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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a fraternal non-profit association

Vol. LXXII

No. 6

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2004

\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Law on legal status of Ukrainians abroad suffers setback due to Kuchma's veto

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — National Deputy Ihor Ostash said on February 4 that the presidential veto of the long-awaited law on the legal status of Ukrainians abroad was merely a temporary setback. The lawmaker, who introduced the bill and moved it to approval through the Verkhovna Rada, said the draft law will be reworked and critical remarks made by President Leonid Kuchma will be taken into account.

"I can promise you that it will be approved and signed during this session of the Verkhovna Rada," said Mr. Ostash, who explained that he believed none of the obstacles presented by the president in his comments attached to the veto were insurmountable.

The Ukrainian Parliament finally approved the bill, one of several diaspora rights bills that moved slowly through the Verkhovna Rada for most of the year, on November 20, 2003, after the best features of several editions were combined.

However, President Kuchma expressed several reservations regarding the form and the manner in which the law was to be implemented, and returned it on December 13, 2003, to the Verkhovna Rada for rework.

Mr. Ostash, who is the chairman of the Parliament's Committee on Foreign Relations, explained that the presidential administration had rejected a cost-free, five-year multi-entry visa for those who

attained the status of Ukrainians from abroad. While explaining that the president's remarks were not clear on an alternative to the Verkhovna Rada's proposal, the lawmaker said he would try to stand firm on the five-year, cost-free visa because he believes it is necessary to entice ethnic Ukrainian students to study in Ukraine.

The parliamentarian also explained that the president had expressed dissatisfaction with the definition identifying a Ukrainian abroad, which would be the basis upon which the special status would be extended.

While the bill passed by the Parliament defined such a person as "one who identifies himself as Ukrainian," Mr. Kuchma noted that such wording would reduce the rights of legitimate Ukrainians living abroad who are not ethnically Ukrainian, such as the Crimean Tatars who live in Uzbekistan, having been forcibly exiled there by Stalin in 1946. Mr. Ostash said he was inclined to agree that a change in the wording is needed.

"I think we can go another route and change the terminology to show that the requirement is to be able to prove the person's ties to the Ukrainian political nation, that is, one could be a Crimean Tatar or a Russian Ukrainian or a Canadian Ukrainian," explained Mr. Ostash.

President Kuchma also suggested the elimination of a statement in the pream-

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Verkhovna Rada withdraws provision for parliamentary election of president

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada retreated on January 3 from an initiative to give itself the authority to elect the president on behalf of the nation and amended a draft bill on political reform that had come under intense European criticism.

"In 2004 and thereafter, Ukraine's president will be elected to a five-year term by a nationwide vote," explained Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Volodymyr Lytvyn during a lull after presiding over a short but stormy extraordinary session of Ukraine's Parliament.

Responding to a critical evaluation by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) — which had questioned the validity of amending the Constitution of Ukraine to change the powers of the president and the Parliament during a presidential election year and, also, the way in which the bill passed its initial reading — the Parliament voted to retain the stipulation in the Constitution that the president must be elected by direct popular vote.

The approval of the first reading of the bill, which would have given the Parliament the right to elect the president and appoint the prime minister, produced an outcry from opposition forces in the country when it was passed on December 24, 2003, by a hand vote — a method of voting unforeseen either in the Constitution or the procedural rules of the Verkhovna Rada.

Opposition factions in the Verkhovna Rada, led by the Our Ukraine coalition, which called the manner in which the first vote took place "a constitutional coup d'état" and had strenuously fought against transferring the right to elect the president to the Parliament, nonetheless protested the latest parliamentary vote — what should have been a political victory for them — on the grounds that it was procedurally illegal.

In a confusing series of events that marked a chaotic day, the Our Ukraine faction and the Yulia Tymoshenko faction, two of the four parliamentary factions that are in opposition to the Kuchma administration, refused to take part in the vote because, in their estimation, it was simply an amendment to the December 24, 2003, bill, which they assert was passed illegally — a notion supported by a PACE resolution from January 29.

"PACE said that the vote of December 24 didn't happen, this is the gist of the problem. We should have begun from point zero," explained National Deputy Yurii Kostenko, chairman of the National Party and a leader of the Our Ukraine coalition.

Speaking in a separate interview, Our Ukraine coalition leader Viktor Yushchenko added: "The danger is that when the process is carried out illegally, the content becomes illegal as well."

The day was to have begun as the opening of the fifth session of the current convocation of the Parliament. However, Chairman Lytvyn shocked many onlookers and riled the opposition forces when he announced that within the hour he would open an extraordinary session of the Parliament under authority given him in Article 83 of the Constitution.

Sixty minutes later he reappeared and formally announced that a special vote would take place on draft law 4105, the political reform bill. As Our Ukraine lawmakers rushed the rostrum — one shoved a large bound copy of the Constitution into Mr. Lytvyn's chest while others threw paper and whatever else was at hand, including the contents of a soda pop container his way — the chairman called for the playing of the national anthem to open the session.

Then, as the chaos continued, he read aloud the change to the draft law and then called for a vote, receiving 304 aye votes to pass the measure. Within minutes one account has it that it took seven

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US. drastically cuts international broadcasts

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Major cutbacks to international broadcasts of the United States to Central and Eastern Europe were announced this past week in keeping with the federal budget for Fiscal Year 2004 and proposals of the Bush administration's proposals. Voice of America announced that programs in 10 languages will be cut by the end of this month, while Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty announced the cessation of broadcasts in six languages.

On February 3 the director of Voice of America, David Jackson, announced that VOA will end regularly scheduled programs in Bulgarian, Estonian, Czech, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Slovak and Slovenian, along with many of its broadcast feeds to affiliate stations in Central and Southeastern Europe effective February 27.

In addition, VOA's Ukrainian radio service, is to reduce its daily broadcast from two hours to one hour per day, beginning March 1.

According to the VOA director's message to personnel, "VOA Ukrainian will retool its programming and expand its

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Ukrainian parochial school in Northampton, Pa., may be forced to close at end of school year

by Roma Hadzewycz

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Another Ukrainian parochial school may be forced to close its doors soon due to financial considerations. Teachers and parents at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Northampton, Pa., were informed in January that the school will close at the end of the current academic year.

Teachers were called to a meeting on January 6, after Epiphany services, by the Very Rev. David Clooney and told of the closing. Faculty, staff and parents also received a brief three-sentence letter from the pastor of St. John's Church.

"It is with regret that I have to announce that St. John the Baptist School will not be able to continue in operation beyond the end of this school year (2003-2004), that is June 9, 2004," the Rev. Clooney wrote in the January 6 letter.

"After extensive consultation regarding the finances of St. John's Parish, Archbishop Stefan Soroka has given his permission to close the school. I share with you in the sadness of such a decision and its necessity, given the tremendous financial burden on the parish."

The general public learned of the school's imminent closing from the February 3 issue of The Morning Call of Allentown, Pa., which carried a story by Kathy Lauer-Williams headlined "Northampton parish shocked that school is closing this year; Ukrainian Archdiocese of Philadelphia cites financial reasons."

The 52-year-old school, which encompasses preschool through grade 8, currently has 90 elementary students, plus 10 in preschool. Thirty per-

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ANALYSIS

Rifts emerge among Ukraine's ruling elite

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newsline

Despite the Ukrainian Constitutional Court's December 30, 2003, decision clearing the way for President Leonid Kuchma to run in the October presidential elections, Mr. Kuchma is unlikely to contest that ballot. The most convincing explanation for the Constitutional Court's decision – on the grounds that he is in his first term under a new constitution – arguably lies in the executive branch's fear that the pro-presidential elite might split into rival factions in the course of the election campaign.

Socialist opposition leader Oleksander Moroz and Russian-speaking liberal Volodymyr Malynkovych expressed that argument in *Ukrainska Pravda* on January 2. Both men said they believe the threat of a Kuchma candidacy will serve to deter any pro-presidential groups from "jumping ship."

A second way of accomplishing that goal is to undo or prevent bridges being built between the more moderate opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko, who consistently leads in the polls, and eastern Ukrainian oligarchs. The standoff that emerged during Mr. Yushchenko's visit to Donetsk on October 31, 2003, was an

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attempt by the presidential administration, whose secret instructions to that effect were leaked to opposition media, to pit Mr. Yushchenko against the Donbas clan.

Presidential-administration chief and Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU) leader Viktor Medvedchuk is as opposed to Mr. Yushchenko becoming president as he is to Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovych, who heads the Donbas party of power, Party of Regions, becoming president. The real power behind the Donbas clan is Renat Akhmetov, Ukraine's wealthiest oligarch, who is reported to have held secret meetings with Mr. Yushchenko.

The same holds true for Mr. Medvedchuk's attitude toward Viktor Pinchuk, the wealthiest oligarch in the Dnipropetrovsk clan's party of power, Labor Ukraine. Mr. Medvedchuk must tread more carefully with Mr. Pinchuk, however, as he is Kuchma's son-in-law.

The Donetsk and Dnipropetrovsk groups of oligarchs are striving to achieve respectability as capitalist entrepreneurs after reaching the conclusion that the "robber-baron" capitalism of the 1990s will end when the Kuchma era is over. Becoming "respectable" will provide insurance, they believe, against the likely redivision of assets among the elite after President Kuchma leaves office. Some

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Iraqi daily identifies groups Hussein allegedly bribed with oil

by **Roman Kupchinsky**

RFE/RL Organized Crime and Terrorism Watch

The Iraqi daily newspaper Al-Mada in its January 25 edition published a sensational list of companies, organizations and individuals who allegedly were allocated crude oil in return for political support for the regime of Saddam Hussein. Organizations and individuals named in the article are from Russia, Ukraine, Belarus and other countries.

In Russia, among others, the following are listed: Zarubezhneft (174.5 million barrels), Rosneft (66.9 million) (the article claims that the oil was destined for the Russian president's office and 1 million for Vladimir Titorenko, the Russian ambassador in Iraq), the Russian Orthodox Church (5 million barrels), the head of the Russian presidential administration (5 million), the Liberal Democratic Party of Russia (79.8 million), the Russian Communist Party (1 million), and Yukos (2 million).

In Ukraine the alleged recipients included the Social Democratic Party (1 million), the Communist Party (6 million), Naftohaz Ukrayiny (8 million) and the Socialist Party of Ukraine (1 million).

In Belarus, the presidential administration and the Liberal Party allegedly received 1 million barrels each.

Former British Labor member of Parliament and longtime Hussein supporter George Galloway is mentioned in the article a number of times as an alleged recipient of some 17 million barrels of oil, according to Al-Mada, funneled to him through a number of different companies. Mr. Galloway had been accused of receiving money from Hussein in 2002 by the British newspaper *The Daily Telegraph* and at the time vigorously denied the charges.

Other individuals named by Al-Mada

Roman Kupchinsky is the editor of RFE/RL Crime and Corruption Watch.

include the son of late Egyptian President Gamal Abdel Nasser, former Jordanian parliamentarian Tujan al-Faysal, the current president of Indonesia, the son of the president of Lebanon, and the son of Syria's defense minister.

Iraqi Oil Ministry Undersecretary Abdul Sahib Salman Qotob told the AFP news agency on January 27 that documents belonging to the State Oil Marketing Organization (SOMO) "reveal how Saddam jeopardized the oil wealth of Iraq on personalities who had supported him and turned a blind eye on the mass graves and injustice he inflicted on the sons of the Iraqi people." According to AFP, the ministry is working with Interpol to recover the money "allegedly made by figures cashing in millions of barrels of crude oil they had received for free."

Spokesmen for both the Russian Orthodox Church and Vladimir Zhirinovskii's Liberal Democratic Party of Russia denied the charges, according to *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* of January 29. The paper noted that the Russian Orthodox Church had been involved in oil trading since 1990, when it became the co-owner of the International Economic Cooperation society and partook in government projects designed to help fund federal programs in Russia. A delegation from the Church visited Iraq prior to the war, where the head of the delegation handed Hussein a letter of support from Patriarch of Moscow and All Russia Aleksei II.

The secretary of the Russian Communist Party, Oleg Kulikov, told *Nezavisimaya Gazeta* that the article is "black PR" and that everything that has occurred in Iraq "was under the control of American special services."

Neither the Ukrainian nor the Belarusian press had reported the charges as of midday January 29.

NEWSBRIEFS

Clause on presidential election removed

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada voted on February 3 to extract a clause prescribing the election of an "interim" president by direct election in 2004 and the subsequent parliamentary selection of a head of state from a contentious bill on political reform, UNIAN and Interfax reported. Those clauses – contained in the bill that was preliminarily approved on December 23, 2003 – were bitterly opposed by the opposition Our Ukraine, the Socialist Party and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc. The Socialist Party supported the amendment, while Our Ukraine and the Tymoshenko Bloc did not take part in the vote. The amendment to exclude the presidential clauses received 304 votes in the February 3 vote in the 450-seat legislature, and could further the chances for passage of major constitutional reforms. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada session degenerates into turmoil

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn opened a short "extraordinary" parliamentary session on February 3 that degenerated into turmoil after lawmakers from Our Ukraine and the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc protested the vote on an amendment to the constitutional-reform bill, UNIAN and Interfax reported. In a replay of several such occasions last year, lawmakers from the pro-government Social Democratic Party-United (SDPU) circled the parliamentary rostrum in order to prevent deputies from Our Ukraine and the Tymoshenko Bloc from disrupting the debate. Opposition lawmakers responded by destroying all the microphones in the session hall and flinging draft bills and other papers in the direction of the parliamentary presidium. One opposition deputy reportedly poured a bottle of "sweet water" on Mr. Lytvyn's head. Mr. Lytvyn managed to announce that a regular parliamentary session would open later the same day. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Our Ukraine urges debate on amendments

KYIV – Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine party said in a public statement on February 4 that it welcomes the Verkhovna Rada's decision to exclude a clause envisaging presidential elections in the Verkhovna Rada from the constitutional reform bill that was backed by 304 votes the previous day, UNIAN reported. The statement also claimed that the bill, which was preliminarily approved with that and other presidential clauses on December 24, 2003, was adopted through an illegitimate vote. "We will never agree ... when the Verkhovna Rada votes without debating the bill, without familiarizing deputies with proposed changes,

without taking into account the positions of political forces, just in a show of hands and not even attempting to count them," the statement read. Our Ukraine has proposed returning to debate all three constitutional-reform drafts submitted to the Verkhovna Rada last year and conducting a new vote on all of them. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Tymoshenko bloc to mount court challenge

KYIV – National Deputy Yulia Tymoshenko said in the Verkhovna Rada on February 4 that her parliamentary caucus will challenge the constitutional-reform bill endorsed by deputies on February 3 before the Constitutional Court of Ukraine and a court of general jurisprudence, Interfax reported. "[Our caucus] will consistently act to prevent this reform from becoming a reality, not because we are against democratization but because we are against giving power forever to the [oligarchic] clans," Ms. Tymoshenko said. She added that if the constitutional-reform bill is adopted in a final reading by the Verkhovna Rada, the president elected in 2004 "will have no powers." She claims that after passing the constitutional reforms, the oligarchic clans will continue to wield de facto power in Ukraine through control of the Verkhovna Rada and that chamber's election of a prime minister, who would inherit many powers currently vested in the president. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma vows not to run again

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on February 1 bluntly rejected the idea of running for a third presidential term, the *Ukrainska Pravda* website (<http://www2.pravda.com.ua>) reported, publishing a transcription of Mr. Kuchma's interview with the 1+1 television channel. "Indeed, the Constitutional Court's resolution allows me to run in this year's election," President Kuchma said. "However, the last word is naturally for me to say. But I have already repeatedly presented my position." Mr. Kuchma also denied speculations that he may name a presidential successor. "Ukraine is not Russia," Mr. Kuchma said. "We have never had tsars. We have had hetmans [Ukrainian Kozak military leaders]. But they, as everybody knows, were elected. Therefore, boys, go ahead and fight!" (RFE/RL Newsline)

Presidential aide blasts PACE resolution

KYIV – Oleksander Zadorozhnyi, permanent representative of the Ukrainian president in the Verkhovna Rada, said on January 30 that last week's resolution by

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

FOUNDED 1933

An English-language newspaper published by the Ukrainian National Association Inc., a non-profit association, at 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Yearly subscription rate: \$55; for UNA members – \$45.

Periodicals postage paid at Parsippany, NJ 07054 and additional mailing offices.
(ISSN – 0273-9348)

The Weekly: UNA:
Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 644-9510 Tel: (973) 292-9800; Fax: (973) 292-0900

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The Ukrainian Weekly Archive: www.ukrweekly.com

The Ukrainian Weekly, February 8, 2004, No. 6, Vol. LXXII

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Battle of Kruty heroes remembered



Viktor Pobedinsky/UNIAN

KYIV – A ceremony was held here on January 29 to mark the anniversary of the Battle of Kruty. On January 29, 1918, a Bolshevik force of 4,000 advanced toward the Ukrainian capital, where it was met by a contingent of 500 young men. According to the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, the group consisted mainly of a company of the Student Kurin (unit) of the Sich Riflemen, a company of the Khmelnytsky Cadet School and a Haidamaka detachment. Half of the soldiers of this contingent died in battle at Kruty, a railroad station 130 kilometers north-east of Kyiv as they strove to prevent the Bolshevik advance. The young troops' resistance delayed the capture of Kyiv and enabled the Ukrainian National Republic to conclude the Peace Treaty of Brest-Litovsk. Seen above is a portion of the ceremony during which a panakhyda (requiem) service was offered at the monument to the heroes of Kruty. In attendance were many political leaders, including President Leonid Kuchma, Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn and Prime Minister Viktor Yanukovich, as well as numerous national deputies and members of national-democratic forces in Ukraine.

Ukraine's Cabinet approves originally planned use of pipeline

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers approved a recommendation to use the Odesa-Brody oil pipeline in direct mode, ending months of controversy over which way oil should flow in the yet-to-be utilized oil transportation tube.

"The direction will be Odesa to Brody," announced a satisfied First Vice Minister of Energy Andrii Kliuyev after a meeting of the Ukrainian government that unanimously approved the recommendation.

The decision came from a recommendation by Energy Solutions, a consulting firm that had issued a report providing nine alternatives for using the 667-kilometer tube. The pipeline, completed in early 2002 at a cost of \$500 million, has yet to find a user.

The decision by the government killed an attempt by one of Russia's oil giants, TNK-BP, to obtain a three-year exclusive right to use the pipeline in reverse. TNK-BP had attempted to coerce Kyiv into agreeing to the alternative usage by arguing that Ukraine could obtain much-needed revenues in temporarily utilizing the barren pipeline in reverse as it continued to search for long-term users to transport oil from the Caspian Sea to Europe, as was originally planned.

Most energy experts have noted that if Ukraine had agreed to reverse usage, even for a short period of time, it would have lost out on the more lucrative concessions for transporting the higher grade light sweet crude now beginning to flow out of the Caspian Basin.

TNK-BP claimed that it needed the line merely for a three-year period to pump 9 million tons of Russian Ural heavy crude annually to Brody and on to Odesa, where the oil was to be put on freighters and shipped through the Bosphorus Straits to southern Europe.

Eventually TNK-BP's claims that such an agreement would give Ukraine \$35 million in revenue were exposed as dubious at best because company's plans called for no new oil to be shipped, but merely the transfer of oil that currently moves via rail to the cheaper pipeline system. Consequently, reverse mode would have given TNK-BP extensive savings at Ukraine's expense.

