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## Kuchma sacks Tabachnyk

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Dmytro Tabachnyk, who at the age of 31 was the wizard that put together the election campaign that propelled Leonid Kuchma into the presidency, was unceremoniously sacked as the president's first in command on December 10 at the age of 33.

Mr. Kuchma, who rewarded Mr. Tabachnyk's effort as campaign manager in 1994 with the post of chief of staff, had become more and more removed from his right-hand man, whom many had called the president's shadow in the first years of the Kuchma administration, but lately had started referring to as the "second president."

President Kuchma signed the decree that dismissed Mr. Tabachnyk from his position. It is not clear why he was dismissed, although Reuters quoted a Ukrainian Television news announcer as stating that the chief of staff was replaced "in connection with his transfer to another job."

Volodymyr Horbulin, chairman of the National Security Council, dismissed that reasoning when he explained at a regular presidential administration press briefing that Mr. Tabachnyk had expressed no plans for the near-term future, except that he had not had a vacation in two years and was ready for an extended one.

Mr. Horbulin also called the presi-



Dmytro Tabachnyk

dent's decision "not a political move." He said, "The president has the right to release any member of his administration. To me this is not an unusual move."

Political or not, the controversies that have surrounded the 33-year-old boy wonder lately made him a political liability for the president.

He had been bickering with the Verkhovna Rada over alleged dealings

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## Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada takes action against Russian claims to Sevastopol

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Russian Federation Council, the upper house of the Russian Parliament, did on December 5 what the lower house had been threatening for weeks: it passed a resolution that questions the status of the city of Sevastopol in Crimea.

The Federation Council issued a statement that "unilateral actions by the Ukrainian side aimed at severing from Russia a part of her territory are not only illegal from any viewpoint of international law, but are detrimental to Russia's security."

Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada responded on December 6 with a resolution of its own and the introduction of a bill on the removal of foreign troops from Ukrainian soil.

For weeks the Russian Duma, the lower house, had been simmering with disenchantment that the Black Sea Fleet would leave the city of Sevastopol, located in the Crimean autonomous region of Ukraine, with an agreement between the executive branches of both governments seemingly near at hand. It had passed the first reading of a resolution that would have brought the city under the budgetary responsibility of the Duma and officially declared it a Russian city. The

final vote was delayed after Russian political leaders from the other branches of government stepped in, and after consultations with the Communist Party of Ukraine, according to that party's leader, Petro Symonenko. Meetings also occurred between representatives of the Duma and the Verkhovna Rada.

The Duma did, however, pass a resolution that talks on dividing the fleet must be halted, which was vetoed by Russian President Boris Yeltsin on December 2.

Among other things, the Federation Council resolution states that firmness in upholding national interests, a well-weighted attitude and adherence to law would help in "defending and strengthening Russian statehood," according to Interfax-Ukraine.

It said that actions by Ukraine "hamper the development of good neighborly and mutually beneficial relations between the two fraternal peoples and are detrimental to the international prestige of the two countries."

The proposal to issue a statement on the status of Sevastopol was initiated by the powerful mayor of Moscow, Yuri Luzhkov, who had declared in October that Sevastopol is and will be a Russian

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## Consular official charged in Toronto

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — A recently arrived Ukrainian consular official has become embroiled with the police and the courts, and since the first week of December has drawn the local media's notice.

Olexander Yushko, 32, who was to assume a post as Ukraine's vice-consul in Toronto, was charged on October 26 with two counts of drinking and driving, one count of possession of stolen goods, and one count of attempted bribery of a police officer. According to a staffer of the Clerk's Office of the Ontario Provincial Court, charges of attempting to administer a noxious substance and attempted abduction are pending.

However, Mr. Yushko is refusing to appear in court, or to adhere to conditions of bail, claiming that he has diplomatic immunity.

Ukraine's consul general in Toronto, Viktor Borovyk, has told a number of reporters that this situation could have "a drastic effect on relations between Ukraine and Canada," but has refused to

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## Pynzenyk leads public relations campaign to push reforms

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Cabinet of Ministers, led by Vice Prime Minister Viktor Pynzenyk, has recently mounted a public relations campaign to push through an extensive package of tax and economic reforms to better the business investment climate in Ukraine.

Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada has resisted acting on the budget package submitted by the government in October and has kept the bills in committee while requesting clarifications and rewrites. A major concern is how to assure the viability of the budget numbers without first putting in place the new tax package.

In the last several weeks Mr. Pynzenyk, Minister of the Economy Vasyl Huriyev, Minister of Finance Valentyn Koronevsky, Chairman of the National Bank of Ukraine Viktor Yushchenko and presidential economic aide Valerii Lytyvtsky have all appeared before the press and on television to explain and press for the new 1997 budget and extensive reforms, including a restructuring of the current tax system and a narrowing of the social protection network.

The latest press conference, held on November 29, involved the 15 top government economic specialists and was led by Mr. Pynzenyk, who has become the country's master craftsman of economic reform. The economic reform team released a series of documents that give a clearer picture of just what the government will attempt to do in 1997 to bring Ukraine out of the economic gutter. The World Bank has predicted that if the package is passed into law by the Verkhovna Rada and implemented properly by the government Ukraine could see a 1.7 percent growth in its GDP in 1997, which could reach 10.9 percent by the year 2000.

Mr. Pynzenyk said he realizes the package on tax reform and economic growth — dubbed "Economic Growth — '97" — which contains seven draft laws, is a complicated piece of legislation and that the Cabinet is ready to work with the Verkhovna Rada to explain the package and move it through committees to the Parliament floor.

Mr. Pynzenyk said a level of "macroeconomic stability" has been reached, inflation is under control and the hryvnia is relatively stable. In September 1996 inflation was held to 2 percent, and the government expects

the October figure to reach no more than 1.5 percent. "We all understand, however, that if we do not raise the level of economic production, the standard of living will never rise for most people," he explained.

The economic growth package will reinvigorate the Ukrainian economy, according to Mr. Pynzenyk, by reducing the tax burden on proprietors, stimulating businesses to create jobs and bringing the gray economy into the official economy.

He said the package is not merely a tax package, although at first the aim was for tax relief. "When the working group (which includes representatives from the Verkhovna Rada, the presidential administration and the Cabinet of Ministers) got together, we realized that a whole series of reforms was needed to make the tax reform viable," he explained.

A key element of the tax reform is to include those businesses on the fringes of the legal economy who avoid paying taxes by sheltering profits or simply maintaining illegal transactions. Mr. Pynzenyk announced a comprehensive national system of registration. The structure would give partial tax relief

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## NEWS ANALYSIS

**Russian-Ukrainian row worsens**

by Taras Kuzio

The vote on December 5 by 110:14 in the Russian Federation Council, the upper house of the Russian Parliament, to issue a statement and resolution declaring the city of Sevastopol "part of Russian territory" marks a dangerous stage in the six-year row with Ukraine over their mutual borders, the Black Sea Fleet and Crimean territory. The resolution, which was passed by a vote of 110-14, condemns "Ukraine's refusal to recognize Sevastopol's Russian status."

It follows a vote by 334-1 on October 23 by the State Duma to halt the division of the Black Sea Fleet and obtain exclusive Russian basing rights in Sevastopol, as well as a vote the following day of 282-0 to send an appeal to the Ukrainian Parliament declaring Sevastopol to be exclusively Russian territory.

That we have not seen the last stage of this row can be seen by the Federation Council resolution mandating the creation of a Russian commission involving the presidency, the Cabinet of Ministers, the Federation Council and the State Duma to draft a law on Sevastopol's status.

Four dangerous trends are evident from the Federation Council vote by a wide margin claiming Sevastopol as "Russian territory."

First, claims on Ukrainian territory by the Russian Parliament are nothing new. In May and December 1992 the Russian Parliament questioned the "legality" of the 1954 transfer of both the Crimea and Sevastopol; in July 1993 it actually declared Russian jurisdiction over the city of Sevastopol. Neither of these three resolutions were denounced by the Russian State Dumas elected in December 1993 or December 1995.

The new resolutions adopted in 1996 laying claim to Ukrainian territory therefore, have built upon a legacy of previous claims which have served to sour relations with Ukraine and re-confirm Kyiv's deeply felt level of mistrust towards its Russian neighbor.

Second, the Russian executive (the president and government) and Western governments have always ridiculed these parliamentary resolutions as having no juridical significance as well as being policies not supported by the executive; in other words, they were irrelevant because the Russian Parliament had little effective power.

This argument can no longer be used by either the Russian executive or the West. By 1996 there has been a convergence of the views of the nationalist/communist wing of Russian politics with that of the center-right currently in power (the so-called "demo-patriots" or national democrats). In the State Duma and the Federation Council the Our Home is Russia faction of the political party led by Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin, has usually voted with the nationalist/Communist wing to provide constitutional majorities in favor of hard-line policies on what Russia calls the "near abroad" (for example, support for the Trans-Dniester Republic of Moldova, Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, Abkhazian separatism and territorial claims to Sevastopol).

Therefore, this year has seen a dangerous convergence of support for hard-line policies vis-à-vis Ukraine, and other regions of the near abroad, between the legislature and the executive. The Federation Council is largely staffed by President

Boris Yeltsin's appointees. Prime Minister Chernomyrdin, not for the first time, demanded on December 3 (only two days prior to this latest vote) that Ukraine recognize the "illegality" of its sovereignty over Sevastopol, using nationalist language and rhetoric usually reserved for the extreme wing of Russian politics.

In addition, during the latest negotiations held with Ukraine, both Messrs. Yeltsin and Chernomyrdin have referred to parliamentary initiatives to back up their case of demanding exclusive long-term Russian basing rights in Sevastopol. Russian Public Television, in which the state still has a majority stockholding, began including Sevastopol in October within its daily weather reports of the "Russian Federation."

Third, this step towards officially recognizing that a territorial dispute exists between Ukraine and Russia over the city of Sevastopol, backed by the legislature and executive, is not the end of the matter. It will undoubtedly evolve into a territorial claim towards the Crimea as a whole.

Fourth, these claims will only serve to stiffen Ukraine's resolve twofold. On the one hand, Ukraine will continue to refuse to grant exclusive Russian basing rights in Sevastopol. If basing rights remain on offer by Ukraine at all, which is not certain, they will continue to insist on the joint basing of both countries' navies in Sevastopol. In addition, Ukraine would continue to insist that any basing of Russian forces be based on a paid lease. In both cases these would be to demonstrate Kyiv's continued sovereignty over Sevastopol.

**Ukrainian responses**

Ukraine has five policy options that are likely to be utilized in response to these newly concerted territorial claims.

First, the claim may be raised at the United Nations and within the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe. This step was undertaken in summer 1993 after the Russian Parliament laid claim to Sevastopol. The United Nations backed Ukraine's territorial integrity then — just as it will back it now — referring to the November 1990 Ukrainian-Russian treaty that recognized current borders. (Russia argues this is legally invalid after the USSR disintegrated.)

Second, Ukraine may use its NATO card. During the last six months four high-ranking Ukrainian officials (including the foreign minister, his vice-minister and the secretary of the Council of National Security and Defense) have stated that Ukraine may seek future NATO membership. This step was partly conditioned upon relations with Russia. If a post-Yeltsin Russia is ruled by either Aleksandr Lebed or Gennadiy Zyuganov, or if the current Yeltsin leadership backs up the territorial claims advanced by both houses of the Russian Parliament, then Ukraine may drop its declared non-bloc status and neutrality in favor of seeking NATO membership.

Third, Ukraine may seek the support of the remaining four declared nuclear powers in its territorial dispute with Russia. All five declared nuclear powers provided security assurances to Ukraine in December 1994, a demand that Ukraine had raised as a quid pro quo for its ratification of the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. These security assurances (which the Ukrainian leadership and media always refer to, incorrectly, as "security guarantees") uphold Ukraine's territorial integrity and sovereignty. Hence, four of the declared nuclear powers (the United Kingdom, the U.S., France and China, which has sought in return Ukraine's backing for its territorial integrity vis-à-vis

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**NEWSBRIEFS****NATO members agree to expand**

BRUSSELS — Foreign ministers from the 16 NATO countries met here on December 10 and agreed that invitations will be extended to "one or more" of 11 East European countries, former Warsaw Pact allies, to join NATO. The countries that have been selected to receive an invitation will be announced at NATO's summit in Madrid in July 1997. President Bill Clinton stated U.S. support to accept Poland and the Czech Republic; speculations also include Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Slovakia, among the first group to be invited. For the present, NATO proposed that a "distinctive relationship" be established with Ukraine. Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udoenko responded that Ukraine will seek a separate agreement with NATO. Ukraine was the first former Soviet republic to join NATO's Partnership for Peace program. The U.S. pledged that no NATO nuclear weapons would be deployed on new member's territories. According to Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs Kostiantyn Hryshchenko, Ukraine "is satisfied with the American decision since the U.S. is the largest owner of nuclear weapons within NATO ... but would prefer a more formal answer from all of NATO." Ukraine has been the primary force behind an initiative to create a non-nuclear zone in all countries of Central and Eastern Europe. Russia continues to oppose NATO expansion, but has agreed to meet to discuss a formal relationship between NATO and Russia. Mr. Hryshchenko emphasized that Ukraine will insist on a separate agreement with NATO. (Combined wire reports)

**Russians wary of Albright**

MOSCOW — Russian media and political commentators expressed wariness about President Bill Clinton's proposed appointment of Ambassador Madeleine Albright to the post of U.S. secretary of state. Though Russia's Foreign Ministry officially supports the idea, the newspaper Segodnya stated on December 7 that the appointment of the Czech-born diplomat will create "colossal problems" for the Russian Foreign Ministry. Ambassador Albright is a determined supporter of NATO enlargement. Izvestiya speculated that Ms. Albright's Czech heritage will make her "inclined towards confrontation with Moscow" and that Clinton's proposal should be interpreted as a "strengthening of anti-Russian forces in Washington." (OMRI Daily Digest)

**EU Council approves Ukraine plan**

BRUSSELS — The General Affairs Council of the European Union approved

the "EU Action Plan" for Ukraine on December 6. The plan, which consists of six main points, includes support for: macro-economic reform, 538 million ECU earmarked for 1996-1999; transformation of civic and political life, including the system of education, civil protection, democratic institutions, upgrade of civil administration; Ukraine's entry into European security agreements; regional economic cooperation, such as Ukraine's acceptance into the Central European Free Trade Association and increased involvement in the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Council; closer interaction between the EU and Ukraine, including assistance with investments, bilateral trade agreements, Ukraine's acceptance in the World Trade Organization; and reform of Ukraine's energy sector, with a focus on increasing energy efficiency and improving nuclear plant safety, including the full shutdown of Chernobyl. (Reuters)

**Protests continue in Belarus**

MIENSK — Approximately 3,000 protesters marched peacefully in central Minsk on December 8 to protest Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's unilateral changes to the Constitution, his suppression of political opposition and Russia's encroachment on Belarusian independence. The protesters demanded the resignation of Mr. Lukashenka. Approximately 20 people were arrested. On December 10, several hundred students gathered in central Minsk to commemorate International Human Rights Day, and demand the release of protesters and opposition activists arrested earlier. Though that rally also was peaceful, several students were arrested. The same day, in an act of protest against the November 24 referendum conducted by President Lukashenka, 40 members of the Belarusian Parliament assembled in the Writers' Union building to reaffirm their support for the 1994 Constitution approved by the legislature and to reject the results of the November 24 referendum. (Combined wire reports)

**Filaret calls for Orthodox unity**

KYIV — On December 9, Metropolitan Filaret, leader of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate, called for the unification of the Orthodox Church in Ukraine, claiming that a united Orthodox church must be created in Ukraine to mark the anniversary of Christ's birth in the year 2000. He announced his intention to meet for the first time with Patriarch Volodymyr Sabodan, head of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate. (OMRI Daily Digest)

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## UCCA's Washington Bureau urges investigation into Libyan connection

*Ukrainian National Information Service*

WASHINGTON — The Washington Bureau of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America Inc. (UCCA) has urged a key Senate Republican and the Clinton administration to act expeditiously to confirm or deny allegations that Ukraine is selling ballistic missiles to Libya.

