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Verkhovna Rada begins battle for new chairman

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — In the first of what could be several attempts, the eight factions of the new Verkhovna Rada have nominated 14 candidates for the post of chairman. Few of the candidates are prominent or electable.

Political analysts and national deputies alike believe that no one will receive the votes needed to elect the chairman of the Parliament in the first round of voting and that this attempt is merely a game of political positioning, while more backroom politicking may be needed before viable candidates appear.

"The head of the Verkhovna Rada is not going to be elected in the first round," said a former chairman, Ivan Pliusch, outside the session hall on May 20 as nominees made presentations inside.

Ukraine's newly seated Verkhovna Rada began the process of electing its chairman on May 15, at the end of its first full week of plenary sessions and eight weeks after the March 29 elections in which the 450 seats of the Verkhovna Rada were filled in the country's first mixed-system elections.

On May 14 the Verkhovna Rada Secretariat registered eight parliamentary factions and their delegates. So far, 389 parliamentarians, out of 430 deputies who were sworn in, have joined factions.

At the time of registration, the Communist faction numbered 119 deputies; 84 deputies joined the faction of the National Democratic Party; Rukh united 47 deputies. The Hromada faction consisted of 39 deputies; 35 deputies joined the left-wing faction (Socialist/Peasants' Parties); 24 deputies make up the Green Party faction; 24 deputies formed the faction of the Social-Democratic Party (United); and the Progressive Socialist Party faction included 17 deputies. Additional deputies can join later. The Parliament also approved the formation of a special Reconciliation Committee that consists of faction delegates or their leaders.

Roman Zvarych, a newly elected national deputy who belongs to the Rukh faction, said the parties have withheld their strongest candidates because at this point no candidate can be sure of the 226 votes needed for election.

"We haven't yet gotten to the stage where we can speak of a genuine parliamentary majority," said Mr. Zvarych. "What we are now involved in is a very complex process of maneuvering, all sorts of very strange shows of strength."

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UNA CONCLUDES 34th CONVENTION Ulana Diachuk re-elected to serve third term as president

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — The Ukrainian National Association emerged from its 34th Regular Convention, the last of this century and the first to be held in Canada, with a mandate to merge with both the Ukrainian Fraternal Association (UFA) and the Ukrainian National Aid Association of America (UNAAA), but with its flagship daily, Svoboda, reduced to a weekly publication, and its Soyuzivka resort's season shortened to only the summer months.

The quadrennial convention, held on May 15-19 at the Toronto Hilton, brought together 227 delegates representing branches from across the U.S. and Canada.

On May 16, the convention voted overwhelmingly to accept the terms of the contracts under which mergers with the UFA and the UNAAA would take place, but rejected the proposal that the UNA change its name to the Ukrainian National Fraternal Association, in order to accommodate UFA demands. In doing so, the convention dismissed suggestions by Executive Committee members who had negotiated the contracts that a refusal of the name change would endanger the mergers.

On May 19, the final day of the conclave, delegates re-elected Ulana Diachuk to a third term as president of the fraternal organization, turning aside a strong challenge from Advisor and The Ukrainian Weekly Editor-in-Chief Roma Hadzewycz.

In her acceptance speech, Mrs. Diachuk said "at the outset of the convention I was 100 percent certain I would not be a candidate [for re-election] ... but only at the last minute when I saw your desires, your support and your confidence in me, I decided to continue to lead this organization."

The UNA president expressed the hope that all in attendance would look back in four years' time and be proud of what was accomplished at the convention and confident in the difficult decisions made.

Also returning to office were Anya Dydyk-Petrenko, as second vice-president, and Martha Lysko as secretary, both elected by acclamation. Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj, who assumed the office as acting treasurer when Alexander Blahitka went on medical leave in November 1997, was confirmed by acclamation as treasurer.

Two-term incumbent Nestor Olesnycky declined to stand for another term as vice-president, making way for a newcomer. Chicago's Stefko Kuropas was elected first vice-president to the Executive Committee.

The Rev. Myron Stasiw, chairman of the convention's organizing committee, was acclaimed as director for Canada.

William Pastuszek, Stefan Hawrysz,



Andrij Wynnyckyj

Honorary Member of the General Assembly Stephen Kuropas Sr. administers the oath of office to the newly elected General Assembly. Seen from left are: First Vice-President Stefko Kuropas, President Ulana Diachuk, National Secretary Martha Lysko, Second Vice-President Anya Dydyk Petrenko and Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj.

Alexander Serafyn, Yaroslav Zaviysky and Michael Groch (representing Canada) were elected to the Auditing Committee. However, either Mr. Groch or Mr. Zaviysky will be asked to step aside when or if the proposed merger with the UFA goes through, as the contract of merger stipulates that the UFA would require one auditor and three advisor positions on the General Assembly.

Alexander Chudolij and Taras Szmagala Jr., were the top vote-getters in the election for the General Assembly's advisors (in fact Mr. Szmagala's 161 votes was the largest number cast for any post in the final round), and both were re-elected. Canada's Tekla Moroz was elected to her seventh consecutive term.

Also re-elected as advisors are Nick Diakiwsky, Walter Korchynsky and Stephanie Hawryluk. Newcomers are Halyna Kolessa, Dr. Wasyl Szeremeta and Andre Worobec. Albert Kachkowski of Canada is assured of a place as the UNA By-Laws require two Canadian advisors, while the newly elected Eugene Oscislawsky, Barbara Bachynsky and Andrij Skyba would be excused when or if the merger with the UFA is completed.

Opening of convention

The convention opened on May 15 with the Trillia Trio singing the national anthems of Ukraine and Canada, while the U.S. anthem and the hymn of the UNA were sung by Sviatoslava Kaczaraj. A greeting from Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, read by his country's ambassador to Canada, Volodymyr Furkalo, hailed the UNA as the first organization that united Ukrainians outside Ukraine.

The Rev. Stasiw, chairman of the convention's organizing committee, wel-

comed delegates to Toronto and delivered the invocation.

President Diachuk then announced the opening of the convention, recalling the formation of the first UNA branch in the host country in 1916 in Toronto.

After the assembly stood for a minute of silence to honor departed UNA officers and members, the convention delegates got down to business, with a report by Credentials Committee Chairman George Yurkiw. (Other members of the committee included Lev Chirovsky, Gregory Klymenko, Myron Kuzio and Adolph Slovik.)

The convention elected a presidium, chaired by Judge Bohdan Doliszny of St. Catharines, Ontario, and co-chaired by Ihor Hayda and Taras Szmagala Sr. Daria Semegen and Andre Worobec served, respectively, as Ukrainian-language and English-language secretaries. Michael Turko and Stephen Kolodrub were designated as sergeants-at-arms. Michael Komichak of Pittsburgh acted as the convention's official recorder.

A 14-member Elections Committee was formed, as were the Secretaries and Petitions committees.

Reports and discussion

Mr. Szmagala, who chaired the next session, imposed time limits on the reports by UNA General Assembly members: 10 minutes for executive officers, five minutes for auditors and advisors, and Mr. Olesnycky was granted half an hour to read his report on the current status of the UNA. Treasurer Alexander Blahitka was hospitalized at the time of the convention and could not attend to deliver his report. Mr. Kaczaraj issued a

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NEWS ANALYSIS

Ukraine in the new Europe

by Dr. Roman Jakubow

OTTAWA – Karl Marx once said that “Men make their own history; but they do not make it just as they please.” The same holds true for nations. Fate and will are inextricably linked. Circumstances and choices combine to produce results. That is why the subject Ukraine in the new Europe is an open question. We do not know the future shape of Europe. Even more uncertainty shrouds the prospects for Ukraine. Finally, the ultimate nature of the relationship between Ukraine and its European neighbors is very much a work in progress.

The old continent conjures up many images. Think of the Renaissance and Enlightenment, British institutions, Roman law, Greek philosophy and Judeo-Christian values. But European experience also has a dark side. Its anarchical system of states generated many wars. In our tragic century alone, Europe spawned two world wars, fascism, communism, the Holocaust and the Cold War. In this century, too, Europe ceased to be the center of the world politics and became an object of contention between the two superpowers.

Today, none of the European states is strong enough to act as a major global actor. They are attempting to compensate for their weakness by creating a united Europe. Powerful forces are shaping this new Europe, two of the most important being enhanced economic integration and a redefinition of trans-Atlantic political and security partnership. The European Union (EU) and North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) are the key institutions in dealing with the process of change. Both are adapting and both are enlarging.

Competition in the age of information is on a global scale. Wealth is power. One who has it is instructive. Of the world's output of 30 trillion or so American dollars, 80 percent is in the hands of 20 percent of the people. The rich regions [of the world] form a nearly evenly split triangle: North America (NAFTA), European Union (EU) and Asia, that is, Japan and the struggling “tiger.” To be specific, 372 million people who live in the 15 countries of the European Union account for more than \$8 trillion of output, or more than a quarter of the world's wealth.

On the political and security side, the two great European challenges of the contemporary period – the integration of a united Germany into the West and the relationship of the Atlantic Alliance (NATO) to Russia – cannot be managed without North American involvement. Of course, the role of the United States is paramount. Its involvement prevents re-nationalization of security policies in Europe and enormously reduces pressures to acquire nuclear weapons. According to Henry Kissinger, it also creates global equilibrium which is necessary to manage either the resurgences or the disintegration of Russia, the two most threatening outcomes of the Soviet collapse.

The Alliance is in the process of enlarging – Poland, the Czech Republic and Hungary having been invited in July 1997 in Madrid to join. A Permanent Joint Council (PJC) has been created to manage the NATO-Russia relationship. Of equal significance is the NATO-Ukraine Charter which provides a practical mechanism for further development of Ukraine's relations with the Alliance.

What will the future of Europe look

Dr. Roman P. Jakubow is director of strategic analysis, National Defense Headquarters, Ottawa, Canada. The above text is excerpted from a presentation made on February 3 in Ottawa.

like? Two of the possible visions, in my opinion, are not likely. I doubt that Europe will return to its fragmented past where fear and envy would again be stronger than the impulse to cooperate. Can you imagine a British observer ever again saying after an extended tour of Germany: “Every one of these new factory chimneys is a gun pointed at England?” His grandfather did.

I also doubt that Europe will soon unite into a single state. The idealist vision of Maastricht 1991, which foresaw common foreign, security, defense, economic and social policies, remains a distant goal.

The most likely Europe is an increasingly economically integrated Europe with a common currency. It will be a broader Europe with more members as well as more areas of “pooled sovereignty” and a greater sense of European identity. Not perhaps a very tidy arrangement. Yet, in spite of its modesty, this vision of an increasingly federated Europe promises a safer, richer and more hopeful continent.

Two conclusions follow – one specific and one general. First, if Ukraine wishes to have a chance of access and eventual inclusion in the European economic space, then structural reform of its economy along modern lines is a sine qua non condition. Second, more broadly, the new Europe would then be a Europe in which use and threat of use of force was not a means of resolving inter-state disputes. War and fear of war would cease to be the driving motor of politics among nations. In technical jargon, European Union would form “a pluralistic security community” – a group of states among whom war was unthinkable. Such a change in relations among developed states would represent a truly historical discontinuity.

Like me, you might prefer an image to words. I particularly like a metaphor that comes from a title of a book on geology “Time's Arrow, Time's Cycle” by Stephen Jay Gould. Does history resemble an arrow or a cycle? Is there a constant uni-directional change or do patterns recur in regular cycles? ...

If history resembles an arrow, then some changes are irreversible. What I am suggesting is that in the Western part of the European continent, we are likely to see time's arrow. In contrast, to the East, we are likely to see time's cycle. That is because there are many new states there and in the early phases of state-building process, traditional patterns of international politics are more likely. That does not mean that war is inevitable. Much depends on internal developments in each country. The West can also support peace and stability in that region by helping build appropriate institutions, habits and processes. That brings us to Ukraine. The views are my own. I am sure that they can be improved upon.

The rise of an independent Ukraine is one of the great events of this century. Geopolitically, it meant the end of the last empire in Europe. Russian power has receded from the center of the continent. Many nations have regained their freedom including, in a sense, Russia itself.

For the people who live on the land called Ukraine, freedom meant a momentous possibility to overcome their past, the possibility to start on a road where decent life and a respect for human dignity are real. Ukrainians paid an exceeding by high price for powerlessness. “Shliakhta,” tsars and commissars exacted a terrible toll on ordinary people of Ukraine as well as on its best, most creative, sons and daughters. It is a tribute to the past generations that they had the spiritual faith and a monumental endurance to prevail.

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NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma-Gore Commission to meet in July

WASHINGTON – During a meeting between Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak and Jan Kalicki, the American co-chairman of the Kuchma-Gore Commission's Ukrainian-American Interstate Trade and Investment Committee, the American side proposed that the commission hold its second meeting in July. According to the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv, the work of the trade and investment committee was discussed at the meeting. Ambassador Shcherbak underlined the need to exclude discussion on disputes that U.S. firms in Ukraine have from the forthcoming meeting and he noted progress in the resolution of these problems. Supporting this idea, Mr. Kalicki, who is also an advisor to the U.S. Department of Commerce, noted the need to establish an effective mechanism of regulation of such arguments in Ukraine. Mr. Kalicki stressed that, overall, his country supports the idea of Ukraine's participation in the trans-Caucasian corridor project to transport Caspian oil to the west. Mr. Kalicki also said he is in favor of Ukraine creating a legislative and regulatory base that would be attractive to investors. This would mean that investors could participate in the corridor project, supported by stable and predictable tariff and tax policies. During the meeting, Dr. Shcherbak also raised the issue of non-discriminatory access for Ukrainian goods to U.S. markets. Ukrainian steel manufacturers last year were the subject

of anti-dumping inquiries by America. (Eastern Economist)

Tarasiuk criticizes G-7 statement

KYIV – The G-7 countries and the European Union are attempting to shift onto Ukraine the responsibility for the failure by the G-7 to implement their financial obligations under the Ottawa memorandum on the closing of Chornobyl Atomic Energy Station by 2000, Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasiuk told representatives of the diplomatic corps on May 19. He said this statement was based on analysis of the statement on Ukraine approved at the G-7 summit in Birmingham, England, on May 15. Minister Tarasiuk pointed out that closure of the Chornobyl nuclear power plant is conditional on the receipt of financial aid for implementation of the sarcophagus project and creation of compensatory energy-generating capacities. In addition, Mr. Tarasiuk claimed that attempts by the authors of the statement to cast doubt on Ukraine's implementation of its memorandum obligations are unfounded. “Ukraine respects its international obligations, including those outlined by the memorandum,” he stated. He added that, in order to obtain financing for construction of compensatory capacities, the Ukrainian government had increased electricity tariffs beginning on January 1. He said that, considering the “passive mood” of its partners in the memorandum, Ukraine was holding negotiations on financing for the projects with other countries. (Eastern Economist)

(Continued on page 4)

Striking miners march in protest

RFE/RL Newline

DNIPROPETROVSK – Thousands of coal miners who have taken part in marches over the past few days arrived in Dnipropetrovsk on May 19 and gathered outside the oblast administration building to demand the payment of wage arrears.

They reacted angrily when acting Coal Industry Minister Volodymyr Radchenko pledged to pay only their wages for this month, saying the state has no funds to pay the miners for previous months. As of mid-May, the state debt to the coal mining sector was 2.1 billion hryvni (more than \$1 billion U.S.).

Ukrainian Radio reported on May 18 that the government had created a special commission for drawing up proposals by May 21 to resolve the socio-economic problems of coal miners in the

Dnipropetrovsk Oblast.

Some 5,000 coal miners from Pavlohrad marched 70 kilometers to Dnipropetrovsk to demand unpaid wages, mirroring the action taken by 1,000 miners from Pervomaik. The miners spent the night of May 20-21 outside the oblast administration building after presenting an ultimatum to the government.

The ultimatum says the miners will wait 24 hours for a government decision to pay back wages. If the government fails to make such a decision, the group will march on to Kyiv. The protesters demand payment of all wage arrears to Pavlohrad mines, now totaling 84 million hryvni (\$42 million U.S.) and the restoration of subsidies to the coal mining sector, which were suspended by the government 18 months ago.

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Ukrainian American Veterans remember military service since Revolutionary War

by Dmytro Bodnarczuk

Ukrainians have been living on the American continent since before the establishment of the United States of America and served in the Revolutionary War, as well as all wars thereafter. As America remembers its veterans this Memorial Day, we look at some of the contributions of Ukrainian American veterans and the Ukrainian American Veterans Association.

The Civil War

Gen. John B. Turchin was born Ivan V. Turchinov, in the Don River region. He entered military academy at the age of 14 in St. Petersburg, Russia, and graduated with honors as a second lieutenant of a Artillery. Col. Turchinov was on active duty in the Crimean War after which he was promoted to the rank of colonel. He went to study military science in Germany and England. Shortly after his stay in England, he came to the United States with his wife, Nadia. While in the U.S., he settled in Chicago working for the Illinois Railroad Company. When the Civil War broke out, Col. Turchin volunteered to serve and was commissioned as colonel on June 22, 1861. During the war he was known as the "Terrible Kozak." He was promoted to a rank of brigadier general, and as such commanded a cavalry brigade at the Battle of Chicamagua. He died on June 18, 1901, in a suburb of Chicago.

The Spanish-American War

There were several Ukrainians who took part in the Spanish-American War, April 25 to August 12, 1898, and the Philippine Insurrection in 1901. Among them Fetsko Kochan, a member of Company H, 21st U.S. Infantry, Manila, Philippine Islands, wrote about his war experience to the newspaper Svoboda, No. 19, in 1900. His description of combat was realistic in its brutality, yet there

was also a sense of adventure.

World War I

During World War I over 30,000 men and women of Ukrainian descent served in the U.S. Armed Forces. Most of them fought with the expeditionary forces in Europe. According to Lt. Col. Leonid Kondratiuk, military historian, there were 24 Ukrainians who were awarded the Distinguished Service Cross. Major Kocak, a marine, won the Congressional Medal of Honor.

