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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

National Bank of Ukraine seeks to control value of national currency

by Pavlo Politiuk

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — The National Bank of Ukraine and the government soon will announce a new yearly currency corridor, which should guarantee foreign investors predictable conditions in 1998.

Ukraine's authorities declared that the future one-year projected delineation of the value of the Ukrainian hryvnia against foreign currencies marks a continuation of government efforts to support the hryvnia as the base for long-awaited economic and structural reforms.

"All our measures, including the corridor for 1998, are aimed at stabilizing and strengthening the Ukrainian currency," said National Bank advisor Viktor Lysytskyi.

The bank had previously announced a trading range for only the first half of 1998 — a range that most believed the bank couldn't defend. It was widely expected that a broader range for the currency would be announced, along with pledges to defend that range until the end of the year.

The National Bank of Ukraine (NBU) was unable to support the hryvnia within its declared corridor in November 1997, when panic selling in emerging markets worldwide sparked a flight from the Ukrainian currency. In interbank trading, the hryvnia fell as low as 2.0 hrv to \$1 (U.S.), well below the lower limit of the bank's corridor, at 1.90 hrv.

Before the New Year, NBU Chairman Viktor Yuschenko said the Ukrainian treasury market, after an autumn collapse, needs a stable currency for 1998 and that the full-year corridor can guarantee this stability. Mr. Yuschenko said the bank has already had some success stemming the exodus of investors, money from the treasury bill market, a key source of budget financing whose troubles influenced the hryvnia scare.

He said domestic buyers were returning, if not the foreign investors frightened off first by decreasing yields and then by fears of a hryvnia collapse.

According to Mr. Yuschenko, a single corridor throughout 1998 will show that the NBU can protect the hryvnia and return foreign investors' faith in Ukraine's future economic prospectives.

"We are not rejecting our policy of supporting the Ukrainian national currency," said Mr. Lysytskyi.

But experts said the new corridor will mean softer conditions for the bank and the government in their support of the hryvnia. They expect that it will be between 1.75 and 2.2 hrv to \$1.

"The National Bank needs a new corridor, a wider corridor, whose upper limit may be about 2.2 hrv to \$1 because it provides room for maneuvering and protection against pressure from Parliament and ministers," said National Deputy Vadim Hetman, former chairman of the NBU.

Mr. Hetman added that announcing a new corridor is not admitting defeat of the currency policy Ukraine has pursued during the past several years. He said the hryvnia remains strong and the NBU has more reserves than at the beginning of 1997.

"The NBU spent about \$800 million for supporting the hryvnia in the last two months of 1997, but I hope that in 1998 Ukraine will not be touched by the heavy consequences of the world's financial crisis," he said.

On the other hand, a leader of the Reforms faction in the Verkhovna Rada, Serhii Teriokhin, thinks that Ukraine has perspectives for 1998 and that inflation may jump soon, because the large state deficit and heavy wage debt again are seriously undermining the country's economy.

"We can return to the time of hyperinflation," Mr. Teriokhin said. His opinion is supported by Oleksandra Kuzhel, vice-chairperson of the Parliament's Economic Committee, who said the new corridor can mean only that the government cannot support the hryvnia in the future.

The bank already has shown that it can protect the national currency, however. The hryvnia strengthened and rebounded within the corridor in December 1997, after the bank announced a package of measures to defend the currency, including higher interest rates and reserve requirements on banks.

But investors remain skeptical that the bank can hold the hryvnia within its earlier announced currency corridor for the first half of 1998. At the end of 1997 the bank promised to hold the currency at between 1.75 and 1.95 hrv to \$1.

Verkhovna Rada ratifies treaty with Russia, setting the stage for a new relationship

by Pavlo Politiuk

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — Ukraine's lawmakers gave themselves a lengthy standing ovation on January 14 after voting 317 to 27 to ratify the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership with the Russian Federation, which forms new conditions for a relationship with Ukraine's largest economic partner.

Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko presented the document to lawmakers for their approval and urged them to ratify the treaty, saying it will build a legal base for economic cooperation with Russia, which accounts for 47 percent of Ukraine's exports.

Oleksander Razumkov, vice-chairman of Ukraine's Security and Defense Council, said "The treaty is very important for us. We have very strong economic interaction with Russia, and economic cooperation without a political base is impossible."

The political treaty was signed by Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and Russian President Boris Yeltsin on May 31, 1997, after more than five years of discussion between the neighboring nations' politicians.

Ever since Ukraine became independent in 1991, its leaders had worked with Russia to sign an agreement on friendship, but Russian President Boris Yeltsin had postponed his visit six times, citing the unresolved dispute over the former Soviet Black Sea Fleet and particularly the status of its main base, the Crimean

port of Sevastopol, which became part of independent Ukraine.

"The treaty means the affirmation of the territorial integrity and inviolability of borders of Ukraine and Russia, and in this way all questions about territorial ownership of Sevastopol and Crimea are removed," Ukrainian Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko told lawmakers before the vote.

The signing of several Black Sea Fleet agreements days before Presidents Yeltsin and Kuchma signed the big treaty had set the stage for the final document, but some Ukrainian lawmakers charged President Kuchma and his government with making a lot of concessions during talks with Russia, including allowing Russian forces to remain on Ukrainian land in Crimea.

National-patriotic factions tried to have the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership and the Black Sea Fleet agreement discussed jointly. They hoped that by linking the big treaty with the more controversial BSF pact, both would sink.

"We demand a criminal investigation against persons who took part directly in the process of preparing this Black Sea Fleet agreement," said National Deputy Yurii Orobets, a member of the Reforms faction in the Verkhovna Rada.

But the effort to unite the treaties for ratification was not supported by a parliamentary majority.

Representatives from centrist factions

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EPCOT gives green light to Ukrainian pavilion project

by Natalia Warren

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

LAKE BUENA VISTA, Fla. — Taras (Jason) Harper, president of the Ukrainian Project Fund and an employee of Walt Disney World, has been given the green light by EPCOT Vice-President George Kalogridis to spearhead the EPCOT Millennium Celebration — Ukraine Initiative. However, Mr. Harper may be running out of time as a February 1 Disney-imposed deadline approaches.

From October 1999 until January 2001, the EPCOT theme park, part of the 44-square-mile Walt Disney World complex, will host an enormous Millennium Celebration with the educational entertainment ("edu-tainment") theme of "Hope for a Better World." Joining the current display of countries in EPCOT will be dozens of new pavilions that will showcase the many different aspects of each nation in support of the overall theme.

The pavilions, which will average approximately 3,000 square feet and will include food, entertainment, artisans, and audio-visual, architectural and interactive displays, are estimated to cost between \$800,000 and \$2 million each.

"Ukraine is the only former Soviet bloc country that has been approached to participate in EPCOT's millennium celebration," noted Mr. Harper. "Our dancing surpasses that of

virtually every other ethnic group. We have beautiful folk art and a distinctive cuisine. Our homeland and our culture would be interesting to people everywhere, and this is a wonderful opportunity for the Ukrainian people to put on a display for the entire world," he added.

An estimated 400 to 500 million people will be exposed to the pavilion structures. Michael Eisner, chairman of the board and CEO of the Walt Disney Co., has mandated that all branches of the Walt Disney Co. be focused on EPCOT for the entire 15 months of the Millennium Celebration. These branches include ABC Television, the Arts and Entertainment Network, the Discovery Channel and ESPN, among others.

According to Mr. Harper, the Walt Disney Co. and Mr. Kalogridis would very much like to see Ukraine represented at this Millennium Celebration. In a letter sent to potential corporate sponsors, Mr. Harper noted that, "of all the Slavic nations, there is perhaps no greater example of explosive growth potential and intellectual excellence than Ukraine. And as Disney turns its focus on the counties that will provide hope for a better world, Ukraine would be an ideal choice," he added.

But time may be running out. The Disney Co. has set a

(Continued on page 14)

Steven Pifer is sworn in as U.S. ambassador to Ukraine

by Michael Sawkiw Jr.

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON — Steven Pifer was sworn in as the third U.S. ambassador to Ukraine on January 5, in a simple yet elegant ceremony at the U.S. Department of State.

His predecessors were Ambassadors Roman Popadiuk (a Ukrainian American) and William Green Miller, who left his post in Kyiv on January 7.

With his wife by his side and relatives close by, Mr. Pifer stood on a dais in the Benjamin Franklin Room and repeated the ambassadorial oath, administered by Chief of Protocol Mary Mel French. The popping of a champagne cork added to the celebration of the moment.