The allegations are contained in articles by Bill Gertz and Martin Sieff published on December 9 and 10 in *The Washington Times*, which cited "top secret" CIA intelligence reports reportedly showing agreements, estimated to be worth \$510 million, between two Ukrainian "entities" with the regime of Libyan leader Moammar Gadhafi. If verified, such allegations would require a halt to U.S. assistance to Ukraine, including both the \$225 million earmark for fiscal year 1997 and \$900 million in aid already appropriated. Two previous *Washington Times* articles, published in June 1996, were dismissed by administration sources, who instead have consistently lauded Ukraine's non-proliferation record.

[In Kyiv, the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Ukraine reacted swiftly to the new report. Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Konstantyn Hryshenko stated: "We have no kind of military contracts with Libya whatsoever." Mr. Hryshenko called on the U.S. to make an official declaration that Ukraine had not violated its international commitments and sold arms to Libya, Agence France Press reported on December 11. Reuters reported that the

vice minister also suggested the accusation plays into the hands of Russia. "It is very strange that such accusations have been picked up so quickly by Moscow," he said, holding up a copy of *Izvestiya*.

Chief Foreign Ministry spokesman Yuriy Sergeyev said: "Someone wants to discredit U.S.-Ukrainian relations ... Someone wants to cut off or seriously reduce U.S. help to Ukraine." Reuters quoted him as saying of the alleged deal with Libya: "No such agreements were planned or have been planned."]

Within hours after the publication of the December 10 article, the UCCA's Washington bureau faxed letters from UCCA President Askold S. Lozynskiy to Sen. Mitch McConnell, chair of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Senate Appropriations Committee; National Security Council Advisor-Designate Samuel Berger; and Ambassador Richard Morningstar, coordinator of assistance to the NIS, stating that "the constant reiteration of the same allegations, without official confirmation, is unacceptable."

Mr. Lozynskiy suggested that Sen. McConnell and the administration "alleviate the situation" by investigating the allegations, so that the matter could either be laid to rest or made a matter of public record.

Mr. Lozynskiy's letters stated: "These charges against Ukraine are potentially damaging not only to U.S.-Ukrainian

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## Experts cite Sevastopol developments as issue of serious international concern

by R.L. Chomiak

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

WASHINGTON — Ukraine's main representative in the United States called it "serious aggravation of the situation." Leading American experts agreed. Zbigniew Brzezinski called it "a very serious concern" of which "the international community should be cognizant," and Ilya Prizel of Johns Hopkins University characterized it as an "issue far more serious than it may seem."

The issue was the latest moves by Russia's two top legislative bodies — the State Duma and the Federation Council — to claim the Ukrainian city of Sevastopol for Russia and the city's huge naval facility exclusively for the Russian navy. It was the topic of a roundtable discussion at the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS) in Washington on December 10.

Ukraine's ambassador to the U.S., Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, led off the discussion. He came with political and military experts from his staff, with documents and statements from his government, and with overhead projection slides to reinforce Ukraine's case that the latest Russian moves are "a gross violation of the fundamentals of international law [and] encroachment on the sovereignty of Ukraine."

He appealed to the world community to take all measures in order to convince Russia that the path of territorial claims

is counterproductive. He also assured the audience that the leadership in Ukraine is taking the situation "very seriously," but approaching it "with extreme care." To show that the government of President Leonid Kuchma and the Parliament are united on this issue, he mentioned that the Verkhovna Rada has drafted legislation on the withdrawal of all Russian troops from Ukrainian territory.

Ukraine is willing to share the naval facilities in Sevastopol with Russia on a temporary basis, and negotiations about this have been moving along for more than four years. What has changed this fall is that the Russian Duma passed legislation to stop the division of the old Soviet Black Sea Fleet between Ukraine and Russia (October 16) and the Federation Council, the upper body of the Russian Parliament, declared that Sevastopol is a Russian city (December 5).

Ambassador Shcherbak said the Ukrainian government has assurances from the Russian president, from its prime minister and from its foreign minister that Russia has no territorial claims against Ukraine, "that the Ukrainian status of Sevastopol is indisputable and that the process of division [of the Black Sea Fleet] should be accomplished in accordance with prior bilateral agreements." The Ukrainian government, he added, deals with the Russian government.

The problem is that the majority of

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## Consular official...

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offer any other comment for the record. Staffers at the Ukrainian Consulate here declined to provide any background information on Mr. Yushko, on the duties he was to have assumed, or on his present whereabouts, and would not even say when exactly Mr. Yushko arrived on Canadian soil.

Detailed messages left for Yevhen Polishchuk, press secretary of Ukraine's Embassy in Ottawa, had gone unanswered at press time.

According to a December 5 report by columnist Christie Blatchford in the *Toronto Sun* daily, the charges against the vice-consul stem from an incident that took place a few days after Mr. Yushko's arrival in Canada. The vice-consul was arrested by Metropolitan Toronto Police Constable Charlie Kozdas after a woman called authorities complaining that a man had attempted to lure her daughters, age

12 and 14, into his car.

Ms. Blatchford's report relies on the submissions made by Sarah Welch, the crown attorney with the Ontario Solicitor General's Office prosecuting the case, before Justice Bruce Young of the Ontario Provincial Court on December 2. Ms. Welch related that Constable Kozdas apprehended Mr. Yushko and requested that he submit to a breathalyzer test. Ms. Welch alleged that the vice-consul failed spectacularly, registering three times the legal limit of alcohol intoxication.

The *Toronto Sun* article also mentions that Mr. Yushko was carrying a handkerchief soaked in anesthetic solvent at the time of his arrest.

The vice-consul is being represented by Toronto lawyer Lubomir Kozak, who has filed a motion to quash the charges on the grounds that Mr. Yushko is "a diplomat entitled to full diplomatic privileges and immunities."

Reached by telephone at his offices on December 5, Mr. Kozak refused to provide any information on the case to *The*

*Weekly*, saying only that, "There is a story here that has to be told, but it isn't the story that is coming out."

Court functionaries told *The Weekly* that Mr. Yushko has failed to appear at a total of six hearings since being released on \$10,000 bail on October 27 (the latest being on December 5) and has refused to hand in his passport despite an explicit court order to that effect. As a result, a discretionary bench warrant for Mr. Yushko's arrest has been issued, but not yet exercised.

In the meantime, Canada's Foreign Affairs Ministry has sent conflicting signals as to whether or not the official is covered by diplomatic immunity, but has shown little sign that relations with Ukrainian representatives have been "drastically affected."

According to the December 5 *Toronto Sun* item, letters dated October 29 and November 1 sent by the Department of Foreign Affairs and International Trade's Deputy Chief of Protocol W.R. Bowden to Prosecutor Welch firmly stated that Mr. Yushko "does not have immunity from criminal jurisdiction."

Ms. Welch then received a missive from R.J. Rochon, director general of the Foreign Affairs Department's Bureau of Legal Affairs, dated November 8, indicating that his ministry "wishes to withdraw" the previous two items of correspondence in the matter.

In the November 8 letter, placed in the public record by Ms. Welch along with the two others she received, Mr. Rochon wrote: "The [Foreign Affairs] Department has been informed by the Embassy of Ukraine that, during the entire day of October 26, 1996, including the period leading up to and at the time of his arrest, Mr. Yushko's acts were performed in the exercise of consular functions. The government of Ukraine has therefore asked that the immunities afforded to consular officers under the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations be applied to Mr. Yushko."

Mr. Rochon went on to certify Mr.

Yushko as a consular officer "entitled to the privileges and immunities afforded" to such officials.

In a brief telephone interview on December 10, Ms. Welch conceded that Mr. Rochon's letter was "the operant document" outlining the Foreign Affairs Ministry's position, but intimated that this would not deter her from pursuing the case.

Preferring not to reiterate submissions made in court, Ms. Welch directed this writer to Ms. Blatchford's article, which described a December 2 Provincial Court hearing that Mr. Yushko failed to attend.

The prosecutor is quoted proffering allegations that Mr. Yushko "opened his car door and with the engine still running, tried to entice a 12- and 14-year-old girl into his car," while allegedly holding a handkerchief later analyzed at Toronto's Center for Forensic Sciences and found to contain "a solvent which can act as an anesthetic and in sufficient quantities can induce coma and even death."

On December 10, Ms. Welch declined to comment why formal charges arising from the latter allegations had not as yet been filed.

"It is alleged," the *Sun* reporter quotes the Crown Attorney as saying, "that at the time of his arrest, the accused attempted to bribe the police officer, stating, in part 'Can't we do something about this? I can get \$200 U.S. follow me to my hotel, I will give you the money.'"

Ms. Welch added that the next hearing in the case would take place in Provincial Court on December 19. She said Justice Bruce Young, the judge presiding over the matter, would then decide whether or not to exercise the outstanding bench warrants on Mr. Yushko and compel him to appear before the court.

In the December 5 *Toronto Sun* story, Ms. Welch refers to a tip from a Metro Police security section detective who told the prosecutor of "reliable information" suggesting that "[Mr. Yushko] may be planning on fleeing the jurisdiction."

## Kuchma...

(Continued from page 1)

with Russian politicians and businessmen. The Parliament's Anti-Corruption Committee had begun an investigation into those relations, which included allegations of contacts with Russian Secret Service personnel. The Verkhovna Rada twice this year had appealed to the president to remove his chief of staff, according to *The Kiev Post*.

Mr. Tabachnyk also has been accused of illegally forcing people out of an apartment so that he could purchase it. *Kievskie Viedomosti*, Kyiv's popular tabloid, led a campaign accusing Mr. Tabachnyk of corruption and abuse of power, which forced Mr. Kuchma to order the Procurator General's Office to look into the matter. The chief of staff has been feuding with the newspaper for the past few months to the point that he

would refuse to answer questions posed by the newspaper's reporters.

Perhaps what finally moved President Kuchma to throw his trusted aide out of government was a fiasco in which Mr. Tabachnyk attempted to have himself promoted to the rank of colonel in the army reserves. In a presidential decree celebrating the fifth anniversary of the formation of Ukraine's armed forces, President Kuchma had promoted many officers, including members of government who held military positions in the reserves. However, the decree gave promotions to the next higher level, which would have given Mr. Tabachnyk only the position of captain. Mr. Tabachnyk is alleged to have used his influence to have the Ministry of Defense move him up a few more notches.

Mr. Horbulin, who is considered a possible successor to the deposed chief of staff, said President Kuchma will appoint a successor but that no decision had been made.

# Hard-hitting seminar in Toronto focuses on the abuse of women

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — A hard-hitting half-day seminar hosted by the Ukrainian Canadian Social Services Toronto branch took aim at a social ill that wreaks havoc worldwide, and is rarely effectively addressed in the Ukrainian community: the abuse of women.

Held on the morning of November 23 at UCSS's headquarters here, its panels featured a range of experts, from passionate social workers and a tough-talking provincial prosecutor, to an empathic psychiatrist. Their stark message was given additional power by the screening of a forceful video.

The conference set the stage for an airing of rarely cited statistics (e.g. about four Ukrainian women a month call the UCSS offices for help in dealing with domestic conflict) and several courageous testimonies by victims, one of whom sought support for her intention to form a support group for abused Ukrainian Canadian women.

The conference's principal organizer and chair was longtime UCSS activist and former parole officer Chrystyna Klukowskyj, who opened the proceedings from a lectern bearing a dramatic poster prepared specially by artist Anna Galkina for the occasion, a 1930s-style graphic with the conciliatory legend: "I am Human. Be my friend. Let us help each other."

"Although this issue is very painful for all of us to face," Ms. Klukowskyj said, "we must do it, for our sakes as women, for our children and for our families."

The first panelist, Olena Hankivsky, an associate of Ontario's Center for Research on Violence Against Women and Children and a lecturer in the departments of political science and women's studies at the University of Western Ontario, led off the proceedings with a bang.

Ms. Hankivsky pounded out statistics suggesting that about 154,000 of the estimated 532,000 women of Ukrainian descent in Canada have suffered physical and/or sexual abuse at the hands of their partners — in keeping with the national average projected by a 1993 Canadian governmental survey, "Violence Against Women."

Ms. Hankivsky outlined the forms of abuse visited upon women: physical, sexual, psychological, financial and spiritual — and pointed out that abuse "cuts across age, ethnicity, race, social and economic class, and level of education."

She exploded myths about abuse: that women provoke assault; that men are abused in equal proportion (police records indicate that 90 percent of domestic abusers are men); that if women don't leave an abusive situation, they assume joint responsibility for it; that it is more prevalent among lower classes and increases in periods of economic instability; that men who commit abuse are "sick"; or that abuse of substances such as alcohol "causes" assaults.

The London-based researcher listed a poignant array of hopes and fears that keep women from escaping such dire straits: expectations of improvement in behavior; a sense

of responsibility for family cohesion; fear of economic loss, of ostracism, of religious sanctions, of death.

Ms. Hankivsky pointed to the paradox of persistent denial that a problem exists among Ukrainians, while folk songs describing abuse (such as "Chervona Rozha Troyaka") are routinely sung as a form of seemingly innocent cultural expression.

Later in the session, Taisa Ruzycky, a former UCSS president, provided a dramatic illustration of the community's refusal to acknowledge the problem. She told of a friend of hers who, after suffering abuse for many years, called the police and had her husband charged with assault. When she confided in her parish priest and several friends, they all shamed her for creating divisions in the community and disgracing her family. When her day in court came, she dropped all charges, Ms. Ruzycky said.

In conclusion, Ms. Hankivsky asserted that "society, and the Ukrainian community, must realize that domestic assaults on women are not simply a women's issue, but criminal acts, which destroy families, women and children."

## Psychological dramas of abuse

Toronto-based psychiatrist Dr. Christina Kowalsky furthered the effort to tear down the wall of silence and secrecy that veils abuse. "Domestic assaults on women are not private acts, but have far-reaching effects on families, communities and society as a whole."

In affecting a woman's psychological condition adversely, she explained, it undermines an individual's ability to perform roles in the family, at work and in the community, and thus does harm to all of them.

Dr. Kowalsky gave a harrowing portrait of the psychological impact of domestic abuse, including pervasive thoughts of suicide (70 to 80 percent of female suicide victims suffered abuse); a sense of shame to the point of speechlessness; terrifying isolation from one's extended family and social groups.

The therapist said this sense of isolation and of victimization is often shared by children, who join in the project of hiding the shameful secret and shun their peers.

Treatment of victims often involves an arduous process of ridding them of a sense of guilt and responsibility for the assault. "The victim is not responsible for the abuse," stressed Dr. Kowalsky. "This seems simple and obvious, but not to a woman who is paralyzed by depression, isolation, shame and abysmal self-worth."

She said the first task of therapists is to establish contact with others in similar situations, and to renew former ties to family and friends.

Returning to the effects of abuse on children, Dr. Kowalsky sought to dispel the myth that it is better for children to have a father, even if they witness his assaults on their mother. The Toronto-based psychiatrist provided statistics demonstrating that emotional disturbances increase 17-fold in boys and 10-fold in girls who witness such events. She also said that children often grow to perpetuate these patterns — girls by acquiescing to abuse, boys by committing it.

Toronto Board of Education social worker Anna Seniw-Martelli outlined the various characteristics of pupils who have witnessed abuse in their homes — including lack of sociability and participation in sports, extremes in eating habits (fasting or gorging), inattention to schoolwork, being accident-prone, and expression of murderous or suicidal thoughts.

The Rev. Taras Dusanowskyj of Scarborough's St. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church, appeared conscious of navigating a minefield, and did so primarily by way of oblique anecdotes, parables, general interpretations of the Bible and Church doctrine.

The Rev. Dusanowskyj cautioned against dogmatic convictions about the sacredness of every marriage and outlined the various situations in which the Church considers dysfunctional marriages null and void.

The Rev. Dusanowskyj said "even Church circles" are increasingly willing to recognize that "serious deficits in judgment in dealing with the inevitable marital rights and responsibilities... as well as an inability to consummate a marriage because of problems of a psychic character," can be reasons for annulling a marriage.

