

INSIDE:

- Follow-up on independent Ukraine's first cosmonaut— pages 2-3.
- Ukrainian Canadians protest possible hiring of former OSI chief— page 5.
- A look at Ukrainian church architecture — page 8.

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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Supreme Court Justice John Sopinka dies at 64

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA — John Sopinka "was one of the good guys," said former Canadian Attorney General Ramon Hnatyshyn in recalling the man he had named to the country's highest court nine years ago.

"He was not reticent about expressing and dealing with important issues," said Mr. Hnatyshyn, Canada's former governor general. "He had boundless energy, and it was pretty hard to match him. He was always available and accessible."

Supreme Court of Canada Justice Sopinka died of complications from a rare blood disease in Ottawa at 6:30 a.m. on November 24. He was 64. News of his death sent shock waves from Canada's capital city, where flags at the Supreme Court building were flying at half-staff, to the Ukrainian Canadian community across the country.

According to the Toronto-based daily *Globe and Mail's* front-page story, "Friends first noticed Judge Sopinka's energy begin to falter early this autumn, upon his return from a trip to Ukraine. An emergency blood transfusion in recent days failed to arrest the advance of the disease."

Prime Minister Jean Chrétien, hosting the Asia-Pacific Economic Cooperation leaders' meeting in Vancouver, hailed Justice Sopinka as an "exceptional jurist," while the remaining eight justices publicly mourned losing a "loyal" friend and colleague.

The Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association issued a news release calling Mr. Sopinka an "irreplaceable advocate and friend." He did, after all, work with the UCCLA, when it was a federation within the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, in representing the community at the 1985 Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals headed by Justice Jules Deschênes.

Three years later, Mr. Sopinka was serving as lead counsel at an International Commission on the Ukrainian Famine when Mr. Hnatyshyn invited him to join the Canadian Supreme Court.

It was the second time Mr. Hnatyshyn had offered him a judicial appointment, Justice Sopinka recalled in an interview with *The Weekly* two years ago. The first came in the mid-1980s, when Mr. Sopinka was asked to sit on Ontario's highest judicial body, the Court of Appeal. Mr. Sopinka declined, preferring to continue his Toronto law practice.

"Not to look too disrespectful, I told Ray that if he offered me a spot on the Supreme Court, maybe I would take a different view," said Mr. Sopinka.

When a vacancy occurred on the high court in 1988 and the hole that needed to be filled had to come from a candidate in

(Continued on page 6)

Pledging conference raises \$36.25 million for Chernobyl

by Khristina Lew

NEW YORK — A pledging conference organized by the United States collected \$36.25 million from the international community on November 20 to begin rebuilding the sarcophagus enclosing damaged reactor No. 4 at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant in Ukraine. International experts put the cost of securing and rebuilding the sarcophagus at \$760 million, \$300 million of which was contributed by the Group of Seven industrial countries and the European Commission at the G-7 summit in June.

U.S. Secretary of Energy Federico Pena, who co-chaired the pledging conference with Ukraine's Minister for the Environment and Nuclear Safety Yurii Kostenko, called the outcome "terrifically successful," and announced that work on the sarcophagus can begin immediately.

Norway was the largest contributor at the conference, donating \$5 million to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund, a special account created by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD) to collect funds contributed by governments and the private sector. The EBRD will administer the entire reconstruction project, called the Shelter Implementation Plan (SIP), and establish a Contributors Assembly that will meet annually to vote on project implementation.

Countries that contribute 2.5 million

ECU, approximately \$2.75 million, will be given a vote in the Contributors Assembly. Countries that contribute less will be allowed to join the assembly without a vote. At the November 20 pledging conference held at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City, all but two of the 13 countries — Israel and Luxembourg — contributed 2.5 million ECU or more.

As chair of the G-7 this year, the United States initiated the pledging con-

ference in order to assist Ukraine in the shutdown of Chernobyl by 2000. Forty-five countries were invited to participate, and representatives from countries such as Switzerland, Russia, Indonesia and Ireland heard Vice-President Al Gore and Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma, who served as the conference's honorary co-chairmen, address the gathering at its con-

(Continued on page 4)



Vice-President Al Gore speaks at the Chernobyl pledging conference as President Leonid Kuchma looks on.

Chernobyl conference at United Nations initiates fund-raising for humanitarian aid

by Irene Jarosewich

UNITED NATIONS — More than 11 years after the largest nuclear disaster in history, several dozen representatives from U.N. member-states and non-governmental organizations on November 25 attended a conference on Chernobyl, the first step in a series of programs proposed by the U.N. to alleviate the consequences of the Chernobyl explosion in Ukraine, Russia and Belarus.

The United Nations, under the auspices of the office of the undersecretary of humanitarian affairs, is planning a series of pledging conferences to fund these programs in the future. The next conference is tentatively scheduled for April 1998, to coincide with the 12th anniversary of the explosion, and will focus on obtaining direct monetary commitments from public, as well as private institutions for U.N. programs.

Unlike the pledging conference organized by the United States and held several days earlier at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York, which sought international financial support to rebuild the crumbling sarcophagus that covers the damaged reactor at Chernobyl, the confer-

ence sponsored by the U.N. focused on status reports on the current medical and environmental situation, the coordination of resources as well as the appeal for and identification of sources of funding for humanitarian aid, containment and clean-up of environmental damage, and medical research.

The president of the U.N. General Assembly, Hennadii Udovenko, opened the conference, and reports were presented by Volodymyr Kholosha, Ukraine's vice minister for emergencies and protection of the population affected by the Chernobyl disaster, and representatives from the International Atomic Energy Agency. The U.N. report was presented by Yasushi Akashi, undersecretary for humanitarian affairs.

According to Mr. Kholosha, who spoke also at a press conference at the U.N. on November 24, teams appointed by the U.N. visited Ukraine, Belarus and Russia last year to evaluate the environmental and medical consequences of the nuclear explosion. Based on their findings and recommendations, several programs were developed. Between eight

(Continued on page 2)

Ukraine's government reorganizes program for privatization

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — After completing the initial phase of privatization with only partial success, the Ukrainian government is reorganizing its effort as it prepares to sell off its largest factories and plants.

On November 24 the acting chairman of the State Property Fund, Volodymyr Lanovyi, announced after a meeting of the Council on Privatization, which is headed by President Leonid Kuchma, that in the second phase of the privatization program stated to begin in 1998, the government would cease privatizing enterprises through the issuance of stock certificates to Ukrainian citizens and legal entities. Instead medium and large businesses would be auctioned through sealed cash tenders.

"The certification process has not had the effect we expected," said Mr. Lanovyi after the meeting. He said rising government debt due to shortfalls in projected receipts and defaults on government-

(Continued on page 4)

NEWSBRIEFS

Yeltsin hails improved ties with Ukraine

MOSCOW — In a nationwide radio address on November 21, Russian President Boris Yeltsin hailed improved bilateral ties with Ukraine, which had soured after the collapse of the Soviet Union in 1991, ITAR-TASS and Reuters reported. Mr. Yeltsin said ties between the two Slavic neighbors had been plagued by "mutual reproach and misunderstanding" over the past six years. He acknowledged that differences remain, namely over the division of the Black Sea Fleet, Ukraine's Crimean peninsula and recent Ukrainian-NATO military exercises in the Black Sea. President Yeltsin also accused so-called "demagogues" of fanning nationalistic feelings and warned that Russian foreign policy is the domain of the president. He added that "frank discussions" at a recent informal meeting with President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine had alleviated tensions and paved the way for an official visit to Russia by Mr. Kuchma in February. President Yeltsin also confirmed that leading Russian banks are ready to invest in the production of the AN-70 aircraft, which was designed in Ukraine. The Ukrainian-Russian project could create thousands of new jobs in both countries. (RFE/RL Newswire, Eastern Economist)

Europe critical of continuing executions

KYIV — Representatives of the Council of Europe condemned the continuation of the death penalty in Ukraine and Chechnya, which executed 13 and four people, respectively, in 1997. A deputy of the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly from Liechtenstein, Renata Volvend, recently visited Ukraine and insisted that membership on the council should be suspended if executions continue in Ukraine. A similar conclusion was made regarding Russia's membership, as Chechnya is part of the Russian Federation. Ukraine has until 1998 to abolish the death penalty in Ukraine. Membership on the Council of Europe is dependent on the outlawing of the death penalty. At present, 264 people have received the death penalty and are waiting to be executed. The last of the 13 executions occurred in March. Ms. Volvend noted that the death penalty remains in Ukrainian legislation because politicians have been reluctant to eliminate it. (Eastern Economist)

Memorial service held for Lishchynski

KYIV — A memorial service was held on November 20 at the Canadian Embassy for veteran Canadian diplomat Peter Roman Lishchynski, director of the NATO Information and Documentation Center in Kyiv, and his driver, Ivan Bunu, who were killed in a car accident on November 13 in the Kirovohrad Oblast. Representatives from NATO headquarters, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Canadian Embassy, where Mr. Lishchynski has served since being posted to Ukraine in 1992, all spoke, as did relatives, friends and colleagues. Condolences also poured in from officials and friends in Ukraine and overseas, among them Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko and Presidential Chief-of-Staff Yevhen Kushnariov. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine mounts defense of hryvnia

KYIV — The National Bank of Ukraine on November 21 announced a series of measures to defend the hryvnia after the currency slipped below its current float rate of 1.70 to 1.90 to \$1 U.S., Ukrainian media reported. After the bank indicated that it

(Continued on page 15)

FOLLOW-UP: Cosmonaut's long journey into space

by Philip Chien

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — Leonid Kadenyuk became the 19th person born in Ukraine to fly into space last week aboard the space shuttle Columbia. But he was the first space traveler from the independent country of Ukraine.

The previous 18, starting with Pavlo Popovych in August 1962, had flown as Soviet citizens aboard Soviet spacecraft. Col. Kadenyuk had wanted to become a cosmonaut since age 10 when he watched Yuri Gagarin fly in to space in 1961. After graduating from the Chernihiv Higher Aviation School in 1971 he went to Russia for test pilot training. He was selected as a cosmonaut in 1976 and was trained as a crew commander for the Soyuz spacecraft for long-term space station missions. In addition he trained for the Soviet space shuttle Buran, until that program was canceled. After the breakup of the Soviet Union an agreement was reached where an all-Ukrainian crew, commanded by Col. Kadenyuk, would fly to Mir. That mission was eventually canceled due to financial reasons.

Ukraine continues to supply parts for the Russian space program. The Zenit launch vehicles, Kurs automatic rendezvous system and space welding experiments were all developed by Ukrainian companies.

An opportunity born of political ties

Col. Kadenyuk's opportunity to fly aboard the space shuttle was born of political ties — not science. In 1995 President Bill Clinton offered President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine the opportunity to fly a Ukrainian citizen on a U.S. spaceflight.

NASA flies three categories of astronauts on the shuttle: pilots, mission specialists and payload specialists.

The pilots are ex-military test pilots who perform the actual piloting tasks and have overall control of the shuttle's systems.

The mission specialists, as their name implies, are responsible for the experiments and most of the on-orbit activities. Mission specialists are normally the astronauts who operate the shuttle's robot arm and perform spacewalks. The mission specialists include scientists, engineers and military engineers with operations skills. Pilots and mission specialists are NASA employees and career astronauts. In recent years international mission specialists from countries cooperating in the international space station program have also been trained by NASA.

Payload specialists include scientists and engineers flying with their experiments, but this category has also included VIP guests, members of Congress and participants chosen through international cooperative agreements.

While Col. Kadenyuk has the same skills and background as NASA's pilot astronauts, the decision was made to fly him as a payload specialist, performing joint scientific experiments. There were early discussions to fly an advanced version of the Ukrainian welding tool that had been tested aboard the Soviet Salyut 7 space station with a Ukrainian performing a spacewalk along with a U.S. astronaut, but those plans were dropped.

NASA and its Ukrainian counterparts decided that plant growth would be an appropriate simple experiment that could be prepared in the limited time available. Unlike other international programs, the Ukrainians are bringing only their knowledge, without any hardware or funds. NASA spent a total of \$1.4 million on the experiment, plus the training costs for two Ukrainian cosmonauts. Existing hardware used to grow plants on previous shuttle missions was used for the



Col. Leonid Kadenyuk

Collaborative Ukrainian Experiment.

The National Space Agency of Ukraine has selected five Ukrainian cosmonauts. Ukrainian space officials are hoping to participate in the International Space Station program after it is completed in 2003, with the Ukrainians flying aboard American or Russian spacecraft.

Even the announcement of which Ukrainian would get the opportunity to fly aboard the shuttle was a major political event, as the announcement was made on May 16 at the first session of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission (the Kuchma-Gore Commission).

Plant growth experiments

Col. Kadenyuk and his back-up, Yaroslav Pustovyi, an electrical engineer, trained at the Institute of Botany at the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine in Kyiv to study plant growth experiments.

During the two-week shuttle flight, Col. Kadenyuk's primary responsibility is to conduct the plant experiments, including growing brassica rapa plants. Since the mustard-family plants require bees to pollinate their flowers for reproduction, Col. Kadenyuk must use a dead bee glued to a toothpick to simulate the normal pollination process. He is also responsible for keeping track of the experiment's progress.

To mark the first flight by a Ukrainian citizen in space, Col. Kadenyuk took a Ukrainian flag, a "tryzub," the state emblem of Ukraine, and music by Ukrainian composers. He said, "I am very proud that it has fallen to me to play this role, to be the first cosmonaut of an independent Ukraine. And I will do everything I can to be worthy of this honor."

Philip Chien is an environmental writer based in Florida.

Chornobyl conference...

(Continued from page 1)

and 10 programs dealing with various aspects of the disaster's medical and health consequences, both psychological and physical, environmental protection, as well as public education and information dissemination could be funded through the U.N.

The U.N. General Assembly passed a resolution during the afternoon session on November 24 to strengthen international cooperation and to coordinate efforts to study, mitigate and minimize the consequences of the Chornobyl disaster. A guest at that session was Serhii Parashyn, director general of the Chornobyl nuclear power station.

(Nadia Svitlychna, a correspondent for the Canadian Broadcasting Corp., contributed to this report.)