Following the oath, Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott offered his remarks about the post entrusted to the new ambassador. Speaking as a longtime colleague, Deputy Secretary Talbott mentioned the crucial period that Ambassador Pifer will be witnessing as he assumes his responsibilities in Ukraine.

Deputy Secretary Talbott accentuated the many positive attributes associated with enhanced U.S.-Ukrainian bilateral relations. Progress within the sphere of "science, technology and the environment," as part of the U.S.-Ukraine Binational Commission (the Gore-Kuchma Commission) was fairly significant in the past year, Mr. Talbott noted.

The deputy secretary also indicated that "the U.S. will do everything it can to help Ukraine during this period ahead" in its transition from a command economy to a free market, via international financial organizations (the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, etc.), as well as U.S. assistance programs.

Ambassador Pifer began his remarks

by thanking his family and everyone involved with his nomination, and underlining that there is "no higher honor" that he could receive. Almost 20 years ago to the day, Mr. Pifer had been sworn-in as a foreign service officer (FSO) of the U.S. Department of State. He asked, "Who then would have imagined the reality of an independent Ukraine or a relationship between Ukraine and the United States that would be characterized as a strategic partnership?"

Flanked by his wife, Marilyn, a molecular biologist, and acknowledging his 6-year-old daughter, Christine (who wants to invite her friends to Ukraine for the weekend), Ambassador Pifer said he is proud to represent a country that he called "Ukraine's partner."

Then, addressing Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, Ambassador Pifer asked the envoy to inform the Ukrainian government about his intended arrival in Kyiv on January 8.

The new ambassador spoke about his goals while in Ukraine and noted that he wishes "to see Ukraine succeed and realize its full potential as a democratic, market economy — which is in the interests of Ukraine and of the United States and Europe."

In his former capacity at the National Security Council, Ambassador Pifer was well acquainted with areas of bilateral relations; he said he now sees his greatest challenge as "ensuring that Washington has a full understanding of the complexities Ukraine faces."

With a round of applause from the assembled audience, foreign diplomats and guests began to line up to congratulate the newly sworn-in ambassador and wish him success in his endeavors in Ukraine.

Kuchma administration cites foreign policy success

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON — The intensity and results of President Leonid Kuchma's 1997 foreign policy were unprecedented, said Volodymyr Ogryzko, head of the Presidential Administration's Foreign Policy Department, at a news briefing here on January 9.

In Mr. Ogryzko's words, 1997 was the year in which Ukraine received recognition as an influential Central-Eastern European nation with an open, pragmatic and predictable foreign policy. Among Ukraine's achievements in this context, Mr. Ogryzko named the improvement of relations with the country's neighbors, namely Romania, Poland and Russia.

He added that the main issues of contention with Russia were resolved, while documents were signed and negotiations were held creating the conditions necessary for the commencement of a new stage in Ukrainian-Russian relations.

The Ukrainian-U.S. strategic partnership was formalized in 1997, an agreement on distinctive partnership was signed with NATO, and the Ukraine-European Union summit was held in Kyiv. Mr. Ogryzko reminded journalists that the Ukrainian-European Union Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation is due to come into force this year. He also disclosed that it was stated at a recent U.S.-European Union conference that Ukraine has a chance of being admitted into the European Union. He said that Ukraine's admission into the EU will not take place within

the next two to five years.

Mr. Ogryzko said President Kuchma's emphasis on economic matters pertaining to Ukraine's foreign policy began yielding its first results in 1997. This was reflected not only in the number of new agreements signed, but in the implementation of previously signed agreements, particularly those on mutual protection of investments, avoidance of double taxation, etc.

Mr. Ogryzko also disclosed that President Kuchma plans to shift the emphasis in his foreign policy activities in 1998. In contrast to 1997, when the president actively participated in international forums and embarked on several state and official visits to other countries, he is expected to host several heads of government this year.

He disclosed that the dignitaries expected to visit Ukraine in the first half of this year include the presidents of Germany, Uzbekistan, Finland and Portugal, and Austria's federal chancellor. Potential visits to Ukraine by the president of Turkey and Germany's federal chancellor are presently being worked out. Preparations are under way for a possible visit to Ukraine by the U.S. secretary of state, the president of France and the prime minister of Japan.

Mr. Ogryzko reported that President Kuchma is to participate in the annual conference of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, which is scheduled for Kyiv in May, as well as the second full meeting of the Kuchma-Gore Commission, which also will be held in Ukraine.

NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma appeals for Church unity

KYIV — In his Christmas message read on Ukrainian state television on January 6, President Leonid Kuchma urged the country's Orthodox Churches to try to cooperate with one another. Mr. Kuchma suggested that "unity in Orthodoxy is a reliable guarantee of the spiritual unity of the nation." Ukraine currently has three Orthodox jurisdictions: the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Kyiv Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, which itself is divided into two subgroups, and the Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate. The three frequently find themselves in conflict over property, doctrine and ecclesiastical subordination. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Minister, mothers visit Bosnia contingent

WASHINGTON — Ukraine's minister of defense, Oleksander Kuzmuk, and representatives of the Union of Soldiers' Mothers visited Ukrainian peacekeepers serving with the United Nations SFOR's 240th battalion in Bosnia on January 7, Christmas according to the Julian calendar. The defense minister delivered President Leonid Kuchma's Christmas and New Year message to the Ukrainian soldiers. The visit by representatives of the Union of Soldiers' Mothers is unprecedented in the history of peacekeeping operations. Also during the visit, the soldiers were entertained by the Ukrainian Armed Forces dance ensemble and Kyiv-based artists. (Embassy of Ukraine)

January summit of CIS canceled

MOSCOW — The Commonwealth of Independent States summit scheduled for January 23 has been canceled, Interfax reported on January 6, citing a source within the CIS Executive Secretariat. The next summit, planned to take place on March 16, will go ahead as scheduled, according to the same source. Interfax reported that President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine had proposed postponing the January summit in a letter to his Russian counterpart, Boris Yeltsin. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine's economic performance lags

KYIV — Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko said on January 9 that Ukraine's gross domestic product had fallen by approximately 4 percent in 1997, an improvement from the 10 percent decline in 1996 but one that still leaves Ukraine near the bottom of post-Communist countries in terms of economic growth, Interfax reported. According to the European Bank for Reconstruction and

Development, Ukraine's economic performance in 1997 put that country in 23rd place among the 25 former Communist countries monitored by the EBRD. Only Turkmenistan and Albania performed worse. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S. to back NATO membership for Balts

NEW YORK — The New York Times on January 12 reported that Washington will formally pledge to support NATO membership for the Baltic states but has told those countries they cannot expect to be admitted to the alliance any time soon. The Baltic-U.S. charter, scheduled to be signed on January 15, declares a political commitment to maintaining the Baltic states' sovereignty and national borders without pledging U.S. military power in defense of those principles. The newspaper quotes an unidentified senior U.S. official as saying the charter seeks to give the three countries a sense that they can become part of the European Union and NATO. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moscow patriarch emphasizes unity

MOSCOW — In his Christmas message, Patriarch Aleksei of Moscow and All Russia said unity within the Orthodox Church is "the most important concern" and called for increasing the Church's social, educational and missionary activities, ITAR-TASS reported. The Russian Orthodox Church has come into conflict with other Orthodox Churches in Russia, Ukraine and Estonia. Patriarch Aleksei strongly supported a religion law adopted in September 1997, which enacted restrictions on religious groups that cannot prove they have existed in Russia for at least 15 years. Critics of that law say it discriminates against denominations and faiths banned or repressed during the Soviet period. In a Christmas message to the patriarch, Russian President Boris Yeltsin praised the historical role of the Russian Orthodox Church and expressed hope that the Church will help promote morality, civic peace and accord in Russian society. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Polish prisoners of gulag seek redress

WARSAW — An organization representing some 90,000 Polish veterans of the Soviet gulag has called on the Polish government to demand compensation from Russia for the slave labor they performed while imprisoned, RFE/RL reported on January 12. Ryszard Reiff, the head of the Polish Association of Siberians, said the group seeks "remembrance of those who died and reconciliation of those who survived." Mr. Reiff claimed that

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DOING BUSINESS IN UKRAINE: Mecca for golfers planned in Kyiv

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Golfers, the serious-minded and duffers alike, soon may tee off on an island on the Dnipro River on the outskirts of Kyiv and shoot 18 holes before retiring to a cozy clubhouse for a beer or a martini. Afterwards they could return to their hotel room or rented corporate villa for a shower and a nap before lunch at a luxurious country club restaurant. In the afternoon they could relax on a beach on the Dnipro River, go yachting, play tennis or make plans for a business meeting in a conference center near the links.