World War II

Prior to and during World War II thousands of Ukrainian American young men and women joined the U.S. Armed Forces. They became professional soldiers. Many of them died young as heroes; others lived long enough to become general officers.

Peter Tomich was at his engine post on the USS Utah, December 7, 1941, when Japan attacked Pearl Harbor. USS Utah was struck with bombs and torpedoes. Mr. Tomich remained at his post until the end, securing the engine on the capsized ship. For this he was awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Capt. Peter Melnyk, who in 1954 was promoted to the rank of general, fought the Japanese forces in the Philippines. After Americans surrendered at Battan in April 1942, he escaped and organized a guerrilla detachment composed of Americans and Filipinos that proceeded to attack Japanese military installations. The American Command became aware of his valuable guerrilla military tactics, and evacuated him by a submarine in 1943. For his gallantry in action, Capt. Melnyk received the Distinguished Service Cross.

Pvt. Nicholas Minue, born in western Ukraine, enlisted in the army in May 1927. During World War II, Pvt. Minue wanted to see action, gave up his sergeant's stripes and was assigned to Company A, 6th

Armored Infantry Regiment, 1st Armored Division, which fought against German Africa Corps in North Africa. On April 28, 1943, his squad was pinned down by the German machine-gunfire. Despite the heavy fire, he jumped up, charged the machine-gun nest, killing eight Germans and chasing the rest from their positions. He was mortally wounded in this action. Watching his single-handed attack, Company A followed Pvt. Minue's lead and routed the enemy. Pvt. Minue paid the supreme sacrifice for his adopted country and was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor.

Col. Ted Kalakuka began his service on January 10, 1921, when he enlisted in the Pennsylvania National Guard. He entered the West Point Military Academy on July 2, 1923, and graduated in June of 1927. Col. Kalakuka became the first known Ukrainian American to graduate from West Point Military Academy. In 1940 he was transferred to the Philippines with assignment as plans officer and executive officer for the Quartermaster General, U.S. Army Forces, Far East. When the Japanese invaded the Philippines in December 1941, Col. Kalakuka moved his headquarters to Corregidor. During one of his inspection at the front lines, he filled in as rifleman during a Japanese attack. For his heroism on the front lines, he received the Silver Star Medal, and later, two Oak Leaf Cluster medals, the Bronze Star Medal, and the Purple Heart. Captured by the Japanese, Col. Kalakuka died of cerebral malaria on October 31, 1942, in a prison camp.

Korean War

After the World War II some 50,000 Ukrainian displaced persons entered the United States as permanent residents. When the Korean War broke out, men for military service eligible, not yet citizens, answered the call to join the United States Armed Forces. Some of them were in combat fighting expanding com-

munistism in Korea.

Wolodymyr (Walter) Holynskij was born July 7, 1929, in Ukraine. He entered the U.S. Army in March 1951. On August 11, 1952, Cpl. Holynskij's Company L 5th Infantry bunker received a direct hit. Without regard for his personal safety and exposing himself to enemy fire, Cpt. Holynskij saved two wounded men. On September 2, 1952, he was killed in action. He was posthumously awarded the Bronze Star Medal with letter V, and the Purple Heart.

Vietnam War

Vietnam War claimed its share of Ukrainian Americans. Most of them were volunteers. They followed their fathers and older brothers into the U.S. Armed Forces. For many of them it was a sacred duty to fight communism, wherever it was, in whatever disguise.

Maj. Myron Diduryk was born in 1938 in Ukraine. He joined the ROTC at St. Peter's College, Jersey City, N.J., and was commissioned second lieutenant in 1960. During his second tour of duty Maj. Diduryk was killed by a sniper. Lt. Gen. H. Moore described Maj. Diduryk as the best battlefield commander he had ever known. UAV Post 30 in Freehold, N.J., has chosen Maj. Diduryk as its patron.

The Persian Gulf War

Ukrainian Americans also participated in the Persian Gulf War. They were: Lance Cpl. Michael Basset, Capt. Stefan Gorzinski, Maj. Richard Gula, Col. Hlib Hayuk, 1st Lt. Justin Hirniak, 1st Lt. Mark Hreczuck, Sgt. Roman Leskiw, Capt. Gerald Nestor, Lt. Yarema Sos, 2nd Lt. Adrian Sawczuk and 1st Lt. Andrei Tymiak. Maj. Francis L. Holinaty was awarded the Bronze Star Medal for his participation in the Operation Desert Shield and Desert Storm of 1992.

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Ambassador Shcherbak warns against limiting NATO expansion

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

WASHINGTON – Ukraine's Ambassador to the United States Yuri Shcherbak says that while Ukraine does not aspire to join NATO today, one should not set "red lines" to future NATO expansion that would exclude Ukraine from future membership.

The ambassador was responding to a question about Russian President Yeltsin's interview in a British newspaper in which he stated that there was a "red line" to NATO expansion.

(Asked by The Guardian reporter what steps Russia would take if Ukraine and the Baltic states were invited to join NATO, Mr. Yeltsin said he hoped the West would be "realistic" enough not to do it. "In NATO expansion, there is a red line for Russia which should not be crossed," Mr. Yeltsin is quoted as saying in the May 15 Guardian.)

"I think we should be calm in discussing any 'red line' and its future movement," Ambassador Shcherbak said in an interview with The Ukrainian Weekly later that same day.

"I would point out that three years ago such a 'red line' ran closer to Berlin than to Warsaw," he said. "Things change and policies change, as do the structures themselves."

In the interview, Mr. Shcherbak also responded to questions about Foreign Minister Borys Tarasiuk's recent statement concerning Ukraine's continued interest in former Soviet foreign assets, current priorities in Ukraine-U.S. relations and India's nuclear weapons tests.

Ambassador Shcherbak said that Ukraine's foreign policy orientation has been clearly defined and enunciated.

"This orientation is toward Europe – the integration of Ukraine into European structures," he said. This includes joining the European Union within the next decade or two and its inclusion into European security structures.

NATO, which now plays a key role in Europe's security system, is changing and will continue to transform itself, Mr. Shcherbak said. "One simply cannot judge today's NATO through the Cold War

prism of the 1950s and 1960s."

"Ukraine does not need NATO membership right now," he said. "It isn't ready for it – neither technically nor psychologically." Indeed, legally Ukraine cannot join because of its declared status as non-bloc nation, which cannot be changed overnight.

"So I wouldn't over-dramatize the NATO issue," Mr. Shcherbak said. "We are calm in our approach to NATO. We see it as an alliance of democratic nations with peaceful intentions, as one of the key elements of security in Europe."

He said that Ukraine will continue to work with its neighbors, including Russia, as Russia, for its part, works and cooperates with NATO and also strives to become a part of the European Union.

Asked to expand on Minister Tarasiuk's recent statement that Ukraine's claim to its share of the former Soviet Union's property abroad "has not been taken off the agenda," Mr. Shcherbak said that while the Ukrainian government agreed – "possibly unwisely" – in 1993 to the so-called "zero option," it was never ratified by the Verkhovna Rada. Under the "zero option" agreement, Russia alone would inherit both the assets and liabilities of the former USSR.

Mr. Shcherbak noted that at the same time there was also an agreement reached that Ukraine would get 35 foreign Soviet properties. "We have yet to receive them, and this issue also remains outstanding," he added.

Ukraine has never received a report from Moscow on Soviet assets, and, therefore, cannot make an informed decision about what its 16 percent share of the assets would be as compare to its share of the liabilities, he said.

Ambassador Shcherbak said that the priority item on the U.S.-Ukraine agenda now is the realization of market reforms in the Ukrainian economy.

Secretary of State Madeleine Albright's recent certification that Ukraine had made significant progress in resolving American investors' problems, "does not mean that everything is all right," he said. "There are still many problems – a few difficult problems that have not been resolved – but

there is good will to have them resolved," he added.

"Above all, however, the investment climate must be improved not only for these few – and for the most part, small – companies, but on a more fundamental level, with new legislation and the easing of the tax burden," he said. This is expected to be the focus of the next Kuchma-Gore Bi-national Commission meeting at the end of July in Kyiv, he added.

Discussing President Kuchma's May 12 "state of the nation address," Mr. Shcherbak said it was not confrontational but conciliatory, calling for a cooperative approach to instituting the reforms needed to improve the lives of the people.

Ambassador Shcherbak expressed the hope that the new deputies would subordinate their partisan leanings to the needs of the country.

Even though the International Monetary Fund suspended its stand-by credits to Ukraine because of its ballooning national budget deficit, Mr. Shcherbak said the government now feels it can adhere to the stringent measures needed to obtain the IMF's multi-billion-dollar Extended Fund Facility credits and that an agreement with the IMF may be reached "within a month or two."

Asked to comment on India's recent underground nuclear tests, Mr. Shcherbak said that Ukraine sees it as a "very serious development" and condemns it.

"It may set off a dangerous nuclear chain reaction, threatening the peace not only in eastern Asia but in other parts of the world as well, where other potential nuclear countries might begin testing their own weapons as a demonstration of power," he said.

"Ukraine today has the undeniable moral authority – unique in this world – to raise its voice in this matter, with a clear conscience and moral credentials," he said. "We suffered Chernobyl and we voluntarily gave up our nuclear weapons."

"Today we can affirm that the way to achieve a country's greatness is through developing its own economic potential and friendly relations with its neighbors – and not through nuclear explosions," he stressed.

Verkhovna...

(Continued from page 1)

He said that it could take three rounds of voting before a chairman is elected.

Although for weeks conventional wisdom had it that such political notables as past Parliament chairman Oleksander Moroz, former Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udovenko, former Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk, former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko and Petro Symonenko, the leader of the Communist Party of Ukraine, which has the largest political contingent in the new Verkhovna Rada, would run for the leadership post, only Mr. Symonenko's party nominated him.

While Mr. Marchuk has said formally that he is not running for chairman because his eyes are on the presidential seat and elections in late 1999 and Mr. Lazarenko is widely believed to have foregone a run for the parliamentary chairmanship in favor of power-brokering the final outcome, the rest of the possible candidates have remained quiet and are thought to be waiting for the second round.

"Our candidate for the chairman's position is Hennadii Udovenko," said National Deputy Zvarych, "but we are not going to be nominating Mr. Udovenko unless there is a serious coalition of approximately 200 to 230 deputies who would be willing to support Mr. Udovenko in a package with two other deputies representing two other factions, perhaps one from the left and one from the center, the deputy chairmen."

The current Rukh nominee for the chairmanship is Yurii Kostenko, the former minister of the environment and Chernobyl affairs, who is widely respected but most likely unable to gather a portion of the leftist vote that he would need to get elected to the chairman's post.

Another candidate who is held in esteem is former Minister of Transportation Valerii Cherep, who was nominated by Social-Democratic Party (United) leader Yevhen Marchuk. However, it also will be difficult for Mr. Cherep to gather sufficient votes from the left, from which any candidate must receive at least minimal support to get the chairmanship because of the high number of votes the left holds.

Other candidates nominated to lead Ukraine's Parliament for the next four years include two independent candidates who nominated themselves, four who were put forth by the Hromada faction, including Ukraine's leading businesswoman Yulia Tymoshenko, and a representative of the National Front political bloc.

Currently only Communist Party Chairman Symonenko has a real chance of getting elected in the first round because his Communist faction is the largest in the Parliament. However, the political left, with less than 200 votes among its three factions, needs to look elsewhere to find the balance of the 226 votes needed to elect Mr. Symonenko, which most political pundits think is unlikely to occur given Mr. Symonenko's

radical political positions.

A more likely scenario is that after no candidate is elected in the first round, Mr. Moroz, past chairman and leader of the Socialist Party, will be nominated, at which time the Hromada Party will throw its votes in support of him. Although Mr. Lazarenko's capitalist inclinations diverge sharply from those of Mr. Moroz and his socialist philosophy, the two men share a common dislike for the policies of President Leonid Kuchma and a belief that the powers of the office of the president must be curtailed.

"In the second round I believe that it is possible that Lazarenko will support Moroz," said Vitalii Zhuravskiy, leader of the Christian Democratic Party, who was elected to this Parliament from a single-mandate district.

The most interesting of the political strategies involves four center and center-right parties. On May 14, Rukh, the National Democrats, the Green Party and the Social Democratic Party (United) said they will instruct their members to not cast ballots in the elections unless the Verkhovna Rada votes to change voting procedure so that the presidium of the Parliament is elected as a package.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Teachers strike for back wages

KHERSON – Some 3,500 teachers in Kherson staged a rally on May 15 in front of the local government building to demand payment of the previous two months' wages. Fifty of the 55 schools in Kherson are on strike, while almost 300 teachers have declared a hunger strike. By May 19 the teachers' strike over unpaid wages had expanded to 129 schools throughout the country, Ukrainian Television reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tarasiuk opposes politicizing CIS

KYIV – Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasiuk told a news conference in Kyiv on May 13 that Ukraine opposes "the transformation of the CIS into a supra-state structure," ITAR-TASS reported. "If the process of reorganizing the CIS takes on a politicized character ... the commonwealth will be doomed," the minister commented. He also stressed that Russia "has been, is and will remain a priority in Ukraine's foreign policy." In Minister Tarasiuk's opinion, Ukraine has managed to create a "belt of good neighborliness and stability" with its neighbors and is now going to take a "more pragmatic course" toward seeking new markets. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Greenpeace against building of reactors

KYIV – Greenpeace Ukraine wants bankers of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development to refuse funding for the completion of energy blocks at the Khmelnytskyi and Rivne nuclear power stations. They say the building of new reactors contradicts requirements of the Memorandum on Mutual Understanding, is contrary to

"More than 150 deputies are proposing a package election, and if they are not heard they will boycott the elections," said National Deputy Plusch, who is a member of the National Democratic Party.

Rukh faction leader Vyacheslav Chornovil proposed the package vote, in which the chairman and two deputy chairpersons would be elected together, because, he said, he believes that voting in any other way "will not correspond to the alignment of forces in the Parliament and society."

Mr. Chornovil explained that the new Verkhovna Rada leadership must represent the political balance of the Parliament, especially since no party holds an outright majority. "Obviously, it is a normal requirement that the rightists, leftists and centrists should have their representatives among the leadership," said Mr. Chornovil.

Unsaid by Mr. Chornovil is that the alliance pushing for a package vote will also be able to block the election of an unacceptable candidate by not voting and thus pave the way for an electable candidate with a more moderate political viewpoint.

National Deputy Zhuravskiy said that this would not only block the election of

Mr. Symonenko, a Communist, but it would give the center and center-right alliance a good look at the degree of unity among leftist politicians.

The Communists and Socialists, although proclaiming common purpose, have argued often over strategy and philosophy. No one is sure just how many Socialists will support Mr. Symonenko's candidacy, even with the backing of Mr. Moroz.

Mr. Zhuravskiy said that even the second round of elections, at which time the more prominently known candidates are expected to be nominated, could be blocked if the package vote is not approved. Such an outcome would then force political leaders of all persuasions into the back room to seek a compromise.

"There could be a deadlock, and then they will have to sit down and find a compromise candidate," said Mr. Zhuravskiy.

If that occurs, according to Mr. Zhuravskiy, it will have shown again just how ineffective the Verkhovna Rada can be. "The process is not for the benefit of the Verkhovna Rada. This game is a waste of time at a time when concrete decisions must be made on the future of the nation," he said.

Ukraine's interests and does not significantly improve the energy sector of the economy. The reactors are being built to compensate for energy lost once the Chernobyl plant is closed. (Eastern Economist)

Chernobyl reactor to be operational soon

KYIV – Operators at the Chernobyl nuclear plant have begun restarting the plant's only functioning reactor, Reuters reported on May 13. The reactor was switched off last year for nine months to repair more than 300 cracks in its cooling system pipes. The plant's chief engineer told the news agency that the reactor currently has no defects. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Duma opposition to Russia-Ukraine treaty

MOSCOW – Russian State Duma Chairman Gennadii Seleznev told ITAR-TASS on May 14 that "the treaty with Ukraine will be ratified when the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine considers the issue of the division of the Black Sea Fleet." Hennadii Udovenko, former foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, commented to the news agency that Mr. Seleznev's stance is "absolutely erroneous" and that the ratification of the treaty should not be linked to the ratification of a package of three agreements on the Black Sea Fleet's division. Meanwhile, speaking to journalists on May 13 and in an interview with the Kyiv official daily Uryadovyi Kurier published the next day, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasiuk said he hopes the Russian-Ukrainian treaty will be ratified prior to Russian Foreign Affairs Minister Yevgenii Primakov's visit to Kyiv scheduled for May 26-27. The treaty was signed by the presidents of the two countries last May. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine remembers dead on Victory Day

KYIV – People and top officials throughout Ukraine remembered Victory Day on May 9. Wreaths at the monument to the unknown soldier in Kyiv were placed on behalf of the president, the government and the Verkhovna Rada, as well as Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko and National Deputy Oleksander Moroz. (Eastern Economist)

Gymnast Serebrianska wins gold in Paris

PARIS – Ukrainian gymnast Kateryna Serebrianska won the individual competition at the International Gymnastics Championship in France on May 15-17. The Ukrainian team also placed first overall, beating the strong Russian and Bulgarian teams. Top gymnasts from 47 countries participated in the championship. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine and Holland agree to cooperate

KYIV – The chairman of the National Agency for Development and European Integration, Roman Shepek, and Dutch Finance Minister Hermit Zalm signed a bilateral agreement on technical and financial cooperation on May 11. It proposes the development of cooperation in the finance, technical and humanitarian sectors. Holland is the second largest investor in the Ukrainian economy, with more than \$180 million (U.S.) worth of investment. (Eastern Economist)

Embassy Internet site holds latest news

KYIV – Information on the principal points of President Leonid Kuchma's address to the nation and materials on the EBRD annual meeting can be viewed on the Internet site of the U.S. Embassy in Ukraine. The address is <http://www.ukremb.com/>. (Eastern Economist)



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Children at an orphanage for invalids in Bucha, Ukraine

Roman Zvarych, former New Yorker, now Ukrainian parliamentarian

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Elected on March 29, Roman Zvarych became the first member of the Ukrainian Parliament, the Verkhovna Rada, to have been born in the U.S. Earlier he had scored another first when he became the first American citizen to take Ukrainian citizenship, which he did in 1995.