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Leonid Kadenyuk and Ukraine's students become a part of history

by Oleh Bula

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. – Col. Leonid Kadenyuk on November 19 became the first Ukrainian cosmonaut to fly aboard a U.S. space shuttle. He will spend approximately 15 days in space at more than 150 nautical miles above the surface of Earth. His main mission is to conduct the Collaborative Ukraine Experiment (CUE), a middeck payload experiment designed to study the effects of microgravity on plant growth.

This is truly a historic moment for Ukraine and just one part of the beginning of enhanced relations between the United States and Ukraine in the realm of space exploration and development.

As is always the case on launch day for the space shuttle, the crowds at the Kennedy Space Center were enormous. Parents and children of all ages and sizes were here to look and marvel at the wonders of space.

The countdown seemed quick. It was only a matter of seconds and the space shuttle was miles in the air. It started with only a light, and then there were large plumes of smoke. We waited for the sound, but it didn't arrive until after the Columbia was well in the air. When the roar of the shuttle finally enveloped us, we welcomed it, proud to know that it was strong enough to let out such an enormous sound.

This is a normal experience for those of us who live close to the Cape; we can see a shuttle launch almost monthly here in Florida. When the crews return, the sonic booms of their re-entry can be heard as far as Orlando, 50 miles away. For many Americans, however, visiting the Kennedy Space Center can be a unique experience – a visit they make only once in their life. The trip is especially memorable for children. To visit during a shuttle launch is even more extraordinary and unforgettable.

There were many visitors at the Kennedy Space Center on November 19. They came from all across the country; many from California, Texas, New York and Ohio had driven hundreds of miles just to watch a launch. There were some from Canada, and several languages from across the Atlantic could be heard.

But on this launch, designated STS-87, there was one very special group: not only was this the first time they viewed a U.S. space shuttle launch, it was their first time in the U.S.

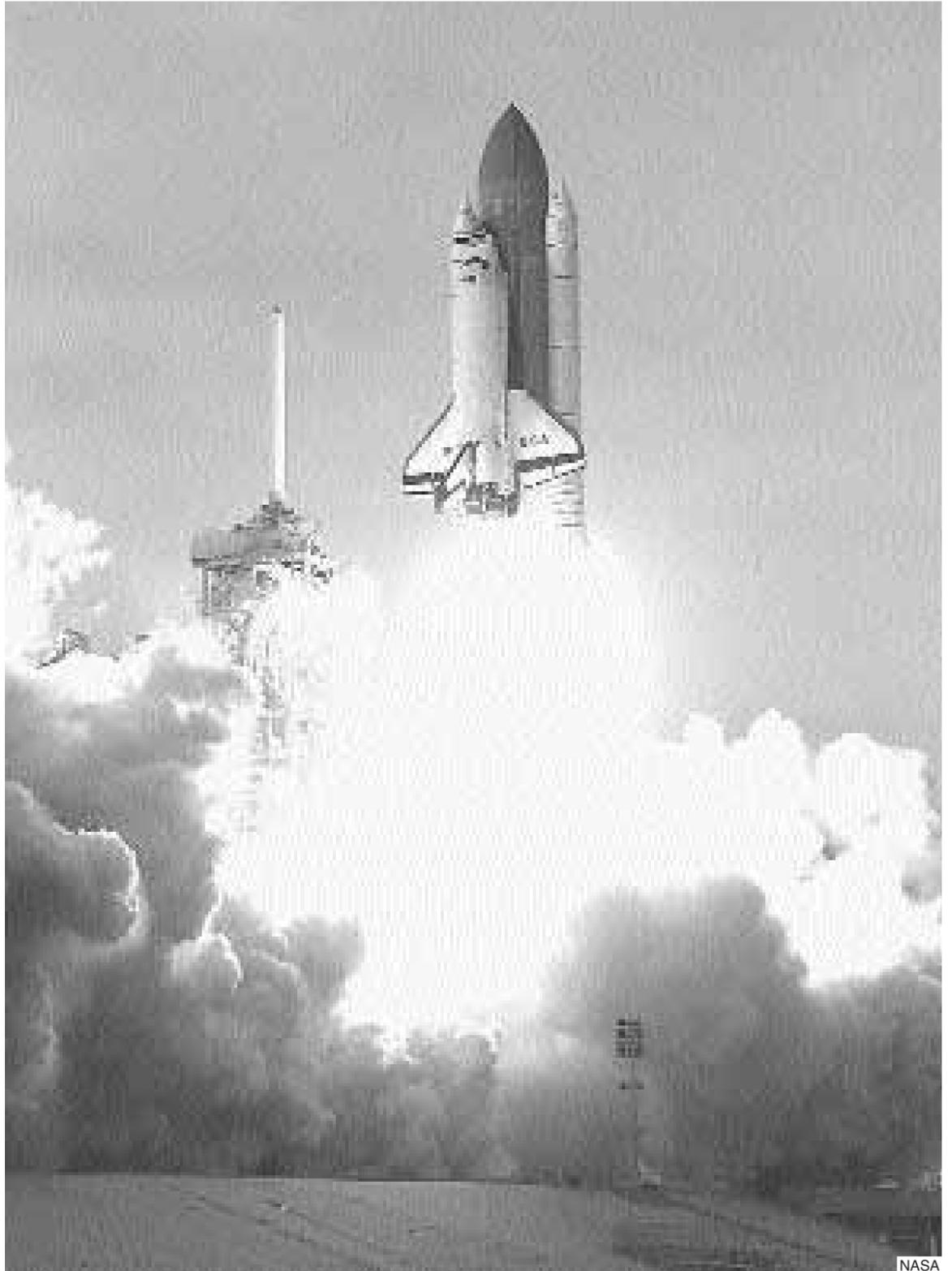
The group included nine students and three teachers from Ukraine who were living a dream come true. Thousands of miles away from home, these students, and thousands more in both Ukraine and the United States, have been working for many months to prepare experiments for the CUE. Dr. Vladimir Nazarenko of the National Academy of Sciences, who has led the CUE in Ukraine and trained many teachers and students on the details of the experiments, also was present.

The students had come from different parts of Ukraine, from schools that are participants in the CUE. Dr. Nazarenko leads those efforts in Ukraine, and, after two years of preparation, many teachers have now become expert in conducting this curriculum in their schools. In Ukraine as in the United States, these very real research-related experiments have been designed to be applicable in the middle and high school science curricula. On December 1 at 6 a.m. (EST), Col. Kadenyuk will be hooked up by special down-link through a Ukrainian television station in Kyiv to all the CUE participant schools in Ukraine. This will be the first time a Ukrainian astronaut is talking live from space with students from his own country. Thousands of students in Ukraine will be able to watch and interact during a short question and answer period with Col. Kadenyuk.

The nine Ukrainian students visiting the U.S. were outstanding in every possible way. At times it seemed they hardly had a moment to stop and think where they really were. They met and spoke to local, retired Ukrainians, they answered questions from President Leonid Kuchma about their stay, they participated in an Education Summit, and they were asked countless questions about their thoughts and feelings on the launch and the experiments.

They did very well, and when the shuttle successfully launched into space, they graciously posed for photos and received congratulations from Dr. Thomas Dreschel and Dr. Paul Williams, who have led the CUE effort in the U.S.

For these students, November 19 was a special day. Col. Kadenyuk became the first Ukrainian astronaut aboard a U.S. space shuttle; on the ground students from high schools all across Ukraine looked on and also became a part of history.



NASA

The Columbia space shuttle lifts off.



Oleh Bula

Ukrainian students watch as Columbia lifts off.

Pledging conference...

(Continued from page 1)

clusion.

Vice-President Gore applauded the amount of funds contributed to the SIP, but noted that more is needed. "I remain very confident that the process will continue," he said. The vice-president said stabilizing and improving the safety of the sarcophagus is "a critical part of the support needed to assist Ukraine in meeting the 2000 deadline for closure of Chernobyl," and commended President Kuchma on his commitment to close the plant. In December 1995 Ukraine signed a Memorandum of Understanding on the Closure of Chernobyl with the G-7 and the European Commission.

Not just a Ukrainian problem

Mr. Gore pointed out that Chernobyl is not merely a Ukrainian problem, but a threat to the environment of the entire planet. "Chernobyl was a product of a closed authoritarian system that was not accountable to its citizens for its actions. It also served as a powerful symbol of what can happen when irresponsible leaders and closed societies approach such overwhelmingly powerful technologies like nuclear energy with hubris, naiveté and even disdain," Mr. Gore said.

President Kuchma, who arrived in New York from Cape Canaveral, Fla., on November 19 after witnessing independent Ukraine's first astronaut fly into space aboard the U.S. space shuttle

Columbia, said that his country annually allocates 12 percent of its national budget toward alleviating the consequences of Chernobyl. He told conference participants that since the dissolution of the Soviet Union, the international community has been slow to assist Ukraine in combating Chernobyl's aftereffects.

"There is no such thing as a peaceful atom," he said. "Ukraine has the full moral right to turn to the world community for support and help."

Leon Fuerth, Vice-President Gore's national security advisor, told reporters after the conference that contributions amounted to what organizers had expected. "It's a start, but we still need a considerable chunk over a number of years," he said.

The Shelter Implementation Plan is not expected to be completed before 2005, and organizers plan to approach the private sector for contributions to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund. "We are looking for another Ted Turner," said Hennadii Udovenko, Ukraine's minister of foreign affairs and president of the United Nations General Assembly. Mr. Turner, the CNN mogul, this year pledged \$1 billion to the United Nations.

Shelter Implementation Plan

According to Carol Kessler, senior coordinator for nuclear safety at the State Department and chairman of the G-7 nuclear safety working group, the Shelter Implementation Plan consists of 22 projects that have 297 constituent activities. The plan has four goals: to stabilize the sarcophagus; to put in shielding so workers in the shelter will be protected from the radioactive fuel-containing masses that remain inside the sarcophagus; to build an environmentally secure shelter over the sarcophagus; and to help Ukraine devise a strategy to manage the radioactive materials inside the shelter over the long term.

Yuri Poluneev, EBRD executive director for Ukraine, Romania, Moldova, Georgia and Armenia, said the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development will provide services for financing the project, procurement, goods and services. He said the conference collected the amount of money expected, but noted that "in 1999 we will have to look for more money."

The U.S. contribution to the Shelter Implementation Plan is \$78 million; Ukraine will contribute \$50 million in-kind to the SIP and \$100 million in-kind to ensure that the necessary infrastructure is in place. On November 20 the United States and Ukraine also signed an agreement to jointly complete a 290-megawatt heat plant that will serve the Chernobyl site after the last reactor is shut down. The U.S. contribution to the project is \$10.5 million.

In addition to addressing the pledging conference, President Kuchma held talks with Vice-President Gore within the framework of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission and met with United Nations Secretary-General Kofi Annan on November 20. The Ukrainian president and his delegation departed for Kyiv that evening.

Ukraine's government...

(Continued from page 1)

backed loans led the SPF and President Kuchma to reach decision. Mr. Lanovyi said government bonds would be issued to cover the debts.

In the first phase of privatization, Ukrainian citizens and legal entities had access to stock certificates with which they were allowed to purchase shares in government-owned businesses being sold off into the private sector. In many instances, workers at their places of employment formed worker collectives that bought the businesses. In other cases, however, investors with larger resources purchased stock certificates and then bought businesses, which led to much illegal maneuvering and shady deals between businessmen and government officials.

During the next phase the government will allow foreigners also to take part in the bidding. On November 1 President Kuchma issued a decree further loosening Ukraine's tight control of its assets, allowing foreign investment banks to market abroad large stakes in many state-owned companies. Mr. Lanovyi said the SPF does not have the experience that large international banks do to make sure that Ukraine gets the highest possible price for its assets. The decision is also aimed at thwarting another criticism of the SPF: that too many government properties have been sold at less than optimum value, often in pre-arranged deals with the purchasers.

In the last week, Mr. Kuchma has suggested that the Parliament also has played a role in creating shortcomings in the privatization process. On November 22 he said the Verkhovna Rada should look at its own members who hold shares in companies privatized at bargain-basement prices before criticizing the SPF for not getting full value for many of the sold-off enterprises.

Two days later, after the meeting of the Council on Privatization, Mr. Kuchma reminded journalists that the Verkhovna Rada did not approve a privatization plan for 1997 until six months into the year. The president added that a 1998 privatization plan would be submitted to the legislators for approval within 10 days.

Mr. Lanovyi has been a controversial figure in the struggle between the Verkhovna Rada and the president over who should head the State Property Fund, in essence, who should control the privatization process. He was rejected as the SPF chairman by the Verkhovna Rada in April over claims that he had played favorites in determining winners of tender offers. President Kuchma has refused to submit a new candidate and has kept Mr. Lanovyi on as acting chairman. At the time Mr. Lanovyi was rejected, the president explained that the Rada had no reasons, beyond political ones, for not confirming nomination. Mr. Lanovyi is considered a radical reformer, which does not please the leftist-driven Parliament.

Adding to the controversy surrounding the chairman of privatization, Ukraine's Procurator General Oleh Lytvak told a session of the Verkhovna Rada on

November 4 that breaches of law had occurred during the privatization process that "have assumed an alarming scale," according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Responding to the allegations, lawmakers declared a halt to all privatization in a legislative resolution. However, it does not carry the weight of law. "The resolution is not a moratorium on privatization, since we do not ban the SPF from preparing to privatize. Our objective is to have a permanent chairman of the fund," said the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's Privatization Control Committee, Oleksander Riabchenko. He said Mr. Lanovyi has no chance at winning the lawmakers' approval.

Oleksander Moroz, the chairman of the Verkhovna Rada, seconded that opinion on November 24. The Parliament leader said he has no conflict with Mr. Lanovyi, but that he does not see how the acting SPF chief will get the needed votes. "I have normal relations with Mr. Lanovyi, but I know that the legislative body will not approve him," said Mr. Moroz. He also said that if the president wants to end this confrontation with the Verkhovna Rada he should sit down with its leadership to agree on a candidate amenable to both branches of government. According to Mr. Moroz, President Kuchma has yet to show that he is willing to do so.

The 1998 privatization plan calls for the sell-off of Ukraine's largest enterprises, including Donbasenergo, an energy-producing firm in the heartland of Ukraine's coal industry, which will be the first large enterprise for which foreign investors will be able to bid.

Also targeted for privatization are 300 grain elevators, the beginning of privatization of the massive agro-industrial complex of Ukraine.