Although through most of his address the Rev. Dusanowskyj seemed squeamish about making any categorical statements, in the end he said that if caught in an abusive situation, "a woman should avail herself of all the means of salvation that God sends her," and thus should not feel constrained by a marriage whose features are pain and suffering, and therefore "in God's eyes," not a marriage.

The clergyman also revisited the placing of Adam above Eve in the Book of Genesis, saying that such a hierarchy was "not God's plan, but a result and manifestation of humanity's sin, part of its expulsion from Eden."

Ms. Klukowskyj screened "One Hit Leads to Another," a video that examined the cyclical mechanics of domestic violence — from verbal abuse to physical, followed by a "honeymoon phase" of apologies and promises to change, followed by an intensification of tension and subsequent assaults.

It dramatized the situations faced by teenage mothers, housewives, professional women, even grandmothers caught in stale, violent unions. Also on view were the trials endured by children, who, the narrator asserted, witnessed 80 percent of the assaults on their mothers.

Ms. Klukowskyj said the 15-minute film, produced by the Victoria Women's Transition House, is available for rental from a number of the city's public libraries, but must be reserved in advance as it is much in demand.

## A vigorous prosecutor

After such disturbing sights, it was time to go proactive, which the next speaker, Assistant Crown Attorney Lidia Narozniak, a prosecutor with the Ontario Solicitor General's Office and a lecturer at the Ontario Police College, did with a satisfying energy. "You and your children have a right to protection from the police," she asserted. In strong confident tones, she assured the audience that the law places many tools at a victim's disposal.

The vigorous jurist asserted that both official statistics and the testimonies of the women involved indicate that levels of violence decreased dramatically after court action was pursued against an offending partner or spouse. "We aren't interested in breaking up families," Ms. Narozniak said, "We are interested in making it clear that the abuse of women is a crime."

Ms. Narozniak pointed out that in Ontario, police can and must press charges against alleged abusers whether or not the victim does so, but that the rate of recidivism (repeat offending) is dramatically lower if the women concerned pressed charges.

The prosecutor conducted her own exercise in myth-busting, taking particular aim at contradictory notions that such abuse is a new phenomenon, and that it is now less prevalent than before. While the prevalence of legally sanctioned wife-beating in many of the world's codices throughout history vitiates the former, statistics show that the incidence of domestic violence is not in decline. In fact, Ms. Narozniak said, one in five women admit to being victims of abuse, whereas the numbers are, in all probability, much higher.

Ms. Narozniak said the excuses for violence offered by the abused are often the key to its motivations. "I didn't fry his eggs properly" (an excuse given with alarming frequency by battered wives), or "I went out on a date with friends without telling him" both reveal the truth, she said: abuse is the result of a man's excessive assertion of power and control.

The myth of mental illness as a cause of abuse can be dispelled because most spousal beatings are coldly calculated, the prosecutor said, in that men inflict injury strategically, so that little evidence of it can be observed. Also, few abusers exhibit similarly violent aggression toward their colleagues at work or toward their peers at social occasions, she said.

Only by regaining self-respect and control over their own lives, the prosecutor contended, can women bring the cycle of violence to an end.

## Immigration and its Catch-22

Diane Dagenais, the next speaker, a Toronto-based federal lawyer with the Canadian Ministry of Justice dealing with immigration matters, began on a reassuring note in describing the status of a "landed immigrant" or "permanent resident."

Ms. Dagenais explained that threats of withdrawal of sponsorship or deportation from a suddenly abusive spouse are without legal foundation. Once an individual has secured this status, only in extreme cases, such as conviction for a criminal offense or for false submissions on the original application, can it be stripped or a person be deported.

While most visitor visa applicants for this status must apply from outside Canada, immigration officers can make exceptions on humanitarian grounds, particularly in the case of marriage to a Canadian citizen, and also if there is a sponsor/guarantor, and if there is proof of financial self-sufficiency. The individual's application can then proceed while they are in Canada, in most cases even with permission to work.

The fairly wide window of vulnerability opens, conceded the Montreal-born lawyer, when those who have not yet obtained landed status become dependent on an abuser for "humanitarian visa" considerations, if the abuser acts as a



Chrystyna Klukowskyj, the organizer of the seminar.

(Continued on page 7)

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## OBITUARY: Stella Ryan, employee of UNA Home Office for 55 years

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Stella Ryan (nee Levich), longtime Ukrainian National Association Home Office employee died on December 9, at Christ Hospital in Jersey City, N.J. Mrs. Ryan worked at the UNA Home Office for 55 years.

She was first hired in 1931 and retired on July 25, 1986. She worked in the Recording Department under five supreme secretaries of the Ukrainian National Association: Ivan Kashtaniuk, Dmytro Halychyn, Gregory Herman, Jaroslaw Padoch and Walter Sochan.

In addition to working at the Home Office she was elected secretary of Branch 171 in Jersey City and served in that capacity for many years. After her retirement, she handed over Branch 171 to Genevieve Kufita, but took over the duties of secretary in Branch 3.

During her long life, she was deeply involved with the Ukrainian National Association, as an employee, as a branch secretary and as an organizer of new members.

Even after her retirement, the Recording Department could always rely on Mrs. Ryan to help when help was needed. She would gladly come to substitute for an ill employee or lend a hand when the workload was enormous. She worked diligently and tirelessly for the good of the organization. Those who knew her remember her as a hard-work-

ing, kind and gentle person.

Mrs. Ryan was born and raised in Jersey City. She finished her schooling in Jersey City and worked and lived her entire life here. She was a lifelong member of Ss. Peter and Paul Ukrainian Catholic Church and in her youth participated in many clubs and activities in the Ukrainian community.

She was married to Walter Ryan. She is survived by three nephews and two nieces, and cousins Nicholas Fedayko and Anne Weller.



Stella Ryan

### The UNA and you

## Falling rates spur new loans

by Stephan Welhasch

As many financial analysts predicted, mortgage rates continue to fall. When mortgage rates fell below 7 percent more than three years ago, the lowest rate in 25 years, it set off a wave of refinancing nationally. Then, by mid-1994, interest rates jumped to nearly 10 percent and many home buyers decided to wait it out. Over the last six months rates have dropped to below 7 1/2 percent, prompting many home buyers and home owners to apply for first mortgage loans.

Economists are predicting that these lower interest rates will bring many more home buyers into the housing market. Seasoned real estate agents feel that mortgage rates may not move much lower.

Those home buyers who missed out on the low mortgage rates of a few years ago now have a very good chance of coming back into the market and saving themselves tens of thousands of dollars. Take, for example, those home owners who borrow \$150,000 at 7 percent instead of 9.375 percent; they cut well over \$200 from their monthly mortgage payment. Over 30 years this would amount to a savings of over \$85,000.

It is definitely a good time to get a first mortgage loan on your new dream home or to refinance your existing home loan and maybe do a little work on the house that you've been meaning to do for the last few years, but couldn't afford to.

Being a member of the Ukrainian National Association entitles you to a special mortgage rate, which also includes better insurance coverage for you and your family. If you've been considering looking into a mortgage loan — now is a wonderful time to call the UNA and comparison shop. You never know, rates might begin to move up rapidly again as happened a few years ago.

The UNA offers its members financing for one-, two- and three-family homes throughout the United States and Canada. The UNA's First Mortgage Loan Program is specially designed to meet the financial needs of its members and offers an interest rate that is competitive with the prevailing rates in your area. The UNA also continues to provide jumbo mortgage loans to Ukrainian churches and organizations.

To find out more about the UNA's First Mortgage Loan Program, Jumbo Loan Programs, refinancing or about becoming a member and sharing in many other benefits the UNA offers, please call 1(800) 253-9862.

## Marta Kolomayets, associate editor, leaves The Weekly staff

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — Marta Kolomayets, associate editor of The Ukrainian Weekly since February 1988, has resigned from the newspaper's staff to take up a special assignment as a communications strategist for the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) working out of Kyiv.

Ms. Kolomayets' fellow staffers at The Weekly and co-workers at the Svoboda daily, as well as the newspapers' administration and print shop, bid her farewell and good luck at a gathering at The Weekly's offices on December 4.

After serving five tours of duty as The Weekly's Kyiv correspondent, Ms. Kolomayets has decided to work full-time in Kyiv and pursue personal professional interests. She is married to journalist Danylo Yanevsky of Kyiv, editor of the television program "Pisliamova." The couple met in the Verkhovna Rada building in 1991 and were married in May 1994.

Ms. Kolomayets first joined The Weekly staff in January 1982 and stayed on until November 1984 as assistant editor. She then worked at a trade publication in New York and served as administrative director at the Ukrainian Institute of America.

In February 1988 she returned to The Weekly as associate editor. The Weekly tried to send Ms. Kolomayets to Kyiv in March 1990 to report on the historic multi-candidate parliamentary and local elections — the first to occur during the era of perebudova. However, Ms. Kolomayets was denied a visa by Soviet authorities. She was in good company though, as members of the U.S. congressional delegation that planned to travel to Ukraine under the auspices of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe (as well as Eugene Iwanciw of the UNA, who was to act as the delegation's advance man) to observe the voting also were denied entry visas.

Undaunted, The Weekly then tried to get Ms. Kolomayets to Ukraine in time for the opening of the first session of the newly elected Parliament of Ukraine, which took place May 15, 1990. She arrived four days later. After overcoming many bureaucratic hassles, Ms. Kolomayets was permitted to travel to Ukraine, for the first time as a Weekly staffer, with a medical relief mission organized by the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. She was able to get a three-day visitor's pass to attend sessions of the Parliament on May 21-23, observed ceremonies at the Shevchenko monument commemorating the anniversary of the date the Ukrainian national poet's body was transferred

from St. Petersburg to its final resting place in Kaniv, Ukraine, and tracked the CCRF's humanitarian aid mission.

Soon afterwards came the Ukrainian National Association's 32nd Convention, which met on May 28 through June 1. On the final day of its deliberations, the convention passed a resolution that stated: "The convention urges the UNA Executive Committee to look into establishing a bureau in Kyiv and/or Lviv which would provide direct news service on a regular basis to our UNA publications." In October of that year, efforts to establish the bureau began in earnest when a UNA delegation (comprising President Ulana Diachuk, Secretary Walter Sochan and Advisors Eugene Iwanciw and Roma Hadzewycz), while in Kyiv to attend the second congress of Rukh, met with officials of the Foreign Affairs Ministry to discuss the fraternal organization's intentions of opening a press office. Several months of battling the bureaucracy followed, but eventually the go-ahead was given.

In January 1991, the Ukrainian National Association's Kyiv Press Bureau became the first foreign news bureau to receive official accreditation. Ms. Kolomayets became the first staffer of that bureau, arriving in the Ukrainian capital on January 13, 1991, to set up the office. She became the first U.S. journalist and the second foreign journalist to be accredited as a correspondent in Ukraine.

For the first four months, Ms. Kolomayets lived and worked out of a hotel room at the Dnipro Hotel on the Khreshchatyk; she filed her news reports from the Rukh headquarters on Taras Shevchenko Boulevard. (It should be noted that just a few months earlier, in August 1990, The Weekly Assistant Editor Chrystyna Lapychak had worked at the Rukh office, on loan from The Weekly to Rukh Press International.)

Afterwards Ms. Kolomayets succeeded in finding an apartment on Karl Marx Street, now known as Horodetsky Street, that to this day serves as the Kyiv Press Bureau's home. During her first stint in Kyiv, which extended from January to July 1991, Ms. Kolomayets covered demonstrations expressing solidarity with the Lithuanian people following the bloody massacres of January 1991, Ukrainian Independence Day (January 22) celebrations, the fact-finding visit of the John Demjanjuk defense team, miners' strikes, the union referendum and the poll on Ukrainian state sovereignty, among others.

She subsequently served four more tours of duty in the Ukrainian capital — February-August 1992, February-

December 1993, June 1994-July 1995, and October 1995-September 1996 — covering many more historic developments in newly independent Ukraine. (Other Weekly staffers who served in the Kyiv Press Bureau were: Ms. Lapychak, Khristina Lew and Roman Woronowycz, who is now serving his second tour of duty.)

While in Kyiv as The Weekly's full-time correspondent, Ms. Kolomayets also served as a stringer for such media outlets as the Associated Press, United Press International and Newsweek. Her free-lance articles have been published also in the Chicago Tribune.

Readers will continue to see the byline of Marta Kolomayets on the pages of The Ukrainian Weekly as our colleague will contribute features and news stories on a free-lance basis. And so, although Ms. Kolomayets is no longer on staff, we will continue to benefit from her experience.



Marta Kolomayets at the time of her first assignment to Kyiv in 1991.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Ukraine must live up to promises

Days after the Council of Europe found that Ukraine had not lived up to its promise to abide by a moratorium on carrying out death sentences, President Leonid Kuchma was in Lisbon at the summit of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) proclaiming Ukraine's support for human rights.

Speaking before world leaders on December 2, he said, "The biggest threat to state security in today's world usually comes from internal factors, such as the social and economic environment, human rights issues and politics."

It seems that Mr. Kuchma has become politician extraordinaire with the ability to speak out of both sides of his mouth, and juggle words and actions as if they were torches and bowling balls. It is not an easy thing to do, but once you get the hang of it, you can do it with a smile on your face.

While President Kuchma was making his declaration and telling summit attendees that Ukraine would do all it takes to implement human rights according to the European standard, scores, if not hundreds, of people sat on death row awaiting execution for capital offenses.

What is alarming is that in Ukraine the number of government executions is not decreasing, as in those European countries that have not yet outlawed capital punishment, but is on the rise. In 1991, the year that Ukraine declared independence, 42 citizens were executed. In the first half of 1996, 89 had been put to death, a rate that if sustained would lead to 178 government killings this year. Only in the previous year were more people executed.

These numbers, which were presented at the seminar on abolition of the death penalty held in Kyiv in late November under the sponsorship of the Council of Europe, were produced by Minister of Justice Serhii Holovatyi. Mr. Holovatyi took pains to explain that he is for abolishing the death penalty but that his ministry has no jurisdiction over sentencing and executions. Those belong within the domain of the procurator general and Ministry of the Internal Affairs, respectively.

One cannot say Ukraine has hidden the figures, but one must question Ukraine's desire to go forth with capital punishment after it pledged almost exactly a year ago that it would put a moratorium on government executions with the goal of eliminating the death penalty by the year 2000. As Zsolt Nemeth of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe explained, "We had suspected such before our conference, now we are sure."

And this is where Mr. Kuchma comes in. Mr. Holovatyi specifically named the president and Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko as those who must make the decision to abolish the death penalty and move a step closer to Europe, where government executions are the exception rather than the norm – and becoming increasingly so. Mr. Kuchma should continue to talk the talk. It is time also for him to start walking the walk.

The most tragic part of a tragic story is that those executed are buried in unmarked graves, and their families are not told of the date of the killing or the location of the grave. One must ask, at the bare minimum, why must the families suffer for whatever heinous crime the executed were found guilty of?

If a government wishes to continue barbaric acts of punishment for capital crimes, then at the very least the government should show humanity and sympathy for the families of those executed.

Only 6 percent of Ukrainians support abolishing the death penalty – this in a country where crime is exploding and at times takes on very vicious dimensions. But, as Justice Minister Holovatyi said at the seminar, the death penalty is not something for the people to decide. The government must lead the way in developing a consensus that the death penalty is barbarism and that the monetary cost of life imprisonment of a capital felon is the cost of a civilized society.

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### Turning the pages back...

Mykola Lukash was among the greatest of Ukrainian literary translators. Born in the village of Krolevets, about 40 miles north of Konotop, he studied at Kyiv University (graduating

1941) and the Kharkiv Institute of Foreign Languages (1947).

Until 1953, Lukash taught German, French and English in Kharkiv's post-secondary schools, and thereafter devoted himself entirely to his craft. It is a truism that translators must be more proficient in the language into which they translate. Lukash steeped himself in Kozak chronicles, dumsy and songs; read countless collections of carols, Easter verse, travesties and parodies, anecdotes, journals of 18th century student wanderers, baroque dialogues.

