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Pioneering cleric's ranch declared historic landmark by California commission

by Tamara Horodysky

BERKELEY, Calif. — The California State Historical Resources Commission named the Rev. Ahapius Honcharenko's ranch and burial place a California Historical Landmark during its hearing on November 14 in Oakland, Calif.

The "Ucraina" ranch, home, from 1873 until his death in 1916, of the first Ukrainian political emigré to the United States, is located in Hayward, Calif., about 30 miles southeast of San Francisco.

The Rev. Honcharenko's home and farm buildings no longer stand; only the graves of Ahapius and his wife, Albina, and the natural grotto where the Rev. Honcharenko conducted religious services remain at the site that is now located within Garin Regional Park.

Application for landmark status was prepared by Karana Hattersley Drayton, historian for the East Bay Regional Park District, with the help of Dr. Andrew Sorokowski of Harvard University. Testifying at the hearing on behalf of the Ukrainian community were: the Rev. Alex Avramenko, the Rev. Sviatoslav Kovaliv, Mykhailo Car, and Danylo and Tamara Horodysky.

The Rev. Honcharenko, whose real name was Andriy Humnytsky, was born in 1832 in Kryvyn, now Zhytomyr Oblast, Ukraine, into an Orthodox priest's family. He graduated from the Kyiv Theological Seminary and entered the Pecherska Lavra Monastery.

He was sent to Greece, where he contributed articles to a revolutionary Russian journal, *Kolokol* (Bell), in which he advocated the abolition of serfdom. Placed under arrest by tsarist agents, he fled to London. He arrived in the U.S. in 1865 and settled in San Francisco, in order to publish a newspaper to serve the Ukrainian and Russian population of Alaska.

The Rev. Honcharenko published a Russian-English phrase book, and from 1868 until 1873 published the *Alaska Herald*, subtitled *Svoboda*, with articles in English, Russian and Ukrainian. The Rev. Honcharenko spoke out against discrimination directed at Native Americans, Blacks, Chinese and Jews.

Father Honcharenko often wrote about Ukraine and Taras Shevchenko in his newspaper. He established the first Slavic library in the Western hemisphere. After retirement, in response to requests, he divided his Cyrillic typeset between the Smithsonian Institution, the Library of Congress and the Bancroft Library at the University of California in Berkeley, which holds his papers.

The Rev. Honcharenko's "Spomyinky" (memories) were published in *Kolomyia* in 1894, and Ivan Franko wrote about the Rev. Honcharenko in his journal *Narod*. These writings influenced young Ukrainian socialists from the *Kolomyia* region to emigrate to California in order to form the Ukrainian-American Commune or "Kooperatyvne Bratstvo." This short-lived commune was on the Rev. Honcharenko's "Ucraina" ranch early in this century.

The motion for landmark status was made by Commissioner Herbert H. Brin, an ethnic historian, who said he was "honored and proud to make the motion" since his mother was born in Ukraine.

Unveiling of the landmark plaque and interpretive posters is scheduled to take place in the spring of 1998.

Procurator General brings charges against government official

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Just days after the World Bank expressed its displeasure over the way in which the Ukrainian government is proceeding in its fight against corruption, the Procurator General's Office brought corruption charges against the highest government official yet, and revealed that an indictment is imminent against one of Ukraine's leading business people.

On December 4 the chief of the Consular Department of the Foreign Affairs Ministry, Vasyl Koval, was arrested and charged with abuse of office and unlawful foreign currency operations, five days after the conclusion of a government co-sponsored symposium on fighting corruption, in which World Bank officials criticized the government for much rhetoric and little action.

Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesperson Viktor Nosaichuk would only confirm that Mr. Koval had been arrested. He refused to comment on the nature of the

accusations. Neither would First Vice Minister for Foreign Affairs Anton Buteiko, who at a routine ministry press briefing on December 9 said only that the situation is representative of the problem of corruption that today is consuming Ukrainian society. "The situation that has appeared in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs mirrors what is going on in our country today," said Mr. Buteiko.

The Procurator General's Office said that it would have no comment until the criminal proceedings against Mr. Koval are completed.

That same day Acting Procurator General of Ukraine Oleh Lytvak asked the Verkhovna Rada to remove the legislative immunity of National Deputy Yulia Tymoshenko in order that he could bring an indictment against her, also for illegal currency operations. Ms. Tymoshenko is the president of United Energy Systems, one of the most successful gas and oil trading firms in

(Continued on page 3)

Ukrainian cosmonaut completes mission

by Philip Chien

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. — The international crew of the space shuttle *Columbia*, including Leonid Kadenyuk — the first person from independent Ukraine to fly in space — returned to Earth on December 5. He was praised by President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine for his efforts during the STS-87 mission.

When the shuttle was launched on November 19, Col. Kadenyuk's wife, Vera, 14-year-old son, Dimitri, two brothers, a niece and a nephew were on hand to watch him fly in to space. The Ukrainian cosmonaut spent 15 days in space with American astronauts Kevin Kregel, Steven Lindsey, Winston Scott and Kalpana Chawla, and Japanese astronaut Takao Doi.

Col. Kadenyuk's primary task was to tend to the

Collaborative Ukrainian Experiment (CUE), a group of three plant experiments. Brassica rapa (a member of the mustard family), soybean and moss were grown in the shuttle's crew cabin. Col. Kadenyuk monitored the experiments and pollinated the brassica rapa flowers.

To train for the experiment Col. Kadenyuk and his back-up, Yaroslav Pustovyi, went to the Institute of Botany in Kyiv. Dr. Elizabeth Kordyum is one of the world's leading scientists on gravitational biology and growing plants in space. She proudly states that 60 of her experiments have flown aboard both manned and unmanned Russian spaceflights. Dr. Kordyum's laboratory gave the space travelers the plant biology training they needed to operate the experiments. "He was very attentive. I'm very satisfied [with his work]," she said of

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STS-87 Payload Specialist Leonid Kadenyuk of the National Space Agency of Ukraine (left) greets NASA Administrator Daniel Goldin (right), as back-up Payload Specialist Yaroslav Pustovyi looks on.

FOR THE RECORD: Statement on Ukraine issued by United States and European Union

Following is the text of the joint statement on Ukraine released at the U.S.-European Union Summit in Washington on December 5.

1. The United States of America and the European Union affirm their mutual support for Ukraine's sovereignty and independence, and their shared desire to help Ukraine achieve its goals of consolidating democracy, protecting human rights, reforming the economy and full integration into the international community. Ukraine's development as a prosperous democracy is a key component of European stability and security.

2. The U.S. and EU have been leading contributors to support the transition process in Ukraine which is currently one of the main recipients of EU and U.S. assistance (EU: 4.02 billion ECU – equivalent to \$4.6 billion – since independence; U.S.: \$2.18 billion over the past six years). The U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission meeting in May 1997 and the EU-Ukraine Summit in September 1997 reflect our shared view of Ukraine's importance. Substantial support for transition in Ukraine will be maintained.

3. The U.S. and the EU welcome the significant foreign policy successes of Ukraine and Ukraine's commitment to regional cooperation. They consider Ukraine as a provider of security in its region and welcome the partnerships established with European and trans-Atlantic structures.

4. The U.S. and the EU welcome the substantial progress achieved in the field of democratization. The establishment of a political system capable of resolving internal conflicts by dialogue and consensus is an important element of a democratic state. They urge Ukraine to reinforce the rule of law, in particular by strengthening the judicial and legal systems and by fighting effectively against corruption and smuggling.

5. The U.S. and the EU continue to support efforts to nurture Ukraine's civic culture and the culture of lawfulness on which all democracies are built. Education is essential to this work. We

U.S. and Ukraine sign defense cooperation plan

U.S. Department of Defense

BRUSSELS — U.S. Secretary of Defense William Cohen and his Ukrainian counterpart, Lt. Gen. Oleksander Kuzmuk, signed a plan of cooperation for 1998 between the Department of Defense and the Ukrainian Ministry of Defense on December 3.

The plan details various programs the United States and Ukraine will undertake in accordance with the Memorandum of Understanding and Cooperation on Defense and Military Relations Between the Department of Defense of the United States of America and the Ministry of Defense of Ukraine signed on July 27, 1993.

The programs include ministerial visits, contact programs between U.S. and Ukrainian armed forces, English language training programs, increased ties between U.S. and Ukrainian military educational facilities, Partnership for Peace activities, and strengthening the NATO-Ukraine relationship.

The plan provides for bilateral working group meetings in Ukraine in the spring and in the United States in the fall of 1998.

will work together and with the NGO community to develop civic education for democracy and support the growth of civil society in Ukraine.

6. Ukraine has made considerable progress in its economic transition process, especially in the reduction of inflation from hyperinflationary levels in 1993 to near single digits at the end of 1997. This is an important achievement.

7. What is needed now are significant and continuous efforts by Ukraine to promote structural reforms to achieve sustainable growth and attract foreign and domestic investment. Economic restructuring cannot be achieved without giving private initiative a chance, above all through privatization, industry restructuring, reform of the agricultural sector, small business development, deregulation, improvements in public administration, and an open and transparent business environment. These steps are necessary to encourage investment, create jobs and produce tangible benefits for the people of Ukraine.

8. Ukraine will accelerate its integration into the world economy by reducing barriers to foreign trade and investment. The U.S. and the EU will consult on issues of market access for goods and investors, and work together to facilitate the process of Ukraine's accession to the WTO [World Trade Organization], based on adherence to WTO rules and appropriate commercially viable commitments by Ukraine.

9. The U.S. and the EU have supported the intensive involvement of the international financial institutions in promoting Ukraine's economic transformation. We have pledged to help identify the actions that are necessary for the success of IFI [international financial institution]-funded investment and reform efforts. The U.S. and EU will continue to work with Ukraine, other donors and the international financial institutions to allow the government of Ukraine to take full advantage of these opportunities.

10. We will:

- jointly support Ukrainian restructuring plans in the energy sector – notably in electricity, coal and gas – and assist Ukraine in implementing a long-term energy sector program in order to arrive at an efficient, sustainable and market-oriented energy sector well suited to Ukraine's needs;

- coordinate our respective programs in support of public administration reform in Ukraine, at the national and local levels;

- coordinate programs in areas such as small business development, fiscal reform, civil society and civic education;

- cooperate on practical steps to assist Ukraine in its efforts to build grassroots momentum for reform through work on the ground in Ukraine's regions and municipalities.

11. In view of the need to improve nuclear safety in Ukraine, the U.S. and EU will continue to assist Ukraine in its efforts to close the Chornobyl nuclear power plant by 2000 on the basis of the G-7 Memorandum of Understanding with Ukraine. We call upon all concerned parties to join us in supporting our initiative to repair the Chornobyl sarcophagus. We welcome pledges of support made by the international community at the Chornobyl pledging conference in New York on November 20, currently amounting to half the budget of the Shelter Implementation Plan (\$387.3 million out of \$750 million).

NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma praises cosmonaut Kadenyuk

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma praised Ukrainian cosmonaut Leonid Kadenyuk on December 5 on his return from space. Mr. Kuchma praised Col. Kadenyuk on behalf of the Ukrainian nation for his efforts during the 16-day flight. As part of an international crew that included American and Japanese astronauts, Col. Kadenyuk conducted scientific experiments. (Eastern Economist)

November inflation totals 0.9 percent

KYIV — The Ministry of Statistics confirmed on December 5 that inflation for November reached 0.9 percent, the same as in October. Total inflation for the period of January through November stands at 8.3 percent (Eastern Economist)

Natural gas discovered near Poltava

POLTAVA — A substantial natural gas deposit has been discovered at Shyshatsk district, Poltava. According to the chairman of the State Committee for Geology, Serhii Hoshovskiy, at least three test wells must be drilled to investigate the deposit, which would require a \$9 million to \$10 million (U.S.) investment. Work was carried out by state-run company PoltavaNaftoGasGeologia. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine International Airlines is 5

KYIV — Ukraine International Airlines celebrated its fifth anniversary on November 25. According to Vice-President Yurii Miroshnykov, the airline transported about 1 million passengers to Western Europe during this period. He confirmed that the company intends to increase the number of planes on new routes. At present, the company owns three Boeing 737 planes, and a fourth 737 will be delivered next summer. Mr. Miroshnykov noted that UIA is one of the top three airlines in the world in terms of safety, as well as one of the most profitable ones. (Eastern Economist)

Belarusian government closes Svaboda

MIENSK — President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's government shut down the country's largest independent newspaper, Svaboda, on November 24, following a decision of the Supreme Commercial Court, Ekho Moskvu reported. Belarusian authorities said they took this step only after giving the newspaper three warnings about the publication of what they called anti-government articles. The editors of the newspaper, which had a circulation of some 90,000, denounced the move as an effort to stifle freedom of speech. They

pledged to continue their work, possibly publishing an underground newspaper. On December 5, Poland's Gazeta Wyborcza reported that Svaboda is now available on the Internet. Excerpts from the newspaper are also being broadcast regularly by RFE/RL's Belarusian service. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Human rights group criticizes Miensk

MIENSK — Representatives from 24 countries met in Miensk on December 5-7 to discuss developing better ties among the countries in the Baltic and Black Sea regions, ITAR-TASS reported. The meeting, organized by the Belarusian Helsinki Commission and the International Helsinki Federation, featured speeches sharply critical of the Lukashenka regime. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Media freedom in danger in CIS states

KYIV — A recent report compiled by the international journalists' organization Reporters Sans Frontieres lists seven CIS states and two East European countries where journalists' rights and freedoms are seriously threatened. Those countries are Moldova, Ukraine, Belarus, Turkmenistan, Tajikistan, Azerbaijan and Uzbekistan as well as Romania and Macedonia. The assessment is based on the availability and influence of state-run media, the level of development of the independent media, violence against journalists, and the number of court proceedings against the media initiated by official bodies. Moldova was named as the worst offender due to its 1994 press law, which makes it very difficult for journalists to defend their rights. All attempts by democratically minded Moldovan deputies to revise that law have failed, the report noted. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Unemployment soars in Ukraine

KYIV — The Ukrainian government on December 5 announced that unemployment has soared by 70 percent since the start of 1997 and now stands at 590,000, ITAR-TASS reported. The authorities also said the country's shadow economy has exported up to \$20 billion from Ukraine in the last few years and that up to \$12 billion are circulating illegally inside the country. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine seeks return of capital

KYIV — Some 150 members of the Verkhovna Rada signed a joint appeal to six countries asking that they help repatriate such funds to Ukraine. First Vice-

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Council of Europe delegation discusses use of death penalty

Eastern Economist

KYIV — A special delegation of inspectors belonging to the Council of Europe's Parliamentary Assembly arrived in Kyiv on December 8. They were to check progress made by Ukraine in meeting international requirements for entering the Council of Europe.

During a meeting with Vice Minister of Internal Affairs Oleksander Tereschuk, Ukraine's implementation of resolutions approved by the Council of Europe on January 29 on the introduction of a moratorium on the death punishment were discussed.

"The inspectors expressed mistrust towards information provided by Ukraine concerning capital punishment in the country," Col. Serhii Bezruchenko, chief of the Internal Affairs Ministry's International Department, told the UNIAN news agency. He said that since inspectors have different data about the implementation of the death penalty in

Ukraine, "the aim of the visit will be to collect information so that we have a clear picture of the issue." He added that the "Internal Affairs Ministry does not keep track of death sentences in Ukraine as this is the prerogative of the Supreme Court." According to information provided by President Leonid Kuchma, the last execution in Ukraine was carried out on March 11.

Yet, the issue must be seen in the light of legislation. This is because national deputies will not support the draft law on abolishing the death penalty in Ukraine prior to parliamentary elections, according to Chairman Oleksander Moroz, speaking on December 8 at a meeting with the inspectors. He stressed that Ukrainian society is not yet prepared to "acknowledge this law."

Mr. Moroz also confirmed that no death penalties have been carried out in Ukraine since March, adding that the president had granted all pleas for amnesty requests since September. Yet, Mr. Moroz did say that the Verkhovna Rada is prepared to abolish the resolution, which maintains that information on executions be kept a national secret.

Visiting inspector Anna Severinsen said that such secrets "contradict the norms of democratic society." The Ukrainian office of Amnesty International reported that despite the fact that two years has passed since Ukraine became a member, Ukraine has failed to fulfill a significant part of its international obligations pertaining to membership, including the moratorium on abolishing the death penalty. AI said at least 13 persons have been executed during the first half of 1997, and 264 more are awaiting execution.

Procurator General...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukraine. The Verkhovna Rada national deputy is also a leading member of the Hromada Party and the prime minister of its recently formed shadow government.