In addition, the 1998 plan foresees the privatization of 954 medium and large enterprises valued at 50 billion hrv (\$26.5 billion) and the government's shares in 300 joint ventures. All together, the government has slated approximately 2,500 medium and large-scale enterprises for privatization.

In the first 10 months of 1997, Ukraine has earned 198 million hrv (\$105 million) through privatization efforts. Another 100-150 million hrv are expected to be in government coffers by the end of the year.

Thus far 6,500 medium and large businesses have been privatized in Ukraine — more than half of all enterprises slated for privatization.

Only 4 percent trust Verkhovna Rada

Eastern Economist

KYIV — According to a SOGIS-Gallup poll of 1,200 people throughout Ukraine, 44 percent of those polled said they trust the Church. The armed forces have the confidence of 26 percent of respondents; the Security Service and Ukrainian mass media, 17 percent; the Prosecutor General's Office, militia and president, 11 percent. Only 6 percent said they trust trade unions and the government, and a mere 4 percent trust the Verkhovna Rada.

The donors, their pledges

The following countries contributed to the Chernobyl Shelter Fund during a pledging conference held at the Roosevelt Hotel in New York City on November 20. A minimum contribution of 2.5 million ECU (\$2.75 million U.S.) gives the donor-government a vote in the Contributors Assembly, which will convene annually to determine project implementation. The list was made available by Carol Kessler, senior coordinator for nuclear safety at the State Department and chairman of the G-7 nuclear safety working group.

Denmark	2.5 million ECU
Norway	\$5 million
Finland	2.5 million ECU
Austria	2.5 million ECU
Greece	2.5 million ECU
Sweden	2.5 million ECU
Ireland	2.5 million ECU
Netherlands	2.5 million ECU
Switzerland	\$4.6 million
Spain	\$3 million
Kuwait	\$4 million
Israel	\$200,000
Luxembourg	\$200,000



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Your donation makes a difference to these children. (please check off):

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Please make checks payable to CCRF. Your gift is fully tax-deductible. Thank you!



Congress passes foreign aid bill with \$225 M earmark for Ukraine

by Michael Sawkiw Jr.

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON — Nearly a month and a half into the government's new fiscal year (FY 1998), on Wednesday, November 12, the House of Representatives passed the U.S. government's foreign aid bill.

Following months of hearings, trips by congressional delegations to various parts of the world, on-again-off-again Senate-House conferences, and a tremendous effort on behalf of the Ukrainian American community to inform members of Congress of the importance of foreign aid, assistance to Ukraine passed by an overwhelming margin.

Over-all assistance to the new independent states (NIS), under which the Ukrainian account falls, totals \$770 million. This was a substantial increase over last year's assistance level of \$625 million. In particular, several countries received earmarks of assistance: \$225 million for Ukraine, \$92.5 million for Georgia and \$87.5 million for Armenia. The two earmarks for Georgia and Armenia were part of a larger regional Caucasus fund amounting to \$250 million. Established in consultation with Sen. Mitch McConnell (R-Ky.), chairman of the Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the Appropriations Committee, and Rep. Sonny Callahan (R-Ala.), chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee, this new Caucasus fund was designed to achieve a peace settlement between Armenia and Azerbaijan.

Of the funds appropriated under the Freedom Support Act (FSA) for Ukraine, 50 percent of the earmarked funds (\$112.5 million) are to be withheld from assistance programs until the secretary of state certifies that Ukraine has achieved significant economic progress and has resolved American investors' problems in Ukraine. Such a certification should be completed by April 30, 1998, at which time the remaining funds will be released. Programs for nuclear safety and democracy-building initiatives, specifically election related programs, are exempt from this certification.

Though this year's foreign assistance bill does not include subearmarks for specific programs, the report language of the foreign aid bill mentions the need to continue assistance for areas such as nuclear safety programs, democracy-building initiatives, and commercial and legal reform in Ukraine. The conference committee's report recognizes Ukraine's contributions toward eliminating corruption, expanding the privatization of state-owned enterprises, and the general economic and political reform process in the country. Ukraine received praise for its introduction of a new Ukrainian monetary unit, the ratification of a new Ukrainian Constitution, and the recently established NATO-Ukraine distinctive partnership agreement.

The importance of the elections in Ukraine also was acknowledged by the conference committee. In their report, the committee states: "With parliamentary elections scheduled in March 1998, the managers strongly support expanded political party training and election-related activities to encourage informed participation and an open, fair process. The conferees remain concerned that the current Rada has opposed many of President Kuchma's reform initiatives. The conferees note that the outcome of the elections could have a significant impact on future assistance programs, as well as private

sector investment."

Inasmuch as the House of Representatives had passed the bill by a large majority, the Senate considered the issue of the FY 1998 foreign assistance bill on Thursday, November 13, and passed it overwhelmingly. The joint bill was immediately sent to President Bill Clinton for his signature.

Throughout the entire foreign aid budget process, the Ukrainian American community spent time and effort phoning, faxing and writing letters to members of Congress, in particular the members of the House and Senate Foreign Operations Subcommittees.

The newly formed Congressional Ukrainian Caucus also played a role. Its effort included a "Dear Colleague" letter circulated among the members of the House of Representatives to gain support for the earmark of assistance to Ukraine. The letter, which was sent to Chairman Callahan and subcommittee members, stated, "For the past two years, Congress has earmarked \$225 million in aid to Ukraine to support the establishment of democracy and help Ukraine shore up its nuclear energy program. This year's earmark will be used for much of the same, but will also include assistance for establishing a permanent national law enforcement tradition through training and technical support, and other important legal and economic reforms." Twenty-nine members of the House of Representatives, many without many Ukrainian American constituents, signed the letter in support of continued foreign assistance to Ukraine.

Ukrainian Canadians voice objections to possible hiring of former OSI director

Ukrainian News

EDMONTON — Canada's Ukrainian community wants assurances that the Department of Justice will not hire Neal Sher, former director of the U.S. Office of Special Investigations (OCI), for its war crimes unit, Justice Minister Anne McLellan was told during a meeting with Ukrainian community representatives in Edmonton on November 13.

Eugene Harasymiw, a lawyer and president of the Alberta Ukrainian Self-Reliance League, the lay organization of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Canada, said that reports of Mr. Sher's possible hiring first surfaced in August.

He said that in an earlier letter to the minister he "voiced the strongest possible objection to the hiring of Neal Sher, or anyone else associated with the OSI."

Mr. Harasymiw based his objections on the record of the OSI and its method of operation. He said the OSI knowingly used forged documents, misrepresented witnesses, pressured the accused and their families to accept guilty pleas, and withheld evidence from the defendants that could be used to prove their innocence.

He read from the 1993 decision of the United States Court of Appeals for the Sixth Circuit on the John Demjanjuk case, which reversed the earlier judgement under which Mr. Demjanjuk was stripped of his U.S. citizenship "on the grounds that the judgements were wrongly procured as a result of prosecutorial misconduct that constituted fraud on the court."

Mr. Sher served as director of the OSI, the U.S. Justice Department's Nazi-hunting unit, from 1983 to 1994. Mr. Demjanjuk

was extradited to Israel in 1986, but was acquitted by the Israeli Supreme Court in 1993.

"Mr. Sher is not fit to work within the Canadian justice system, period," Mr. Harasymiw said.

Mr. Harasymiw also said the Ukrainian community finds it "extremely upsetting" that the government is using immigration hearings as a means of dealing with alleged war criminals. Many people lied about their past upon entering Canada after World War II because under the Yalta Agreement people who lived in the pre-war boundaries of the Soviet Union were to be deported back to that country, which meant almost certain death or exile to Siberia.

He said war criminals should be tried in Canada under Canadian law — not deported to a third country for trial.

Minister McLellan agreed to accept any information regarding Mr. Sher that the Ukrainian community can bring forward, but was adamant that people who misrepresented their situation upon entering Canada were "guilty of a very serious breach of Canadian law." She explained, "For me it is the issue of defending the integrity of Canadian citizenship."

However, she added that the government is considering amendments to the Criminal Code which would allow for the prosecution of alleged war criminals in Canada.

Mr. Harasymiw also suggested that government resources used to hunt war criminals could be better utilized educating people about World War II.

(Continued on page 15)

Eighth internment memorial unveiled in Manitoba

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA — After some wrangling over the location of the memorial, the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association unveiled its eighth plaque on November 27 on the grounds of City Hall in Brandon, Manitoba, where about 800 Ukrainian Canadians were interned starting that day 83 years ago until July 29, 1916.

Originally, the trilingual marker (Ukrainian, English and French) was supposed to be placed on property belonging to the Department of National Defense, said Brandon City Councilor Jim Reid. "There were a number of reasons for DND being reluctant," said Mr. Reid in a telephone interview from his office in Brandon. "Partly it's because it was not just a federal matter at the time and the property that federal government owns is not the property that was the location of the camp."

Since the original holding site, the Brandon Agricultural Exhibition Building, has become a Safeway supermarket, the city decided to offer space at its own municipal complex a half-block away. Though Mr. Reid says he never knew anything about the camp's existence while he was growing up in Brandon, he says the plaque is an "important thing for Canada."

The plaque was installed on a Memorial Wall located at the Brandon City Hall by the UCCLA, working with the city of Brandon and the Ukrainian Canadian community of Manitoba. A grant in aid of the project was provided by the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

While Canada's secretary of state for multiculturalism, Dr. Hedy Fry, has not wavered in opposing the funding of individual memorials at the 26 internment camp sites, the UCCLA has financed its own plaques through public donations.

In addition to the Brandon memorial,

there are two plaques in Ontario (Fort Henry, near Kingston, and Kapuskasing), two in British Columbia (Vernon and Nanaimo) and three in Alberta (Jasper National Park and two in Banff National Park at the Castle Mountain and Cave and Basin sites).

Unlike the camps in Jasper, Banff and Kapuskasing, the one in Brandon was never a work site. But like northwestern Ontario's Kapuskasing site — the largest of them all, where 1,200 prisoners rioted and several were wounded in 1916 — the Ukrainian Canadians interned in Brandon saw their share of violence.

In June, 1915, 18-year-old Andrew Grapko was among 17 men who tried to escape the Brandon camp. While trying to scramble out of a window, Mr. Grapko was shot to death, becoming one of six people across the country killed for similar reasons.

Commenting on the unveiling in Brandon, the UCCLA's director of special projects, Borys Sydoruk, said: "We have been very fortunate to have enjoyed the support of both the Department of National Defense and the city of Brandon in our efforts to commemorate this unhappy episode in Canadian history. By placing a plaque in Brandon we hope to remind all Canadians of the tragedy that befell these Ukrainians and other Europeans during the first world war, hopefully to make sure that nothing similar ever happens to any other Canadian ethnic, religious or racial minority.

"By unveiling our plaque on the very same date on which the first internees were brought to Brandon we will also be reminding all those present of just how difficult an

(Continued on page 14)

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Sopinka sought justice for all

When he was appointed to the Supreme Court of Canada in 1988, John Sopinka said he wanted to give something back to the community.

In Canadian jurisprudence, Mr. Sopinka's contribution was enormous. Until his death on November 24, Mr. Sopinka, the third-longest-serving judge on the nine-member high court, wrote 250 judgements – 40 of them dissenting.

On October 31, when Canada's highest court ruled that the fetus has no rights until it's born, Mr. Sopinka called the "born alive" rule a "legal anachronism." On that issue, he was considered a conservative. On others, he was viewed as the leader of the court's liberal wing, pushing for the rights of the accused under the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. He fought for the rights of defendants, too, as in the decision of *Regina vs. Stinchcombe*, which gave the accused access to the case against them.

The first non-judge to be appointed to the highest court in the land since 1957, the former Toronto-based civil litigator vowed to eschew the monastic trappings associated with membership in the Supreme Court. He traveled across the country, delivering speeches on myriad topics, including the legal challenges introduced by the Internet, which he addressed in a September lecture in Edmonton.

As the first Ukrainian Canadian appointed to the Supreme Court – and the first to speak in Ukrainian at his swearing-in ceremony – Mr. Sopinka's contribution to his community was equally extraordinary. In 1986 he represented the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (now known as the Ukrainian Canadian Congress) at the Deschênes inquiry into war crimes. Arguing against the deportation of suspected war criminals, Mr. Sopinka said, "If there was only a handful of obscure old men against whom a minor role in Nazi war criminals is alleged, Canada may well be advised to consider less radical action or no action at all, all the more so if the Nazi link to these men's actions appear dubious. ... It is, in my submission, cruel and inhuman to uproot an individual from his family and whatever life he has built in 35 or more years as a productive Canadian on the suspicion that he might have been a war criminal." Despite pleas from the B'nai B'rith earlier this year that he recuse himself from participating in the Supreme Court's hearings on three war-crimes cases, Mr. Sopinka sat.

"He tried hard to decide cases in accordance with principles of law," observed David Brown, a lawyer with the Toronto firm, Stikeman, Elliott, where Mr. Sopinka once headed the litigation section. "He tried to avoid getting his own personal views too heavily involved in the decisions, which, unfortunately, a lot of judges do these days."

Justice Sopinka never hid his loyalty to the Ukrainian Canadian community, however.

He served as legal counsel for an International Commission on the Great Famine in Ukraine and made several trips to Ukraine as a member of a group of foreign advisors to the Ukrainian Legal Foundation. Mr. Sopinka last visited Ukraine in autumn, when his health began deteriorating from a rare blood disease. In Canada, Mr. Sopinka made himself accessible and available to the Ukrainian community. He lent his support to an award for Excellence in Ukrainian Studies administered by the Chair of Ukrainian Studies Foundation at the University of Toronto and recently attended the unveiling of a plaque honoring Canada's first and only Victoria Cross recipient, Filip Konowal, in the Vancouver suburb of New Westminster. His continuous wise counsel on issues, legal or otherwise, to this newspaper will never be forgotten.

Justice Sopinka's passing leaves a vacancy on the Supreme Court, which Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will have to move quickly to fill before the scheduled February hearing on the federal government's reference on the legality of Quebec's bid for unilateral separation from Canada. (With some irony, one of the leading contenders for the job, who must come from Ontario, is the province's Court of Appeal Justice Louise Arbour, currently the chief prosecutor at the International War Crimes Tribunal in The Hague.)