Lukash then plunged into the Western literary canon — Boccaccio's "Decameron," Cervantes "Don Quixote," Shakespeare's "Troilus and Cressida," Goethe's "Faust," Flaubert's "Madame Bovary," the plays of Lopé de Vega.

In poetry, he tackled Japanese classical haiku, Shakespeare's sonnets, Arthur Rimbaud, Federico Garcia Lorca, Paul Verlaine, Guillaume Apollinaire, Friedrich Schiller, Heinrich Heine, Rainer Maria Rilke, even the nonsense verse of Lewis Carroll, and all the while he restored into use many 17th and 18th century words and introduced countless neologisms into the contemporary Ukrainian literary language.

In 1973, Lukash wrote a letter to the Soviet regime, offering to serve the prison sentence imposed on the ailing Ivan Dzyuba for his authorship of "Internationalism or Russification?" He was expelled from the Writers' Union of Ukraine and the editorial board of the journal *Vsesvit*.

Mykola Lukash died in Kyiv on August 29, 1988.

Sources: "Lukash, Mykola," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 3 (Toronto: Toronto University Press, 1993); "Mykola Lukash: Vid Bokkacheho do Apollinera," (Kyiv: Dnipro, 1990).



## Washington Notebook

Ukrainian National Information Service

### Experts express optimism about Ukraine

In its continuing effort to increase awareness of events in Ukraine and Washington, the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) is conducting interviews with prominent individuals with expertise in Ukrainian-American relations. In October the UNIS conducted three interviews focusing on the economic, political and military situation in Ukraine. Interviews were conducted with Oleh Havrylyshyn, assistant director at the International Monetary Fund (IMF); Roman Popadiuk, first U.S. ambassador to Ukraine; and Maj. Gen. Nicholas Krawciw (ret.), an expert on Ukraine at the Department of Defense (DOD).

The first thing that must be noted is that these key individuals are now more optimistic about conditions in Ukraine than they were in the past.

Mr. Havrylyshyn, who once was less enthusiastic about the degree of economic progress in Ukraine, stated that he believes Ukraine has accomplished significant economic reforms since the beginning of the year.

Ambassador Popadiuk reiterated that sentiment in terms of foreign policy by stating that politically Ukraine has had its international relations stabilized and expanded under President Leonid Kuchma. Ukraine has also established itself as a significant player in the West over the last year.

Gen. Krawciw added that in all military spheres, the U.S.-Ukrainian relationship is very good. He cited as examples the high-level meetings between Mr. Horbulin, secretary of the National Security Agency in Ukraine, and U.S. representatives, and the significance of the binational Kuchma-Gore Commission.

In regard to one of the more significant steps in Ukraine's development — its involvement in U.N. operations — Ambassador, Popadiuk and Gen. Krawciw believe that a major role in establishing Ukraine's credibility in the world community was played by its early involvement.

Mr. Popadiuk stated that Ukraine's participation in U.N. operations involved two significant factors: one internal and one external. He believes that, internally, these operations gave a function to a post-Soviet military; externally, Ukraine showed its willingness to participate as a major player in the cause of peace.

Gen. Krawciw said he believes Ukraine's U.N. participation was a "stepping out" for Ukraine's military into international arrangements and operations. The West saw the professionalism of Ukraine's army in its participation at U.N. headquarters prior to the current operation in Bosnia.

When asked about the political situation in Ukraine, Ambassador Popadiuk said he believes the current status of an incomplete Verkhovna Rada is an acceptable situation for a newly independent country developing the democratic process. One serious problem with the unfilled seats in Parliament, however, is that certain constituents are under-represented. However, he also believes that the process is progressing peacefully as demonstrated by the transfer of power. Additionally, he said the U.S. has a favorable impression of President Kuchma. The U.S. also accepts the political composition of the Parliament as a reality that it must deal with, as long as it remains democratically elected.

Topics related to military, nuclear and security issues were also addressed. Gen.

Krawciw stated that, by giving up its nuclear missiles, Ukraine earned great respect and admiration from the world community. It was an important step both for Ukraine's safety and for diplomatic relations. At the same time it increased Ukraine's security because it would not be a target of a pre-emptive strike.

Ukraine could have been a strike target, he explained, adding that the country would have not been prepared for it since it did not have the command, control and intelligence needed for the weapons to serve as a deterrent.

Mr. Popadiuk said giving up nuclear weapons indicated Ukraine's willingness to work for global security and its realization that missiles do not provide any true security guarantees.

Both Mr. Popadiuk and Gen. Krawciw agreed that a relationship between Ukraine and NATO is vital. Gen. Krawciw said the Partnership for Peace (PfP) program serves Ukraine's military needs in the short term; however, it is significant in the long term as well, as the PfP program serves in part to educate Ukraine on Western and NATO operations, especially during peacetime. He believes that military relations have evolved significantly, and are strong and growing. Ambassador Popadiuk added that a vital part of Ukraine's security will depend on its relationship with Russia.

A further topic of discussion with Ambassador Popadiuk was his opinion on the newly ratified Ukrainian Constitution. The the Constitution, once implemented, will have well-defined executive and legislative branches and a structure for a judicial system. However, the government will need to implement laws for the establishment of a judiciary system. The adoption of the Constitution also illustrates to the citizens that the government is functioning in a productive manner, moving forward on reforms and severing ties with the former Soviet Union.

In discussions about economic issues, Mr. Havrylyshyn stated that the IMF had targeted its program towards Ukraine to not only bring about economic stability, but also to achieve export liberalization, trade development and institutional reform. Parallel technical assistance is directed also at assisting tax reform, developing an independent treasury, and many other aspects of a free-market economy.

As of today, \$2.1 billion in loans has been delivered to Ukraine. The financial assistance began with the Systematic Transformation Agreement and has progressed now to the Stand-By Agreement. Ukraine is complying with all of the pre-conditions of these agreements, said Mr. Havrylyshyn, adding that he foresees Ukraine having no problems adhering to these conditions, which include controlling the growth of the money supply, government deficit reductions, etc.

He sees that there still is considerable work to be done in addressing the problem of insufficient institutional reform throughout the government, including an overhaul of the tax system. Additional reforms must be forthcoming in the development of viable small business environment. In closing, he stated that he believes macro-economic reforms are nearing completion and, as long as the

(Continued on page 16)

## NEW RELEASE: Carols and hymns

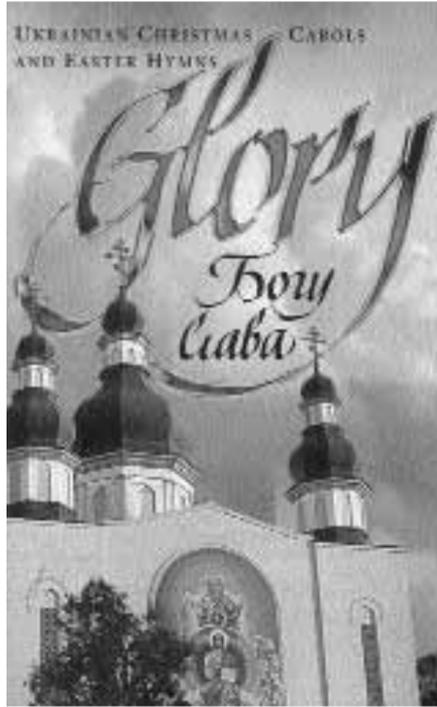
WINNIPEG – The Choir of Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Winnipeg recently completed a recording project it had embarked on earlier this year.

Compact discs and cassette tapes featuring popular Christmas carols and hymns are now available. This recording incorporates a cappella singing by the choir as well as soloists and church bells. The recording is complemented by a variety of Easter selections.

Holy Trinity Cathedral is the Metropolitan's Cathedral of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada. Its choir consists of more than 40 singers under the direction of Dr. John Mayba.

In this 60-minute recording, the choir presents a selection of music that highlights the celebrations of the Nativity and Resurrection of Jesus Christ.

For information regarding this recording, contact Yevshan Records, 1-800-265-9858; or Holy Trinity Cathedral, 1175 Main St., Winnipeg, Manitoba R2H 3S4; telephone, (204) 338-0523.



## CANADA COURIER

by Christopher Guly



## Winnipeg landmark closes its doors

Nick Halas probably saw the writing on the wall last spring when his wholesaler directed him to the local superstore to get the lawn product he sought for his North End Winnipeg hardware store.

A short time later, Mr. Halas was getting extension cords from Wal-Mart and weedbars from McDiarmid Lumber.

After supplying North Enders with everything from hammers to enamel pots from Poland and metal strainers for cooking pyrohy for 64 years, N. Halas & Sons – or Halas Hardware Ltd. – relinquished its landmark spot to the one-stop shopping mega-retail outlets.

The doors at the McGregor Street location, which has been home to N. Halas & Sons for half a century, closed at the end of June. "We're going to miss our customers," says Bill Halas, 67, who left Isaac Newton High School in Grade 11 to work for his father, Nick Sr., 49 years ago. "My dad told me I didn't need to go to Grade 12 because they couldn't teach me anything about the hardware business," jokes Bill.

"After 50 years, you cannot help but feel strange leaving people who came in as kids and now bring their kids to the store," Bill, Nick, 65, and another brother, Ray, 74 – who retired nine years ago – took over their father's business 35 years ago. Dad, meanwhile, opened a paint store across town.

Although they didn't create a Sears dynasty, the Halas boys were successful enough to support their wives and 11 children between them. "We're not overly rich, but we didn't suffer, that's for sure," says Bill.

Hanging up the Halas Hardware shingle, however, will leave many customers suffering at the loss.

"It's horrible," says Lesia Szwaluk, president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Manitoba Provincial Council. "My husband and I used to always go there for things we couldn't find anywhere else like special, hard-to-find pipes for bathroom taps."

Bill said teary-eyed clients came in mourning the Halas Hardware departure. "They're telling us, 'You're not supposed to leave us.'"

Such sentiments come with being an institution in the community. Once upon a time, N. Halas & Sons' two-story, 2,000-square-foot building featured a lot more than oddball items. For one thing, they offered service in Ukrainian.

During the 1940s and 1950s, the Halases sold toys, fishing and hunting supplies, power tools and appliances, including television sets – which they also repaired.

The emergence of retail chains in the 1960s forced the brothers to downsize – and innovate, when they began selling instant lottery tickets in the 1970s.

But Bill says changing economic times did not contribute to the family's decision to close shop. "Our legs are tired. We're not as young as we used to be," he explains. "After all these years, we have been working six days a week. It's time to take it easy."

And so, the Halas hardware dynasty was history by July. "None of our children are interested," said Bill. "They weren't brought up in the same environment."

## Hard-hitting seminar...

(Continued from page 4)

sponsor/guarantor, or when the abusive situation cripples their ability to hold or obtain employment.

Since humanitarian visa status lapses if the spousal arrangement has gone sour, and since any receipt of governmental assistance (welfare) disqualifies any applicant for landed status or citizenship, this places an individual in a Catch-22 of no means of support, and thus the coercive power of an abuser could be very great.

In addition, Ms. Dagenais cautioned that women who have their applications submitted by prospective spouses or partners take care that these are prepared accurately and truthfully, as any false statements can lead to denaturalization and deportation.

Nevertheless, the jurist said that immigration officials can also give a "minister's permit" to remain in Canada in special circumstances, particularly such as those described above. However, Ms. Dagenais cautioned that such a permit is strictly discretionary and subjectively determined by the particular immigration officer.

Ms. Dagenais provided the number for the Toronto-area lawyer-referral service, (416) 947-3330, which provides contacts for lawyers willing to give a half-hour's free consultation to those in need, including those who are fluent in Ukrainian.

Last on the speaker's list was Anna Antoniwi, holder of a degree in counseling in matters of child and spousal abuse from Toronto's George Brown College, and for five years a full-time counselor at the local UCSS branch. Ms. Antoniwi has also authored pamphlets on the abuse of women. The counselor said the UCSS provides referrals to Ukrainian family lawyers, shelters, and to other government agencies and non-governmental clinics.

Ms. Antoniwi outlined the range and limitations of resources available to battered women. She mentioned the ATT Language Line (which includes services in Ukrainian), the Assaulted Women's

Help Line (which does not), and the Ontario Women's Directorate's listing of many (but not all) shelters for abused women.

Multicultural Women Against Rape is an agency that could, but presently does not, have a Ukrainian-speaking worker or volunteer, Ms. Antoniwi said. She cautioned the potentially needy that most Canadian agencies don't provide services in Ukrainian. In Toronto, she said, there are no clinics offering service in Ukrainian, two which operate in Polish and one in Russian.

Ms. Antoniwi said the provincial government's policy of deep cuts to social services have already had a significant impact on the quality of assistance provided, adding that the situation will no doubt get worse.

The counselor pointed out that while government programs providing for temporary housing and assistance to the needy give priority to battered women and their children, in practice the long waiting lists often make situations so grim that the abused return to their abusers.

The UCSS official also outlined various voluntary and court-ordered programs that exist to help men confront the reasons for their anger and change their behavior.

Perhaps the most remarkable aspect of the morning's sessions came after the official presentations, when several women stood up to recount some of their experiences at the hands of abusers.

Particularly telling was a woman from North York, who asked that her name not be used, who recounted her experiences and called on the UCSS to back her efforts to establish a Ukrainian Canadian women's support group. She received an enthusiastic response.

A handful of retired men huddled in the back of the room, ironically muttering that they were reticent to voice their more traditional views in the "feminine atmosphere." One stood up to say that the problem was rooted in "a lack of mutual respect between men and women." Another approached this writer to "let the public know that men are abused just as often, and retaliate in a manner they are familiar with."

As the conference drew to a close, Marion Barszczyk, a program manager with the Catholic Charities agency of the Toronto Archdiocese, offered a sobering note of commentary. "As good and constructive as today's session was, nobody should congratulate themselves that 'We've taken the all-important first step.' We've been taking that first step over and over for many years now. It's time to get to the next one. It's time for concrete actions, to organize effective counseling, to set up therapy groups, and conduct informative seminars in all of the Toronto area's parishes," Mrs. Barszczyk said.

## Diversity, adversity...

A thank you to our eagle-eyed readers who noticed an obvious error (somehow not obvious to our proofreaders, though – at least not until after it was published) in our headline last week over the story about a monastery being built in Hoshiv. Of course, the headline should have read: "Sisters overcome adversity to construct new monastery in Hoshiv." (So, it was either a case of Bowery Boys-speak, or we must have been thinking about the diversity visa lottery ... Our apologies.)

## Winnipeg pharmacist heals himself

It was early on a Thursday morning in Winnipeg and pharmacist Myron Kurjewicz was exhausted. The night before, the 43-year-old owner of a North End drug store was up late helping a fellow pharmacist deal with a severe drinking problem. On Thursday afternoon, Mr. Kurjewicz promised his colleague he would schedule an appointment with a clinical psychologist.

Offering such peer support is part of his role as chairperson of the Manitoba Pharmaceutical Association's (MPA's) Pharmacists at Risk Committee – a first for Canada when it was established in 1981.

In recognition of his involvement, the 1,000-member MPA voted Mr. Kurjewicz "Pharmacist of the Year" during its annual convention in Winnipeg on April 20.

That day, the son of Ukrainian immigrants could have done with some extra support himself. Early that morning, his father-in-law, Alexander Zahoroda, died of a massive heart attack.

"It was kind of like *dejà vu* for me, because when my wife [Julia] and I were married 20 years ago, my father [Paul] died that day," explained Mr. Kurjewicz over the telephone from his Selkirk Avenue-based Brothers Pharmacy, which he runs with his wife. He started the business in 1978 with his brother, Peter, who left in 1990.

Nine days after he lost his father-in-law, Mr. Kurjewicz lost one of his closest friends and pastor, the Rev. Jaropolk Radkewycz, the former rector of Ss. Vladimir and Olga Cathedral, who died

in an automobile accident outside of Winnipeg.

These days, Mr. Kurjewicz – who has three children – relies on his wits and the support of others to survive stressful times. Not long ago, he relied on what he terms the "Titanic syndrome."