Mr. Zvarych, 45, whose parents were born in Ukraine but were forced to move to the West during World War II, was born in Yonkers, New York, in 1953, and lived in the New York area until 1990, when he moved to Ukraine. He renounced his U.S. citizenship in 1993.

Mr. Zvarych, who has a Ph.D. in philosophy, taught at Columbia University and was an active member of Ukrainian Liberation Front organizations while he lived in New York. In Ukraine he headed the Center for Democratic Reform before being elected a national deputy. Roman Woronowycz conducted this interview with Mr. Zvarych the week of May 17.

First of all, tell us how it feels to be the first Ukrainian national deputy who was born in the United States.

I was the first American citizen to renounce U.S. citizenship in favor of Ukrainian. Now there are two of us, myself and Ivan Lozowy. We are now not only both citizens of Ukraine, but members of Rukh.

The feeling [of being a national deputy] is not all that strange because I spent a lot of time in these very corridors prior to becoming deputy, so I kind of know this kitchen from the inside. I was long accustomed to the rather raucous atmosphere of this Parliament.

To be quite frank, we already have so much work to do that I have not spent very much time thinking about the fact that at one point I was an American citizen.

I think I have gotten involved already in the mundane day-to-day work of a national deputy of Ukraine. There are quite a lot of questions that are constantly hanging over your head. All these problems need to be resolved, so one never really has time to think about one's specific personal decisions while this strange political game is being played out in the Verkhovna Rada.

What kind of problems did you have to confront as a former U.S. citizen running for a seat to the Verkhovna Rada?

First of all, I was elected a national deputy from my party's list. I did not run in a single-mandate district in these elections. But I ran in two separate elections prior to the March 1998 elections, for a single-mandate seat here in the capital. In both elections I took approximately 70 percent of the vote, but I was not elected because of the very specific nuances of the old electoral law, which required that at least 50 percent of the registered electorate in a given district vote. In both instances we managed to get about 48 to 49 percent of the electorate to vote, but we couldn't cross the threshold, although I had 70 percent support in my district among those who voted.

Initially, when I was running in that single-mandate district it was very difficult. I think that I was starting from a minus position precisely because of my American background. Many people, of course, looked at my former American citizenship with a certain degree of suspicion. So it took me quite a long time and required a lot of effort on my part to convince my voters that precisely because of my former American citizenship perhaps I am in a better position to judge what it is that democracy is made of, what kind of market reforms need to be implemented, basically what it is that needs to be done in this country in order to rationally reach some kind of more effective system of government.

Objectively speaking, I think I was successful simply because I was able to obtain as many votes as I did. Prior to running for office, since I've been here for six years at this point, I have always been involved with the political life of this country.

In 1995 I became a member of Narodnyi Rukh Ukrainy. At the December 1995 assembly, or convention, I was elected to the central leadership, the executive board, if you will, of my party. My party took a decision at that point to run my candidacy for Parliament as a strategic candidate, which I did.

And subsequently once these elections got rolling,

for some time I was also the national campaign manager for Rukh, which required that I not run for a single-mandate seat, but run strictly on my party's list, which is what happened. I had a sufficiently high position on my party's list to be able to speak of a guaranteed position, although I expected Rukh to do better than we did.

I was number 24, but we managed to push 38 or 39 of our candidates from the list itself. Of course many people who were higher up on the list were running in rather secure, single-mandate districts, so in effect I was 16 or so on the list, which allowed me to run a campaign on a nationwide basis. I spent a lot of time in western Ukraine, either campaigning for specific candidates, or for the party itself.

When did you renounce U.S. citizenship and become a Ukrainian citizen and why?

On October 2, 1993, I formally renounced American citizenship and then waited for 17 months. It was on that day that I actually forwarded what I guess is to be called an appeal to the president [of Ukraine] asking to be granted Ukrainian citizenship. It was a nearly 17-month procedure during which I needed to put together an entire little mountain of documents that the law required.

Then on January 16, 1995, according to a special decree that was issued by the president, I was granted citizenship.

Was it a difficult decision, and again, why did you decide to do it?

The answer to both questions is the same. Why, and was it difficult, are kind of part of the same package. I was always very involved in politics, even when I was living in the United States, and I wanted to be a politician. But I never really saw my place in American politics. I was more involved in Ukrainian diaspora politics.

So when Ukraine declared independence, it was almost a natural decision. In fact I can't even say that it was a decision on my part, a conscious decision to move here and renounce American citizenship. It was just the natural thing to do.

Of course, one thing led to another. Since I was so involved in politics it was natural that I take my place, or attempt to take my place, in the highest legislative body of this country, hoping to be able to add something, to implement some of the programs that I think are needed to be implemented in this country.

What are the benefits of having accepted Ukrainian citizenship?

I can live with myself. I think that is foremost. I don't want to criticize any of my once, or former, friends back in the States. I have kind of broken ties with all of my former friends. Everything I am about to say is strictly personal, this is my own personal feeling. I would think that it would be very difficult to consider yourself a Ukrainian – not a Ukrainian American but a Ukrainian – and not take advantage of the opportunity to become a citizen of Ukraine. For me anyway it would be an internal contradiction that would lead to various psychological problems.

So, in order to alleviate any possible problems, psychologically and otherwise, this was the right thing for me to do.

Like I say it was not a moral decision, or a political decision, it was almost a result of a natural course of events, both objective and subjective, that had taken place in my life prior to Ukraine's independence.

So was it difficult?

Not at all. It was so easy I can't remember the date that I made that decision. It was something that naturally occurred.

Going back to the Verkhovna Rada, of which you are now a member, what are the biggest problems before it?

At this particular stage I think that the primary problem is electing a chairman and two deputies. We now have a Parliament that is much more structured than the Parliaments of the past precisely because in this Parliament the deputies were elected according to a new electoral law, as you know, which places greater emphasis

on the role of the parties.

We now have eight factions in the Parliament, each of which represents a specific party, and it's now easier to structure the Parliament. On the other hand, however, we haven't gotten to the stage where we can speak of a genuine parliamentary majority. In other words, what we are now involved in is a very complex process of maneuvering; all sorts of very strange shows of strengths.

Politics now beginning to make for very strange bedfellows, when you see people from very different sides of the ideological spectrum joining forces specifically on this one issue, in other words who is going to be chairman. And no one yet has a guaranteed majority in order to be able to push through their candidate or their package of candidates, speaking of the speaker and the two deputies.

Where do you think the priority should be among the other important issues that stand before this Parliament, for instance administrative reform, the credit problem, tax reform?

I think the primary problem that we will address very early is the financial crisis and the underlying economic crisis. You had mentioned already a few specific pieces of legislation that I think need to be passed immediately, specifically something along the lines of a new, more streamlined tax code.

We don't really have a tax code now, we have a package of legislation, much of which is contradictory, that needs to be overhauled completely. This is one of the major roadblocks to economic reform.

A second problem that I think needs to be addressed is legislation, or a package of legislation, that in the West would be called commercial or business law. I would begin with legislation regulating the banking system, specifically the credit system in this country.

We have a system now where the commercial banks, and there are quite a few, act as affiliates of the national bank, and that's a very odd situation to find oneself in a country that has declared its intentions to move towards a market economy.

Certainly, much work needs to be done in the legal sphere, where I want to work in a legal committee, specifically in administrative reforms, the law on the Cabinet of Ministers, law on political parties, a new civil code and for that matter a new judicial system.

The legislation that we now have on the books on the judicial system is not in accordance with the newly passed Constitution, which calls for an independent judiciary. Our judiciary is still to a large extent dependent on the executive branch of government and I think that needs to be changed radically.

So these are the areas in which we need to work effectively and quickly.

A final question. I noticed while watching you today and yesterday that you seem to have a specific role on the parliamentary floor. You have asked some interesting and provocative questions of the speakers. Have you and Rukh decided that you will play the role of an agitator on the floor, or is it something within your character?

It's kind of a mixture of both. We have a faction that now comprises 50 deputies, and not everyone of them has the chutzpah to get up in front of 450 people and tell them what they really think, and to be able to do that in the form of what should be an objective, unpretentious question. I think my party has realized that I have a certain talent here. I kind of have been chosen as one of the trigger men that we have in our faction.

It also leaves you wide open because of your past American citizenship.

I know that. But we've made a conscious decision as to who will be some of the more high-profile deputies in this Parliament, at least at this particular stage. In some areas I happen to be one of those deputies that should establish a high profile so as to be able to use that high profile later on, especially when it comes to breaking up into various committees and taking charge of various committees.

It's also a matter of sheer luck. The way you get a chance to say anything in front of this Parliament is basically a kind of roulette game; however the computer spits out your name. Apparently this computer has so far been very kind to me.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The 34th Convention

No matter how one looks at it, the 34th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association was a milestone in the history of this 104-year-old fraternal organization.

It was the first UNA convention to be held in Canada, where the UNA has been active since the beginning of this century. The first Canadian UNA branch – St. Michael's Brotherhood – was founded in Toronto in 1916. It was also the last UNA convention of the 20th century, the conclave that will take the Ukrainian National Association into the 21st century – hopefully as a more viable and efficient entity.

As noted in the opening speech delivered by UNA President Ulana Diachuk, the convention was “one of the most important held in the past several decades,” due to the fact that delegates deliberated changes to the UNA By-Laws, mergers with two other Ukrainian fraternal organizations and the fate of UNA fraternal benefits.

Several by-laws amendments will change UNA operations, such as one providing for a vote via mail on issues that normally would have to be brought before a quadrennial convention or a special convention. Delegates approved a proposal providing for just such a vote on the matter of creating an 11-member board of directors to replace the current 25-member General Assembly. If the proposal passes, the UNA's 35th Regular Convention, to be held in the year 2002, will elect an 11-member board of directors, which would meet quarterly and would hire and fire executive officers. Since this recommendation proposes a fundamental and dramatic change to the UNA's structure, and since it will be decided in a vote-by-mail referendum, we hope that the pages of this publication can serve as a forum for the type of debate that normally would happen on the floor of the convention.

With regard to mergers with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and the Ukrainian National Aid Association of America, delegates voted overwhelmingly in support of both. However, on the issue of changing the name of the newly merged entity to “Ukrainian National Fraternal Association” (a move sought by the UFA), 38.8 percent of the 227 delegates voted “nay.” Nonetheless, a clear signal was sent: despite the fact that a large number of UNA members wish to retain the well-known name of the larger and older Ukrainian National Association, UNA members are fully supportive of a merger and wish to welcome their brothers from both the UFA and UNAAA.

Tough decisions were required of the delegates to the 34th Convention when it came to the UNA's fraternal benefits. Having heard reports about the serious financial state of the UNA, the delegates approved proposals to curtail the season of the UNA's upstate New York resort, Soyuzivka, to three and a half months. They also voted to transform the Ukrainian-language newspaper Svoboda from a daily into a weekly with a format akin to that of this newspaper. That the issue was emotional and troublesome was evident: in the first vote on the matter delegates rejected the idea of making Svoboda a weekly by a margin of 121-62; when the matter was revisited, however, complete with a presentation from the UNA acting treasurer that continuing to publish a daily newspaper will sink the UNA, the delegates changed their minds, and their votes, approving the weekly 138 to 47, with 10 abstentions.

Unfortunately, as always, time was too short. Many issues were not discussed, those discussed could not be done so in depth, and there was little time for reflection. Though this organization was founded and sustained by immigrations, convention participants found little time to discuss how to reach out to new arrivals in our communities, took no time to reflect upon the type of decisions that had been made to deliver the UNA to its current financial state, and avoided discussion on what expenses besides fraternal activities could be curtailed and how to increase revenues.

The 34th Regular Convention of the UNA is now behind us. As a parting thought, we wish the newly elected General Assembly the strength and wisdom, honesty and integrity, patience and good health necessary to lead this oldest and largest Ukrainian fraternal society into the 21st century.

May
24
1988

Turning the pages back...

On May 24, 1988, the U.S. House of Representatives passed a bill, by a voice vote of two-thirds of the members, to extend until June 1990 the mandate of the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine

Famine. The bill had already been approved by the U.S. Senate.

In April 1988, the Famine Commission had released its initial report, which included interviews with survivors (more than 2,000 pages of oral histories), that detailed the horrific loss of life in Ukraine during the Great Famine of 1932-1933, and conclusively established the role of the Soviet government in engineering this genocide. For months, the release of the report had been preceded by disinformation (often conflicting) in the media that claimed, that either there was no famine – or that there was, but it was a result of a bad harvest – or that there was a famine, but very few people died – or that the so-called famine was actually an anti-Soviet myth created by Ukrainian nationalists in the West (a claim made by the Village Voice in a January 1988 article) – or that there was a famine, as a result of a bad harvest, but only 1-2 million people died, and that those same Ukrainian nationalists in the West purposefully exaggerated the figures to 5-7 million dead (or even more!) in order to compete for attention with the Jewish Holocaust – or the famine really wasn't a famine, rather it was a bit of clever anti-Semitic propaganda – or there may have been a famine, but it wasn't Stalin's planned policy to destroy the Ukrainian people, it was a planning mistake, since some people of other nationalities died, too.

Even though this type of disinformation and propaganda appeared freely in English-language publications in the U.S. and Canada prior to the report's release, Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.) noted after the bill's passage, “the realities of the genocide and the role of the Soviet Union's policy should be made known to everyone,” and Rep. Steny Hoyer (D-Md.) said, “more work needs to be done to bring the full dimension of this chilling tragedy to light. The work of the commission is especially timely given greater discussion under way in the Soviet Union of the so-called blank spots of history, including a tentative, but increasing discussion of the famine.”

Sources: *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April and May issues, 1988.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Important to hear all sides of the story

Dear Editor:

I echo Roma Lisovich's thanks (April 26) for continuing to print letters concerning developments in the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. Your newspaper is one of the few ways issues and concerns can be aired publicly. The UOC has its monthly publication, with no assigned space for letters to the editor, and it is difficult to compete with the pulpit.

In his letter supporting recent events, Mr. Bazylevsky states that our Church “was never sobornopravna.” Yet the Rev. Nakonachny defines the sobor as “the supreme organ of government of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the United States of America ...” I cite this as one example of the confusion and misunderstanding among the faithful. The late Metropolitan Ilarion (Ohienko) wrote numerous articles about the importance of sobors, and how they were instrumental in maintaining the tradition and purity of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church. In fact, he writes that the resolutions of the Russian Orthodox Church became unbinding when it eliminated its sobors, replacing them with the Holy Synod in 1686. I stress these comments because I fear that in the near future the UOC will try to curtail or limit our sobors.

In his response to Mr. Rud's commentary, the Rev. Nakonachny states that it is “simply and absolutely not true” that the clergy of the UOC-U.S.A. cannot serve with the clergy of either the UAOC or UOC-KP. In fact, he dismisses Protocol 967 – I guess to him it's unimportant, a non-issue, perhaps some fan mail between two patriarchs. However, the important question remains: can our hierarchs celebrate the liturgy (not a memorial service, or a moleben) with the Ukrainian hierarchs? A direct question begs a direct answer.

Also, the Rev. Nakonachny writes that a meeting was held between the Vatican and the Moscow patriarch to discuss the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Ukraine with no representative from the Ukrainian Catholic Church present and “no letters were written to The Weekly urging Ukrainian Catholics to leave Rome.” I have no doubt we would see a strong, well-organized, clergy-supported protest if a protocol was published stating that the Vatican considers the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine a schismatic Church, and recognizes only the Roman Catholic Church under the jurisdiction of the Polish primate. And I am positive that after such a protocol was published, the priests and bishops remaining loyal to the Vatican would be called traitors. I am sure because in western Ukraine there is a well-developed sense of patriotism, nationalism, self-identity and pride.

Simon T. Nahnybida
Basking Ridge, N.J.

Recommend LOC transliteration system

Dear Editor:

On the margin of the letter by Andrij D. Solczanyk in *The Ukrainian Weekly* of March 5:

Much confusion is created by the lack of use of a uniform system of transliteration. As an example of such a muddle is a street sign in an American city: “Honorary Bishop Jaroslav...” Was there ever a bishop “Джарослав?” One could

guess that this is the misspelled Polish name “Jaroslaw,” or the misspelled Ukrainian Ярослав, (Yaroslav).

Why not accept a system established by specialists – the U.S. Library of Congress (LOC) system? Some sounds of Ukrainian words, if transliterated for a text in French, Polish or other languages, may have different forms than for the English text. For Ukrainians, the Cyrillic alphabet is sufficient. Instead of pronunciation puzzles for readers of an English text, the use of LOC symbols may help communication.

S. Zmurkevych, Ph.D., B.L.Sc.
Chicago

UOC pastoral letter inspiring

Dear Editor:

I am profoundly inspired by the paschal pastoral letter of the hierarchy of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the diaspora, “Let us be reborn, strengthened by faith” (April 19). Its theological depth is in the connection made from scriptural accounts of the crucifixion, resurrection and, especially, glorified presence of the Lord, and the eucharistic liturgy (divine liturgy in our Byzantine tradition). It is in the eucharistic liturgy that Christians summarily do all that the Lord instructed them to do: love God and people, the two being inseparable. It is in the liturgy that we at once, continuously and constantly share in the crucifixion and resurrection, and in the hope of eternal glorification. The holy Eucharist is the perfect sign and symbol of effecting what it symbolizes, union with God through service to humanity – what Eastern theology calls deification.