But there's no question Justice Sopinka will be impossible to replace, in terms of his brilliant legal mind and his humaneness.

When he was sworn in as a Supreme Court justice, Mr. Sopinka paid tribute to his parents, Metro and Nancy, and recalled the reaction of his father, a one-time prisoner of war during the Russian Revolution. "He said, 'Why do you want to go to Ottawa? Haven't you got enough work in Toronto?'"

"It says something about this country that although my mother did not attend a day of school and could not read or write in either Ukrainian or English, her son could achieve this office," he underlined.

John Sopinka was one of a kind.

Supreme Court Justice...

(Continued from page 1)

Ontario, Mr. Hnatyshyn found his ideal appointee in Mr. Sopinka.

"Looking back on John Sopinka's record, he proved to be a first-rate appointment," said Mr. Hnatyshyn, who had spoken to Mr. Sopinka on the telephone a week before Mr. Sopinka's death. "When you make appointments to the Supreme Court, you look at the question of abilities and competence, and you want to make sure the person reflects the diversity of Canada, which was something he was able to bring to the court as well."

As Mr. Hnatyshyn became the first Ukrainian Canadian to fill the country's top job as constitutional head of state seven years ago, Mr. Sopinka became the first member of the community to sit on the country's highest court two years prior to that.

Mr. Sopinka was born in Saskatchewan, in the small town of Broderick, where his ethnic Ukrainian parents, Metro (who died in 1990) and Nancy (who died in 1974), settled after arriving from Wislok, Poland, in 1928. Only Metro attended school, for a year, but he and his wife were determined their son, one of six children, would receive a first-class education.

When Mr. Sopinka was 7 years old, his family moved to Hamilton, where his father was employed as a steelworker. At 15, young John was becoming somewhat of a prodigy, playing violin with Hamilton's philharmonic orchestra.

After graduating summa cum laude with an undergraduate arts degree from the University of Toronto in 1955, Mr. Sopinka was accepted into the university's law school. To augment the scholarship he received, he got a job playing defensive halfback with the Toronto Argonauts that year. "I missed a lot of classes, but I would get notes from my classmates," confessed Mr. Sopinka in 1995, who later went on to author one of the most definitive legal textbooks on rules of evidence.

The future Supreme Court justice almost missed graduating from law school in the process, when he was transferred to a rival Canadian Football League team, the Montreal Alouettes. Fortunately, Montreal never made it to the playoffs, and Mr. Sopinka was able to complete his third year in law school.

Following his 1958 graduation, Mr. Sopinka began a 28-year career in litigation that would make him one of Canada's highest-profiled lawyers. He represented the Aga Khan; former federal Cabinet Minister Sinclair Stevens during an inquiry into conflict-of-interest allegations; and nurse Susan Nelles, who was charged, and later vindicated, in the deaths of four babies at Toronto's Hospital for Sick Children.

When he was named to the Supreme Court, Mr. Sopinka became the first non-judge elevated to the top jurist's job in 31 years.



Justice John Sopinka

Mr. Sopinka's death creates a vacancy on the nine-member Supreme Court that Prime Minister Jean Chrétien will be nevertheless pressed to fill quickly.

On February 16 the Supreme Court is scheduled to hear arguments on whether Québec can secede from Canada unilaterally, and Justice Lamer has made it known that he wants nine judges to hear the historic case. Prof. Edward Ratushny of Ottawa University said that Mr. Lamer's position makes it likely that these hearings will be postponed.

Prof. Ratushny remembered Justice Sopinka as a populist judge, dedicated to demystifying the legal process and opening up the court he served on. "He spoke out frequently in favor of judges participating in society and not cloistering themselves in their chambers," Prof. Ratushny told the *Globe and Mail* on November 24.

"He made people feel very comfortable with a folksy kind of manner that disguised his brilliant and incisive mind," Prof. Ratushny added.

The chairman of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, John Gregorovich, said: "Justice Sopinka was a thoughtful and learned judge, and yet always a very approachable man. ... Our entire community joins in mourning this irreplaceable advocate and friend."

Justice Sopinka's body lay in state in the Supreme Court building on November 26; the funeral was to be held in Oakville, Ontario, outside of Toronto, on November 29.

Mr. Sopinka leaves behind his wife of 40 years, Marie, and two children, Melanie and Randall.

Also in mourning are many friends, including Mr. Hnatyshyn. "He was a wonderful and good friend, and I am very proud of my friendship with John Sopinka," he said.

Dec.
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Turning the pages back...

Yulian Holovinsky was a product of turn-of-the-century strife in Galicia, who lived by the sword and died by it. Born on December 1, 1894, in Radymno, about 20 miles north of

Peremyshl, Holovinsky rose to the rank of captain in the Ukrainian Galician Army in the turmoil of the first world war, and in 1920 was interned in the camps of Josefov and Brno in Czecho-Slovakia.

As historian Prof. Magocsi tells it, "Ukrainians in eastern Galicia had virtually reached a stage of equality with Poles under Austrian rule during the first decades of the 20th century," and in the post-war period, "the Ukrainians of Poland, most especially those of Galicia, were not about to accept the status of a national minority in what they considered their own homeland. That would be tantamount to turning back the historical clock — which is what Poland tried to do."

The authoritarian practices of the new Polish administration reinforced the percep-

tion among some Ukrainian activists that a state of war still existed. Officers of various disbanded Ukrainian armed units, such as the UHA and the Sich Riflemen, led by Yevhen Konovalts, established the Ukrainian Military Organization (UMO) to engage in this conflict. Holovinsky was a co-founder.

As the "pacification" measures of the Polish government grew more and more aggressive, so did the UMO's response. In 1924 Holovinsky mounted an assassination attempt on Polish President Wojciechowski.

Education was a particularly sore point for Ukrainians, as the Poles abolished all post-secondary Ukrainian departments within various institutions, particularly at Lviv University, and radically reorganized the Galician provincial school administration system.

On October 19, 1926, a team set up by Holovinsky assassinated Stanislaw Sobinski, the Lviv School Superintendent.

Holovinsky was also implicated in several other acts of sabotage, including an attack on the Post Office in Lviv, and was imprisoned many times. In the end, he was captured by Polish police and summarily executed, without trial, on September 30, 1930, in the Bibrka prison.

Sources: "Holovinsky, Yulian," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 2 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988); Paul Robert Magocsi, *A History of Ukraine* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thank you for column on "Mama's song"

Dear Editor:

When I read the column "Mamyna pisnia – Mama's song" by Orysia Paszczak Tracz, I cried. My family has always sung Ukrainian folk songs, religious hymns and songs my father wrote.

My father was born in Ukraine, attended a conservatory of music and left our family with a cherished legacy of music and singing. My biggest regret is not having his recordings on tape or in any written format. With his passing and my mother's passing, all of the beautiful lyrics and melodies will never be heard by my grandchildren.

Fortunately our family has a wonderful and spirited 80-year-old uncle who was born in Pennsylvania. Peter Mazurkevich has been singing in church choirs since early youth and remembers the Ukrainian songs in Ukrainian and in English. We are trying to persuade him to not only record

these songs but have a family member record him singing on videotape. What a legacy that will be for his grandchildren!

I encourage all Ukrainian families to record on audio and video, or just write down lyrics and music to preserve our heritage – your legacy from your loved ones. It would be a tragedy to lose all of those lovely tunes knowing they could be preserved today.

Mrs. Tracz mentions in her column that non-Ukrainian friends are amazed at our ability to sing as a "choir" when we gather. It amazes my friends as well. Singing in harmony was taught at our parents' knee – what a gift! My father used to say "when you sing in church, you pray and worship twice."

Thank you so much for publishing Mrs. Tracz's column. Maybe reading her column will give Uncle Pete the courage he needs to record all of the beautiful Ukrainian folk songs that he loves so much.

Mary Orlyk Rakay
Detroit

An answer to letter on "nationalism"

Dear Editor:

In disbelief I read Andrew F. Estocin's letter of October 26 responding to my letter published in the October 5 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly.

In his first sentence he accused me of calling "... for an uncanonical Ukrainian Orthodox Church centered on Ukrainian nationalism" and ascertained that I do not know the tradition of Orthodox Christianity.

How Mr. Estocin arrived at such a conclusion is beyond me. In my short letter I expressed my anger at two patriarchs who met in Ukraine not for "Christian witness," but to establish limits on their respective spheres of influence and agreed – according to the reports – that Ukraine should remain in the Russian sphere of influence.

If my human reaction of anger directed at those making decisions regarding our destiny without us is nationalism, so be it. I do not consider the word "nationalism" to be a bad word; in my vocabulary "imperialism" has that distinction.

As to my knowledge of Orthodox Christian tradition, I can only say that Orthodoxy is my way of life. All my ancestors were Orthodox Christians and lived in accordance with the teachings of the Orthodox Church. I was raised and I brought up my children in a similar way. If that does not give me some knowledge of the tradition of Orthodox Christianity, then I would like to know Mr. Estocin's definition of the term.

I suspect that my letter was used by Mr. Estocin as a convenient way to promote his own agenda. He tries to vindicate those Ukrainians who belong to non-Ukrainian Orthodox Churches. He pro-

poses for us "to focus on many faces of Ukrainian Orthodoxy ... that encompass many jurisdictions in America."

I am baffled by such a statement. Exactly what Churches are encompassed by Ukrainian Orthodoxy?

In the very next sentence Mr. Estocin states that "many Ukrainian Orthodox are in the care of the Orthodox Church of America (formerly Russian Orthodox Church) and the Patriarchate of Antioch" (Syrian Church). Do these Churches represent "many faces of Ukrainian Orthodoxy" because some Ukrainians are members of these Churches?

I don't think so. If some Ukrainians chose to be members of non-Ukrainian Churches, it is their decision. But they do not contribute anything to Ukrainian Orthodox life, as Mr. Estocin suggests. They only strengthen the non-Ukrainian Orthodox Churches.

I respect all ethnic Orthodox Churches, because we are all united by one Orthodox faith. But I do not wish to be "in the care" of any foreign Church. I do not consider myself or the Ukrainian people to be less intelligent than others, and that we have to be taken care of by anyone. Least of all by Metropolitans Theodosius of the Orthodox Church of America, Volodymyr of Kyiv or their boss – Aleksei II, patriarch of Moscow.

I would not have commented on Mr. Estocin's letter had it not been for a footnote to it informing readers that his column appears in the Ukrainian Orthodox World, the official magazine of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church in the U.S.A. Such information implies that the opinion expressed in his letter is the official position of the Church.

That is not the case.

Alla Lehka Heretz
Rutherford, N.J.

Not a 'preoccupation,' but reflection of reality

Dear Editor:

Roman Koropecyk is disturbed by Myron Kuropas' "preoccupation with Jews." He shouldn't be. Dr. Kuropas is only one contributor to The Ukrainian Weekly, and The Weekly certainly does not give more space to Jewish-related material than is allotted to it by the mainstream North American media. If some Ukrainians seem to be "preoccupied with Jews," they only reflect the general environment in which they live.

There is yet another, and a more important, reason why Ukrainians maintain interest in Jewish affairs. It has to do with the Ukrainian image that remains closely linked to the way the mainstream media presents Ukrainian-Jewish relations, both historical and present, in Ukraine and in the diaspora. Whether Ukrainians like it or not, it is not yet time for them to become disinterested in Jewish affairs.

Dr. Koropecyk is free to disagree with what Dr. Kuropas writes, but then wouldn't it be more constructive (not to say scholarly) to criticize the author for his ideas rather than to attack him for his choice of subject?

Roman Serbyn
Montreal

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



A justification for Friday night tears

It was Friday evening at our home on Roanoke Avenue in Cleveland. My younger brother Peter, who was no more than 9 at the time, was at the kitchen table with our mother doing homework for Ukrainian Saturday school the next morning. His angry tears had stained the pages of the Cyrillic primer as he fumed in frustration, "Why do I have to go to Ukrainian School, anyway?" My mother, exasperated over what was turning into a weekly scene with my hot-tempered brother, answered as calmly as she could, "Petrusiu, I don't know why. I just know you have to."

That settled it – at least for that week – and the lesson went on. Thirty-five years later, we have the answer. Pete is now host of the weekly Ukrainian-language television program "Window on America" that is beamed by satellite to Ukraine every Saturday night, where an audience in excess of 10 million watches news and features that Pete and his co-workers put together. Without those Friday night sessions and the weary Saturday wake-ups, he wouldn't have had the opportunity to have one of the most interesting jobs in America.

Those who work with Pete include George Sajewych from Chicago and Adrian Karmazyn from Cleveland, both of whom also went to Ukrainian Saturday School. I wonder whether they ever struggled with their mothers about Friday night homework and Ukrainian school the next day. Did Marta Zielyk? She translates for President Bill Clinton, the secretaries of State, Defense and others. What about Helen Kryshalowych? She runs the Kyiv office of one of America's biggest law firms and flies between Washington, Kyiv, London, Paris, Atlanta, Cleveland, etc., putting international deals together for Fortune 500 companies. Did Mykola Deychakiwsky? He works out of Kyiv, organizing projects for the Eurasia Foundation. I can't say whether these people and so many others who use their Ukrainian on a daily basis ever questioned why they had to go to Ukrainian Saturday school, but I know I did. (I'm director of the Ukrainian Museum-Archives in Cleveland.)

For 50 years now, the Ukrainian Saturday school network in the U.S. and Canada has been graduating an impressive number of very knowledgeable students, most of them native-born Americans and Canadians, who speak Ukrainian fluently. As any of us who went through these schools will tell you, it was not done without sacrifice from parents as well as children. Yet the sacrifice we made every Friday and Saturday was nothing compared to the sacrifice Ukrainians made in the face of Soviet terror or tsarist repression. People lost their jobs, went to jail or were murdered because they insisted on the right to use Ukrainian.

Obviously, language in the Ukrainian context is not a trivial matter. Moscow's imperial ambitions required that Ukraine, with its vast resources, access to the sea and large population, remain a loyal and docile part of the Russian empire, whether in its tsarist or Soviet versions. Those ambitions spawned a centuries-long campaign of Russification: a set of policies that encouraged and coerced non-Russians to adopt the Russian language and culture, thereby increasing Russian political domination.