"No matter how bad a situation gets, you promise yourself you're not going to sink. As a result, you really end up feeling like you're carrying the whole world on your shoulders. Still, you can handle it, you say to yourself, not matter how bad it gets, because you have work to do to survive," he explained.

It got bad for Mr. Kurjewicz – so much so that he ended up turning to such prescription drugs as Tylenol 3 and 292s to ease his pain. "As a result of [the Pharmacists at Risk] committee, I had a terrific support system to help me get off the stuff," he said. Having survived his own tough time, Mr. Kurjewicz decided to do something other pharmacists might fear could indirectly hurt their own careers: fight illicit and prescription drug abuse.

He wrote information pamphlets, one titled "Know Drugs," and addressed school groups about the dangers of pharmaceutical dependence. "With some people, the effects of medication become so powerful their personal lives revolve around them," he noted. "They become so preoccupied in getting these products, they don't end up resolving some of their problems without being chemically induced."

(Continued on page 16)

# BASEBALL IN UKRAINE: A periodic progress report

by Basil P. Tarasko

It was late February 1996 when I arrived for the sixth time in Kyiv to conduct baseball clinics and to distribute baseball equipment. During my trip, Vitalii Lizogubenko, executive director of the Ukrainian Baseball Federation, named me manager of the Junior National Baseball Team of Ukraine. Plans for selecting and training the team were made at that time.

Forty of the top junior players were identified by the coaches to try out for the team in early June. This team would then represent Ukraine for the first time in Group A at the European Junior Championships in Almere, the Netherlands, on July 7-14. Prior to the tournament in the Netherlands, the National Team would compete in exhibition games in Slovakia on June 28-July 1. From there, arrangements were made to train and play exhibition games against the German National Team in Berlin on July 2-4.

These two trips would give our team valuable international game experience.

On June 22, I returned to Kyiv with much anticipation and excitement. There was so much to do in four days. On June 27, the junior team was slated to travel by bus to Slovakia. I was ready for this whirlwind trip from Ukraine to Slovakia to Germany and finally to the Netherlands. Let the games begin, I thought.

But, there would be no games. Upon my arrival I learned that the candidates for the junior team were not in Kyiv as planned. Funding could not be obtained for room and board for the team. The junior players were scattered throughout Ukraine playing for their local clubs. There were fewer league games this season due to rising costs of transportation and living expenses. Many of the teams could not honor their complete schedule.

If you had the money, you came; if not, you stayed home. It was as simple as that.

Arrangements for the trips to Slovakia

*Basil P. Tarasko is coach of the National Baseball Teams of Ukraine; a regular columnist (covering Eastern European Baseball) for the International Baseball Rundown magazine; district administrator of the Little Leagues in Ukraine; head baseball coach at Kingsborough Community College in Brooklyn, N.Y.; and a member of the executive board of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada.*



Team Ukraine's cadets with coaches Basil Tarasko, Serhii Kostiuk and Oleh Boiko.

and Germany were not completed. The few sponsors that were found would cover only the living expenses at the European Championships in the Netherlands. The Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs in Ukraine had promised to pay the transportation costs from Ukraine to the Netherlands and back. But, I quickly learned, this promise might not be kept.

It was an Olympic year, and Ukraine was sending more than 220 athletes along with coaches, trainers and support staff to Atlanta. Who would pay for all this? In Ukraine, doctors and teachers were working without pay for months. Coal miners were striking for back wages. What were our chances of obtaining the necessary funding for our trip?

I had this uneasy feeling that all the hopes and preparations were unraveling. I met with Valerii Borzov, minister of sports and youth affairs for Ukraine, who very candidly informed me that the priority for this fiscal year had been the Olympics. All available funds were earmarked for the Ukrainian Olympic Team. It was up to each federation to get sponsors to fund any trip outside Ukraine. On June 28 the official word came down: the Junior National Baseball

Team would not be formed.

I was in shock, in total disbelief and devastated by the news. My dreams faded, my hopes were dashed, and all my preparations came to an abrupt end. Mr. Lizogubenko and I sat speechless. What can you say at that point?

My flight plans had to be changed. With a penalty of course! On June 20 I flew to the Netherlands – a coach without a team.

That same morning I met some of the junior team candidates who had arrived in Kyiv to play with their teams in league games. These young men were very disappointed, and their performance can best be described as listless. The quality of play was poor. Everyone was dejected. Here you have young players who practice all year round under very difficult conditions. They all hope to be named to the national team, to represent a free Ukraine in the European Championships. How does one react? How does one continue under these conditions?

The answer is very simple. One must continue, one cannot quit.

Now I was in Haarlem, the Netherlands, for a week. I had an opportunity to meet with some of the members of the Dutch Baseball Federation, who formed the Organizing Committee for the Junior Championships in Almere. I tried to explain the conditions in Ukraine that led to this unfortunate situation. (Nevertheless, fines may be levied against the Ukrainian Baseball Federation in the future.)

### Time to reflect

There was much time to think, to reflect and to ponder the future of Ukrainian baseball during my time in Haarlem. Each time I felt angry or felt a sense of hopelessness at the situation I was in, I remembered the smiling faces of boys and girls in Kyiv, Rivne, Lviv and Kirovohrad as they received donated baseball equipment from the U.S. I could hear the words of thanks from all the coaches I met throughout the country. These warm recollections inspired me to do more and to continue my work in Ukraine. We must all do more for the children of the world.

I also reminded myself of all those individuals and organizations that had supported me, had faith in me and in the development of baseball in Ukraine dur-

ing the last few years. First, my lovely wife, Alexandra, who urged me to go to the Soviet Union for the first time in 1991. Also, the following gentlemen: Mr. Lizogubenko, Myron Stebelsky, Harold Weissman, Andrew Lastowecky, Askold Lozynskij and Dr. Iwan Sierant, who have supported my work.

The following organizations have donated equipment or given financial assistance: New Era Cap Co. Inc., Rawlings Sporting Goods, People-to-People Sports, Meest-America Inc., various Little Leagues, Self-Reliance Federal Credit Union of New York, Ukrainian Sports Club of New York, the Ukrainian National Home and the Ukrainian Orthodox Federal Credit Union. I also wish to acknowledge Patricia Ruddy, principal of IS 73, who has allowed me release time from my duties at the school since 1991 to help the youngsters of Ukraine. I thank them all and I will continue to rely on their support in the future to help the youth of Ukraine.

### Championships in Poland

The Ukrainian Baseball Federation was able to find sponsors to fund the Juvenile National Team's trip to Kutno, Poland, to participate in the European Championship on July 7-14. Result: Ukraine finished in fifth place among seven countries. Serhii Kostiuk from Kyiv was the head coach.

A week later, a Little League team (age 13-15) from Kirovohrad traveled to Brzeg, Poland, to compete in the European Little League Baseball Championships. This was the first appearance of a Ukrainian Little League team – sanctioned by LL Headquarters in Williamsport, Pa. – in a European LL tournament.

Head Coach Oleh Boiko of Kirovohrad led his young team one game away from a trip to the United States to represent Ukraine in the Little League World Championships. The results: Ukraine-the Netherlands: 18-1; winning pitcher: Igor Chornomaz; Ukraine-Poland: 16-3, winning pitcher: Serhii Holovko; Ukraine-Belgium: 12-6, winning pitcher: Oleksander Miroshnichenko. In the final game Saudi Arabia defeated Ukraine 8-6.

Ukraine finished in second place. Alexander Vradly led Ukraine's attack



A pre-game huddle before the game against Team Russia.

(Continued on page 18)

# Architect Apollinare Osadca sponsors church in his native village in Ukraine

by Khristina Lew

JERSEY CITY, N.J. — It was a poignant homecoming that brought a gifted architect's life full circle. This fall, on the eve of his 80th birthday, Apollinare Osadca returned to his native village of Voloshchyna in western Ukraine to survey the construction of a church built on the property that once embraced his ancestral home.

The red-brick facade of Laying the Vestments of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church rises imposingly on a slight incline. The skeleton of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic church's cupola remains protected by scaffolding. A wooden cupola rests on a patch of grass in the church yard.

On October 6, the ailing Mr. Osadca, who designed many Ukrainian Catholic churches in the United States, and his wife, Tania, visited the nearly completed church that Osadca family donations built.

The Osadcas were welcomed by the tens of villagers who are building the church with their own hands. Young children greeted them with bread and salt, while elders presented them with bouquet after bouquet of fall flowers.

The parish priest, the Rev. Roman, recited a poem in honor of the Osadcas, thanking the church's benefactors for "not forgetting your native land, the land over which your boyish feet ran." Village elders then escorted Mr. Osadca into the church for a divine liturgy.

Mr. Osadca was born in the village of Voloshchyna in the Pidhaitsi area of western Ukraine in 1916. On November 12, he celebrated his 80th birthday. The boyhood home he shared with his parents, Evdokia and Kornel Osadca, a mayor of Voloshchyna, once stood where the Laying the Vestments of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church now rises.

He studied at the Lviv Polytechnical Institute in 1935-1941 and worked as an architect in Lviv and later in New York. He designed many buildings in the United States, including several Ukrainian Catholic churches: St. George in New York City, the Patronage of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Astoria, N.Y., and St. Nicholas in Passaic, N.J. He is perhaps best known for St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church in Glen Spey, N.Y., where he lives.

Mr. Osadca also designed the Ukrainian National Home and St. Joseph Roman Catholic Cathedral in Hartford,



The nearly completed Laying the Vestments of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Voloshchyna.

Conn., and the opera building and campus building at the University of Indiana in Bloomington. He was one of the architects who worked on the Ukrainian National Association building in Jersey City, N.J.

The idea to build a church in his native village came shortly after Ukraine declared its independence. Mr. Osadca was unable to design the church by himself — a local architect was employed; instead he and his wife, an artist in her own right, decided to purchase the building materials. Construction of the church, which was

scheduled to be completed by next spring, has slowed down due to lack of funds.

Mr. Osadca fell gravely ill after his 10-day trip to Ukraine and was hospitalized. He greeted his 80th birthday from a hospital bed. His family prays that he will be able to return to Voloshchyna in the spring to witness the blessing of the completed church. For more information about the Laying the Vestments of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church in Voloshchyna, contact Tania Demchuk, (703) 978-8798.



Apollinare and Tania Osadca (above) are greeted by villagers of Voloshchyna (below) at the church.



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1992: Teachers Andrey Slywka and Michael Petriwsky with students in Kolomyia.



1993: Wasyl Mackiw with his students in Sevastopol.



1994: Andrew Bidiak and his charges in Dnipropetrovsk.



1995: Students with Helen Prociuk in Zhovkva.

## UNA's English language program holds a reunion of volunteers

by Roman and Stephanie Karpishka

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – The October 19-20 weekend reunion at Soyuzivka of English language teaching volunteers in Ukraine brought together veterans and novices of the summer teaching experience – 1996 marking the fifth year of these joint Ukrainian National Association (U.S.) and Prosvita (Ukraine) projects.

Under the direction of Dr. Zirka Voronka (project director) and Oksana Trytjak (project coordinator), the successes of the past five years were discussed and recommendations for the future were elicited from the participants.

It was most interesting to observe the exchange of ideas between various teachers who expanded upon the formal teaching materials and manual to develop their own methodology in order to get a greater level of student participation in the English courses.

Some teachers encouraged poetry writing – with sensitive and touching thoughts being expressed by even the youngest students. Others had democratic election procedures explained to them and reviewed recent political events relating to Ukraine. For example, they acted out election procedures and spoke about the highlights of President Leonid Kuchma's recent visit to the United States.

Several educators, adopting a more flexible style of teaching as compared to the formalistic methods still prevalent in Ukraine, insisted on having their charges sit around in a circle, rather than row by row, for ease of communication. Some of the students' parents would come by to observe this "novel" yet probably very ancient Socratic method of student-teacher dialogue, and all seem to have been impressed by the results.

Generally, the teachers agreed that flexibility was essential to tailor their lessons to the age and receptivity of their respective student groups. Thus, various field trips were worked into the summer's teaching programs – as long as the theme of "speaking English" was adhered to.

One participant of the reunion, having recently retired from active pedagogical duty, expressed a desire to return to Ukraine to develop linguistic programs of his own. Thus, he himself "graduated" from summer ESL teaching experiences to another enriching career with the UNA/Prosvita "English as a Second Language" courses.

Several teachers also noted their personal hopes for some of their more gifted students by expressing a serious interest in encouraging talented and well-motivated youngsters to come to America to

study, being ready to accommodate them in their own homes in order to support the keen scholarship of promising individuals. Discussion also centered on immigration requirements and various post-secondary academic admission forms and documentation that might facilitate students' visits to America.

Two teachers spoke of their problems with U.S. Embassy personnel in Kyiv, who seem to assume or suspect that young students will not want to return to Ukraine. Others noted that, with privatization and joint ventures in Ukraine, the knowledge of English will soon be a tremendous asset for any ambitious and global-thinking individual living in Ukraine.

There was no doubt that English language proficiency for Ukrainian youth is the key to the world of business, diplomacy and for the better promotion and recognition of Ukraine's national interests and identity beyond its borders.

It was particularly fascinating to hear certain teachers without any Ukrainian heritage or background express their happiness with Ukrainian youths, and consistently state that they would return again next summer. The courses also offered chances to convey North American values and lifestyles to youths whose early academic years were impeded by the repressions and restraints of Soviet society.

Unfortunately, the summer of 1996 experienced some reductions in the teaching program, as many parents, not having received timely wages in Ukraine, could not budget for ESL course expenses. There were some discrepancies in the programs' applications, but in certain instances these were quite understandable (for example, Chernobyl children were taught free of charge).

Recommendations included future use of video materials in English to supplement the course books wherever TV monitors and video systems could be provided by schools. The opportunity to introduce Ukrainian cultural content into the English courses was noted also. (Perhaps various Ukrainian youth organizations active in North America might attempt to develop the contents of such new "Ukrainian cultural content" ESL course materials, and forward such to UNA participants in the summer teaching sessions.)

On Saturday evening, the teachers' reunion was highlighted by an embroidery presentation by Myroslava Stachiv and her husband, Dennis. The Stachivs have participated in teaching in Ukraine since the inception of the UNA/Prosvita program in 1992. Mrs. Stachiv's embroi-

(Continued on page 14)



1996: Stephen Hallick in Mykolaiv with his class.

## NEWS AND VIEWS: University of Kansas teams up with Ivan Franko University

by Capt. Paul K. Baumann

LAWRENCE, Kansas – When you think of the state of Kansas, visions of Eastern Europe do not immediately come to mind. Nor would you imagine a close, habitual relationship between an American university located on the plains of Kansas and an East European university located in historic western Ukraine. In fact, such a relationship does exist, and it fosters an academic and cultural exchange that can only be described as outstanding.

The program I am talking about is sponsored by the University of Kansas, located in the city of Lawrence. It is a six-week, fully-funded, overseas summer study program connected with the prestigious Ivan Franko University in Lviv. The program has recently completed its third, highly successful, cycle and is looking forward to many more.

This program is part of what may very well be the premier Ukrainian studies program in the United States. It serves to complement the Ukrainian track of the Russian/East European studies (REES) program at the University of Kansas.

The over-all REES program at KU concentrates on five different disciplines: political science, geography/economics, philosophy/religion, art/literature, and history. To earn a master's degree in this department, you must complete courses in each of the disciplines as well as advanced language training. The over-all program is extremely challenging and epitomizes a true interdisciplinary degree in Ukrainian or Russian/East European studies.

The most exciting opportunity of the entire program is to be able to participate in the six-week summer study program in Lviv. Completion of the program earns six credit hours. Three of these credit hours count toward the advanced language requirement, while the remaining three credits count toward any of the five major disciplines within the department.

The program is designed to be an immersion experience. Normally, two students are paired up and live with a host family from the city of Lviv. These host families are carefully screened and selected by the faculty and staff of both the University of Kansas and Ivan Franko University in Lviv.

Generally, the daily instructional content of the program consists of approximately three hours of intensive Ukrainian language training, along with additional courses in Ukrainian history, literature, religion, economics, geography, etc. To complement this instruction, there are numerous tours to various libraries, museums and historic sites in Lviv. The students learn so much about the city of Lviv that most of them consider it to be their second home when they leave.