Thanks to *The Ukrainian Weekly* for printing the pastoral letter and thereby sharing that eternal message with our entire community. I am a Ukrainian Greek-Catholic, that is Ukrainian Orthodox in union with the bishop of Rome, and may not otherwise have had the benefit of reading that important reaffirmation of truth. Our community, however, far too often substitutes ecclesiology for truth in faith. We as a nation – the majority of us, anyway – are declared Christians called to be one in the faith, that is one in service to each other – and only then Ukrainian Orthodox of one of the four jurisdictions in Ukraine plus diaspora, or Ukrainian Greek-Catholic divided according to calendar, or Ukrainian Protestant of many denominations, etc.

Much – perhaps too much – has been written in *The Ukrainian Weekly* about our ecclesial affairs (the Rev. John Nakonachny, Dr. Myron Kuropas, Andrew Estocin, Alla Heretz and others). I can't recall anyone saying explicitly, although Mr. Estocin came very close, that at the core of our ecclesial divisions and diminishing numbers (at least in the diaspora) is lack of the essential faith. Small wonder that we remain fractious and diminished when we fail to sustain the hungry human spirit. That spirit by design seeks truth, and will find it elsewhere.

Jesus' promise to be with us always stands good only if we want Him among us. We do have the existential option of rejection (also by design), and seem to be making the negative choice.

Wishing you all the joy of our continuing paschal mystery celebration, Christ is risen! Truly He is risen!

Oles Cheren
Mansfield, Ohio

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Support for plight of Tibetan people

Dear Editor:

I am a Ukrainian American, born in the United States, and have been actively researching for two decades the plight of the Tibetan people. Their situation is not unlike that of our forefathers in the 1930s where genocide was being perpetrated by a Soviet Communist regime, monasteries destroyed, monks and nuns murdered and raped, people imprisoned. The list of trauma and inhuman activity inflicted by the Communist Chinese is equally grotesque. Since 1959 there has been a media blackout in the West of this situation. Ignorance of the plight of these religious people reminds us of the West ignoring our starving peasants during the 1933 Famine. Only in the last few years has the general public become aware of actions that they must take to change the dire situation in Tibet.

As fellow Ukrainians, I believe that you can understand the deplorable effects of aggressive, imperialistic Communist repression. It is my hope that the Ukrainian community can rally spiritually, morally, and in any way possible to assist the government-in-exile of the Dalai Lama, and alleviate the plight of the Tibetan refugees in India. They are struggling to maintain their ethnic identity and to some day return to their land which is currently being ravaged at an unprecedented rate by the ruthless and technologically superior Communist Chinese invaders. The least little bit of help is an act of Christian charity and true compassion.

We can petition the governments of both the U.S. and Ukraine to support neutral groups such as the Red Cross and Amnesty International in their efforts to monitor human rights in Chinese territory.

We can contact Roman Bilewicz of OHM Productions at www.logiconnect.com who has committed a part of the purchase price of his unique T-shirts toward the Tibetan cause.

Readers interested in assisting the Tibetan cause can contact: Office of Tibet, 241 East 32nd St., New York, NY 10016; (212) 213-5010; or Amnesty International, 322 Eighth Avenue, New York, NY 10001.

Orest Pelechaty
Short Hills, N.J.

Environmentally-sensitive development

Dear Editor:

Several years ago I had an opportunity to be with 15 environmental officials from Ukraine during their training tour in California, Maine and Washington. This group was very impressed by the high level of environmental care in the U.S.

In reading Roman Woronowycz's informative article on "Doing business in Ukraine: Mecca for golfers planned in Kyiv," (January 18) I am interested to know how the question of environmental impact of such a project on the Dnipro River was being resolved. The proposed project, a country club, condominiums and golf course to be located on an island in the Dnipro River, south of Kyiv could serve as an ideal case to illustrate which environmental laws of Ukraine are applicable to the protection of the river, which government agencies in Ukraine are responsible for the implementation of such laws, and how a developer like Mr. Prochorenko could be assisted with his project.

Unfortunately, this question could not be addressed in the article because Mr. Prochorenko, in the course of two months,

had not been able to get a response from the Pleso Company, the intermediary between the developer and the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Water Resources of Ukraine. The Pleso Company also failed to respond to The Weekly correspondent.

It would be very useful to know, for those who want to do business in Ukraine, how the environmental issues related to a proposed golf course complex on an island in the Dnipro River are being, or were resolved. Perhaps Mr. Woronowycz could do a follow-up article on this question at some point. Such an article could illustrate how demands for economic development are being reconciled with environmental protection.

The success in the economic development of Ukraine within the context of how the environmental protection questions are resolved in each instance will determine the quality of life in Ukraine as a whole. The road to such success is not an easy one, as we see from the environmental issues with which we deal on regular and ongoing basis in the U.S. The needs of the economy and the environment have to be addressed simultaneously. The 15 visiting environmental officials from Ukraine were given this message. The environmental achievements they saw were a result of conflict, compromise and cooperation between the business sector, the government and advocates of environmental protection.

Nadia M. Derkach
San Francisco

AJC notes correction to Kuropas award

Dear Editor:

In your April 19 edition, an article on a Toronto presentation by Dr. Myron Kuropas reported inaccurately that the American Jewish Committee gave Dr. Kuropas an award in 1996. That award, named in memory of the late David Roth, a long-time AJC professional, came from the Illinois Ethnic Coalition, which the AJC spawned many years ago and which now operates independently.

Jeffrey Weintraub
Washington

The writer is director of the American Jewish Committee's Center for American Pluralism.

The Weekly reaches Luhansk students

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the English Department of Luhansk Pedagogical Institute, I'd like to thank you for the honor of being among The Ukrainian Weekly's numerous readers. The newspaper gives students and teachers of the department a good chance to acquire information that we don't have in our home newspapers.

Every issue of The Ukrainian Weekly is delivered to our English-language study room, where both teachers and students can read or borrow copies. The newspaper also is put to use in our English classes as we analyze the political vocabulary and the newspaper style of the language.

Thank you so much for your attention and regular delivery.

Irina Nedainova
Luhansk, Ukraine

The writer is a teacher in the English Department of the Luhansk Pedagogical Institute.



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

What I did on my summer vacation

I worked, and it was one of the most delightful jobs I ever had. It wasn't really work – I had planned, organized, and led a tour of Ukraine. Not an ordinary tour, but one specializing in folk art and culture. As I told my "fellow travelers" in one of my newsletters to them, this was a very selfish tour, because I had planned the itinerary primarily for myself, to see museums and exhibits, to meet craftspeople, to see actual folk art and, of course, to shop. They could come along with me.

As with most plans, only a bit of all this was realized. Our tour leaders in Ukraine told me that there were not enough hours in a day, and days in a week to physically see and be everywhere that I had listed, especially in August, when many individuals and institutions in Ukraine are on vacation (or, as we found, helping family in the villages with the harvest). At one point, one of the leaders asked, "We have only three hours remaining in this city. Which museum do you want to see?" It was heartbreaking to choose only one. Often, I had to carry out "lively" discussions with our Ukrainian tour leaders, because they could not understand how I could possibly choose to eliminate a particular, very important, museum and select another one. My choice was the folk art, even though so many other fascinating places were left aside.

As it was, at 17 days, this tour could only take in a few days in Kyiv and the area, and particular parts of western Ukraine. We were on the go from early breakfast to evening, with only a few hours of free time some days. Ideally, a tour lasting half a year would just about satisfy my interests, with at least a month each in Kyiv, Lviv, and the Carpathians, at least a week in Pereyaslav, a good week just to go through in detail the museum in Ternopil, with as many stops along the way as I wished, and as the spirit moved us.

What a group we had! People from across Canada and parts of the U.S., including some non-Ukrainians. It was a highly-educated group, with an interest in folk art, although not all were folk artists themselves. We benefited by having pysanka writers, embroiderers, folk art collectors, a potter, and four weavers among us, all thrilled to meet and see the work of their fellow artists an ocean away. It was wonderful to see how the weavers and potter instantly gravitated to their respective objects of interest in a museum or market, as if pulled by a magnet.

There was so much to buy! Our Ukrainian guides could not get over how much we bought and still wanted "just one more shopping stop, please!..." From authentic antique folk costumes to a designer modern dress inspired by folk art, from traditional to modern ceramics, to gerdany and smoked black pottery, to (Lord help us!) the Ukrainian-style matryoshkas, we shopped. As we discussed the merits of folk art versus kitsch, Kolya Yaremko of San Diego remarked, "There's kitsch, and then there's schlock," and a great phrase was born. Another great phrase surfaced in a conversation on whether something was worth it. Since our group was not only bilingual, but also "half-na-piv-lingual," the reply came that "it was very varta" [varta means worth it]. So "very varta" became our mantra for many incidents along the way.

Impressions? Beautiful, spectacular place, with wonderful, beautiful, elegant people. But the explosion of commercialism, with cigarette billboards and Coca

Cola umbrellas all over reminds one of the downsides of capitalism and "freedom." How can you see the glory of Kyiv through all the Lucky Strike and Marlboro signs?!

It was maddening and depressing to experience the rudeness and boorishness of the Russian-speaking women controlling the entrances to St. Sophia, the Pechers'ka Lavra museums, and other holy Ukrainian places in Kyiv. They seemed purposely antagonistic to those wanting to enter these museums and churches. No courtesy, no hospitality, no service sense at all – as if they were irritated that Ukrainian-speaking people dare to even want to see Kyiv at all.

If there are signs of hope for the future, it is the proliferation of babies in carriages and toddlers on promenades with their parents. A former Kyiv resident, now in Winnipeg, had one comment on the babies: She asked if I saw them in Kyiv, or in other cities. I had to admit that most of the carriages and strollers were in Ivano-Frankivsk, Ternopil, and Lviv. "Not in Kyiv, of course. People are still afraid of the effects of Chornobyl," was her sad reply.

Many in our group noted the physical beauty of the people, men and women, old and young. It was definitely something noticeable, and a satisfying aesthetic experience. The ice cream vendor outside the hotel in Rivne, Volyn, was a young woman so gently beautiful that I stopped just to watch her. A young architect in Ivano-Frankivsk could have been a character in a kozak film, with his beautiful eyes, high cheekbones, and mustache.

We were in Kyiv for the feast of Makovey, in the Carpathians for Spasa, and in Lviv for Independence Day. Each time, whether city or countryside, people were celebrating, and traditions lived. Bouquets, baskets of fruit, poppy-seed buns, embroidered shirts, harasivky (woven collar ties), all marked the special days. Some of our group had bought embroidered shirts along the way, and for Independence Sunday we wore them to church. We were not the only ones. As the parishioners filled up the church, most wearing embroidered shirts or dresses, Kolya nudged me and whispered, "Hey, they're all from our tour group."

There are so many memories, so many special moments, that picking one or two is impossible. The unexpected ones were especially moving: the funeral procession along a country road in the mountains, the wild mushroom lunch in Yaremche, our invitation to a rehearsal of the Homin Choir in Kyiv (directed by Leopold Yashchenko), the Independence Day concert in Shevchenkivsky Hai in Lviv, the landscape, and the people, the people, the people.

Within our group, we became friends and family. We all wept with joy as one of us (a descendant of pioneers) was greeted with a kolach and a bouquet in the Ternopil hotel parking lot by a relative many generations removed. This greeting is definitely not a staged event. We met other individuals who within moments were no longer strangers from another continent, but "svoii," "ridni," our own, kin. We sang, ate, drank, shopped, danced, laughed, cried, and complained (about small inconveniences which we would soon leave behind, but which remained big hardships for those experiencing them daily).

A personal moment of serendipity for me was the stop for diesel fuel somewhere near Rohatyn. As the bus randomly pulled up to one of the now frequent gas stations, people

(Continued on page 14)

Museum-memorial complex built to honor Patriarch Josyf

by Kateryna Rudnytzky

ZAZDRIST, Ukraine – In 1974 Cardinal Josyf Slipyj (1892-1984), head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, asked Dr. Romana Nawrocky, acting president of the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics founded by Patriarch Josyf to preserve the faith in Ukraine, whether she would do something for him. Cardinal Slipyj had spent 18 years in Siberia and had suffered much on behalf of his Church and his people; his request was a simple one: when Ukraine regains its freedom, “buy back my home.” Twenty-five years later, and 12 years after the patriarch’s death, the St. Sophia Religious Association has done just that.

Over the last decade, Ukrainians have purchased the homes of many poets, writers and famous historical figures, turning them into commemorative buildings. To continue Patriarch Josyf’s lifetime work of prayerful ministry and religious education, St. Sophia purchased Patriarch Josyf’s childhood home and is restoring the home and developing surrounding property into a museum-memorial complex that will function as an educational center to teach school children about the patriarch, his ideals and his work for the Ukrainian Catholic Church. To achieve that goal, St. Sophia, which already sponsors numerous educational efforts around the world, has divided the commemorative project into two equally important components: a museum and a memorial.

The museum involves the restoration of Patriarch Josyf’s home to its appearance during his childhood years at the turn of the century. The modest house is typical of Ukraine’s Podillia region, made of wood, clay and straw.

Once the home is fully restored, project coordinators will seek out furniture appropriate to the period. “We actually have a lot of information on how the place looked,” said Dr. Nawrocky, referring to government documents. Researchers are even able to find out what kind of trees and shrubs to replant around the buildings. Only one shed remains on the property and it, too, will be restored. The missing stables and other out-buildings were confiscated



The nearly completed museum-memorial complex located in Patriarch Josyf Slipyj’s childhood hometown of Zazdryst.

and removed to the collective farms under the Soviet regime.

The second half of the project, the Memorial, is a new building dedicated to teaching the values Patriarch Josyf strived to instill in his flock and recognizing the role of the family in faith formation. The Slipyjs were a religious family. Patriarch Slipyj’s nephew, Mykhailo, is excited about the project and visits the construction site daily to monitor progress.

The memorial is a two-story U-shaped building with an attic. The ground floor houses a chapel, research library, reception hall, offices, dining room, kitchen and priest’s residence; the second floor will have rooms for religious and guests. “We would like nuns to live here,” said Dr. Nawrocky, “especially those who tended the patriarch at his death.” A stable to the side of the center will be converted into a projection hall for showing visitors films about Patriarch

Josyf and Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky. The entire complex will be ideally suited to host retreats, and the location has turned out to be especially auspicious – the village of Zazdryst is located along the projected route of a highway to be built from Portugal to Shanghai.

A good deal of the work on the memorial building has already been completed. The brick structure and roof are in place; electricity and plumbing will be installed in the next phase of construction.

While the building will be entirely modern, it will not in any way resemble stark 20th century Soviet architecture. The appearance of the memorial center was planned with meticulous attention to detail and is being carried out with quality workmanship. The outer walls are all white; the roof is covered with red tile. Copper trim along the building and the copper cupola on the chapel will eventually oxidize into an

attractive green hue. The discrete and elegant facade will provide a subtle contrast with the surrounding buildings, suggesting a gentle continuity between Patriarch Josyf’s childhood home and the laity’s efforts to continue his ministry.

Construction began on April 17, 1995, on the 15th anniversary of the arrest of all priests of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church by the Soviet NKVD (secret police). The project has been blessed with the healthy cooperation between many diverse parties united in a common cause: architectural plans were drawn up by the Lviv Politechnical Institute, funding is provided by the St. Sophia Religious Association of Ukrainian Catholics, and the project has the support of the local bishop, town council and village community.

The Slipyj Museum-Memorial is scheduled to be completed in the summer/fall of 1998.

Great Terror in Ukraine portrayed in new film documentary

NEW YORK – The documentary film “Eternal Memory: Voices From the Great Terror,” will be screened at the 1998 Human Rights Watch International Film Festival to be held at Lincoln Center’s Walter Reade Theater on June 17, 19 and 23.

“Eternal Memory” is an historical documentary treatment of Stalinist purges and terror in the former USSR during the 1930s and 1940s, when 20 million died in labor camps, of famine, or in widescale executions. Centered on Ukraine, the film incorporates historical footage, interviews with witnesses and survivors, historians, and public officials.

The historians interviewed include Professors Robert Conquest of Stanford and Roman Szporluk of Harvard University. Others interviewed include Dr. Zbigniew Brzezinski, former U.S. national security advisor; Leonid Kravchuk, former president of Ukraine, and Mykola Holushko, a former KGB official.

“Eternal Memory” is directed and produced by David Pultz for New York-based Wellspring Films; with Marco Carynnyk, co-producer and researcher and George Yemec, executive producer. The film is narrated by Meryl Streep.

Screenings will be held at the Walter Reade Theater at Lincoln Center, 165 W. 65th St., (plaza level, between Broadway and Amsterdam Avenue), on Wednesday, June 17, at 4 p.m.; Friday, June 19, at 2 p.m. and Tuesday, June 23, at 6:15 p.m. A discus-

sion with the filmmaker will follow the screening.

“Eternal Memory” will be shown together with the 1995 film “I Don’t Know Where, or When, or How...” directed by Zelemir Guardiol of Yugoslavia.

Admission is \$8.50 for the general public; \$4.50 for seniors (weekday matinees). Advance tickets may be purchased at the box office beginning June 1. The box office telephone is (212) 875-5600.

* * *

In 1991, Mr. Pultz teamed with Canadian Ukrainians George Yemec and Marco Carynnyk to produce the documentary about the event in the Stalinist period of the former USSR known as “The Great Terror.” Work on the project took six years and involved two trips to western Ukraine to interview witnesses, survivors, and public officials. The first trip was in the fall of 1991, just at the time of the breakup of the Soviet Union and the establishment of an independent Ukraine.