Russification did enormous damage to Ukraine's national fabric. During a period when Russian culture was producing giants like Tolstoy, Dostoyevsky and Turgenev, the Ukrainian language was banned in the

Russian Empire. The mere possession of a book or journal written in Ukrainian was a crime. Not surprisingly, the most ambitious and talented Ukrainians were drawn toward Russian culture and were lost to Ukraine. As a result, Ukrainian culture struggled to get past a folk level.

It became even more grim in the Soviet era when Ukrainian authors and artists were arrested en masse in the 1930s and were either shot or exiled to frigid labor camps near the Arctic Circle. As recently as 1985, poet Vasyl Stus died in a Siberian prison cell under mysterious circumstances, just a month after being nominated for the Nobel Prize for Literature.

Today, the impact of Russification on Ukraine is apparent. The Russian language is still very prevalent, particularly in most urban areas where it predominates. Ironically, Moscow's heavy hand, so successful in squeezing Ukrainian out of daily life, might well have evoked a fierce backlash that provided a better than 90 percent vote for independence in 1991. Today, people who frequently travel to Ukraine tell me that the language is making a comeback. (In western Ukraine it never went away.) One can see that with the visitors who come to America, as well.

As for national politics, Ukrainian is a must. President Leonid Kuchma, who spoke Russian exclusively all his life, learned the language five years ago to prepare for the 1993 presidential campaign and now speaks it at all official functions. I was told on good authority that he rebukes his own Cabinet members when they speak Russian.

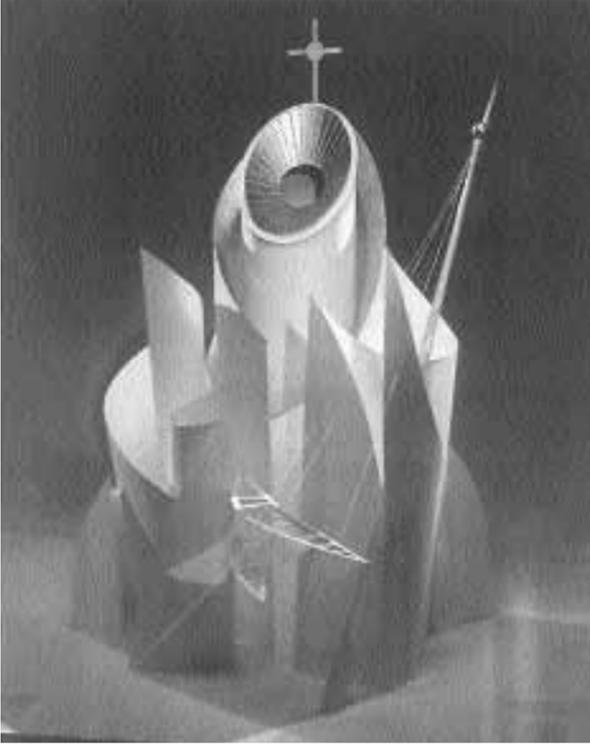
It's also encouraging that the U.S. government is committed to the Ukrainian language. "Window on America" is one example. At the State and Commerce departments, you'll find a good number of key officials at the Ukraine desks who speak the language fluently. (I know of at least three who graduated from Ukrainian Saturday schools.)

The commitment isn't firm, however. A recent United States Information Agency tour for Ukrainian journalists used Russian-language translators, despite the fact that nearly everyone on the tour – with one exception – spoke fluent Ukrainian. The Defense Department has also softened its commitment to Ukrainian. These lapses must be corrected.

It will probably take a generation, at least, to undo the damage Ukraine suffered from centuries of Russification, but it's something that has to be done if Ukraine is to find its proper place in the world. In the 1920s, writer Mykola Khvylioviy got into big trouble for leading a movement to have Ukraine turn from Moscow and orient itself psychologically and culturally on Europe instead. Stalin drove him to suicide for his efforts, but Khvylioviy's analysis still applies. Because of Moscow's historic domination over every aspect of Ukrainian life, he wrote, the nation became backward and provincial. To reach its full potential, Ukraine must first heal its national soul. To do that Ukrainians must recover their past and their language.

I agree; I can't say why that's so, I just know that it is. And so, every week my wife sits down with our 7-year-old son, Mykhas, to go over the Cyrillic primer. There haven't been tears yet, but when they come and Mykhas asks why he has to do this, we'll be able to say, "Take a lesson from your grandmother, Babtsia Lesia, and look at your Uncle Petro."

Philadelphia architect designs church for Kolomyia



Design for the Transfiguration of Our Lord Cathedral in Kolomyia by Zenon Mazurkevich.

by Yarema Kelebay

MONTREAL – Bishop Pavlo Vasylyk of the Kolomyia-Chernivtsi Eparchy, has announced plans for the construction of a new Cathedral of the Transfiguration of Our Lord in the city of Kolomyia.

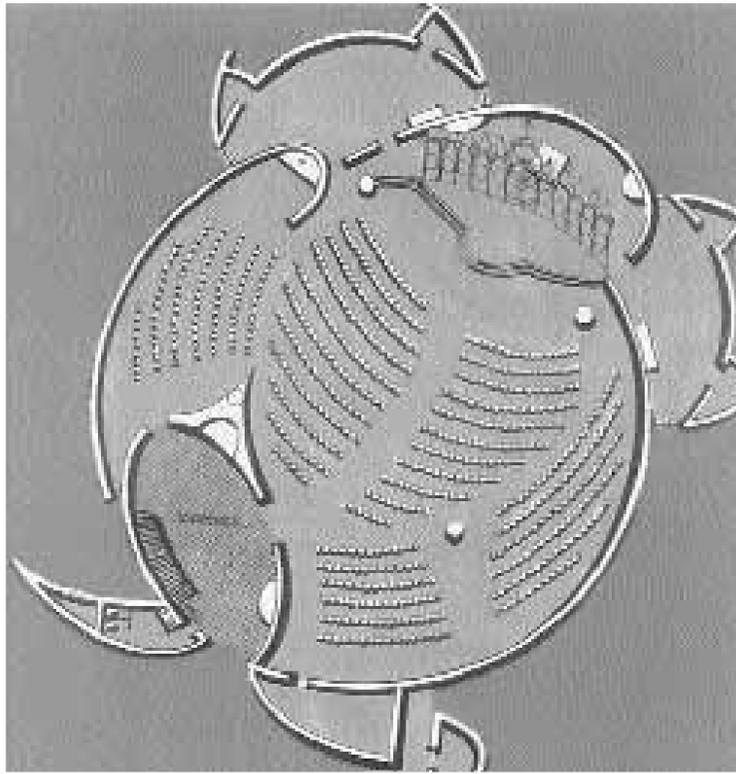
The cathedral was designed by Philadelphia architect Zenon Mazurkevich.

Mr. Mazurkevich's design is an avant-garde structure made predominantly of steel, glass and acrylic. It is designed to accommodate over 1,000 worshippers.

In preparation for his project Mr. Mazurkevich traveled across Ukraine, visiting Kyiv, Cherkasy, Kirovohrad, Ivano-Frankivsk and Lviv. He observed a proliferation of church construction, yet he noted that "architecturally it was a wasteland."

According to Mr. Mazurkevich, "The present design trend in Ukraine is to pla-

Prof. Kelebay is with the department of educational studies at McGill University in Montreal.



Floor plan of the proposed cathedral.

giarize the structural forms of the past and to superimpose them on conventional floor plans. The tendency is to borrow and reiterate shapes used in previous periods. Most of these new churches lack imagination and inspiration. They come from nostalgia and memory, rather than intuition and creativity. Much of it is ersatz architecture which does not speak to the hopes and needs of our times."

I asked Mr. Mazurkevich what he thought those hopes and needs were. He responded:

"Ukraine is rapidly changing from oppressive and stilted reality of Soviet collectivist totalitarianism and its police state architecture whose hallmark was centralization, hierarchy and monumentality. Architecture was practiced in collectives, groups, committees and cabals. No architect worked individually. Freedom of expression, diversity of opinion, freedom of religion and non-conformity were considered dangerous, intolerable and beyond the pale. Design was state controlled and

the result was a Soviet social realism which fostered fear and dehumanization. It was ugly architecture which produced absolutely boring buildings of monumental anonymity.

"Architecture is part of a larger spiritual and cultural environment and any attempt to separate it from this ecology results in mediocrity and mundaneness. The new Cathedral of the Transfiguration of Our Lord in Kolomyia is an effort to express something new, spiritual and transcendental ... in a time of profound changes on the threshold of a new era.

"The cathedral's design is intentional-ly not universalist, cosmopolitan or internationalist. It is intended to be particular, local and specific. It wants to express the spirituality and identity of a unique culture.

"It is antithetical to anything in the Soviet, international, cosmopolitan or structural-functionalist style. It is an expression of our unique Christian Ukrainian cultural identity and of our recently emancipated tradition."

Mazurkevich presents his project

Below are excerpts from the architect's statement prepared by Zenon Mazurkevich to present his project in Kolomyia.

The design:

The plan of the cathedral is elliptical – the form of a womb – the symbol of sacred inwardness. The circular theme is continued throughout; the curvilinear whole of the composition finds echoes throughout the harmonious parts. The spaces created are elegant and full of surprises. There will be five altars.

Skylights throw shafts of light on the curvilinear sail-like walls that dance wildly and exuberantly around the central space. The building seems to be chaotic – but in fact it is structured, organized and shows a lucid architectural inheritance. The everyday materials are used with sympathy and imagination, and allow for a full set of architectural experiences.

The building aims to reassert the authority of faith and to impress the local populace as well as attract international attention.

Budget:

The cathedral is budgeted under \$1 million. The eparchy is capable of building this church, but without outside help it would probably take about eight years.

Many materials must be purchased in the West, thus, hard currency is required. If about \$300,000 can be collected in the U.S., Canada and Australia, the building time can be cut down to about 16 months.

To this end, the bishop is looking for benefactors as well as friends to serve on the building committees. The World Federation of Ukrainian Credit Unions has promised to open accounts

(Continued on page 14)

Symposium discusses modern Ukrainian religious architecture

by Walter Daschko

WINNIPEG – Even though the construction of new Church buildings seems to have dropped off dramatically in the Ukrainian communities of North America, judging from a recent symposium in Winnipeg, interest in the architecture of these buildings continues unabated.

Over 40 architects, artists, students and laypeople from across Canada and the U.S. arrived at the symposium despite very little promotion for the event. Held at the University of Manitoba on September 26-27, "The Symposium of Modern Ukrainian Religious Architecture in North America," organized jointly by the Oseredok Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center and the Faculty of Architecture of the University of Manitoba, was intended to "examine the evolution of style, iconography and building methods in response to liturgy and enculturation in a new land." While these issues were important, the presenters too played a significant role.

"It was the first and likely the only time the three most prolific and provocative designers in North America were together," noted Zenon Hluszok, symposium coordinator. Those three were – Julian

Jastremsky, a native Winnipegger who received his master in architecture from Columbia University in 1942 and then proceeded to design more than 20 Catholic and Orthodox churches, including the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception, Philadelphia and St. John the Baptist, Ottawa; Radoslav Zuk, professor of architecture at McGill University since 1966, with nine Ukrainian

churches to date, who has written extensively on a wide variety of issues affecting the design of modern Ukrainian church architecture; and Victor Deneka, with eight modern Manitoba churches to his credit who is about to publish the 400-page book "Ukrainian Churches in Canada," illustrated with more than 1,500 photographs.

The architects were joined by four

other noted presenters: Anatole Senkevich Jr., an associate professor of architecture and art history at the University of Michigan, an expert in aspects of Russian and Soviet architecture and the author of many books and scholarly articles, among them the work "Monuments to Faith," a comprehensive

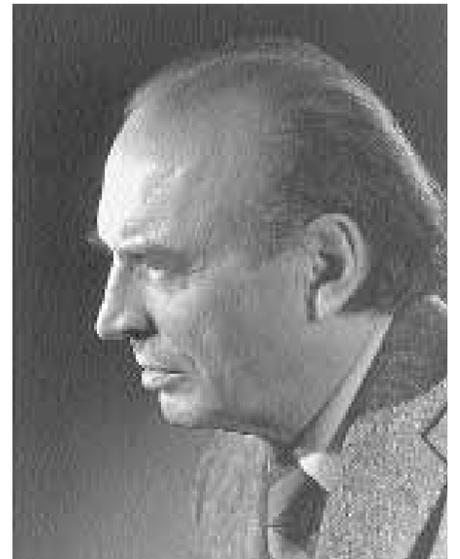
(Continued on page 10)



Julian Jastremsky



Victor Deneka



Prof. Radoslav Zuk

DATELINE NEW YORK: An opera star, and a bandurist

by Helen Smindak

Stefiuk at the UIA

Opera lovers at the Kyiv Opera House have thrilled to the light, agile voice of coloratura soprano Maria Stefiuk for 25 years. Audiences in foreign countries have been charmed by her voice and her gracious manner. Last month it was the turn of a capacity audience at the Ukrainian Institute of America to see and hear this exciting Ukrainian diva in person.

With pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky providing his usual splendid accompaniment, Ms. Stefiuk offered a varied program that ranged through operatic arias, sacred hymns, lilting folk songs and compositions by such Ukrainian composers as Mykola Lysenko and Anatol Kos-Anatolsky and the Ukrainian American composer Ihor Sonevtsky.

Ms. Stefiuk has a strong, beautiful coloratura that enables her to produce trills effortlessly, as she demonstrated so well in Kos-Anatolsky's "Nightingale's Romance," a work replete with alternating musical tones a diatonic second apart. She showed that skill in other selections as well, for example, in Mozart's "Alleluia," Cherubini's "Ave Maria" and Kropyvnytsky's "Soloveyko." In addition to marvelous voice control and an excellent stage presence, Ms. Stefiuk has a talent for conveying the mood of her songs. She was by turns pious, as in Caccini's "Ave Maria"; introspective in a work set to Shevchenko's poem "Three Wide Roads"; coquettish in Rossi's "Tyrolean Song" (where she mimicked Tyrolean yodeling beautifully); and rhapsodic in the famous "Caro Nome" aria from Verdi's "Rigoletto."