In addition to the Lviv experience, three of the six weekends are spent on various excursions away from Lviv. These excursions include a three-day trip to Kyiv, a two-day trip to the Carpathian Mountains, and a daylong excursion to visit the castle of Olesko.

Transportation to and from Kyiv is provided by university vans and gives the students a chance to see the Ukrainian countryside. The trip to Kyiv provides the visiting students an opportunity to get to know the capital of Ukraine and its many historic sites, such as St. Sophia Cathedral and the ancient Monastery of the Caves, the Pecherska Lavra. The students are also afforded enough free time to shop and experience the city on their own if they wish.

While in the capital, the students are housed in an international student dormitory. These living accommodations,



American students and professors are received at Ivan Franko University by Dr. Ivan Vakarchuk, rector.

including food, are coordinated by the faculty and staff of Ivan Franko University.

The two-day trip to the Carpathian Mountains is especially enjoyable and provides the students with an opportunity to get acquainted with Ukraine's beautiful outdoors. Again, transportation, accommodations and food are provided for by Ivan Franko University. The accommodations, rustic cabins, are part of a retreat camp that belongs to the university.

Not only does the trip to the Carpathians provide an opportunity to do some extensive hiking and enjoy excellent food during a fireside cookout, it also gives the students the chance to see the historic Castle of Mukachiv and spend a little time getting acquainted with the town of Mukachiv. On the return trip to Lviv, there is even some roadside shopping for souvenirs and a quick stop in the town of Stryi.

The last weekend in Lviv is mostly left to the students, to see the sites that interest them the most for one last time. The only organized excursion arranged by the university for that weekend is to the

Olesko Castle. The tour of the museum at Olesko Castle is conducted entirely in Ukrainian and gives the students one more opportunity to practice the Ukrainian language skills they have been learning at Ivan Franko University.

As a personal note, this experience was not only extremely beneficial to me from an academic and cultural standpoint, but it was also highly valuable from a professional standpoint. I am a career military officer in the United States Army. Currently, I am in the process of earning my master's degree in the Russian and East European studies department at the University of Kansas.

This degree is designed to complement my training as a foreign area officer. Not only is the University of Kansas providing me with the highest quality of education possible in this area of study, it has also provided me with an opportunity to study in an East European country where I will hopefully find myself performing military liaison duties within a few short years.

It is important to note that this program would not be possible without the commitment and support of at least three

very important people. First and foremost is Alex Tsiovkh, visiting professor from Ukraine. He serves as everything from travel coordinator, mentor and tour guide to friend. His involvement is invaluable and insures a highly successful trip. In short, he is irreplaceable.

Next is Prof. Maria Carlson. She is the director of the Center for Russian and East European Studies at the University of Kansas. Without her personal commitment to the Ukrainian Studies Program, this particular endeavor would be impossible.

The third person is Dr. Victor Kervs of Ivan Franko University. He is the dean of international students at Ivan Franko University. Without his heartfelt desire to see this program work, it never would.

If you read this and feel that I am very pro-Ukrainian and very pro-University of Kansas, then you are correct. The Ukrainian Studies Program offered at the University of Kansas is probably the best in the country. I would encourage anyone interested in this area of study to seriously consider the University of Kansas as their institution of study. The opportunities are endless.

## Report cites strength of Ukrainian history at U. of Alberta

by Dr. Serge Cipko

EDMONTON – An external review committee of the graduate program in history and classics at the University of Alberta released its report recently, emphasizing Ukrainian history as one of the department's strongest fields.

The committee, comprising two historians affiliated with the Universities of York (Canada) and Texas (Austin), a Professor of classics at the university of California in Berkeley, and a professor of biochemistry and oncology with the University of Alberta, conducted its report in April-May.

In its appraisal of the department of history at the University of Alberta, the report concluded: "The department and the program have grown stronger. The culture of scholarship is now in place and flourishing; the departmental vision is broader, its ambition greater and the quality of its graduate program has

*Dr. Serge Cipko is a part-time sessional instructor in history at the University of Alberta and Grant McEwan Community College in Edmonton.*

greatly improved."

Reflecting on the repercussions of a recent merger between the departments of history and classics, in effect from 1994 and driven by university budgetary constraints, the report remarked that mutual interaction between the two fields could find an auspicious meeting ground in among other places, Ukraine.

A "fruitful area of interaction," it suggested, "could be between the University of Alberta classical archaeologists and the strong program in the history, culture and institutions of Ukraine. This archaeologically rich land is potentially a natural – and perhaps unique – meeting ground for expansion of programs at the University of Alberta which are already breaking new ground separately."

Field trips by faculty and students of the University of Alberta to archaeological sites in Ukraine, and "invitations for Ukrainian archaeologists and historians to lecture in Edmonton," in the committee's opinion, are "only two possible manifestations of this exciting new area of research."

In its evaluation of the strength and promise of the department's faculty, the committee identified "three areas of con-

siderable strength" in which the faculty "has already achieved national, if not international, distinction." The three areas are: Canadian history, especially western Canadian history; classical archaeology; and East European history, "and in particular the history of Ukraine, a field which is closely related to the history of Ukrainians in Canada in which the department also has considerable strength."

The report noted that there are only two faculty members in the department of history and classics who specialize in Ukraine, but there are four others employed elsewhere in the university who work in the field of Ukrainian history.

"In the broader field of Ukrainian studies," the committee report concluded, "the University of Alberta has been pre-eminent in North America."

The two specialists of Ukraine in the department of history and classics are Dr. John-Paul Himka, currently the graduate chair, and Dr. David Marples. Dr. Frances Swyripa, a specialist in Canadian Ukrainian history, holds a joint appointment with the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies.

(Continued on page 14)

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## Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

### Rejuvenated Gretzky a Broadway smash

To put the spotlight on Wayne Gretzky's point production so far this season is to miss the point. The Great One isn't merely scoring well, which he has pretty much done all of his hockey-playing days. He is truly playing well, too. Very well, as a matter of fact.

Should anyone really be surprised? Gretzky has made a career of confounding the critics, who multiplied in vast numbers last season when No. 99 was accused of overt self-interest in the messy orchestration of his trade from the Los Angeles Kings to the St. Louis Blues while his play tailed off badly. Yet only his staunchest allies could have imagined the 35 year old breaking out of the gate this season with the enthusiasm and results of a young buck half his age.

"I knew I would be under the watchful eye," Gretzky readily admitted. "I wanted to show everyone I can still play."

How utterly and totally Gretzky. And, so far, so good for the New York Rangers' Renaissance Man. His 10 goals and 21 assists were good for fifth place among NHL scoring leaders almost one-third of the way through this 1996-1997 campaign. Plus there's little similarity between his play and, more importantly, his outlook on life from the tumult of last season to this one. And, remember, he did manage to rack up 102 points last year, which only shows how easy it is to miss the point because of points.

"I don't think anyone can even imagine what it was like for me (last season)," Gretzky said. "It was a horrible experience for everyone, especially me. I was extremely stressed. It couldn't help but affect the way I played. I was just saying to my wife (Janet) the other morning over breakfast how much I am enjoying living and playing in New York. Totally. It has been wonderful."

And does it ever show!

Don't get the wrong idea about points. Thirty-one in 27 games isn't shabby by anyone's standards, and if Gretzky wasn't scoring them, he'd be hearing about it. Only guys like Sakic, Forsberg and Yzerman were ahead of Gretzky in the early-season NHL scoring race. He was on a pace to score 30 goals, 70+ assists and some 100+ points over a full season.

"To be honest and without any exaggeration, Wayne could have had another 12 or 15 points if some of the other Rangers had finished their (scoring) chances," said for-

mer NHL goalie John Davidson, color commentator on the Madison Square Garden network. "That's how good he has been."

"He has really looked strong," said Florida Panthers' coach Doug MacLean, who saw Gretzky up close and personal in four early season meetings with the Rangers. "Gretzky's line (with Niklas Sundstrom and Luc Robitaille) has been the Rangers' best line against us. He's making great plays, and he's a threat every time he's on the ice."

Many times last season, Gretzky was as much a threat to his own team as the opposition. He got into the bad habit of giving away the puck under pressure, showed disdain for playing in traffic, and on too many nights simply looked old and slow. Not so this season. There's a jump back in his step. Quickness seems to have magically reappeared in both his hands and feet. Only when he's deep in his own end is he a potential liability, but then that's often true of 6-foot, 175-pound offense minded centermen.

It's not just a better game he's playing, it's a whole different game.

Gretzky was actually leading the league in shots on goal through the first 20-some games, with a healthy average of over 4.5 shots per game. This is a mark he hasn't hit since the 1981-1982 season, when he scored an NHL-record 92 goals.

"I would think (the record) is safe," Gretzky joked with a laugh.

Opposing goalies, however, have no reason to feel very secure when the Great One now gets the puck. He is equipped with a new attitude and a new gun.

"I've always used a stick that's mostly straight because I found that helped me with my slapshot," Gretzky said. "The trouble is there's no time anymore to get off the big Bobby Hull wind-up like I used to. What I did is to curve the toe of the stick more and now I can really snap off the puck quite quickly."

It wasn't enough, though, just to change his stick. He also had to alter his mindset.

"In the past, it was 50-50 whether I would shoot or pass, but when it got so I was almost always making the pass instead of taking the shot," he admitted. "I was becoming too predictable. (Defensemen and goalies) were overplaying it because they knew what I was going to do. Now that I feel I can get off the quick snapshot, I'm going to do it every time I'm around the net. That has been a conscious decision on my part to

(Continued on page 13)

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## Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 12)

keep (goalies and defensemen) honest."

It was speculated that Gretzky's production this season would be limited because he would be playing more often against bigger, stronger Eastern Conference teams that place a heavy premium on tough team defense. Increasing aversion to traffic was to be his downfall, but a funny thing happened on the way to the front of the net.

"There was so much talk of how I couldn't play anymore and how I couldn't get to the net or through heavy traffic," Gretzky said. "I just decided that I am going to go to the net and I am going to succeed at it. I was just determined to do it."

And he has. His tying goal in a 1-1 game with Florida on October 29 was on a rebound in heavy traffic at the edge of the crease. "It's all a matter of determination and remembering to keep your feet moving," Gretzky explained.

The first part of that is up to him. So, too, is the second, although it doesn't hurt to have some helpful reminders.

"If I have a shift where I've stopped moving my feet," Gretzky further explained, "I'll come to the bench and Mark (Messier) will remind me to keep them going on the next shift. He's on me about that. That's important. The Eastern Conference teams are not tougher or more physical than the Western teams - that's really a big misconception - but, they do trap more and play better defense. The key for me is to keep moving."

Gretzky believes preparing for the World Cup and the playing in it worked to his advantage. He said he was energized by playing at that level and it dovetailed nicely with his motivation to prove he's not sliding down the slippery slope at breakneck speed. He has shown that to be true not only in words, but also in actions.

While his even-strength play in the World Cup tailed off as the tournament progressed, he maintained a solid work ethic without the puck, especially in his role as a backchecker. That continued with the Rangers. In fact, he was hustling back so hard he was able to execute his old trademark lift-the-stick-and-steal-the-puck maneuver to create a turnover and make for a quick transition to offense.

"The Rangers, especially (coach) Collie (Campbell) have shown real faith in me," Gretzky said. "I'm never going to win the Selke (top defensive forward award), but I owe it to them to be responsible. If I don't come back, other guys aren't going to come back, and we can't have that."

In his first 20-plus games Gretzky averaged a very healthy 23 minutes per game. He topped out at 28:25 in the third game of the season against Florida and bottomed out at 17:42 in the 14th game against the New Jersey Devils.

Gretzky plays the power play (on a separate unit from Messier), kills penalties with Sundstrom and takes his regular turn. It's a situation that will have to be monitored.

"I'd like to play Wayne and Mark all the time," Campbell said, "and I'm sure they would like to play all the time. But we can't lose sight of what's important and that is these two guys have to be ready to play at the top of their game in the play-offs. I owe it to this team and to them to make sure they're ready and to make sure our kids and other players get the ice time to develop. I have to look at the big picture. I've got to make sure the well doesn't run dry with those two guys."

Gretzky started the season with Alexei Kovalev as his winger, but lately skates between Luc Robitaille and Niklas Sundstrom. Robitaille was struggling to score goals, but not from lack of opportunities. Sundstrom was beginning to develop chemistry with Gretzky. The young Swede is the designated checker on this

line, but is both intelligent and quick with the puck. He's beginning to find the holes that his centerman helps open up. Slowly but surely, Gretzky and star defenseman Brian Leetch were also developing a rapport, especially on the power play.

Yet in truth, the Rangers lack the pure finishing winger Gretzky really needs. Kovalev and Adam Graves will get their fair share playing on Messier's line, and rookies Daniel Goneau and Christian Dube were solid. The latter two rooks saw action on Gretzky's power play unit.

Trouble is, with what the Rangers are paying Gretzky (\$5 million this season) and their total payroll (about \$36 million), the Rangers can't or won't spend even more to get a scorer such as Vancouver's Alexander Mogilny or, when he was available, Brendan Shanahan, now with the Red Wings.

The lack of that type of player and, perhaps, the missing elements of grit and toughness up front, help explain why the Rangers were several games under .500 after their first 27 encounters. That, and the fact that Messier, Leetch and goalie Mike Richter have all been a tad inconsistent as performers.

Gretzky's strong start is as much a state of mind as anything else. He's enthused again about playing the game. Gretzky said he'll play as long as it continues to be fun - which is why he's virtually certain to outlast Mario Lemieux - and he can contribute in the traditional Gretzky-esque highest level of standards he demands of himself. His current contract runs through 1997-1998. It's not lost on him that there are still some statistical milestones within his grasp.

"I'm looking forward to getting my 1,800th assist," Gretzky said on a day he was at 1,785. "Shooting for No. 1,851 is going to be fun, too."

No. 1,851 is a milestone Gretzky set for himself when he eclipsed Gordie Howe's total points record a couple of years ago. Gretzky wants to have as many career NHL assists as Howe did career NHL points. If he continues to produce at his current rate, he'll get it this season. On the long-term horizon, the 847-goal scorer has one eye on scoring 900, though at his age that falls under the category of long-range objectives.

"I like to set those little milestones for myself," Gretzky said. "It's fun and it motivates me, gives me something to shoot for." Literally!

Mostly, though, he's aiming for contentment. Gretzky is secure with his place in the history of the game. It is more an immediate gratification he's after. So far, he's definitely found it in New York.

He and his family are settled in a condo apartment on Manhattan's Upper East Side. He walks his children to school in the morning. He is within a five-minute walk of seven or eight Ranger teammates, including Messier, Leetch and Richter. While he's older and more settled, it's the closest he has come to duplicating the camaraderie of his old Edmonton Oilers days. And there is nothing better in the world, Gretzky said, than being reunited with his hockey soul-mate Messier.

"The biggest difference for me is having Mark here, on and off the ice," Gretzky said. "On the ice, he opens up so much room for me. I'm not seeing the top checking line from the other team because Mark's line is. That's one big difference. Off the ice, he takes away so much of the pressure. If we lose, it's not everyone crowding around asking me why. It was Mark's team before I got here, and it's still Mark's team. I'm feeding off that energy. I'm excited. I'm happy."

And after all, that is the point!

(Gretzky quotes courtesy of Bob McKenzie pieces in Hockey News.)



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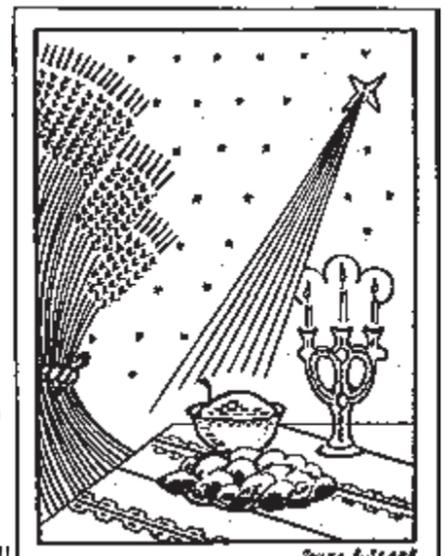
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**UNA's English...**

(Continued from page 10)

dered heraldry from various oblasts and regions of Ukraine was displayed in the Soyuzivka library, offering a better appreciation of Ukraine's history and heritage.