Mr. Carynnyk is chiefly known as a writer, editor, translator and researcher. He has written extensively on Eastern European politics and history. His work includes the book, “Alexander Dovzhenko: The Poet as Filmmaker,” a collection of diaries for which he served as editor and translator. In addition, he originated the concept for and served as researcher on “Harvest of Despair,” an award-winning documentary

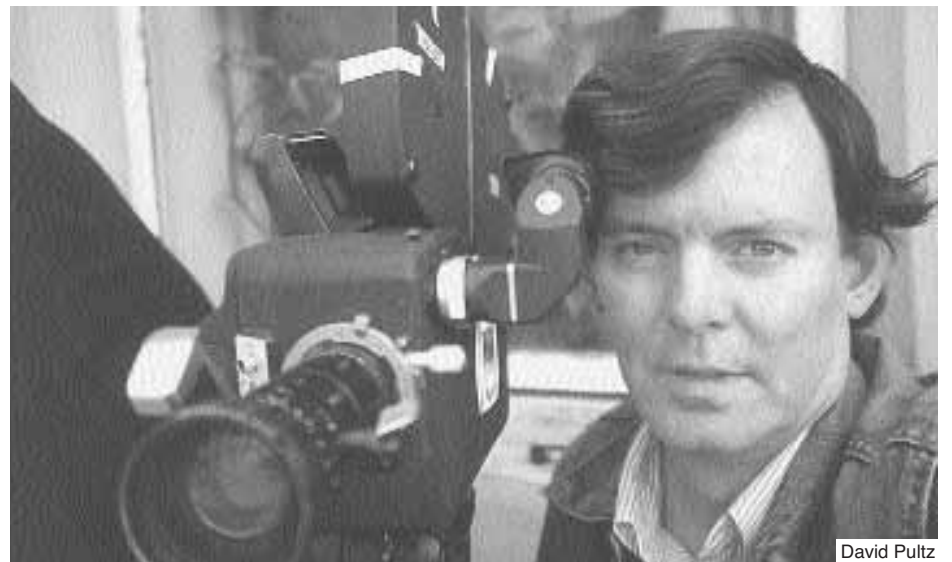
on the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933.

Mr. Yemec is president of World Media Brokers, a Toronto company that specializes in direct marketing, consumer market distribution, marketing management and publishing.

The Human Rights Watch International Film Festival was established in 1988 and since 1995, is co-presented annually with the Film Society of Lincoln Center. This

year’s program, under the direction of Bruni Burres, will present 33 works from 19 countries. Apart from presenting movies with themes of human rights and politics, the festival underscores the fact that such works are no longer as marginalized as they once were but have become integral to world cinema.

The two-week festival runs from June 12-25.



David Pultz

David Pultz, director of the documentary “Eternal Memory: Voices from the Great Terror,” during filming in Lviv in September of 1995. The film will be screened in New York in June as part of the Human Rights Watch International Film Festival being held at Lincoln Center.

DATELINE NEW YORK: Kochan and Kytasty delve deeply into musical past

by Helen Smindak

Last week, "Dateline" focused on the wealth of Ukrainian melodies and musical elements found in the work of classical and contemporary composers. This "Dateline" is zeroing in on another aspect of Ukrainian music: the rich traditions of ancient Ukrainian songs, rearranged and presented in a contemporary manner to expand the sphere of Ukrainian culture.

The idea of presenting music from Ukraine's past in a modern context may have occurred to others, but it was Winnipeg singer Alexis Kochan who explored it fully and brought it to fruition in three recent recordings highlighting Ukrainian ritualistic songs. Reviewers of the recordings "Czarivna" (Princess) and "Paris to Kyiv" and the CD "Paris to Kyiv: Variances" point to the collections as "something completely different," "soothing and quite enchanting" and "enthraling." Some listeners have called the music "organic."

During a recent visit to New York to confer about upcoming concerts with her newest musical collaborator, bandurist Julian Kytasty, Ms. Kochan talked about her special passions: ethnicity and Ukrainian folk song. Contributing to our dialogue was Mr. Kytasty himself, a third-generation bandurist who has spent several years concertizing and teaching courses in North and South America, Europe, Australia and Ukraine.

"This whole idea of the Ukrainian folk song – we Ukrainians really don't know how beautiful it is and how fortunate we are to have this incredible literature," Ms. Kochan explained. "Folk music has moved so many composers and so many artists in interesting ways, because it is carved through the generations and becomes this perfect jewel by the time it gets to us through oral transmission. Every tune that I've dug up has always moved me completely, and it moves other people as well, not just Ukrainians. It seems to me that the mission here is to popularize the Ukrainian folk song, since there is such a great interest in world music now."

"We perform a lot for ourselves, in celebration of our own folklore and our own ethnicity," she continued. "But we've never reached out beyond that. There's no place for the fourth- and fifth-generation Ukrainian Canadians and Americans who are sometimes on the fringe of the Ukrainian mainstream to reach it. Music can bring them in, especially if that music speaks to them, has some kind of contemporary quality, some kind of edginess."

Ms. Kochan has held these beliefs for two decades, ever since she visited Ukraine with a Winnipeg choral group. Deeply impressed by the sights and sounds of Kyiv, as well as side visits to Suzdal, Uman and Odesa, she decided she would return to Ukraine's capital "to spend some time excavating songs that come from the depths of our tradition" and to explore a city that she believes should have been "the Paris of Eastern Europe."

Though she had earned a master's degree in psychology from the University of Manitoba while simultaneously studying music, she devoted her full concentration to a career as singer, music teacher, producer and recording artist. The contralto spent six months in Ukraine studying folk music that, she says with great excitement, "comes from the deepest layers of our traditions,

music from 1,000 years ago."

Ms. Kochan's first album, "Czarivna," released in 1983, featured 17 Ukrainian ritualistic songs that traced early Ukrainian rural life through three seasons and the festivals and songs that marked them. Arranged and scored by Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra concertmaster Arthur Polson, it was recorded with eight WSO musicians. The pre-Christian, somber folk songs were a far cry from the lively folk dance melodies usually associated with Ukrainian music, but the album was warmly received by reviewers.

In 1994, the "Paris to Kyiv" recording tastefully incorporated diverse musical styles, featuring Ms. Kochan's ethereal voice and a variety of wind and reed instruments played by Alexander Boychouk and Petro Iureschuk.

The fascinating CD, "Paris to Kyiv: Variances," released in 1996, features Ms. Kochan, Mr. Kytasty and his bandura, the viola of Richard Moody and such exotic instruments as Northumbrian pipes, udu drum, djembe and buffalo drum. "Variances" is a multi-layered fabric of voices and instruments that weaves together pre-Christian ritual songs, fragments of medieval chant and contemporary influences from polytonality to jazz. Like the other recordings, it was produced under the Olesia label.

Over the years, Ms. Kochan's reputation as a performer, recording artist, educator and speaker has grown. An invitation in 1993 to teach Ukrainian folk songs at a Jewish klezmer camp in West Virginia led to a concert at New York's Jewish Museum, where she and Mr. Kytasty teamed up for the first time. The concert was repeated in Toronto and Berlin as part of the "Brave New World" production directed by Michael Alpert of New York. The team is now looking forward to a large-scale concert later this year at the World Music Institute in New York. She performed both as a soloist and with the Vesnivka Choir during the May 17 concert held in conjunction with the Ukrainian National Association's 34th Convention in Toronto.

Since Mr. Kytasty is a master of folk styles and original arrangements and reinterpretations of traditional music, the Kochan/Kytasty collaboration has become extremely successful. There's a good chance the pair will perform with an ensemble of musicians at the Canadian Embassy in Washington and do an East Coast concert tour in the fall. There are also preparing a new CD project.

Mr. Kytasty finds that one of the interesting features of their music project is that "it's a process rather than a single thing."

"A lot of the music we do has different versions already, and much of it can sound very different depending on whether we're doing it by ourselves or with musicians on a recording."

While they are eager to continue their joint appearances, both have individual goals to pursue. Ms. Kochan would like to do some touring and teaching in Ukraine as part of her folk-song mission – to reach Ukrainians with the help of Canadian funding and help them develop strength through their music.

"I'm specifically interested in Ukrainian voices and, in a bigger way, in Ukrainians having a voice through music. In the process of democratizing, they're dealing with so many basic issues. The arts are very poor; they're dying. I think the people of Ukraine need to know that this is a temporary situation," she observed.

Mr. Kytasty, on his part, is involved with concert tours of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus and its summer workshops in Emlenton, Pa., and teaching bandura classes at St. George's Academy in New York City



Singer Alexis Kochan of Winnipeg (left) and bandurist Julian Kytasty of New York weave rich Ukrainian folkloric musical tradition with contemporary influences in new highly-acclaimed CD.

and in Yonkers, N.Y. He would like to organize a workshop for all the New York area groups he oversees, including the New York SUM-A group and the class in Astoria taught by his assistant, Alla Kutsevych.

Since our meeting at the Veselka restaurant, Ms. Kochan and Mr. Kytasty have given concerts in New Haven, Conn., Cambridge, Mass., and Boston, where WGBH Radio taped an interview with the two performers for the Boston radio program "The World."

On May 2, they brought their contemporary stylings of old Ukraine and a few of Hryhoriy Kytasty's 20th century compositions to the Ukrainian Institute of America. Ms. Kochan's throaty contralto and Mr. Kytasty's quiet tenor voice blended exquisitely in traditional wedding songs, lullabies, funeral laments, old carols, Kozak tunes, a Chumak melody and a medieval Kyivan chant.

For accompaniment, Mr. Kytasty played the sopilka (flute) and three different types of bandura – an instrument made by a bandura maker in Ukraine to the layout of the instruments designed by the Ukrainian Bandurist Capella in 1946, a small-size reproduction of an 18th century bandura with wooden tuning pins, and a standard

factory-made bandura. The banduras were held upright or flat on the musician's lap as they were strummed. At one point, Mr. Kytasty created a rhythmic beat by slapping his hand against the sounding board of a bandura.

Outstanding in the program was the selection "Vocalise," in which pre-Christian carols were fused together with Ms. Kochan's wordless singing and Mr. Kytasty's words in song. A humorous song about trouble "Pro Bidu," came from the old repertoire of Ukraine's "lirnyky" (hurdy-gurdy musicians) and "kobzari." The lullaby "Oy Khodyt Son" offered a pleasant surprise: as the quiet melody flowed along, listeners could hear the haunting strains of George Gershwin's "Summertime." Ms. Kochan's explanation: Gershwin was deeply affected by the Ukrainian lullaby when he heard it sung by the Koshetz Ukrainian National Choir at Carnegie Hall in 1929.

As an encore, there was a new arrangement of the beautiful folk song "Oy u Poli Krynytsia Bezodnia" (In the field there is a bottomless well).

These were songs and melodies that brought the past to life, ennobled the spirit and touched the hearts of all who listened.

Ukrainian Stage Ensemble to premiere new piece

NEW YORK – The Lydia Krushelnytsky Ukrainian Stage Ensemble, which has been presenting outstanding theatrical productions for 33 years, will offer a new work at the Fashion Institute of Technology on Saturday, June 6. The ensemble's players will present a dramamontage, "Zhinka Kriz Viky," (Woman Through the Ages), based on the works of the poet/playwright Lesia Ukrainka. The play will be performed in Ukrainian by an all-female cast.

The new production was conceived as a vehicle for displaying the talents of the ensemble's female members. Lydia Krushelnytsky, the group's director, explained: "In my work with young students, I realized that many of the plays we've been presenting called for a majority of male actors. So I decided to engage only women from our ensemble to stage this special evening of Lesia Ukrainka's works." Thirteen actresses, appearing in changing formations on three stage levels, will be on stage for the length of the 90-minute dramamontage.

The production combines excerpts from several Ukrainka works, beginning with

"Pamiatnyk" (Monument), which is based on Greek mythology, and ending with "Hrshnytsia" (The Sinner). It will include excerpts from the dramatic poems "Na Ruyinakh" (On the Ruins, 1903) in which the theme of Hebrew Babylonian captivity serves as a symbol of the imprisonment of Ukrainians within the Russian Empire, and "Kassandra" (1907), in which the fate of Ukraine is portrayed through the tragic fate of long-lost Troy, accompanied by a call to the Ukrainian people to shake off their apathy and inertia.

Original music, composed by Ihor Sonevytsky to accompany changing images and recitations, will be performed by a musical ensemble led by pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky. The choreography is by Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky, set design by Maria Shust, costumes by Irka Lishman, and lighting by Andriy Hankevych.

Curtain time for "Women Through the Ages" is 7:30 p.m. at Fashion Institute of Technology's Haft Auditorium, 227 W. 27 St. Tickets may be purchased in advance at Surma, 11 E. 7 St., and Molode Zhyttia, 308 E. 9 St., and at the box office before the performance.

Correction

In the May 17 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, we wrote that the building that houses the Ukrainian Institute of America is located on the Upper West Side of Manhattan. The building is located on the Upper East Side.

UNA concludes...

(Continued from page 1)

statement in his stead.

Delegate protests over limitation of discussion time resulted in the holding of an evening session that lasted until 11 p.m.; discussion of reports was continued the following morning as well.

Merger

On May 16, upon completion of the discussion about reports, Mr. Olesnycky outlined the particulars of the contract entered into by the UNA executives as a result of negotiations with the leadership of the UFA and the UNAAA. Mr. Olesnycky made it clear that the UFA was insisting strenuously on a new name for the organization as a condition of the agreement and that the merger could fall through if it was not secured.

Mr. Olesnycky also said the insurance authorities of New Jersey, who oversee the UNA, have the final say in approving the merger. After the day's discussions, voting was conducted on voting machines with ballots that included three questions requiring a "yes" or "no" answer:

- If the Ukrainian National Association merges with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association, should the name Ukrainian National Association be changed to the Ukrainian National Fraternal Association?

- Should the Ukrainian National Association merge with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association under the terms and conditions of the contract presented to the convention delegates?

- Should the Ukrainian National Association merge with the Ukrainian National Aid Association of America under the terms and conditions of the contract presented to the convention delegates?

The name change was accepted by 137 delegates (61.2 percent), and rejected by 87 (38.8 percent), but fell short of the two-thirds majority required to effect a change to the UNA By-Laws.

The questions about the mergers were approved by large margins: 196-22 (89.9 percent to 10.1 percent) for the UFA, and 192-25 (88.5 percent to 11.5 percent) for the UNAAA.

A banquet was held during the evening of May 16 at the Toronto Hilton. The keynote speakers at the banquet were John Gregorovich, chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, and Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, president of the National University of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy in Ukraine. National Fraternal Congress of America Executive Vice-President David Tetzlaff also addressed participants.

By-Law changes

The convention's By-Laws Committee, consisting of Leon Hardink (chairman), Marianne Cizdyn, Steve Czorney, Michael Karkoc and Longin Staruch, submitted a report on May 17 based on recommendations made by the Executive Committee, and the process of outlining to the delegates the proposed changes was handled item by item by Advisor Taras Szmagala Jr., an Ohio-based attorney.

Mr. Szmagala proposed that certain rules governing conventions, the suspension or dissolution of branches, funds of the UNA, and the fraternal fund be moved out of the By-Laws and into so-called "rules manuals," so that changes could be effected without a stringent requirement of a two-thirds majority vote of convention delegates. The provision passed.

Among the provisions approved by two-thirds majority:

- the position of UNA secretary will be referred to as national secretary throughout the By-Laws;

- questions requiring approval by a convention between regular conventions may

be voted upon by mail – such votes are to be conducted by a third party to ensure privacy of balloting;

- all members of the General Assembly and all branch secretaries must subscribe to one of the UNA's official publications, Svoboda or The Ukrainian Weekly.

The most far-reaching proposal passed was: "That the General Assembly of the UNA elected at this convention is hereby directed to prepare a referendum to amend the Charter and By-Laws of the UNA to provide for a governance structure consisting of an 11-member Board of Directors to be elected by the 35th Convention to conduct the business of the UNA between conventions. The Board of Directors shall meet no less than quarterly, and shall have the authority to hire the Executive Committee in such manner as it shall determine. This referendum shall be completed no later than December 31, 1999."

On May 17, delegates helped fill Toronto's St. Patrick's German Catholic Church, where a UNA-sponsored concert was held featuring the award-winning women's choir Vesnivka, and singer and ethnomusicologist Alexis Kochan and her ensemble, Paris to Kyiv.

UNA finances

On May 18, the Financial Committee issued its report. The committee was composed of John Gawaluch, chairman, Nicholas Fil, Larissa Hwozdulch, Gloria Paschen and Yaroslav Zaviysky. Aided by the acting treasurer, Mr. Kaczaraj, the committee made several suggestions to cut the budget.

The budget for 1998 submitted in November 1997 (which predicted an income of \$10,774,000 and \$11,024,000 in expenses, resulting in a deficit of \$250,000) was submitted for substantial modification, which would take into account the restructuring and downsizing of the UNA's operations as agreed at the convention. It was indicated that \$300,000 could be saved by shortening the Soyuzivka season to June 1 through September 15 and that the deficit created by the daily Svoboda could be reduced substantially, if not eliminated totally, if the newspaper were transformed into a weekly.

Svoboda and Soyuzivka

The Finance Committee's report engendered the most emotional debate of the convention, as it recommended a raft of cuts to fraternal benefits, centering on the UNA's official publications, the Soyuzivka estate and an extension of the halt on issuance of UNA dividends.

On the morning of May 18, delegates voted to reject the Finance Committee's recommendation to make Svoboda a weekly, by a margin of 121-62. However, later in the day, session chair Taras Szmagala Sr. allowed the Financial Committee's request for a reconsideration of the vote. Another vote was taken and the Elections Committee recorded 138 votes for, 47 against, and 10 abstentions to making Svoboda a weekly.

Since the UNA By-Laws stipulate that one of the organization's two official publications is the Svoboda daily, in order to be adopted the recommendation needed to pass by a two-thirds vote. According to the UNA By-Laws, such an amendment must pass with consent from two-thirds of the delegates registered at a convention.

A total of 195 delegates voted on the Svoboda recommendation, of which 138 is 70.7 percent. However, 227 delegates were registered at the 34th convention, of which 138 is merely 60.8 percent. The chairman of the session declared that the measure had passed by the required two-thirds.

The convention also unanimously voted to adjust Svoboda's subscription rate to \$50 annually for non-members and \$40 for



Delegates seated at the convention: (from left) Lew Futala, Branch 8; Adolph Slovik, Branch 7; Stephania Rudyk, Branch 5.

members, with a provision to credit current subscribers to the daily for the difference in rates.

The Ukrainian Weekly's rate also was adjusted to \$50/\$40. The changes are slated to go into effect July 1.