First Vice Prime Minister Kliuyev explained that the rights to the oil pipeline, along with capacity use of the Pivdennyi oil terminal in Odesa, would be given in concession via tender bidding. He said that a working group would be formed to coordinate contracts between suppliers of Caspian high-quality light sweet crude and consumers in Central Europe. Refineries in Poland, the Czech Republic and Slovakia have expressed an interest in receiving shipments of the Caspian oil.

The line, which has a current capacity of 14.5 million tons per year, should be expanded in several years to be able to handle 40 million to 45 million tons annually.

The day before the decision was made, Minister of Fuel and Energy Serhii Yermilov said that the U.S.-based Chevron oil corporation, a major developer of Caspian Basin oil deposits, had told the government it was ready to obtain transportation concessions this year, according to Interfax-Ukraine. Mr. Yermilov said the Ukrainian government estimated that 4 million to 5 million tons of crude could flow through the tube by the end of 2004.

TNK-BP, which wielded a fierce political battle to obtain the right to reverse the line, said it was not about to give up its effort. Oleksander Horodetskyi, chief executive officer for TNK-Ukraine, told Interfax-Ukraine that he believes the Ukrainian government decision is a mistake and expressed doubt that Caspian oil would be supplied via the pipeline in the near future.

Ukraine announces competition for design of Famine memorial

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's State Committee on Construction and Architecture announced on January 19 that it was reopening a competition for the design of a memorial complex honoring victims of the Famine of 1932-1933 and the politically repressed during the Soviet era.

The decision to begin a new architectural design competition came just over three months after a fiery public hearing in Kyiv condemned the way in which the site for the memorial complex was chosen and the way in which the previous design competition had been organized.

During the meeting, both organizers of the competition and concerned individuals had alike expressed displeasure over the lack of an organized broad appeal for entries, which had resulted in a very limited number of submissions, mostly by Kyiv designers and members of the local Artists' Union. Participants of the public hearing also voiced their disapproval for the site chosen of the memorial complex and the manner in which it was selected.

In response, the city of Kyiv announced on January 12 that it had moved the planned site for the memorial center from a remote parcel of land on the banks of the Dnipro River to a building in the city center located merely yards from St. Michael's Square and the famous St. Michael's Golden-Domed Sobor.

The new site will house a museum, a conference center and a research and documentation center. The monument itself will now stand in the park located behind the cathedral, which is known as Volodymyr's Hill.

The design competition, which is open to all, invites interested individuals to submit their concepts for a monument to honor the victims of the Famine-

Genocide and Soviet political repressions, along with a building that will house a conference hall seating 300 people and a research and documentation center encompassing 4,000 square meters.

In a press release dated January 19, competition organizers stated that the goal of the memorial complex is "to honor the memory of the victims of the genocide, and develop patriotism and a preparedness to sacrifice for the glory of Ukraine."

The organizers said they would like contestants to address the theme "The indestructibility of the Ukrainian nation and its struggle for independence."

All concepts should be submitted with a six-digit personal code in lieu of the designers name in order to keep the judging as fair and objective as possible. Names and addresses should be inserted in a separate envelope and sealed, to be opened after the judging is completed.

Judges will choose three finalists and then decide on the order of the finish. The prize for first place: 20,000 hrv. (approximately \$4,000); for second place: 15,000 hrv.; for third place 10,000 hrv.

Projects should be submitted according to these parameters: a situational plan on a scale of 1:1,000 meters; a general plan (showing how the complex would fit in to the surrounding area (1:500 meters); a model of the project and its surroundings at a minimum of 1:500 meters (or 1:200 if possible); other illustrative materials showing different views and highlighting individual aspects that help develop the concept; an accompanying explanation of what the design depicts; and a general appraisal of final cost.

The deadline for entries is March 15. Results will be announced on March 25.

For more information readers can call KyivDerzhBud in Kyiv at 380-44-227-75-38.

Quotable notes

"I have friends and parents of friends who have numbers on their arms. The guy who taught me Spanish was a Holocaust survivor. He worked in a concentration camp in France. Yes of course. Atrocities happened. War is horrible. The second world war killed tens of millions of people. Some of them were Jews in concentration camps. Many people lost their lives. In the [sic] Ukraine several million starved to death between 1932 and 1933. During the last century 20 million people died in the Soviet Union."

– Mel Gibson, co-writer, director, producer and financier of the \$25 million film "The Passion of the Christ," in an interview with Peggy Noonan for the March issue of Readers Digest, as cited by various news media, including The New York Times (February 4). Mr. Gibson was responding to the question: "You're going to have to go on record. The Holocaust happened, right?" posed in reference to his father who was quoted in a New York Times Magazine article last March as denying that the Holocaust took place.

"We are not engaging in competitive martyrdom, but in historical truth. To describe Jewish suffering during the Holocaust as 'some of them were Jews in concentration camps' is an afterthought that feeds right into the hands of Holocaust deniers and revisionists."

"I think he was lobbed an easy question. He could've used the occasion to take us on a different road, instead he marginalized the Holocaust, he diluted its significance, and it's a lie."

"Either he is very ignorant of sensitivities in Jewish communities of riling survivors, those who have lost loved ones, or he is doing it deliberately."

– Rabbi Marvin Hier, director of the Simon Wiesenthal Center in Los Angeles, in a letter to Mel Gibson, as quoted in The New York Times on February 4.

"At the very least it was ignorant, at the very most it's insensitive. And you know what? He doesn't get that either. He doesn't begin to understand the difference between dying in a famine and people being cremated solely for what they are."

– Abraham Foxman, national director of the Anti-Defamation League, as quoted in The New York Times on February 4.

Ukrainian Canadian to climb Kilimanjaro for Children of Chornobyl

by Andrew Nynka

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – If things go according to plan for Ukrainian Canadian Bohdana Zwonok, she will celebrate her 51st birthday atop Africa's highest peak on February 15, having summited the 19,340-foot-high Mount Kilimanjaro as part of a campaign to raise money and awareness for victims of the world's worst nuclear catastrophe.

Ms. Zwonok told The Weekly in a series of e-mail and telephone interviews that she hopes to raise \$1 for every vertical foot she climbs up the extinct volcano and said that the money will benefit vic-



Bohdana Zwonok

tims of the 1986 nuclear disaster in Chornobyl, Ukraine.

"I have long been distressed about the fate of the innocent young victims of Chornobyl," Ms. Zwonok said prior to leaving for Tanzania from her home in Quebec.

The adventurer and world traveler said several trips to Ukraine recently spurred her decision to support victims of the Chornobyl accident.

"As I sat on the summit of Ukraine's highest mountain, Hoverla, mindfully taking in the fantastic view, and having noticed in previous traveling days the difficult challenges facing the people of Ukraine, the idea came to me to hike and climb some of the world's more challenging mountains while raising funds and awareness for the youngest innocent victims of Chornobyl," said Ms. Zwonok, who was a member of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization in her youth.

Ms. Zwonok and her friend Vivian Elferink plan to ascend the mountain in parallel, meeting one another each night at predetermined camps along the route. The climb is expected to take four to five days, depending largely on the weather, and is often regarded by professional climbers as one of the world's great mountaineering expeditions.

Ms. Zwonok's goal of climbing the African leg of the "Seven Summits" – the highest peak on each of the seven conti-

nents – is meant to raise \$19,340, while any donations made in excess of that amount will go to a predetermined children's charity in Tanzania, according to the official website that is promoting Ms. Zwonok's trek up Mount Kilimanjaro (www.contenta.com/kili).

As of February 3, Ms. Zwonok had raised nearly \$8,000, although both women have indicated that they will continue to accept donations until the end of 2004. Ms. Elferink is looking to raise money for the Children's Wish Foundation.

The Children of Chornobyl Relief Fund (CCRF), which is headquartered in Short Hills, N.J., will be the beneficiary of any donations made to Ms. Zwonok's campaign from individuals or businesses located in the United States, while donations made from Canada will go to the Children of Chornobyl Canadian Fund (CCCF).

"Both organizations are respectively helping many clinics, hospitals, treatment centers, orphanages and summer convalescent camps for the children of Chornobyl. They are aware of the most pressing needs and have key, dependable front line workers in Ukraine that are networking with them," Ms. Zwonok said of her chosen charities.

Individuals interested in donating to Ms. Zwonok's campaign should contact either of the two organizations directly. Ms. Zwonok said that donors can make donations out to "Climbing for the Children of Chornobyl."

CCCF can be reached by e-mail at cccf@idirect.com and its mailing address is: CCCF, 2118 Bloor St. W., Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario M6S 1M8.

CCRF can be contacted by e-mail at info@childrenofchornobyl.org and its mailing address is: CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078.

Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal awarded to Myroslaw Tracz of Winnipeg



MP Rey Pagtakhan (left) congratulates Myroslaw Tracz (second from right) after presenting him with the Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal. With Mr. Tracz are his wife, Orysia Paszczak Tracz, and son Dobryan.

WINNIPEG – The Canadian Peacekeeping Service Medal (CPSM) was awarded to Myroslaw Tracz on January 31, for his valuable contribution to world peace.

"I humbly accept this medal on behalf of all the people participating in the peace process," said Mr. Tracz. "I hope this will encourage young people to give peace a chance."

Dr. Rey Pagtakhan, minister for western economic diversification and member of Parliament for Winnipeg North-St. Paul, presented the CPSM to Mr. Tracz during a private ceremony attended by his wife, Orysia Tracz, their son Dobryan and close friends. It was held at the Ministers Regional Office in downtown Winnipeg.

"It was my privilege to present to Myroslaw Tracz the medal – truly, richly deserved," said Dr. Pagtakhan, who presented the CPSM under the authority of Adrienne Clarkson, governor general and commander-in-chief of Canada.

The CPSM honors Mr. Tracz's service and recognizes his valuable contribution to world peace during his Tour of Duty in Pec with the Kosovo Verification Mission (funded by the Canadian International Development Authority, CIDA) where he served as elections offi-

cer from February 6 to April 23, 1999.

"Life is very valuable, we have to give peace a chance," said Mr. Tracz, who over the years has bravely represented Canada at various foreign missions. He has participated in promoting the peace process in numerous nations, including Zimbabwe, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Kazakstan, Armenia, Cambodia, Bosnia and Ukraine.

Mr. Tracz has served as the director of education services at Deer Lodge Center for over nine years. He was also an area coordinator (Manitoba) for the Correctional Services of Canada. He was a member of the National Parole Board and was the Director of the Institute for Continuous Learning at the Age and Opportunity Center.

"Following the award of the Nobel Peace Prize to all peacekeepers in 1988, the CPSM was approved by Her Majesty the Queen to recognize service by Canadians deployed outside Canada at the initiative, by the nomination or with the agreement of the Canadian government, for an aggregate of 30 days in support of at least one United Nations or international peacekeeping mission," said Captain C. Gauthier, administrative officer, honors and awards, Directorate of History and Heritage, National Defense.

OBITUARY: Anthony Koltuniuk, engineer, Ukrainian activist, 55

CHICAGO – Anthony R. Koltuniuk, 55, a civil engineer and a lifelong supporter of Ukrainian causes, died on December 12, 2003, at Northwestern Hospital, after a brief illness.

Known as "Tosko" to his friends and family, Mr. Koltuniuk was born on April 25, 1948, to the late Lubomyr and Teodora (née Kopanycka) Koltuniuk in a displaced persons camp in Salzburg, Austria. A year later, the family emigrated to the United States, settling in Denver, where father and son shared a love of fishing, camping and hiking in the Rocky Mountains.

After receiving his bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Colorado in 1969, Mr. Koltuniuk completed a master's degree in environmental engineering at the school three years later, while working on public works projects for the Army Corps of Engineers.

In 1972 he joined Bauer Engineering in Chicago, where he contributed to the design of the regional land treatment system in Muskegon County, Michigan; the design and resident engineering on the Galena Territory dam; and the outfall-intake design for the Deep Tunnel in Chicago.

In 1974 he joined Ryan Inc. in Janesville, Wis., as a project manager for road construction work, including sections of the interstate system in Wisconsin. Returning to the Chicago area, he was a principal in two firms that provided engineering and construction management services for hundreds of major projects in the Chicago area, including the Poplar Creek Music Theater in Hoffman Estates, the Hamilton Lakes office complex in Itasca, and the cellular communications site network for Ameritech Mobile Communications. Recently, Mr. Koltuniuk was employed as chief civil engineer at Larson Engineering of Illinois before leaving in 2002 to open

his own consulting firm.

Active in the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization since childhood, Mr. Koltuniuk was a co-founder of the Plast fraternity Pobratymy and a beloved guide and role model for hundreds of younger "plastuny." Like his father, Lubomyr, who died in April 2003, he was active in various patriotic and humanitarian activities. He was a founding member of the Chicago Business and Professional Group and was instrumental in organizing the association's "Chornobyl – Five Years After" conference at the University of Chicago in 1991. He also developed the game "Mishanka," a Ukrainian version of Scrabble.

An avid volleyball player and coach in his youth, Mr. Koltuniuk also loved literature, history, art and crossword puzzles.

Mr. Koltuniuk is survived by his wife, Anna Mostovych, and uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews. He will be missed by family, friends and colleagues in the United States and Ukraine.



Anthony Koltuniuk

1st Security Federal Savings Bank prepares for Ukrainian community's future

by Paul Bandriwsky

Forty years ago, in Chicago, a group of patriotic-minded Ukrainians active in our community was presented with an opportunity to put their savings together and obtain a charter for a savings bank in the Ukrainian Village.

The goals of the group were twofold: have a financial institution that would serve the needs of the Ukrainian community by providing savings accounts and mortgages for home purchases, while handling these transactions in the Ukrainian language, and more importantly create a funding source that would support our churches, schools, youth groups, senior organizations, museums and other needs of the hromada.

Well, four decades have gone by and 1st Security Federal Savings Bank has prospered to the point where it grew to be the seventh largest thrift in Chicago, with assets approaching \$500 million.

Over the past 10 years the Ukrainian Village neighborhood where the main office and drive-up facilities are located has gone through drastic changes. The area has rapidly gentrified, with a more affluent, youthful population demanding financial services like trusts, 24-hour telephone banking, Internet access, brokerage service and others that a small institution cannot provide. At the same time property values have increased significantly. These demographic changes have caught the attention of larger banks that have started to move

into the Ukrainian Village area, significantly increasing competition for customers.

Many of the smaller community banks like Northwestern Savings, Damen Savings, Fairfield Savings and others in 1st Security's market area have merged with much larger institutions. The board of directors of 1st Security's holding company, First SecurityFed Financial, Inc., decided it was best to partner with another institution while the bank is still strong and better positioned to deliver the original goals of its founders.

Ukrainians have many characteristics, and one of them is a reluctance to let go of something that they have even if it is not sustainable. A number of thrifts focused on serving the Ukrainian community, such as Trident Savings on Chicago's south side, Trident Savings in Newark, N.J., and Philadelphia's Ukrainian Savings and Loan, were merged into other institutions without being able to leave a long-term legacy. With 1st Security's proposed merger with MB Financial Bank, a well-run bank with a successful history of serving ethnic communities, certain steps were taken to ensure that the interests of the Ukrainian community were looked after.

When 1st Security went public, it created the Heritage Foundation to support the financial needs of the hromada. The terms of the merger will increase the value of the Heritage Foundation's assets to \$11 million. Furthermore, MB Financial agreed to contribute an additional \$1 million to the Heritage Foundation, creating an asset base of over \$12 million. In accordance with regulations that apply to foundations that

require a minimum 5 percent annual distribution, at this level of assets the Heritage Foundation will be able to annually donate \$600,000 to the community. This will ensure that our "hromada" will receive financial support for at least another generation.

Merging with MB Financial Bank will allow 1st Security's customers, who currently have access to four branches in Chicago, to have their needs served at 40 branches. Partnering with MB will permit many financial products and services, like 24-hour telephone banking in the Ukrainian language, to be offered that 1st Security could not efficiently provide on its own.

It is expected that 1st Security branches will retain all of their tellers, customer service representatives, loan officers and branch managers, allowing the same friendly, expe-

rienced staff to continue to serve customers in Ukrainian. 1st Security's Philadelphia branch will do the same and in addition will retain the 1st Security ("Pevnist") name.

Furthermore, with continued support from the community, MB Financial Bank will be able to focus on the financial needs of the recent immigrants from Ukraine who have begun to build new lives here, by having a safe place to keep their savings, a place to obtain mortgages for home purchases or business loans to grow their enterprises, and the comfort of conducting their financial business in Ukrainian.

Through the Heritage Foundation and the merger with MB Financial Bank, the vision and goals of 1st Security's founders will be accomplished and perpetuated well into the future.

Paul Bandriwsky is chief operating officer of 1st Security Federal Savings Bank.

Notice from Ukrainian World Congress

To whom it may concern:

Please be advised that the website www.ukrainianworldcongress.org is not the website of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC).

Furthermore, please be advised that the e-mail address info@ukrainianworldcongress.org is not the e-mail address of the UWC. Please do not communicate with the UWC through this e-mail address. Additionally, kindly advise the UWC if within the last year you have transmitted any material to the UWC via this e-mail address.

Until further notice, all electronic communication with the UWC should go through UWC's e-mail address: congress@look.ca.

Please disseminate this Important Notice as widely as possible and excuse any inconvenience.

December 30, 2003

Askold S. Lozynskyj, president
Ukrainian World Congress

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

RECORDING DEPARTMENT				
MEMBERSHIP REPORT – OCTOBER 2003				
Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary				
	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 9/2003	5,901	12,165	2,671	20,737
Total Inactive Members – 9/2003	7,657	16,106	0	23,763
Total Members – 9/2003	13,558	28,271	2,671	44,500
ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
Gains in 10/2003				
New members	3	18	0	21
New members UL	0	0	0	0
Reinstated	8	13	2	23
Total Gains:	11	31	2	44
Losses in 10/2003				
Died	0	15	0	15
Cash surrender	6	14	0	20
Endowment matured	16	7	0	23
Fully paid-up	11	8	0	19
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	7	10	0	17
Certificates lapsed (active)	11	5	10	26
Certificate terminated	1	6	4	11
Total Losses	52	65	14	131
Total Active Members – 10/2003	5,860	12,131	2,659	20,650
INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
Gains in 10/2003				
Paid-up	11	8	0	19
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	7	10	0	17
Total Gains	18	18	0	36
Losses in 10/2003				
* Died	1	31	0	32
* Cash surrender	8	16	0	24
Pure endowment matured	0	5	0	5
Reinstated to active	8	13	0	21
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	1	6	0	7
Total Losses	18	71	0	89
Total Inactive Members – 10/2003	7,657	16,053	0	23,710
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 10/2003	13,517	28,184	2,659	44,360

(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

RECORDING DEPARTMENT				
MEMBERSHIP REPORT – NOVEMBER 2003				
Christine E. Kozak, National Secretary				
	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 10/2003	5,860	12,131	2,659	20,650
Total Inactive Members – 10/2003	7,657	16,053	0	23,710
Total Members – 10/2003	13,517	28,184	2,659	44,360
ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
Gains in 11/2003				
New members	4	8	0	12
New members UL	3	2	0	5
Reinstated	5	9	0	14
Total Gains:	12	19	0	31
Losses in 11/2003				
Died	0	23	0	23
Cash surrender	8	5	0	13
Endowment matured	16	10	0	26
Fully paid-up	4	13	0	17
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	4	2	0	6
Certificates lapsed (active)	0	6	0	6
Certificate terminated	3	5	4	12
Total Losses	35	64	4	103
Total Active Members – 11/2003	5,837	12,086	2,655	20,578
INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP				
Gains in 11/2003				
Paid-up	4	13	0	17
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	4	2	0	6
Total Gains	8	15	0	23
Losses in 11/2003				
* Died	1	29	0	30
* Cash surrender	0	11	0	11
Pure endowment matured	0	6	0	6
Reinstated to active	5	9	0	14
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	1	4	0	5
Total Losses	7	59	0	66
Total Inactive Members – 11/2003	7,658	16,009	0	23,667
TOTAL MEMBERSHIP – 11/2003	13,495	28,095	2,655	44,245

(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

VOA broadcasts cut to Ukraine

An article on page 1 of our newspaper this week reports that the Ukrainian radio service of Voice of America will reduce its daily broadcast from two hours to one hour daily, effective on March 1 of this year, eight months prior to presidential elections in that country. In scaling back this most valuable service, the United States has effectively explained that it has more pressing matters in other parts of the world and it cannot afford to continue its current level of funding for one of the few independent media broadcasting to Ukraine.