All the volunteer English teachers

shared a renewed enthusiasm for future efforts in Ukraine, and expressed encouragement for other qualified and dedicated persons to seriously consider a four-week teaching - and learning - experience in Ukraine in the summer of 1997.

(Details of the 1997 program will be announced in The Ukrainian Weekly early next year.)



1995: Harold and Irene Bartz with young students in Ternopil.

**Report cites strength...**

(Continued from page 11)

The number of graduate students under the supervision of these three faculty members in the department has steadily grown, and they reflect more diverse national backgrounds, especially East European and Japanese.

"The Report of the External Review

Committee on the Graduate Program in History and Classics, University of Alberta," has recognized a strength that, in spite of a prevailing climate of fiscal constraints, is nonetheless poised to mature and expand still further.

Inquiries regarding graduate programs in Ukrainian history may be directed to: The Department of History and Classics, 2-28 Henry Marshall Tory Building, University of Alberta, Edmonton, Alberta, T6G 2H4.

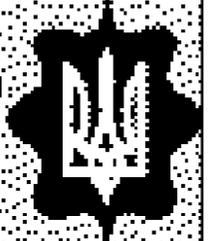
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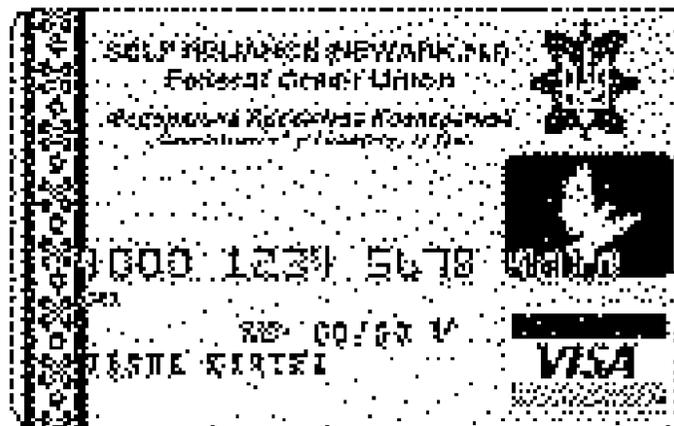


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# Russian-Ukrainian...

(Continued from page 2)

Taiwan) have continually upheld Ukraine's position on Crimea and Sevastopol. For the second year running Ukraine will receive more assistance than Russia from the U.S. Even this lower assistance to Russia may be cut as U.S. government aid to the former USSR can be blocked to any country that violates the territorial integrity and sovereignty of any other state.

Fourth, Ukraine may demand that the issues of the Black Sea Fleet and recognition of Ukraine's borders be uncoupled. Russia has refused to sign an inter-state treaty recognizing Ukraine's borders in international law until the Black Sea Fleet question is resolved - a question Moscow would have regarded as resolved only if it had been granted long-term, exclusive basing rights in Sevastopol on a non-lease basis. Ukraine may be forced now to raise in international forums and with friendly governments the question of the refusal by Russia's executive (an act in which it is backed by its legislature) to legally recognize Ukraine's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Finally, Ukrainian nationalist parties and parliamentary factions will be given additional support by centrist and even some left-wing members of the Verkhovna Rada who feel outraged by Russia's actions. Some members of the Communist and Socialist parliamentary factions, which chair, respectively, the two committees on Defense and Security, and Foreign Affairs and CIS Ties, feel betrayed by their left-wing colleagues within the Russian Parliament over the Sevastopol question and their support for authoritarian rule in Belarus, which quashed its Parliament.

On November 16 the Ukrainian

Parliament issued a statement that outlined a number of "guidelines" for Ukrainian negotiators, which are now likely to be insisted upon by the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada. It also insisted that members of the Ukrainian Parliament henceforth be included in negotiating teams on the Black Sea Fleet. (Unlike in most other CIS states, Ukraine adopted a constitution in June which still gives Parliament a large role in policy-making - a factor that President Leonid Kuchma cannot ignore).

These "guidelines" lay claim to the entire infrastructure of the Black Sea Fleet, thereby refusing to divide it 50-50; decline to allow Russia to infringe the Conventional Forces in Europe Treaty by stationing higher than currently allowed numbers of its troops in Crimea; insist on basing being regulated by a lease (which would amount to Russia's de jure recognition of Ukrainian sovereignty over Sevastopol) as well as argue that "the location of Ukrainian military bases is non-negotiable." The "guidelines" also called upon the Foreign Ministry to deny entry to Russian citizens who hold territorial claims against Ukraine (this ruling has already been used against Konstantin Zatulin).

Both national democrats and Borys Oliynyk, chairman of the Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs and CIS Ties, warned before the Federation Council vote that they may introduce two pieces of legislation in the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada. First, they would call for the removal of the clause in the chapter on Temporary Provisions in the Ukrainian Constitution which allows for the "temporary" stationing of foreign bases on Ukrainian territory. Second, they would call for a law to be adopted outlining the complete withdrawal of Russian military forces from Ukrainian territory by the year 2,000.

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**UCCA's Washington...**

(Continued from page 3)

relations, but to the reform efforts in Ukraine which the administration and Congress have supported and which are vital to the stability of the region." Furthermore, Mr. Lozynskyj's comment: "These charges play into the hands of Russia, which is trying to portray Ukraine as an outlaw state, while making claims to Ukrainian territory."

At a White House press briefing on December 10, Press Secretary Michael McCurry was asked: "Have you any comment on Ukraine selling missiles to Libya?" He answered: "Well, you are referring to an alleged intelligence report... On that one, suffice it to say we have very real concerns about the non-proliferation obligations that have been expressed by the government of Ukraine - indeed, any country - and very real concerns about the actions of the government of Libya. And you can imagine that we would raise those concerns very directly."

At press time, UCCA Bureau Director Michael Sawkiw Jr. was seeking clarification of Mr. McCurry's response from administration officials. In a letter sent to Mr. McCurry, Mr. Sawkiw stated: "The Ukrainian American community is distressed to learn of your concerns and urgently requests an immediate clarification of your remarks ... and urges you to indicate unequivocally and publicly whether Ukraine's actions provide grounds for concern."

**Winnipeg pharmacist...**

(Continued from page 7)

Two years ago, the Manitoba government gave pharmacists like him a hand when it introduced the Drug Programs Information Network.

Through it, every pharmacy in the province is hooked up to a central computer at the Manitoba Health Services Commission in Winnipeg. Each time someone comes in to have a prescription filled, the person hands the pharmacist his health card bearing an electronically coded Personal Health Identification Number on which his medication history is recorded.

Still, Mr. Kurjewicz, who has worked as a licensed pharmacist since 1975, prefers the personal approach in keeping his customers drug independent.

"I may be their pharmacist, but I try to be their friend as well - not someone just behind a counter. You don't get instant respect and credibility, you have to earn it. It's important to be a human being first and a professional second."

**Experts express optimism...**

(Continued from page 6)

government continues its reforms, low inflation rates and stable economic conditions will be a year-round reality.

All three individuals offered their insights about where Ukraine needs to go from here.

According to Mr. Havrylyshyn, now that macroeconomic stability has been achieved, the next step must be institutional reforms. This will require changes within all levels of government, a rethinking of how government governs and addressing the underlying problems of tax collection and fiscal responsibility.

Gen. Krawciw stated that the most important steps in terms of Ukraine's security structure will be domestic stability and its inclusion in a pan-European, trans-Atlantic security structure.

Ambassador Popadiuk added that, while relationships with Russia have improved over the last year, it is still the single most important issue in Ukraine's foreign policy.

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## Ukraine's Verkhovna...

(Continued from page 1)

city. On November 22, while explaining his intentions, he said Ukraine had previously convinced the Federation Council to stay out of the fray but that this time "the question of the status of the city will be resolved." He added that "we shall not fight with Ukraine, but we must go through several stages."

Ukraine's Parliament was quick to respond to the declaration, if only half-heartedly. The Verkhovna Rada voted on December 6 by 227 to 38 with 11 abstentions to bring to the floor a bill on "the withdrawal of foreign troops from Ukraine's territory, which calls for the removal of all foreign troops, except for those invited by the government by the year 2000." It also voted to declare that the Federation Council vote was "a claim on the territorial integrity of Ukraine" and that "the status of Sevastopol cannot be changed; it has been and remains Ukrainian territory."

Even Socialist Oleksander Moroz, chairman of Ukraine's Parliament, was spurred to make a statement from his seat on the tribunal of the Verkhovna Rada condemning the federation resolution. "The Russian State Duma and the Federation Council have interfered in the internal affairs of Ukraine, and the Ukrainian legislature should react," he told national deputies during the December 6

session. The bill was scheduled to be brought to the floor on December 12.

Borys Oliynyk, chairman of the Parliament's Committee on Foreign Affairs and CIS Relations said on December 7 that he considers the Verkhovna Rada's response adequate. He then leveled his often sharp wit at Mayor Luzhkov of Moscow: "We will not come down to the level of Yuri Luzhkov, who reconstructs Christ the Savior Church (in Moscow) and, at the same time, does not behave as a Christian should."

On December 11, he hit again, this time taking the podium on the floor of the Verkhovna Rada to ask, "Why doesn't a representative of Mr. Luzhkov come here to discuss the matter and then lay flowers at the gravesite of the founder of Moscow, Yurii Dovhorukyi? Would this not please Yuri Luzhkov, the latest "Kniaz" (Prince) Yuri of Moscow?"

Other branches of the Ukrainian government expressed their resolve not to discuss the status of the city of Sevastopol. At a regular press briefing at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on December 10, ministry spokesperson Yurii Sergeyev said the status of the city is not negotiable.

"Ukraine's territorial integrity has been recognized by all nations, and none - except for certain political circles in Russia - calls it into question," said Mr. Sergeyev. He explained that Ukraine is focused on continuing discussions aimed at a Ukraine-Russia treaty on friendship and cooperation.

## Pynzenyk leads...

(Continued from page 1)

and a restructuring of debt to those businesses that will have difficulties paying the government what they owe.

He also explained the need to streamline the bureaucracy by cutting red tape, which would make it more attractive for those in the shadow economy to enter the mainstream.

Mr. Pynzenyk said that, apart from a reduction of taxes, the government would amortize the cost of initial investments to produce a positive business climate. Nine billion hryvni (hrv) have been budgeted to support such an effort, as well as to cover the cost of increased government wages and to clear back wages yet unpaid.

The government's economic reform package is based on tax reform, increased productivity and industrial output, and pension reform. The government released a series of documents on November 29 that specifically explain the proposed reforms.

According to the documents, tax reform will include a reassessment of the value-added tax (VAT) on profits by enterprises, the introduction of a new system that will allow companies to deduct depreciation of assets, and the standardization of the VAT for all enterprises on the basis of invoices.

Individual salary deductions that support the unemployment fund will be cut from 2 percent to 1 percent; contributions to the pension fund will be reduced from 32.5 percent to 25 percent with an associated restructuring of the pension fund; deductions to the Fund for Chernobyl will be halved from 12 percent to 6 percent. The maximum income tax rate for individuals will be reduced to 30 percent from 56 percent.

Changes in the excise tax also are included in the plan. Most notably, the government has introduced a proposal to eliminate taxes on exports and to cut excise taxes on all goods, except for gas, alcohol and tobacco, which generate the most profits.

The documents also outline a plan to simplify taxation of banking and insurance revenues.

The program for increasing industrial

output and investment is more vague in its stated goals. Nonetheless, it offers an outline on what the government will focus. The plan calls for: scaling down the tax burden and expanding the tax base; raising the minimum fund requirement for commercial banks and changing tax policy with regard to the insurance reserve; reducing red tape in the licensing and streamlining of commercial banks, including foreign banks; developing a mechanism to insure personal savings accounts; canceling the taxation of profits from state securities for individuals; establishing a system of individual pension accounts, which could become investment sources; canceling export duties; streamlining procedures for import-export transactions and canceling requirements for declaring income and property located outside Ukraine.

The program also addresses the needs of the agricultural sector. The government hopes to stimulate growth by working to build agro-industrial contractual relations and by privatizing grain elevators throughout Ukraine. The program calls for the privatization of land and the formation of collective farms into "progressive forms of economic entities."

Also part of the package is a series of laws on bankruptcy and the disposal of bankrupt property.

Finally, the economic growth package includes pension reform. It envisages the introduction of an entirely new pension system in Ukraine. Personal pension accounts will be established for individuals, with contributions by the individual and the employer. The accounts will track personal employment histories, upon which pension benefits for individuals will be determined.

If this program is approved by the Verkhovna Rada, beginning January 1, 1997, the retirement age for special pensions, old age pensions and other special categories will be extended for one year. On January 1, 1998, the age of retirement will be extended three months a year until it hits 65 years of age for men and 60 for women (the retirement age currently is 60 for men and 55 for women). The government believes that the extensions will add 406.2 million hrv in 1997 and 492.4 million hrv in 1998 to the pension fund.

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Nestor L. Olesnycky

Robert S. Field

### NOTICE TO UNA SECRETARIES AND ORGANIZERS

The 1996 Membership Campaign ends December 20, 1996, therefore we will accept applications of new members only to December 20, 1996.

We urge you to make every effort to fulfill your quota and mail in your applications early enough to reach the Home Office by December 20, 1996.

UNA HOME OFFICE

### NOTICE TO UNA MEMBERS AND BRANCHES

Members and Branches of the Ukrainian National Association are hereby notified that with the ending of its fiscal year the Home Office of the UNA must close its accounts and deposit in banks all money received from Branches.

No Later Than Noon  
of DECEMBER 20, 1996

Money received later cannot be credited to 1996. Therefore we appeal to all members of the UNA to pay their dues this month as soon as possible and all Branches to remit their accounts and money in time to be received by the Home Office no later than noon of FRIDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1996.

Notice is hereby given that Branches which send their dues in late will be shown as delinquent and in arrears on the annual report.