That aptitude for expressing deep feeling was also evident in her rendering of Sonevtsky's sentimental "Stabat Mater," Lysenko's dramatic work "Asters" and the Hutsul-like folk song "Zakuvala Zozulia," arranged by Borys Liatoshynsky. On the other hand, she demonstrated equal proficiency in frolicsome folk songs such as "Spaty Meni ne Khochetsia." For encores, after prolonged applause, she offered a humorous folk song with tongue-tripping lyrics, "Ty Do Mene Ne Khody," that called for clear articulation, and Natalka's sprightly aria from the opera "Natalka Poltavka."

Some listeners said they noted a certain stridency in the soprano's high notes when sung fortissimo (a few put that down to the natural decline in vocal power that comes with advancing years, while others blamed it on the "Soviet" style of singing to which Ms. Stefiuk was exposed in her training). If there were any shortcomings they did not prevent the audience from cheering the soprano exuberantly for a brilliant performance.

A tall, attractive woman with shoulder-length blonde hair, Ms. Stefiuk impressed concertgoers with her voice, her poise and her elegant fashion sense. She opened her program attired in a black beaded gown with low-cut bodice. For the second half of the evening, devoted solely to Ukrainian music, she appeared in a two-piece off-white outfit – a floor-length coat over a matching strapless gown, both accented with bright blue embroidery.

Born in Kosiv into a family of singers in 1948, Ms. Stefiuk studied at the Kyiv Conservatory and began her singing career with the Kyiv Theater of Opera and Ballet in 1972, a year before her graduation. She has sung roles in Lysenko's "Taras Bulba," Maiboroda's "Yaroslav the Wise," Glinka's "A Life for the Tsar," Rimsky-Korsakov's "The

Tsar's Bride" and Verdi's "La Traviata." She has appeared at the La Scala Opera in Milan, and has concertized in Canada and the U.S.

A bandurist on the move

Julian Kytasty and his bandura have been rambling around the world like the wandering minstrels of old Ukraine, who roamed the steppes singing ballads of glorious Kozak deeds and fabled historic events. A third-generation bandurist, he has been concertizing and teaching courses and workshops in North and South America, Western Europe, Australia and Ukraine – all with the goal of developing an audience for the national musical instrument of Ukraine.

Now, after a 10-year absence, he has returned to New York to direct the New York School of Bandura and has released a CD featuring songs and music by his great-uncle. Hryhoriy Kytasty, the long-time musical director of the Taras Shevchenko Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus.

The compositions featured on the new disc "Hryhoriy Kytasty: Music for Solo Bandura and Songs" were introduced by Julian Kytasty to a rapt audience at the Mayana Gallery earlier this month. Apart from one composition – a piece titled "Lviv Fragments," based on improvisations created by Hryhoriy Kytasty in 1944 in his last days on Ukrainian soil – all of the CD music was created outside Ukraine, most of it comprising poignant words and melodies echoing an exile's nostalgia for his homeland.

Mr. Kytasty, who polished his art under the direction of his uncle in the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus, which he joined in 1978, is one of the finest bandura players in North America. His voice is mellow and well-suited to the narrative style characteristic of many bandura lyrics. Combining youthful energy with intelligence and maturity, he communicated the longing, the yearning for beloved scenes of Poltava's steppes and the sense of loss and isolation expressed in his uncle's compositions. Prepare to be genuinely moved when you listen to this CD.

Among the compositions are the story of Hetman Sahaidachny's victory over

the Turks in 1620 in the duma "Sahaidachny" (the duma is an epic genre favored by the blind bards of Ukraine who were the forerunners of today's bandurists). "Foreign Land" articulates an exile's determination to remember his native land, while "The Poet's Grave" is a folk song about Ukraine's hero, Taras Shevchenko, in an arrangement by Hryhoriy Kytasty.

Instrumental works include the enjoyable "Moment Musicale" and two short pieces written for instructional purposes, titled "Prelude" and "Spring Game." The instrumental fantasy "Echo of the Steppes" is a dramatic composition with Oriental overtones that brings to mind images of Tatar hordes, Kozaks on horseback and winds rippling through tall steppe grasses.

Between CD selections and a few of his own compositions and arrangements, Mr. Kytasty gave insight into his uncle's life – a boyhood spent in the Poltava region, where he grew up hearing "the old bandurists," his training as a bandurist, then harrowing wartime years that brought conscription into the army, capture, escape from behind barbed wire, flight to the West, a stay in a displaced persons' camp and, finally, freedom in America.

He said his uncle seemed to be taken with the idea of using the bandura as it is, without embellishments. "He refused to play the modern Ukrainian bandura with chromatics and tuning. His concern was to create beautiful music."

Mr. Kytasty is carrying on the family's bandura tradition through his teaching and performing, albeit with modern bandura and chromatics (although he can play the old-style bandura, as well as the flute). He has combined that bandura tradition with formal musical training, earning a degree in music (theory and composition) from Concordia University in Montreal. Furthermore, he is collaborating with other artists in fresh and contemporary musical combinations. He worked with singer/producer Alexis Kochan to weave together ancient pre-Christian ritual songs and harmonies inspired by folk polyphony with fragments of medieval chant and contempo-

rary music. The results can be heard in the "Paris to Kyiv Variations" CD released last year on the Olesia label.

Mr. Kytasty recently appeared at the Ukrainian Institute of America in an evening of poetry and music celebrating the publication of a volume of contemporary Ukrainian poetry in award-winning translations by Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps. Sometime toward the end of January he will join Ms. Kochan and jazz pianist John Stetch at the institute to present an evening of new striking music. Meanwhile, he will appear as a guest artist with the University of California Chamber Choir, conducted by Marika Kuzma, and take part around Christmastime in a weeklong bandura workshop in Toronto.

Taking into account the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus's recent tour (its first in six years), new CD releases and Mr. Kytasty's prolific bandura activities. I would venture to say that this could be the start of something big – perhaps a bandura renaissance, spurred by such youthful bandura enthusiasts as Oleh Mahlay, the new director of the Bandurist Chorus, Mr. Kytasty and his associate at the Bandura School, Alla Kutsevych of Lviv, and the students and graduates of bandura workshops in Emlenton, Pa., and London, Ontario. Add to that the dedicated work of Nick Czorny-Dosinchuk, the Bandura School's administrator and editor of the quarterly magazine *Bandura*, who has been traveling to many countries for years, compiling interviews, photographs and information about bandura ensembles and bandurists of yesterday and today.

Who knows, this renaissance could surpass the excitement of the 1950s, when the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus gave its first concerts on this side of the Atlantic, when Maestro Zinovii Shtokalko gave recitals and taught special classes in New York, writer Morris Diakowsky researched and published essays about the bandura, *Guitar* magazine devoted an entire issue to the history and development of the bandura, and a group of young businesspeople and professionals constructed their own banduras at a weekly workshop in Elizabeth, N.J. Time will tell.

Paul Plishka to autograph new recordings

NEW YORK – Paul Plishka, star of The Metropolitan Opera, will make personal appearances and sign autographs of his new recordings at Tower Records stores in Philadelphia and New York for the Christmas season.

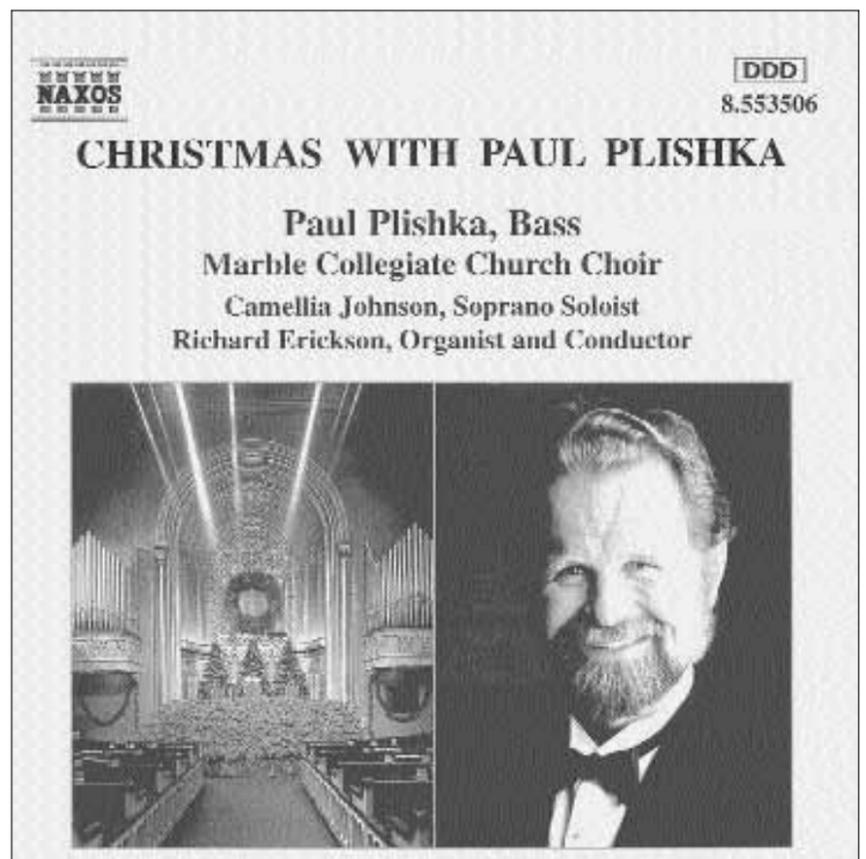
Mr. Plishka has recently released a popular CD titled "Christmas with Paul Plishka" on the Naxos label, where he sings a selection of Christmas songs and carols in a variety of languages, including Ukrainian.

Also available during the CD signing will be the basso's recordings "Paul Plishka Sings Folk Songs of Ukraine" and "Paul Plishka sings Verdi and Mussorgsky Opera Arias," both on the Forlane label from Paris.

During his visits to the Tower Records stores, Mr. Plishka will sing, a selection of Christmas carols and Ukrainian songs.

Mr. Plishka's is currently singing in many productions at The Metropolitan Opera, including in "Manon," "Don Giovanni," "The Barber of Seville," "Boris Godunov," "L'Elisir D'Amore," "Samson and Dalila," "Stifelio" and "Turandot." The bass will sing a solo recital at Alice Tully Hall, Lincoln Center, in New York on March 29, 1998, sponsored by the Opera Orchestra of New York.

The signing in New York is scheduled for Sunday, December 7, at 1-2:30 p.m. at Tower Records, Broadway at 67th Street. The Philadelphia signing was to take place Sunday, November 30.



Cover of Paul Plishka's new CD

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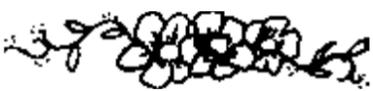
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Symposium...

(Continued from page 8)

inventory of Ukrainian churches in Manitoba; Vera Lazarowich Senchuk, an iconographer who has created hundreds of icons and many church iconostases and is currently working on major new wall paintings for the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Orthodox Metropolitan Cathedral in Winnipeg; Ben Wasylyshen, a successful artist and architectural design consultant who has taught at the department of architecture and is currently engaged in a commission for 10 stained glass windows for the Metropolitan Cathedral in Winnipeg.

During the proceedings, many interesting observations and insights were generated. During his presentation Prof. Zuk outlined the role of light, materials, geometric references and the local physical surroundings on his modernist designs. Of greatest interest to the participants however, were the rhythmic proportions which shaped and organized Prof. Zuk's designs. These proportions, derived from his careful analyses of traditional Ukrainian churches, are, according to Prof. Zuk, the true essence of the Ukrainian architectural tradition and not stylistic features such as pear-shaped domes or iconostases.

While some participants were prepared to acknowledge that the highly recognizable domes common to most Ukrainian churches may not be unique to Ukrainian architecture, they questioned the "uniqueness" of Prof. Zuk's rhythmic proportions as well. It was also noted that despite Prof. Zuk's declared "rejection" of the emblematic role of domes, virtually all his designs skillfully and successfully include domes derived from Ukrainian precedents, albeit reinterpreted in a modernist aesthetic.

In his analysis of the essence of Ukrainian church architecture Prof. Senkevich argued that a predominant "verticality," both interior and exterior, was a central and powerful aspect of the architecture, going on to note that "attenuated domes undeniably assert this dominant verticality." Prof. Senkevich surprised many participants with his rejection

of the commonly held position that baroque domes came to Ukraine, and later Russia, via central Europe. He argued instead that "Germans and Austrians adopted the vertical baroque domes from Ukraine and Moscow."

The centerpiece of the symposium however, was the feting of Mr. Jastremsky and his prodigious body of work. In his presentation the elder dean of Ukrainian church architecture in North America stressed the importance of comfortably and innovatively accommodating the liturgical requirements within the client's means. The presenters and participants of the symposium thanked Mr. Jastremsky for his years of work and dedication.

Interest in the symposium and indeed interest in modern Ukrainian church architecture, might also be explained at least in part, by the emergence of a new and independent Ukraine. The new freedoms have unleashed decades of repressed needs and new churches are being built in large numbers; among these are two churches by Prof. Zuk.

Among the views expressed was that those in Ukraine look to the West for much-needed financial support. Unfortunately, both sides have unrealistically high expectations and as a result "will, for some time continue to be a source of disappointment for each other, architecturally and otherwise."

It was also noted that in Ukraine, as in North America during most of this century, the demands for churches to be unmistakable descendants of earlier Ukrainian Baroque models are so powerful that opportunities to develop contemporary Ukrainian material culture are missed or ignored. Ironically, Ukrainian Baroque, in its time, was a modern innovation and it developed to play an important role in defining Ukrainian culture for quite some time.

Hope was expressed by many that - in both Ukraine and Canada - architects, artists and laypeople will acknowledge that church buildings, as central features of Ukrainian material culture, have a responsibility to be not only complex liturgical vessels and to provide meaningful connections to our past but, just as importantly, to establish valuable con-

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Kyiv Chamber Choir to make U.S. debut at Carnegie Hall

NEW YORK – The Kyiv Chamber Choir, Ukraine's premiere a capella choir which since its founding in 1990, has earned international recognition as one of the outstanding chamber choirs in Europe, will make its American debut in a series of performances, including an appearance at the Washington National Cathedral, where it will perform a choral prelude on Sunday, December 21, at 10:30 a.m., and a premiere performance that same day at Carnegie Hall at 8 p.m..

Additional performances will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural and Educational Center in Philadelphia on December 18 at 8 p.m.; George Mason University in Fairfax, Va., on December 20 at 8 p.m.; and at The Music Hall in Portsmouth, N.H., on December 22 at 8 p.m..