Frankly, this decision appears ill-timed, poorly thought through and completely counter to America's repeatedly stated interest of seeing a democratic Ukraine. While we understand the need to provide similar services in other parts of the world, the United States should not assume that the current political situation or the state of the media in Ukraine merit any less attention.

Newly appointed U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine John Herbst also has acknowledged just how bad things have gotten for those members of the Ukrainian press trying to provide an accurate picture of the events unfolding in Ukraine.

"To better control the information available to the public, 'special attention' is paid to those media that dare to criticize authorities. Tax inspectors, building inspectors and the police tend to find more problems with these media. Advertising revenue has a habit of drying up. Paper becomes harder to acquire, along with printing services. For some brave journalists unwilling to play along, there are more decisive measures. One of the great scandals of Ukraine is that principled journalism is a very dangerous profession," Mr. Herbst said in a speech delivered on December 23, 2003, at the Institute of International Relations at Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv.

Well-known and highly respected Ukrainian journalist Andrii Shevchenko told the Verkhovna Rada a year ago that "television news coverage in Ukraine is made by remote control. Let us admit honestly: instead of news coverage, Ukraine gets lies. Because every half-truth is a lie, and there should be no illusions about that."

The non-governmental organization Freedom House, in an October 2003 special report titled "Under Assault – Ukraine's News Media and the 2004 Presidential Elections," wrote: "The level of current trust in the media is simply so low that the vast majority of the electorate does not believe it can rely on the media for professional and truthful election coverage. ... The stakes for Ukraine and the region are high enough – and the media such a crucial element in the equation – that virtually any action in this field is worth the investment."

In explaining the reductions made to the Ukrainian Service, VOA Director David S. Jackson said in an e-mail message sent on February 3 to staff members of the International Broadcasting Bureau, the organization that provides administrative and engineering support for VOA, that his organization "will retool its programming and expand its multimedia capabilities. Together with an improved Ukrainian language 'Window on America' TV program, the service will be well positioned to provide full multimedia coverage of this year's presidential elections, both in the United States and Ukraine this coming November."

Mr. Jackson's use of the term 'multimedia' is disturbing and possibly misleading. We can only hope that Mr. Jackson's plan for being "well positioned to provide full multimedia coverage" will include more than reporting done via the Internet, as we believe he realizes that a majority of Ukrainians have no access to the Internet. The majority to, however, have access to radio.

Ultimately, we hope that the United States understands just how important an active and free press could be in the months leading up to the presidential election. But by cutting the broadcast time for VOA's Ukrainian radio service at a time when Ukrainian authorities are taking drastic measures to alter the process by which a president is elected, we must wonder just how much the concept of a free press as the foundation of democracy means to the United States.

Overall, Mr. Jackson's statement strikes us as dubious because it largely seems to imply that VOA intends to do more with less at a time when what it really needs is the manpower and resources to provide uncensored and meaningful information to the million Ukrainians who tune in to VOA radio broadcasts.

Feb.
16
2003

Turning the pages back...

One year ago, in our issue dated February 16, 2003, we reported on the Washington visit of the former prime minister of Ukraine who now leads the Our Ukraine forces in the Verkhovna Rada, Viktor Yushchenko. Mr. Yushchenko, who is

considered a strong candidate for president of Ukraine, spent three days in Washington seeking U.S. support for strengthening democracy in Ukraine and keeping Washington engaged in his country.

Mr. Yushchenko arrived in Washington one day after the Bush administration announced major cutbacks in U.S. assistance for Ukraine and in its international broadcasting operations through the Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty. The 2004 budget proposal would reduce VOA's daily Ukrainian programming schedule from two hours to one and would eliminate three staff positions. Mr. Yushchenko characterized the broadcasting cutbacks as premature. "Cutting back programming of these radio stations at this time is a mistake," he said, explaining that they provide equal media access to all political players in the country, be they pro-government or in opposition to it."

"Only democracy can save Ukraine from the current crisis," he told a gathering at the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace on February 7, 2003, the last day of his visit. Without a true democracy and open and fair elections, Mr. Yushchenko said, the "regime of the clans," whose policies he blames for the current crisis, will remain in

(Continued on page 12)

COMMENTARY

We must be just today

by Lubomyr Luciuk

We talked and talked and talked. And then the bureaucrats scuttled it.

We'd been discussing Canada's first national internment operations. Thousands of Ukrainians and other Europeans were unjustly imprisoned as "enemy aliens" in 24 internment camps, forced to do heavy labor under trying conditions, deprived of what little wealth they had, disenfranchised and subjected to other state-sanctioned censures. Today there is only one known Ukrainian survivor, Mary Manko Haskett. She was born in Montreal and was 6 years old when she was deported with her family into the Quebec wilderness, to a place then known as Spirit Lake. Her younger sister, Nellie, perished there.

Not wanting this relatively unknown story to be forgotten, Canada's Ukrainians have proposed installing trilingual historical plaques at all internment camp locations. We have also called for educational materials for Canadian high schools and for a permanent exhibit at the Cave and Basin National Historic Site, in Banff National Park.

Yes, reminding visitors how forced labor was used to build Banff is not as gladdening as pointing to its natural wonders. However it is as integral to the story of Banff and many other national parks as are the more often told tales about trappers, traders and teepees. Yet, when I last visited, none of the guides knew much about what happened at Castle Mountain or Cave and Basin during World War I. Sure, they capably described the endangered molluscs of the hot pools, in both official languages.

Descendants of survivors of the internment operations were there with me. They were much less impressed with those snail tales than I. Perhaps that is because my father was never herded into a Canadian concentration camp.

Responding to redress requests, Liberal politicians used to intone a mantra taught by their mentor, Pierre Trudeau. Addressing an aboriginal audience in Vancouver in August 1969, Mr. Trudeau approvingly quoted President John F. Kennedy who, asked how Negroes should be compensated for past injustices, replied: "We will be just in our time. This is all we can do. We must be just today." Trudeau liked that, regurgitating this line whenever similar queries about Canadian wrongdoings were raised: "And what about the Acadians who were deported. Shouldn't we compensate for this? What about the Japanese Canadians who were so badly treated during the last war? What can we do to redeem the past? I can only say as President Kennedy said. We must be just today."

Surprisingly, in June 1993, while leader of the Opposition and looking for votes, Jean Chrétien broke faith with Trudeau's axiom, writing how he would personally support redress to the Ukrainian Canadian community, as would the Liberal Party of Canada. Alas, once in office, he forgot. While the former prime minister's broken pledge is all Ukrainian Canadians need remember about him, a fellow's word should be

worth something. Over the past decade the community continued pressing for settlement, citing Mr. Chrétien's commitment.

In Minister Sheila Copps we finally thought we had a champion. Although a Chrétien loyalist, she is a woman of true grit. Genuinely anxious to negotiate on the educational initiatives we put forward, she believed that if an accord could be reached on those points we would have gone a long way together toward closure. Regrettably, that was not to be. Minister Copps was told that settling with the Ukrainian Canadians would establish a precedent other communities would exploit.

How odd. If the Japanese Canadian settlement did not establish a precedent, as we have always been told it hadn't, why would a Ukrainian Canadian one be any different? And what would be wrong with using our model to address other grievances? Ukrainian Canadians have never asked for an apology. It's inappropriate to insist that present-day societies apologize for wrongs done decades ago by other people acting in very different circumstances. We also didn't ask for compensation to individual survivors or to the community as a whole, despite the crippling legacy of the internment operations.

Our campaign was always about memory, not money. Recognition of what happened and restitution of the contemporary value of that portion of the internees' confiscated wealth that was never returned, with the latter sum used exclusively for memorial projects of the kinds we outlined, would not cost any taxpayer even one red cent in redress.

You might think officialdom would caper to set such a precedent, so as to have it available for dealing with Chinese, Italian, Sikh, perhaps even Jewish old wounds. Instead, someone high up thwarted us and undercut the minister. Perhaps there is something to the notion that some senior bureaucrats are so pigheadedly Ukrainophobic that, save for our Uncle Toms, Ukrainian Canadians need not apply to the government, for anything.

Just a few days before he finally left office Prime Minister Chrétien forced an agreement through the Cabinet that will see, Queen Elizabeth II, acknowledging the hardships of Le Grand Dérangement, the Great 1755 Expulsion of the Acadians. Perhaps this was a parting sop to Minister Copps, who has Acadian roots. While I have no quarrel with recalling wrongs done before Canada even existed, including misdeeds perpetrated by the forces of one imperial power against the civilians of a defeated one, it seems more important that we deal with the living, and with Canadians, than with those who are neither.

So, Mrs. Haskett will have to wait. She is 95. If the government of Paul Martin is truly different from that of his predecessor it must act soon to conclude what Minister Copps started but was kept from finishing. Let us remember what a great Canadian once said: "We must be just today."

Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of
The Ukrainian Weekly,
send \$2 per copy
(first-class postage included) to:
Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly,
2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280,
Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Dr. Luciuk is director of research for the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association and author of "In Fear of the Barbed Wire Fence: Canada's First National Internment Operations and the Ukrainians Canadians, 1914-1920" (Kashan Press, 2001).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Congratulations on Year in Review

Dear Editor:

Congratulations! Great job! Commendations!

I have just finished reading the absolutely superb "2003: The Year in Review" issue of The Ukrainian Weekly. No only do you present Ukraine's foreign and domestic policies concisely, including their turbulent politics, but we readers get an overview of all happenings in the Ukrainian diaspora, as well as a review of the activities of our Ukrainian Churches in Ukraine. What a wealth of valuable, historic information!

Since "The Year in Review" is such a bountiful source of information, may I suggest that you print the yearly reviews in pamphlet form, so that they could be used in libraries – home, school and public – as references.

Once again, please accept my congratulations on a superb piece of journalism!

With prayerful wishes that God continue to shower the editor and staff of The Ukrainian Weekly with His choicest blessings, I am

Sincerely yours in Christ,

Bishop Basil H. Losten
Stamford, Conn.

Reaction to column "If i had my way..."

Dear Editor:

Thank you, Dr. Myron Kuropas, for putting in writing your thoughts "If I had my way in 2004..." (January 4), for I had the same thoughts, plus.

In Indonesia, they train elephants for work in logging forests. At night they chain the future worker to a tree. That goes on for many years, after which they just bring the elephant to the same tree and the animal stays, but no chain. He remembers the pain for trying to break away.

And so, our people, even after 12 years of freedom, still cannot break away from Russo-Soviet influences, Communists, the red flag, the Russian language, the Soviet-style Ukrainian military uniform, goose-stepping marching – just like Soviets.

I guess one day the people will realize that they are not chained to the Soviets or the Russians anymore and will start looking at the blue-and-yellow flag and condemn everything that's been forced upon them for 72 years. They will take a deep breath and say: Thank God I am Ukrainian again, or at last. That is my dream to sustain me in 2004.

Andrew Demus
Cornelia, Ga.

Double Exposure

by Khristina Lew

Coming to America

When I was visiting my parents in Washington, D.C., over Christmas, I ran into a friend from Lviv at church who recently moved into the area. After the liturgy I was surprised to meet up with several other friends – all women, all from western Ukraine, all but one married to Americans of Ukrainian descent.

It dawned on me that while this column has explored what it means to be Ukrainian in North America, I had yet to speak with any Ukrainians who had recently come here.

Their perspectives are interesting, and different from those who were born here, like me, or those who have lived here for a very long time, like my parents.

Olia Onyshko says one of her greatest challenges is starting over. She moved to Washington over a year ago when her husband, Darrin Hartzler, was transferred. They have two children. "I was raised to be independent, to have my own career, to be strong financially. I always had a good job and an active social life," she said. Olia held management positions with companies like McDonald's in Kyiv and was a founder of the Lvivske Tovarystvo (Lviv Group) in Kyiv. "There, my greatest challenge was how to approach [World Bank President James] Wolfensohn. Here, it is how to make 100 varenyky for a Christmas party."

Another friend from western Ukraine, Iryna Kotsko, echoes Olia's sentiment. An attorney, she held positions with Western firms in Kyiv. She studied in the United States on a fellowship and moved here permanently after marrying Roman Kramarchuk. "As a student in the U.S. I looked at my experience through rose-colored glasses. Now it is more difficult, because you have to find your place – it's not temporary."

She says that even with her education and experience, "I have to rebuild what I had in Ukraine." She adds that being married to an American of Ukrainian descent has not necessarily made the transition easier. But "having the same cultural background and speaking the same language is very important, because it reaffirms my Ukrainian identity and lessens the feeling of being in a different country," she said.

Olenka Ponos says her transition to the United States was easier because "We lived as foreigners in Ukraine. At that time [mid-1990s] there was no middle class, although there is one now, so I didn't have culture shock when I moved here. I worked for Americans, we traveled." Olenka met her husband, Roman Ponos, at a TWG conference in Washington when she was an intern with the Lviv Institute of Management.

Since Olenka arrived in the United States in 1998 she and her husband have

lived in Arizona, California and Virginia. She is amazed that the diaspora was able to safeguard the Ukrainian language and culture. "It's unbelievable, and very difficult to do."

Marta Kulchytska says that her transition to the United States was seamless because she was surrounded by Ukrainians, "and I didn't feel like I was in a new world. Family and friends helped me." She met her husband, Yaro Kulchytskyj, at a congress of Ukrainian students in Kyiv. They have four children.

For Olia, life in the United States has, at times, been harder. While the other women have husbands of Ukrainian descent, Olia's husband, Darrin, is an American (who speaks Ukrainian). "When it comes to raising children, nothing is a given. You have to negotiate. What language will the children speak? Will they go to church? It's like I have two identities, two voices in my head when it comes to making a decision."

Marta and Olenka send their children to Ukrainian Saturday school and have become involved in the Washington community. They say they feel welcome there. Olia's experience has not always been as positive. "When I came here as a student in 1992 the community was very helpful, but to live here is something different," she said. "You are placed in the status of 'novo-prybuli' (newly arrived), and you are stereotyped. We have a saying – 'a stranger among your own.' In the United States I am a foreign woman – a stranger. In Ukraine I am a Ukrainian married to a foreign guy. There are prejudices everywhere."

Olenka's husband, Roman, offers another stereotype: "People will say 'she only married an American to get a passport' or 'he only married her to get a wife.' You're never going to win," he said.

So are American men different from Ukrainian men? All four women agree that American men help out more with the children and in the house. "They are not ashamed to help out," says Olenka. "In Ukraine, it's beneath a man to help because there is a sense that Ukrainian women are somehow worse than men – they are raised that way."

Olia elaborates: "Either a man is decent or he isn't. Ukrainian men have more of a challenge to maintain their integrity because they live in a totalitarian society where it's difficult to remain honest. When society is in crisis there is instability in the family."

And so, from this small sample, it is clear that these women from Ukraine have a different perspective on life here in the diaspora as opposed to back home, and that their ideas are worth hearing and sharing.

Ukrainian American Coordinating Council statement regarding the UNA's resolution

The Executive Committee of the UACC met to review the resolution of the UNA concerning the renewal of ties with the UCCA and carefully analyzed its content.

The UACC shares the UNA's position that the strength of our community is in unity. At the same time, however, we wish to emphasize that the UACC has always stood for and continues to stand for unity founded on democratic principles, on tolerance, pluralism, consensus and respect for the opinions of all, and that in the past the UACC has worked towards achieving such a consensus with the community based on these principles. Therefore, the UACC continues to welcome every effort at consensus within the Ukrainian community.

Unfortunately, the UNA did not follow this path; it did not consult with either the Executive Committee of the UACC or with organizations that do not belong to either the UACC or the UCCA prior to making its decision, nor did it indicate what changes had taken place within the UCCA, showing that the leadership of UCCA has renounced its efforts – which began after the 13th UCCA Congress in 1980 – to place the entire organized Ukrainian American community under the control of one political entity. That attempt to achieve the partisan monopolization of Ukrainian American society after the 13th UCCA Congress was the basis for the founding of the UACC, the main creator of which was the UNA, and for the assumption of key positions in UACC by John Flis, Ulana Diachuk, Wolodymyr Sochan, who all stood firmly for maintaining the strongest possible democratic principles in community life. These statements are based on indisputable facts.

Today we do not see any sign that the UCCA's goal of partisan monopolization of Ukrainian American society has in any way changed.

As a matter of fact, in past years there was, generally speaking, some agreement and even friendly cooperation between the UACC, the UCCA and unaffiliated organizations. One could expect that things were improving. The goal of solidarity of actions seemed near. Unfortunately, in recent times this cooperation for unknown reasons fell by the wayside. There was an upsurge of complete indifference towards others by the UCCA – treating others as if "they did not even exist."

The UACC continues to stand on democratic principles and for action on the basis of tolerance, pluralism, consensus and coordinated cooperation, and we continue to maintain that this is most important foundation of the strength of our community, which at some point may indeed lead to ultimate unity.

The Executive Committee of the UACC hopes to see the creation of a single coordinating center, based on democratic principles in community activity. This ideal should be achieved in accordance with the proposals adopted at a conference of all organizations which took place in May 2001 at Ramada Inn, East Hanover, N.J. (Participants were organizations that were constituent organizations of the UCCA, the UACC and unaffiliated organizations.)

Why haven't any of the proposals of this conference been realized thus far?

The Executive Committee of the UACC wishes again and again to make it plain that the UACC stands firmly on the democratic principles of tolerance of all in the Ukrainian community. On the basis of these principles, the UACC is always ready to work in concert with others and to strive for solidarity and ultimate unity.

For the UACC Executive Committee:

Ihor Gawdiak
President

Dr. Roman Baranowsky
Secretary

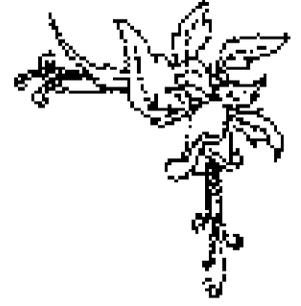
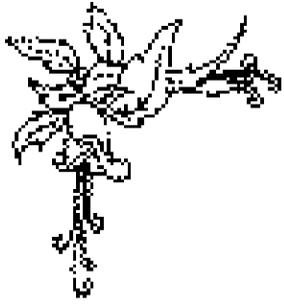
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Editorial – 3049, 3063, 3069;

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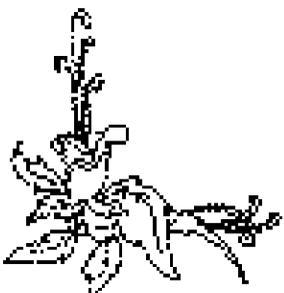
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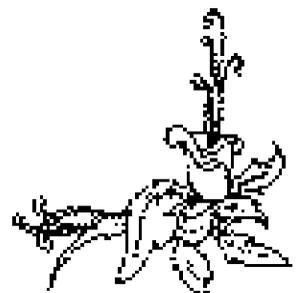
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Rifts emerge...