If real estate developer Walter Prochorenko, president of Pro-W Ukraine, realizes his vision, that is what businesspeople and visitors to Kyiv soon will have available to them on a plot of land, which includes a 154-hectare island on the Dnipro, located less than an hour's drive south from the center of Kyiv. The country club and golf resort he envisions for Ukraine, dubbed Twelve Oaks at Koncha Zaspas, would be a gathering place for international businesspeople as well as a vacation resort for affluent Ukrainians and tourists.

Mr. Prochorenko, who has previously completed successful golf resorts in Thailand and Vietnam, has spent the better part of two years laying plans for the realization of his latest project — the first of its kind in Ukraine.

In Ukraine, he said, he has overcome more obstacles than in either Thailand or Vietnam, or any of the other 45 countries in which he has worked in real estate development, including the building of condominiums in Okinawa, Japan, and Guam. "This is one of the most anti-business environments I have ever seen. It is really a unique country when it comes to doing business," said the real estate developer.

Mr. Prochorenko, a 54-year-old Ukrainian American who is the managing partner of Pro-W Ukraine, has invested \$1.7 million into the country club resort project in Ukraine. He has an agreement for the lease of 200 hectares outside of the town of Koncha Zaspas, with the collective farm that owns it. Even though the collective farm recently was bought out by Hermes Investment Holdings, a large Ukrainian gas company, the firm has agreed to honor the lease and to come on board as a partner in the project. It will invest \$7 million into infrastructure development, luxury housing, tennis courts, a yacht club and clubhouse facilities. Mr. Prochorenko also has a third partner, Fond Reserve, for the project that he foresees costing \$34 million.

And although Mr. Prochorenko is

looking for another partner, that is not the reason he has not been able to move into the construction phase of the project. He blames groundbreaking delays, of which there have been several, largely on impediments and intrusions by government structures and what he calls "quasi-governmental" bodies.

"The amount of approvals and regulations we need to go through seems to be increasing every day," explained Mr. Prochorenko. "Quasi-governmental organizations that want to give input into the project are coming out of the woodwork."

What he is describing is a post-Soviet phenomenon in the newly independent countries in which directors of city agencies set up private consulting firms that parallel the work of their agencies and become required go-betweens between the investor and the city. For a fee, of course.

"These are people who originally worked within government organizations, but since then the city has made them independent," Mr. Prochorenko went on. "They supposedly do studies, they supposedly get approvals, and they supposedly make things go smoothly between the government organization and the investor. Unfortunately this is not the case."

Mr. Prochorenko named two such firms, Kyivske Investatsiynne Ahenstvo and Pleso. The latter is an intermediary for the Department of Environmental Protection and the Department of Water Resources. "It has been two months, and I still can't get a hold of the guy who promised to start some action on the project," said Mr. Prochorenko.

The real estate developer believes the lack of action can be blamed on a conflict of interest on the consultant's part. Apparently, two other companies are trying to start up a golf course in Ukraine and must also deal with Pleso. "This presents an ethical problem for them because they can't have arm's length transactions if dealing with two competitors on a single project," said Mr. Prochorenko. They can hang one up and push through the other one if they so desire."

The Weekly could not reach Pleso for comment.

Mr. Prochorenko also accused government officials of getting in the way rather than clearing the way for business investment to proceed. "They are not hands-on with their projects, and when they are, they become problematically involved. They will push their own private companies into a project," explained Mr. Prochorenko. He said that, in the past, government officials have forced real estate developers to hire specific construction companies or architectural firms in

return for needed clearances and licenses. "It seems that every government official has a private company parallel to what they are doing in government. In the West this is unthinkable; here it is fairly common," said Mr. Prochorenko.

After two years in Ukraine and more than a year and a half on this particular project, Mr. Prochorenko said he has learned that it is better to let his Ukrainian counterparts be the frontmen because they have a better understanding of the bureaucratic systems and what is needed to get the job done. "They are in a better position to resolve the issues. And they seem able to do so, but not as far as we would like," he explained.

Mr. Prochorenko decided to invest in Ukraine after completing a golf resort in Vietnam, a country that is just beginning to come out from under the Communist cloud and where private investment has exploded. "I decided that Ukraine would be the perfect place to do a golf course for a variety of reasons," said Mr. Prochorenko. Among them: the climate, the potential for growth of the sports and recreation industry, and Ukraine's central location in Europe.

Despite the many problems Mr. Prochorenko sees in doing business in Ukraine — among them "a total lack of understanding between business and government, laws written in such a way that they are unenforceable, accounting rules that are only meant for the propagation of paperwork and for making mistakes, and that change so often that no one can keep up with them" — he said he will stick it out in Ukraine.

"I am here for the long run. I see things changing," said Mr. Prochorenko. "It took me more than two years to get accustomed to how to do business here. Now that I have gotten accustomed, I know what it takes. But you have to be committed, or don't bother," he added.

Mr. Prochorenko advises those thinking about investing in Ukraine to be patient and persistent, to stick to general business rules and to adhere to the laws. "I would advise them not to circumspect the law and not to work on the basis of bribery. Nothing comes of it," he said. "If you can't do it without bribery, don't do it at all." He said he believes that eventually laws in Ukraine will change to make the country investor-friendly.

Another bit of advice he gives is to find local business partners who know business practices and can handle the details. He has pointers for diaspora Ukrainians as well — too many of whom have seen their business investments fail in Ukraine. "A diaspora person cannot be committed if he does not live here. The fact that he has money, speaks Ukrainian and is willing to invest here means absolutely nothing," explained the Ukrainian American. "If he thinks he can invest and manage from a distance even 50 percent of the time, it's not going to work."

Mr. Prochorenko, firm in his commitment and living in Ukraine since 1995, believes that the first phase of his golf resort will be completed in the spring of 1998 when condominiums, a clubhouse and a driving range are scheduled to open.

Ukrainian asylum seekers find tough going in Britain

by Tony Leliw

LONDON — Most people would cynically dismiss Ukrainians who seek political asylum in Britain simply as opportunists abusing a system to find a better life in the West.

However, scratch beneath the surface and there are some genuine cases, argues Chris Daly, head of case work at the London-based Refugee Legal Center.

Last year this organization represented six Ukrainians desperate to escape deportation. "The grounds on which Ukrainians are claiming political asylum vary," says Mr. Daly. "These include people receiving cruel and degrading treatment because they are HIV positive, Crimean Tatars and Russians facing ethnic tensions, and cases of anti-semitism."

"We have also seen two cases of persecution by mafia-type agencies where the state was unwilling or incapable of protecting them. Some accounts have shown persecution in prisons," he added.

Mr. Daly, however, believes that the situation in Ukraine is improving and that the number of Ukrainians claiming political asylum will decrease substantially in the future.

Jessica Yudilevich of the Refugee Council says that of the 84 Ukrainians who claimed political asylum last year, only 40 to date have been processed. None have been allowed to stay here. Political asylum in Britain is granted predominantly to applicants from countries such as Iran, Iraq and the former Yugoslavia.

"Last year were received 27,885 applications for political asylum from all countries" said Ms. Yudilevich. "The year before that it was 43,965."

The sharp fall can be explained in part by the government's severe cap on welfare provisions in the United Kingdom for refugees. Since last year asylum seekers cannot seek any benefits once they have lost their case to stay. They can appeal, which can take up to six months, but they have to survive by their own means.

The situation is made more difficult since people who lose their case are usually turned down by the Home Office if they apply for a work permit, and under the Asylum and Immigration Act of 1996, employers can be fined up to 5,000 pounds for employing an illegal worker.

Destitute families who would have received welfare provision from the central government have now fallen to the mercy of local councils. Some councils, such as labor-controlled Haringey in North London, are more sympathetic to refugees than others. However, they have now had to warn constituents that money not recouped from the central government could force them to raise local council taxes, and immigration is a hot and sensitive election issue.

Nobody knows how many Ukrainians are working or living here illegally, having been refused political asylum. The types of employment illegal immigrants get include working in restaurant kitchens, cleaning jobs (hotel rooms, cars, etc.), working on farms picking produce and even prostitution.