The choir, under the direction of Mykola Hobdych, has gained international renown for performing many of the best choral pieces found in Ukrainian music history and for its high level of professionalism.

As part of the American concert program, the 22-member choir will perform Ukrainian liturgical and Christmas music from the 17th-20th centuries.

Works performed will include the liturgical music of 17th century composer of polyphonic music Mykola Diletsky and the outstanding Ukrainian composers of liturgical music of the latter half of the 18th century Maksym Berezovsky, Artem Vedel and Dmytro Bortniansky. The repertoire will also include the works of 20th century composers who wrote church music, Mykola Lysenko, Kyrilo Stetsenko, Mykola Leontovych, Ostap Nyzhankivsky and Yaroslav Yatsynevych; and contemporary Ukrainian composers, Lesia Dychko, Yevhen Stankoych, Volodymyr Stepurko, Yurii Alzhniev and Anatolii Avdievsky.

The Kyiv Chamber Choir, was formed in December 1990 by Mr. Hobdych, a graduate of Kyiv's Peter Tchaikovsky Conservatory of Music. Under Mr. Hobdych's direction, the choir has focused on restoring historic Ukrainian music and performing the contemporary works of Ukrainian composers.

The choir has won numerous prizes at international competitions, including the 1992 golden diploma at the First International R. Schumann Choral Competition, held in Zwickau, Germany; 1993 first prize and 1996 grand prix at the International Competition of Orthodox Church Music, held in Hajnuwka, Poland; 1993 grand prix at the International Choral Competition, held in Sligo, Ireland; and second prize in 1994 at the Liangollen international Musical Eisteddfod, held in Wales.

In addition, the Kyiv Chamber Choir has performed concerts and participated in a variety of European music festivals, including the 1993 International Avant-Garde Festival of Modern Music (Munich), the 1994 International Festival of Classical Music (Rouen, France), the 1994 Baroque Festival (Kyiv), the 1995 Festival of Ancient Music (both in Cricklade and Canterbury, England), Festival "Copenhagen – Cultural Capital of Europe '96," and the 32nd International Festival of Music and Fine Arts "Wratislavia Cantans '97" (Poland).

To date, the group has released seven recordings. The discography of the group includes: "Masterpieces of the Ukrainian Choral Baroque," "Praise the Lord" and "Wonder of Wonders" on the Sonopress label; "Izhe Kheruvymy: Ukrainian Sacred Music of the Late 19th and Early 20th Centuries" on Polygram; P. Tchaikovsky's "Liturgy" on the Naxos label; and "Ukrainian Liturgy" on French label.

The choir is featured on the just-released "Svyati: Steven Iserlis plays the music of John Tavener" on BMG Classics, which has been awarded the Mercury Music Award for best classical CD of 1997. The choir is currently working on its eighth recording, "Christmas Evenings" featuring traditional and contemporary adaptations of Christmas carols and songs by Ukrainian composers.

The concert tour was initiated by the American Friends for Ukraine.

Additional support has been provided by the Kyiv City Department of Culture, Air Ukraine, The Washington Group Cultural Fund, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian Institute of America, the Embassy of Ukraine to the United States, the Consulate General of Ukraine in New York; and the Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the United Nations. New York-based Micocci Productions represents the choir in America and is coordinating the tour.

For tickets call CarnegieCharge, (212) 247-7800; for group sales and information call (212) 874-2030.

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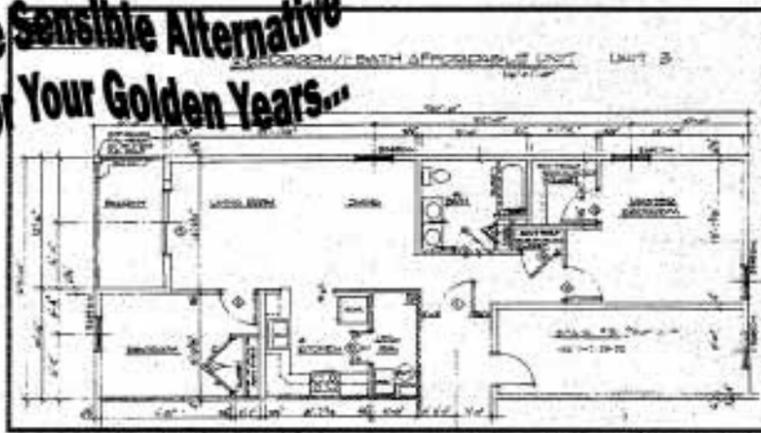
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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

A special era has ended

They met one final time during the 1996-1997 regular season, on March 24 at Madison Square Garden. But if either Wayne Gretzky or Mario Lemieux had failed to show for the date that represented the end of an era, it would have been fitting. Have there ever been two shooting stars from the same galaxy who have shone so brightly simultaneously, but have so rarely crossed paths - on or off the ice?

In the course of some 12 years, No. 66 of the Pittsburgh Penguins and No. 99 of the Edmonton Oilers, Los Angeles Kings, St. Louis Blues and currently the New York Rangers were scheduled to meet 34 times, but only on 24 occasions did they actually set foot on the ice and face off. Never did they play each other in the play-offs. And only once, in the memorable 1987 Canada Cup, did they play meaningful games on the same team.

Off the ice, they were never close either.

Gretzky told The Hockey News (THN): "We never spent time together in the off-season, we never became close friends, not like myself and Hullyie (Brett Hull of St. Louis) or Mess (old Ranger teammate Mark Messier, who was also his pal for so many of those formative Edmonton days), or whoever Mario spent his time with." He added, "Just for whatever reason, our paths never really crossed."

"I wouldn't say we had a lot in common," Lemieux told THN. "He played most of his career in Edmonton. I played in Pittsburgh. There's a bit of an age difference. Maybe it was a little surprising to some people, but our lives just took different directions, that's all."

But last season, as Lemieux played out what was his final NHL season, the projected 25th and last regular season meeting between the game's two greatest hockey minds took on added significance, a rare opportunity to reflect on what never was and what might have been for two players whose careers, in spite of everything, were inexorably truly linked.

The opportunity was there, or so it seemed, for Gretzky and Lemieux to become something other than rivals. The year was 1981, and 20-year-old Gretzky was represented by player agent Gus Badali. Badali and his associate in Montreal, Bob Perno, also represented 16-year-old Lemieux, who was set to begin his major junior career in Laval. Gretzky was in Montreal that August for Team Canada's training camp for the 1981 Canada Cup when Badali and Perno insisted Gretzky come see the young phenom play.

"I remember Bob Perno saying to me, 'You've got to come see this kid play. He's going to shatter all your records,'" Gretzky said. "I went to see him, and he just dominated. He was that spectacular at that age. I remember saying to Gus and Bob, 'You're right, this kid is going to shatter everything.'"

"The one thing they bragged about on the way there was, 'Watch this kid's puck sense, watch his skill level.' The thing they didn't really talk about was his size, which was such a factor. Until that time, we hadn't seen a guy come into our sport who was 6-foot-4 or 6-foot-5, who had the kind of hands he had. All the guys with those kinds of hands were the size of a (Guy) Lafleur or (Marcel) Dionne. He was the first to be special that way."

Even now, Gretzky couldn't help but marvel at Lemieux's wingspan. As much as Gretzky has accomplished with a body that had no business being in the NHL, he has always wondered what it would have

been like to be as big as Mario.

"I've never made any secret of that," Gretzky said. "Since he came into the league, I've always told the guys, 'God, I wish I was his size. I mean, the things he could do with the puck, the way he saw the game, it was so spectacular, but I wish I had that reach.'"

Take a poll to name the greatest player of all time - The Hockey News is doing precisely that - and Gretzky will receive a fair share of No. 1 votes. Lemieux, unlike Gordie Howe or Bobby Orr, is not nearly as likely to get the same consideration.

That's a shame, really, but not all that surprising. Lemieux, from the time he came into the league and refused to wear the Penguins' sweater on draft day, was the anti-Gretzky. Dark and brooding, Lemieux shielded himself from the public and, for that matter, the game itself. Gretzky, all air and light, allowed the game to embrace him, and he loved it right back.

For years the biggest complaint directed at Lemieux was, simply, that he wasn't Gretzky. He didn't win championships like Gretzky. He didn't put up points like Gretzky. He didn't sell himself or the game like Gretzky. He didn't display the same passion as Gretzky. It was a situation tailor-made for resentment and, make no mistake, Lemieux was resentful if not of Gretzky himself, then of those who expected him to be like Gretzky.

"I don't think (the resentment) was the way some people made it out to be," Lemieux said. "I think most of it came from the fans and media. I really believe we both just went out to do the best we could."

"Sure, we competed. I knew what I was doing, I'm sure he knew what I was doing. I'm sure we pushed each other to do better. But there were never bad feelings between us. Wayne was always one of the players I looked up to. I learned a lot from watching him," Lemieux commented.

But there were bad feelings nonetheless. Lemieux bristled at comparisons he felt were stacked in Gretzky's favor because of No. 99's tremendous supporting cast on an Edmonton Oilers' club that became a dynasty. Lemieux was seen by many as the poor country cousin who was a great talent, but didn't know how to win. Gretzky won four Stanley Cups in Edmonton in the 1980s; Lemieux none in Pittsburgh. It wasn't until the Pens won it all in 1991 and 1992 that Lemieux finally got his due.

"That was a little difficult for me to accept," Lemieux said. "In my mind, I knew I had to win a championship to be recognized with Wayne. But that was unfair, too. The team I was on in Pittsburgh, it was difficult for us to compete. Wayne had lots of big-time players with him in Edmonton. I was just starting out in Pittsburgh. It was difficult for me to keep up with him."

The honors would suggest as much. Gretzky has won 10 scoring titles and nine Hart Trophies (league MVP), compared to Lemieux's six scoring titles (including the Art Ross Trophy in 1996-1997) and three Hart Trophies. Gretzky won four Stanley Cups in Edmonton; Lemieux won two in Pittsburgh. Gretzky has all the most meaningful records (not only career but single season, too): 215 points, 92 goals and 51 consecutive games with a point, compared to Lemieux's personal bests of 199 points, 85 goals and 46 consecutive games with a point.

Yet the numbers are misleading, and Gretzky is the first to admit it. "If he hadn't gone through all the back problems

(Continued on page 13)

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Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 12)

and the cancer, he might have been the guy who statistically could have shattered all my records," Gretzky said. "I mean all of them, 215 points, 92 goals."

Lemieux won his first Art Ross Trophy in 1988. Then he won five more (through the 1996-1997 season). How many more would he have won if not for his back woes and cancer-related absences and fatigue? Put it this way, since 1988, during any season in which Lemieux played 60 or more games, he won the scoring title. It's quite possible a healthy Lemieux could have had as many as 10 scoring titles to as few as eight for Gretzky. Who knows how many more MVP trophies that would have translated into?

What if ...

"Sometimes I think about it," Lemieux said. "But I like to think everything happens for a reason. I think about the back problems, my sugeries, the cancer and what I might have done. But the important thing for me was to win the cup. I won two cups. As long as I live, no one can ever take that away from me."

Lemieux would be kidding himself, though, to suggest he and Gretzky haven't pushed each other - sometimes unknowingly. An example: Lemieux, unaware of potential history in the making, scored two goals against the Phoenix Coyotes last February 1 to come within one game of equalling Gretzky's record for fastest 600 goals. Gretzky reached that milestone in 718 games; Lemieux did it in 719.

"That's why we got to be the athletes we are in our career, because we have pride and we want to excel, but I have to tell you there was never any point that either of us would hope the other guy wouldn't do well," Gretzky said. "If Mario got 215 or 216 points, I'd be the first one to send him a telegram."

The bottom line, though, is Lemieux never got 215. He never even got 200 - but not for lack of trying. During the 1988-1989 season, when Lemieux scored 85 goals and 199 points, he thought he might surpass Gretzky's bests of 92 and 215, respectively.

"I thought I had a shot at it, but my production dropped off the last 15 games of the season," Lemieux said.

Gretzky thought his marks might fall that season, but figured them to be in extreme jeopardy the next year, when Lemieux was on his 46-game point scoring streak.

"I figured he wasn't going to break my

records that year so much as shatter them," Gretzky said. "I was at a movie one night and I came home and turned on the TV and saw that Mario had injured his back and that ended his streak. I said then, 'If there's one guy who could (break single-season records for goals, points and consecutive games with a point), it would be Mario. I mean, there are some guys, say Peter Forsberg, who might get 160 assists, but he won't get 93 goals. Then there's guys like Hullie, who might get 93 goals, but won't get 160 assists. A guy like Mario, though, could have gotten 93 goals and/or 160 assists and that's why I always thought he'd be the one to shatter my records.'"

Didn't happen. Super Mario has called it a career. He admitted the game didn't hold the same allure for him in his last seasons like it did before, but he denied that he always lacked a Gretzky-like passion for the game.

"I had (passion) for most of my career," Lemieux said. "The last two or three years, yeah, it did slip away from me. Maybe it was the back injuries. Maybe it was the Hodgkin's, because having cancer does change your priorities. Whatever it was, I didn't feel the same as I did in the early '90s. The last couple of years was a struggle at times to get up for games. That's why I knew it was time to step aside."

Now that he's retired from the game, Lemieux clearly has a better grasp on his relationship with Gretzky than he did when the two were in competition. At this point, they're no longer a threat to each other. Each one's place in hockey history has been determined. It's a little like the relationship between basketball arch-rivals Larry Bird and Magic Johnson, who battled so hard for so long that they couldn't bring themselves to have a relationship until they were both set to leave the game.

And yet Gretzky-Lemieux is nothing like Bird-Johnson. Time and again, Bird and Johnson crossed paths, starting with the NCAA showdown between Bird's Indiana State team and Johnson's Michigan State squad. From there, they became the National Basketball Association's two marquee players on the two marquee teams, Boston and Los Angeles. They waged war on an individual basis, and their teams battled for NBA supremacy.

"Wayne and I never even met in a play-off game," Lemieux said.

Still, there's a parallel. It's not as if they became bosom buddies, but both said shared moments at last year's All-Star Game in San Jose were special.



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Eighth internment...

(Continued from page 5)

experience this was for these unfortunate men. Although they were completely innocent of any wrongdoing, they became the victims of a state that defined them, unjustly, as 'enemy aliens' and forced them to abandon their families, friends and communities in the dead of winter to be interned at Brandon."