(Continued from page 2)

members of the Ukrainian elite, therefore, understand that times are changing; Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn called in September 2003 for Messrs. Medvedchuk and Akhmetov to return their overseas assets to Ukraine.

This realization of the need to move with the times – which also took place in Russia in the transition from the ear of Boris Yeltsin to that of Vladimir Putin – is not shared by those oligarchs aligned with the SDPU, who prefer to continue to play by the old rules. Mr. Medvedchuk plays a similar role to Russia's former "gray cardinal" under President Yeltsin – Boris Berezovskyi. It is no coincidence that Mr. Medvedchuk and the SDPU have been at the forefront in constitutional changes since they see President Kuchma continuing in power as the best guarantee of their continued influence and power.

The oligarchs ready to change are not necessarily hostile to a Yushchenko victory, as he has ruled out reopening privatizations from the 1990s. If Mr. Yushchenko is elected president the SDPU will lose the most from any re-division of assets because of its unwillingness to play by the new rules and because of deep animosity between Messrs. Yushchenko and Medvedchuk and between the SDPU and Our Ukraine.

Oleksander Zinchenko, the former deputy head of the SDPU, holds views similar to those of Mr. Pinchuk. Both understand that the transition from oligarchy to gentrification requires a divorce of politics

from economics. This is a step that Mr. Medvedchuk categorically rejects because he believes that economic power can be maintained only by remaining at the hub of politics. Only the Zinchenko-Pinchuk view is not threatened by a Yushchenko victory and leaves open the possibility of future progress toward Ukraine's democratization.

Tension among the pro-presidential elite is as severe as that between Mr. Medvedchuk and the opposition. On December 19, 2003, The New York Times published a full-page advertisement attacking Mr. Medvedchuk. Payment for the \$125,000 advertisement came from the little-known Friends of Ukraine (FOU), who are clients of the Washington-based lobbying firm Barbour, Griffith and Rogers. The mid-December advertisement defended Russian businessman Konstantin Grigorishin, who refused in 2002 to transfer his assets in Ukrainian regional electricity suppliers to Mr. Medvedchuk. Mr. Grigorishin was subsequently arrested on seemingly trumped up charges, but was supported by Mr. Pinchuk, who intervened to get him released. Mr. Grigorishin is thought to be behind the creation of the FOU. The FOU is promising further advertisements during the course of the election campaign.

Messrs. Grigorishin and Pinchuk have lobbied President Kuchma on behalf of Unified Energy Systems (UES) Chairman Anatolii Chubais's business plans in Ukraine. Mr. Chubais, whose company controls half of Georgia's and 80 percent of Armenia's electricity sector, purchased majority shares in 10 of 27 regional electricity companies in Ukraine in December

2003. The move was backed by Messrs. Pinchuk and Grigorishin, but strongly opposed by Mr. Medvedchuk.

The "Young Turks" within the pro-presidential camp also are restless. In September 2003, the ministries of Foreign Affairs, Justice, and Economics and European Integration voiced opposition to Ukraine's admission to the CIS Single Economic Space. Justice Minister Oleksander Lavrynovych deliberately distanced himself from proposed constitutional reforms in late January, telling visiting Council of Europe rapporteurs that he had nothing to do with them. The West regards those changes, which Mr. Medvedchuk supports, with suspicion.

This month saw the resignations of both Economics and European Integration Minister Valerii Khoroshkovskiy and Inna Bohoslovka, who headed the State Committee for Regulatory Policy and Enterprise. Both are Pinchuk protégés; he funded their failed 2002 electoral bloc, the Winter Crop Generation. Mr. Khoroshkovskiy and Ms. Bohoslovka cited deep disagreements with First Vice Prime Minister and Finance Minister Mykola Azarov. The deputy head of the Party of Regions, Mr. Azarov is Ukraine's main lobbyist for participation in the CIS Single Economic Space.

Mr. Khoroshkovskiy is the son-in-law of National Democratic Party (NDP) leader Valerii Pustovoitenko and was a member of Mr. Pustovoitenko's 1997-1999 government. The NDP, Ukraine's first unsuccessful attempt at creating a party of power under that government, has just 14 deputies, the

minimum required for a faction.

In late 2003 Mr. Pustovoitenko complained in numerous interviews that the presidential administration was pressuring the NDP because of a cooperation agreement that the party had signed with Our Ukraine in June. That same month the NDP protested at the removal of NDP member Vasyl Shevchuk from the post of environment minister. Rada Chairman Lytvyn came to the NDP's defense, expressing support for Mr. Pustovoitenko's claim that unnamed political forces were trying to remove the NDP from Parliament by forcibly co-opting its members.

By forcing through the controversial constitutional changes and pressuring the Constitutional Court to rule that Mr. Kuchma may run for a further presidential term, Medvedchuk has created tension not only with the opposition and within pro-presidential ranks, but also within his own SDPU. Mr. Zinchenko was expelled from the SDPU in September. National Deputy Volodymyr Nechyporuk resigned from the SDPU in December 2003, the same month that Mr. Zinchenko dropped his membership of the pro-presidential majority to protest the December 24, 2003, controversial parliamentary vote for constitutional changes. One hundred members have resigned from the Mukachiv branch of the SDPU, citing a standoff between the SDPU and Our Ukraine over who won mayoral elections last June. In the Crimea, too, the SDPU is severely divided; many of its branches have called on the SDPU leadership over the past two months to support Yushchenko in the 2004 elections.



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FOR THE RECORD: PACE resolution on developments in Ukraine

Below is the text of Resolution 1364 (2004)[1], adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, Germany, on January 29, by a vote of 46 in favor and 13 against.

1. The Assembly is deeply troubled by the recent developments in Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine relating to the consideration of the draft law on amendments to the Constitution of Ukraine and in this context refers to its Resolutions 1179 (1999), 1239 (2001), 1244 (2001), 1346 (2003) and in particular to Recommendation 1451 (2000) on the institutional reform in Ukraine. It notes that recently a procedure has been initiated, which is not in compliance with the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada or Article 19 of the Constitution of Ukraine.

2. The Assembly deeply regrets that the Ukrainian authorities, including the President of Ukraine and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, consider the activities of the Council of Europe, namely the Assembly's monitoring procedure, the visits of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee and their statements as "interference in the internal affairs of Ukraine."

In this regard, it recalls that Ukraine has voluntarily accepted the obligations arising from its membership according to the Statute of the Council of Europe. Therefore, the Assembly finds such a stand of the Ukrainian authorities groundless and unjustified.

3. The Assembly supports any sincere aspirations by both the executive and the legislative authorities of Ukraine to pursue democratic reforms that would aim at substantially strengthening the legislative power and enhancing the independence

of the judiciary, thus contributing to a greater separation of powers and an improved system of checks and balances as required by the standards of the Council of Europe.

4. The nature of the reforms as well as the system of governance chosen is an internal affair of any sovereign state, but only as long as they are carried out with due respect to the fundamental law of the country.

5. In this respect, the Assembly reiterates that the current Constitution in force since 1996 constitutes the main domestic legal instrument on the basis of which the country can develop a genuine democracy and insists on strict respect of its provisions, in particular as regards amendments to the Constitution, whatever their necessity and appropriateness.

6. Within this context, the Assembly is convinced that any decision reforming the constitutional election rules taken on the eve of presidential elections is likely to be biased and divisive and therefore considers the timing of the current debate on constitutional reform highly inappropriate.

7. The Assembly strongly regrets the fact that the crisis in the Verkhovna Rada has been sparked by lack of discussion of the officially registered draft amendments to the Constitution. The Assembly finds that such practices are inappropriate in a democratic state guided by the principles of the rule of law.

8. At the same time, it deplores the means the opposition has resorted to in retaliation in order to block the regular work of Parliament.

9. The Assembly refers to the opinion of the European Commission for Democracy through Law ("Venice

Commission") adopted on December 13, 2003, which welcomed the efforts made for the reforming of the system of government to bring the Ukrainian system closer to European democratic standards but concluded that "the precise solutions chosen in the various drafts do not yet seem to have attained that aim and introduce other amendments to the Constitution that would appear to be a step backwards."

10. The Assembly deplores the fact that none of the recommendations of the Venice Commission have been taken into account in the course of the revision of the three Draft Laws (Nos. 3207-1, 4105 and 4180) by the Constitutional Court of Ukraine nor by the ad hoc parliamentary Constitutional Committee before submitting the Draft Law No. 4105 for discussion in the Verkhovna Rada. The Assembly therefore urges the relevant Ukrainian authorities to take into account all recommendations made so far by the Venice Commission and to continue to hold an open and effective dialogue with the Commission with a view to further improving the draft laws currently under debate.

11. The Assembly launches an urgent appeal to the parties and blocs, to parliamentary factions and groups represented in the Verkhovna Rada to resolve their problems in a peaceful manner through an open dialogue and full respect for parliamentary rules and regulations by means of:

i. securing the legitimacy of any constitutional reform by admitting that, in this instance, the Rules of Procedure of the Verkhovna Rada failed to be respected by all parties concerned, taking into account that "voting by raising hands" in Parliament is not provided for by law, including the Rules of Procedure;

ii. proceeding to an open debate on all three Draft Laws (Nos. 3207-1, 4105 and 4180) on constitutional amendments which would involve a proper public information and a nationwide popular discussion on these issues, especially pluralistic political debates on national TV and Radio channels;

iii. fully taking into account the recommendations of the Venice Commission while amending the Constitution and in particular reconsidering their position regarding the imperative mandate of national deputies, the

limitation to 10 years of the judges' tenure and the extension of the mandate of the prosecutor general, which all conflict with the principles of democracy and the rule of law;

iv. ensuring that the next presidential election be held as scheduled and for the term prescribed in the current Constitution, in view of the fact that changing the election modalities immediately before the elections are due can only but confuse the electorate;

v. agreeing to submit any constitutional changes relating to the term and mode of election of a president to a nationwide referendum as provided in Article 156 of the Constitution in force.

12. The recent rulings of the Constitutional Court have once again shown the vulnerability of the independence of the judiciary in Ukraine. In the earnest belief that only a fully independent judiciary can provide the stability that is necessary to establish the rule of law, the Assembly is concerned by the ruling of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine of December 25, 2003, (Nos. 22-rp) as it corresponds neither to the present nor to the previous Constitution of Ukraine in force when President Kuchma was first elected in 1994.

The Assembly still hopes that the President of Ukraine will demonstrate democratic responsibility by stepping down at the end of his second term as foreseen by the Constitution of Ukraine.

13. With regard to the forthcoming Presidential elections in October 2004, the Assembly shares the concern of many Ukrainian citizens that the election may not be truly free, fair, open and transparent. It maintains that any form of authoritarian practices like intimidation of voters, pressures on elections commissioners, curtailing the freedom of expression or bias of the media in favor of some candidates of the ruling political forces is clearly unacceptable. When full respect has been given to all these elements, the outcome of the elections also has to be respected.

14. The Assembly calls upon the president of Ukraine to submit in the nearest future the proposed candidates to fill the seats in the Central Electoral Commission which are vacant since the expire of the mandate of the former

(Continued on page 16)

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February 7, 2004
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U.S. drastically cuts...

(Continued from page 1)

multimedia capabilities. Together with an improved Ukrainian language 'Window on America' TV program, the service will be well positioned to provide full multimedia coverage of this year's presidential elections, both in the United States and Ukraine this coming November."

VOA's Ukrainian Service told The Ukrainian Weekly that staffers, as government employees, are unable to comment on the situation without special clearance.

Also affected by the budget cuts is VOA's Armenian language broadcast staff, which will be reduced to two positions.

On January 29 Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty announced that six

days earlier President George W. Bush had signed the Consolidated Appropriations Act that eliminated broadcasting in the Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Slovak, Bulgarian and Croatian languages effective January 31. In addition, more than 100 positions were cut at RFE/RL's Broadcasting Center in Prague, and in its news bureaus in European capitals: Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius, Bratislava, Bucharest, Sofia and Zagreb.

(For full text of the VOA director's message and RFE/RL's news release about the cutbacks, see items below.)

The reduction of these services stemmed from the Bush administration's proposal to end broadcasting to countries that are preparing to join NATO and the European Union. The proposal was

accepted by Congress when it approved the appropriations bill.

RFE/RL President Thomas A. Dine said, "Without additional funding, there is no other way than to close these services in view of priorities in other parts of the world."

Kenneth Y. Tomlinson, chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), which oversees all U.S. non-military international broadcasting, said: "We deeply appreciate the work of the people of these services. Their sacrifices will always be remembered."

VOA Director Jackson commended

"the many men and women who have served with such distinction over the past 60 years," underscoring that "Their professionalism and dedication to freedom and truth have played an important role in the spread of democracy we're seeing today among their audiences."

RFE/RL broadcasts to Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Bosnia, Macedonia, Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, North Caucasus, Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq will continue.

RFE/RL press release

Below is the text of a press release issued on January 29 by Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty.

WASHINGTON – Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty (RFE/RL) President Thomas A. Dine thanked the broadcasters and staff of six RFE/RL European language services for a "job well-done," in a message last week to staff announcing the imminent end of broadcasts to those countries.

"The entire RFE/RL family, alumni and current colleagues, salute the members of our Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Slovak, Bulgarian and Croatian Services for an excellent and successful job well-done. You were great on behalf of promoting freedom and democracy. To each of you, thank you," Dine said in his announcement.

Kenneth Y. Tomlinson, chairman of the Broadcasting Board of Governors (BBG), which oversees all U.S. non-military international broadcasting, including RFE/RL, echoed Dine's comments. "We deeply appreciate the work of the people of these services. Their sacrifices will always be remembered."

President Bush signed on January 23 the FY2004 Consolidated Appropriations Act which eliminates broadcasting in the Estonian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Slovak, Bulgarian and Croatian languages. More than 100 positions will be cut at

RFE/RL's Broadcasting Center in Prague, and in its news bureaus in Tallinn, Riga, Vilnius, Bratislava, Bucharest, Sofia and Zagreb. The broadcasting cuts will take effect on January 31, 2004.

The reduction of services stemmed from the Bush administration's proposal to end broadcasting to countries that are preparing to join NATO and the European Union. Congress accepted the proposal in endorsing the appropriations act.

Dine said, "Without additional funding, there is no other way than to close these services in view of priorities in other parts of the world." RFE/RL broadcasts more than 1,100 hours a week in 34 languages, of which 19 are to places where the majority populations are Muslim. RFE/RL broadcasts are continuing to Serbia, Kosovo, Montenegro, Bosnia, Macedonia, Moldova, Belarus, Ukraine, Russia, North Caucasus, Tatarstan, Bashkortostan, Georgia, Armenia, Azerbaijan, Kazakstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Uzbekistan, Afghanistan, Iran and Iraq.

Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty is a private, international communications service to Central, Eastern and Southeastern Europe; the Caucasus; and Central and Southwestern Asia funded by the U.S. Congress through the Broadcasting Board of Governors.

Message to VOA staffers

Following is the text of a message sent to Voice of America staffers on Tuesday, February 3, by VOA Director David Jackson.

With a mixture of sadness and pride, I am announcing today that VOA will end regularly scheduled programs in Bulgarian, Estonian, Czech, Hungarian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Polish, Romanian, Slovak and Slovenian, along with many of our broadcast feeds to affiliate stations in Central and Southeastern Europe. This action, which will take effect on Friday, February 27, 2004, is in accordance with the recently passed FY 2004 federal budget, which endorsed the administration's proposal to close these services.

The sadness comes from the fact that we will be saying good-bye to many loyal friends and colleagues in these services. The pride reflects the job that they have done, both those who are with us today and the many men and women who have served with such distinction over the past 60 years. Their professionalism and dedication to freedom and truth have played an important role in the spread of democracy we're seeing today among their audiences.

As the world changes, however, our priorities at VOA also must change. Just as we have done throughout our history, we have to shift our focus to new audiences and new priorities. This inevitably means difficult decisions.

Other changes will affect our Ukrainian radio service, which will reduce its daily broadcast from two hours to one hour per day, beginning March 1, 2004. VOA Ukrainian will retool its programming and expand its multimedia capabilities. Together with an improved Ukrainian language "Window on America" TV program, the service will be well positioned to provide full multimedia coverage of this year's presidential elections, both in the United States and Ukraine this coming November.

Finally, VOA's Armenian language broadcast staff will be reduced to two positions. A review of the service is under way to determine how best to use its remaining resources to maximize its impact in the target region.

I know I speak for all of us at the Voice of America in thanking all of our colleagues who have been broadcasting to Central and Eastern Europe. Your contributions will always be remembered and honored.

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Ukrainian parochial...

(Continued from page 1)

cent of the students are parishioners.

The school's principal, Michael Duda, said he was told the parish had borrowed \$100,000 to pay for the school's expenses through the end of the year. However, Mr. Duda said he was surprised to learn of the loan, as the church had just made costly improvements at the school. Thus, there was no indication of serious financial difficulty, he told *The Weekly*. He also noted that he was never informed of the finances as he was told by the Rev. Clooney that finances were the pastor's concern.

Mr. Duda, who is in his 16th year at the school – and his sixth as principal – told *The Morning Call*, "It was like the rug was pulled out from under our feet." He added, "Everybody is up in arms. Nobody knows what's going on. Things have been fantastic over the past five years."

The Allentown newspaper also quoted Tina Wolbach of Lehigh Township, the mother of a third-grader, as saying: "We had no inkling. It was like a bombshell. We were all devastated, then angry about such a sudden decision without any warning."

Contacted by *The Ukrainian Weekly*, Mr. Duda explained: "There was always a financial struggle (as all parochial schools face), and things got tighter with price increases for health insurance. It seems they just looked at it and decided to throw in the towel."

The principal told *The Weekly* that his proposal to raise the tuition during the previous two years had been rejected by the pastor. He explained that raising the tuition, which now stands at \$950 for parishioners and \$1,350 for non-parishioners, could go a long way toward covering the \$100,000 needed for the current academic year. "I know we could raise the funds. They're just not giving us any time or the details we need to know." Of the unexpected announcement of the school's closing he said: "It's all backwards – so that we couldn't plan ahead."

Mr. Duda sent his own letter to the parents of the schoolchildren on January 8:

"It is with much regret and sadness that I must inform you of Father Clooney's decision to close St. John's School at the end of the current school year. This decision comes as a complete shock, given the progress the school has made in the past few years and the future plans that have been made by Father Clooney himself.

"Father did not include me in any discussions on this decision. I was told the same time as the teachers were on January 6, 2004, in a very brief meeting that lasted about five minutes.

"The only details that were disclosed was that the savings account of St. John's Church was depleted to such an extent by the school budget that money had to be borrowed to complete the school year. Formal details of the budget were not provided."