Mr. Lytvak asked in a written statement that the Verkhovna Rada agree to allow criminal proceedings to begin by stripping Ms. Tymoshenko of her immunity from prosecution. Ms. Tymoshenko has been indicted for illegally attempting to smuggle \$26,000 out of Ukraine at Zaporizhia Airport, where she was preparing to board a flight to Moscow. The chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Ethics and Legislative Activity, Petro Sheiko, told The Weekly on December 10 that the request will be reviewed by his committee once Ms. Tymoshenko is officially notified and responds. "The problem is that she is never at the [Verkhovna Rada] sessions. So we have had to send her a letter," said Mr. Sheiko.

Ms. Tymoshenko, however, was quick to respond to the allegations. At a press conference on December 6 she stated that she has not broken any laws, and that action by the Procurator General's Office is a political move in the election season orchestrated by the presidential administration.

"This is all being done to lessen the chances for the Hromada Party to do well in the elections," explained Ms. Tymoshenko. A day earlier she had told the Interfax-Ukraine news agency that the indictment is "an act of political reprisal," with the intention of forcing her to "quit the arena of political struggle."

Ms. Tymoshenko is aligned in the Hromada Party with former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, who has been President Leonid Kuchma's most vocal opponent since being forced from office this past summer. She also is said to be his close business partner.

President Kuchma said during a visit to Zaporizhia the same day that before elections to the Verkhovna Rada scheduled for the end of March 1998 he would reveal the names of the business leaders of the shadow economy, in which some experts believe more than half of Ukraine's commercial trade takes place. "I know very well who these people are," the president told a crowd of Zaporizhia University students. He did not say whether that list would include Ms. Tymoshenko or Mr. Lazarenko.

George Kuzmycz, U.S. nuclear engineer, killed in automobile accident in Mykolaiv

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — George Kuzmycz, a nuclear engineer at the U.S. Department of Energy, was killed in an automobile accident in southern Ukraine on December 6. Mr. Kuzmycz, of Gaithersburg, Md., was traveling to Mykolaiv from the South Ukraine Power Plant when an oncoming vehicle crossed lanes and struck his car, killing him instantly. He was 53.

Militia in the city of Voznesensk reported that the driver of the oncoming vehicle apparently fell asleep at the wheel. He was killed, and his wife and two children were hospitalized. Mr. Kuzmycz's driver died in the hospital. The accident occurred at 3:30 a.m. in good weather on a clear road.

Mr. Kuzmycz had regularly traveled to Ukraine as part of the Material Protection Control and Accounting Program of the U.S. government. As program manager of the Ukraine Program on Nuclear Material Security Task Force in the Office of Arms Control and Non-Proliferation at the Department of Energy, he was responsible for nuclear research, nuclear power plant material safety and former Soviet naval fuel.

Andrew Bihun, senior U.S. commercial attaché in Ukraine, told the Kyiv Press Bureau that Mr. Kuzmycz had been working with the Ukrainian government on its nuclear energy facilities to shore up nuclear storage safety and accounting procedures.

Mr. Kuzmycz was born in Czechoslovakia on May 6, 1944. He attended Queens College in 1961-1965 and the State University of New York at Buffalo in 1965-1970, where he received a master's degree and a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering.

"George singlehandedly built the Ukraine Program and made a terrific num-

ber of friends and contacts in Ukraine. He accomplished a lot in building the U.S.-Ukraine relationship and increasing the national security of the U.S.," said Michael McClary, director of the Russia/NIS Nuclear Security Task Force in the Office of Arms Control and Non-Proliferation at the Department of Energy.

His is the second death in an automobile accident in the last month of a Westerner of Ukrainian descent working in Ukraine. Peter Roman Lishchynski, a Ukrainian Canadian who had been the director of NATO's Ukraine office, was killed on November 13 when a tractor-trailer hit the vehicle in which he was traveling in the Kirovohrad Oblast of Ukraine.

Mr. Kuzmycz was a longtime resident of the Washington area and very active in the life of the Ukrainian community there. He was a member of Plast-Pryiat as well as a member of the Ukrainian National Choir. The day after his death, the choir held its annual Christmas concert, which it dedicated to Mr. Kuzmycz's memory.

He is survived by his wife, Ksenia; two sons, Yuri and Danylo; mother, Valentina Kuzmycz; and sister, Yara Sydorak, her husband, Marko, and daughters Larissa and Daria.

Memorial services and meetings were held at the South Nuclear Power Plant in Ukraine, the Department of Energy in Washington and the Foreign Commercial Service in Kyiv. Funeral services were offered in Silver Spring, Md., on December 12; interment took place the next day at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, N.J.

Roman Woronowycz in Kyiv and Khristina Lew in Parsippany, N.J., contributed to this report.

Ukrainian cosmonaut...

(Continued from page 1)

Col. Kadenyuk.

Unlike Russian spaceflights, many U.S. shuttle flights travel close to the equator and don't fly over higher latitude regions. Consequently, the shuttle never flew over Ukraine. Commander Kregel noted, "But we did listen to Ukrainian music [by Anatolii Solovianenko] for dinner a couple of nights. It was very nice."

Thousands of students in Ukraine and the U.S. grew brassica rapa plants along with the scientists and astronauts. NASA made plans for groups of students in Ukraine, and in Texas and Florida to pose questions directly to the astronauts in space. About 50 Ukrainian and American students had the opportunity to ask Col. Kadenyuk about his plant experiments.

While they lived half a world apart and asked their questions in different languages, the students in Ukraine and the U.S. proved to be pretty much alike in the questions they asked Col. Kadenyuk during the mission.

Olga Zhabko, a student at Kyiv School 71, asked: "While looking at the plants do you look at it as the partner in the experiment? Do you talk with it?" Col. Kadenyuk replied, "I work with the brassica rapa plants every day. I spend most of my time close to these plants, I even sleep close to it. And here in the orbiter you can sleep wherever you want — even on the ceiling."

Sarah Sherwood of Lake Brantley High School near Orland, Fla., asked: "In space do the roots of the plants grow down and the leaves grow up?" Col. Kadenyuk replied, "In space there is no top or bottom. The shoots grow towards the light and the roots away from it."

Back-up cosmonaut Yaroslav Pustovyi duplicated the experiments on the ground for control studies. The orbiter environment

simulator at the Kennedy Space Center can adjust its humidity and temperature to match the shuttle's crew cabin to assure scientists that there aren't any differences which were caused by effects other than the spaceflight.

As a critical member of the team Dr. Pustovyi went through the same training as Col. Kadenyuk.

Dr. Pustovyi enjoyed his tasks as the back-up cosmonaut. He said, "Plants are live objects and they're growing. While pollinating the plants on flight days 6 and 7, I saw the results of the pollination on flight days 2 and 3, and when you see your results — especially so quickly — you're really excited to do something more."

Col. Kadenyuk will retain the title of independent Ukraine's only space traveler

for another five years. The National Space Agency of Ukraine has four cosmonauts in training. Ukraine is negotiating with Russia to build one of the science modules that Russia has promised to supply to the International Space Station effort. In exchange, Ukrainian scientists will have access to the space station's facilities along with scientists from Russia, the United States, Europe, Canada and Japan. More importantly, Ukrainian cosmonauts will have the opportunity to fly with the astronauts from the other space station partners.

Dr. Pustovyi said, "Our agency is working on collaborative programs, one of these programs for the future is the International Space Station. I think my future is interna-



Aboard the Columbia, Leonid Kadenyuk, payload specialist, devotes his attention to brassica rapa plants being grown for the Collaborative Ukrainian Experiment.

Orphans' Aid Society Graduates of Legnica celebrate school's 40th anniversary – in Toronto convenes its first national conference

NEW YORK – The Orphans' Aid Society of Ukraine (OAS) held the first national conference of its leadership at the Ukrainian Sports Club here. The aim of the conference was to review progress to date, to improve existing systems and discuss future undertakings. The participants of the conference were persons who have worked voluntarily since 1992 to better the lives of children, in particular, orphans in Ukraine.

The conference was opened by Maria Jowyk, OAS chairperson, who welcomed all the participants, especially Prof. Emil Jakin of Florida, who sponsors 100 orphans, and Bohdan Rymarenko from Spain, a representative of a foundation that funds the building of orphanages.

A three-member presidium was tapped to direct the proceedings: Ihor Rakowsky, chairman; Mychajlo Pawluk, vice-chairman; and Zenovia Logush, secretary.

Mrs. Jowyk then proceeded with the first part of the program, which consisted of an overview of the OAS's history. She outlined the accomplishments of the organization from its inception in 1992 to the present.

Mrs. Jowyk also thanked all those who have been part of this humanitarian

(Continued on page 16)

Humble beginnings for a worthy cause

DOUGLASTON, N.Y. – After Ukraine declared its independence in August 1991, one of the many problems that came to the forefront was children who were orphaned or had been abandoned by their parents.

A group of women at a Ukrainian Catholic church organized a fund-raising dinner in order to collect money for orphans in Ukraine. Over \$41,500 was raised for the orphans and on May 4, 1992, the same group of women came together and formally organized the Orphans' Aid Society, electing the following officers: Maria Jowyk, chairperson; Ivanna Soltys, vice-chairperson; Marianca Zadojanna, secretary; and Nilla Soltys, treasurer. Their most important task was to find sponsors for Ukrainian orphans.

Today the Orphans' Aid Society has over 180 sponsors, numerous contributors and over 700 orphans who receive \$15 a month, clothing and medication. In 1996, the organization had total revenue of \$121,932.

For more information contact: Orphans' Aid Society, 129 Ridge Road, Douglaston, NY 11363; telephone, (718) 423-4966.



Alumni of the Ukrainian School in Legnica, Poland, during celebrations of the school's 40th anniversary held in Toronto.

by Nestor Gula

OAKVILLE, Ont. — With a choir's rendition of somber religious songs, the celebration of the 40th anniversary of the Ukrainian School in Legnica, Poland, got under way here at the St. Andrew's Orthodox Center on October 11.

The majority of the approximately 400 people attending were graduates of the school and their families. The anniversary was celebrated simultaneously in Poland and a telephone hook-up was established to link the two events.

The Ukrainian school in Legnica, a town north of Wroclaw in midwestern Poland, was founded in 1957, 10 years after the majority of the Ukrainian population was ethnically cleansed from its traditional territories in the Lemko region. The school was made possible because of a softening in the Polish government's hostility to Ukrainians and the post-Stalinist thaw in the USSR. The Polish Communist Party allowed the formation of the Ukrainian Social and Cultural Association, which was instrumental in organizing this school.

In its 40-year history the school faced many obstacles, but was always able to function "as a Ukrainian oasis," according to graduate Bohdan Huk, a resident of Poland currently visiting Canada.

In his speech addressing the gathering, Mr. Huk, a journalist and historian, said, "Our school was not an elite school with a high intellectual standard, but we all feel that we came out of the school renewed and invigorated." Mr. Huk said the school functioned as a place where people learned about their common Ukrainian roots. Mr. Huk added that the effect it had on the Ukrainian community could not be measured.

The school's impact was evident in the number of graduates who came for the event. Over 100 of the estimated 200 graduates who presently reside in North America came to the celebration. Stefan Sosnicki, an engineer at SEZ America, came a long distance – from Santa Clara, Calif. – to attend.

"I came to see my friends who attended

the school with me — there's no one from the school in California," said Mr. Sosnicki, who emigrated to Canada in 1984. He added that he hadn't seen his classmates since they last parted in Poland over 13 years ago. "I see them now, and it's like I saw them yesterday," he said.

Beata Pasioka from Toronto said that whenever she meets any other students of the Legnica school, "We feel that we are one family, one group. Even if we did not know each other well in school because we attended at different times we feel there is a bond between us."

Vasyl Veryha, vice-president of the Ukrainian World Congress, greeted the guests and praised Ukrainian immigrants from Poland for both maintaining old ties and for integrating with the Ukrainian community in North America. Mr. Veryha lauded their steadfastness in the face of past discrimination against all things Ukrainian that they once faced in

Poland. Drawing a comparison to other recent immigrants, Mr. Veryha added, "Many people from Ukraine do not measure up to your patriotism."

According to Evhen Ladna, one of the event's organizers, proceeds from the event will go into a fund established to assist the school in Legnica. "We hope that in the future the fund will be in a position to assist not just the school in Legnica but all the other Ukrainian schools in Poland," he said, adding that the evening's proceeds will amount to \$5,000 after all the costs are paid out. "It's a small start, but we plan on holding other events in the future, other charity drives. This is just a kickoff to commemorate the 40th anniversary of the school in Legnica," he added.

For more information about the Legnica fund, write to: 4319 Bacchus Crescent, Mississauga, Ontario, Canada L4W 2Y2; telephone, (905) 602-1477, or e-mail, ladnae@globalserve.net.

Canadian educators map strategy

WINNIPEG – Ukrainian educators from across Canada meeting in Winnipeg during the weekend of October 24-25 adopted a common action plan, including plans for an advocacy campaign, a nationwide needs assessment and collection of needed data.

For the first time in 30 years, representatives from universities – Profs. Danylo Husar Struk (University of Toronto), Frances Swyripa (University of Alberta) and Natalia Aponiuk (University of Manitoba) joined educators from schools of Ukrainian studies and the state school sector to discuss critical issues in Ukrainian education in Canada.

Nadia Kostyshyn-Bailey guided the 17 participants from Alberta, Saskatchewan, Manitoba, Ontario and Quebec. They were given the task of following through on the resolutions and vision created for education at the 18th Congress of Ukrainian Canadians in October 1995.

Sonja Bejzyk, second vice-president of UCC, Nadia Prokopchuk (Saskatchewan), Volodymyr Melnyk (Manitoba) and Prof. Swyripa took on the leadership of the reinvigorated UCC National Education Committee. Ann Biscoe will take the lead for a nationwide needs assessment and collection of vital data, and Luba Zaraska (Ontario) is taking the lead in developing an advocacy campaign for expanding the use of the Ukrainian language.

The cooperation at the conference led to a division of labor between the UCC (national and provincial), the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Ukrainian Canadian School Board of Toronto bilingual program, parental organizations and educators. The conference ended with a concrete plan of action with timelines set for results to be presented at the 19th Congress of Ukrainian Canadians in October 1998.



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FOR THE RECORD: REMARKS AT CHORNOBYL PLEDGING CONFERENCE

President Leonid Kuchma

Following is a translation of President Leonid Kuchma's speech at the international conference of potential donors held in New York on November 20 to raise funds for the Chernobyl Shelter Fund. The text was provided by Ukraine's Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends,

Among international developments of particular weight are those that will be remembered for a long time. Today's very representative meeting is among them. For Chernobyl has been and remains a sharp and painful topic for my fellow countrymen.

So, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to representatives of the G-7, the European Commission and all those 45 nations that have responded to my and Vice-President Gore's invitation to participate in this meeting.

Regrettably, we have been an entire decade behind in so doing. Nonetheless, as the saying goes, better late than never. Our conference can, and must, play a really historic role and become a turnabout landmark in practically solving the Chernobyl problem, which has, without exaggeration, planetary parameters.

I am very grateful to the leadership of the United States, particularly to Vice-President Albert Gore, for their understanding of our problems generated by the Chernobyl nuclear accident and for the United States' instrumental role in mobilizing the international community's effort to overcome its aftermath.

The Ukrainian people have paid dearly for Soviet leaders' reckless actions and their propensity for neglecting the people's vital interests. I would remind you, in particular, that when Ukraine was a member of the USSR, issues involving the construction and operation of nuclear power plants, including the Chernobyl plant, were entirely under the USSR's jurisdiction.

That nuclear monster was built with no consideration given to the Ukrainian people's and authorities' opinion on the subject, yet at the Ukrainian taxpayers' expense.

Immediately following the nuclear accident, the leadership of the Soviet Union, in attempting to play it down, deceived its own people and reassured the global community, pretending that nothing extraordinary had happened. As a result of this, the already critical situation was thus arti-



Khristina Lew

President Leonid Kuchma meets with Vice-President Al Gore within the framework of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission on November 20. From left are: Dmytro Markov, President Kuchma's spokesman; Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udoenko; President Kuchma; Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council; and Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Yuri Shcherbak.

cially further aggravated, primarily for those who found themselves within the accident's zone or were sent there to eliminate the accident's consequences.

Following the Soviet Union's disintegration, Ukraine found itself alone and facing a challenge unprecedented in mankind's history, though by that time the world community gradually came to more or less adequately realize its real magnitude.