At the Ukrainian Association Club in London, a message appeared on the bulletin board recently from a worried mother concerned about her missing son. He had come to Britain on holiday and had not returned.

Ukrainian carolers break the ice in aftermath of storm

by Christopher Guly

OTTAWA — Though the Ottawa branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress isn't planning any organized relief effort to help out victims of the recent ice storm that devastated the area, the local Ukrainian Social Services (USS) decided that when the power is out, music has a way of warming things up.

A group of USS-types recently made their way to serenade about 50 residents of the Abbotsford Senior Center in the upscale Ottawa neighborhood, the Glebe. While the Ottawa-Carleton area remained in a state of emergency to assist the thousands of residents without electricity and heat following a punishing storm that ravaged the region from January 5 to 9, the band of 11 troubadours — some bedecked

in the traditional Ukrainian embroidered wardrobe — belted out eight songs during a 30-minute concert on January 10.

The performance so charmed Winnipeg-born Ukrainian Canadian Mae Negrich, 85, that she joined in the *koliady*.

No doubt encouraged by the heart-warming reception, the USS volunteers continued their Julian Christmas caroling the following day. But while the holiday cheer may warm the cockles of those hearts touched by the carols, it's still not enough to heat the homes in nearby rural areas, which can be without power for weeks.

That point isn't lost on former UCC-Ottawa President Julia Woychishyn. "It's nice that there's a group out there singing carols, but it would be even better to help out with some relief effort."

Hartford TV station focuses on CCRF's work in Ukraine

HARTFORD, Conn. – The award-winning Connecticut news station, Fox-61, based in Hartford, Conn., recently broadcast a four-part series on the continuing aftermath of the explosion at the Chernobyl power station. Veteran news reporter Shelly Sindland and cameraman Paul Quimby spent a week in Ukraine visiting children's hospitals, orphanages and abandoned villages in northern Kyiv Oblast to document the impact of the 1986 disaster on the lives of families and children in the affected region.

The series featured the humanitarian relief efforts of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund (CCRF), whose chapters in Hartford and New Haven, along with active support groups in other communities across Connecticut, have played a key role in the CCRF's relief mission.

Fox-61 is the winner of eight Associated Press awards for television journalism, including the coveted Mark Twain Award for overall excellence in news reporting. The Chernobyl series was broadcast in late November and again on Christmas Day in a half-hour format during the station's regular 10 p.m. news program.

In its first episode, the Fox team focused on the plight of Halya Koroliuk, an 8-year-old victim of thyroid cancer who received assistance from CCRF supporters in Wethersfield, Conn. Miss. Koroliuk is recovering from surgery she received at the Kyiv Institute of Endocrinology and Metabolism. She must undergo follow-up surgery to restore the use of her vocal cords and to remove the cancer that has now metastasized into her lungs.

The news team traveled to Halya's home village of Yablunka in the Polissia region approximately 12 miles on the outskirts of the Chernobyl "dead zone." Due to severe economic circumstances, her family, as well others in the village, continue to farm and cultivate vegetables despite the fact that many surrounding villages have been evacuated due to severe radioactive contamination.

In 1995, a conference of international authorities meeting in Geneva concluded that the sharp increase of thyroid cancer among children in Ukraine and Belarus is clearly linked to their exposure to radioactive iodine

Kulchytsky named to Historical Society

COLUMBUS, Ohio – Gov. George V. Voinovich recently announced the appointment of George P. Kulchytsky, a Republican from Parma, to the Ohio Historical Society board of trustees for a term ending in September 2000.

The Ohio Historical Society board of trustees established and maintains the state museum. It collects historical documents and other objects deemed to be of historical significance for preservation and public display.

Dr. Kulchytsky currently serves as a professor of Soviet and East European history at Youngstown State University. He is a member of the Ohio Academy of History, the Ukrainian Historical Association, the Association of Ukrainian American Professors and the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies.

He is a well-known activist in various nationality and fraternal organizations, including the American Nationalities Movement and the United Ukrainian Organizations of Greater Cleveland, which he has served as vice-president.

"Dr. Kulchytsky brings a wealth of valuable professional experience, personal expertise and knowledge of Ohio diversity to his appointed position. Our nationality community is proud that Gov. Voinovich appointed him. He is a role model for future generations," said August B. Pust, special assistant to the governor for multicultural affairs and international relations.



Cameraman Paul Quimby (right) is surrounded by children at the Bucha Orphanage 25 miles outside of Kyiv. The children were greatly impressed with Quimby's tripod and Betacam.

during the height of the Chernobyl disaster. However, another segment of the program focused on other forms of cancer that have not yet been analyzed for possible links to Chernobyl's radiation.

The Fox team interviewed Dr. Andrei Gryazov, a technician who supervises the Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) unit installed by the CCRF and the Ukrainian National Women's League of America (UNWLA). The MRI unit has already tested over 6,000 patients since 1994, and has located more than 600 malignant tumors.

Dr. Gryazov expressed his concern that numerous tumors were discovered in very small children, and that several were unusual mutations that the staff had not been able to identify even after searching international oncology literature.

Perhaps the most moving segment was the final episode, in which the Fox team documented conditions at the Vorzel resort area in north-central Ukraine, near the village of Bucha. Two hundred and fifty orphans and abandoned children, most of whom suffer from birth defects and mental retardation, are housed there.

Ms. Sindland cited a Japanese study completed in 1994 which found that since Chernobyl, birth defects had doubled among children and stillborn fetuses in Belarus and some of the same types of birth defects have been reported in northern Ukraine, including missing or dwarfed limbs, unusually severe cleft palates and extra digits. (One child shown in the broadcast had eight toes on one foot. Another child was born without an eye and nose, and with an inverted foot).

Some of these same conditions were documented by award-winning photographer Jim Lerager and Washington Post reporter James Rupert. Yet few if any of the Chernobyl health studies funded by the U.S. or Ukrainian governments have focused on the genetic impact of the nuclear disaster.

In an exchange of comments between Ms. Sindland and news anchors Pat Sheehan and Susan Christensen, the broadcast raised the issue as to why Western researchers have failed to analyze many of the long-term health effects that seem to have increased since Chernobyl, and Ms. Sindland mentioned in her report that Ukrainian doctors seek further research assistance from the West.



Fox-61 News correspondent Shelly Sindland embraces 8-year-old Halya Koroliuk, a thyroid cancer victim, during a visit to the Institute of Endocrinology and Metabolism in Kyiv.

In another segment, Ms. Christensen asked for a clarification of the new spelling of Chernobyl used by the CCRF. Ms. Sindland explained: "Ukraine is going through a period of transition in which the people want to reclaim their culture. 'Chernobyl' was the old, Russian spelling. The proper Ukrainian spelling is now recommended by the U.S. Library of Congress."

Besides Kyiv province, the Fox team also toured the Lviv Regional Specialized Children's Hospital, which has received over \$5 million worth of aid from the CCRF for the treatment of children with leukemia, cancer and non-Hodgkins lymphoma, as well as assistance

(Continued on page 11)



Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund
272 Old Short Hills Road
Short Hills, New Jersey 07078
TEL: 973-376-5140/ FAX: 973-376-4988

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

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|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$1,000 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> \$250 | <input type="checkbox"/> Other |

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Address _____

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



THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Woonsocket hosts St. Nicholas visit

by Ivanna Hanushevsky

WOONSOCKET, R.I. – St. Nicholas visited children in Woonsocket, R.I., in the parish hall of St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church on December 7, 1997.

Janet Bardell, the UNA Branch 241 representative, was in charge of the refreshments and gifts for children.

Msgr. Roman Golemba greeted the participants from a decorated stage with the story of the bishop of Myra and the origin of St. Nicholas Feast Day gift-giving.

St. Nicholas arrived dressed in the traditional robes of the bishop of Myra, accompanied by two angels. Dr. Michael Klufas served as liaison with the special guest.

Ivan Tkach entertained the audience by playing Christmas music, and Marko Tkach read a poem. The children sang Christmas carols and received gifts.



St. Nicholas visits the children of Woonsocket, R.I.

Carolers greeted at UNA headquarters



Students, teachers and supporters of the Lesia Ukrainka School of Ukrainian Studies in Morris County, N.J., which holds classes at a local public school in Parsippany, N.J., paid a holiday visit to their new neighbors at the corporate headquarters of the Ukrainian National Association on December 31, 1997, bringing glad tidings of Christmas and the New Year. Seen above are the carolers as they performed before an assembly of UNA, Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly employees. Proceeds from the "koliada" went to the Dollar Fund for Ukraine, which supports social services in that country.

Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

- n to promote the principles of fraternalism;
- n to preserve the Ukrainian, Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian heritage and culture; and
- n to provide quality financial services and products to its members.

As a fraternal insurance society, the Ukrainian National Association reinvests its earnings for the benefit of its members and the Ukrainian community.

Announcement regarding convention delegates

The announcement of the 34th Regular Convention of the UNA was published in the January 6 issue of Svoboda and the January 11 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly. The secretary of the Ukrainian National Association, Martha Lysko, hereby notifies all branches and branch officers that, in accordance with UNA By-laws, the election of delegates and alternate delegates must be held within 60 days of the date of the publication of the announcement of the convention, i.e. March 6.

In January 1998 branch secretaries will receive credentials for delegates and alternates, that is two copies for each delegate and alternate. The proper number of credentials will be mailed according to the number of voting members in good standing of the branch as of December 31, 1997, which entitles the branch to delegates.

A list of the names and addresses of secretaries of the branches with less than 75 voting members in good standing will be published in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly. This list also will be sent to secretaries of these branches to give them the opportunity to agree with other branches about uniting to elect a common delegate. No more than two branches can unite to elect one common delegate and one alternate.

Branches that agree to unite should immediately notify Martha Lysko at the Home Office. After such notices of agreement to unite are received from both uniting branches, they will receive the credentials for one delegate and one alternate. Completed and signed credentials of delegates and alternates must be sent to the Recording Department no later than 10 days after the election. One copy of each of the credentials should be sent to the Home Office, and the second copy should be given to the delegates to be brought to the convention. When an alternate will attend the convention in place of the delegate, he should be given alternate credentials to present to the Credentials Committee at the convention.

All credentials of delegates and alternates received on time will be verified and approved by the Executive Committee. The list of delegates and alternates will be published together with the program of the convention in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly no later than 30 days before the start of the convention. In preparation for the convention it is important that all members of the General Assembly send their reports to the UNA secretary no later than March 20.

The 34th Convention of the UNA will be held beginning on May 15 at the Toronto Hilton in Toronto, Canada. The Executive Committee urges all UNA branch secretaries, branch officers and the UNA membership to increase organizing efforts and to take an active role in the election of delegates to our convention.

Every four years our organization meets at its regular convention to examine our past and to set goals for the future. It is important to elect delegates who will be unafraid to make difficult and sometimes unpopular choices. If we are to meet the challenges of the 21st century and continue to be a viable fraternal society serving our Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian community, we must be willing to adapt and keep pace with the ever-changing industry and times.

– Martha Lysko, Secretary

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

The third ambassador

The swearing in of Steven Pifer as the third U.S. ambassador to Ukraine gives us reason to pause and reflect somewhat upon the course of this bilateral relationship since the U.S. recognized Ukraine's independence on Christmas Day 1991, and the U.S. and Ukraine formally established diplomatic relations on January 23, 1992.

The first U.S. ambassador to newly independent Ukraine was Roman Popadiuk, a "favorite son" in some respects, a career foreign service officer named to the post by President George Bush. After arriving in Ukraine on June 8, 1992, he served amid the difficult circumstances of political crises in Ukraine and, above all, international pressure on Ukraine to "denuclearize." Nonetheless, this hard-working diplomat laid a solid foundation for those who would follow him.

The second U.S. ambassador, William Green Miller, who assumed the top job in Kyiv on October 20, 1993, was cut of a different cloth, as he was not a career diplomat but a political appointee of President Bill Clinton. Observers say he deserves high marks for furthering U.S.-Ukraine relations and for being truly understanding of Ukraine's many real problems. Bilateral relations advanced during his tenure from a state of misunderstanding, as a result of which Ukraine was seen through the prism of Moscow, to that of a strategic partnership.

Now comes Steven Pifer, a career foreign service officer for 20 years — more than half of that, as he himself emphasizes, spent working on the Soviet Union and the newly independent states. He previously served as special assistant to the president and senior director of the National Security Council staff for Russia, Ukraine and Eurasian affairs. His testimony before the Senate Foreign Relations Committee during his confirmation hearing on October 29, 1997, was reassuring: "Ukraine's development as an independent, democratic, market-oriented and prosperous state is of critical importance to the United States. Such a Ukraine will be a key partner as we tackle today's international challenges, expand trade and investment, and shape a more stable and secure Europe."

Deputy Secretary of State Strobe Talbott said in a speech during the new envoy's swearing-in ceremony on January 5 that Mr. Pifer "has impressive credentials as a master-builder of the U.S.-Ukraine relationship" and "has been, quite literally, present at the creation of the U.S.'s relationship with the new, independent Ukraine" — including influencing Ukraine to rid itself of nuclear weapons and helping to launch the Kuchma-Gore Commission. Mr. Talbott underlined: "If I had to sum up Steve's abilities in one phrase, it would be 'problem solver.'" Those abilities, coupled with his résumé, give us reason to expect that this ambassador may be the right choice at this point in the U.S.-Ukraine partnership.

The problems in Ukraine are many, including those listed by the new ambassador himself: implementing market reform, promoting foreign investment and fighting organized crime. He explained the U.S. role as follows: "As Americans we will offer our advice as Ukraine chooses its path to build a modern state; and some of our advice may suggest difficult solutions." But, he added, "this is the advice of a friend and partner who wishes to see Ukraine succeed and realize its full potential as a democratic, market economy — which is in the interests of Ukraine, and of the United States and Europe." (To be sure, much is up to Ukraine itself, as it must take concrete action.)

Ukraine's partner has dispatched Steven Pifer to Kyiv. We wish him well in his new assignment to Ukraine, where he has said "much potential remains for further growth." And we look forward to his "candid counsel" aimed at enhancing the U.S.-Ukraine relationship and securing Ukraine's place in today's world.

Jan.
22
1918

Turning the pages back...

On January 22, 1918, the Central Rada issued the Fourth Universal and, for the first time in Ukraine's history, proclaimed that "from now on the Ukrainian National Republic becomes the independent, free and sovereign state of the Ukrainian people." The official establishment of Ukraine's independence was an action that was necessary in organizing the country's defense against the Bolsheviks. The Fourth Universal also replaced the regular army with a militia; ordered the holding of elections to the people's councils in volosts, counties and states; established state control of domestic and foreign trade; and took control of banks and large industrial enterprises. A land law that was intended to carry out the promises of the Third Universal to nationalize and establish rules for its use by the peasants and a law establishing an eight-hour work day were also passed.

After the disintegration of Austria-Hungary, the Halychyna and Bukovyna regions united on November 1, 1918, to form the Western Ukrainian National Republic (ZUNR) in a concerted attempt to defend themselves from an impending Polish invasion.

Then on January 22, 1919, in Kyiv's St. Sophia Square, the Ukrainian National Rada proclaimed the Act of Union between the Western Ukrainian National Republic and the Ukrainian National Republic. The declaration was confirmed by the Ukrainian parliament — the Labor Congress. The Western Ukrainian National Republic officially became known as the Western Province (Oblast) of the Ukrainian National Republic (ZOUNR). Consequently, a common general staff for both armies was created, a common currency was introduced, and a joint diplomatic delegation was sent to the Paris Peace Conference.

As a result of the two events that took place on January 22 one year apart, and as a reaffirmation of the Ukrainian people's right to a life free of Russo-Communist domination, the diaspora began to celebrate January 22 with the same reverence that Americans celebrate the Fourth of July. In 1973, St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School in Newark, N.J., became the first school to ever observe this day as a national holiday and at city halls and in state capitols across the nation, the Ukrainian flag was raised in commemoration as Ukrainian communities filled auditoriums and church halls for their own celebrations.

Sources: "The Renaissance of Ukraine: The Ukrainian State, 1917-20," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Vol. 1* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1963); Paul Robert Magocsi, "A History of Ukraine" (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1996).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

NOC representative sets record straight

Dear Editor:

On behalf of the National Olympic Committee of Ukraine (NOC-Ukraine) I wish to refute and protest the statements made about the NOC-Ukraine published in *The Ukrainian Weekly* (December 7, 1997) in the article by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj headlined "Ukrainian World Congress presidium meets." All justification for withholding support from the NOC-Ukraine, which the article attributes to the Ukrainian World Congress Sports Commissioner Vsevolod Sokolyk, is misleading and therefore damaging to Ukraine's athletes.