He concluded his letter by stating:

"This decision to close the school raises many questions that need to be answered. I am currently seeking an audience with Metropolitan Stefan Soroka to discuss the poor and uncompassionate handling of the situation. Father Clooney was also

adamantly opposed to any attempt to prevent the closing of the school. This is a complete change of heart from Father's impassioned speech given at the recent Christmas program. I personally find it very hard to believe the church was approaching bankruptcy without anyone noticing. The plans to renovate the church and install an elevator make it clear that the finances had to be inspected by the church's finance committee and reported to the metropolitan. The school could have been given a chance to address the situation years ago. Unfortunately, for some reason, the school was excluded from all discussions involving its own fate.

"I plan to schedule a school meeting in the near future to discuss any options that may arise from my meeting with Metropolitan Stefan, although I fear that Father Clooney has seen to the finality of the school's closing."

Mr. Duda told *The Weekly* that indeed a meeting with the metropolitan has been scheduled for February 16 and he underscored that he is determined to come to the meeting with a concrete plan to save the school. "In the past few years we have really created a community; we have good rapport between the families and the teachers. This has united us even more, and we are going to fight this," he said. He also emphasized that the school's enrollment was actually growing and that the parish rolls, too, had grown due to the school. In fact, he said, these new parishioners participate in parish life and contribute their time.

"There is a chance that we can save the school. We have to raise \$100,000 every year. That's do-able," Mr. Duda explained. "We can begin by raising tuition. And we have a lot of ideas." He noted that parents are willing to pay higher tuition – \$75 per month more or even higher. They will also hold fund-raisers and will add a night shift to the "pyrogy program" that brings in money.

By February 16, he said with determination, "we will have a plan and we will have started work on it."

Contacted by *The Morning Call*, the Rev. Clooney declined to comment on the school's closing. *The Ukrainian Weekly* contacted the Metropolitan's Chancery in Philadelphia for comment, but was told by Sister Lydia that Metropolitan-Archbishop Soroka was not available as he was not in Philadelphia.

In the meantime, an undated letter (labeled as correspondence No. 682/2003 CH) from the Metropolitan Archeparchy of Philadelphia addressed to the principal, staff and parents was received at St. John's School on February 2. In the letter Metropolitan-Archbishop Stefan Soroka states that the pastor and parish leaders "have determined that continued financial support of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School is an impossible burden for St. John Ukrainian Catholic Church."

The metropolitan goes on to say that "it is sad to come to the realization that the present situation of providing a significant subsidy to operate the school cannot continue," adding, "I support the recommendation of Rev. Archpriest David Clooney, his parish trustees and members of the Parish Stewardship Committee to unfortunately begin the process to close St. John

Ukrainian [sic] the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School at the end of this school year."

Metropolitan Soroka concludes his letter by stating: "I pray for your peaceful and reasoned acceptance of a decision which we all recognize as unfortunate and painful, but inevitable at this time. Particularly, our concern should be for a peaceful transition for the children, unencumbered by unnecessary

stress from this decision. God bless you!"

Readers who may be interested in helping St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School may contact the school at 1357 Newport Ave., Northampton, PA 18067; phone, (610) 262-2231; fax (610) 262-2274.

Law on legal...

(Continued from page 1)

ble that identified Ukrainians abroad as an integral part of the Ukrainian nation. Mr. Kuchma pointed out that such wording could conflict with the Constitution of Ukraine, which identifies Ukrainians as all members of the ethnic groups found on the territory of the state of Ukraine. Mr. Ostash said he agreed with the president on this point, too, and would eliminate the clause.

Another issue raised by the president involved the rights and responsibilities of Ukrainians abroad. President Kuchma rejected an enumerative list in favor of a designation that those rights and responsibilities should be the same as those held by Ukrainian citizens. Mr. Ostash did not explain how the president would categorize mandatory military service, which is currently a responsibility of each Ukrainian citizen. This may be only a temporary inconsistency, inasmuch as there are plans currently in place to move from conscription to voluntary military service.

Perhaps the lawmaker's most difficult assignment in getting past the presidential veto is to convince Ukraine's state leader that a new government body will be needed to implement the law and guarantee the rights and responsibilities of those given status as Ukrainians abroad. President Kuchma rejected the idea of a National Commission for Ukrainians Abroad, as delineated in the draft law, which would be subordinate to the Cabinet of Ministers. Mr. Ostash said he believes the commission was necessary, but failed to express how he would overcome the obstacle, except to state that he would "attempt to develop it in a different manner."

The lawmaker said that, while he

believes the veto would be overcome within this session, the law would not take effect until January 2005, the beginning of the next fiscal year, because it needed budgetary appropriation to fulfill one of its key aspects – funding Ukrainians abroad who wished to return to their homeland permanently.

"Our ultimate goal is to get all those who were forced to leave over the decades to return," explained Mr. Ostash.

The lawmaker said he believes that was the most important part of the law and a major reason why the National Commission for Ukrainians Abroad is needed. He explained that while he believes the focus must be on the return and resettlement of all those who were forcibly resettled or repressed, initial preferential treatment should be given to those who lived in abject poverty, such as Ukrainians in Serbia, parts of Russia and Central Asia.

Nonetheless, Mr. Ostash did not exclude the return of more prosperous Ukrainians living in North America and elsewhere.

"It is also important that the wealthy ones return because this would increase investment into our economy," explained Mr. Ostash. "But I understand that the return of the more prosperous Ukrainians will only come with very strong assurances for the democratic development of Ukraine."

The lawmaker said he would work with the Kuchma administration to develop a compromise bill to avoid the more difficult task of attempting to forcibly override the veto, which would require a two-thirds vote of the Parliament – and one that is presidentially controlled at that. If simply reworked the amended bill would merely need parliamentary approval by a simple majority.

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

power, using its control of the mass media and repressive measures, as well as intimidation of political opponents to achieve that end.

Mr. Yushchenko, who was accompanied by three fellow national deputies from the Our Ukraine bloc, met with two senior administration officials, Vice-President Richard Cheney and Deputy Secretary of State Richard Armitage. His tight schedule also included meetings with members of the U.S. Congress – Sens. John McCain, Charles Hagel and Carl Levin, and members of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus – with former Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright; two former U.S. ambassadors to Ukraine, Steven Pifer, who now serves as deputy assistant secretary of state for European and Eurasian affairs, and his predecessor, William Green Miller; as well as with Zbigniew Brzezinski, who was national security advisor to President Jimmy Carter.

Mr. Yushchenko told *The Ukrainian Weekly's* Washington correspondent, Yaro Bihun, that he found a great interest on the part of official Washington in helping get Ukraine back on track to building a viable democratic state.

Source: "Yushchenko urges Washington to keep engaged in Ukraine," by Yaro Bihun, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, February 16, 2003, Vol. LXXI, No. 7.



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Malarek's "The Natashas" set for international publication

by Irena Solyts

TORONTO – "The Natashas – The New Global Sex Trade" by Victor Malarek has broken into the international market.

Over the past two weeks, Victor Malarek's agent, Westwood Creative Artists in Toronto, has landed two international publishing deals.

"The Natashas," published by Viking Press, a division of Penguin Books Canada, was in second printing within two weeks of its release in Canada due to the incredible interest in the book.

Arcade Publishing, headquartered in New York City, has purchased the U.S. rights and will be publishing the U.S. edition for distribution this fall. Arcade is renowned as a publisher of quality American and world literature and non-fiction.

Vision Books in London has set the book's United Kingdom publication date for this June. The book, which has received widespread critical acclaim in the Canadian news media, will be distributed by Vision to bookstores in Britain, Ireland, Australia and India. In accepting the book, Charlotte Cole, commissioning editor of Vision Books, said: "We are very proud to be publishing 'The Natashas', which is a disturbing and very important book."

Mr. Malarek, author of four previous books, said he is ecstatic over the news. "The Natashas" was a very difficult book to write. But this tragic story had to be told. The trafficking of women and girls is a global human rights crisis and, with that foremost in my thoughts, I wrote the book with an international audience in mind. I'm so pleased that it is about to get recognition around the world."

Mr. Malarek also said he is overwhelmed at the positive response by the Ukrainian community – both in Canada and the United States – to "The Natashas." "Several groups and individuals in Canada and the U.S. are moving with urgency to get this issue on the public agenda nationally and worldwide. I'm particularly moved by the work of Help Us Help Children – Anti-Trafficking Initiative, which is a project of the Canadian Children of Chernobyl Fund."

Help Us Help the Children for the past decade has

been providing both medical and educational assistance to orphans in Ukraine. In response to the alarming information raised in "The Natashas" on the trafficking of girls directly out of orphanages, Help Us Help the Children has recently expanded its scope of activities to include the promotion of trafficking awareness within orphanages and is seeking out viable job opportunities for orphans leaving the institutions.

Mr. Malarek generously donated proceeds from the Toronto book launch of "The Natashas" to establish a seed fund for the activities of HUHTC-Anti-Trafficking Initiative.

A project proposal to the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) incorporating these goals as well as health promotion in orphanages, is also being developed.

The HUHTC-Anti-Trafficking Initiative is part of a larger national coalition, Stop The Trafficking, which is coordinating activities of Canadian Ukrainian organizations and individuals working together to end this current and growing human rights abuse. The national coalition includes representatives from Help us Help the Children-Anti-Trafficking Initiative, Ukrainian Canadian Congress Committee for Justice, Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, Ukrainian Canadian Immigrant Aid Society, Ukrainian Canadian Social Services and World Federation of Ukrainian Women's Organizations. Numerous individuals also form part of the group.

"I'm particularly impressed that both groups have made incredible strides in liaising and coordinating events with organizations outside the Ukrainian community," commented Mr. Malarek.

Some of the many contacts initiated by the coalition and Help Us Help the Children ATI, include the RCMP, Victims Assist Program with Metropolitan Toronto Police, Canada Ethno-Cultural Council, the White Ribbon Campaign to end men's violence against women, Canada Business Council in Ukraine, the International Federation of University Women, B.C Liberal Women's Commission and Winrock International, which held anti-trafficking awareness educational sessions at the recent Help Us Help the



Victor Malarek

Children winter camp in Ukraine.

"I know that this is a monumental task and at times can seem daunting but every effort will go a long way to stopping the wholesale rape of our sisters and daughters," Mr. Malarek said.

In addition to scores of television and radio appearances, Mr. Malarek is spreading his important message through numerous speaking engagements, including a special event on March 4 in Ottawa for federal Members of Parliament. He will also be the keynote speaker at a symposium on Trafficking in Women at the University of Ottawa on March 5, after which his talk will be followed by a panel of three scholars from political science, criminology and women's studies. Mr. Malarek will be the keynote speaker at the 11th Annual J.B. Rudnyckij Distinguished Lecture Series at the University of Manitoba on Sunday, May 30. Mr. Malarek has also accepted an invitation from the Ukrainian Canadian Congress – Alberta Provincial Council, as the keynote speaker at its Building the Future Conference in Edmonton on April 23-24.



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Trusewych wins Chreptowsky Prize at Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art Competition

by Marijka Kulczycky

CHICAGO – Ruslan Trusewych, 22, a recent graduate of Grinnell College in Iowa, received the Vera Chreptowsky Prize in the first juried student competition, Juventus 2003, held by the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in Chicago.

Mr. Trusewych was one of 12 art students and recent graduates selected from an international competition held by the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art (UIMA) last year. The competition drew submissions from the U.S. and Canada and presented jurors with a wide range of styles and media formats. An exhibition of the works of the 12 students was held at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art

in Chicago from December 19, 2003, to January 24.

At the opening reception on December 19, 2003, attended by more than 300 visitors, the first and second prizes were awarded by the jurors, along with a monetary stipend. Mr. Trusewych received the top prize, named after the chairman and co-founder of the UIMA, Vera Chreptowsky. Stacie Maya Johnson, a graduate student at the University of Illinois at Chicago, received second prize.

The 10 others chosen for the exhibition were: Adrianna Bamber, Tonia Bonnell, Aimee Brown, Danielle Nelson, Rocyeun Kim, Karin Patzke, Melissa Scherrer, Barbra Tolentino, Faith

Veenstra and Erik Waterkotte. They were selected by a panel of jurors that included Nicholas Sawicki, faculty member, department of art, Grinnell College; Tom Palazzolo, artist; Marissa Woloszczuk, artist; and Michael Griffin, digital artist.

The students selected represented the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, the Rhode Island School of Design, the University of Alberta in Edmonton and the Maryland Institute College of Art in Baltimore, among others.

Mr. Trusewych, raised in Chicago and a third-generation Ukrainian Institute participant, works with “mundane industrial construction materials (wire mesh, vinyl tubing, etc.) to transform them into works that undermine their functionality and redirect attention to the exceptional within the ordinary, the rational within the irrational and the human within the ideal.”

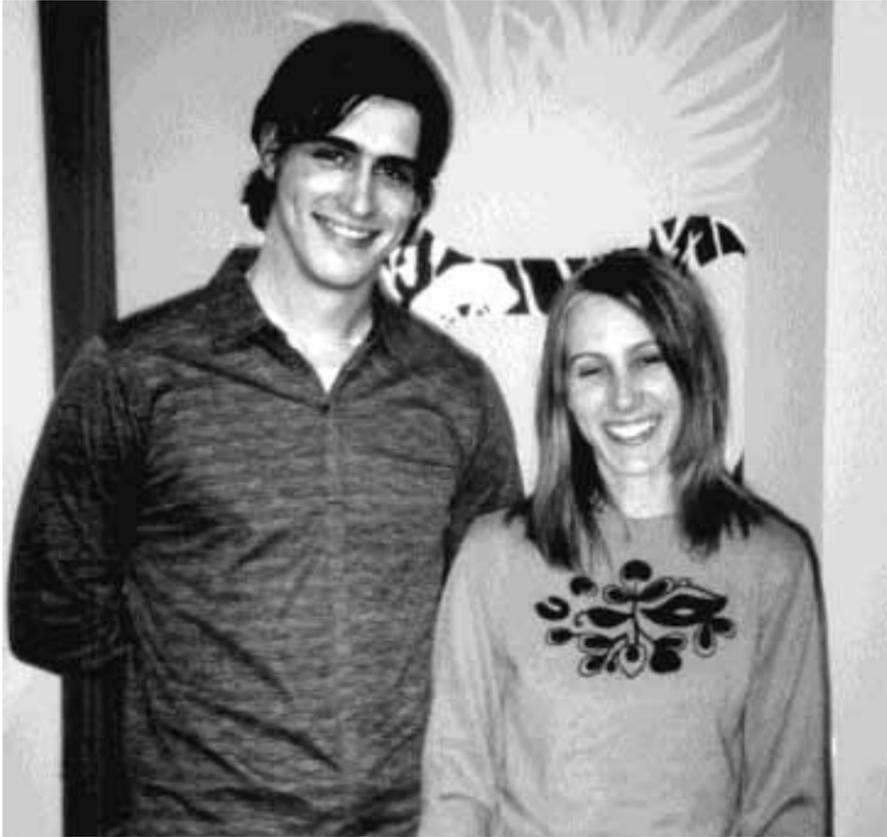
A graduate of the School of Ukrainian Studies and a member of Plast, he is the son of Dr. and Mrs. Tymish Trusewych of Downers Grove, Ill. Mr. Trusewych has received Best in Show awards twice from the Faulcnor Gallery Student Salon Show, a creative arts grant and an art fellowship at Grinnell, and has exhibited at the Grinnell College Forum Terrace Gallery. He submitted two very powerful constructions and two collage diptychs, which were judged best of show.

“A strong sense of craft runs through Ruslan’s work with a very painstaking and deliberate use of materials—wire, beading, mesh – that are often industrial in nature or carry industrial associations,” observed Mr. Sawicki. “What is interesting about his work is his revisitation of minimalism. The strong symmetry of his work looks back to the sculpture of the ’60s.”

Mr. Johnson has a B.A. in communication studies from the University of Iowa. She has participated in group shows at the University of Illinois, the 1926 Gallery in Chicago and the University of Wisconsin.

Juventus 2003 sought to highlight the diverse ideas currently engaging students and recent graduates of studio art programs. The exhibition is partially supported by a grant from the Governor’s International Arts Exchange Program of the Illinois Arts Council. Plans are under way to repeat the competition in 2004.

The Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art was created to preserve and promote the knowledge and appreciation of contemporary Ukrainian art and culture. It serves as an artistic anchor in Chicago’s West Town community, providing world-class art exhibitions, concerts, literary readings, and educational and cultural exchanges. For more information please visit www.uima-art.org.



Ruslan Trusewych and Stacie Maya Johnson received the first and second Vera Chreptowsky Prizes at the international student invitational exhibition organized by the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art in Chicago.

Still lifes and landscapes by Belik exhibited at Ukrainian Institute

NEW YORK – From October 29, 2003, through January 30, the Ukrainian Institute of America hosted Sergei Belik’s exhibit of still lifes and landscapes.

At the opening reception, 48 large format works adorned the walls of the institute’s second floor, as an equal number of visitors enjoyed some wine and a chance to meet the award-winning artist from Odesa.

Mr. Belik’s works continue the tradition of the classical still life. Compositions of bottles, jars, pots alternate with images of fruits, but the images are shown in an almost abstract way. Mr. Belik tries to disengage from the concrete form and instead creates an image from which ordinary objects and fruits descend.

The artist refers to the direction of his artwork as “mystical realism” and “spirit art.” Mr. Belik explained that his works are influenced by his faith. “Christianity does not require extraordinary aids – the real world is mystical on its own – these things with which we surround ourselves,

these everyday items are by themselves good enough in their essence.”

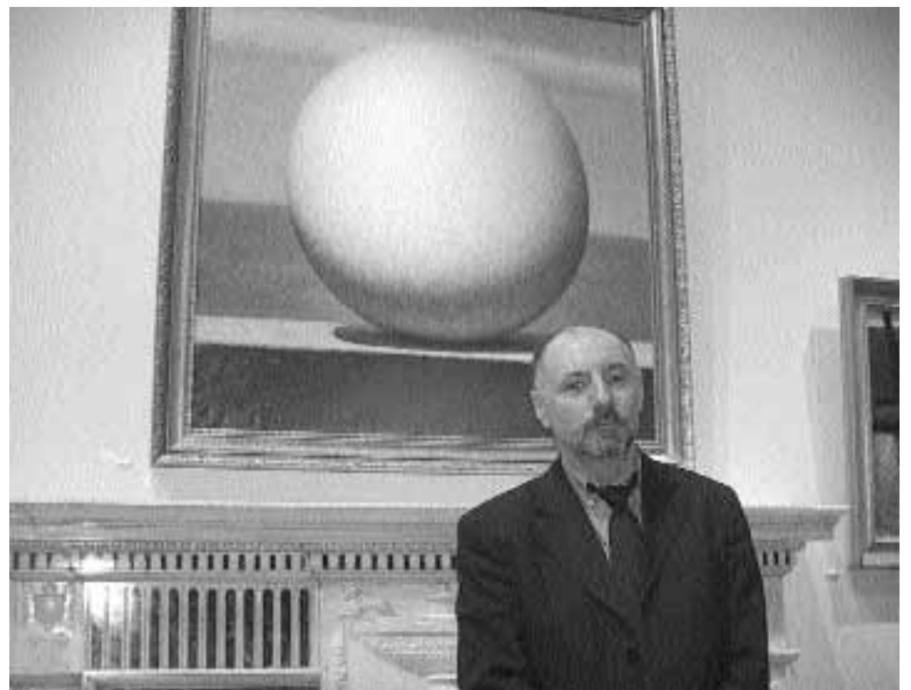
Accompanying the still lifes were impressionistic landscapes, and abstract works that explore cubic forms.

This was Mr. Belik’s second exhibit at the Institute; the first was on view here in September, 2001.