And, yet, under those extremely disadvantageous conditions, we were trying to do our best, on our own. However, this mustering of the state's manpower and material reserves, [on a scale] unprecedented during peacetime, has overstrained the nation and continues to demand new sacrifices.

I would like to single out the following salient points.

In 1997 about 12 percent of the national budget's out-

lays are earmarked for solving problems related to the Chernobyl accident, though for a decade a sizable portion of budgetary expenditures was spent on localizing the disaster.

Almost \$4 billion was spent on social rehabilitation for 800,000 persons who suffered as a result of the accident. This includes 70,000 disabled persons whose number annually grows by 10,000 on the average.

Almost \$60 million has been spent over the past three years to stabilize the sarcophagus facility. Under the Memorandum of Understanding, Ukraine's aggregate expenditures to solve the Chernobyl problem are supposed to amount to around \$600 million by the year 2005. This sum is commensurate with what the G-7 and the European

(Continued on page 12)

Vice-President Al Gore

Following are remarks delivered by Vice-President Al Gore at the Chernobyl pledging conference held in New York on November 20.

My friends, I know you have been hard at work as allies, as partners and as concerned citizens in addressing the dangerous legacy of one of the world's greatest human and environmental tragedies – the Chernobyl explosion of 1986. It is an honor to be here as the representative of the United States, but also of the G-7, which this year we chair. And let me offer a special welcome to my colleagues from the G-7 who met in Denver to discuss Chernobyl, each of whom is participating with us today. Thank you all very much.

When reactor No. 4 of the Chernobyl nuclear power plant disintegrated in a blast of steam, flaming graphite and deadly radionuclides, the promise of a new season of renewal and hope gave way to a long, sad winter of suffering that remains with us to this day.

Chernobyl caused the complete social disintegration of whole communities. It caused dangerous radiation exposure of millions of people in the former Soviet Union alone. Half a million courageous men and women involved in the clean-up and medical care of survivors would not escape the radioactive fall-out. Thousands of clean-up workers have died to date – and the death toll continues to rise. In all, well over 50 million curies of radioactivity were released during the accident. This is dozens the times of radiation emitted by the atomic explosions over Hiroshima and Nagasaki – about one million times as much as the Three Mile Island accident of 1979.

And its effects still linger. They are measured in the anxiety of young Ukrainian and Belarusian and Russian parents who hope and pray that their newborns will grow healthy and whole. They are measured by the degraded natural resources that trace a poisoned arc across Ukraine, through Belarus, into Russia and reaching as far as Scandinavia.

And they are measured by the uncertainty that we all share as we wonder whether one day another nuclear disaster might once again unleash its fury. The human mind can not easily imagine the social, economic and

environmental consequences if it were to do so.

The British author G.K. Chesterton said at the earlier part of our century that, "I do not believe in a fate that falls on men [and women] however they act; but I do believe in a fate that falls on them unless they act." My friends, the time to act is now.

So today, with this pledging conference, let us – the community of nations – begin a new journey – perhaps even a historic journey – towards a more secure and safe future for Chernobyl.

A decade after the disaster, international experts have agreed that the hastily constructed shelter has deteriorated and could collapse if steps are not taken soon. In a unique gesture, these experts from companies around the world pooled their talents and ideas to create a single plan, the Shelter Implementation Plan.

The U.S. is proud to commit a \$78 million share to this project. Ukraine has committed a \$50 million in-kind contribution, plus an additional \$100 million in-kind to ensure the necessary infrastructure is in place.

But despite these already significant contributions, an additional \$400 million is needed to complete the shelter project.

This pledging conference is the first step in an international effort to secure this additional support.

While not all the funds are needed this year, we should set the goal for today high, for it will launch us far toward the final total of approximately \$760 million we need to raise over the next few years. We seek your help especially for the year 1999 and beyond, as

(Continued on page 13)



Khristina Lew

Vice-President Al Gore during U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission talks. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller is seated second from the left; Leon Fuerth, Vice-President Gore's national security advisor, is seated second from the right.

Los Angeles parish celebrates 50th anniversary

by Marijka Oharenko
and Luba Poniatsyzyn Keske

LOS ANGELES – Several hundred parishioners, a dozen clergy and 11 married couples with jubilee anniversaries celebrated a golden day in sunny southern California on October 19, marking the start of the 50th anniversary year for the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish of Los Angeles.

With the church choir singing "Come Dwell Among Us Jesus, Come," clergy, altar boys, parishioners and guests – many carrying banners, flags and holy icons, began the celebration with a procession around the church, and, in another honored tradition, welcomed their principal guest, Bishop Michael Wiwchar, D.D., CSsR, at their church door with bread and salt. Eva Hewko, president of St. Mary's Sodality, greeted the Chicago-based hierarch; she was accompanied by two school children, Christina Velykach and Danylko Zacharczuk, who offered a bouquet of mixed flowers.

The pontifical divine liturgy that followed was served by Bishop Wiwchar, the Rev. Oleh Romanenko, pastor, and a large and group of visiting clergy: Mitred Archpriest Peter Leskiw, a former pastor who is now retired in Palm Springs, Calif.; the Rev. Myron Mykyta, former administrator at the parish, now vicar at Chicago's St. Nicholas Cathedral; the Rev. Tom Glynn, associate pastor, St. Joseph's Parish, Chicago; the Rev. Myron Panchuk, associate pastor, Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Parish, Chicago; the Rev. Hugo Soutus, pastor, Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Parish, Phoenix; the Rev. Richard Janowicz, pastor, Nativity of the Mother of God Parish, Springfield, Ore.; the Rev. Joseph Redilla, retired, Palm Springs; the Rev. Alex Avramenko, pastor, Immaculate Conception Parish, San Francisco; the Rev. Deacon Ted Wroblicky, administrator, St. Andrew the Apostle Parish, Sacramento, Calif.; and Father Taras from Mount Tabor Monastery, Redwood Valley, Calif. The parish choir, under the direction of Dr. Olha Iwach, provided the choral responses along with the cantor, Stephen Klos.

Following the liturgy, the jubilee spirit was echoed in a special blessing given by Bishop Wiwchar to the 11 married couples who were celebrating major anniversaries of Mystery of matrimony in 1997 and, in a happy coincidence, one couple that marked their 52nd anniversary that very day. To commemorate this very special event, the bishop presented each couple with an icon of the wedding feast in Cana. The couples were Mr. and Mrs. William Kapsho, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Kowalyk, Mr. and Mrs. Nicholas Medvid, Mr. and Mrs. Peter Billey, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Keske, Mr. and Mrs. Alex Kastaniuk, Mr. and Mrs. Bohdan Zacharczuk, Mr. and Mrs. Bohdan Knianycky, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Zacharczuk, Mr. and Mrs. Walter Olynyk and Mrs. and Mrs. Roman Mykytyn.

The celebration continued with a banquet at Los Coyotes Country Club in Buena Park. Two of the parish's founders, Anastasia Jackson and Anna Zuk, were special guests. The Rev. Leskiw gave the invocation and blessing, and Mr. Mevid, chairman of the pastoral council, was the keynote speaker. Mr. Medvid recounted significant highlights in the 50-year history of this parish. Master of ceremonies Irene Mykytyn led a program that included brief selections of sacred music by the church choir and warm-hearted reminiscences and expressions of good wishes from the Rev.



Bishop Michael Wiwchar at the head of the procession into Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Ukrainian Catholic Church in Los Angeles.

Panchuk and Bishop Wiwchar, as well as a thank-you on behalf of the parish from the Rev. Romanenko.

Noted Ukrainian Canadian singer and performer Edward Evanko expressed both the solemn and nostalgic notes of the day with renditions of the prayerful solo "Vladyko Neba i Zemli" from the Ukrainian opera "Zaporozhietz za Dunayem" and a romantic folk ballad in honor of founders Mrs. Jackson and Mrs. Zuk. These two honored guests accepted the community's gratitude on behalf of their fellow founders, both those living (but unable to attend) and those who have passed on to their eternal reward, including members of the Hodiak, Hotra, Hricko, Hurey, Jackson, Kitt, Konasiewich, Korchinski, Korenko, Kostiw, Medwid, Murch, Pasnick, Stefura, Wybyrany, Woycitzky, Yemetz and Zuk families.

Also recalled were the priests who so faithfully served the parish and have since passed on to their eternal rest: Msgr. Roman Lobodych, the Rev. Constantine Berder, the Rev. Nicholas Wynnytsky, Canon Michael Koltutsky, the Rev. Joseph Chaikovsky, the Rev. Augustine Porodko, the Rev. Joseph Chupil and the Rev. Jaroslav Trostianetsky.

The successful anniversary celebration was orchestrated by the 50th anniversary committee, led by Zenon Zachariasevych, with members Bohdan and Anna Mykytyn, Luba Keske, Stefania Shumny, Marusia Billey and Levko Rakowsky. Assistance was provided by the pastoral and stewardship councils.

As an expression of continual renewal in both its physical and spiritual life, the parish community had been cleaning, renovating, repairing and redecorating

the Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary Church property for several months prior to the celebration. As a result, the church had a fresh and welcoming appearance on the jubilee day. Myron Dudynsky led the renovation project effort, and a great deal of assistance came from architect Taras Kozbur, who contributed both hard work and professional expertise to the projects.

In addition to the steady and generous support of many unnamed parishioners and friends, a number of sponsors contributed to major individual jubilee projects. The renovation of the iconostasis, accomplished by Viktor Makohenko, was supported by Alex Stogryn and Dan Stogryn, Mr. and Mrs. Rudy Zaveruka and Dr. and Mrs. Oleh Snylyk. The altar cross and plaschanytsia (shroud) were sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Jean Duquene and family. Special embroideries for the altar and tetrapod in honor of the jubilee were sponsored by Mr. and Mrs. Ostap Shenkiryk, while Sonia Wasylkiw and Anna Mykytyn made a special embroidered altar cloth for St. Mary's altar, and Stephania Zacharczuk provided a ritual cloth for the tetrapod icon.

Members of St. Mary's Sodality made a generous gift of a new altar cross and standards, as well as altar cloth coverings. This was in addition to their efforts at fund-raisers and yearlong, ongoing beautification projects. The Holy Name of Jesus Society supported the various church projects and fund-raisers as well as the church administration. The group of young adults newly organized under the banner of Obnova (Renewal) also lent their efforts in various church projects and successful fund-raisers.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko said that the draft appeal to European parliaments asking for their help in disclosing information about accounts in the names of Ukrainian officials in foreign banks has been included on the Rada's agenda. However, he acknowledged that even if the appeal is approved, foreign governments are unlikely to provide such information, since this capital is already working for their economies. (RFE/RL Newline, Eastern Economist)

Parliament backs draft budget

KYIV — Lawmakers have given initial approval to the government's draft budget for 1998, Interfax reported on December 4. By a vote of 264 to 42, the Verkhovna Rada approved a budget that would cut the deficit from 5.2 percent of the gross domestic product (GDP) to 4.3 percent. National deputies also passed a resolution calling on the government to increase revenue and expenditure plans before a second vote. In addition, they urged greater spending in the regions and on social problems. (RFE/RL Newline)

Rada prepares no confidence vote

KYIV — The Verkhovna Rada voted on December 9 to prepare a resolution of no confidence in the government, Ukrainian media reported. The vote for the resolution, proposed by the Socialist and Agrarian factions, was supported by 242 of the 450 deputies. If the Parliament passes a resolution of no confidence, the government must resign, but the president has the final say on whether or not official must leave office. (RFE/RL Newline)

President sends condolences to Russia

KYIV — President Kuchma sent his condolences to Russian President Boris Yeltsin concerning the crash of an AN-124 transport plane which went down in Irkutsk on December 7. The plane crashed into an apartment block shortly after take-off, killing military personnel on board and civilians on the ground. The president expressed his deepest sympathies to the Russian people on behalf of himself and the Ukrainian nation. Investigating officials believe that the two left-side engines failed. Yevgenii Shaposhnikov, Russian presidential assistant on aviation issues, told the Russian news program "Vremia" that "the plane's weak spot were its engines manufactured at MotorSich's Zaporizhzhia plant." In response to the allegation, MotorSich Chief Engineer Pavlo Shemaniuk said that blaming Ukrainian engineers for the catastrophe is "not appropriate," adding that "thorough investigation needs to be conducted." All AN-124 transports will be grounded until the investigation is completed. (Eastern Economist)

Underfunding of health set to continue

KYIV — Funds assigned in the 1997 state budget for financing health protection make up just 40 percent of minimal needs. According to Health Minister Andrii Serdiuk, during the first nine months of this year, only 60.4 percent of the plan for this period was fulfilled, just 32.5 percent of the annual plan. He stressed that about 5 billion hrv are needed per year to finance the sector, while just 3 billion hrv were provided in the 1998 state budget. (Eastern Economist)

Tobacco control council is established

KYIV — The Cabinet has founded a Coordination Council for control of tobacco products. The council will prepare draft laws on measures aimed at cut-

(Continued on page 17)

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

DISTRICT MEETING

Northern New Jersey

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — The Northern New Jersey District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association held its annual organizing meeting here at the association's new headquarters on Friday, November 14.

The meeting was opened by the district chairman, Eugene Oscislawski, who welcomed all present and introduced members of the UNA General Assembly in attendance, including President Ulana Diachuk, Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky, Secretary Martha Lysko, Advisor Roma Hadzewycz, and honorary members Joseph Lesawyer and Walter Sochan. Also present was UNA Acting Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj, named just one week earlier to take over the duties of the ailing treasurer, Alexander Blahitka, who has been granted a leave of absence with pay through the end of June 1998.

Mr. Oscislawski also delivered a brief report on the activity of the district which was created on March 1 of this year when the Newark, Jersey City and Passaic districts merged into one Northern New Jersey District of the UNA. The highlight of the district's activity since that time was organizing a bus trip to Soyuzivka for the Fathers' Day celebration held at the UNA resort.

Mrs. Diachuk then took over conduct of the meeting. She also reported to the assembled representatives of the district's 22 branches that their district is in fifth place in terms of the number of new members organized during 1997: 97 members insured for \$2,413,408, meeting 88 percent of the district's annual quota.

Secretary Lysko then addressed the gathering, focusing her remarks on the upcoming UNA convention and providing an explanation of how the number of delegates each branch is entitled to is determined. She also reminded the branch officers that a list of branches having less than 75 members (the number needed for a branch to qualify for one delegate) will be published so that these branches can unite with others in a similar situation to qualify for one delegate to represent them at the 1998 convention.

Mrs. Diachuk again took the podium to explain that UNA dividends were not paid out in 1997 because the UNA's actuary had advised against it and in view of the expenses expected in conjunction with the mergers of two Ukrainian fraternal organizations with the UNA.

Mrs. Lysko then spoke about the UNA's scholarship program and new rules for eligibility that will go into effect in the year 2000.

Next, the president spoke of the UNA's Mission Statement adopted by the General Assembly at its annual meeting on November 6-8. She also spoke of the proposed by-laws amendments that will be presented for a vote at the UNA convention.

In turn, Vice-President Olesnycky spoke about mergers with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and the Ukrainian National Aid Association of America. He explained that the UNA General Assembly had approved the agreements of merger, which will now be published in the UNA's publications and then put to a vote by convention delegates. In order for the mergers to become effective, they have to be approved by two-thirds of the delegates and then sent for approval to the insurance commissioners of the states where these fraternal associations are chartered. Mr. Olesnycky also outlined some of

(Continued on page 19)

Young UNA'ers



Andrew J. Kebalo, 3, son of Andrian and Cheryl Kebalo of South Windsor, Conn., is a new member of UNA Branch 277. He was enrolled by his grandparents Helen and Paul Kebalo.



Elena Anna Odulak, daughter of Roma Slobodian Odulak and Dr. Taras Odulak, is a new member of UNA Branch 325 in New York. She was enrolled on the occasion of her first birthday by her grandparents Halyna and Iwan Odulak.



Mackenzie T. Danaher, daughter of Suzanne and David Danaher, is a new member of UNA Branch 146 in Warren, Mich. She was enrolled by her grandparents Peter and Maryanna Waselenko.



Kayla Michelle Sandoval, daughter of Jorge Sandoval and Laura Leigh, is a new member of UNA Branch 292 in Detroit. She was enrolled by her great-grandmother Zinovia Ogrodnik.



Siblings Kalyna Ola and Luca Pavlo Iwasykiw, children of Xenia and Marko Iwasykiw, are new members of UNA Branch 204 in New York. They were enrolled by their godmothers, respectively, Sofia Zielyk and Martha Zielyk.