The Soyuzivka debate also was extensive, and was presided over by Judge Doliszny. The vote was taken, but the numbers were not recorded by the Elections Committee, as the chair deemed that a sufficient majority had indicated they were in favor of the motion to cut the UNA estate's season to three and a half

months. The change is slated to go into effect for the 1999 season.

Secretaries Committee

The Secretaries Committee consisted of Tymko Butrey, chairman, Julie Guglik, secretary, Myron Groch, Maria Zaviysky, Joseph Hawryluk and Vera Gojewycz. Their recommendations, adopted unanimously by the convention on May 18, included: when the financial situation of the UNA improves, to raise the reward for

(Continued on page 11)

Final election results

Below are the results of elections to the UNA General Assembly.

By-Laws stipulate that there must be one auditor and two advisors from Canada, and so the candidate whose vote total is marked (*) was elected to the General Assembly even though the vote was lower than that of other candidates.

When/if the merger with the UFA is concluded, one auditor and three advisors will be dropped from the lists below. If the UFA proposes a non-Canadian auditor, Michael Groch, as auditor from Canada, will remain on the committee and Yaroslav Zaviysky will drop out. If the UFA proposes a Canadian auditor, Mr. Groch will drop out.

In the list of advisors, Albert Kachkowski is considered to have made the cut-off at 14, as he is the second of two Canadians that must be on the list. When/if the merger with the UFA is consummated, if the UFA proposes three non-Canadian advisors, then Eugene Oscislawsky, Barbara Bachynsky and Andrij Skyba will lose their office to UFA advisors.

President		MarcAnthony Datzkiwsky	80
Ulana Diachuk	122	Myron Luszczyk	49
Roma Hadzewycz	99	Ivan Wynnyk	47
		Ivan Shlapak	34
First Vice-President		Advisors (14)	
Stefko Kuropas:	116	Taras Szmagala Jr.	161
Eugene Iwanciw:	83	Alex Chudolij	146
Gloria Paschen:	19	Tekla Moroz (C)	130
		Halyna Kolessa	121
Second Vice-President		Nick Diakiwsky	118
Anya Dydyk-Petrenko		Walter Korchymsky	115
(by acclamation)		Wasył Szeremeta	115
Secretary		Vasyl Luchkiw	112
Martha Lysko		Stephanie Hawryluk	105
(by acclamation)		Andre Worobec	102
Treasurer		Eugene Oscislawsky	97
Stefan Kaczaraj		Barbara Bachynsky	90
(by acclamation)		Andrij Skyba	87
Director for Canada		Oksana Trytjak	85
The Rev. Myron Stasiw		Joseph Hawryluk	76
(by acclamation)		Albert Kachkowski (C)	74*
		Ihor Hayda	73
Auditors (5)		Michael Kuropas	70
William Pastuszek	157	Andrew Keybida	58
Stefan Hawrysz	155	Wolodymyr Hetmansky	53
Alexander Serafyn	145	Stephan Woroch	44
Yaroslav Zaviysky	116	George Yurkiw	38
Michael Groch (C)	105	Danuta Yasinska	27
		Nicholas Fil	17
		Stefan Chorniy	16



Leon Hardink, Branch 206, participates in the discussion of reports.



Viacheslav Briukhovetsky, president of the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, speaks at the convention banquet.

UNA concludes...

(Continued from page 10)

sale of certificates of class P-65 and P-20 for the first year from the current 50 percent to 60 percent; for class E-18, E-20 and E-65 from the current 30 percent to 40 percent. The committee also recommended to raise the monthly collected dues from the current 12 percent to 15 percent on certificates across the board; to send the monthly assessment sheets by the 15th of the month; to issue a dividend in 1998, even for a lesser amount.

UNA grants

The Petitions Committee, which every four years reviews projects submitted to the UNA for funding, was sharply restricted in the scope of projects it could fund. Due to financial constraints, only \$3,000 was allocated for the Petitions Committee, \$47,000 less than at the 33rd convention.

The committee consisted of Irene Serba, chairperson, Nick Diakiwsky, Adolph Hladylovyh, Wolodymyr Jaciw, Wasyl Liscynesky and Myron Lusczak, members.

Last to report on its work, after balloting on the final elections was completed on Tuesday morning, May 19, was the Press and Resolutions Committee, chaired by Roman Ferencevych. Its Ukrainian-language secretary was Halyna Kolessa, while the English-language secretary was Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj. Other members of the committee included Vera Krywyj and Wasyl Sharvan.

The committee issued a general greeting to Ukraine, restated the decisions adopted by the convention as proposed by its committees, and read out resolutions proposed by individual delegates.

A directive to the Executive Committee to "hire a competent financial consultant to review and evaluate the entire UNA organization, its financial position, and to discover ways and means to restore the UNA to a solid financial status," passed with 140 for, 23 against and 14 abstaining.

The following resolutions were passed unanimously: that quadrennial district

chairpersons' caucuses be held two years after each regular convention to provide them with a forum to discuss ideas on organizing; that branch secretaries be reminded that adherence to the UNA's By-Laws is mandatory in the selection of delegates to a regular convention; that the UNA General Assembly thoroughly investigate the area of charitable giving, planned giving and fund-raising to support UNA fraternal activities, in particular Soyuzivka, with a view to vigorously employing these means to increase the UNA's annual income; and that a bust be erected and dedicated at Soyuzivka to the memory of the late Patriarch Mstyslav as soon as possible.

The Election Committee, chaired by Nicholas Bobeczko, then arrived to announce the results of the final election (see box). After the delegates had congratulated Mrs. Diachuk with their applause, Ms. Hadzewycz rose to deliver her concession speech. The former advisor expressed thanks for the support offered by delegates and for their willingness to hear new ideas, and pledged to continue to serve the UNA if offered the opportunity.

Mrs. Diachuk followed with her acceptance speech. She expressed thanks to Ms. Hadzewycz for standing for office when there was no candidate for president, and for her dedication and love for the UNA. She offered thanks for the work of the convention's organizers and its various committees. The UNA president urged the membership to fraternally greet those who will soon arrive into the fold following the mergers with the UFA and UNAAA, and she urged delegates to pledge that they would enroll new members into the organization.

Thereupon, Honorary Member of the General Assembly Stephen Kuropas Sr., 97, led the UNA's newly elected leadership in the oath of office.

Mrs. Kaczaraj led the delegates in the singing of the Ukrainian national anthem, and the Rev. Stasiw led the signing of "Khrystos Voskres," a prayer that formally brought to conclusion the 34th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association.



Lubov Streletsky, Branch 10, picks up her ballot as voting in the primary begins.



Convention Presidium Vice-Chairman Taras Szmagala Sr. conducts the proceedings. Seated is President Ulana Diachuk; Nicholas Bobeczko, Elections Committee chairman, looks on.

Andrij Wynnyckyj

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Hockey still reigns as Canada's top sport

Nothing's changed. It's the same as it's been for the last hundred or so years. Kids growing up in the land to the north of us still pick ice hockey overwhelming over any other organized team sport. And why not? What used to be simply a favorite form of physical education or a youngster's automatic choice for activity with friends has certainly blossomed into a potential career move. Witness so many young Ukrainian Canadians entering the ranks of Canadian junior hockey: some 49 known young Ukrainians were found playing pucks in the three major junior leagues in 1997-1998. Good chance there are many others. And why not? With upcoming expansion plans, the National Hockey League will total 30 teams within the next two seasons. The bottom line: this means jobs. Well-paying jobs.

This hockey pundit's research attempts revealed some 28 pucksters of Ukrainian origin learning their trade in the aggressive Western Hockey League, another 18 training in the Ontario Hockey League and just three lonely Ukes signed up in the Quebec League. Below is a brief listing and mention of each and every one of them with their most recent scoring stats in parentheses.

A tidbit of official information comes first. The Canadian Hockey League is an alliance of the three major junior leagues: Ontario Hockey League, Quebec Major Junior Hockey League and Western Hockey League. After the regular season, the three leagues compete in a round-robin tournament to decide the Memorial Cup championship.

Young Ukrainians caught in action this past junior league season in the Ontario Hockey League include Casey Wolak (47GP-20G-12A-32PTS-166PIM) with the North Bay Centennials. The Oshawa Generals had Jason Maleyko (61-4-4-8-141). Goaltender Seamus Kotyk (31GP-1,422MINS-13-5-52.66GA-.896PCT) tended the nets for the Ottawa 67s. This wraps up the OHL's East.

Over in the Central Division, Calgary Flames' draftee Daniel Tkaczuk (56-34-39-73-38) enjoyed a heck of an explosive offensive show with the Barrie Colts. He was joined there by Mihajlo Martinovich (51-4-5-9-12) for a Ukie double delight. John Zubyck (17-0-1-1-5) saw action with the Guelph Storm. Three native sons toiled away for those Owen Sound Platers: Mike Dombkiewicz (57-8-34-42-54), Larry Paleczny (62-21-32-53-28) and Jamie Sokolsky (11-1-4-5-25). On the roster of the Toronto St. Michael's was Steve Zoryk (61-34-25-59-36). Troy Turyk (51-1-4-5-152PIM) made it a pair.

Way out there in the Western Division of the Western League (how far away is that from the East Coast?) we located three remote Ukrainians skating for the Plymouth Whalers. They included Yuri Babenko, a Colorado Avalanche draft choice (57GP-22G-32A-54PTS-22PIM). Carolina Hurricanes' draftee Steve Wasylo (41-4-18-22-8) and John Paul Luciuk (34-1-8-9-24) rode the buses with Babenko. The Sarnia Sting boasted Rob Palahnuik (56-7-12-19-85) in 1997-1998. Yet another pair of Ukrainians laced 'em up for the Sault Ste. Marie Greyhounds. They were Peter Bohunicky (28-0-7-7-9) and Trevor Tokarczyk (10-3-2-5-6). Jeff Kapitanchuk (12-1-1-2-5) saw some playing time with those spunky Windsor Spitfires.

Well, when you're Ukrainian you really can't be French, now can you? You could, we suppose, be Ukrainian-French, or, is that French-Ukrainian? After all, what national-

ties are in the bloodlines of the aforementioned John Paul Luciuk? The reason we bring this up is because we could scout out only three junior league players in that Quebec Junior League this past "régulier saison." The franchise in Baie-Comeau had a healthy scorer in the person of Oleg Timchenko (62-34-32-66-57). Almost as notable with the Hull Olympiques was Colorado draft choice Peter Ratchuk (58GP-21G-31A-52PTS-34PIM). Tomas Baluch saw action for two squads this past season, sharing time with the Sherbrooke Faucons (not a typo) and the Victoriaville Tigres, notching a combined 34-8-18-26-38 stat total.

Finally, we visit the Western Hockey League - without a doubt the roughest and toughest junior league out there. Here, it's blood and guts every night - an accurate training session for what's ahead if you're one of the few fortunate graduates to the NHL big show.

In the Eastern Division of the Western League we first focus in on the Moose Jaw Warriors where we locate Chicago Blackhawks' draft choice Chris Twerdun (67-11-10-21-93) and netminder Jay Ewasiuk (19GP-962MINS-3-7-2-4.37GA-.876PCT). With the Prince Albert Raiders was Ross Lupaschuk (65-6-10-16-168). Another trio of Ukes is found in the Regina Pats: Brett Lysak (67-22-36-58-78), Flyers' amateur selection Todd Fedoruk (48-6-7-13-189) and Chris Kwas (18-0-1-1-15). A duo of Swift Current Broncos: Dan Hulak (67-3-13-16-32) and Dean Serdachny (34-0-1-1-44).

In the Western League's whatever-it-means Central Division we start with those Calgary Hitmen. Ukrainian representation is provided by Brad Mehalko (52-22-45-67-107) and his teammate Jordan Krestanovich (22-1-0-1-0). Among this year's Edmonton Ice were: Avalanche pick, Graham Belak (45-5-5-10-152), Tom Zavediuk (4-1-0-1-9) and Pat Stachniak (11-0-0-0-9). In the eye of the storm with this year's Lethbridge Hurricanes were Carolina Hurricane draftee Trevor Wasylo (35-10-9-19-56) and mate Dustin Kazak (48-0-3-3-51). A lone Medicine Hat Tiger was Berkeley Buchko (66-15-18-33-56). Rounding out this Central Division are three Red Deer Rebels. John Kachur managed a whopping 43 goals and 35 helpers in only 66 matches for 78 points and 54 minutes, while Kyle Kos (68-7-31-38-96) and St. Louis Blues' future star Jonathan Zukiwsky (31-9-13-22-10) rounded out this Red Deer triumvirate.

And finally, way way out there in the westernmost regions of this Western Junior Hockey League, first stop is Kamloops. The No. 1 goalie for this troop was yet another Colorado Avalanche draft pick, Randy Petruk. Boy, for Pete's sake, do the 'Lanche have the future invested in Ukes, or what? Goalie Petruk saw action in (yikes!) 55 games, playing 3,020 minutes, winning 31 games, losing 20 and tying one. He posted a goals against average of a very respectable for juniors, 3.06, with a save percentage of .905, assisting on five goals and accumulating four minutes in penalties. Kevin Korol, a true king of a player, saw action with the Kelowna Rockets. His incomplete stats read 64-14-15-29-39. A recent top pick of the Florida Panthers, Joey Tetarenko, (46-2-11-13-137) spent serious ice time on the blue-line of the Portland Winter Hawks. Among this year's Prince George Cougars were Andrew Luciuk (63-30-46-76-47, better than a point per game) and Mike Olynik (2-1-0-1-2). Primary goalminder for those flying Seattle Thunderbirds was Cody Rudkowsky, who played goal in 51 games, playing 2,681 minutes, winning 18, losing

(Continued on page 13)

Pro Hockey

(Continued from page 12)

22, while tying three, with a 3.83 goals-against-average and an .894 save percentage. Justin Ossachuk (46-4-8-12-78) dotted the players' list for the Spokane Chiefs. Tri-City Americans included Ondrej Vesely (23-20-43-40) and David Boychuk (45-2-2-4-40) - equal opportunity penalty minute accumulators.

JUNIOR UKRAINIAN UTTERINGS: The Ottawa 67s broke an OHL record that had stood for 26 seasons when goalie Craig Hillier and rookie Seamus Kotyk allowed only 172 goals. The previous mark was 174 by the Peterborough Petes in 1971-1972. Hillier and Kotyk combined for an OHL-record 10 shutouts, which tied the CHL mark set by the Flin Flon Bombers in 1967-1968 ... Kamloops Blazers' goalie Randy Petruk suffered a late-season injury for the second straight year. In 1996, Petruk missed the final six weeks after injuring a medial collateral knee ligament. On February 27, Petruk sustained a pulled groin in a 3-3 tie with Prince George, but was expected to be out only until early March. "I don't think it's that bad," said Blazers' assistant coach Craig Bonner. "Behind the bench, I was thinking, 'Not again.' As of right now, I don't think it's very serious." Petruk, who backstopped Kamloops to a Memorial Cup title as a 16-year-old, was 31-20-1 with a 3.06 GAA, three shutouts and .905 save percentage in 55 games ... Seamus Kotyk, an eighth-round draft pick, had a 2.31 goals-against average with four shutouts at one time for the Ottawa 67s. GM-Coach Brian Kilrea said the scouts were high on Kotyk, who played Junior B hockey in Stratford, Ontario. "We were sitting around the draft table and we needed to get a goalie," Kilrea said. "I can't say it was great drafting, or we wouldn't have waited until the eighth round." ... After three of his teammates were benched for a game against the United States after being late for a team walk, Junior teammate Daniel Tkaczuk of the Barrie Colts did not think the three deserved public humiliation. "We lose to the Russians and everybody is looking for answers. The next day three players are benched," Tkaczuk said. "As a player, I would have liked to see them deal with it in a different way. I feel for those guys. It's unfortunate they had to be singled out. I can't help but wonder if we'd won the game against the Russians if it would have been the same consequences." For the second consecutive year, a front-line player is balking at rejoining the Medicine Hat Tigers. Left-winger Trevor Wasyluk, 19, demanded to be traded to another Western League team. Last year, defenseman Jonathan Aitken refused to return.

The Tigers are in the second year of a rebuilding program. Wasyluk would prefer to play for a team with well-founded WHL championship aspirations.

1998 NHL playoff preview

Will the Detroit Red Wings become the first team since the Pittsburgh Penguins in 1990-1991 and 1991-1992 to win back-to-back Stanley Cups?

Here are some mini-team profiles and overall outlooks on the 16 teams in this year's hunt for Lord Stanley's coveted Cup. (Teams are listed by league rankings, 1 through 16.)

Detroit Red Wings: The defending champions were the top offensive team in the NHL and had the No.7-ranked team defense. Special teams were indeed special - top five in both power play and penalty killing. No team was better (14-5-3) after the Olympic break. As well as the Wings have played this season, they clearly have another gear. If they get goaltending, they'll win again.

New Jersey Devils: Best defensive team in the league, and have greater depth up front than any other club. They have one of

the best power plays (No. 2) and top penalty-killing units (No. 4). Netminder Martin Brodeur's numbers (1.81GAA, .921SP, 43 wins, 10 shutouts) were spectacular. The infusion of young scorers Patrik Elias and Petr Sykora will ensure the Devils avoid last spring's disaster.

Colorado Avalanche: The 'Lanche have arguably the most talented lineup, led by playoff-tested Patrick Roy in net and centers Joe Sakic and Peter Forsberg. No team had more power play goals (71) than the Avs. In spite of it all (injuries and slumps during the end of the regular season), the Avs are still a cup contender who need the playoffs to bring out the best in them.

Dallas Stars: Until Mike Modano went down with a shoulder injury, the Stars were the NHL's best team. Even without him they had the No. 2 defense and No. 4 offense. Their power play (No. 1) was exceptional and so, too, was penalty killing (No. 2). They play a high-tempo, pressure game with short shifts. They have yet to prove, however, that they can win.