Walter Hoydysh, who is responsible for the Art at the Institute program, recalled that after the 2001 exhibition, a number of Mr. Belik’s works were acquired by American art connoisseurs. “Sergei left behind some of his works, and they caught the eye of several of our neighbors – they helped us make friends in the neighborhood,” Mr. Hoydysh noted.

Outside of his native Ukraine, Mr. Belik has exhibited widely in Europe and the United States, including Paris, Amsterdam, Washington and San Francisco.

The Belik exhibit is part of the institute’s program to showcase Ukraine’s best contemporary artists.



Sergei Belik in front of one his works on view at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

Art by Alexander Klymenko manifests “Joy of Being”

NEW YORK – The art of Alexander Klymenko of Kyiv was unveiled at the Ukrainian Institute of America’s third art opening of the season on November 20, 2003.

More than 70 art buffs gathered on the institute’s beautifully restored third floor to nibble cheese and sip wine, as they browsed Mr. Klymenko’s works, listening to the soothing sounds of Sting’s explorations of Eastern music.

Mr. Klymenko brought more than 40 large canvasses over from Kyiv. His works are exceptionally bright and explore the interaction of primary colors or their fluorescent cousins in geometrically abstract mosaics that look like bowls of candy, painted pebbles, pysanky laid flat and patchwork quilts. Elsewhere, his subjects appear to be Japanese letters transforming into birds as they fly through clouds and bursts of sunshine.

Mr. Klymenko admitted that he draws inspiration from Gustav Klimt’s modernist mosaics. Mr. Klymenko exhibited at Vienna’s Kunsthistorisches Museum in 2001, where Klimt decorated the walls a century ago. “I enjoy Klimt and share his principle – my works are decorative and ornamental.”

Also a poet and philosopher, Mr. Klymenko says his art is part of an “intellectual program” he calls “New

Ethic Ecology” whose goals are humanism, creation and optimism.

Mr. Klymenko’s artwork made its New York debut in June 2003, during the silent auction of the “Because Life is Beautiful” breast cancer awareness fundraiser held at the Institute. His artwork made such an impact that the institute decided to help organize the solo exhibit.

Speaking at the exhibit opening, Walter Hoydysh, director of programs at the Ukrainian Institute of America, the institute’s ongoing plans of bringing prominent artists from Ukraine directly to New York’s Museum Mile. Special thanks were expressed to Mykola Kravets, the U.S. country manager for Ukraine’s Aerosvit Airlines, for transporting the exhibit from Kyiv to New York free of charge.

This was the first foray to North America for this artist, born in the eastern Ukrainian city of Luhansk. His works can be found in public and private collections worldwide, including Ukraine, the United States, Russia, Israel, Switzerland, England, France, Germany and Austria. He has participated in several international exhibitions, including Pierre Cardin’s “Mysteries of Eurasia.”

Mr. Klymenko’s “Joy of Being” exhibition remained on view at the institute through January 8.

CONCERT REVIEW: "Restructuring Chopin" features Rassoulova-Suk, Krovtytska and Casatt String Quartet



Pianist Valida Rassoulova-Suk (center), flanked by two members of the Cassatt String Quartet.

by Bohdan Markiw

NEW YORK – On the bitterly cold and windy evening of January 24, "Music at the Institute" presented an unusual but highly interesting program, titled "Restructuring Chopin." The deep freeze and blustery New York weather did not deter serious music-lovers from pouring into the Ukrainian Institute of

America to experience, enjoy and admire the music of the revered composer Frederic Chopin.

The acclaimed pianist Valida Rassoulova-Suk arranged the program and participated in all its variations as soloist, accompanist and chamber musician. Ms. Suk is a graduate of the Byul-Byul Special Music School in Baku, Azerbaijan, the Azerbaijan State



Two members of the Cassatt String Quartet during the concert.

Gajibekov Conservatory, and the Moscow State Conservatory. She is the winner of numerous awards, including the International Chopin Competition in Warsaw, the top prize in the International Marguerite Long-Jacques Thibaud Competition in Paris, the gold medal at the International Music Festival in Pleven, Bulgaria, and holds the title of Distinguished Artist of the Republic of Azerbaijan.

Ms. Rassoulova-Suk settled in the United States with her then husband, the renowned Ukrainian pianist Mykola Suk and has been active as soloist, chamber musician and piano teacher.

Participating artists in the concert program included the New York City Opera soprano Oksana Krovtytska, and the noted Manhattan-based Cassatt String Quartet – violinists Muneko Otani and Jennifer Leshnowar, violist Tawnya Popoff and cellist Nicole Johnson. Bassist Christopher North Renquist completed the string section.

The program opened with Piatagorsky's transcription of Chopin's Nocturne in C sharp Minor for cello and piano, followed by the Adagio for Piano Trio, Op 8. Both pieces were performed with sweet lush sounds from the lower string instruments which enveloped the audience. The execution of the work recreated the pleasant atmosphere of Parisian musical salons of the 19th century.

The next segment of the program consisted of a number of mazurkas that are usually neglected by performing pianists. The mazurkas were Chopin's lifeblood and present great interpretive challenges. The first mazurka for piano solo, from Op. 17 no. 4, was lovingly played by Ms. Suk and showed the melodic lilt of Chopin.

This was followed by four mazurkas for soprano and piano, which had been transcribed by one of Chopin's piano students, Pauline Viardot who also provided the French text. The translated titles were: "The Young Girl," "Love Me," "The Little Bird" and "Coquette."

Ms. Krovtytska sang all four of the songs with distinction. The vocal parts had many bel canto, high scale jumps and other technical intricacies which the Ukrainian soprano executed with remarkable elasticity, and mellow colorations in the intimate sections. Especially touching were her high notes sung in exquisite pianissimos.

Well-known to Ukrainian audiences



Soprano Oksana Krovtytska

Ms. Krovtytska's recent engagements have included a return to New York City Opera as Liu in "Turandot," as well as a performance in Penderecki's "Seven Gates of Jerusalem" under Maestro Penderecki and the RTVE Symphony Orchestra in Madrid, Dvorak's "Spectre's Brinde" with the Netherlands Radio Symphony Orchestra under Eri Klas at the Concertgebouw, and a recording of "Spectre's Bride" with Zdenek Macal and the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra recently released on Delos Records.

The concluding part of the program was devoted to the Second Piano Concerto in F Minor. The orchestral part was transcribed for strings only and was played by the Cassatt Quartet with the inclusion of Mr. Renquist's double bass. The strings played their part with great precision, following the soloist with dynamic graduation. Their outstanding playing shone in the sustained shimmering tremolo, pizzicati and the "col legno" episodes.

Ms. Rassoulova-Suk, as piano soloist, stood out with her soft and delicate playing, clear sparkling runs with an aristocratic lilt and gorgeous sounds.

All of the performers were repeatedly rewarded with sustained ovations. This was a wonderfully marvelous musical evening, which made the audience forget the bitter cold outside.

NEW RELEASE: Roman Hurko's "Liturgy No. 2"

TORONTO – Right Angel Records, a Canadian label specializing in sacred choral music, has released Roman Hurko's third CD, "Liturgy No. 2 (The Divine Liturgy of St. John Chrysostom)."

Mr. Hurko is a Toronto-based composer and opera stage director, having worked with Placido Domingo, Dmitry Hvorostovsky, Andrea Bocelli and film directors Atom Egoyan and Werner Herzog, among others.

"Liturgy No. 2" is his third major composition of sacred choral music, following the critically acclaimed "Liturgy 2000" and "Requiem for the Victims of Chernobyl" (2001).

Colleen Johnston of The Record, reviewing "Requiem for the Victims of Chernobyl," wrote: "Hurko's Requiem is profoundly moving. Written in an unmistakable style, employing slow harmonic chords, rich hovering melodic expanses, text-driven phrasings, ... audience response nearly blew the roof off St. Matthew's."

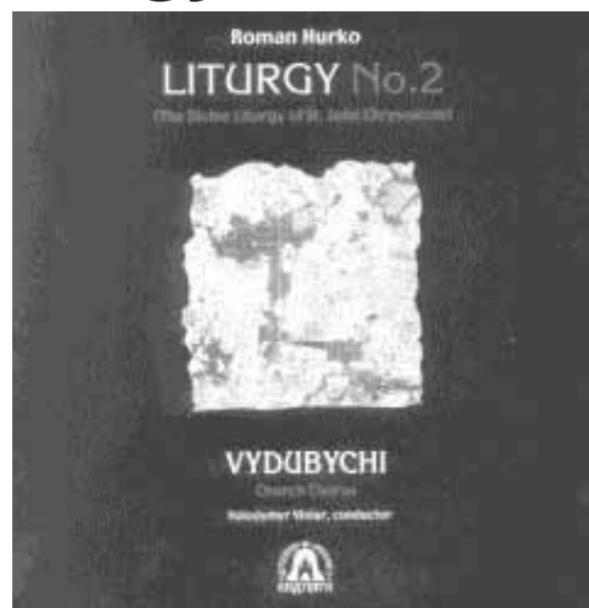
Writing in The Ukrainian Weekly, Bohdan Markiw said of Mr. Hurko's "Requiem": "The melodic lines are

sustained and unadorned; the harmony, beyond select suspensions, is free of dissonance. Brimming with meditative phrases, this work takes on a celestial quality."

Mr. Hurko also composed the music for two plays for the Yara Arts Group at La Mama Experimental Theater Club in New York City: "A Light from the East" (1990) and "Explosions" (1992). In 1999, he co-directed Prokofiev's "War and Peace" with Gian Carlo Menotti at the Spoleto Festival (Italy). Most recently, he directed Mozart's "Don Giovanni" and Wagner's "Flying Dutchman" for the Vancouver Opera.

"Liturgy No. 2" premiered on August 24, 2003, at St. Michael's Golden-Domed Cathedral in Kyiv, where it was performed by the world-renowned Vydubychi Church Chorus, conducted by Volodymyr Viniar.

Mr. Hurko's CDs are available through the Canadian Music Center, www.musiccentre.ca. To order CDs or video, readers may also visit the website www.roman-hurko.com or contact: 580 Christie Street, Toronto, Ontario M6G 3E3; telephone, 416-569-8075; e-mail, rightangelrecords@yahoo.ca.



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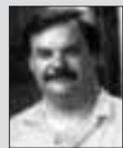
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PACE resolution...

(Continued from page 10)

incumbents.

15. In the light of the above findings, the Assembly calls upon the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to urgently appoint a Special Representative in Ukraine whose mandate should be to follow current political developments in Ukraine, to provide advice and Council of Europe expertise if and when needed and generally to enhance and co-ordinate the ongoing cooperation with Ukrainian authorities.

16. It also considers that the activities relating to the Council of Europe media action plan agreed with Ukraine should be stepped up in order to achieve a noticeable improvement of the general framework in which media operate and to promote substantial changes in the media culture in view of the forthcoming election campaign.

17. The Assembly is also concerned about the recent events in the town of Mukachevo [Mukachiv] concerning elections of the mayor and urges to resolve this problem in accordance with the legislation of Ukraine. The Assembly recommends that the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe undertake the monitoring mission over the future elections of mayor in the town of Mukachevo aiming at free and impartial elections.

18. The Assembly is of the opinion that the recent infringements of the voting procedures in the Verkhovna Rada violate Ukraine's obligations under Article 3 of the Statute of the Council of Europe. If any further attempts should be made to push through political reforms by amending the Constitution in a manner which is not prescribed by law and by unconstitutional means, or if Ukraine should fail to guarantee free and fair elections on October 31, 2004, the Assembly may decide to challenge the credentials of the Ukrainian Delegation in accordance with Rule 9 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure and subsequently may decide to request the Committee of Ministers to suspend the membership of Ukraine in the Council of Europe in accordance with Article 8 of the Statute of the Council of Europe.

19. The Assembly will continue to closely follow the developments in Ukraine and stands ready to contribute to an effective dialogue between the political forces represented in the Verkhovna Rada.

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**The Weekly's collection
of materials about the Famine**

The Ukrainian Weekly's official website contains the largest collection of materials on the Internet dedicated to the Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

Located at www.ukrweekly.com, the special section includes a chronology of the Famine years, eyewitness accounts, editorials, media reports, stories about observances of the Famine's 50th anniversary in 1983, scholarly articles, interviews with journalists who reported on the Famine, transcripts of testimony on the Famine commission bill ultimately passed by the U.S. Congress, texts of statements before the U.S. Commission on the Ukraine Famine, references and other documentation, as well as the full text of The Ukrainian Weekly's special issue on the Great Famine published on March 20, 1983. The section is completely searchable.

Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

minutes in all – the extraordinary session was closed and an announcement made that the regular opening of the Fifth Session would take place later that day.

Afterwards, Stefan Havrysh, a member of the pro-presidential majority and an author of the political reform bill, said the amendments that were approved were those that had been agreed upon between the opposition factions and the pro-reform factions in a special meeting with President Leonid Kuchma on February 2.

“After it became evident that the opposition would not live up to its part in the deal, we decided to open a special session to approve the compromised draft bill anyway,” explained Mr. Havrysh. “We also showed that we have sufficient votes for the two-thirds needed to finish the process [of constitutional change].”

The Socialist Party, formerly a bedrock within the opposition, threw 17 of its 20 votes behind the amendment, and gave the draft bill the two-thirds minimum – 300 votes – that it would need in the final vote to amend the Constitution. More importantly, the sea change may have dealt the final blow to an opposition force that had been slowly falling apart since the summer, when Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz and Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko had agreed to talks with President Kuchma to try to resuscitate a previous political reform package that had died in Parliament.

Most lawmakers acknowledged that President Kuchma and Mr. Moroz had met late on February 3 to strike a deal in which the Socialist leader agreed that his forces would support the bill and the president pledged that he would not waiver from an agreement to hold presi-

dential elections by popular vote.

Mr. Moroz's first assistant, Socialist party Vice-Chairman Josyf Vinskii, speaking on Ukrainian television the evening after the hectic day, said he had no information about a meeting between Messrs. Moroz and Kuchma the previous evening. He explained that the decision to support the amendments to draft bill 4105 was agreed upon by the Socialist faction in caucus.

“We wanted to ensure that presidential elections would occur,” explained Mr. Vinskii on Channel 5 Television. “We also wanted to save the concept of political reform.”

Among the three Socialist faction members who refused to support the bill was National Deputy Yurii Lutsenko, who gained renown – and a seat in the Parliament – by his organization of the Ukraine Without Kuchma demonstrations in 2001. Mr. Lutsenko said that, while he understood that the bill was a good effort at compromise, he questioned why compromise was needed at all.

Meanwhile, Our Ukraine National Deputy Borys Bepalii questioned the procedural and Constitutional legality of Mr. Lytvyn's decision to call an extraordinary session of Parliament. He explained that no unusual circumstances were evident at the time the decision was announced and that, in any case, it was up to the legislative body or the president to make such a call.

“The procedure for opening an extraordinary session is that it should either be initiated by a vote of at least 150 national deputies or called by the president,” explained Mr. Bepalii.

The Our Ukraine lawmaker added that he believes the reason for calling the special session was to make sure that the constitutional amendments called for in the political reform bill were approved

prior to the October presidential elections.

He explained that in accordance with the Constitution the bill needed to be approved in two separate but consecutive sessions, first by a majority vote and then by a two-thirds vote. Mr. Bepalii noted that because PACE had basically delegitimized the vote of December 24, 2003, the bill with the appropriate amendment was returned to the parliamentary floor for approval in an extraordinary session so that the final vote could take place during the fifth session.

The resolution passed by PACE, which was adopted after heated debate among representatives of the various European Parliaments on January 29 during a special session on the “political crisis in Ukraine,” stated that it was “deeply troubled by the recent developments in the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine.” (For the full text of the PACE resolution see page 10.)

The PACE resolution warned that any constitutional reforms taken on the eve of presidential elections would be “biased and divisive,” and said it therefore considered the initiative ill-timed. It noted that the draft proposals on political

reform were voted upon without serious consideration and debate, which should have included, “proper public information and a nationwide discussion of the issues.” PACE also criticized the tactics used by the opposition to paralyze the work of the Parliament.

The resolution further criticized the Constitutional Court of Ukraine for its recent rulings. It called on President Kuchma to allow PACE to review his nominees for the Central Election Committee.

Finally, PACE stated that a vote by hands is not recognized in the Verkhovna Rada Rules of Procedure, which meant that the Parliamentary Assembly also did not recognize the vote. Furthermore, it called for the appointment of a special representative in Ukraine to monitor current political developments and provide advice to PACE.

The PACE resolution threatened Ukraine with sanctions and, ultimately, suspension of membership if it should continue to press ahead with constitutional reform outside proscribed procedures or if it should be determined that the upcoming October presidential elections were not free and fair.



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Anna Sasyk

born on September 24, 1912, in Horodenka, Ukraine.

Funeral Services were held on January 24, 2004,
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In deep sorrow:

Son	– Andrij Sasyk
Grandchildren	– Zorian – Alexander
Sister-in-law	– Neonila Sasyk

May her memory be eternal!

Josefa Polansky

May 31, 1920 – January 10, 2004

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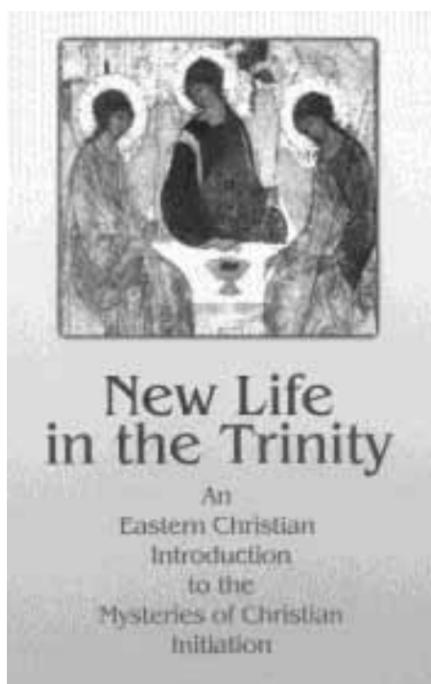
Video and books offer introduction to Eastern Christian tradition

PARMA, Ohio – “New Life in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Mysteries of Christian Initiation,” a sacramental video produced by the Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy Global Catholic Network of St. Josaphat in Parma, has just been contracted to air on EWTN for the next four years.

The first airing will take place during the Octave of Easter. The dates and times are April 15, at 5 p.m. EST and Saturday, April 17, at 2 a.m. EST. After the April schedule is finalized in early February, this information will be available on EWTN’s Internet site for public distribution. To check on the scheduled times for airing go to the EWTN website (www.ewtn.com) and click on “Television,” then click on “Television Schedules” for listings.

“New Life in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Mysteries of Christian Initiation” explains the Eastern Christian Tradition of Baptism, Chrismation and Eucharist as practiced in the Byzantine Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of St. Josaphat in Parma. This down to earth program views the Eastern Catholic mysteries (sacraments) through the eyes of two Roman Catholics who have married Byzantine Catholics. Viewers journey with them as they remember their wedding day and then grow through their doubts as they prepare to celebrate the Baptism, Chrismation and Eucharist of their infant children.

The introduction by Bishop Robert Moskal, eparch of St. Josaphat in Parma, and the narration by Msgr. George Appleyard enhance the understanding of the “Mysteries of Christian Initiation.” This program is suggested for the enrichment of clergy, religious, and laity alike. Roman Catholics may be especially



interested in this video, which explains why Eastern Christians administer Chrismation and Eucharist at Baptism.