UNA HOME OFFICE

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# Ukrainian National Association

## Monthly reports

### RECORDING DEPARTMENT

#### MEMBERSHIP REPORT

|  | JUV.       | ADULTS     | ADD       | TOTALS     |
|--|------------|------------|-----------|------------|
| TOTAL AS OF AUGUST 1996                          | 16,398     | 38,660     | 4,840     | 59,898     |
| <b>GAINS IN SEPTEMBER 1996</b>                   |            |            |           |            |
| Total new members                                | 25         | 161        | 0         | 186        |
| New members UL                                   | 0          | 7          | 0         | 7          |
| Reinstated                                       | 18         | 56         | 0         | 74         |
| Transferred in                                   | 68         | 120        | 14        | 202        |
| Change class in                                  | 3          | 2          | 0         | 5          |
| Transferred from Juvenile Dept.                  | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          |
| <b>TOTAL GAINS:</b>                              | <b>114</b> | <b>346</b> | <b>14</b> | <b>474</b> |
| <b>LOSSES IN SEPTEMBER 1996</b>                  |            |            |           |            |
| Suspended  | 19         | 15         | 9         | 43         |
| Transferred out                                  | 68         | 120        | 14        | 202        |
| Change of class out                              | 3          | 2          | 0         | 5          |
| Transferred to adults                            | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          |
| Died   | 4          | 57         | 0         | 61         |
| Cash surrender                                   | 15         | 28         | 0         | 43         |
| Endowment matured                                | 23         | 20         | 0         | 43         |
| Fully paid-up                                    | 16         | 32         | 0         | 48         |
| Reduced paid-up                                  | 0          | 0          | 0         | 0          |
| Certificate terminated                           | 0          | 0          | 2         | 2          |
| <b>TOTAL LOSSES:</b>                             | <b>148</b> | <b>274</b> | <b>25</b> | <b>447</b> |
| <b>INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP</b>                       |            |            |           |            |
| <b>GAINS IN SEPTEMBER 1996</b>                   |            |            |           |            |
| Paid-up  | 16         | 32         | 0         | 48         |
| Extended insurance                               | 15         | 6          | 0         | 21         |
| <b>TOTAL GAINS:</b>                              | <b>31</b>  | <b>38</b>  | <b>0</b>  | <b>69</b>  |
| <b>LOSSES IN SEPTEMBER 1996</b>                  |            |            |           |            |
| Died   | 2          | 31         | 0         | 33         |
| Cash surrender                                   | 8          | 13         | 0         | 21         |
| Reinstated                                       | 1          | 4          | 0         | 5          |
| AIP  | 55         | 82         | 0         | 137        |
| <b>TOTAL LOSSES:</b>                             | <b>66</b>  | <b>130</b> | <b>0</b>  | <b>196</b> |
| <b>TOTAL UNA MEMBERSHIP AS OF SEPTEMBER 1996</b> |            |            |           |            |
|  | 16,329     | 38,640     | 4,829     | 59,798     |

MARTHA LYSKO  
Secretary

### FINANCIAL DEPARTMENT

#### INCOME FOR SEPTEMBER 1996

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| Dues From Members                             | \$ 330,671.05          |
| Annuity Premiums From Members                 | 45,867.17              |
| Income From "Svoboda" Operation               | 87,059.75              |
| <b>Investment Income:</b>                     |                        |
| Banks   | \$ 140.91              |
| Bonds   | 320,929.92             |
| Certificate Loans                             | 4,737.01               |
| Mortgage Loans                                | 57,435.30              |
| Real Estate                                   | 192,152.49             |
| Short Term Investments                        | 17,543.59              |
| Stocks  | 8,494.72               |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$ 601,433.94</b>   |
| <b>Refunds:</b>                               |                        |
| Employee Hospitalization Plan Premiums        | \$ 41,334.32           |
| General Office Maintenance                    | 1.36                   |
| Investment Expense                            | 200.00                 |
| Official Publication "Svoboda"                | 45,000.00              |
| Postage                                       | 1,470.46               |
| Rent  | 225.98                 |
| Reward To Special Organizer                   | 1,998.18               |
| Taxes Federal, State & City On Employee Wages | 84,873.02              |
| Telephone                                     | 53.85                  |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$ 175,156.57</b>   |
| <b>Miscellaneous:</b>                         |                        |
| Donations To Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine  | \$ 5,852.64            |
| Exchange Account-UNURC                        | 383,386.12             |
| Transfer Account                              | 556,863.21             |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$ 946,101.97</b>   |
| <b>Investments:</b>                           |                        |
| Bonds Matured Or Sold                         | \$ 1,004,426.36        |
| Certificate Loans Repaid                      | 5,170.07               |
| Mortgages Repaid                              | 321,436.41             |
| Short Term Investments Sold                   | 4,793,032.92           |
| <b>Total</b>                                  | <b>\$ 6,124,065.76</b> |
| <b>Income For September, 1996</b>             | <b>\$ 8,310,356.21</b> |

### DISBURSEMENTS FOR SEPTEMBER 1996

|   |                        |
|---|------------------------|
| <b>Paid To Or For Members:</b>                  |                        |
| Annuity Benefits And Partial Withdrawals        | \$ 46,336.23           |
| Cash Surrenders                                 | 152,864.29             |
| Death Benefits                                  | 58,680.00              |
| Universal Life Withdrawals                      | 314.03                 |
| Dividend Accumulations                          | 1,155.45               |
| Dues And Annuity Premiums From Members Returned | 2,181.94               |
| Endowments Matured                              | 51,187.50              |
| Indigent Benefits Disbursed                     | 870.00                 |
| Interest On Death Benefits                      | 58.18                  |
| Payor Death Benefits                            | 35.30                  |
| Reinsurance Premiums Paid                       | 1,221.25               |
| Scholarships                                    | 3,500.00               |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 318,404.17</b>   |
| <b>Operating Expenses:</b>                      |                        |
| Real Estate                                     | \$ 292,665.00          |
| Svoboda Operation                               | 153,478.41             |
| Washington Office                               | 28.60                  |
| <b>Organizing Expenses:</b>                     |                        |
| Advertising                                     | \$ 3,447.59            |
| Commissions And Overrides On Universal Life     | 2,118.08               |
| Field Conferences                               | 1,273.50               |
| Medical Inspections                             | 240.71                 |
| Reward To Organizers                            | 1,624.83               |
| Reward To Special Organizers                    | 16,459.18              |
| Supreme Medical Examiner's Fee                  | 1,500.00               |
| Traveling Expenses-Special Organizers           | 3,879.39               |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 30,543.28</b>    |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 476,715.29</b>   |
| <b>Payroll, Insurance And Taxes:</b>            |                        |
| Employee Benefit Plan                           | \$ 252,217.83          |
| Salaries Of Executive Officers                  | 17,740.09              |
| Salaries Of Office Employees                    | 78,701.56              |
| Taxes-Federal, State And City On Employee Wages | 85,682.62              |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 434,342.10</b>   |
| <b>General Expenses:</b>                        |                        |
| Actuarial And Statistical Expenses              | \$ 4,736.54            |
| Bank Charges                                    | 2,450.74               |
| Bank Charges For Custodian Account              | 808.71                 |
| Books And Periodicals                           | 45.57                  |
| Furniture & Equipment                           | 10,274.96              |
| General Office Maintenance                      | 2,199.88               |
| Insurance Department Fees                       | 2,223.73               |
| Legal Expenses-General                          | 2,350.39               |
| Operating Expense of Canadian Office            | 175.00                 |
| Postage   | 543.16                 |
| Printing and Stationery                         | 2,838.02               |
| Rental Of Equipment And Services                | 9,531.56               |
| Telephone, Telegraph                            | 13,908.88              |
| Traveling Expenses-General                      | 649.45                 |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 52,736.59</b>    |
| <b>Miscellaneous:</b>                           |                        |
| Donation From Fund For The Rebirth Of Ukraine   | \$ 3,954.55            |
| Exchange Account-UNURC                          | 383,176.12             |
| Investment Expense-Mortgages                    | 2,500.00               |
| Professional Fees                               | 7,160.00               |
| Rent  | 5,786.79               |
| Transfer Account                                | 516,763.21             |
| Youth Sports Activities                         | 1,586.07               |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 920,926.74</b>   |
| <b>Investments:</b>                             |                        |
| Certificate Loans                               | \$ 7,610.01            |
| E.D.P. Equipment                                | 20,009.53              |
| Mortgages                                       | 1,000.00               |
| Real Estate                                     | 61,923.50              |
| Short Term Investments                          | 6,007,931.89           |
| Stock   | 5,660.42               |
| <b>Total</b>                                    | <b>\$ 6,104,135.35</b> |
| <b>Disbursements For September, 1996</b>        | <b>\$ 8,307,260.24</b> |

### BALANCE

|                         |                         |                    |                         |
|-------------------------|-------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| <b>ASSETS</b>           |                         | <b>LIABILITIES</b> |                         |
| Cash                    | \$ 986,316.79           | Life Insuran       | \$ 72,970,894.65        |
| Short Term Investments  | 6,202,338.18            | Accidental D.D.    | 2,217,994.71            |
| Bonds                   | 42,551,044.35           | Fraternal          | 0.00                    |
| Mortgage Loans          | 7,061,586.95            | Orphans            | 442,100.30              |
| Certificate Loan        | 684,609.25              | Old Age Home       | 0.00                    |
| Real Estate             | 3,201,479.45            | Emergency          | 53,740.50               |
| Printing Plant & E.D.P. | 583,811.23              |                    |                         |
| Equipment               | 1,534,264.03            |                    |                         |
| Stocks                  | 104,551.04              |                    |                         |
| Loan to D.H.-U.N.A      | 12,774,728.89           |                    |                         |
| Housing Corp.           |                         |                    |                         |
| Loan To U.N.U.R.C.      |                         |                    |                         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>\$ 75,684,730.16</b> | <b>Total</b>       | <b>\$ 75,684,730.16</b> |

ALEXANDER BLAHITKA  
Treasurer

## A periodic progress...

(Continued from page 8)

with 13 base hits. Serhii Holovko contributed with seven doubles.

### On to France

On August 24, the fifth anniversary of Ukraine's independence, I met the Ukrainian National Cadet Team (age 13-15) in Sarcelles, France, near Paris. My functions were to serve as technical advisor to the coach, translator and first-base coach. The coach of the cadet team was Oleh Boiko of Kirovohrad.

Our first game was the next day against Russia. Team Ukraine led 11-8 in the seventh inning, but key errors by our shortstop and second baseman allowed Russia to score seven unearned runs. Final score: Russia 15, Ukraine 11.

The next day we faced the Czech team in the battle for second place in our group. Team Ukraine could only score one run in six innings, while the Czechs scored three runs. But, late in the game, we started hitting, and we won the game 7-3. Serhii Holovko, a 14-year-old from Kirovohrad, pitched six innings in relief to gain the victory. He allowed but two hits, no earned runs and no walks.

On August 27 Russia easily defeated the Czech team. This enabled Ukraine to finish in second place in its group, earning the right to face team Italy in the semi-finals on August 29. This created a problem for us because I had contacted the Ukrainian Embassy in Paris and had made arrangements for our team to meet with Ukraine's ambassador to France on that same day.

On August 28 the organizing committee for the tournament arranged a tour of Paris for all the teams, for a fee. Our young team was allowed to walk, look and take photographs of a beautiful city. This was the first trip outside Ukraine for almost all of our players, and the young boys truly enjoyed this experience.

On August 29, I advised Mr. Boiko to change our strategy for Italy. I suggested that we change our shortstop and second baseman to form a stronger defense in the infield. Next, I suggested that we bat our three best players at the top of the line-up, and attack and hit every strike thrown. In the first inning we hit every strike thrown, we hit the ball hard, but always at someone. Italy was too strong for us. Final score: Italy 15, Ukraine 4. Our defeat meant that we would face France for third place on August 31. France had lost to Russia in their semi-final game.

Our game against Italy was originally scheduled for the afternoon but rain caused a delay. We finally started at 7:30 p.m. The game ended at 10:30 p.m., and then the trouble began.

### A life-threatening situation

A group of older teenagers from Sarcelles appeared at the field holding sticks and leather straps. They started pushing, shoving and touching our team. They would move from one person to the next, trying to separate our group into smaller groups. They were yelling, taunting and trying to provoke us. The coaches and I had bats beside us. The question was whether to use them or not. Unknown to me at the time was the fact that an older man had a vicious dog on a leash just waiting to pounce on someone. This seemed to be going on for an eternity.

This was the most dangerous position I have ever been in my entire life. One serious blow by someone would have led to many serious injuries and possible death. That is how tense the situation was at that time. The organizing committee did not know what to do. Tournament

(Continued on page 19)

## To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, and the like – we receive from our readers.

In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.

## Important information

regarding advertisements  
in Svoboda and  
The Ukrainian Weekly.

Some businesses, organizations and private individuals have been sending their ads to an incorrect (incomplete) address. This causes delays in publication of text, which in turn results in customer complaints.

Please address all advertising correspondence to **Maria Szeparowycz**, Advertising Manager, Svoboda Administration, 30 Montgomery Street, Jersey City, NJ 07302

## A periodic progress...

(Continued from page 18)

relations require police presence at all the games, but this was not done. Officials finally called the police. The police arrived and surrounded some of the attackers. Our boys identified the attackers, but the police let them all go. I wondered: why?

The police left and I insisted that our boys be sent back to the hotel as quickly as possible. But, there was no transport. The committee had only one bus to handle transportation for five countries. Where was the bus that had taken the Italian team? The committee did not know. There were cars available for transport. But, not for us. The committee arranged for the umpires to be transported to dinner at that time. I remarked, "Don't you have this backwards? It should be players first, then umpires." The committee would not listen. The umpires left. The roving gang returned.

There were no police. Fear returned instantly. The band of hooligans walked past us into the darkness with menacing faces and evil looks. I had enough. I insisted that our boys must be taken to the hotel immediately. The bus that was promised did not return. The committee finally realized the seriousness of the threat and agreed to use their cars to get everyone out of there. Thank God, no one was seriously hurt.

On August 30, early in the morning I called Victor Marchenko, counsel at the Ukrainian Embassy. We spoke about the developments of the previous night, and he urged me to insist that the organizing committee provide police protection at

all the games.

I then called the president of the French Baseball Federation and lodged a formal protest over the lack of security for the Ukrainian team. I told him that if police were not assigned at our games then it would be his responsibility to get us on the next plane out of France.

In addition, I called Gaston Panaye, secretary general of the European Baseball Confederation, to inform him of the situation. Two hours later, police were provided. I also insisted that free transportation be provided to take us to see Ukraine's ambassador to France in Paris. Free transport was provided for us, and the fee that we had been charged to see Paris a few days earlier was returned to us.

At 3 p.m. we met the ambassador at the Ukrainian Embassy. We all had a chance to speak to the ambassador about our experiences in Sarcelles; we all felt relieved. A team photograph was taken with the ambassador, and I presented the ambassador with a Ukrainian baseball shirt and an authentic Ukrainian baseball patch featuring a Kozak. The ambassador spoke to all the members of our delegation and said he would send his representative to watch our game against France for third place. We thanked him for his hospitality and his kind words.

This visit calmed everyone. We knew we had the ambassador's support, and we were ready for France.

### Battle for the bronze

On August 31, on the last day of the tournament, the host country, France, faced Team Ukraine. This was the battle for the bronze medal.

Lt. Col. Oleksander Berdiyan, defense

attaché for the Embassy of Ukraine, arrived with his son and joined us in our dugout for the entire game. Ukraine jumped out to an early lead. I noticed that the French catcher had a very weak throw to second base. We decided to have every runner on first base steal second base. This worked and helped us put runners into scoring position.

We took advantage and led 4-2 when our youngest player fell ill. It was decided that I would accompany him to the hospital. I did not want to go, but duty called. The doctor determined that the boy had a fever and needed some rest. A can of Coke and a banana helped the young man feel better. He started to smile; he was fine.

Who won? I had no idea at the time. It turns out that France took the lead into the ninth inning. But in the bottom of the ninth inning, Gennadii Prykhodskiy, a 15 year old from Kyiv, had the game-winning hit. The winning pitcher was Serhii Samuilenko, a 14 year old from Kirovohrad. He tossed two innings, giving up one hit while striking out four French batters. Final score: Ukraine 7, France 6. Ukraine won the bronze medal.

### A proud moment

At the closing ceremonies all the participating teams marched out onto the field. The Ukrainian flag was flying majestically in the evening breeze. It was a proud moment for our young Ukrainian boys and their coaches as the bronze medals were presented.

The presentation of awards for the top performers of the tournament was next. We all heard the announcement: the best pitcher of the tournament was Serhii Holovko of

Ukraine. He had the lowest earned run average of all the pitchers. We were all proud of him and his accomplishment.

On September 1, I bid the young men farewell. Team Ukraine flew to Budapest to meet a bus that would take them back to Ukraine.

Baseball is growing in popularity in Ukraine. Our results in international competitions since 1994 are truly amazing. But, much more must be done. I will return to Ukraine in February of 1997 to continue developing the sport of baseball in Ukraine.

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Here are some of the latest developments.

I am currently negotiating with the Colorado Silver Bullets, the Women's National Baseball Team of the U.S., to play a three-game schedule against the Senior National Baseball Team of Ukraine. This proposed series would be held in early summer of 1997 on Long Island, in Nassau County, N.Y. One of the games could be telecast on ESPN television providing great exposure to Ukrainian baseball.

In mid-November I received e-mail from Brenda Murray, a Peace Corps volunteer from Kharkiv (who is affiliated with the Kharkiv City Humanitarian Association). In the letter she stated that she has verbal commitments from volunteers in Zaporizhia, Dnipropetrovsk, Mariupol and Kharkiv to start Little League programs in those cities. Upon receiving their charter application, these cities will receive "starter kits" to begin baseball.

And so, the sport of baseball continues to grow in Ukraine.

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