Sarabeth Rebekah Martin, born April 13, 1996, to Alexis Martin, is a new member of UNA Branch 377 in Clearwater, Fla. She was enrolled by her grandmother Efrozyna Bojczuk and uncle Wasyl Gina.

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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Leadership and looking ahead

The theme of the 1997 Leadership Conference organized by The Washington Group, an organization of Ukrainian American professionals based in the U.S. capital, was "We Can Do Better: Expanding Horizons for Ukrainian Americans." One of the more interesting panels at the conference featured representatives of other ethnic groups speaking about the work of their community organizations, about their pluses and minuses. This was an opportunity for Ukrainian American leaders to step back, to look outside our community and learn some useful lessons from others, in particular, from 9.5 million Polish Americans and 12 million Italian Americans.

As Ewa Matuszewski of the Polish American Congress put it: "We're all in the same shoes. We have a lot of people, but the problem is that not everyone is involved, not everyone is interested." Thus, she emphasized the importance of networking — not only among Polish Americans but with non-Polish groups as well.

Fred Rotondaro of the National Italian American Foundation reported: "We are constantly looking for new things to do that will be of importance to the Italian Americans who belong to our organization. ... We are looking for themes ... that relate to our heritage, but at the same time go beyond our heritage."

A very significant question posed to the panelists was: "How do you retain or attract members?" After agreeing that focusing on heritage is paramount, two principal ways became evident from the speakers' comments: their organizations continuously look at themselves to see if they are relevant to the needs of their members (Mr. Rotondaro called this "political futurology"; "we look to see where we have to go"); and they focus on youth — through youth conferences, camps, scholarships, mentor programs, etc. — their future members and leaders.

The immediate question that arises for us in the Ukrainian community is: Have we done any of this lately?

Well, if one is to judge by the speakers at the next panel, which focused on Ukrainian institutions, the answer is "not exactly..." Some, like our credit unions, have been more successful than others. Our fraternal organizations and even our Churches are losing members and finding it difficult to explain why someone should remain in or join their ranks. One speaker on that panel, Dr. Bohdan Vitvitsky, who spoke on behalf of Ukrainian professionals' and businesspersons' groups, pointed out that we have not yet begun to address why we as a community have to retain our community. "Our parents were involuntary ethnics, but we have a choice. We can assimilate; we are voluntary ethnics," he explained. Therefore, he suggested that the next Leadership Conference should consider: "Will There Be a Ukrainian American Community by 2020, and Does it Matter?"

A partial answer to the second part of that question was given earlier by George Masiuk, president of The Washington Group, in his introductory remarks at the conference: "Our Ukrainian American community has intrinsic value and must be maintained." But, he also underlined that our community "can be maintained better..."

That task, dear readers, is up to each and every one of us. If we want our community to continue to exist, if we value it, we must get involved and provide input so that it meets our needs, our children's needs, and — if we're extremely lucky — our children's children's needs. Let's hope we do this sooner, rather than later, or else the next conference topic could well turn out to be: "What Ever Happened to the Ukrainian American Community, and Who Cares?"

Dec.
18
1817

Turning the pages back...

One hundred eighty years ago, Adolf Dobriansky was born in Rudlov, a town in the Presov region in Slovakia. A mining engineer by training, in 1840, Dobriansky accepted a government post

in one of the Habsburg empire's administrative centers, Pest. An active defender of non-Magyar people's rights, in the great year of ferment and revolution, 1848, he participated in the Slavic Congress in Prague and in the Supreme Ruthenian Council (which he persuaded to adopt unity with Transcarpathia as part of its platform) — the first legal Ukrainian political organization in modern times.

He prepared a plan for a separate, self-governing region consisting of all Ukrainian territories within the Austrian empire, and in the following year he travelled to Vienna to present it personally to Emperor Franz Josef. It was approved, and on October 19, 1849, it was accepted as official policy, with Dobriansky appointed as vice-regent of the Ruthenian district in Hungary. Due to Dobriansky's Russophilism (still acceptable to Vienna at that point), he was also appointed civil commissioner with the Russian army, which arrived to help the Austrian imperial forces crush the Hungarian uprising.

Until 1860 he served as vice-regent in Uzhhorod, Kosice and Buda, in a period of heady cultural revival for Transcarpathia. Unfortunately for him, 1860 marked the ascendancy of Magyars in government, and they did not forget his actions "in defense of the realm." Although Dobriansky lost his position as vice-regent, he continued to defend the rights of Transcarpathia's Ukrainians and was elected to three terms in the Hungarian Diet. Because of his pursuit of cultural ties with Russia, his proposals were consistently turned down by the Magyar majority. He also served as president of St. John's Society in Presov (1862-1876) and the Society of St. Basil in Uzhhorod (1867-1871), and edited the Russophile newspaper Svet.

As his political influence declined, Dobriansky moved to an estate in the Presov region, but remained active. In 1881 he moved to Lviv, just as his daughter Olha (who married the lawyer Emmanuil Hrabar) was indicted in an anti-Russophile trial. They were both charged with treason. They were both acquitted, but went in separate directions. She emigrated to Russia, while Dobriansky moved to Warsaw and eventually settled in Innsbruck, Austria, where he died on March 13, 1901.

Sources: "Dobriansky, Adolf," "Hrabar, Olha," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Vols. 1, 2* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1984, 1988); Paul R. Magocsi, "A History of Ukraine" (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Regarding fraternalism and the word "fraternal"

Dear Editor:

In reading the report of the annual meeting of the UNA General Assembly (November 16) I observed an inconsistency that is very difficult to understand. On the one hand, in the updating the wording of the UNA's founding principles, the first line of the mission statement says: "To promote the principles of fraternalism" and as a "fraternal insurance society, the UNA invests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community."

No one will dispute the fact that all four current "soyuzes" operate under similar fraternal principles. In another part of the report, it is noted that there was a discussion and eventually a vote was taken on the proposed merger with the Ukrainian Fraternal Association. It is stated that there was strong opposition to incorporating the word "fraternal" in the name of the new merged society. Why would anyone object to adding that word when what it does is add meaning to what kind a society it is, without the need to explain, as the UNA does now in the second line of its letter-heads?

The word itself means brotherly love. We find it in the bible, where it is suggested that we are "our brothers keeper".

Our four Ukrainian societies, along with many others, were organized in Pennsylvania in the early 1900s, because the need was great to help four widows and orphans. These were our bearers, our fathers and grandfathers, who without high salaries, devoted their lives to helping our needy. They knew the meaning of fraternalism.

The argument — the only one heard to date — for not adding "fraternal" to the name was that "our UNA name has a meaning to us."

To those of you who feel like that, I ask: have you stopped and taken into consideration that the organization you voted to merge with also has an 87-year history, whose officers and members love their "soyuz" and its name Ukrainian Fraternal Association, as much as you do yours? If you look back you will find that this new name, "Ukrainian National Fraternal Association", was accepted by UNA delegates at their Detroit convention 12 years ago.

Yes, the UFA officers made many con-

cessions in the merger discussions, and the UNA president said it like it was: that the UFA feels very strongly, that the word "fraternal" is the key word if the merger is to become a fact.

I'm sure your readers and members of both "soyuzes" will be interested in why these people are willing to jeopardize a possible merger, because they object to the word "fraternal". Let's hear your justification.

From a lifelong fraternalist with brotherly love,

Joseph Charyna
Coconut Creek, Fla.

The writer is an honorary member of the UFA's Supreme Council.

Why doesn't Koropecykj write his own letter?

Dear Editor:

It was with curiosity that I read the letter of Roman Koropecykj (October 26) in which he wanted "to append" his signature to the AJC's smear job of Myron Kuropas. It's a mystery to me why a "professor of literature" cannot write his own letter criticizing or correcting some specific errors of Dr. Kuropas' instead of merely "appending" his signature to someone else's vitriol.

He criticizes Dr. Kuropas for a "disturbing preoccupation with Jews," whatever that means. Doesn't he realize that Dr. Kuropas was, and is, in the midst of intense Ukrainian-Jewish dialogue? In order to represent Ukrainian concerns, he is required to study (i.e., be preoccupied with) Jewish concerns and viewpoints so that consensus and understanding can be reached. Because Ukrainian-Jewish relations are so contentious, it is rare to find any credible Ukrainian to engage in them without appearing like a janissary Uncle Tom. Unfortunately, Prof. Koropecykj's letter wouldn't give many Ukrainian Americans much confidence in having him represent their interests.

During the courageous efforts to obtain justice for John Demjanjuk, Prof. Koropecykj exhibited a "suspiciously deafening silence" indeed! Now, he has finally mustered up enough "courage" to condemn Dr. Kuropas. What a guy!

Jaroslaw Sawka
Sterling Heights, Mich.

ACTION ITEM

The newest edition of "Europe Travelbook" published by the American Automobile Association (1996 with amendments for 1997) has some interesting descriptions of travel around the Russian Federation, including statements such as "Aeroflot serves Moscow, Kiyev (sic), St. Petersburg and other major cities. Train lines go from Moscow, St. Petersburg, Kharkov (sic) and Kiyev." In describing the various "Principal Touring Areas of the Russian Federation," the guidebook includes the Republic of Ukraine, including Odessa (sic), the Carpathians and the Dnieper (sic).

Please draft your own letter based on the one below and send it to: American Automobile Association, 1000 AAA Drive, Heathrow, Fla. 32746-5063

Dear Sirs:

In your newest edition of the Europe Travelbook, Ukraine was listed under the Russian Federation heading. Ukraine has been independent since 1991, thus it is not remotely in the Russian Federation. Secondly, you list Kyiv as "ancient Russian territory." This is not so. Kyiv was the capital of Rus', the direct descendants of which are Ukrainians. Indirect descendants include Russians and Belarusians. Through the centuries Ukraine has been invaded and occupied by many nations, but it always was, and still is, Ukrainian. Lviv (not Lvov) did not "flourish" under the tsars since it never was occupied by Russia. It was however, occupied by Poland, Austria and then the Soviet Union. The name of the cities of Rivne and Chernivtsi must be corrected from the Russian spelling Rovno and Chernovtsy; the river Dniro, which is incorrectly spelled as Dnieper. As an organization that deals with the public, it is incumbent upon you to recall this book and make the indicated corrections.

— Submitted by Ukrainian American Community Network

Colleagues react to death of Justice John Sopinka

Following are reactions to the death of Canadian Supreme Court Justice John Sopinka issued by his colleagues. (Compiled by Andriy Wynnycky, Toronto Press Bureau.)

Former Ontario Chief Justice Charles Dubin, told The Toronto Star: "John's friendship was one of my most prized possessions. He was a great man. He could do everything. He was a professional athlete, a concert violinist, a great lawyer and an outstanding judge. And he was in such great shape. That is what is so shattering to me. The country has suffered a great loss."

Fellow Supreme Court Justice Frank Iacobucci, told the Globe and Mail: "In my view, John was the best and maybe the last of the all-time generalists. More than anybody I know, he could blend the practical with the academic. He was also a real team player. His loss is immense."

Allan Gold, president of the Criminal Lawyers' Association, told the Globe and Mail: "This is a terrible loss. He had already done a lot, but we

looked for much more in the next 10 or 15 years. It is like looking at a beautiful library that is half built and then burns down, never to be filled with books."

Former Supreme Court Justice Willard Estey in an interview with CBC-TV News, said that Judge Sopinka was "deeply involved in thinking through the dynamic side of the law, not what is the law, but what it should be."

Supreme Court Chief Justice Antonio Lamer, issued an official statement that said in part: "His contribution on the court and to the administration of justice in Canada was a major one. He will be greatly missed, both as a colleague and as a friend, and very difficult to replace."

Clayton Ruby, a leading defense attorney, told Global TV News: "He was one of the leading experts on evidence and an author of the leading textbook on evidence that every lawyer uses every day."



Justice John Sopinka (left) with President Leonid Kravchuk and Ramon Hnatyshyn during the Canadian governor general's 1992 state visit to Ukraine.

BYU issues "culturgram" on Ukraine

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Brigham Young University (BYU) in Utah has published a revised "Culturgram '98 on Ukraine." In the format of four 8 1/2-by-11 pages, the culturgram functions as a handout that includes a brief background on Ukraine's history, geography, current political and economic situation, maps, and tips for travelers about weather, visas, customs, etc.

This handout can be useful for those who plan to speak on a Ukrainian topic and would like to distribute a general information handout, for students who need to do a report about Ukraine, or for community groups that would like to include a handout about Ukraine in their press kits. BYU also suggests that these culturgrams can be used by tourists and businesspeople planning on travel to Ukraine.

In the text, there are some inaccuracies (Pavlo Lasarenko [sic] is still listed as prime minister, Ukrainian is listed as the most commonly spoken language), and

some lack of clarity (from reading the text, those unfamiliar with the Crimean Tatar situation could think that the Ukrainian government expelled the Tatars from Crimea and denies them citizenship rights simply because they are Tatars).

Some of the statements could cause consternation (referring to Ukrainian Catholics as being represented by the "Greek Catholic (Uniate) church" [sic], and some could be considered silly (such as, "Ukrainians consider themselves a merry people, prone to singing and dancing").

However, in general, the approximately 3,500 words of text are competently written and the Ukrainian-American Academic Association of California and the Ukrainian Language Society of Chicago advised on the this publication. Copies of "Culturgram '98 on Ukraine" can be ordered from: Kennedy Center Publications, Brigham Young University, P.O. Box 24538, Provo, UT 84602-4538; or by calling (801) 378-6528.

CANADA COURIER

by Christopher Guly



John Sopinka's final judgement

One of the privileges of being a journalist is meeting extraordinary people. Supreme Court of Canada Justice John Sopinka, who died in Ottawa on November 24, was one of them.

My relationship with him extended beyond the several interviews I conducted with him in his judge's office. Immodestly perhaps, I should mention the fact Mr. Sopinka told me he followed my career, particularly this column, sometimes encouraging me to write about topics with which he was involved. The attention was high praise from someone whom The Ottawa Citizen recently and rightly observed had an influence on the nine-member court's general direction that "may have been greater than any other individual justice's." Certainly, Justice Sopinka insisted on living by the credo that judges share their opinions and beliefs freely. On a few occasions, he spent considerable time with me explaining the intricacies of the law and the court's rulings.

Last year, out of the blue it seemed, Mr. Sopinka invited me to lunch. We rode in his chauffeur-driven car to The Mill, a restaurant along the Ottawa River Parkway dividing Ontario from Quebec. There, over a glass of white wine and chicken, he spoke about Ukraine, his career, the possibilities of accompanying him on a trip to Ukraine to meet with Ukrainian jurists and lawmakers, and about several issues that the country's top court had either dealt with or in specific cases was about to hear.

A consummate intellectual and jurist, Mr. Sopinka was also competitive. He was a jock in the courtroom, refusing to be swayed from his principles by agendas or interests.

In a recent Supreme Court decision, Judge Sopinka and a slim majority ruled for the first time that police need a judge's warrant before forcibly entering a home and making an arrest. "Any price to society occasioned by the loss of such a conviction is fully justified in a free and democratic society which is governed by the rule of law," wrote Mr. Sopinka in his judgment. The judgement threw out the evidence against a British Columbia man who had been convicted of bludgeoning his 86-year-old neighbor to death.

Justice Sopinka was also a jock in the real sense of the word. A terror when holding a racquet, Mr. Sopinka boasted about beating the pants off members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery at the annual squash tournament. As team captain of the bureaucrats' team, Judge Sopinka never lost a competition.

One look at him painted a different picture. Wearing big eyeglasses and sporting a mustache, Judge Sopinka appeared almost meek. A stoop that accompanied his gait suggested fragility. But he was nothing of the sort.

Playing professional football to supplement his law studies at the University of Toronto, Mr. Sopinka was born with Ukrainian Prairie stubbornness for success.

In 1981, nurse Susan Nelles was charged with four counts of first-degree murder after infants in the pediatric cardiac unit at the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, where she worked,

died mysteriously. After the Crown prosecutor decided against taking the case to trial, Ms. Nelles retained Mr. Sopinka as her counsel in launching a civil suit against Ontario's attorney general and Metro Toronto Police alleging malicious prosecution. The case went all the way to the Supreme Court. In 1991, it ordered the Ontario government, which had already covered Ms. Nelles' legal costs for the criminal preliminary hearing, the malicious-prosecution proceeding and the earlier inquiry, to pay her an additional \$60,000 for the "anguish she had suffered."

Mr. Sopinka considered that case his most satisfying as a lawyer. "It is not every case where you feel you have really done something good for a human being," he said. "Susan Nelles is a wonderful lady who suffered badly." At his passing, many of Judge Sopinka's colleagues recalled how wonderful he was.