Philadelphia Flyers: No team is bigger, especially up front. As long as newcomers Mike Sillinger and Alexandre Daigle continue to score, the Flyers have newfound offensive balance to go with proven commodities John LeClair, Eric Lindros and Rod Brind'Amour. The Flyers are a threat to put it all together, but they do appear to have taken a step back.

St. Louis Blues: Only Detroit is more productive than the Blues and, like the Wings, St. Louis scores by committee. Factor in goalie Grant Fuhr's wealth of playoff experience and a solid defense, spearheaded by stars Al MacInnis and Chris Pronger, and it's obvious the Blues are a potential playoff force. They are a well-balanced and versatile team that plays with confidence fortified by above-average goaltending.

Pittsburgh Penguins: Believe it or not, team defense is the key here. The Pens' GAA was fourth-best in the NHL, which is a testament to the players buying into Coach Kevin Constantine's system. The primary factor was resurgent netminding from Tom Barrasso. Jaromir Jagr is arguably the game's best player. The Pens will be a force if Barrasso's great comeback continues.

Buffalo Sabres: Primary strengths: Dominik Hasek, Dominik Hasek, Dominik Hasek ... well, you get the idea. Buffalo allowed more shots on goal than any playoff team, yet the Sabres' GAA was third-best in the league. Figure it out. Plus, Hasek appears to have his wits and health about him this spring, unlike a year ago. With the Dominator in net, it's not difficult to imagine Buffalo upsetting someone or two.

Los Angeles Kings: The Kings have a big, punishing blueline led by Norris Trophy candidate Rob Blake and have emerged as difficult team to play against. Kings' output was slightly better than Colorado's this season, a surprise to many. Coach Larry Robinson gets the most out of a big, tough team that is devoted to strong team play, but one that struggled down the stretch.

Washington Capitals: Olie Kolzig (.918 save percentage) has emerged as a legitimate No. 1 netminder. The Caps are the top penalty-killing team in the league. Esa Tikkanen relishes his role as a playoff hero. They have good depth at almost every position, which is critical with their injury problems. Peter Bondra and Steve Konowalchuk were both hurt as the playoffs began. The Caps, whose playoff psyche is battered at the best of times, would be a good dark-horse if they were a bit healthier.

Boston Bruins: Coach Pat Burns and his defense-first system should thrive in the playoffs. Netminder Byron Dafoe has emerged as No. 1. A lack of firepower means the Bs are in trouble when they get behind, and they're not a physically intimidating team. Burns' teams are always adept at shutting down opposing stars and have a

knack of frustrating more talented stars. Won't go too far.

Montreal Canadiens: Veteran Andy Moog has solidified what was a volatile playoff goaltending scene, though Jocelyn Thibault could yet emerge as the main man. Montreal, middle of the pack in team defense, is at its best when it has the puck (No. 5-ranked offense). Team speed is an asset. If the Habs are to make any noise, they need all hands on deck and in good health - and they're not.

Edmonton Oilers: The Oilers possess terrific speed and skill, both up front and especially on the blueline with Boris Mironov, Roman Hamrlik and Janne Niinimaa. Cujo (Curtis Joseph) is a goalie who, if he's hot, is capable of winning a series by himself. They can use their speed to intimidate and are capable of getting on a roll; if Joseph's in the groove, they can knock off a superior foe.

Phoenix Coyotes: Left-winger Keith Tkachuk is a power scorer who can dominate a game all by himself. This is a team not short of a physical presence up front and the forwards go hard to the net. Both special

team units were rather unproductive. When they their play is both physical and smart, the Coyotes can overwhelm opponents, but too often they self-destruct.

San Jose Sharks: The Sharks have experience and enthusiasm in Coach Darryl Sutter, in net with cup champ Mike Vernon, on the blueline with Bryan Marchment and up front with John MacLean, Mike Ricci and Bernie Nicholls. They have skill and speed from youngsters Jeff Friesen and Patrick Marleau and a strong work ethic. Vernon and an aggressive mentality ensure the Sharks to be no pushover.

Ottawa Senators: Team defense and timely netminding are two big pluses. Damian Rhodes or Ron Tugnutt provide competitive goaltending. Their defense is ranked only 10th, but is impressive considering their youth (Chris Phillips and Wade Redden). All eyes are on the Sens' stars - Alexei Yashin and Daniel Alfredsson - but the team strength is in the efforts of unheralded soldiers such as Magnus Arvedsson and Andreas Dackell. The defense, netminding and hard work keep them in almost every game.

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AUTHORIZED AGENTS

Expert predicts change in Ukraine's tax laws

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – As certain as taxes are, in Ukraine, they are also certain to change. This is the good news.

Yuri Sokol, an authority on Ukrainian tax policy, spoke on April 6 at a seminar titled "The Establishment of Tax Administration and the Development of Tax Legislation in Ukraine" sponsored by the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University and The Harvard Ukrainian Business Initiative. "Although a rational tax code currently does not exist, the tax system is evolving in that direction as the market economy develops," stated Mr. Sokol. He commented that he believes that the new Parliament elections of March 29, will actually speed up reforms, instead of being an obstacle.

Ukraine accepted advice from the U.S. in 1991 and re-organized its system to reflect Western standards. This task is complicated considering the fact that the Soviet accounting system, which in large part is still in use today, does not account for profit and loss, but only for the transfer of goods. Moreover, people were not accustomed to paying taxes of any sizable amount, Mr. Sokol explained.

Ukraine's transformation into a free market economy involves a total transformation of government, society and business. Simply selling off state-owned enterprises will not create a free market. Rewriting the tax code is one example of the change that is needed, as is a public education program aimed at altering people's understanding and willingness to comply with the tax code.

What has been created is a powerful ministry that employs about 65,000 people, of which 10,999 are tax police. Individual income, practically speaking is not taxed; instead the employer is taxed at a rate of 48 percent on salaries paid out. This practice is considered one of the key

explanations of why nearly half of Ukraine's businesses operate in the so-called shadow economy.

Despite its name, the shadow economy is not evidence of corrupt business, but is proof of an unofficial, and thriving, system of exchange designed to avoid government taxation and regulation. Another means of avoiding tax on salaries is to compensate employees with benefits other than money, such as free housing, said Mr. Sokol. As a result of low compliance with taxes on salaries, the state has needed to rely upon other forms of taxation, the chief ones being the Value Added Tax (VAT) and excise taxes (such as those on tobacco and liquor). While the VAT is expedient to collect, in the long term it taxes production – a disincentive that works against increasing production.

The government realizes that a new tax code must be drafted, and has mandated that this be done by the end of 1998. In addition, businesses will be required to adopt standard accounting procedures during this time. Combined with other changes – the creation of more businesses, growing foreign investment, development of a stock market, increased insistence by the International Monetary Fund and other international institutions for economic reforms – there is more pressure to develop a rational tax code. "Lacking a free market and standard accounting system meant that a tax code based on that logic would not have operated correctly, but as the different components in the free market system evolve, so too will the tax code," stated Mr. Sokol.

This seminar is part of the Harvard Ukrainian Business Initiative's program to promote the development of business in Ukraine and spur economic and institutional reforms needed to support the country's development into a market economy.

What I did...

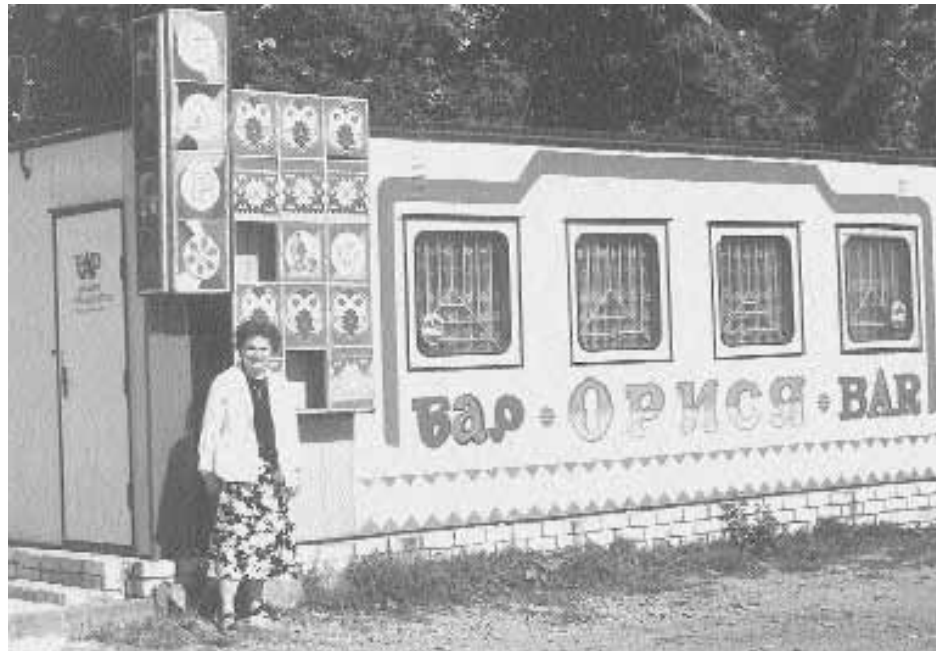
(Continued from page 7)

at the back shouted to me. When I looked out towards the gas station, there alongside was a diner-type trailer, all brightly and cheerfully painted in a Ukrainian motif, with big letters proclaiming "Bar Orysia!" This had not been planned, the driver just needed to stop for fuel, and here it was. I should look into a franchise.

Some of the experienced travelers in our group were inconvenienced by inadequate facilities and service here and there along the way. But after some of the inconveniences we experienced, we were truly impressed with the modern dramatic restroom in a new restaurant in Kolomyia. Truly a highlight. But hey, this was an educational experience, time travel over a few centuries – from medieval to modern facilities. I have heard of tourists who photograph the worst toilet facilities they see –

just cannot imagine why someone would want or need to do this.

Like childbirth, one forgets the pain and remembers the result. We were surrounded by beauty – of the people, the landscape, the cities and towns, the architecture, the details – and this is what I remember more than the inconveniences. There were the elegantly dressed women in the cities, the babunias selling flowers at Kaniv and in Ternopil; art even extended to the arrangement of the salad vegetables on a plate and the pattern on the surface of the salt in a salt cellar, the touches of folk art and humor on all kinds of buildings (including window grates and village bus shelters), the lush kalyna, the living traditions in urban and rural life. Ukraine is truly a beautiful place. No wonder so many greedy neighbors have coveted her over the centuries. I can't wait to go again – in July this year, when the varenyky with vyshni (sour cherries) are in season. Once you've tasted them, nothing else compares.



Orysia Tracz reviews franchise possibilities for namesake cafe.



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Music director's contributions honored

EAST BRUNSWICK, N.J. – Jerry M. Kupchynsky, retired director of the music department of the East Brunswick School District, was recently recognized for his extraordinary contribution to the public school system. His name was placed on a Wall of Honor erected at the East Brunswick Board of Education offices in a special ceremony held there on April 22.

Mr. Kupchynsky first came to East Brunswick in 1957 as a music teacher for the newly formed high school. Later, under his guidance and in his capacity as director of music for the entire East Brunswick School District, the music department flourished to the point where it was recognized as a national model of excellence. Mr. Kupchynsky has also served as the national president of the American String Teachers Association (ASTA) and the national president of the National School Orchestra Association (NSOA) and is a recipient of numerous awards for his contribution to the field of music education.

Mr. Kupchynsky was born in Ukraine



Jerry M. Kupchynsky

and came to this country following the second world war. He and his daughter Melanie, who is a violinist with the Chicago Symphony Orchestra, are members of UNA Branch 233.

Cheloc reappointed as municipal judge

JERSEY CITY, N.J. – Mayor Bret Schundler hosted a swearing-in ceremony for newly appointed municipal court Judges Cynthia D. Jackson and Robert S. Cheloc on Monday, April 27. The ceremony took place in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Judge Cheloc is being reappointed to the bench, but this is Judge Jackson's first time on the bench.

"Cynthia and Robert are talented attorneys who will strive to serve the best interests of Jersey City's residents. I am confident that, through their professional service on the bench, both of them will help us preserve high standards for the quality of life in our community," said Mayor Schundler.

Presiding Judge Dennis McGill indicated that he is happy to be working with the newly appointed judges: "Robert has served as a judge for a number of years, and I am happy to have him back for another three years. I am also looking

forward to working with Cynthia, a talented attorney who has a very good reputation in the criminal bar."

A graduate of Georgetown University and American University's School of Law, Judge Cheloc has served as a part-time judge in the municipal court since 1981. He has worked as the presiding judge of the night division. He has also presided over matters in the central judicial processing, remand, criminal, drunk driving, traffic and housing courts. Previously, he served as a prime time staff counsel for Hoboken's Office of Employment and Training and as county consumer and fraud director. Licensed as an attorney in the states of New York and New Jersey, Judge Cheloc, 52, is married to Helen Cheloc and the proud father of a 6-year-old son, Robert.

"I am looking forward to working with such a dedicated team of court personnel. I will do my best to uphold my judicial oath of office, and serve justice for the people of Jersey City," said Judge Cheloc.

Judge Cheloc is a member of UNA Branch 171.



Judge Robert S. Cheloc

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Ukrainian American...

(Continued from page 3)

This roster of Ukrainian Americans soldiers who served in the America's wars is just a very small, but distinguished sample of actual numbers. There were many reasons for their joining the U.S. Armed Forces. Perhaps one of the more eloquent reasons was expressed by Capt. Gerald Nestor: "I'm proud of the Army I serve in, it is the best in the world. I serve the United States because I believe that I owe it a debt of gratitude for the haven it provided my family after World War II. But, I am never forgetful of the sacrifices our brothers and sisters in Ukraine have suffered and the dangers they faced in most critical times (by resisting Communist dictators)."

The UAV organization

Ukrainian American veterans were active in the local communities as individuals and as individual lodges or posts, but did not have a central national organization.

During the 1947 Convention of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, Walter Bacad, Michael Darmopray, J. Konchak, Joseph Lesawyer, M. Nasevich and George Wolynetz provided the necessary leadership to call a convention of all Ukrainian American veteran organizations. Michael Darmopray made thorough preparation for a convention to be hosted by the Ukrainian American War Veterans of Philadelphia on May 29-31, 1948.

About 60 delegates arrived from dozens of cities and towns. Michael Hynda presented a draft constitution and the by-laws for the new organization. After a lengthy discussion, the name Ukrainian American Veterans was adopted. The Ukrainian American Veterans League's emblem was adopted as the official emblem of the Ukrainian American Veterans. The Ladies Auxiliary Committee represented by Ann Mitz and Olga Cherenetzsky was put in charge of organizing the women's component of the Ukrainian American Veterans organization. The second annual convention was scheduled to be held in Newark,

N.J., on Memorial Day weekend in 1949.

The National Executive Board

The composition of the National Executive Board (NEB) changed from time to time depending on the need of the organization. Originally there were eight members on the NEB, but during 1991-1996 that number rose to 15, to include all past national commanders elected prior to 1992. The increase in the size of the NEB resulted from organization's expanded activities and needs and to facilitate representation of the posts from different geographical areas. NEB meetings are held three to four times a year in different cities in the U.S.

One of the activities the NEB engages in is the petitioning of the U.S. government concerning veterans' issues, such as a resolution in the 1980s about the 2,500 POWs and MIA's in Southeast Asia as well as a bill to improve veterans' benefits for former POWs. At times the NEB would send a message of support to the commander-in-chief. For example, they wrote to President George Bush: "We, Ukrainian American Veterans...wish to express our support of your actions in mobilizing the U.S. Armed Forces for duty in the Middle East."

The first convention in 1948 created a publicity committee to devise means of communication between UAV members and posts. Until 1989 national commanders published Newsletters under their own supervision, but at the 42nd National Convention in 1989 the UAV approved a new publication, The UAV Tribune.

The National Welfare Fund started to function in 1953. It started with donations of \$1 or less, but over the years it grew to be an important component of the UAV organization. The leadership of PNC Emil Senkow and later Roman Bednarsky resulted in the growth of the Welfare Fund which was able to make 115 grants to needy members in the period of 1953 to 1996. The amount of a grant ranged from \$50 in 1953 to \$1,500 in 1996.

The Scholarship Fund was finally created through the efforts of energetic National Adjutant Michael Demchuk during the 48th National Convention in 1995. And for the academic year 1996-1997 NEB announced six scholarship totaling \$1,500.

Local UAV organizations and affiliates

There were 38 active UAV posts at one time or another. One of the oldest posts was Post 1 in Philadelphia. It was organized in 1920 as the Ukrainian American War Veterans under the leadership of Michael Darmopray, who later spearheaded creation of the UAV in 1948. The most recently organized post was Post 36, in 1995, (Posts 91 and 101 were numbered out of sequence to commemorate special events). Over the years some of the posts have become inactive due to the disintegration of the Ukrainian American communities in certain large cities, and others because of attrition.

The Ladies Auxiliary existed at the individual posts prior to the 1948 convention. But it was not until 1974, under the leadership of Rosalie Polche, that individual post lodges were formally organized. Some of the most active and prosperous Ladies Auxiliaries were affiliated with UAV Posts 4, 5, 6, 7, 14, 17, 19 and 101.

The Ukrainian American Military Association, established September 29, 1996, in Chicago, Ill. and composed of active and reserve military personnel, voted to affiliate itself with the UAV. The UAV at its NEB meeting February 15, 1997, voted to honor the UAMA petition to affiliate.

Peace and security of the U.S.

The Ukrainian American Veterans organization pledges in its Constitution "To guard and defend the United States of America from all her enemies," and "To promote a spirit of peace and goodwill among all the peoples on earth." The mem-

bers reaffirm this pledge every year at their national conventions in the form of resolutions that are sent to the Congress, and other government officials, and are reported in the Ukrainian press and the UAV Tribune. An example of UAV support of U.S. foreign policy is reflected in the 1985 resolution: "We commend the president for instructing the U.S. negotiating team in Geneva to maintain a strong stance with the USSR by insisting on compliance with past treaties before coming to terms on new accords that affect defense posture and technical research."

