl Hrechynskyj.

Enjoy the weekend outdoors, listening to singers and watching those ever-famous Ukrainian dancers with their boundless energy, amazing high jumps and spectacular steps performing the Hopak and other folk dances.

All in all, the festival is an excellent opportunity to discover or revisit this fascinating ethnic neighborhood in the East Village, where the thriving Ukrainian community has blended its rich cultural traditions into the fabric of New York City life.

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## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Plast's scouts look forward to International Jamboree and summer camps

by Halyna Kuzyszyn-Holubec

NEW YORK – Plast youths from around the world are looking forward to a jam-packed summer of camps. But the most highly anticipated event is Plast's International Jamboree, taking place in Canada on August 4-19.

To be held at the Plastova Sich campground and many other sites throughout eastern Canada, this summer's jamboree marks the 95th anniversary of Plast, the 50th anniversary of the first International Jamboree in North America and the 100th anniversary of the scouting movement.

Participants will have the opportunity to take part in many interesting activities, including visits to the Canadian capital of Ottawa, a music festival, diverse exhibits and canoeing.

The youngest Plast members – “novatstvo” (children age 6-11) – will have the chance to take part in a day camp on August 16-19 at Plastova Sich, where they will be assigned to groups containing children from other countries.



Youth counselors at Plast camp at the “Novyi Sokil” campground in 2006.



Flag-bearers during camp ceremonies at “Novyi Sokil.”

This summer's highly anticipated jamboree is sure to spark many new friendships for many Plast members and create wonderful memories for the future.

Prior to the August jamboree, many Plast members who wish to become counselors take part in “vyshkoly,” or counselor training camps, where they acquire the skills and knowledge necessary to work with young children and serve as role models for younger Plast members.

The course for counselors of novatstvo will be held at the “Novyi Sokil” campground in North Collins, N.Y., on June 23-July 4. It will consist of a program

designed to help future counselors prepare interesting and necessary activities for the organization's youngest members.

This summer's Plast camp roster also boasts the renewal of “Shkola Bulavnykh” – a special kind of counselor training camp where young women develop youth counselor skills and wilderness adeptness, so as to prepare them for working with “yunatstvo” (Plast youths age 12-18). This camp will take place at its traditional grounds in Hunter, N.Y., on June 23-July 5.

All three of Plast's campgrounds in the United States – “Vovcha Trova” (East

Chatham, N.Y.), “Pysanyi Kamin” (Middlefield, Ohio) and “Novyi Sokil” (North Collins, N.Y.) – will host three-week camps for “novatstvo” and “yunatstvo” on July 7-28. Three-week camps (“tabory”) are the culmination of an entire year's worth of activities for Plast members and are a standard part of the Plast program. There is a requirement that a child be enrolled in the organization for at least three months before attending a Plast camp.

At “tabory” Plast youths have the

opportunity to acquire merit badges, learn about Ukrainian culture and history, and practice various camping skills. They also offer a wonderful chance for Plast members from various cities to get to know one another and learn what it is to be a part of a worldwide organization.

For more information on all of Plast's summer camps readers may long on to [www.plastusa.org](http://www.plastusa.org), where they will find details about each camp being offered and links to sites of individual campgrounds.

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## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Ukrainian Homestead ready to greet visitors to scenic Pocono Mountains

by Bohdan Pastuszak

LEHIGHTON, Pa. – This year marks the 50th anniversary of the Ukrainian Homestead. Located in the Pocono Mountains of Pennsylvania just 75 miles north of Philadelphia and 90 miles west of New York City, the Homestead offers visitors a wide range of activities in a beautiful country setting.

Founded in 1957 by the Organization for the Democratic Rebirth of Ukraine (ODWU), the Homestead is dedicated to the celebration of Ukrainian heritage and culture.

The Homestead has been a unique gathering place for friends and family for 50 years. The Ukrainian Homestead, just five miles from the Pennsylvania Turnpike (NE Extension, Exit 74), is available for weddings, family reunions, company picnics, swim parties, ballroom and polka dances, ski trips, and Ukrainian arts and crafts instruction.