In addition to Brandon, Winnipeg was the other Manitoba site for internment operations. The UCCLA plans to establish a similar memorial in the provincial capital city.

Starting with the first camp in Montreal in 1914, some 5,000 Ukrainian Canadians were among the 5,441 civilians (plus 3,138

people classified prisoners of war) interned across the country. Two internees, Mary Manko Haskett and Stefa Mielniczuk who were held at the Spirit Lake facility in Quebec, are the only known remaining survivors.

About 80,000 out of a population of 171,000 Ukrainian Canadians were also branded "enemy aliens," losing their voting rights and being to ordered to regularly check in with local authorities during World War I. In early October, Inky Mark, the Reform Party member of Parliament for the southwestern federal riding of Dauphin-Swan River (near Brandon) called on the federal government to support the internment redress awareness efforts of such groups as the UCCLA.

So far, Ottawa hasn't replied.

Mazurkevich...

(Continued from page 8)

in all of the credit unions to facilitate small donations.

In Ukraine a first-class construction worker earns anywhere from \$50 to \$100 per month. So a dollar will go a long way.

Design philosophy:

I realize that in Kolomyia, as in all of Ukraine, the impulses of history, tradition and romance are still powerful generators of church architecture. After all "the church is tradition" and we architects are the custodians of that tradition. This, however, does not mean that we should slavishly copy it or impede its development. On the contrary, it is our solemn duty and obligation to foster the development of our architectural tradition so that it may always remain relevant and in step with the changing times.

In art and architecture — the Ukrainian church aspires to be contemporary — of its time. This was achieved during both the Princely and Kozak eras when Ukraine built most modern churches for their time. The prime paradigms of this are none other than the St. Sophia and St. Andrew Sobors.

As we lost our independence, a siege mentality took over and the focus was

preservation.

To satisfy the uneasy feeling of homelessness in the diaspora it was popular to surround ourselves with history. That is no longer relevant here and much more so in Ukraine.

In Kolomyia what we see is a manifestation of culture of our time. Yes, we can learn from the past, but we must make our own interpretations now and hopefully into the future. But to get so precious about trying to reconstruct Byzantium or Kozak Baroque today just doesn't make much sense. In fact it's scary to see because it is ostrich-like. It denies the world we live in.

Construction:

The structural system for the cathedral in Kolomyia is called rolled steel, which will be fabricated on site in the Selmash plant, a giant factory employing 1,000 people in Kolomyia.

The walls are of "Dryvit," a German wall system consisting of rigid insulation, fiberglass reinforcing and layers of acrylic stucco. The factory will provide training, as is customary. This will take place in Germany or in the U.S., where the material is manufactured under license. Roofing will be skylights and polyurethane membrane. Floors will be Ukrainian granite.

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Ukrainian Canadians...

(Continued from page 5)

Taras Podilsky, president of the Edmonton Branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association, said the Ukrainian community is for the prosecution of all war criminals – not just Nazi war criminals – providing there is evidence to back up allegations and that they are tried under Canadian criminal law.

Minister McLellan agreed and said the government is moving towards more prosecution of “modern” as opposed to “historic” war criminals, and said her department would be willing to look at any evidence the Ukrainian community can provide about Soviet war criminals in Canada.

Mr. Podilsky also voiced the UCCLA's objections to the charitable tax status of the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, based in Toronto, noting that the UCCLA does not have such status, nor does it desire a charitable tax number.

He produced a copy of a recent fundraising letter sent out by the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Center soliciting contributions “to help us pressure world leaders, ... step up our approaches to the media, ... convince Canadian officials at the highest levels ... to take immediate action against these war criminals (veterans of the 1st Division of the Ukrainian National Army, also known as the 14th Waffen-SS Division) living on Canadian soil.”

Mr. Podilsky said such literature could be construed as defamatory to Ukrainians and thus fall under the classification of hate literature.

Ukrainian News Editor Marco Levytsky said the media often runs slanted stories that are used in order to exert pressure upon Canadian officials.

He cited as an example a recent story in which Sol Littman, the Canadian rep-

resentative of the Simon Wiesenthal Center claimed that 2,000 war criminals (again veterans of the 1st Division, originally known as the Galicia Division) had found a haven in Alberta.

Mr. Levytsky said the division was a military unit formed in order to create the nucleus of a future Ukrainian army in case both Nazi Germany and the Soviet Union collapsed after the war – as did both the German and Russian empires following World War I. The division fought only against the Soviet Union, surrendered to the Western allies and did not participate in any war crimes.

He noted that the division was cleared of any war crimes by Canadian officials not once, but twice: in 1950 when they were first allowed to come to Canada, and again in 1986 by the Deschenes Commission on war crimes.

Mr. Levytsky added that the majority of division members settled in Ontario, not Alberta, explaining that this was just another example of how Mr. Littman had twisted the facts in order to get media coverage.

He compared Mr. Littman to U.S. Sen. Joe McCarthy, who in the 1950s led an anti-Communist witch hunt. “Like McCarthy he manipulates the media, and like McCarthy he has found himself a convenient scapegoat, in this case – Ukrainians,” he said.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

would raise key interest rates and also increase the reserve requirements for banks, the hryvnia rebounded from 1.97 to \$1 early in the day to close within its range at 1.883, ITAR-TASS reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Three states to jointly fight crime

CHISINAU — The internal affairs ministers of Moldova, Ukraine and

UABC to expand programming with new morning radio show

FORT LEE, N.J. — The Ukrainian American Broadcasting Co. (UABC) is expanding its programming by launching a new hourly, five-day-per-week live radio program in the metropolitan New York City area.

Called “This Morning with Us,” the program will premiere Monday, December 1, at 8 a.m. on WNJR – 1430 AM. The program will be aired Monday to Friday, 8-9 a.m., and will reach Ukrainians from Queens and Brooklyn in the east to Hunterdon County, N.J., in the west, and from point Pleasant, N.J., in the south to Ramsey, N.J., and Yonkers, N.Y., in the north.

Xenia Piaseckyj will host the show, which will offer listeners an easygoing morning format consisting of bilingual newsbriefs, vignettes from Ukrainian life in Ukraine and the diaspora, music, a community calendar and listener participation.

“As the largest Ukrainian broadcast media outlet in the United States and Canada, we believe this radio program will enhance the UABC's efforts to serve the Ukrainian community by satisfying all of its

information and entertainment needs,” said Ihor Dlaboha, UABC director, in announcing the program's launch.

“The community calendar segment of our show will be offered free-of-charge to legitimate civic organizations to announce their upcoming events,” Mr. Dlaboha continued.

He added that Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian businesses will also have an economical medium for advertising their goods and services to the entire New York metro community.

“‘This Morning with Us’ is an addition to the UABC daily satellite-delivered radio network, which brings radio programs from Ukraine and the diaspora directly to our listeners' homes anywhere in North America,” Mr. Dlaboha noted.

The UABC is an affiliate of the Ethnic-American Broadcasting Co., L.P., the leading distributor and producer of foreign-language radio and television programming in North America. For more information about the new AM radio program, or to subscribe to the all-day satellite-delivered radio program, call (201) 461-6667, ext. 190.

Romania will collaborate in the fight against organized crime, RFE/RL's Chisinau bureau reported. A formal declaration on this collaboration follows an accord on jointly combating organized crime that the three countries' presidents signed at the first meeting of the Moldova-Ukraine-Romania trilateral meeting in Izmail, Ukraine, in early July. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Patriotic youth march in Miensk

MIENSK — Between 2,500 and 3,000

members of the Patriotic Union of Youth staged a rally in Miensk on November 23 to mark the first anniversary of the referendum on amendments to the Constitution that expanded the powers of President Alyaksandr Lukashenka. Almost twice that number of opposition supporters later marched through the city to demand the reinstatement of the Parliament dissolved by Mr. Lukashenka one year earlier. The oppositionists carried the banned red-and-white national flag. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Tuesday, December 2

NEW YORK: The Yara Arts Group will present bilingual performances of Ukrainian poetry with music at "The World of Poetry" Reading Series hosted by Bob Holman, poet and producer of "United States of Poetry" on PBS. Yara will be performing Ukrainian poetry at Tribeca's Biblios Cafe Bookstore, 317 Church St. (one block south of Canal Street), on Tuesday at 7 p.m. For information call (212) 475-6474.

Saturday, December 6

LIVONIA, Mich.: Maestro Volodymyr Schesiuk, conductor, and The Livonia Symphony Orchestra present their holiday concert, "The Nutcracker Ballet," with the participation of The Dearborn Ballet Theater and the Churchill High School Choir. The concert will be held at 7 p.m. at Carli Auditorium, Churchill High School, Newburgh Road, north of Joy Road. Tickets are \$12.50. For tickets and information call the LSO Office, (313) 421-1111.

Saturday-Sunday, December 6-7

HARTFORD: The Ukrainian National Women's League of America, Hartford branches, will hold a Holiday Food Fair and Bazaar on Saturday, December 6, 10 a.m.-4 p.m., and Sunday, December 7, 9:30 a.m.-1 p.m., in the school hall, behind St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 125 Wethersfield Ave. Delicious Ukrainian food and baked products will be available as will crafts, white elephant items and much more. Ample parking; free admission.

Sunday, December 7

ROCHESTER, N.Y.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 47 will host a slide lecture by artist Lida Mychajluk-Suchy at the Community Room of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, 824 Ridge Road E., at 3 p.m. The presentation will include Ms. Suchy's photographs of the Hutsul region of Ukraine and Ukrainian communities in America. Recently, an excerpt from Ms. Suchy's ongoing work was published in National Geographic (November issue). Ms. Suchy teaches photography at the Rochester Institute of Technology. She received an M.F.A. in photography from the Yale University School of Art. The event is free of charge, refreshments will be served.

LOS ANGELES: The Kobzar Choir, under the direction of Gregory Hallick-Holutiak, with Dr. Lesia Wachnianyn-Kurylenko, piano accompanist, presents a Christmas carol benefit concert at 1:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Culture Center, 4315 Melrose Ave. Proceeds from the concert will benefit orphanages in Ukraine through the California Association to Aid Ukraine Inc., a non-profit organization. Traditional Christmas foods will be available at reason-

able prices starting at 11:30 a.m. Admission: \$10 for adults; \$5 for children age 12 and under. For further information contact Bohdan Malaniak, (818) 249-6741.

SILVER SPRING, Md.: The Ukrainian National Choir presents "A Celebration of Carols" at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral, 15100 New Hampshire Ave. Tickets: adults, \$10; seniors, \$8; children 16 and under, free. For further information contact (410) 828-6922.

Saturday, December 13

LAS VEGAS: The Ukrainian-American Social Club of Las Vegas will hold a Christmas cocktail party. There will be hors d'oeuvres and finger food. The festivities start at 5:30 p.m. at 2704 Beachside Court. Admission is free. Dress is very, very, casual. To make reservations or for more information phone Steve, (702) 434-1187. (If there is no answer, please leave your message on the answering machine.)

VIRGINIA BEACH, Va.: The Tidewater Ukrainian Cultural Association (TUCA) will hold its second annual Christmas party in Virginia Beach at 7 p.m. TUCA extends an open invitation to all Ukrainians in the Tidewater area and especially to all armed forces personnel stationed in the area's military installations (Norfolk Naval Base, Langley AFB, Oceana NAS, Little Creek, Fort Eustis, etc.). For directions and further information call Olena Boyko, (804) 843-4533.

Friday, January 9

TORONTO: The University of Toronto Ukrainian Students' Club (USC), the Desna Dance Company and the Ukrainian Bandura Chorus presents a "Pre-Malanka Pub" beginning at 8 p.m. at the Ukrainian National Federation hall. Tickets at the door: \$15. Advance tickets for \$10 (\$7 for USC members) are available at: Arka West and the USC office (St. Vlad's). The event features a DJ and live bands, Kari Ochi, Zahrava and others. I.D. is required. For more information call (416) 968-9222.

ONGOING

MONTCLAIR, N.J.: Central Presbyterian Church will present "Celebration of Faith," an exhibition of paintings by Christina Saj. The exhibit opens November 30 and runs through January 6, 1998. Christina Saj's current exhibit is a collection of modern religious icons which will fill the sanctuary at Central Presbyterian throughout the holiday season. These bold abstract paintings echo Byzantine icons. They combine ancient precepts with contemporary geometric abstraction to create a new and fresh reinterpretation of images such as "Nativity." The artist's reception for "Celebration of Faith" will be on Sunday, November 30, at 11 a.m. For more information call (973) 744-5340 or (973) 338-5039.

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Museum schedules Christmas workshops

NEW YORK — The Ukrainian Museum has announced a series of Christmas programs beginning on December 6.

They are:

- Traditional Ukrainian Christmas Tree Ornaments Workshop, Saturday and Sunday, December 6-7, 2-4 p.m. Children of all ages and adults will learn how to make traditional Ukrainian Christmas tree decorations such as stars, spiders, chains and mobiles. Materials to be used are foil, colored paper, nut shells, beads, etc. Fee: adults, \$10; seniors and students over 12, \$8.50; children under 12, free. Museum members receive 15 percent discount.

- Ukrainian Christmas Traditions: Baking Christmas Breads Workshop, Saturday, December 6, 10 a.m.-1 p.m. In this hands-on workshop participants will learn how to bake traditional Ukrainian Christmas breads such as the medivnyk (honey cake) and the makivnyk (poppy-seed cake). During the session they also

will learn about the customs and traditions that are part of the Ukrainian Christmas holiday. Fee: adults, \$15; seniors and students over 16, \$12.50. Museum members receive 15 percent discount.

- Christmas Bazaar: Sunday, December 14, 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. The Ukrainian Museum's Christmas Bazaar will feature beautiful one-of-a-kind Christmas tree decorations, embroideries, folk art objects, unique gold, silver and costume jewelry, paintings, etchings, ceramics, woodwork objects, exhibition catalogues, art books, beautifully illustrated children's books from Ukraine and home-baked goods (medivnyky and makivnyky) — all available for purchase. Also, the museum's lottery drawing will be held at 3 p.m. The bazaar will include a holiday musical program and surprises for the whole family.

The Ukrainian Museum is located at 203 Second Ave. For information call (212) 228-0110.