"John was the best and maybe the last of the all-time generalists," Supreme Court Justice Frank Iacobucci told The Globe and Mail. "More than anybody I know, he could blend the practical with the academic. His loss is immense." Alan Gold, president of the Criminal Lawyers Association, said, "You have no idea how highly regarded he was among the litigation bar."

Touted as a future chief justice by his own colleagues, Mr. Sopinka had many more miles to go, said Ramon Hnatyshyn, Canada's former governor general who, as attorney general, appointed Mr. Sopinka to the Supreme Court in 1988. In fact, it was Mr. Hnatyshyn who notified this journalist about Mr. Sopinka's passing. Still shaken at hearing the news, Mr. Hnatyshyn couldn't emphasize enough how much he would miss his close friend.

John Sopinka is irreplaceable in so many ways. The Supreme Court and all of Canada have suffered a great loss.

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Lviv oboist performs with renowned New World Symphony

by Oksana Piaseckyj

MIAMI BEACH, Fla. — Since Ukraine became free it should not be surprising to find more of its talented young people leaving their homeland and seeking recognition in other countries. Yet, it is always a special joy to discover another promising Ukrainian applauded by a larger community.

I recently met Ihor Leschishin, a 28-year-old oboist from Lviv who performs with the New World Symphony in Miami Beach, and learned that acceptance into this unique and well-known orchestra is extremely difficult. With only 30 to 40 members, the odds are extremely high against being recruited, even if one is exceptionally talented.

The symphony is not just your usual performing orchestra. It is a very special institution, otherwise known as "America's Orchestral Academy." Almost 10 years ago the New World Symphony was established by the world-renowned conductor Michael Tilson Thomas as an innovative experience for exceptional young musicians who had finished their musical training in the best music schools in the U.S., but still needed some preparation before trying out for professional orchestral positions. The New World Symphony would provide an unusual type of graduate program.

As a boy playing the accordion at the age of 8 in Lviv, Mr. Leschishin couldn't imagine that 18 years later he would be an oboist with the New World Symphony. To be accepted by this organization requires a special combination of exceptional talent, a winning personality and remarkable perseverance. With so many good musicians competing, it may take more than several auditions to become considered for one of the coveted places in the orchestra. Up to 1,000 musicians vie for those 30 to 40 seats. Each "fellow," as they are called, receives a three-year fellowship, but may opt for a fourth year.

Not only do the fortunate members have to be top-notch musicians, they also must demonstrate the natural ability to communicate on a non-musical level as ambassadors of their instrument.

Communicating for Mr. Leschishin is very natural. His charming, disarming manner and radiant smile easily draws parishioners to his side at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Blessed Virgin Mary in Miami, where he attends services on a regular basis. "It was my grandmother who nurtured my spirituality, and I am very indebted to her," he explained. As he converses with others, Mr. Leschishin invariably speaks of his experiences with the New World Symphony and his upcoming concerts, and enthusiastically invites his listeners to attend. He also points out that he is not the only



Oksana Piaseckyj

Ihor Leschishin takes a break from rehearsal.

Ukrainian in the orchestra. Taras Krysa, a violinist, is also a member.

From accordion to oboe

How did Mr. Leschishin find himself "on the beach" in this tropical haven, so far away from his hometown of Lviv?

His love for music as a child must have set his destiny. Mr. Leschishin remembers that he always wanted to be a musician, but his decision to become an oboist was really due to a special set of circumstances. His parents gave him lessons on the popular accordion with the best teacher around, Rodion Palamar. However, he couldn't get excited about practicing on his accordion, so his concerned parents gave him an ultimatum, either practice more or switch to another instrument.

As luck would have it, Mr. Palamar's son, also named Ihor, was an oboist and was just establishing his own school. He needed students so that the government would license him as a pedagogue. The elder Palamar, noting his student's lack of enthusiasm for the accordion, gently convinced Mr. Leschishin to try playing the oboe. As soon as he heard the first sound coming out of the oboe, he was charmed, and from then on never had to be coaxed to practice. The oboe seemed to fit him. The depth of the sound was wonderful, he recalled. Mr. Leschishin said he believes

that "the most beautiful solos from the best symphonies are for oboe."

Studying under Ihor Palamar, Mr. Leschishin prepared for the Liudkevych Music College in Lviv. There he studied under Myron Zakonets for four years. Completing his studies at 19, Mr. Leschishin went to Belarus to study at the Miensk Conservatory under Boris Nichkov, principal oboist of the Miensk Philharmonic. During this period Mr. Leschishin played with the American Russian Youth Symphony Orchestra.

Completing his five-year program, Mr. Leschishin was accepted to the graduate program at the Manhattan School of Music and awarded a scholarship. Joe Robinson, principal oboist with the New York Philharmonic, took him under his wing, coaching him and guiding him to his next opportunity. Mr. Robinson told Mr. Leschishin that he should have the experience and polish provided by the New World Symphony, and suggested that he audition.

The recruiter for the New World Symphony is Fergus Scarfe. He is Mr. Thomas's discerning third ear, scheduling auditions several times a year at the best music schools in the country, or sometimes in other settings, such as the Tanglewood Summer Music Festival, where Mr. Leschishin played in 1995. Mr. Leschishin auditioned for Mr. Scarfe and received a favorable recommendation. He then played again in early 1996, competing with 70 other oboists. He was chosen to begin his three-year program with the New World Symphony in the fall of 1996. Mr. Leschishin's acceptance was a major accomplishment since there are only three oboists with the program at this time.

Musicianship plus leadership

The program at the New World Symphony concentrates on perfecting the musicianship of these exceptional players and simultaneously developing their individual leadership. Students are encouraged to organize their own concerts, give free lessons to children in the public schools through the outreach program as musical mentors, and to break barriers between the listener and the performer with the Musical Exchange Concert during which performers talk about the piece

they will play. The musicians benefit greatly from Jane Bookspan, a drama coach at the Juilliard School, who provides training workshops during the year.

Symphony members also learn that they are crucial in affecting the success or failure of future audiences. The "Shmooze Squad" fellows, of which Mr. Leschishin is a member, are recruited for important missions. Identified by name tags indicating the countries of their origin, they mingle before the concert and during intermission, talking with the audience about the program, answering any questions asked. Using this familiar approach, the musicians break down barriers and encourage participation while developing their own public relations skills.

The New World Symphony gives its musicians other experiences. They are exposed to different conductors, in addition to Mr. Thomas. This year their resident conductor is David Loebel, the associate conductor of the St. Louis Symphony. In their recent Baroque program, Harry Bicket came from England to direct a three-day festival of performances. Mr. Bicket, a renowned harpsichordist and organist for the Westminster Abbey, has conducted opera and orchestra with most of the well-known companies of the world.

In September all the principal players of the Cleveland Orchestra spent one week coaching and playing with the symphony members on a one-on-one basis. In the past the symphony has worked with Leonard Bernstein, George Solti, Christoph Eschenbach and Marek Janowski.

Diverse programs for audiences

Based in the newly restored Lincoln Theatre, located in the beautiful and trendy Art Deco district of Miami Beach, the symphony provides a prodigious assortment of programming for the community, trying to appeal to the varied tastes of their audience. Innovative and traditional programming is scheduled throughout the season from September to April. A "Musician's Forum" organized by the musicians as a series of six free concerts, somewhat like a classical jam session, allows the players to decide their on programming and to draw an audience interested in alternative listening. There are also family concerts and multimedia performances.

The symphony's promotional materials display the musicians in designer fashions and non-traditional poses, enticing new audiences with expressions such as "this is no stuffy symphony" and "it is like no other orchestra in the world." Their excellent marketing draws young audiences as well as old.

Sustained by the generous endowment of Ted Arison, the founder of Carnival Cruise Lines, and the support of major corporations, the New World Symphony has grown into a well-respected and enviable entity. The symphony has graduated 367 fellows, and 300 of them have positions with professional orchestras and ensembles, often as associate principals or principals of their sections.

Miami Beach area residents can hear Messrs. Leschishin and Krysa performing with the symphony in most of its concerts. Those in the metropolitan New York area can catch them on February 4, 1998, when the New World Symphony will be celebrating its 10th anniversary on the actual date when the symphony was launched with a concert at Alice Tully Hall in New York's Lincoln Center, with Mr. Thomas conducting. Later they are off on a whirlwind European tour to London, Paris, Amsterdam and Vienna.

Paintings stolen from Poltava are recovered in England

LANCASHIRE, England — Two paintings that were stolen in a violent raid on the Ukrainian National Museum in the city of Poltava earlier this year have been recovered by police in Lancashire, as reported in *The Independent* on November 15.

The paintings — "Night Fight: Turks with Crusaders" by the 19th century French artist Delacroix, and "Still Life with Lobsters" by Pieters, a 17th century Dutch painter — were stolen on March 18 in a vicious attack by the raiders who used incapacitant

sprays on museum staff.

An eight-month investigation, which involved Interpol and British police, led to the arrest of five men on November 14: three were arrested in Kirkham, Lancashire, and two were arrested in London. One is believed to be of Russian origin; the others are Britons.

The paintings, which purportedly are worth at least 1 million British pounds, were found in Kirkham, inside industrial containers, wrapped in newspapers. They are currently being verified and evaluated by art experts.

Komy Vnyz, once in the vanguard, is back with new release

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — They first made a big splash in Ukraine in the late 1980s and early 1990s. Along with bands like Braty Hadiukyny, Vika and V.V., and with songs that thinly veiled criticisms of the Soviet Union and evoked feelings of national identity, Komy Vnyz became part of a vanguard of artists and youth that forged a democratic movement as communism fell apart. After Ukraine's independence and with the reality of life in the post-Soviet transition period setting in, they disappeared. Now, with the release of their new compact disc, "In Kastus," Komy Vnyz is back.

"At the beginning of the '90s there was this movement of extreme romanticism with the collapse of the Soviet Union," said Andrii Sereda, the front man for the band. "There was this exaltation. You performed often. Everything was very open. But you suspected that it could only go so far."

As the daily drudgery of life in a country in severe economic collapse set in, the music that had so affected their fans began to seem much less important, said Mr. Sereda. That, combined with the takeover of the music scene by clans and corrupt businessmen, made working as a musician difficult. "For many of us, not just members of the group, it was difficult. We were able to perform only at small clubs, only on certain television stations," Mr. Sereda explained.

The band's projects were put on hold, including the "In Kastus" recording on which they had begun working in 1993. Besides the economic climate, the band felt that studio technology in Ukraine was not at the level they desired for their new productions, and they refused to record in Moscow. "We needed time for the technology to get here," explained Mr. Sereda.

This year Komy Vnyz, which consists of Mr. Sereda on vocals and keyboards, Serhii Stepanenko on bass guitar, Vladyslav Makarov on guitar, Vladyslav Maliukhin, guitar, vocals, and Yevhen Razin, drums, decided that the technology had arrived.

Another important item on hand for the completion of their album was financing. OmniSphere Productions, headed by Ihor Fedorowycz, a U.S. expatriate from Detroit who lives in Kyiv, offered to finance the completion of the recording and to produce a compact disc.

The CD is a series of 20 songs heavily indulgent in national and historic themes. One song, "Subotiv," refers to Bohdan Khmelnytsky, a hetman of the



Members of Komy Vnyz: (from left) Yevhen Razin, Vladyslav Makarov, Andrii Sereda, Vladyslav Maliukhin and Serhii Stepanenko.

Ukrainian Kozak State, who signed the Pereyaslav Treaty by which Russia claimed sovereignty over Ukraine for the next 300 years. Lyrics to another song are the words from Taras Shevchenko's famous poem "Rozryta Mohyla."

In an age where every band seems to have a name for their style of rock music, so does Komy Vnyz. Their press release calls what they create "progressive" or "flash" rock. The music is hard and anthemic, in the vein of U-2, but with measures of Jethro Tull apparent. Bass guitarist Stepanenko emphasized that also present are major influences by the rock bands Yes and Pink Floyd.

The CD's title, "In Kastus," the Latin term for incest, is not meant to be taken at its literal meaning, said Mr.

Sereda. He explained that the allusion is to developing a cultural progeny within one's own national and historic traditions.

The band, which began playing together in 1988 when perestroika was in full movement, has outlasted many of its counterparts, including Vika, who today lives in New York, and Braty Hadiukyny, who are only heard from sporadically. But they have yet to achieve the popularity and financial stability of one other counterpart, V.V., which has a popular following in France as well as Ukraine and released a hugely successful single this past summer titled "Vesna." As Mr. Sereda said, "Today we can't really say the music supports us; even some of our equipment is rented. But we do own our talents."

Toronto artist Yuri Onuch to head contemporary art center in Kyiv

by Oksana Zakydalsky

TORONTO — Yuri (Jerzy) Onuch has been selected to be the executive director of the Center for Contemporary Art-International Charitable Foundation in Kyiv. A performance artist who studied art and worked as a curator in Warsaw, Mr. Onuch has lived in Toronto since 1987 after having spent some time in Western Canada and the U.S. For the last three years he has worked as a graphic artist.

The Center for Contemporary Art — International Charitable Foundation is a new entity. The former Center for Contemporary Art, which was directly under the jurisdiction of the Renaissance Foundation in Kyiv, no longer exists. The Renaissance Foundation and the Open Society Institute are the founders of the new foundation, which will be run by its own board of directors. Funding will be provided by the Soros organization.

I spoke with Mr. Onuch in Toronto in September, just before he left to take up his new position in Kyiv, and asked him how he came to be involved with contemporary art in Ukraine. He replied that during his visit to Ukraine in 1991, when he was invited to serve on the Lviv Biennale jury, he realized that an institutional framework to support and promote Ukraine's art and culture, both within Ukraine and internationally, did not exist. While he was in Kyiv, his attention was drawn to the former Lenin Museum, now the Narodnyi Dim. Based on what he knew about the Center for Contemporary Art in Warsaw, which had found a home in the medieval Ujazdowski Castle, Mr. Onuch suggested converting the Lenin Museum into an art center to the Soros organization and the Renaissance Foundation in Kyiv. As to the museum conversion, nothing resulted from this proposition, but a Center for Contemporary Art was eventually set up in Kyiv in 1992-1993, and Marta Kuzma from the U.S. became its director.

According to the October issue of Art in America, "the overall mission of the Soros art centers is ambitious in the extreme. It includes supporting contemporary artistic culture as a key component of an 'open society', integrating the art of former East Bloc countries into the global art world; overcoming the cultural isolation of former Soviet-dominated countries; and widening public understanding of innovative visual culture."

The first Center for Contemporary Art was established in Budapest in 1985, and today there are 19 regional centers. The Center for Contemporary Art existed in Kyiv for three years under Ms. Kuzma's direction. A decision to make the art center an independent entity was made at the Soros headquarters in New York. A competition to fill the position of executive director was held, and Mr. Onuch was one of six candidates interviewed, the only one from outside Ukraine. After winning the competition he was invited, at the end of July, to New York to a meeting with Dianne Weyermann, director of the Open Society Institute's art and culture program, to discuss guidelines for the new center. Ms. Kuzma remains as the director of the art gallery at the new center.

I asked Mr. Onuch about his plans for the center. He answered that the idea behind the Soros initiatives is to help the transformation of society into an open one and that this involves educating people. "Every program of the center should provide a learning experience. I see our function as a service for artists and the artistic community. Our function should be to let the people themselves see the possibilities. The best word for this function is 'facilitating' — a word that we don't have in Ukrainian (or in any Slavic language) because we don't have that concept. That is the way I see myself — as a facilitator — the person who will set up the playground and ensure that the kids who come to play there don't



Oksana Zakydalsky

Yuri Onuch

(Continued on page 14)

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Ласкаво просимо виразно
зачитувати

President...

(Continued from page 5)

Commission have pledged to allot within the same period.

The Ukrainian state has been allocating sizable sums to finance continuous monitoring of the quality of atmospheric air, potable water, food, recultivation of the affected land and improving the natural environment's condition.

It would be superfluous to say what all this means for a nation that has to combine overcoming the consequences of totalitarianism with radically overhauling the economy along market lines.

I will cite some more figures which are quite characteristic. About 50,000 square kilometers of territory with over 2,000 population points with a total of 2.6 million inhabitants have been contaminated.

Around 160,000 residents have been evacuated from heavily contaminated areas. Some 180,000 hectares of farmland and 157,000 hectares of woodland have been lost in view of their excessive radioactive contamination.

These figures, however impressive their scope may appear, are but the tip of the iceberg, which only modern science can appraise with a greater or lesser degree of accuracy. But who will endeavor to make a realistic forecast of the Chernobyl nuclear accident's likely impact on the Ukrainian nation's genetic pool and estimate its future potential losses?