Ukrainian liturgy is celebrated every Sunday from Memorial Day to Labor Day in the resort's outdoor chapel. Services include: motel rooms, dormitory rooms, Ukrainian and American kitchen, three halls for rental, plen-

ty of parking, and over 200 acres to explore.

This year, on August 18 and 19, the Homestead will hold its two-day cultural Folk Festival, featuring dazzling dances, melodic songs, and beautiful arts and crafts. The festival also includes an evening of dancing until dawn.

From picnics or formal events to soccer and volleyball tournaments, this country place has the room and the facilities for small or large groups to hold whatever events they choose. It is open year-round for skiers, bikers, campers, rafters, hunting and fishing enthusiasts, conventioners and vacationers. Nearby attractions include the historic town of Jim Thorpe, whitewater rafting, the Crystal Cave, the coal mine museum and an old-fashioned drive-in movie theater.

The Homestead hosts the Ukrainian Gold Cross Children's Camp, the Kazka Dance Camp and Mountain Bike Camp.

For more information or to make reservations, call the Ukrainian Homestead at 610-377-4621 or 215-235-3709 or e-mail [oselia@ptd.net](mailto:oselia@ptd.net). Visit the website [www.ukrhomestead.com](http://www.ukrhomestead.com) for a complete schedule of events.

### Folk dance workshop and camp to be held in Lehigh, Pa.

by Paula Holoviak

LEHIGHTON, Pa. – The Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation (UAHF) will sponsor the 18th annual folk dance workshop and camp for children and young adults from Monday, July 2, through Friday, July 6, at the Ukrainian Homestead.

The camp runs daily from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. and includes dance instruction, singing, traditional crafts, sports, lunch, swimming and a snack. Instruction is offered to children age 5 and up, with advanced workshop instruction for experienced dancers.

As in previous years, the workshop will include instruction with Andrij Dobriansky (New York City) for the younger participants, and classical and folk training from David Woznak of the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance in Parma, Ohio, for the advanced dancers. A special feature of this year's camp is a workshop on the art of pysanky (Ukrainian Easter egg-decorating). In addition, an adult workshop, open to parents and visitors, will be held each morning with local pysanka artist Georgine Postupack Borchik.

The camp will conclude with a performance on Saturday, July 7, at 7 p.m. This performance is open to the public, free of charge, and will be followed by a dance in the Ukrainian Homestead ballroom.

For more information on the camp or the adult workshop, contact Dr. Paula Holoviak at 570-708-1992, Sandra Duda at 610-377-7750 or Joseph Zucofski at 570-622-8056; or e-mail [holoviak@epix.net](mailto:holoviak@epix.net).

The camp is supported by Pennsylvania Partners in the Arts, the regional arts funding partnership of the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts, a state agency. State government funding comes through an annual appropriation by the Pennsylvania General Assembly and from the National Endowment for the Arts, a federal agency. PPA is administered in this region by Berks Arts Council. Additional funding comes from the Schuylkill County Commissioners through the Schuylkill County Council for the Arts and from the Pennsylvania Humanities Council, which in partnership with the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts supports projects combining the arts and humanities.

### Delta service to/from Ukraine to expand

KYIV – Delta Airlines sees great potential for expansion in the Ukrainian market, according to the company's office in Kyiv. During the first 10 months since Delta began its non-stop Kyiv-New York service some 56,000 passengers have flown that route. Ukraine is Delta's third market in Eastern Europe. The airline will soon expand its serv-

ice to five flights per week on the Kyiv-New York route, and daily flights are being considered. From New York, Delta passengers can find easy connections to Seattle, Chicago, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Miami and other cities. Delta began non-stop flights between New York and Kyiv on June 2, 2006. (Ukrinform)

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## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### Conquering...

(Continued from page 16)

boil enough water to drink properly that day. I fell asleep sometime after 10 p.m., convinced that our chances for a summit attempt the next day had been blown into oblivion.

#### Summit Day, February 4

I came groggily awake. Something was wrong. Why had I awoken? The wind – I couldn't hear the confounded wind! It had finally died down! The unexpected silence had brought me awake. The summit! No wind meant that we would be attempting the summit today!