The UAV in many ways is like a confederation of states. Historically, posts were independent entities and established working relationships with other local war veterans, charitable, social and political organizations. Many UAV posts belong to county or state veterans coordinating councils. Their participation in activities includes arrangement of parades, commemorative services, and petitioning of local authorities for veterans rights and welfare.

Members of the UAV organization participate in various ways. In 1993 PNC Roman Rakowsky of Post 24 served on a committee to select an artist for the construction of a memorial for the Cleveland, Ohio, war veterans. In 1994 New Jersey Gov. Christie Todd Whitman appointed the UAV N.J. State Commander George Miziuk to serve on the state Ethnic Commission. And Dmytro Bodnarczuk of Post 19 was appointed by Rep. Benjamin Gilman to serve on New York's 20th Congressional Districts Veterans Advisory Committee.

At the time of the disintegration of the Soviet Union, some UAV members were on active duty in various capacities. Maj. Nicholas Krawciw was President Bush's special envoy to Ukraine dealing with the nuclear arms; Brig. Gen. Russ Zajtchuk advised on emergency medical cooperation between the U.S. and Ukraine, and Lt. Col. Miroslav Malaniak and Master Sgt. Daniel Zahody served as interpreters in the U.S.-Ukraine military exercises "Operation Peace Shield" in 1995 and 1996.

The UAV and Ukraine

In 1948 the UAV Constitution promised to "... keep Ukrainian nationality in high esteem and respect." Since that time the UAV has dedicated itself to informing the American public about Ukraine, influencing U.S. foreign policy towards Ukraine, and promoting social contacts with the people of Ukraine.

UAV members were directly involved in projects that are helping Ukraine solve some of the shortages created by the breakup of the Soviet empire. One of the projects was a release of medical journals by a veteran's administration hospital to a hospital in Kyiv. Dr. Ihor Zachary of Post 24 Cleveland was responsible for this transfer. The "Adopt a Hospital Program" project was organized by the UAV New Jersey State Department in 1993. This program has sent 38 containers of medical instruments and supplies to Ukraine.

Also, the UAV has several high profile members and friends such as Gen. Sam Jaskilka, Maj. Gen. Krawciw, Brig. Gen. Zajtchuk, Brig. Gen. Orest Kohut, Ambassador Roman Popadiuk, Reps. David Bonior and Benjamin Gilman, chairman of Foreign Relations Committee, within its ranks.

During the 50 years of its existence, the Ukrainian American Veterans, with the minimum of the material resources at their disposal, made a great effort to reach the goals set up in their Constitution. As the UAV celebrates its 50th anniversary, it is proud of the organization's achievements, as well as the achievements of each of its individual members. The UAV organization believes that it continues to have great potential in the Ukrainian American community and to further serve America.

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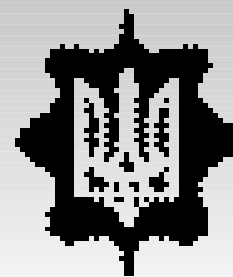
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A Rebirth Taking Place

For nearly 100 years, the greater Newark area has been a hub for Ukrainians in New Jersey. Though this neighborhood has undergone many changes, it is still a vibrant community, one that includes Newark, Irvington, Maplewood, Livingston and Union.

"Ukrainian businesses and community centers keep our community intact," said Michael Koziupa, Lending Manager, Selfreliance



John Trush, Chairman of the Board of Directors Selfreliance UA Federal Credit Union.

Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union. "The churches and major organizations keep this area alive." In the greater Newark area there are four major Ukrainian churches. There is a Catholic church in Newark, an Orthodox church in Irvington and one in Maplewood and an Evangelical

Also at the heart of the Newark area community is the Selfreliance Association of Ukrainian Americans, Newark, NJ, a non-profit organization chartered in 1949 to aid Ukrainian immigrants to establish themselves in their new homeland.

The association acted as a catalyst for the creation of many Ukrainian professional and community organizations, especially the Self Reliance (Newark, NJ) Federal Credit Union, which just recently changed its name to Selfreliance UA Federal Credit Union. Additionally, a new branch is opening in the new UNA Corporate Headquarters building in Parsippany to service members in the Morris County area.

"In Newark, there is an established older generation and an incoming younger wave of immigrants," continued Koziupa. "It's economically feasible for them to be here. In essence, a rejuvenation is taking place in the greater Newark area. Some of us are moving, but we still have a strong base."

There have been four waves of immigrants into the United States and Newark. All but the third were economic movements. The third was a political movement that came after World War II. Each influx can be considered a rejuvenation of the community.

However, according to that history, there is a certain ingredient that is necessary for any rejuvenation to take place. "The influx of new immigrants is what keeps our community strong," said Koziupa.

Throughout the history of Newark there have been many important events that have afforded the Ukrainian community the opportunity to thrive. In 1899, there were 140 fami-



For many Ukrainians from the Newark area, St. John the Baptist Church on Morton Street was where rites and occasions began and ended.

40 years of this century, branches of the UNA, the Providence Association, women's associations and sports associations were all established.

By 1903, the first branch of the UNA in Newark--The Brotherhood of St. John the Baptist--was established. It

In 1909, Teodosiy Kas'kiv, established an evening parochial school associated with the St. John Church, as well as the "Boyan" choir. The choir performed over 180 times and gave 114 concerts.

Metropolitan Andrew Sheptytsky, head of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in western Ukraine, visited Newark in 1910. A year later, the first Ukrainian Presbyterian Church was established. From 1916 through 1924, the administrator of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in America, Father Petro Poniatyshsyn, made his home in Newark and the city was considered the capital of the Ukrainian Catholic diocese in America.

The Ukrainian community in Newark in the early 20th century responded to direct events in Ukraine by organizing public meetings and demonstrating at Newark City Hall to inform the American public of Ukraine's struggle for national freedom and independence.

In 1918, the first Ukrainian Orthodox church was established on Court Street, the same street where St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church was established 11 years earlier. St. John the Baptist would eventually move to a new building on Morton Street in 1927.

The cornerstone of the new church on Sandford Avenue was blessed on March 31, 1963 by the Most Rev. Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn. Today the church and the Newark community remain strong and vibrant.

-- Text and Design by Tom Hawrylko



St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church, its school and the Selfreliance UA Federal Credit Union are located on Sandford Avenue in Newark, which the City Council officially named "Ukrainian Plaza."

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Ukraine...

(Continued from page 2)

I will touch lightly on the record of independent Ukraine. Much has happened since 1991. Judgement depends, in part, on expectations. The record is mixed. Politically, the peaceful transfer of presidential power, adoption of a Constitution and the process of political party formation are positive and significant steps along the road to modern governance.

In the area of foreign policy, the record is better. Ukraine is increasingly visible in the world as an independent and responsible actor. The relationship between Ukraine and Russia is now handled as an international problem subject to accepted rules of foreign policy. [Key events that] I would mention here are the trilateral nuclear accord of 1994, the comprehensive friendship treaty signed by Russian President Yeltsin in Kyiv on May 31, 1997, and the NATO-Ukraine charter issued in Madrid on July 9, 1997. Ukrainian security strategy, designed to keep all options open, indeed, to create new options, is effective.

The same cannot be said of (Ukraine's) economic strategy. The introduction of (the) hryvnia was professionally done. It shows that the capacity to do the right thing is there. However, it is not evident whether popular consensus and political will exist to do other real reforms in all sectors of the economy. Let me be clear: the task is Herculean. Its magnitude requires patience; it also requires a sober assessment of strengths and weaknesses of Ukrainian society. (However) it is not an excuse for inaction. History will not excuse failure by the magnitude of the task.

In thinking of the future, I believe that much of Ukraine's potential is still there. People are hardworking. But, not surprisingly, they are not willing to be exploited by either the individuals or the state. Material resources exist. The level of education is high. Of vital significance is the domestic peace among the different ethnic groups. Equally important, the external context is favorable and provides conditions in which diplomacy and international law can operate.

Ukrainian weaknesses are rooted in the legacy of history, which has left strong, damaging marks. That legacy manifests

itself in the political culture of the Ukrainians, key elements of which include weak integration of society (lack of unity), lack of trust and even animosity towards other citizens and an ideological method of thinking. The shackles are gone; the cobwebs remain.

Two factors (are) critical in shaping (the) future: the first is political, (the) capacity to govern the state; the second is economic modernization. These two key variables are not exclusive – remember the traditional term political economy – and they interact. Three broad scenarios can be envisaged.

The first, called a "defeated Ukraine" involves failure of the state: the young political system proves ineffective in coping with internal contradictions – regional, economic, ethnic, religious, social, etc. – and (with) external pressures. The cumulation of crises overwhelms both the elite and the population and they return to dependence. I believe that such a development would not come without internal turmoil and it would also torpedo Russia's chances to become a normal country.

On the other hand, if the state is reasonably effective in terms of the basics such as law, money, order, taxes and the army, then two possibilities arise depending on what is done about the economy. One scenario is called a "wounded Ukraine" and amounts to more or less the retention of antiquated economic relations; a stalemate between those nostalgic for the past and those hopeful for a better tomorrow; limited room for, and hostile attitude toward, private property and enterprise; a growing gap between those who monopolize economic levers and the rest of the population which is increasingly poor and resigned. Authoritarian temptation would loom large.

Another possibility involves good governance and successful economic modernization. I call this scenario "Ukraine of its dreams." This path would combine success in state-formation with a genuine revival of the society. Private ownership of the means of production combined with a fair distribution of profits would, at last, make (real) the possibility of a decent life for people of Ukraine.

What of the relationship between Ukraine and the new Europe?

A defeated Ukraine would result in a "cold peace" relationship between the new Europe and a resurgent imperial Russia, but without the fire of faith that animated the Soviets during the Cold War. A reconstructed Russian superpower is not the sort of Russia the rest of Europe wants next door.

A wounded Ukraine would result in a "velvet curtain" that descends across the continent to separate the rich from the poor. In a word, indifference rather than hostility would characterize the relationship.

A Ukraine of its dreams would ultimately result in a truly inclusive Europe. Ukraine would be a full member, a "citizen of Europe." confident of itself and making creative contributions to the wider community and the world.

I would like to leave you with three messages:

First, in the words of St. Augustine, "Justice is the foundation of the state." That is why Ukraine as a new state needs to reach a broad consensus on moral purpose and not only focus on formal authority, the monopoly to use force or sovereignty.

Second, no political system can in itself guarantee the growth and vitality of the state. Ultimately the quality of the people, particularly its leaders and officials, will determine the issue of strength and survival.

Third, and last, in searching for the way ahead, for the Ukraine of its dreams we might well reflect on the words of the Spanish proverb: "Traveler, there are no roads. Roads are made by walking."

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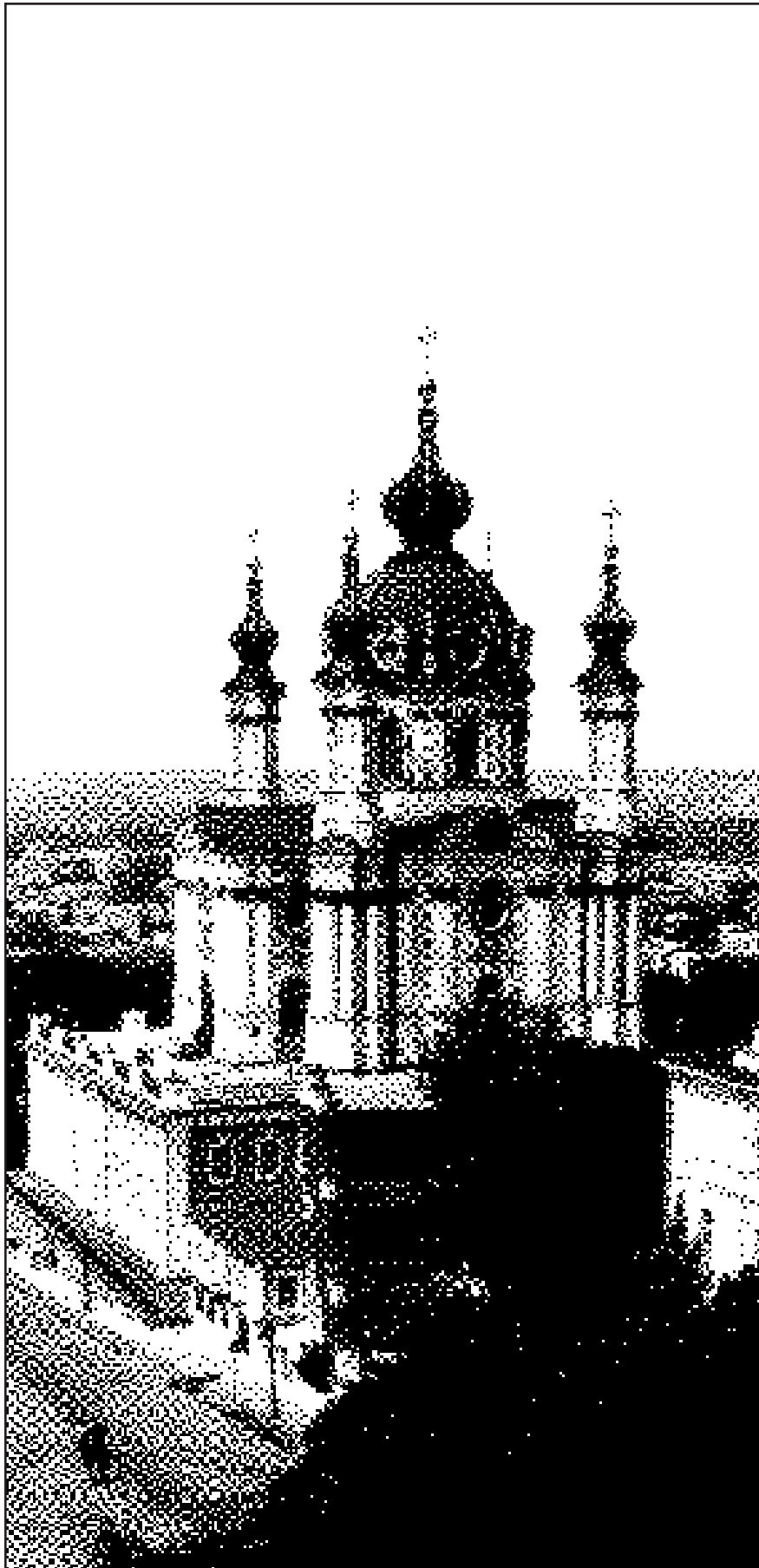
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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, June 7

OTTAWA: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is holding an all-community memorial service and solemn commemoration on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the 1933 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine. The service will be held at the Assumption of The Blessed Virgin Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 1000 Byron Avenue (at Churchill) at 6:30 p.m. For more information call Olga Sametz, (613) 729-4157.

Monday, June 8

NEW YORK: Taras Schumylowych will take part in a group show sponsored by the Composers, Authors and Artists of America. The exhibit, which runs through June 12, will be held at the Lincoln Square Gallery, 250 W. 65th St.

Sunday, June 14

OTTAWA: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress is holding an all-community wreath laying ceremony on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the 1933 Famine-Genocide in Ukraine. The service will be held at the Memorial to Human Rights, Elgin and Lisgar streets, at 4 p.m. For more information call Ron Sorobey, (613) 238-7495.

Sunday, June 28

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) Post 32 will hold elections and an informational meeting at Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church Cultural Center, Chicago and

Oakley, at 1-3 p.m. All veterans who have served or are currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces are welcome. Discussion will include committee assignments for the UAV convention in 1999, which will be held in Chicago. Missions to Ukraine will also be discussed. For more information, call Roman Golash, (847) 885-0208 or e-mail at Golash_Roman@compuserve.com.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Monday, June 29-Friday, July 3

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Heritage Foundation of the Lower Anthracite Regions will host its ninth annual folk dance workshop and camp, to be held at the Ukrainian Homestead at 10 a.m.-4 p.m. daily. The camp will conclude with a finale performance on Saturday, July 4 at 7 p.m., followed by a dance in the Homestead ballroom. Guest instructor, David Woznak of the Kashtan School of Ukrainian Dance in Parma, Ohio, will once again provide folk dance instruction for beginners to advanced dancers. The camp also features traditional crafts and music, sports, swimming, lunch, and snacks and is open to children ages 4 through high school. For more information or registration forms, contact Dr. Paula Duda, (610) 432-0734; Joseph Zucofski, (717) 622-8056; or Sandra Duda, (610) 377-7750. The camp is partially funded by a grant from the Schuylkill County Commissioners through the Schuylkill County Council for the Arts.

PLEASE NOTE PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

- Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided free of charge by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community.

- To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information written in Preview format (date, place, type of event, admission, sponsor, etc., in the English language, providing full names of persons and/or organizations mentioned, and listing a contact person for additional information). Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published. Please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours.

- Text should be double-spaced.

- Preview items must be received one week before desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Listings are published only once (please indicate desired date of publication) and appear at the discretion of the editorial staff and in accordance with available space. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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UACF seeks grant applications

WARREN, Mich. - The Ukrainian American Center Foundation (UACF) announces that applications are now being accepted for student scholarship awards and organizational financial grants for 1998.

According to eligibility requirements, student scholarships are awarded to full-time undergraduate students who are attending accredited colleges and universities, as well as to high school graduates who will be attending institutions of higher learning in this calendar year. Applicants are judged on the basis of financial need, scholastic performance, involvement in the community (Ukrainian and/or American), and essay evaluation.

Students must be of Ukrainian ancestry and residents of Michigan.

Organizational financial grants will be awarded to organizations who have valid Ukrainian community objectives. They must be based in Michigan and prove financial need.

All completed documents must be received by the Ukrainian American Center Foundation postmarked no later than June 30, 1998. For additional information and application forms write, or call, the Ukrainian American Center Foundation at: P.O. Box 1443, Warren, MI 48090-1443; or 530 Oxford Court, Rochester Hills, MI 48307-4527; (248) 852-1570.

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