Ladies and gentlemen, all of us should remember that Ukraine's voluntary renunciation of its nuclear weapons does not mean that its territory no longer harbors any nuclear threats.

Such threats may resurface at any moment.

First and foremost, I would like to point to the so-called sarcophagus facility's condition as by far the most acute and precarious problem involving the Chernobyl Plant's unit No. 4 and its post-accident suprastructure, which might figuratively be called an uncontrollable nuclear time bomb set to explode at a time unknown to humanity.

Not only Ukraine, and its capital city of 3 million just 100 kilometers away, but the whole of mankind is being threatened with this volcano's eruption.

The Chernobyl disaster's planetary scope makes it necessary for the global community to join in efforts to overcome it. Built according to a temporary plan during extremely harsh conditions in 1986, the sarcophagus was not designed for a lengthy operational period.

Proceeding from what most recent surveys discovered there, authoritative experts maintain that the facility's safe existence will last for only a few more years, provided there are no elemental disasters or man-made cataclysms.

According to expert estimates, the remainder of fissionable fuel inside the sarcophagus poses a major menace, too, as a source of new self-sustained nuclear chain reactions. Since then, many useful suggestions have been voiced, yet none of these meet the necessary requirements in full.

A general scheme to implement measures involving the shelter facility, which contains 22 individual and very task-specific points, was endorsed only in early 1997.

The key, strategic objective remains to fully remove, deactivate and isolate radionuclear materials.

Ukraine has voiced its readiness to contribute as its share about \$50 million to directly implement the said scheme, as well as \$100 million to support the zone's infrastructure to ensure the facility's safety.

However, to fully implement what we have planned to do, additional financial and intellectual resources will have to be mustered, and today's meeting is called to facilitate this.

Yet, as all of us understand, this is just the beginning. Meanwhile, the project's value and significance are hard to overestimate now that we are faced with a host of technogenic risks and hazards.

So, investing in the project's implementation goes beyond investing just in one's own safety and that of one's descendants.

It is a potent challenge and a unique opportunity to develop and apply previously unknown technologies and equipment, which will not only minimize the nuclear accident's aftermath but prevent any such disasters in the future.

We should also bear in mind that organizing the sarcophagus facility's safe functioning is, though an important and significant step, but one element in the broad context of solving the Chernobyl problem.

Ukraine was the first to realize the necessity of shutting down the Chernobyl plant, and remains the party most interested in doing so. However, a great number of objective reasons, primarily the vital need to rely upon the nation's entire stock of electrical energy resources against the background of chronic shortages within the power supply system, make it necessary to exercise flexible and prudent attitudes to the plant's destiny.

A principal decision has been made on the plant's closure, and we have no intention of changing it. However, Ukraine will be unable to implement it without commissioning additional power-generating facilities to offset the loss.

We cannot ignore the fact that the shutdown of the Chernobyl plant will leave thousands of workers without jobs. And they are people who have been sparing no effort and even sacrificing their health to curb the nuclear menace; thus, they deserve the world community's gratitude and respect. Should their daily exploits be ignored, and should one be indifferent to their destinies?

Ladies and gentlemen: I am convinced that the issues I've raised in this speech demand a search for optimal solutions, and coordinated and joint efforts on the part of all nations.

The "Chernobyl syndrome" is a Ukrainian phenomenon solely from the angle of geography. It is the sword of Damocles that jeopardizes the lives, health and well-being of all nations and every living creature on earth.

There are no borders capable of protecting human beings against the worst technogenic disaster in human history, against what is the most devastating and merciless of all elemental disasters: the nuclear menace.

The Chernobyl accident's tragic consequences annually add to growing mortality rates, emergence and aggravation of diseases, and contamination of the natural environment. The Chernobyl bell tolls to alert us to the danger posed by the so-called "peaceful atom." We cannot alter what has happened. Yet, with this bitter lesson taught to us, we can and must prevent new catastrophes. We can and must avoid new sacrifices and lower the risks of repeating such fatal errors.

Ladies and gentlemen: Having fallen victim to the grim disaster, Ukraine is fully and morally entitled to appeal to the global community for support and aid. This aid helps not Ukraine, but all of us.

I would like to believe that this appeal will not go unheeded. There is no time left to delay, to postpone decision-making. If the world fails to hear the warning message, both we and our descendants will have to pay.

I think it might be appropriate here to cite the wise King Solomon's words: "Do not refrain from doing good for the needy, when it is in your hands to do so. Do not say to your neighbor: Go and come again and tomorrow I will help you, when you can help today."

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Vice-President...

(Continued from page 5)

the funds provided by the G-7 and Ukraine will only cover the first year's costs.

The task before us is not an easy one. We have tremendous work ahead of us. And we must summon the very best of our mettle and our might and our will to help ensure – once and for all – that the Chernobyl sarcophagus is stabilized, and the shelter project at last is completed. Stabilizing and improving the safety of the enormous shelter which surrounds the radioactive remains of the destroyed unit 4 reactor is a critical part of the support needed to assist Ukraine in meeting the 2000 deadline for closure of Chernobyl.

Some may ask why should we care at all? The reasons are very simple:

One is human – so many have suffered. There remains the potential that more could suffer still, and so we seek to avoid further tragedy.

One reason is global – Chernobyl was one of the key events of the 20th century that made us understand that we are all neighbors and share in global environment. Nuclear safety problems are not just national, but are a threat to the environment of an interlinked planet. The Black Sea basin, of which Ukraine is part, links up with Caucasus states and Central Asia, with the Mediterranean basin and the Middle East, and with Europe. One step beyond in each direction, and the whole world is linked.

That is why each of our nations has a great stake in a secure, prosperous and independent Ukraine – a Ukraine that is emerging as a profoundly important part of the architecture for a seamless post-Cold War Europe.

And President Kuchma, let me say that we praise the steps you have already taken to promote Ukraine's integration into this new architecture. Just this year you reached agreements with all your neighbors – landmark agreements that set the course for a new turn in history with Russia, Poland, Romania and Belarus. We were all proud as well when Ukraine joined NATO's 16 leaders in Madrid to launch a historic partnership that integrated Ukraine more deeply into Europe's security structures.

But the future of these reforms cannot be taken for granted. A more prosperous – and democratic – future will only take hold with the active commitment of all those who truly believe in freedom and the right of all people to have a voice in their political and economic destinies. President Clinton and I – and each of us here today – are not neutral bystanders. That is why this year the United States is providing \$300 million in grants and \$300 million in credits as a sign of our commitment and engagement in support of reforms in Ukraine.

It is why we also have supported you every step of the way in your courageous decision, in accordance with the 1995 Memorandum of Understanding with the G-7, to close Chernobyl permanently by the year 2000, and I commend you for your leadership on this critical issue.

Let us never forget, Chernobyl wasn't simply an act of God. It was caused first and foremost by man. It 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.

This, perhaps, is one of the most enduring lessons of Chernobyl – a lesson we'd do well to remember at this pledging conference – that only in freedom can people claim their rightful destiny to live in safety and security. Only in freedom can people insist on public health systems that work and on natural resources that are safeguarded and clean. We all have a stake in these principles. And we come together today to pay tribute to their undeniable force and their capacity to make this world a better place for us all.

Many nations are here today, representing many different cultures, but similar aspirations unite us all – each of us wants our children to have a brighter future. So let us then do this for our children's future – for Ukraine's children – so that when they read Chernobyl's history, they will read not just of failure, but of human fortitude and a commitment to join hands to transform this tragedy into a monument for freedom and hope.

Thank you and God bless you all.

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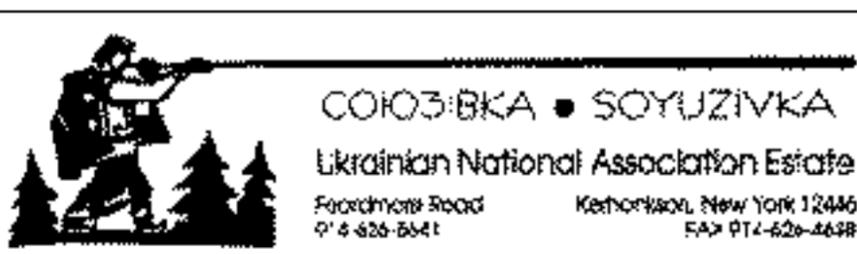
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NOTICE TO UNA SECRETARIES AND ORGANIZERS

The 1997 Membership Campaign ends December 26, 1997. Therefore, we will accept applications of new members only to December 26, 1997.

We urge you to make every effort to fulfill your quota and mail in your applications early enough to reach the Home Office by December 26, 1997.

UNA HOME OFFICE

NOTICE TO UNA MEMBERS AND BRANCHES

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

no later than noon
of DECEMBER 26, 1997

Money received later cannot be credited to 1997. Therefore, we appeal to all members of the UNA to pay their dues this month as soon as possible and all Branches to remit their accounts and money in time to be received by the Home Office no later than noon of FRIDAY, DECEMBER 26, 1997.

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

UNA HOME OFFICE

Notice to publishers and authors

It is The Ukrainian Weekly's policy to run news items and/or reviews of newly published books, booklets and reprints, as well as records and premiere issues of periodicals, only after receipt by the editorial offices of a copy of the material in question.

News items sent without a copy of the new release will not be published.

Send new releases and information (where publication may be purchased, cost, etc.) to: The Editor, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Toronto artist...

(Continued from page 11)

hit each other over the head with their sand shovels. It should be made clear right from the start, that if you enter the playground and you want to play there, there are certain rules that you are expected to follow. If you spit at others, you're out. Nobody throws you out, but you will know you don't belong there," Mr. Onuch said.

Another important aspect in running the center, he said, would be adherence to a work ethic. "Marta Kuzma brought a lot of positive elements of the American work ethic into the organization – how to work, the attitude to work, the concept of responsibility – and I would like to rely on this ethic in building the organization," Mr. Onuch said.

The center will be responsible for several programs: an art gallery program, documentation and grants. The whole art gallery system and its various support agents are just beginning to develop in Ukraine, Mr. Onuch pointed out. The center will continue to run the Contemporary Art Gallery located on the premises of the Kyiv Mohyla Academy.

Another program will be the documentation and publicizing of contemporary art in Ukraine. According to Mr. Onuch, "Initially, we will select 10 artists and try to provide comprehensive documentation of their work. I intend to use my experience with digital media for this documentation. Since we are starting now, we have to think of the future, and digital is the future – multimedia, CD, Internet, kiosks. We can develop a standard for documentation which can then be used by others. We start late but we can start ahead. Since we don't have the catalogues printed, we are not going to print them now. I plan to devote a lot of my time and attention to this documentation program."

As for the grants program, Mr. Onuch said that most of the grants will be investments in people: a system of fellowships for graduates of art programs to work at the center for six-12 months.

Considering that accepting the position in Kyiv is very disruptive to his personal life – Mr. Onuch had to leave his job in Toronto, his wife is a teacher and his 15-year-old daughter is less than thrilled about moving to Kyiv – I asked him what motivated him to take up the position of executive director.

First of all, Mr. Onuch said, during the Steppes of Europe exhibit that he organized in Warsaw in October/November 1993, which featured 13 contemporary artists from Ukraine, he developed personal friendships with some of the best contemporary artists in Ukraine, several of whom have encouraged him to come to Ukraine. Secondly, the position was an opportunity to finally realize some of the ideas he had had in the early 1990s to help put Ukrainian contemporary art on the world stage.

But the most important motivation was a personal one. "I am strongly convinced that I am in a unique position to be able to

accomplish something. Having spent the major part of my life in Poland, I believe that I understand people from Eastern Europe. At the same time, after 12 years in Canada, I do not want the personal experience I have had and what I have learned to be mine only. Some things I did the hard way and learned the hard way. There is no need for everyone to do them the same way."

"I started out as a typical East European. My East European mentality changed over the 12 years I have been functioning in the Western world – I myself have changed and my way of thinking has changed. I have developed ideas on what can be preserved and what needs to be tossed overboard because it is merely excess baggage. My path has been very personal. When I look at some of the things in Ukraine, some of their habits and practices, they are very familiar to me. But in Ukraine they don't see them as being not normal. I really believe that I, better than people who have not gone through the experiences I have, can do things in such a way that will benefit the artists in Ukraine and the situation there. There is no need for them to do some things just because they have not yet done them; there is no point in rediscovering America.

"Western society is clearly structured. Everything has its place; if you want to do something, the steps to take are clear from beginning to end. This is not the case in Eastern Europe, in what we call the post-Communist states. To give a banal example: in Canada, if you need a passport, you call the Passport Office and get information on how to go about getting a passport. It's not like that in any East European country. First of all, you can't get the necessary information, and then what you do get as information will be incomplete or unreliable. Right from the beginning, you will try to figure out how to go around the system rather than go through it."

"In Canada, you get the information, get the application, hand it in and, in a week, you have a passport. In Eastern Europe, getting a passport can take a week or two months. But suppose you need it in two weeks. So you have to figure out how to get the passport more quickly, you have to anticipate the problems you will encounter. This usually involves trying to find someone or pay someone who knows how to do this. It's an attitude – although it is quite possible to get the passport in a normal way, you know that there may be a lot of problems, so right off you start trying to figure out how to circumvent them."

"All this is typical for ex-Communist systems, for life in a real socialist state. We are children of a real socialist state – not a socialist state, but the reality that was there. This baggage we carry with us. It's not that we are good or bad people, it's a question of how the society functioned. It is only after living here many years that I have adapted and come to understand that you do not have to constantly try to get around the rules, as most of the rules serve a purpose and most rules are OK," Mr. Onuch said.



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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Prof authors book on financial networks

AMHERST, Mass. — Anna Bobiak Nagurney, professor of management science in the Isenberg School of Management at the University of Massachusetts at Amherst, has published the book "Financial Networks: Statics and Dynamics" with Stavros Siokos of Salomon Brothers in London.

The book, published by Springer Verlag of Heidelberg and New York, presents a new theory of multi-sector, multi-instrument financial systems based on the visualization of such systems as networks. It adds a graphical dimension to the fundamental economic structure of financial systems and their evolution through time.

The book was written during the fall of 1996 while Prof. Nagurney and her family were in Stockholm, Sweden, where she was a distinguished guest professor at the Royal Institute of Technology, KTH. She was invited to be the first holder of the guest professorship, which is designed to increase the visibility of female academics in science and engineering, after a yearlong international search.

Founded in 1825, the Royal Institute of Technology is the largest and premier engineering/technical institution in Sweden. With 9,000 students, approximately one-third of all engineering research and education in Sweden occurs at KTH.

At KTH, Prof. Nagurney collaborated with faculty and students in the Division of Infrastructure and Planning, and the

Division of Systems Theory and Optimization. She also taught a Ph.D. course on her specialty, variational inequalities and projected dynamical systems. She participated in various conferences and summer schools, as well as lectured in the Scandinavian countries.

As an additional part of her activities at KTH, she worked with Prof. Janne Carlsson, rector of KTH, and Prof. Ingmar Grenthe, vice-president, to develop programs and initiatives to encourage women into the sciences and engineering. While Sweden has a high percentage of females in the workforce, the number of females in science and engineering has stagnated at about 20 percent, with a minimal increase since the early 1980s.

During their stay in Sweden, her husband, Prof. Ladimer S. Nagurney, an associate professor of electrical engineering at the University of Hartford, was a guest professor in the Electronic Systems Design Laboratory of the Department of Electrical Engineering at KTH Kista. While at KTH, he continued his research on future generations of personal communications and wireless networking, and taught a Ph.D. course on digital RF techniques.

Prof. Anna Nagurney was born in Windsor, Ontario, and raised in Passaic, N.J., and Yonkers, N.Y. She received A.B., Sc.B., Sc.M. and Ph.D. degrees from Brown University in Providence, R.I.

Prof. Ladimer S. Nagurney was born and raised in Scranton, Pa. He received his B.S. from Lafayette College, in Easton, Pa., and his M.S. and Ph.D. from Brown University.

Both Profs. Nagurneys are members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society and UNA Branch 123 in Scranton.



Raissa Czemyrnski with children at the Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Hospital.

strength for one more treatment and rekindled hope, if only for a few minutes."

"They have no resources," she added. "It's a children's hospital, with only white-walled rooms and beds. I brought two duffel bags full of toys, crayons, markers, coloring books, puzzles and hats, specifically for those who have lost their hair in chemotherapy. It was stressful but enjoyable. The staff didn't really understand what I was doing — they had never heard of therapeutic recreation, but they let me do it. People there were fascinated that I could speak Ukrainian and wanted to know everything about my family."