I was instantly a tangle of mixed emotions: part of me had been hoping for a decent rest day, another part of me was buzzing with nervous anticipation. I glanced at my watch – only 1:30 a.m. "Sleep, rest, you idiot, you're gonna need it," I told myself. But sleep wouldn't come – I was too nervous. The roaring wind had earlier prevented sleep and now, ironically, the absence of wind was also indirectly preventing sleep. I finally gave up trying to sleep, boiled some water, ate breakfast, dressed and packed.

Vincent showed up at 5 a.m. Already there was a conga line of headlights heading up the slope to start the traverse. We fell into step at the end of the line but soon found ourselves passing people; then, surprisingly, we found ourselves at the head of the line.

We plunged ahead, but it was hard work. All the snow that had fallen over the course of our move from Plaza Argentina to Camp 1 and Camp 2 had not melted on these slopes, but piled up. We were usually up to mid-calf in the snow, but frequently ploughed through at knee level, and sometimes the snow was up to our waists. It took two-three steps in one spot to stamp out a path. It was a tedious and tiring process, but oddly satisfying. I was feeling strong and was doing most of the trail-breaking.

Dawn broke, the sun rose high enough for its rays to reach over intervening ridges and cast their warming glow upon us. We were blessed with absolutely perfect weather conditions. Up a short slope, we followed in the steps of a father-mother-son trio of Russians and came to the base of the last obstacle, the Canaleta. It is known as the most notorious part of the entire climb: a 1,300-foot, 33-degree slope of loose rocks. By this time my pace was dropping to a one-step two-breaths and sometimes even three-breaths routine, and I needed more frequent and longer rest stops. It was difficult to keep up with the Russians ahead, but I gritted my teeth and put my head down and plodded forward.

Vincent set off ahead with the three Russians, while I followed along behind. At first I was going well, but the higher I got up the Canaleta the slower I got. Two breaths between steps became three, then four. Soon I found myself regularly slumping over my trekking pole. Then things really started to get foggy. As I slumped onto the pole, I started dozing off. The strange thing was that I couldn't tell whether it was for a couple of seconds, tens of seconds, several minutes or more.

"Come on, stupid!" I told myself. "This is no time to fall asleep. Just keep going, you're so close. There ... a couple of steps – that's better ... damn mushy snow ... I'll just rest ... Whoa, how long was that? ... How far ahead is Vincent? Ah, he's up ahead to my left, sticking to slightly rockier ground towards the middle of the Canaleta ... Come on, try to keep the pace ... Hello? Who's that up above me? I don't remember him passing me. Is that one of



Mountaineers Yuri Monczak, Danylo Darewych and Blair Campbell.

the Germans? Or the Chilean? It's OK, I'll just follow his tracks, must keep ... Not again! What did I miss this time? What's the guy above yelling down to his buddy – not to go his way up the snow? Stuff it, that way still looks easier than that jumble of rocks to the left. Man, that sun is beating down, it's hard to think. Focus, keep it together ..."

In the end I've no idea how long it took me to make it up the Canaleta – I completely lost all sense of time. Mercifully, at the top of the Canaleta, the fog seemed to lift from my brain. I felt stronger and was able to keep up a steady pace as I traversed left towards the summit blocks, even gaining ground on the trio of Russians. I felt satisfied that I had overcome whatever malaise had affected me. I was looking forward to reaching the summit and enjoying the view.

Two steps from the summit that sense of impending satisfaction was wiped out. A wave of nausea overcame me. Trying to draw a deep breath to overcome the urge to upchuck, I took the last steps onto Aconcagua's summit. Vincent came over to congratulate me, but I waved him off. I was not in a celebratory mood.

I sat down and fought off the choking, constricting feeling. I didn't know if it was altitude sickness, but I didn't want to hang out to analyze it further. When the worst of the nausea had passed, I handed my camera to Vincent and told him, "Take my picture please, but make sure it shows the pain I'm in." I intended to use the picture to remind myself how much suffering is involved in high-altitude mountaineering the next time I set my sights on some lofty objective.