“New Life in the Trinity: An Introduction to the Mysteries of Christian Initiation” is available through the Eparchial website’s bookstore (www.stjosaphateparchy.org) for \$29.95.

Two companion handbooks, “Mysteries of Christian Initiation” by Archbishop Tawil and a “Facilitator’s Guide,” may be purchased to accompany this video to help families or study groups facilitate discussion. The total package price is \$40 plus shipping and handling.

The video is available in VHS or DVD format. For more information write to or call the Pastoral Ministry Office, 727 East Carson St., Pittsburgh, PA 15203; (412) 481-9778.



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SAMSON RICHARD A	A183298	316	SWANSON GEORGE	J091729	131	WICIAK EDWARD J	A185668	231
SAS PODLUSKY I S	J092285	423	SWERBYWUS MARY	A185558	049	WIRSTIUK BORIS R	A180892	042
SAWKIW JR MICHAEL J.	A186593	057	SWITUCHA MYKOLA	A119440	465	WITKOWSKY LIDIA	J089914	465
SCHOENFELDT S E	A159446	028	SYNSTAD ROBERT J	J090901	356	WITKOWSKY NATALIA	J089915	465
SCRIUBA OLGA	J098037	423	SYNSTAD THEODOR A	J090899	356	WOJTOWYCZ MD MYRON	A186076	025
SHAW KAREN E	A180389	316	TARNAVSKYJ A K	J097976	245	WORBIJ MICHAEL P	J096186	349
SHILO SUSAN A	A185594	316	TINKER DAVID ALLEN	J095588	147	WOROCH C	J096608	025
SHOT T	A185327	316	TKACZUK MIGUEL	A162413	416	WOROCH M	J096607	025
SHYPRYKEVICH MARTHA D	A125360	045	TOMASELLI LARISSA	A165785	361	WOROCH ROMAN	A186381	025
SIDOR JR RICHARD F	J093207	217	TORRIANI MARTINA	J094793	239	WOROCH ROSANNA	A186382	025
SIDOR BARBARA A	A178270	217	TWINING J D	J096649	253	WOZNY LUBA	A181971	206
SKIERENKO ALEXANDRA R	J098061	401	VAN DEN HEUVEL GEORGE	A184071	139	WYNNYCKY ROMAN	A183429	473
SLYWKA LOUISE L	A169327	379	VAN DEN HEUVEL PAUL A	A184072	139	WYPRYSKY V	A182045	461
SMETANA VICTOR	A186261	285	VERKAIK IRENE	A172971	465	YAREMKO BOHDAN	J096451	025
SMYSZNIUK A M	J098619	221	VOYTOVICH ANNA M	A186074	025	YAWORSKY ANNA	A182720	045
SOROCHTY PHILIP N	A180798	316	VOYTOVICH MARTA	A186075	025	YAWORSKY JOHN S	A179887	204
STADNYK JENNIFER	A186393	070	WALLACE MARY BETH	J096630	216	ZAHNER MICHELLE	J096362	172
STAWNYCHYJ M	J096210	216	WELYKANICZ WOLODYMYR	A182790	269	ZAWADIWSKA LUBA T.	A185141	240
STOLARSKYJ OLEH Y	J098683	356	WERBOWECKI MICHAEL H	A178891	458	ZWARYCH J K	A148554	444
STRUZ LESIA	A161611	238	WICIAK JR. MICHAEL T	A185765	231			

Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

115 minor leaguers active last season

A total of 115 known players of some Ukrainian descent were plying their trade as professional hockey players in this sport's six minor leagues last season. The pro minor scene continued to change as the 2002-2003 hockey year saw the debut of a new circuit, the Atlantic Coast League. As with many business ventures these days, the ACL turned out to be a one-year, non-wonder. A year later, the West Coast League and the Atlantic Coast League no longer exist, the two lowest levels of minor pro hockey being replaced in 2003-2004 by the fledgling Southeast League and something called the WHA 2.

Seventeen of the above cited 115 Ukrainian pucksters were on active NHL rosters this same season. A majority were on the brink of finally attaining permanent employment with their parent clubs, requiring just a tad more development down on the farm. Youngsters like Ryan Bayda (Carolina) and Alexei Ponikarovsky (Toronto) have indeed carved out spots for themselves in NHL line-ups in 2003-2004. Several were forced to play their way back through injury rehab work in the minors. Drake Berehowsky (Pittsburgh), Darcy Hordichuk (Florida) and Joey Tetarenko (Carolina) regained their conditioning in the AHL ranks. Several others continue their struggle of proving themselves worthy of the big show.

A positional breakdown of the Ukes shows 10 goaltenders, 27 defensemen and 78 forwards. Of the grand total of

115 Ukrainian minor leaguers, there are at least 18 rock solid, definite future NHLers. Many more will see big league ice time as emergency call-ups or role players. Still others will be used as trade bait by their organizations to acquire new talent. The remaining majority will continue their pro hockey careers in the minor leagues, taking long bus rides, earning minimal per diems and anywhere between \$500 per week to \$85,000 per year.

Jeff is the most popular first name for minor league pros as there are six of them. Last year's most popular name, Alex or Alexei, slid to second favorite along with Andrew, Greg and Mike, all tied with four each. (The latter four first names translate into Ukrainian and English, unlike Jeff.) The continuing influx of European imports migrating to North America to pursue dreams of lucrative hockey careers is vividly seen by names like Ruslan, Andrei, Stanislav, Sergei and Dmitri. Notable newcomers in 2002-2003 included Ruslan Batyrshin, Kevin Kotyluk, Judd Medak, Andrei Savchenko and Josh Tymchak. Seven different players of Ukrainian descent saw action for the Lowell Loch Monsters in the 2002-2003 season: a forward line, defense pairing, a goaltender plus a spare.

To conclude the name survey, the letter "S" remained the most preferred for surnames (17), while the letter "K" was second (15), followed by "M" with 13.

Top minor league Ukrainian snipers

were Greg Pankewicz (second year in a row with 46 goals), Bogdan Rudenko (34) and Andrew Luciuk (32). Assist leaders included Rick Kowalsky (55), Christian Skoryna (53) and perennial set-up man Jason Duda (52). Top overall scoring Uke was Pankewicz (87 points), followed by Duda (83) and Kowalsky (82). The dubious distinction of top sinner was also won by Greg Pankewicz (340 penalty minutes), many, many more than runner-up Ruslan Batyrshin (252) and Kevin Kotyluk (251). In goaltending stats, Cody Rudkowsky led the way in a couple of categories: games played (41), wins (18) and save percentage (.907), tied with Dieter Kochan. Kochan notched the top goals against with a 2.53. Randy Petruk and Seamus Kotyk each suffered 22 losses, a reflection of the respective squads skating in front of them.

There are 98 professional franchises currently active in hockey's minor leagues. Rinks are operating in major

hubs like Philadelphia, Cleveland, Toronto, Milwaukee and San Antonio. Yet some of the continent's most competitive ice action can also be found in remote locales like Lakeland, Wheeling, Flint, Bridgeport and Odessa (Texas, not Ukraine). Odds are excellent on finding a Ukrainian puckster almost anywhere.

Not only is Wayne's little brother, Brent, still active, it's time to acknowledge a second generation of the Busniuk family. Lads Bryson and Jake have direct bloodlines to Ron, long time ex-minor leaguer and coach. There was royalty in Arkansas last year (Kevin Korol), a honey of a guy in Greenville (young Judd Medak) and two good reasons to be religious (Glen Metropolitan in Portland and Tobin Praznik in New Mexico). Oh, and there's this up and coming tenor/soloist, performing in arenas throughout the East Coast Hockey League named Kevin Spiewak. Rumor has it he's a true All-Star.

2002-2003 MINOR LEAGUE PLAYERS' STATS

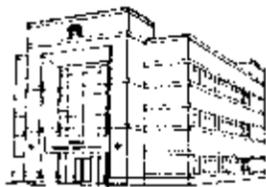
Pos.	Player	Team	League	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
D	Alex Alexeev	Rockford	UL	73	2	24	26	77
F	Nikita Alexeev	Springfield	AHL	36	7	5	12	8
F	Peter Ambroziak	New Mexico	CL	52	20	32	52	44
F	Jeff Antonovich	Rock-Missouri	UL	73	31	28	59	73
F	Chris Bala	Binghamton	AHL	51	6	18	24	20
D	Scott Balan	Norfolk	AHL	15	0	0	0	27
		Roanoke	ECHL	44	1	9	10	63
F	Jay Banach	Utah	AHL	1	0	0	0	2
		Lexington	ECHL	59	4	9	13	191
F	Ruslan Batyrshin	Anchorage	WCL	59	2	6	8	252
F	Ryan Bayda	Lowell	AHL	53	11	32	43	32
F	Graham Belak	Bridgeport	AHL	30	0	1	1	60
		Cincinnati	ECHL	42	1	0	1	172
D	Drake Berehowsky	Springfield	AHL	2	0	0	0	0
F	Bryson Busniuk	Muskegon	UL	6	3	1	4	2
F	Jake Busniuk	Muskegon	UL	4	0	0	0	0
D	Steve Cheredaryk	Lowell	AHL	2	0	0	0	0
		Baton Rouge	ECHL	50	6	14	20	144
D	Justin Cholak	Amarillo	CL	2	0	0	0	0
F	Andy Doktorchik	Johnstown	ECHL	62	4	7	11	74
F	Ruslyn Dolyny	Muskegon	UL	61	17	34	51	65
D	Randy Drohan	Winston-Salem	ACL	31	0	3	3	72
F	Jason Duda	Wichita	CL	64	31	52	83	60
F	Jeff Ewasko	Long Beach	WCL	25	6	4	10	130
F	Brad Federenko	Orlando	ACL	52	19	26	45	20
D	Jayne Filipowicz	St. John's	AHL	63	2	13	15	106
		Richmond	ECHL	20	1	8	9	36
F	Jeff Glowa	Boss-Shreveport	CL	51	6	10	16	30
F	Andy Gojdyecz	Atlantic City	ECHL	1	0	0	0	2
F	Ben Gorewich	Memphis	CL	63	18	31	49	65
F	Brent Gretzky	Port Huron	UL	45	31	29	60	12
D	Steve Halko	Lowell	AHL	71	4	22	26	34
D	Tyler Hanchuk	Syracuse	AHL	1	0	0	0	7
F	Darren Haydar	Milwaukee	AHL	75	29	46	75	36
F	Roger Holeczy	Pensacola	ECHL	1	0	0	0	2
		Winston-Salem	ACL	41	14	27	41	20
F	Darcy Hordichuk	Springfield	AHL	22	1	3	4	38
D	Mike Josefowicz	Cincinnati	ECHL	22	4	11	15	22
F	David Kaczowka	Greenville	ECHL	59	3	7	10	242
F	Mike Kholomeyev	Aust-Cor Chr	CL	6	2	0	2	6
F	Matt Kohansky	Reading	ECHL	3	0	0	0	0
		Cape Fear	ACL	53	23	38	61	67
F	Zenith Komarniski	Manitoba	AHL	53	15	8	23	94
F	Zenon Konopka	Wilkes-Barre	AHL	4	0	1	1	9
		Wheeling	ECHL	68	22	48	70	231
F	Kevin Korol	Arkansas	ECHL	6	3	0	3	4
D	Kyle Kos	Cincinnati	AHL	9	0	1	1	8
		Ark-Dayt-Flor	ECHL	51	4	14	18	179
F	Kevin Kotyluk	Fort Wayne	UL	70	17	14	31	251
F	Rick Kowalsky	Roanoke	ECHL	68	27	55	82	132
F	Jordan Krestanovich	Hershey	AHL	70	13	21	34	24
D	Matt Kruzich	Kalamazoo	UL	16	3	1	4	20
F	Greg Kutchma	Flint	UL	39	2	0	2	18
D	Greg Kuznik	Lowell	AHL	61	2	3	5	74
D	Corey Laniuk	Flint	UL	70	0	7	7	292
F	Andrew Luciuk	Grand Rapids	AHL	2	1	0	1	4
		Muskegon	UL	74	32	42	74	80
F	Jeff Lukasak	Muskegon	UL	71	6	13	19	82
D	Ross Lupaschuk	Wilkes-Barre	AHL	74	18	18	36	101
F	Brett Lysak	Lowell	AHL	49	6	9	15	59
F	Jared Marinich	Jackson-Knox	ACL	29	0	2	2	35
D	Denis Martynyuk	Manitoba	AHL	8	0	0	0	4

(Continued on page 17)

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Stamford Branch:

Ukrainian Research Center
39 Clovelly Road, Stamford, CT 06902
Phone/Fax: (203) 969-0498
Tuesday, Wednesday, Friday:
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Spring Valley Branch:

SS Peter & Paul Ukr. Catholic Church
41 Collins Ave., Spring Valley, NY 10977
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Tuesday, Friday:
5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Board of Directors SUMA (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union

Ukrainian pro hockey...

(Continued from page 20)

Pos.	Player	Team	League	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
		Columbia	ECHL	56	10	10	20	84
F	Jon Maruk	Boss-Shreveport	CL	6	0	2	2	6
F	Scott Matzka	Cleveland	AHL	14	1	6	7	10
		Atlantic City	ECHL	45	20	31	51	89
D	Chad Mazurak	Roanoke	ECHL	66	7	22	29	90
F	Judd Medak	Chicago	AHL	9	2	2	4	6
		Greenville	ECHL	62	17	26	43	104
F	Brad Mehalko	Trenton	ECHL	6	2	0	2	12
D	Marty Melnychuk	Missouri	UL	24	1	4	5	169
F	Glen Metropolit	Portland	AHL	33	7	23	30	23
F	Chad Michalchuk	Fort Worth	CL	14	2	5	7	20
F	Aaron Miskovich	Lexington	ECHL	14	1	0	1	2
D	Rick Mrozik	St. John's	AHL	68	2	10	12	46
D	Jeremy Mylymok	Idaho	WCL	58	14	15	29	191
F	Mike Nikolishen	Atlantic City	ECHL	60	0	9	9	71
F	Mike Olynyk	Austin	CL	60	4	11	15	135
F	Billy Osipenko	New Mexico	CL	1	0	0	0	2
F	Justin Ossachuk	Tulsa	CL	55	26	11	37	214
F	Rob Palahniuk	St. John's	AHL	2	0	0	0	0
		Memphis	CL	48	10	14	24	54
F	Greg Pankewicz	Pensacola	ECHL	67	46	41	87	340
F	Doug Pirnak	Tulsa	CL	5	1	0	1	19
F	Alexei Ponikarovsky	St. John's	AHL	63	24	22	46	68
F	Tobin Praznik	New Mexico	CL	11	3	6	9	2
F	Garrett Prosofsky	Cincinnati	ECHL	23	8	8	16	22
F	Tyler Prosofsky	Fresno	WCL	24	6	3	9	67
D	Peter Ratchuk	Rochester	AHL	70	11	21	32	64
F	Bogdan Rudenko	Adirondack	UL	74	34	31	65	99
D	Andrei Savchenko	Knoxville	ACL	59	8	28	36	50
F	Trevor Secundiak	Jacksonville	ACL	26	4	5	9	25
F	Don Seremak	Richmond	ECHL	2	0	0	0	0
		Jacksonville	ACL	1	0	0	0	0
F	Jason Shmyr	Manitoba	AHL	4	0	0	0	2
		Augusta	ECHL	44	9	7	16	214
F	Ryan Shmyr	St. John's	AHL	21	1	1	2	41
		Johnstown	ECHL	45	2	3	5	129
F	Denis Shvidki	San Antonio	AHL	54	8	18	26	28
F	Christian Skoryna	Bakersfield	WCL	72	27	53	80	42
F	Rob Skrlac	Albany	AHL	42	2	3	5	165
F	Fred Slukynsky	Dayton	ECHL	72	17	24	41	107
F	Kevin Spiewak	Portland	AHL	3	1	1	2	4
D	Pat Stachniak	Wichita	CL	63	6	18	24	146
F	Matt Stajan	St. John's	AHL	1	0	1	1	0
F	Damian Surma	Lowell	AHL	68	11	11	22	46
F	Jeff Szwez	Binghamton	AHL	9	1	0	1	5
		Augusta	ECHL	48	10	15	25	30
F	Josh Tataryn	Fort Wayne	UL	8	3	5	8	0
F	Joey Tetarenko	SanAnt-Bingham	AHL	64	6	14	20	156
F	Daniel Tkaczuk	Bridgeport	AHL	69	9	18	27	44
F	Stanislav Tkatch	Greensboro	ECHL	2	0	0	0	2
F	Josh Tymchak	El Paso	CL	47	9	14	23	228
F	Igor Valeev	Worcester	AHL	72	6	12	18	153
F	Sergei Varlamov	Worcester	AHL	72	23	38	61	79
D	Rene Vydareny	Manitoba	AHL	71	2	8	10	46
F	Trevor Wasyluk	Baton Rouge	ECHL	16	3	6	9	34
D	Chad Wilchynski	Charlotte	ECHL	50	8	23	31	98
D	Dmitri Yakushin	St. John's	AHL	21	1	2	3	23
F	Brendan Yarema	Cincinnati	AHL	59	19	16	35	111
		Charlotte	ECHL	5	5	0	5	20
F	Alexander Zinewich	Flo-Colum-Poer	ECHL	37	0	5	5	14
F	Steve Zoryk	Knoxville	ACL	58	27	41	68	64
F	Jarret Zukiwsky	Anch-S.D.Fres	WCL	23	2	4	6	86

GOALTENDERS:

Player	Team	League	GP	MIN	W	L	T	GAA	PCT
Shane Bendera	Dayton	ECHL	39	2242	13	19	5	2.84	.900
Mike Buzak	Long Beach	WCL	36	1947	8	19	4	3.30	.889
Rob Galatiuk	Odessa	CL	5	244	1	2	1	4.43	.865
Dieter Kochan	Houston	AHL	25	1446	15	6	3	2.53	.907
Seamus Kotyk	Cleveland	AHL	34	1837	7	22	2	3.85	.890
Gregg Naumenko	Cleveland	AHL	2	65	0	1	0	5.50	.842
	Cincinnati	ECHL	17	913	6	6	3	3.09	.917
Randy Petruk	Lowell	AHL	30	1641	4	20	3	3.07	.917
	Florida	ECHL	6	365	3	2	1	3.78	.879
Cody Rudkowsky	Worcester	AHL	10	577	1	5	3	2.91	.897
	Trenton	ECHL	31	1866	17	9	5	2.73	.911
Jeff Salajko	Charlotte	ECHL	18	932	6	8	1	3.67	.878
	Jacksonville	ACL	6	357	0	6	0	4.03	.895
Eddy Skazyk	Corpus Christi	CL	7	352	2	3	0	5.11	.856

League Abbreviations:

AHL – American Hockey League
 ECHL – East Coast Hockey League
 WCL – West Coast League
 CL – Central League
 UL – United League



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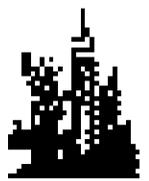
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Carolers of Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna maintain tradition

by Diana Howansky

YONKERS, N.Y. – If you are a member of the Ukrainian American community in the Yonkers, N.Y., area, carolers from the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna (known by its Ukrainian acronym, OOL) are likely to pay you a visit each year around Christmas. This year was no exception.