During her stay, six patients in that hospital died; most of the deaths could have been prevented in U.S. hospitals. "They had only two oxygen masks, and they were for the intensive care unit," she said.

Ms. Czemyrnski's interest in alleviating the suffering caused by the world's worst nuclear disaster was sparked while growing up in a Ukrainian family in Philadelphia.

After deciding she wanted to go to Ukraine to help Chernobyl's victims, Ms. Czemyrnski contacted Roman Dashawetz, director of Emergency Medical Aid for Ukraine, based in Yonkers, N.Y. Mr. Dashawetz recommended she write to Dr. Oleksander Myndiuk, the chief doctor at the Lviv hospital.

"I wrote him a few letters, and he sent

me a letter in March saying that although the hospital could not pay me a stipend or provide me with room and board, I was free to come there. That was fine, though. I was able to stay with family friends during my visit."

Ms. Czemyrnski needed one more thing: airfare. "I spent about six months contacting more than 50 American relief agencies, but most said they provide only direct relief." She had "almost given up" when she got in touch with Dr. John Reynolds, director of the International Studies Program, who promised to contribute toward the cost of the airfare if she could find a reasonably priced ticket, which eventually she did.

This was her second trip to Ukraine. In the summer of 1994, just after graduating from high school and before entering Longwood, she participated in an archaeological excavation in Kamianets Podilskyi, arranged through York University of Toronto.

Ms. Czemyrnski is in the Honors Program, has been president of the Therapeutic Recreation Organization since her sophomore year, and was one of about 15 therapeutic recreation majors who worked as volunteer aides at the 1996 Paralympic Games in Atlanta, for people with disabilities.

She is a graduate of the Philadelphia High School for Girls. Her parents are Roman and Nadya Czemyrnski.

Ms. Czemyrnski is a member of UNA Branch 216.



Anna Bobiak Nagurney and her husband, Ladimer S. Nagurney.

College senior helps victims of Chernobyl

FARMVILLE, Va. — Raissa Czemyrnski, a Ukrainian American senior at Longwood College, was able to help some sick kids thousands of miles away this summer by combining her longtime interest in the victims of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster with her academic major.

Thanks to dogged determination on her part and help from the college's International Studies Program, Ms. Czemyrnski, who speaks Ukrainian, spent three weeks bringing a little joy to patients in a Ukrainian children's hospital for Chernobyl victims.

"It was a case of a longtime dream of mine becoming a reality," said the therapeutic recreation major from Philadelphia. "I had always been affected

by the suffering of the children and wanted to help them."

In a project she organized completely on her own, Ms. Czemyrnski worked on July 23-August 13 at the Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Hospital, which houses about 180 children ranging in age from 2 months to 14 years. For five days a week, from 8 a.m. to at least 4 p.m., she worked primarily with about 50 kids between the ages of 8 and 10 who have lymphomas and various types of blood cancer, including leukemia.

"I did therapeutic recreation interventions with the children; we played ball, colored, sang, did exercises and hospital play therapy, took walks, ate chocolate and read stories. This simple play — a right denied them because of Ukraine's poor economic conditions — brought smiles, took away pain, gave them

(Continued on page 15)

Completes doctorate in business education

DEKALB, Ill. — Oleh G. Boraczok, son of Jaroslawa Boraczok and the late Marian J. Boraczok of Buffalo, N.Y., completed his doctorate in business education summa cum laude at Northern Illinois University in DeKalb, Ill.

In October Dr. Boraczok successfully defended his dissertation, "Task Analysis of Electronic Data Interchange (EDI) Coordinator Tasks as Perceived by Practicing EDI Coordinators."

Dr. Boraczok began his higher education by completing a bachelor's degree in psychology from the State University of New York at Buffalo. He then pursued an M.B.A. in information systems, attending evening classes at Long Island University. In 1990 Dr. Boraczok began his evening doctoral classes by pursuing a double major: business education and management.

Dr. Boraczok was a longtime member and counselor in Plast, and participated in many Ukrainian community activities while living in Buffalo and California.



Dr. Oleh G. Boraczok

He currently lives and works in Madison, Wisc., where he is an information systems manager for an insurance company. Dr. Boraczok is also a part-time professor of computer science at Madison Area Technical College.

He is a member of UNA Branch 25.

The Consulate General of Ukraine in New York
and the Trade Mission of Ukraine in the United States
express their deepest condolences to the family of
George Kuzmycz
who died tragically in Ukraine on December 6, 1997.

Orphans' Aid Society...

(Continued from page 4)

endeavor.

Here, she especially cited Zina Rakowsky, one of the pioneers in the organization and a guiding force until her recent death. During her many visits to Ukraine with her husband, she searched out orphans in need; in the U.S. she found sponsors for these orphans. Mr. Jowyk noted that Mrs. Rakowsky's memory will live on among those who knew her and saw in her an example of a person who gives fully of herself to help those in need. At her funeral over \$25,000 was raised in her memory, so that her work could continue.

Reports were prepared also by Mariana Zadojanna, secretary, and Jaroslaw Wolowodiuk, treasurer (since he was unable to attend his report was read by Orysia Baransky). A separate financial statement was compiled by the organization's CPA, and copies were distributed among attendees.

The head of the auditing committee, Mr. Rakowsky, gave a short report emphasizing the many difficulties involved in the distribution of funds to children in Ukraine. Many times, when new sponsors are found, there is a delay in distributing funds to the orphans. However, no matter what the roadblocks, the aid does get to the children.

Mr. Rymarenko was then asked to address the audience. Speaking as a representative of a foundation involved in the construction of orphanages, he suggested that the OAS join his organization in its proposed project to build an orphanage in Kyiv. His proposal was put to a vote and approved. Mr. Rymarenko will present further plans for this project at a later date, after consultations with officials in Kyiv.

The next portion of the conference

was a report by Mrs. Jowyk on the work undertaken in both Ukraine and the U.S. by the OAS. Besides providing financial aid of \$15 per month to orphans through sponsorships, the organization distributed 200 parcels in 1996. These parcels consisted of clothing, worth a total of \$3,147, donated to the orphans and their guardians. This year, the OAS has already sent 88 parcels.

In Ukraine, the organization has established satellite groups in 24 oblasts, where well-organized groups are working in the cities. The energetic head of the organization in Ukraine is Olha Moroz, a resident of Kyiv.

The main objectives of the conference were plans for future development: attracting new sponsors, raising funds, attaining greater control over the distribution of parcels to the needy, transferring funds to Ukraine in a timely and cost-effective way, recruiting more volunteers for administrative duties, etc.

The financial advisor to the organization, Liubomyr Mudry, was unable to attend the conference. His address, report and proposals were read by Ms. Logush.

During the open discussion, a series of proposals for future projects was put forth by participants. Mr. Jakin proposed that the OAS undertake a search for the orphans of law enforcement officers slain in the line of duty while fighting organized crime in Ukraine and the orphans of soldiers killed by sniper fire while serving as peacekeepers in Bosnia.

At the May 10 meeting the following were elected to the OAS leadership: Mrs. Jowyk, president; Oksana Chranewych, vice-president; Mr. Wolowodiuk, treasurer; Ms. Zadojanna, Ms. Logush and Natalia Rakowsky; secretaries; Mr. Rakowsky, Mr. Pawluk, Ms. Logush, auditors; Bohdan Birakowsky, coordinator of gift shipments to Ukraine; Prof. Jakin, Mr. Mudry, Ulana Diachuk, Mr. Rakowsky, Mr. Pawluk, Dr. Bohdan Kekish and Halya Pohlid, board of executives; Dr. Wasyl Selezinka, Olga Kuzmowycz, Dr. Eugene Holuka, Dr. Ivan Sierant, Harold Bochonko, Dr. Jurij Woloshyn, Dr. Boris Krynycky, Maj. Orest Jowyk, Deacon Yuriy Malachowsky and Dr. Myron Chuchman, board of directors; Ms. Moroz, coordinator in Ukraine.

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ATTENTION

ALL MEMBERS OF BRANCH 40

Please be advised that Branch 40 will merge with Branch 360 as of December 15, 1997.

All inquiries, monthly payments and requests for changes should be sent to Mr. Joseph B. Hawryluk, Branch Secretary:

Mr. Joseph B. Hawryluk
79 Southridge Drive
West Seneca, NY 14224-4442
(716) 674-5185

Re: Mail delivery of The Weekly

It has come to our attention that The Ukrainian Weekly is often delivered late, or irregularly, or that our subscribers sometimes receive several issues at once.

We feel it is necessary to notify our subscribers that The Weekly is mailed out Friday mornings (before the Sunday date of issue) via second-class mail.

If you are not receiving regular delivery of The Weekly, we urge you to file a complaint at your local post office. This may be done by obtaining the U.S. Postal Service Consumer Card and filling out the appropriate sections.

NOTES ON PEOPLE

Named chairman of board at Midland

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Ihor W. Hron assumed the additional role of chairman of the board of The Midland Life Insurance Co. following the retirement of Gerald E. Mayo on October 23. Mr. Hron joined The Midland in 1994 as president and chief executive officer.

Prior to joining The Midland, Mr. Hron served as president of Fidelity and Guaranty Life Insurance Co., a life insurance subsidiary of USF&G. While maintaining his role as president of F&G, he also served as chairman and president of another USF&G subsidiary, Thomas Jefferson Life of New York, and was vice-president of Fidelity and Guaranty Financial Service.

Before he joined USF&G, Mr. Hron was with the Connecticut General Life Insurance Co. for 17 years. There, he man-

aged the brokerage sales operation and worked in reinsurance and group pensions.

Active in the business community, Mr. Hron has served on the board of directors of Health Link Group, U.S. Eagle Fund. He is currently a member of the board of trustees of the Columbus Symphony Orchestra, and is an active supporter of community efforts such as the Adopt-A-School Program.

Mr. Hron and his wife, Olya, currently reside in Lewis Center, Ohio.

Founded in 1905, The Midland Life Insurance Co. markets life insurance and annuities through a brokerage network in 45 states. The Midland is a pioneer in level term, universal life and single-premium whole life policies, and is known in the industry for its aggressive approach to risk-impairment policies. The company has assets of over \$1.2 billion and has \$33 billion of life insurance and annuities in force.

Mr. Hron is a member of UNA Branch 277.

Valedictorian named Presidential Scholar

BETHEL, Vt. — Romko Stanchak, Whitcomb High School valedictorian, received the 1997 Presidential Scholar award during National Recognition Week in Washington on June 24-29. During his trip to Washington, Mr. Stanchak was presented with a medallion and met with President Bill Clinton.

Of the 2.64 million high school seniors who graduated in 1997, Mr. Stanchak was one of 141 to be chosen as a Presidential Scholar by the U.S. Department of Education. Scholars are selected based on leadership, scholarship, contributions to school and community, and exceptional accomplishments in the arts, sciences and other fields of interest.

Mr. Stanchak's interests include mathematics and science — he scored a perfect 800 on the mathematics portion of the SATs. During his junior and senior years in high school, Mr. Stanchak attended classes such as multivariable calculus at Dartmouth and Vermont Technical College.

He also enjoys painting and drawing, and was nicknamed "Rembrandt



Romko Stanchak

Romko" by his classmates at Whitcomb High. Mr. Stanchak planned to attend Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh this fall.

Mr. Stanchak, son of Olenka and Slavko Stanchak, is a member of UNA Branch 238 in Boston.

Sworn in as county's assistant prosecutor

BERKELEY HEIGHTS, N.J. — Jonathan Walter Romankow of Berkeley Heights, N.J., was recently sworn in as an assistant prosecutor in the Union County Prosecutor's Office in Elizabeth, N.J.

Mr. Romankow is a graduate of The Catholic University of America in Washington, and received his juris doctor at Seton Hall Law School in Newark, N.J.

His parents are Theodore and Daria Romankow, and his grandparents are Sam and Helen Chornomaz, all of Berkeley Heights. Mr. Romankow is a member of UNA Branch 490.



Jonathan Walter Romankow

Travels to Japan on Fulbright grant

ELKHART, Ind. — John Sadowey, a teacher at Pierre Moran Middle School here, traveled to Japan as part of the Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program in October. Mr. Sadowey was selected from among 2,000 applicants for the program.

The group of teachers spent three days in Tokyo, then two weeks in different states studying the Japanese educa-

tion system and living with Japanese families.

The teachers' trip was fully funded by the Japanese government, which launched the program in honor of the Fulbright Program. Nearly 6,000 Japanese citizens have come to the United States on Fulbright Scholarships during the 50 years of its existence. The Fulbright Memorial Fund Teacher Program is scheduled to bring 5,000 teachers to Japan in the next five years.

Mr. Sadowey's family are members of UNA Branch 25.

Named senior VP at Northeast utility

WESTBOROUGH, Mass. — Massachusetts Electric, a NEES company, announced on October 1 that Lydia Pastuszek has been elected senior vice-president, customer service. She was most recently vice-president of business services for the company's North Shore and Merrimack Valley districts.

Ms. Pastuszek has been with the NEES companies for 16 years and has served as president of Granite State Electric Co., and vice-president of New England Power Co. She is a trustee of Clark University, where she received her B.A. degree cum laude. She also received a master's degree in city and regional planning from Harvard University.



Lydia Pastuszek

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 6)

ting the level of tobacco consumption in Ukraine and control over the quality of tobacco and tobacco products. (Eastern Economist)

Ukrainian coal aids Moldova

RYBNITSA, Moldova — A cargo of 4,000 tons of coal was delivered to Rybnitsa as humanitarian aid to Moldova. Coal was distributed to low-income families in Transdnistria, many of whom are Ukrainian. The aid was handed over by a team representing Ukraine's Ministry for Emergencies which visited Moldova on November 27 - 28. (Eastern Economist)

Kuchma vetoes election commission law

KYIV — President Leonid Kuchma sent the law on the Central Election Commission back to the Verkhovna Rada for revision on December 1. Mr. Kuchma explained his move by saying that the violations of the Constitution occurred when parliamentary debates took place following the first presidential veto. He also added that some of his proposals to the law were not rejected by a

two-thirds majority, or by 300 votes, which renders them unconstitutional. (Eastern Economist)

Tatars face obstacles to citizenship

SYMFEROPOL — Refat Chubarov, the deputy chairman of the Crimean Parliament, told Interfax on November 29 that Kyiv still has not lifted the chief obstacle preventing many Crimean Tatars from gaining Ukrainian citizenship. Since 1991, some 102,000 Crimean Tatars have returned to their homeland from Central Asia, where they were deported by Joseph Stalin. But few of them have been able to prove that they have in fact renounced citizenship in the countries there, as is required by Ukrainian legislation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

R.J. Reynolds to purchase Lviv tobacco

KYIV — The State Property Fund of Ukraine approved arrangements for the sale of 30 percent of the statutory capital of the Lviv tobacco plant. Nine-tenths of these shares will be bought by R.J. Reynolds Tobacco of Virginia, which already owns a 70 percent stake in the joint venture company, with the remaining 3 percent on offer for company employees for compensation and privatization certificates. The Ukrainian-American JV incor-

porates all the assets of the Lviv tobacco plant. The American partner will be able to buy 135,000 shares at a total cost of 8.64 million hrv. (Eastern Economist)

New program focuses on coal sector

KYIV — The Cabinet approved a strategic program for development of the energy sector in Ukraine. The program will be implemented in several stages, during which 48 inefficient mines will be closed, though this will be offset by the opening of 21 new ones, with an overall increase in mining production anticipated by the program. The program makes provision for the supply of modern equipment to 52 mines in Ukraine. Despite the back wages problem, coal reserves are estimated at 110 billion tons, sufficient for the next 200 years. (Eastern Economist)

Idaho company to held dismantle missiles

BOISE, Idaho — The Morrison Knudsen Corp. has been awarded a multi-million dollar contract to build storage areas for the dismantling of SS-24 missiles in Pavlohrad, Pervomaik and Mykhailenky. The U.S. Defense Department has agreed to assist the Ukrainian government with the elimination and disposal of the SS-24 missile sys-

tem. There are 56 SS-24 missiles in Ukraine. The SS-24 missile elimination plan calls for the dismantling of missiles by November of 2001. MKC is also providing construction and operation services for the SS-19 missile program in Dnipropetrovsk. (Eastern Economist)

GDP down 4.3 percent from 1996

KYIV — Ukraine's gross domestic product (GDP) for January through October of this year fell by 4.3 percent compared to the same period in 1996. According to Ministry of Statistics, the value of the GDP produced since the beginning of 1997 is 71.9 billion hrv. The GDP for October was 8.84 billion hrv. (Eastern Economist)

Canadians seek closer ties with Odesa

ODESA — Canada's Ambassador to Ukraine Christopher Westdal, Trade and Economic Advisor Larry Duffield and Political Advisor Roman Waschuk made an official visit to Odesa on November 20-21 to explore ways of expanding cooperation between Canada and the Odesa region. Their meeting with the Odesa Oblast administration focused on the prospects of improving relations. Future cooperation is likely to focus on oil, transport, machine-building, agriculture and

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Bondra: a Capital thrill

Would someone please tell all these uppity track-and-field types that neither Michael Johnson nor Maurice Green nor Donovan Bailey, despite all their carping, is the world's fastest man?