My time on the summit passed in a blur. I posed for a few more summit shots, spoke briefly to the older Russian (who turned out to be originally from Ukraine) and took a quick peek at the stupendous South Face of Aconcagua. It was a gorgeous, clear day with views stretching kilometers into the distance, but I didn't take the time to enjoy it.

More than anything I remember an overwhelming urge to get down as fast as possible. No sense of victory, no sense of triumph, no sense of satisfaction. I had expended some two weeks of effort to get there and in the end I spent less than five minutes on the summit of Aconcagua.

"I'm getting out of here," I told Vincent, and promptly bolted off the top. Or rather I slowly plodded off the top. On the way down we bumped into our other

travelling companions still heading up. The descent down was mostly uneventful and we reached our tents at 8 p.m. We had been on the go since 5 a.m. – a total of 15 hours. I crawled into my sleeping bag without even bothering to make dinner.

#### Aftermath

The next day I staggered down from Camp 2 to Plaza Argentina with one of the heaviest loads of my life. Blair was there to embrace me and take some photos. It was good to see him. I was tired, but felt

pretty good. Eight of the 16 people who had set out on the trek two weeks previously reached the summit of Aconcagua, but everybody had been affected by the altitude.

In my opinion, several factors contributed to the ravages of altitude our group felt. The first of these had been the wind. It had howled so ferociously the day before our summit day that it had been impossible to get a decent rest and difficult to boil up enough water for eating and drinking. I'm convinced that I didn't drink enough both on the day before and the day of the summit attempt. Nor do I feel that I spent enough time acclimatizing at Camp 2. I spent a day and a half at a high altitude before heading for the summit. It was enough to reach the summit, but it wasn't enough to make it pleasant. I shudder to think what would have happened had the weather turned nasty while we were near the summit. In the end, however, all's well that ends well.

#### Conclusion

Overall, the Aconcagua expedition was a good one for me. I got to visit Argentina, a country to which I'd never been before. I had excellent friends, Yuri and Blair, on my team (but I was sorry that they didn't make the summit); the trek in revealed a completely new landscape to me; I met and climbed with friendly people from all over the world; and I was able to test myself at a higher altitude than I ever had before and to pass that test, albeit not with flying colors (I still find myself regretting the fact that I didn't enjoy the summit).

One thing's for sure: there is no easy mountain at high altitude.

## Connecticut State Ukrainian Day slated for September 9 in Stamford

by Donald K. Horbaty

STAMFORD, Conn. – The Connecticut State Ukrainian Day Committee has announced that the 40th annual Ukrainian Day Festival will be held Sunday, September 9, at St. Basil's Seminary.

Priests will be available for confessions beginning at 9 a.m., and liturgy is at 11 a.m., celebrated by Bishop Paul Chomynnycky.

Coffee will be available for those who arrive early to see the wares of over 20 vendors; Ukrainian and picnic food and beverages will be available later in the day.

At 3 p.m. a lively program of Ukrainian song and dance will delight all. Following the program there will be dancing under the stars to a Ukrainian band.

Ukrainians from the Northeast are brought together in an atmosphere of fun, goodwill and friendship at this annual festival in the Nutmeg State. The festival

continues thanks to the steadfast support and devotion of people from the various parishes in Connecticut – a shining example of what inter-parish cooperation should be. Behind the scenes a contingent of older and younger adults in each parish prepare the thousands of varenyky, holubtsi, tortes, etc., consumed at this event.

Since its inception over \$400,000 has been raised by the festival committee for many Ukrainian causes.

Admission to the festival, which includes free parking, is \$10 (for those age 12 and over) at the gate and \$5 for advance tickets, which may be purchased from one of the 10 parishes or by contacting ticket chairwoman Helen Rudy of East Hartford, Conn., at 860-568-5445. The festival will be held rain or shine.

For more information or to volunteer to help during the festival, call Donald Horbaty, festival chairman, at 203-269-5909.