I wish to emphasize that sports at the international competition level is the most consistently successful aspect of life in contemporary Ukraine. Ukraine's national and Olympic athletes excel because of individual talent and determination, and because of the dedication of knowledgeable teachers, coaches and specialists, despite shortages of funding, facilities and equipment, severe organizational difficulties, and incompetent and suffocating bureaucrats.

The article states that the final make-up of the Ukrainian delegation to the Winter Olympic Games in Nagano has been established; however, in fact, the final make-up will not be confirmed until January 15, which is after the completion of all trial events. As of December 20, 1997, there were only 56 athletes tentatively confirmed (of 90 who have qualified).

The size of the official Olympic Village delegation (coaches, medical personnel, equipment mechanics) for each team is governed by strict quotas set by the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and must be in direct proportion to the number of athletes; therefore, it is impossible for Ukraine to manipulate the number of non-athletes who will comprise the final delegation. It is unconscionable that the leadership of diaspora community organizations would attempt to discredit the NOC-Ukraine through misrepresentation of Olympic delegation numbers and characterization of all essential support personnel as bureaucrats.

As a rule, each athlete has a personal coach. Because IOC quotas do not permit most coaches to be members of the Olympic Village delegation, they attend the Olympic Games as extra-officials and are accredited only for pre-event training and for their specific sporting competitions. The extra-official delegation also includes members of academic, medical and research sport-institutes, and heads of major sports clubs and organizations.

In Nagano, there will be four NOC-Ukraine officials who are accredited as Olympic Family, including the president of the NOC-Ukraine, Valeriy Borzov, who, significantly, also serves as one of the 111 accredited members of the IOC. Additionally, there will be 20 to 25 accredited members of the press corps with a budget separate from the Olympic delegation. Any government officials attending will also travel on a separate budget.

The NOC-Ukraine is primarily responsible for funding the preparation and international competition schedule of its component teams. The UWC sports commissioner illogically concludes that the NOC-Ukraine does not merit financial support due to an individual's decision to spend \$1 million buying and distributing tickets. To follow this reasoning, one could expect fabulously successful athletes in the United States and Canada to single-handedly fund their countries' Olympic committee budgets. In reality, successful Olympic committees are financed through broad-based financial structures. The NOC-Ukraine is creating

such a structure in order to meet its obligations, striving for corporate sponsorship, government financing (from the local to national levels), marketing, endowment, individual contributions and diaspora support.

In Atlanta, the athletes of Ukraine were envied by those of other teams for the support provided by an expatriate community unified behind their team. If the leadership of diaspora organizations attempts to destroy this kind of support, it is abrogating its responsibility to the community it represents and creating an additional obstacle to Ukraine's athletes.

Our athletes are a precious resource. They bring pride and recognition to Ukraine and delight every one of us with their achievements. They deserve unqualified support. On behalf of the NOC-Ukraine, I respectfully request that you print a correction and in the future request verification of information. The NOC-Ukraine will always provide it.

Laryssa Temple
Atlanta

Yearender omitted radio/TV network

Dear Editor:

Retrospective, yearend editions of newspapers offer their readers a thoughtful, concise, useful and pleasant stroll down recent memory lane. The December 28, 1997, edition of *The Ukrainian Weekly* did just that: it reminded Ukrainian Americans and Canadians about important events in Ukraine, the United States, Canada and the Ukrainian diaspora in the four corners of the world.

However, in all humility, I would like to point out an omission in your review. I believe that the launching of the first all-day, everyday Ukrainian radio and television network that unites Ukrainians of all immigrations and generations in the United States, Canada and Ukraine is a historic event, worthy of being included in your yearend review.

Beginning in mid-1997 we advertised in Ukrainian community newspapers, including *The Weekly*, the impending formation of the Ukrainian American Broadcasting Co. and its satellite Ukrainian Radio Service and Ukrainian Television Service from Ukraine and the Ukrainian diaspora. An endeavor such as this was never undertaken in the community. We have lived up to our promise to deliver Ukrainian radio programs from Ukraine and North America in real time 24 hours a day. Today our listeners can regularly hear live broadcasts of sessions of the Verkhovna Rada, hourly news reports, news analyses, religious, youth, sports and other programs.

We are currently finalizing our satellite Ukrainian television service from Ukraine and the diaspora, and we will be listed as a premium channel with an American digital satellite television broadcaster. UABC is paying for the exclusive right to broadcast radio and television programs to Ukrainian North Americans and thus is a source of funds for state radio and television companies of Ukraine.

Then we advertised that we will launch "This Morning with Us," a five-day-a-week hourly morning radio program on WNJR 1430 AM. We have been broadcasting throughout December as listeners from central New Jersey to Brighton Beach, N.Y., will attest.

The Ukrainian American Broadcasting Co., a division of the Ethnic-American Broadcasting Co., appreciates its unique role in the Ukrainian North American com-

(Continued on page 7)

NEWS AND VIEWS

My father deserves a fair trial

On December 16, 1997, the Canadian news media reported that the federal government was moving to deport two suspected Nazi war criminals for not telling immigration authorities about their past when they entered the country. One of them is Wasyl Odynsky of Toronto.

by Olya Odynsky

I did not have a Merry Christmas. I doubt this will be a Happy New Year. I blame Ottawa.

On August 24 I marched joyfully through Toronto's Bloor West Village, celebrating Ukrainian Independence Day. So did Mayor-elect Mel Lastman and thousands of others, my father, Wasyl, among them. A few days later our family's nightmare began.

Two investigators arrived at my parents' door. They wanted to know what my father had done during the war. He's a law-abiding man, a patriot. He has nothing to hide. So he spoke to them – without legal counsel present. I now know that he shouldn't have. His interrogators didn't bring an interpreter. His English is fine for daily life, but it is not good enough for a hostile interview. So I say Canada failed my father that day.

Why? Think about how this country's Immigration and Refugee Board (IRB) treats refugee claimants. Compare that to what the Royal Canadian Montreal Police (RCMP) did to my father, a citizen and taxpayer of 50 years. When an individual suspected of being the kind of criminal whom the Canadian government might wish to exclude from our country comes before the IRB, a lawyer and interpreter are present, free of charge, and friends and family members can attend in support. However, in the case of my 73-year-old father, the RCMP arrived unexpectedly, confusing him, scaring my mother. The Mounties will say they were just doing their jobs, on "orders from above." Odd how they don't accept excuses like that from others.

On September 24, 1997, my father got a letter from Canadian Minister of Citizenship and Immigration Lucienne Robillard. She wants to denaturalize and deport him. Is it because he's a war criminal? No. The government of Canada does not have any evidence that would conclusively prove in a criminal court that my father is guilty of any wrongdoing during the second world war. Do you think a person is innocent until proven guilty? Ottawa doesn't.

Again, I object. Every week dozens of people from around the world claim refugee status here. Madame Robillard's appointees let many of them in, often after only the most perfunctory of hearings set up in their favor. The Lord only knows whom they have already let in. But, reportedly, there are real war criminals among these "refugees," from many of the Third World's festering conflicts. I'm sure some good people are getting in, too, a few of whom may really need our country's protection. I am all for Canada being a safe haven. But I wonder why the refugees of today get the benefit of the doubt in their hearings when my dad doesn't?

His story is simple. He was 19 when the Nazis arrested him and forcefully led him and others away from his village. Those who resisted were shot. He is not a murderer, nor was he ever a Nazi. He was, and remains, a victim of Nazi Germany's occupation of Ukraine. Most choose to forget what he knows from experience, namely that Ukraine lost more of its people than

any other nation in occupied Europe.

My father lived in a refugee camp until he arrived in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in 1949. No one questioned him about what he did in the war. The immigration officers, he recalls, were more interested in his health. Since he was a fit, young man, they let him in to work on a farm near Markham, Ontario, where he paid off the cost of his passage. My mother, Maria, came five months later. Without complaint, she also did a year's farm work. That's the kind of refugee immigrants this country got then – people who went where the country needed them, who reimbursed Canada for the costs involved.

Debts paid, my mother and my father moved to Toronto. He took a night job as a truck loader. She worked in a factory and kept our happy home. They had three children. I was their first. We went to high school in Scarborough, Ontario. My father was an active member of the Brotherhood of Ukrainian Catholics. Our family grew, just like yours. My parents became grandparents. They raised us to be proud of our Ukrainian heritage, and we are, but they also taught us to be even prouder of being Canadian.