Thank you very much.

Now let us introduce the whirring wonder who should take his rightful place at the front of the passing lane. His name is Bondra. Peter Bondra.

Think about it. Skating is the fastest human endeavor that generates its speed only from specialized footwear and the muscles of the person whose feet the footwear holds. And it's reasonable to assume that the fastest skater in the best hockey league in the world is the fastest skater there is. (Speed skaters don't count – that two-foot-long blade is a ski unto itself.)

Which brings us back to the sleek Mr. Bondra.

Long recognized as one of the NHL's fleetest elite goal-scorers, the Washington Capitals' Lutsik, Ukraine-born right-winger won the annual fastest skater competition last January at the All-Star Game in San Jose with a time of 13.6 seconds around the ice.

"When he uses his speed," said former Capitals' Coach Jim Schoenfeld, now the bench boss with the Phoenix Coyotes, "he's as dangerous a player as there is in the game."

Bondra is honored to be considered the fastest man, but not entirely convinced it's true. He says he was fortunate to have a good race when it really counted. But there's no question his lightning quickness and acceleration are his greatest asset.

"When I turned pro, the reason why I probably even made a team here was because of my skating," said Bondra, 29. "I wasn't strong or anything special, but I was strong on my skates."

Growing up, that's what Bondra always believed – until his older brother Juraj, then a pro hockey player himself in the Czecho-Slovakian League, told him otherwise. Juraj came to watch one of his younger brother's games when Peter was 15 – he was a center then – and came away unimpressed.

"He told me I was so slow," Bondra recalled, "so that really pumped me up. I thought I was a good skater, so I concentrated on my skating even more. You know, you really look up to your brother, so when he says something like that ..."

In truth, he always was the best skater on his teams. Juraj, eight years older, would pick pre-schooler Peter up after a half day of school, and the two would go skating on a frozen lake or pond the entire afternoon.

He was always so little, but he could skate faster than all his teammates, even when they started growing between the ages of 8 and 13 and he stayed so agonizingly small.

Bondra also played soccer all the time, and believes that has helped him develop strong leg muscles and good knee strength, but admits he was given a natural gift to start with. Being a great skater "is not a thing you can learn," Bondra says, "but you can always get better."

In skating drills, Bondra always concentrates on getting a fast start. He uses short, quick strides off the mark, then lets his stride get longer as he picks up speed. Often races for the puck are won by the player who gets up to his top speed the fastest.

On February 5, 1994, Bondra provided

a stunning show of just how explosive he can be. He burned the Tampa Bay Lightning for five goals, four of them in 4:14 to set a new league record. Three of the goals came on breakaways or partial breakaways, plays where Bondra simply blew past opponents to pounce on loose pucks.

That's the kind of locomotion – coupled with improved conditioning and upper body strength used to fend off defenders – that has allowed Bondra to score 132 goals over the past three seasons, a mark second only to Pittsburgh Penguins' right-winger Jaromir Jagr's 141.

"He always had the speed and quickness," Schoenfeld said, "but in this league when you (are that good) they try to put a blanket on you and you need some strength to fight through it."

Bondra suits up every night knowing he won't get the same kind of offensive support received by other super snipers such as Jagr, Philadelphia Flyers' left-winger John LeClair and the Mighty Ducks duo of right-winger Teemu Selanne and left-winger Paul Kariya (still a contract hold-out at press time). So do the other team's checking lines.

No matter. In 1994-1995 and 1995-1996 Bondra led the league in accounting for the greatest percentage of his team's offense (27 and 25 percent); last season, at 21 percent, he finished second to Phoenix Coyotes' captain (and fellow Uke), left-winger Keith Tkachuk.

"For sure it feels good," Bondra said, "but I wish we had a couple more players who could score 30 or 40 goals. We have a lot of talented players on our team, but we always make the goalie look good."

Except for Bondra, of course. Then they look like they're stuck in drying cement, just like the defenseman who can't turn fast enough to stop him from cutting to the goal. And as long as the fastest man in the world keeps getting his skates sharpened before every game, he's going to be one tough guy to catch.

Daneyko seeks help

Kenny Daneyko's teammates knew he had been wrestling with personal problems, so they responded to the announcement from New Jersey Devils' GM Lou Lamoriello that the tough Ukrainian defenseman had entered a substance abuse and behavioral health program with compassion rather than shock.

Daneyko, a 33-year-old defenseman, voluntarily entered an unspecified inpatient treatment facility on November 1 as part of a program sponsored by the NHL and the NHL Players' Association.

"I believe he's a strong enough person that he can overcome this," said captain Scott Stevens. "I think everyone on this team looks at it as nothing about hockey, but about someone getting his priorities straight. I hope he can overcome this."

Although Lamoriello would not say whether Daneyko had sought treatment specifically for alcohol or drugs, he stated he had "no knowledge" any illegal substances were involved and that no arrest or incident had triggered Daneyko's decision to seek help.

"Ken has been struggling with a couple of issues for some period of time," Lamoriello said, "and it was his decision that he wanted to get this past, wanted to get a clean slate and correct whatever problems he might have with himself or whatever."

(Continued on page 19)

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Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 18)

Daneyko, a married father of one daughter, continues to receive full pay and benefits as long as he complies with the prescribed treatment from Drs. Dave Lewis of the NHL and Brian Shaw of the NHLPA. It was not revealed when he would be able to rejoin the Devils.

New Jersey's second pick (18th over all) in the 1982 entry draft, Daneyko has played in more games for the Devils (884) than anyone except longtime teammate John MacLean (922). He had no goals and one assist with 24 penalty minutes in 11 games.

Jones-Gretzky hurt in mishap at MSG

The wife of Wayne Gretzky was injured and hospitalized during a bizarre incident that delayed the October 22 New York Rangers-Chicago Blackhawks' game at Madison Square Garden for about 10 minutes.

Ulf Samuelson of the Rangers checked Sergei Krivokrasov of the Blackhawks into the boards near the penalty box with 6:18 remaining in the third period. A pane of plexiglass collapsed on contact and struck Janet Jones-Gretzky, who sat in the first row behind the boards, in seats which were part of the penalty box until the last few seasons when they became the highest-priced seats in the arena.

Ms. Jones-Gretzky appeared to be unconscious as emergency medical services workers, team doctor Bart Nisonson and team medical trainer Jim Ramsay rushed to her aid. She was removed on a stretcher and taken to St. Luke's Hospital in Manhattan.

Team spokesman John Rosasco said that "Janet Gretzky suffered a mild concussion and a laceration on her lower lip. CT scan and x-rays were normal."

She remained in the hospital for observation overnight and was released the following morning.

Another unidentified woman was also struck, and team spokesmen said she was in better condition, but complaining of stiffness in her back. She was not taken to the hospital.

Gretzky, who was assured by medical experts that his wife was going to be fine, finished the game and left immediately with teammate Kevin Stevens to join his wife at the hospital. He remained at the hospital past 3 a.m., and his wife was released four hours later.

Samuelson stopped immediately after the hit and, upon seeing the injury, had to skate across the ice to the bench to notify Gretzky of his wife's condition. Gretzky came over and later left the area, returning to the Rangers' bench, where he appeared pale and shaken. Nonetheless,

he continued to play the final 6:18 of what turned out to be a 1-0 loss.

"I didn't initially see her get hit," Samuelson said. "She must have gotten hit pretty hard. I wanted to see if I could help with anything. The doctors were there quickly, so she got a lot of help very quickly."

Ukrainian Transactions/Injuries:

BUFFALO - Alexei Zhitnik, D, signed one-year contract.

CALGARY - Todd Hlushko, C, assigned to St. John (AHL).

CAROLINA - Steve Halko, D, assigned to New Haven (AHL); Halko recalled from New Haven and later returned.

COLORADO - Wade Belak, D, assigned to Hershey (AHL); Belak recalled from Hershey and later returned.

EDMONTON - Drake Berehowsky, D, assigned to Hamilton (AHL).

NEW JERSEY - Dave Andreychuk, LW, bruised left foot, day-to-day. Ken Daneyko, D, entered substance abuse program, indefinite.

OTTAWA - Mike Maneluk, LW, traded to Philadelphia for future considerations; Maneluk assigned to Philadelphia (AHL).

PHOENIX - Darcy Wakaluk, GT, right knee surgery, mid-January.

PITTSBURGH - Ed Olczyk, RW, concussion, day-to-day.

ST. LOUIS - Alexander Godynyuk, D, assigned to Chicago (IHL).

TORONTO - Mark Kolesar, LW, assigned to Manitoba (IHL).

VANCOUVER - Dave Babych, D, pulled hip muscle, day-to-day. Babych, sore back, day-to-day.

WASHINGTON - Andrei Nikolishin, C, knee surgery, indefinite.

UKRAINIAN UTTERINGS:

Islanders' coach Rick Bowness gave a long look to feisty offense-minded free agent acquisition Evgeny Namestnikov during training camp. He was one of the last cuts ... Captain Coyote Keith Tkachuk scored his first goal after going goal-less in his first five games, matching his longest scoring drought of last season ... Left-winger Brian Bellows, at Canucks camp on a tryout basis, was released ... Left-winger Dave Andreychuk missed some time early this season with a bruised ankle, the same one into which screws were inserted last season to repair a break ... Bruins' left-winger Dimitri Khristich managed four goals and eight points in his first 13 games, despite spending much of October centering a line between rookies Sergei Samsonov and Shawn Bates. "It's not easy for Dimitri at certain times," said coach Pat Burns. "He has done well, but he's playing with a 19-year-old kid and a guy fresh out of college." ... Stars'

to the purchase price of \$4.9 million all expenses for renovations and construction of office space to be used by the UNA and its subsidiary operations, plus legal fees and commissions.

Finally, on a motion by Mr. Oscislawski, which was unanimously approved by meeting participants, three new members were added to the district executive board: Andre Worobec, Maria Haluszczak and Maria Oscislawski.

A discussion followed about UNA insurance plans and the proposed mergers.

Northern New Jersey

(Continued from page 7)

the changes in the UNA By-Laws that will be necessitated by the mergers, including a proposed change in the name of the newly merged fraternal organization to Ukrainian National Fraternal Association.

Acting Treasurer Kaczaraj delivered a report on the figures associated with the sale and purchase of UNA headquarters buildings. He noted that the new building had cost the UNA \$6,137,403, when one adds

Ukrainian Scoring Leaders

(through games of November 30)

Player	Team	GP	G	A	PTS	PIM
Peter Bondra	Washington	26	19	12	31	18
Keith Tkachuk	Phoenix	25	13	13	26	43
Wayne Gretzky	N.Y. Rangers	28	8	18	26	6
Dimitri Khristich	Boston	27	8	7	15	8
Dave Andreychuk	New Jersey	18	3	11	14	2
Alexei Zhitnik	Buffalo	20	4	8	12	14
Ed Olczyk	Pittsburgh	22	9	3	12	17
Steve Konowalchuk	Washington	27	2	8	10	12
David Nemirovsky	Florida	17	4	2	6	4
Richard Matvichuk	Dallas	27	3	3	6	20
Curtis Leschyshyn	Carolina	21	1	4	5	23
Drake Berehowsky	Edmonton	19	1	2	3	36
Joey Kocur	Detroit	22	2	1	3	25
Wade Belak	Colorado	6	1	1	2	22
Steve Halko	Carolina	6	0	1	1	0
Dave Babych	Vancouver	7	0	1	1	4
Ken Daneyko	New Jersey	11	0	1	1	24

Player	Team	GP	MINS	GA	W	L	T	PCT
Kelly Hrudey	San Jose	11	539	21	2	7	1	2.34

defenseman Richard Matvichuk had a career high three-point night against the Rangers on October 28, just missing a hat trick. Matvichuk had a 130-foot shot at an empty net, but missed ... More Khristich: Dimitri and goalie Byron Dafoe, traded together from both Washington and Los Angeles, played well against both former teams. Khristich managed a goal in each of the first three meetings against his former employers ... Pittsburgh's Eddie Olczyk on the negative reaction to the Penguins' style of play under new coach Kevin Constantine: "People criticized us last year for not playing defense. Now we're playing great defense and they say we're boring. You can't have it both ways ... Caps' left-winger Steve Konowalchuk

played in his 300th game on October 15 in Chicago ... Sharks' netminder Kelly Hrudey recorded a team season-high 36 saves in a 3-1 win over visiting Tampa on November 8 ... Alexei Zhitnik came to terms with the Sabres before this season's home opener. The defenseman signed a one-year deal for about \$1.5 million. Zhitnik set up the Sabres' first goal of the game against Washington, a tip-in by Jason Dawe ...

Bondra quotes courtesy of hockey equipment insert in The Hockey News. Daneyko and Jones-Gretzky quotes courtesy of writers Rich Chere and Rick Carpiello.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 14

PHILADELPHIA: The Philadelphia branch of the Ukrainian-American Youth Association (SUM-A) invites the community to a Christmas bazaar and a meeting with St. Nicholas, which will take place in the Annunciation Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall, Old York Road and Cheltenham Ave., starting at 9 a.m. Throughout the day, there will be plenty of delicious food, games and entertainment for children, a "Wheel of Fortune" and Christmas items for sale. St. Nicholas will visit at 3 p.m.; the Heavenly Office opens at 1 p.m.

Thursday, December 18

WASHINGTON: The Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies is holding a seminar titled "Public Opinion Survey Briefing on Ukraine." Taking part are: Gary Ferguson, survey analyst and consultant, International Foundation for Election Systems (IFES), Washington; Jeff Fischer, executive vice-president, IFES; and Michael Conway, Ukraine program officer, IFES. The seminar will be held in the library (third floor) of the Woodrow Wilson Center, 1000 Jefferson Drive SW, at 2-4 p.m. For additional information call (202) 287-3400.

Saturday, December 20

NEW YORK: Branch 64 of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, the Chervona Kalyna Plast fraternity and the Slovo Ukrainian Writers' Association invite the public to attend a program honoring the artist Edward Kozak - "EKO," to be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave., at 5 p.m. For more information call (212) 254-5130.

Wednesday, December 31

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America is holding a New Year's Eve Ball

at the institute, 2 E. 79th St., with music by Kryshstal. There will be an open bar, hors-d'oeuvres and a Viennese table. Black tie is optional. Admission: \$100, non-members (reserved in advance), \$125, at the door; \$75, members. For more information call (212) 288-8660 or visit the institute's web site at www.brama.com/uia/

EAST HANOVER, N.J.: The Orden Khrestonostiv Plast fraternity will host its annual New Year's Eve Ball and Benefit for the Vovcha Tropa Plast camp to be held at the Ramada Hotel. A buffet dinner will be served at 8 p.m. A dance, to the sounds of both Fata Morgana and Vidlunnia, will commence at 10 p.m. Admission: dinner/dance/open bar, \$80; dance/open bar, \$50; dance/soft drink bar (under 21 only), \$40. Credit cards will be accepted for dinner, dance and/or room reservations at the Ramada Hotel; telephone, (973) 386-5622. For payments by check and/or donations towards "Vovcha Tropa" please send all checks, payable to: Plast, Inc. - OX, to OX New Year's Ball, 95 Beverly Road, Yonkers, NY 10710-3435. For further information call (914) 476-0523.

ONGOING

NEW YORK: The Mayana Gallery, 136 Second Ave., is holding a pre-Christmas bazaar featuring art work from private collections, sculpture, ceramics, textiles, glass, jewelry and books. The bazaar, which opened December 12, runs through December 21. Gallery hours: Friday, 6-8 p.m.; Saturday and Sunday, 1-5 p.m. For more information call (212) 260-4490 or 777-8144.

**ADVANCE NOTICE
January 6, 1998**

HARTFORD, Conn.: The Ukrainian National Home, 961 Wethersfield Ave., will hold a traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve Dinner at 6:30 p.m. Donation: adults, \$12; students, \$6. Tickets are only, for tickets call (860) 296-5702.

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