## International tourism expo held in Kyiv

KYIV – More than 60 travel companies were represented at the 13th Ukraine International Travel and Tourism Exhibition 2007 held in Kyiv in March. The exhibition was organized by PremierExpo (Ukraine) and ITE Group PLC (Great Britain) with the support of the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture and Tourism and the Kyiv City State Administration. The exhibition showcased tourist packages from all of

Ukraine's regions, as well as national stands representing Austria, Greece, Egypt, India, Spain, Cyprus, Malaysia, Poland, Turkey, Switzerland and other countries. This year for the first time Jordan and San Marino were represented, while the number of exhibits representing Italy, China, the Czech Republic and Montenegro grew significantly. A new section devoted to business tourism was part of the 2007 exhibition. (Ukrinform)

## A Ukrainian Summer: where to go, what to do...

### TREKS AND TRAVELS: Conquering the highest mountains, one peak at a time

TORONTO – Teacher Danylo Darewych is well-known to mountaineers for his climbing and alpine pursuits, particularly his conquest of Mount McKinley (Denali) on June 16, 2002 (see *The Ukrainian Weekly*, September 1, 2002). He has taken the 2006-2007 school year off to do some intensive and wide-ranging climbing, so far the most ambitious of which has been his trip to Argentina and the ascent of the highest mountain outside the Himalayas, Aconcagua.

For the rest of the year, Mr. Darewych has his sights set on more climbing in Alaska and an assault on Mount Logan in the Yukon. Then there are still the Himalayas – he has not decided where he might go, but is considering K-2 (the second highest mountain in the world) or Broad Peak, both in Pakistan.

The article below, edited by Oksana Zakydalsky, was prepared by Mr. Darewych for the *Alpine Club of Canada Newsletter*.

by Danylo Darewych

Aconcagua, at 6,962 meters (22,841 feet) the highest mountain in North and South America, features a normal route that requires no technical climbing skills apart from the use of crampons. As a result, it draws climbers from all over the world – 4,271 people received climbing permits in 2005-2006.

I, too, was drawn by the lure of this “easy” high-altitude mountain and ventured onto its slopes in January-February of this year. I learned – not for the first time – that you can never underestimate any mountain, especially not one as high as Aconcagua.

#### Preparation

I found two climbing partners – experienced mountaineers Blair Campbell from Toronto and Yuri Monczak from Montreal. The flights to Mendoza, Argentina, the pick-up and accommodations in Mendoza, transportation to the trailhead town of Puente de Inca and mule services were taken care of through the Internet.

Blair, Yuri and I flew into Mendoza separately, where each of us picked up a 20-day climbing permit for \$330, and we met at Puente del Inca at 2,700 meters.

There are two approach routes that are regularly taken to the foot of Aconcagua – although it entailed a longer three-day hike, we chose the one through the Vacas and Relinchos valleys to the Plaza Argentina that was less traveled and less despoiled.

#### The climb

We started our approach hike on Tuesday, January 23, and, with mules carrying most of our heavy load, the 36-kilometer hike was a fairly pleasant and uneventful affair, albeit hot and dusty. Blair, Yuri and I had a chance to become reacquainted and meet the people starting the trek on the same day. It was quite the international group: Rob and Ed from Seattle/Tacoma, Wash.; Fran, Mario and their guide Bob from Colorado; four Serbs (whose names I never could get straight); Frank and Vincent from Utrecht, Holland; and Teresa and Odd from Norway. Since we were all more or less on the same acclimatization schedule, we ended up spending quite a lot of time with each other.

On the third day we reached Plaza Argentina, our base camp, which was situated on a moraine at 4,200 meters at the foot of Aconcagua, which towered above us. Awed by its immense height, we wondered whether we had bitten off more than we could chew, but reassured ourselves, “One step at a time, and one step at a time.”

At Plaza Argentina, we set up our tent, found our out-house and the location of the clean water supply, registered with the Park Rangers, received our numbered human waste bags, and had our pulses and oxygen saturation levels measured by the doctor.

Our plan called for a day of rest at Plaza Argentina, followed by a carry of gear up to Camp 1 (at 4,950 meters), return to Plaza Argentina and then a move up to Camp 2 (5,800 meters), from where we would stage our attempt on the summit (6,962 meters). This tried and tested approach of “carrying high and sleeping low” is designed to acclimatize the body to the combination of reduced air pressure and a lower concentration of oxygen at high altitude, and to prevent altitude sickness.