I was. But now I wonder why Ottawa is trying to strip away the citizenship of a man who proved to be a good father and grandfather, whose boss knew him to be a hard worker, an honest citizen who contributed to Canada for longer than I have been alive? Canada has become my father's country. There is nothing for my parents in Ukraine. Yet the government wants to turn them out of their home, without giving him a fair trial. Does this mean that there are, in reality, two categories of Canadian citizens – those born here and those who come here – and that the latter's citizenship can never really be certain? Not exactly a prescription for nation-building, is it?

If Minister Robillard's bureaucrats have serious evidence to prove that my father is a war criminal, our family wants that documentation disclosed in a Canadian criminal court. My father says he stands ready to be punished if Ottawa can prove he committed an atrocity. He has the courage of an honest man wrongly accused of crimes he did not commit. But I don't think the government will have the fortitude to take up our family's challenge. I predict Ottawa will instead cater to those who orchestrated the hysteria about alleged Nazi war criminals in our midst, advocates of denaturalization and deportation who prefer rhetoric to evidence. I don't. I can't. My father's life is on the line. He is not going anywhere without a fight. And if he is not allowed a fair trial in Canada, then this is one fight that won't end with him. It will continue for generations. Ottawa can count on that.

Yearender...

(Continued from page 6)

munity, without which we couldn't exist, and therefore offers legitimate Ukrainian civic organizations free announcements of community events and other incentives meant to preserve the community's infrastructure and activity now.

The Ukrainian American Broadcasting Co. is fulfilling its promise to the Ukrainian North American community.

A sentence's worth of recognition in your review issue would have made reading your impressive edition a sweeter experience.

Ihor Dlaboha
Fort Lee, N.J.

The writer is director of the Ukrainian American Broadcasting Co.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



Reflections on Ukraine's civil society

Do Ukraine's people believe they live in a democracy? According to a survey conducted by the Center for Strategic and International Studies (CSIS), only 20 percent believe they do.

More sobering CSIS statistics, as printed in the latest issue of Infolink, a publication of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation: 96 percent of the people interviewed are dissatisfied with the current political situation; only 12 percent believe the economy will improve; only 3 percent believe land ownership should be unlimited in the amount a person can purchase.

The survey also found that the most informed people in Ukraine are those between the ages of 18 and 35, paradoxically, the one group that is least likely to vote.

Despite the fact that during the last five years the American government, various foundations and numerous individuals have poured millions of dollars into projects designed to establish a society "where democratic values are in people's hearts," the results are disappointing. Rather than progress toward this laudatory goal, we appear to have regression.

Why the poor showing? One reason is that a civil society is hardly possible without two elements: a moral consensus and a collective self-consciousness. Today, Ukraine appears to have neither. To attempt to create a civil society before these two ingredients are present is to put the cart before the horse.

But that is exactly what many American and international organizations – both governmental and private – are attempting to do: create a civil society before nationhood has been achieved. In the words of the renowned sociologist Edward Shils: "National collective self-consciousness is the shared image of the nation and the mutual awareness of its members who participate in that image ... Civil society is a feature of modern national states ... Civil society is guided and oriented by nationhood. Civil society is one of the institutional manifestations of the nation." In short, no national self-consciousness, no nationhood. No nationhood, no civil society.

Part of the problem, of course, is American hubris, a kind of one-size-fits-all mentality that believes that if something works in America it can surely work anywhere. There seems to be little appreciation for the fact that every country is different, with its own unique culture, traditions and history. It's difficult to transplant social institutions without realizing this simple fact of life.

What many modern-day American political reformers fail to appreciate, it seems, is that the United States enjoys both a moral consensus and a collective consciousness (although both are presently being undermined by militant multiculturalists), which began with the Magna Carta and took centuries to develop. "A nation is never an affair of a single generation," wrote Mr. Shils.

Two influences that helped the United States establish its sense of nationhood were religion and national unity, two elements avoided by today's post-Soviet reformers. Their commitment to the principle of separation of Church and state has blinded them to the potential of religion as a vehicle of moral renewal. Their fear of "nationalism" in every form has led them to believe that efforts to construct a national identity will somehow destroy intercultural understanding within the state.

But that is not how America came to be.

"By their practice Americans show that they feel the urgent necessity to instill morality into democracy by means of religion," wrote Alexis De Tocqueville in his classic study "Democracy in America." "Thus, while the law allows the American people to do everything, there are things which religion prevents them from imagining and forbids them to dare."

De Tocqueville elaborated on this point in his "The Old Regime and the French Revolution": "I have sometimes asked Americans whom I chanced to meet in their own country or in Europe whether in their opinion religion contributes to the stability of the state and the maintenance of law and order. They always answered, without a moment's hesitation, that a civilized community, especially one that enjoys the benefit of freedom, cannot exist without religion."

Can Ukraine achieve a moral consensus without some kind of religious grounding? "There is no significant example in history, before our time, of a society successfully maintaining moral life without the aid of religion," wrote Will and Ariel Durant in their 1968 publication "Lessons of History." The Soviets tried but failed miserably.

It is significant to note that first immigration Rusyns became Ukrainians in the United States largely as a result of the work of nationally self-conscious priests.

Given the devastation wrought by decades of Soviet domination combined with the last five years of oligarchic rule by the same old nomenklatura, it will take time before nationhood predicated on a broad moral consensus and collective self-consciousness can blossom. As I've written on these pages before, however, there is a glimmer of hope. A new generation of leaders is being educated at institutions like the National University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy and the Ostroh Academy in Volyn.

Here at Northern Illinois University, three professors from the Ostroh Academy are currently writing theses on three very important topics. Vasyl Zhukovsky is investigating moral education in the United States and Ukraine during the past 20 years. Natalya Lominska is reviewing language education in Ukraine, from Rus' to Rukh. Oleksander Izmentinov is analyzing multicultural education in the U.S. to see what, if anything, is applicable to the Ukrainian experience. The result will be three studies that address three vital issues related to Ukraine's nationhood and three Ukrainian professors who will have a keener understanding of the role their institution needs to play in Ukraine's resurrection.

On June 7, the Ostroh Academy will host a conference titled "The Bible in Ukraine." Ostroh is the perfect site for such a conference because the first Slavic Bible was published there in 1581. All faith expressions are encouraged to participate in this very significant conclave. For more information contact: Vasyl Zhukovsky, 403 South First, No. 14, DeKalb, IL 60115.

Thus far the Ukrainian community has been very generous in supporting the Ostroh Academy. Donations are always welcome and can be sent to the UNA Foundation/Ostroh Fund, 107 Ilehamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115. All donations are tax-deductible, so please give what you can.

Myron Kuropas' e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com

Olya Odynsky is a resident of Etobicoke, Ontario, who says she has become a second-generation victim of the Nazi occupation of Ukraine.

'Bay Area 1997' conference focuses on challenges facing Ukrainian Americans

by Maria Lewytzkyj

SAN FRANCISCO – "Bay Area 1997," a conference and ball organized by the Ukrainian Professionals of Northern California (UPNC) with the support of the Ukrainian Medical Association, took place at the Holiday Inn Union Square during the weekend of November 7, 1997. The two-day event hosted several outstanding guest speakers.

All local and visiting attendees and speakers were warmly welcomed at a Friday evening cocktail gathering at the home of the Makarewycz family. The home, with its beautiful collection of woodworks, provided the setting for Ukrainians of various backgrounds to make new acquaintances and see old friends.

To begin the conference on Saturday morning, Dr. Andrew Iwach, one of the leading organizers of the UPNC and an assistant clinical professor of ophthalmology at the University of California in San Francisco, underlined the group's mission: "to help develop a pro-active dialogue on the issues facing modern Ukraine." The UPNC, organized in 1993, is an organization of individuals who are interested in networking professionally and culturally to build a supporting Ukrainian community that looks at current challenges in Ukraine and among Ukrainian Americans.

Dr. Leonid Kamenetsky, a member of the Northern California Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), then described his ongoing commitment to the restructuring of medical education in Ukraine.

The UMANA and the University of Virginia (UVA) School of Medicine are part of a project headed by Dr. Volodymyr Kryzhanivsky of the UVA School of Medicine that involves delivery of Ukrainian-language educational materials every six months to 101 medical schools and centers in Ukraine. Dr. Kamenetsky confirmed that materials currently being used in Ukraine are written in Russian. As follow-up to the delivery of the Ukrainian-language texts, the project has set up a faculty exchange program between the University of Virginia and many of these medical centers.