During the period between Ukrainian Christmas Eve and New Year's Day, OOL's Branch 2 in Yonkers organized approximately half a dozen groups to travel from household to household, offering songs and good wishes. To remain true to the custom of Ukrainian Christmas caroling and to add humor to their performance, one young group even wore costumes.

Dressed as the three wise men, shepherds, an angel and a goat, the carolers sang traditional carols like "Boh Sia Razhdaie" (God is Born) and "Dobryi Vechir Tobi" (Good Evening to You). Ukrainian Christmas traditions have retained various pagan elements and the accompaniment of someone in a goat

costume, for example, was historically meant to represent the god of fertility.

The carolers also recited short poems, or "vinshuvannia," for their hosts: "Schobyste maly khliba, sala i soli na stoli. Schobyste maly zhyta, pshenytsi i chystoj vody v krynitsi," they said in Lemko. [May you have bread, lard and salt on your table. May you have rye, wheat and clean water in your well.]

Then, with a "zvizda" in hand, the carolers bid each host good-bye. The zvizda is a large six- or eight-pointed star that is made from colored paper and attached to a tall pole; it symbolizes the Star of Bethlehem.

Donations for the OOL were accepted and greatly appreciated. These proceeds will go towards the OOL's work of promoting the rights of Lemkos throughout the world.

For more information about the activities of Branch 2 of the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna or how you can get involved, readers may contact Steven Howansky, (203) 762-5912; or Steve Kapitula, (914) 478-0498.



Carolers of the Organization for the Defense of Lemkivschyna: (top row, from left) Darek Chomiak, Ruslan Krupczenko, Diana Howansky, Jurek Gaworzak (bottom row) Danuta Lezynska-Chomiak, Lena Howansky and Irene Korbicz-Faria.

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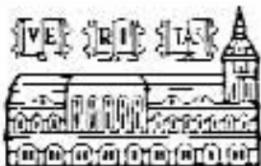
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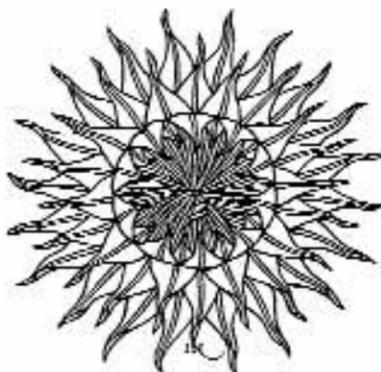
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**Patricia Coatsworth, Administrator
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СОКОЛИ

NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) warning Kyiv against pushing the current political reform by unconstitutional means is an "ultimatum," UNIAN reported. Mr. Zadorozhnyi said the resolution is "absolutely absurd" and does not reflect the situation in Ukraine in either a factual or legal sense. He added that the resolution was drafted "by two crazy ladies who do not understand Ukrainian developments at all," in an apparent reference to PACE monitors Hanne Severinsen and Renate Wohlwend. According to Mr. Zadorozhnyi, PACE intends to impose opposition leader Viktor Yushchenko as a new president on Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

PACE warns Kyiv on political reform

STRASBOURG, Germany – The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) voted 46-13 on January 29 to adopt a resolution threatening to suspend Ukraine's membership in the Council of Europe if Ukrainian authorities continue to push through the current political reform by unconstitutional means or fail to guarantee a free and fair presidential ballot in October, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. The resolution says the process of introducing constitutional amendments initiated in Ukraine last year contradicts both the Constitution of Ukraine and the Verkhovna Rada's rules of procedure. The resolution calls on all forces in the Verkhovna Rada to reconsider all three draft laws on constitutional amendments in an open debate and with full respect for parliamentary rules, take into account recommendations of the Venice Commission regarding the constitutional amendments and hold a scheduled presidential election in 2004 for the term prescribed in the current Constitution. The resolution expresses hopes that President Leonid Kuchma will step down at the end of his second term in 2004. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kyiv defends 'constitutional process'

KYIV – Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Kostyantyn Gryshchenko told a PACE session in Strasbourg, Germany, on January 29 that "Ukraine is not experiencing a political crisis but faces heated and emotional debates" on how to change the political system in the country, Interfax reported. According to Mr. Gryshchenko, all the changes envisaged in the political reforms making their way through the Verkhovna Rada are proceeding in line with the Constitution. "We are open for further dialogue," Mr. Gryshchenko declared. "Nevertheless, the situation requires that resolutions be considered and adopted. A normal constitutional process is in progress in Ukraine." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma decrees 'Year of Poland'

KYIV – Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree furthering organization of the Year of Poland in Ukraine in 2004, Interfax reported on January 27, quoting the presidential press service. Vice Prime Minister Dmytro Tabachnyk was tasked with working out a plan of measures within the project's framework aimed at deepening the Ukrainian-Polish strategic partnership and strengthening bilateral economic and humanitarian ties, according to the decree. President Kuchma and his Polish counterpart, Aleksander Kwasniewski, are expected to open the Year of Poland in Ukraine on April 1, during the Polish president's planned three-day visit to Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Deep cuts planned in Ukraine's army

KYIV – Heorhii Kriuchkov, the head of the parliamentary National Security and Defense Committee, announced on January 27 that the Ukrainian army will be reduced by 80,000 personnel in 2004, from its current level of 355,000, UNIAN reported. Mr. Kriuchkov added that by the end of 2005, the Ukrainian army will number 200,000. Defense Minister Yevhen Marchuk said on January 28 that personnel reductions in the military will begin after the Verkhovna Rada passes a relevant bill that has already been submitted to the legislature. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma vows 'real anti-corruption policy'

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma promised on January 29 to pursue a "tough, real anti-corruption policy" in 2004, UNIAN reported. "Some are likely to expect that in the election year, under the cover of disorder and chaos, they will invigorate their shady businesses," Mr. Kuchma said. "Let them abandon this expectation. There will be no chaos! On the contrary, I will rigorously demand the implementation of a tough, real – I repeat: real – anti-corruption policy, no matter who stands in my way." (RFE/RL Newsline)

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

Jersey youths enjoy traditions of “Andriyivskyi Vechir”

by Nusia Paszczak Denysyk

WHIPPANY, N.J. – On Friday evening, December 12, 2003, the senior Plast Sorority of Spartanky organized a traditional Ukrainian “Andriyivskyi Vechir” here at the parish hall of St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church.

In attendance were Plast youths from the organization’s branches in Newark and Passaic, specially invited guests from the Whippany Oseredok (branch) of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), plus Father Roman Mirchuk, pastor of St. John’s, friends of Spartanky, parents and other curious guests.

The festively decorated hall wonderfully set the fortune-telling mood of the evening. Spartanky, dressed as “vorozhky” (fortune-telling gypsies) were stationed at several individual tables, prepared to make predictions. The various Spartanky-vorozhky told fortunes by reading palms, cards, tea leaves, melted wax, dominos and a crystal ball, as well as by using a ouiji board and numerology.

The evening began with an introductory speaker explaining the traditions behind the gathering. Andriyivskyi Vechir, which means St. Andrew’s Eve, is a time when



Some of the participants of a special “Andriyivskyi Vechir” held for teens in Whippany, N.J.

teenagers and young adults gather to celebrate St. Andrew’s feast day with some old and mysterious rituals – a blend of Christian and pre-Christian beliefs, including those associated with the Winter Solstice.

It is a specially festive time for young unmarrieds, as fortune-tellers traditionally peer into the future to see who would marry whom.

A snack buffet was set up for all to enjoy as the youths mingled and shared their fortunes.

The evening was a fun way of preserving and sharing wonderful Ukrainian ancestral traditions.



A young girl peers into the future with the assistance of a “vorozhka.”

Young and old of Woonsocket welcome St. Nicholas



Some of the participants of a special event held in Woonsocket, R.I., to welcome St. Nicholas.

WOONSOCKET, R.I. – Children in this Rhode Island town were treated to a visit by St. Nicholas on December 14, 2003, when the special guest arrived at St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church’s parish hall. A Nativity play was prepared by the children under the direction of Dr. Lydia Tkach. Camilla Babiak portrayed Mary, while Marko Tkach was Joseph. Julia Hull was an angel, and the three kings were played by Andriyko Klufas, Roman Kusma and Andrew Wolansky. Credits go also to Dr. Bogdan Kusma for acting as liaison to St. Nicholas, and to John Tkach who played music. All participants sang carols in Ukrainian and English. The children were especially happy as the heavenly guest distributed gifts. The adults in attendance, among them Msgr. Roman Golemba, pastor, and Janet Bardell and Theodore Klowan of Ukrainian National Association Branch 241, were happy as well due to the good community turnout.

Lviv “plastuny” share customs of St. Nicholas with special children

by Peter Steciuk
Special to UKELODEON

Lviv – Ukrainians believe that St. Nicholas (Sviatyi Mykolai) brings gifts to children on St. Nicholas Day – December 18, according to the old calendar.

Here in Lviv, members of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization visited “internaty” to gather letters to St. Nicholas from the children. Internaty are schools with dormitories for children with physical and mental disabilities, orphans and others.

The “plastuny” (as members of Plast are called) then collected gifts for the children. Gifts came from all over – from local churches and families, and even from Plast members and Ukrainian schools in the

United States. Some groups sent money, so Lviv’s Plast “okruha” (district) made arrangements with local companies and merchants to provide supplies at a discount.

Once all the gifts had been gathered, Lviv plastuny packed individual boxes for every child. Then, on St. Nicholas Day, the plastuny loaded sacks full of boxes of presents onto a bus and drove to the internat in the town of Skole. They put on a St. Nicholas play for the children and played games with them, before finally St. Nicholas handed out the gifts.

The Lviv okruha has even invited some of the neediest children from the internat to come to Lviv for a weekend of games and fun, after which they will receive some final, belated gifts from Sviatyi Mykolai.

UKELODEON is 5!

This month’s issue of UKELODEON marks this section’s fifth anniversary. These special pages “for our next generation” first appeared in The Ukrainian Weekly’s issue of February 14, 1999. Its mission: to serve as a forum for youth, about youth and by the youth of our community – from kindergartners to high schoolers.

So, why not help us celebrate? Let us know what you’re up to. And, let us know how we can improve UKELODEON with your help. Become a regular contributor. That would be the best birthday gift for our UKELODEON.

Petro Pytaye: 2004 and you

OK, since so few of you responded to our last “Petro Pytaye” question, we’re giving you another chance to see your name, your ideas – and your photo – in print.

In an attempt to get more UKELODEON readers involved and onto the pages of this special section for “the next generation,” our reporter, Petro Pytaye, is asking you to reply to the following questions in time for our next issue.

What New Year’s resolution did you make for 2004?

What are you most looking forward to in 2004?

Please fill out:

Name: _____ Age: _____
School: _____ Grade: _____
Address: _____

Please clip out and send to: The Ukrainian Weekly, UKELODEON, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ, 07054. Deadline: January 30. If possible, please include a photo of yourself that we can publish along with your response.

PS: You may also e-mail your response to staff@ukrweekly.com.

Mishanyna

To solve Mishanyna, find the capitalized words in the grid below.

This year marks 950 years since one of Ukraine’s greatest rulers, Grand Prince YAROSLAV the Wise, died. Born in the year 978, he died in 1054. He is known to us as “THE WISE” in recognition of the way he ruled his realm.

Yaroslav was the son of Grand Prince VOLODYMYR the GREAT and Princess ROHNIDA of Polatsk. His royal family also included four half-brothers. Yaroslav himself was the father of seven princes.

At first Yaroslav governed the lands of Rostov and Novgorod. After the death of his father, Yaroslav and his half-brother SVIATOPOLK I fought for the throne in Kyiv. Yaroslav emerged victorious in a battle at LIUBECH in 1015 and assumed the titled of GRAND PRINCE of Kyiv.

Yaroslav fought many BATTLES to retain his authority, waging war against various relatives. He also fought campaigns against the neighbors of Kyivan Rus’ and strove to FORTIFY the borders of his realm. In the year 1037 he succeeded in routing the Pechenihy who had attacked Kyiv. To mark his VICTORY he built the beautiful St. SOPHIA Cathedral.

Yaroslav was responsible for building many churches, and during his reign more than 400 CHURCHES were built in Kyiv alone. His walled city in Kyiv could be entered through the famous GOLDEN GATE, or the so-called Polish or Jewish gates.

Grand Prince Yaroslav was known also for bringing order to his REALM. He compiled a book of LAWS that formed the basis for the codex known as RUSKA Pravda. He supported the Church in many ways, and under his reign the first monasteries in Rus’ were established.

He established international ties by MARRIAGE. He married the daughter of the king of Sweden and arranged marriages for his daughters to the KINGS of Norway, France and Hungary. His SONS married into ROYAL families in Poland, Byzantium, England and Norway. That is why he is known as “the father-in-law of Europe.”

Yaroslav died on February 20, 1054. He was buried in St. Sophia Cathedral.

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OUR NEXT ISSUE: UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated March 14, please send in your materials by March 5.

We especially encourage kids and teens to submit articles and see their names in print. And don’t forget to send a photo or two. Plus, photos of UKELODEON reporters – that means any of you young readers who submit a story – are welcome.

Please drop us a line:

UKELODEON, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510. Call us at (973) 292-9800; or send e-mail to staff@ukrweekly.com. (We ask all contributors to please include a daytime phone number.)

Soyuzivka's Datebook

February 14, 2004

Valentine's Day Weekend,
5-Course Dinner and Dance
featuring Askold Buk Trio,
6 p.m., \$19.95++

February 21, 2004

Napanoch Fire Department Banquet

February 28, 2004

SUNY New Paltz Sorority
Semi-Formal Banquet

March 6-7, 2004

Plast Kurin "Khmelnynchenky"
Annual Winter Rada

March 20, 2004

Grace Church Men's Retreat

March 27-28, 2004

"Cooking in the Ukrainian Tradition"
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April 10, 2004

Easter Celebration and Easter Brunch

April 17, 2004

Wedding - Nancy Medwid
and Jonathan McFall

May 7-9, 2004

Cinco De Mayo Weekend Celebration

May 14, 2004

Ellenville Junior Prom

May 15, 2004

Wedding - Stephan Kowalczyk
and Alex Raut

May 28-31, 2004

Memorial Day Weekend
BBQ & Dance



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Monday, February 9

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a lecture by Prof. Taras Kuzio, resident fellow, Center for Russian and European Studies, and adjunct professor, political science, University of Toronto, titled "Ukrainian Foreign Policy: Pro-Russian, Pro-Western or Simply Pro-Kuchma?" The lecture will be held at the institute's Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m. For more information contact HURI (617) 495-4053 or huri@fas.harvard.edu.

Saturday, February 14

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) and the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, New York Metropolitan Chapter invite the public to a roundtable on the topic: "Professional Education in Ukraine and in America: The Field of Medicine." Taking part in the roundtable will be Dr. Marta Kushnir, Dr. Daria Dykyj, Dr. Viktor Gribenko, Dr. Michael Cehelsky and Dr. George Sawytzky, with introductory remarks by Dr. Lesia Kushnir. The program will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For additional information call (212) 254-5130.

SOMERSET, N.J.: The Central New Jersey Branch of the Committee for Aid to Ukraine invites the public to a "Carnival Ball" dinner/dance to be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, 135 Davidson Ave., starting at 6:30 p.m., and featuring music by the famed Tempo orchestra. There will be cocktails (cash bar); a dinner-buffet (Ukrainian kitchen); and a raffle. Tickets in advance: \$40 per person; \$25, students. Tickets at the door: \$45 per person; \$25, students. Proceeds to benefit students in Ukraine. For reservations call Damian Gecha, (908) 755-8156; the Rev. Ivan Lyszyk, (212) 873-8550 or (908) 253-0401; Michael Shulha, (908) 534-6683; or the Ukrainian National Credit Union, (732) 469-9085.

Sunday, February 15

ATLANTA, Ga.: The Sisterhood of Mother of God Ukrainian Catholic Church in Conyers, Ga., invites all to a "Mardi Gras" dinner/dance to be held on the church grounds, 2880 Hwy 138 NE, following the 10:30 a.m. Ukrainian liturgy. Music will be by the great Roman Salo. For more information call Krys Kopelakis, (770) 483-3309 or Oksana Foltyn (678) 296-9757. Admission: adults, \$7; children under 17, free.

Friday-Saturday, February 20-21

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and the New York Bandura Ensemble present a Bandura Downtown Special Event, two concerts of new works by the Canadian ensemble Paris to Kyiv, featuring performers Alexis Kochan (vocals), Richard Moody (viola, guitar) and Julian Kytasty (bandura, flute). Admission: \$20, (includes reception with

the artists). The concerts will take place at 8 p.m. on February 20 and again on February 21 at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor. The gallery presents the "Archetypes of Ukrainian Culture" exhibit. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 995-2640, or e-mail: nybandura@aol.com. Website: <http://www.geocities.com/ukrartlitclub/>, <http://www.paristokyiv.com>.

Saturday, February 21

EAST HANOVER, N.J.: St. John the Baptist School Board formally invites the alumni, donors and public to a pre-Lenten dance to be held at the Ramada Inn, Route 10. The dance begins at 9 p.m., with music by Na Zdorovlia. Tickets, at \$20 per person, may be purchased at the school by calling (973) 373-9359 or by contacting Steven Woch, (973) 887-1588, or Andy Podberezniak, (973) 376-5287, after 6 p.m. Tickets can be also purchased at the door.

Friday, February 23

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Art and Literary Club and Mayana Gallery present "Oy, Lado, Lado!" - an evening celebrating the Feast of St. Valentine. The program will include a "Drawing and Painting of Hearts" competition with all present as participants; poetry readings by Nadia Savchuk, Victoria Symotiuk and Lavrentia Turkewicz with music by Volodymyr Tkachenko; and a song performance by the Promin Vocal Ensemble, Bohdanna Wolansky, director. Donation: \$7; students, \$5. The gallery will feature the "Hearts" exhibition (through February 15). The evening will be at the Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., fourth floor, at 7:30 p.m. For more information, call (212) 260-4490 or (212) 777-8144; visit the website <http://www.geocities.com/ukrartlitclub/>; or e-mail ukrartlitclub@aol.com.

Sunday, February 29

NEWARK, N.J.: The Mothers' Club of St. John the Baptist School invites the public to a Tricky Tray/Gift Auction (aka Chinese Auction) to be held in the school gym, 746 Sanford Ave. Doors open at noon, a chicken dinner will be served at 1 p.m., and the auction begins around 2:15 p.m. Tickets, at \$15 per person, may be purchased in advance by calling the school, (973) 373-9359, or the following mothers after 7 p.m.: Halya Podberezniak, (973) 376-5287, Teresa Szpyhulsky, (908) 289-0127, or Chrystya Woch, (973) 887-1588. Come and enjoy the dinner and great prizes. (Snow date: Sunday March 7).

CORRECTION

The Shevchenko Scientific Society announcement in the January 25 issue of The Weekly regarding a lecture by Prof. Myroslava Mudrak of the Ohio State University on the topic of the artistic heritage of Kazimir Malevich (1878-1935) was incorrectly listed as taking place at 5 p.m. on Sunday, February 8. The presentation will be held at 2 p.m. on February 8 at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets).

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided by The Ukrainian Weekly at minimal cost (\$20 per listing). Listings should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054; fax, (973) 644-9510.

Attention Debutante Ball Organizers!

As in the past three years, The Ukrainian Weekly is planning to publish a special section devoted to the Ukrainian community's debutantes.

The 2004 debutante ball section will be published in March. The deadline for submission of stories and photos is March 1.