Things began to go wrong on our first carry up to Camp 1 on January 27. Yuri and I quickly adopted the methodical plodding uphill step. Blair, however, was having trouble getting into the rhythm, stopping frequently to catch his breath, and he fell behind. When we stopped for a rest, Blair complained of a headache and nauseous feel-



Danylo Darewych unfurls the Ukrainian flag at the summit of Aconcagua in Argentina.

ing in his gut. He looked pale and drawn and had difficulty standing up.

We quickly cached our gear and retreated to Plaza Argentina. On the advice of the camp doctor we decided to take another full acclimatization day before proceeding upwards again to Camp 1.

Two nights later (the night before we were due to head up to Camp 1 again) it was Yuri's turn to experience problems. He awoke in the middle of the night hyperventilating madly and having trouble breathing. In the morning Yuri visited the camp doctor who stated that Yuri didn't have oedema, but he wasn't acclimatizing properly and suggested that he not go any higher. After some consideration, Yuri decided that, for him, the expedition was over.

Yuri accompanied us up to the gear cache to retrieve his gear. He made it up without any problem, breathing well, walking steadily. I was secretly hoping he might change his mind, but Yuri stuck to his decision. He simply did not want to risk getting altitude sickness higher up the mountain.

We said goodbye to Yuri and watched him descend back towards Plaza Argentina. Yuri later told us that that night he slept exceptionally well for the first time and even briefly considered coming back up to rejoin us. In the end, he walked back to our starting point, covering the 36 kilometers in one long day, and returned to Montreal.

Blair and I spent most of the day of January 30 simply resting and hanging out at Camp 1. All our trek-in companions were also there.

The following day, January 31, Blair and I headed up again carrying gear to Camp 2. The second half of the trail was painful for all of us. Blair and I, Frank, Vincent, Bob, Fran, Mario and one of the Serbs bunched up, and slowly trudged uphill together. No one said much of anything – every breath was much too precious to waste on talking. It was a relief to finally reach Camp 2. We cached our gear and got out of there as fast as possible. Both Blair and I were feeling the altitude and had developed mild headaches.

Two days later, after a rest day in Camp 1, we were back in Camp 2 to stay, thrilled to be just one long day away from the summit, and congratulated ourselves on a job well done.

However, all was not right at Camp 2. We learned that a trio of Poles had gone for the summit the previous day in bad weather and one of them had not returned. They were a mother and son team, being guided by an old Himalayan veteran. The mother explained that when they were coming down, her son had refused to descend, insisting that he was going to stay up high and do a “survival” thing. When he failed to show up the next day (the day we got to Camp 2), the guide had gone up to look for him, but didn't find him.

We later learned from radio reports that people had seen him but he had refused all help, threatening to hit people with his mountaineering axe and kick them with his crampons. Nobody had been able to get near him. He was found dead the next day. He was 28 years old. His behavior and death underscored what a disturbing effect altitude can have on normally rational people. I cannot even begin to imagine the anguish his mother had been through waiting for her son at Camp 2.

There was more bad news the next morning – Blair was not feeling well and decided that he was not acclimatizing properly and wouldn't be strong enough for a summit attempt. I tried to convince him that he should wait another day, but his mind was made up – he was going down. He packed his things, and after a few parting photos and a sad farewell, descended back to Plaza Argentina.

Left partnerless I went over to discuss things with Vincent, who was also without a partner. We agreed that we should try for the summit tomorrow, waking up at 4 a.m. and heading out at 5. However, early that afternoon the wind picked up in strength and tried to blow us all off the mountain. Drifts of snow began to build up in the vestibule and fine snow particles were being blasted into the tent. When some of the tent poles began bending back under the heavier gusts of wind, I went outside to build the rock wall around the tent a little higher but, as the cold began creeping in through my big down jacket, I retreated into my tent.

It took forever to cook food and, in the end, I never did

(Continued on page 15)



Danylo Darewych in the Andes.