Fund-raising efforts in the past two years have raised \$10,500 from donors like UVA, General Electric, Merck, Medtronic, Merrell-Dow and others. Dr. Kamenetsky asked the community to support this project with personal donations.

Ukrainian presence at Harvard

Bay Area native Dr. Andrew Sorokowski, managing editor of the journal *Harvard Ukrainian Studies* and editor/research associate at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) spoke next. An advocate of raising Ukrainian scholarship to world standards, and of introducing Ukrainian works in literature, history and other genres to Western scholars, he informed the audience about courses in Ukrainian studies at Harvard and the groundbreaking efforts of the Ukrainian Research Institute.

Dr. Sorokowski thoroughly explained the cooperative relationship between the separate Harvard entities, the Ukrainian studies program at Harvard and the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute. The three chairs of Ukrainian studies, Roman Szporluk (Mykhailo S. Hrushevskyi Professor of Ukrainian History), Michael S. Flier (Oleksandr Potebnja Professor of Ukrainian Philology) and George G. Grabowicz (Dmytro Cyzevskyi Professor of Ukrainian Literature), teach regular courses in Ukrainian studies, as well as other subjects. However, though the standing



"Kontakt" producer Jurij Klufas addresses the "Bay Area 1997" conference in San Francisco.

committee of Ukrainian studies works with the HURI, the HURI is not a teaching facility, Dr. Sorokowski clarified.

Regarding visiting scholars, Dr. Sorokowski remarked that they are "a recent feature at Harvard, which has taken off since Ukraine's independence, but the HURI couldn't possibly fund them." Visiting scholars find their own funding, and each year scholars from Italy, Germany, Ukraine and other countries choose Harvard because of the HURI.

Staff, students and scholars, through the efforts of the HURI, enjoy weekly lectures on a variety of topics, such as a recent lecture by architect Radoslav Zuk who spoke about "Indigenous Constants and Stylistic Variants in Ukrainian Architecture."

The Ukrainian Summer School's eight-week program has been organized by the HURI since 1971. Dr. Sorokowski expressed admiration for the program and noted that next summer's classes can be found on the Internet at <http://www.sabre.org/huri>.

Dr. Sorokowski added that the summer months also bring many Ukrainian professionals to the institute's three-day symposiums on "Ukraine Since Independence." Discussions on politics, demography, culture and economics have attracted attendees from the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the U.S. government.

Key to the ongoing work of the HURI are its publishing activities and the library and information resources. According to Dr. Sorokowski, the HURI publishes books as part of its Harvard Series in Ukrainian Studies. Dr. Sorokowski told the assembly of the recent publication of "Above and Beyond: From Soviet General to Ukrainian Statebuilder" written by General Kostiantyn P. Morozov, independent Ukraine's first minister of defense. The memoirs shed light on the actions taken by Gen. Morozov in his campaign for a solely Ukrainian army. "A Prayer for the Government" is an upcoming publication by Henry Abramson that adds new information regarding ethnic violence and relationships between Jews and Ukrainians during the revolutionary times of 1917-1920.

Dr. Sorokowski noted that the Harvard Library of Early Ukrainian Literature, initiated in the 1980s, serves to set the record straight regarding early east Slavic literature. "Much of the medieval or 17th century literature written in Ukraine was considered either Russian literature or some

vaguely east Slavic literature," Dr. Sorokowski explained, "Few people have recognized this literature as having anything to do with Ukrainian." Through this publication series, scholars and others have this rediscovered literature available to them.

Another publication, the *Harvard Ukrainian Studies*, of which Dr. Sorokowski is managing editor, "looks to foster comparative as well as synthetic studies." Anyone can subscribe to this journal to read such interesting articles as one recently published that documented a conversation between Stalin and a delegation of Ukrainian writers in the February of 1929, only months before the government cracked down on the Ukrainian intelligentsia.

The largest Ukrainian collection of books outside of Eastern Europe is housed at Harvard, mostly in the Widener and Houghton libraries. Many rare books can be found among the collection.

"It was not so long ago," Dr. Sorokowski concluded, "that the very concept of Ukrainian studies was something that was not generally accepted either in the academic world, the press or the world in general. To speak of Ukrainian history, literature or language was considered a bit extreme, a reactionary political statement."

Keynote speaker from "Kontakt"

The keynote speaker, Jurij Klufas, shared the purpose of his Toronto-based Ukrainian weekly television program "Kontakt": "to connect various North American Ukrainian communities that currently act as islands with not enough synergy between them and to provide a window into Ukraine." Mr. Klufas resolutely stated that mainstream media do not cover Ukraine's news.

Mr. Klufas explained that in order for "Kontakt" to reach a community, three important steps of development must be implemented. First, the local community needs to establish an acceptable air time, which includes decisions on the program's reach and time slot, as well as the cost involved in providing this air time. The second and third stages are concerned with how the local community can contribute to the main show and production, and how local coverage will be organized. Mr. Klufas explained that, for example, New York air time for one hour runs between \$3,000 to \$6,000 on a weekly basis.

The San Francisco community was next treated to a demo tape of various feature segments – arts and entertainment, youth and children's segments – from past broadcasts. The viewers were impressed by the professional quality of the production and the obvious attempt to deconstruct some stereotypes of Ukrainian activities by introducing a modern group of hosts while still catering to tradition-seekers in Ukrainian communities everywhere.

Host Ola Szczuryk's interviews and host spots were done in perfect Ukrainian and she succeeded in steering the show well. The other show host, Michael Luchka, "Center Stage" host Michael Curry and "Youth Segment" host Adrian Tanchak also received a positive response from those assembled.

A "3-H Project"

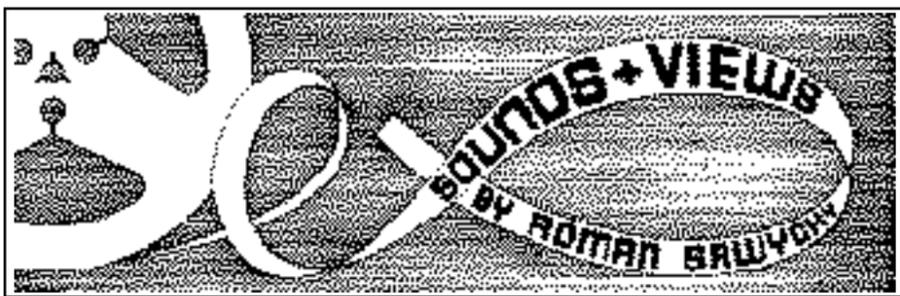
The final speaker, Dr. John Elloway, focused on his work in uniting the Rotary Clubs in the Bay Area, all the Rotary Clubs in Ukraine, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention based in Atlanta, Ukraine's Ministry of Health and the U.S. Agency for International Development in a "3-H Project" – Health, Hunger, Humanity – to improve the infrastructure of medical care in Ukraine.

Working with the Rotary Club's Polio Plus project, the stated goal of which is to eradicate polio worldwide by the year 2000, Dr. Elloway offered his services at Immunization Days in Ukraine. In September and October of 1996, 2.4 million children were immunized through the efforts of Dr. Elloway's Rotary District.

The 3-H Project was born during that visit, after a visiting Turkish Rotarian, Unal Ural, told Dr. Elloway that it was his duty to do a 3-H Project in Ukraine. Since then it has been through the personal efforts of Dr. Elloway and the project's supporters that the project has expanded to its current size and has a budget of more than \$5 million.

The impetus for the 3-H Project can be found in a statement made by Ukraine's former minister of health, Dr. Yuri Spizhenko, who said that infectious diseases are the No. 1 health problem in Ukraine. That message was underlined at a seminar organized by the Ministry of Health where Dr. Elloway heard that there were 3,000 cases of rubella in Ukraine. When he asked how many of those cases were pregnant women, the vice

(Continued on page 12)



On a discovery and its many aftermaths

Early in 1996 a new cassette (a Dolby digital recording) was released simultaneously in Germany and the United States: the sound of the Steinway concert grand piano faithfully conveyed the talent and dedication of composer Vasyl Barvinsky (spelled Wassyl Barwinskyj in Europe) and his present-day champion, the German organist and pianist, Michael Grill. The cassette featured the world premiere stereo recordings of two piano works by Barvinsky – the “Ukrainian Suite” and the newly discovered Piano Sonata.

An early and ambitious work

The Piano Sonata, composed when Barvinsky was 21, is probably unique among similar works of 20th century Ukrainian music. The work was written in Prague during Barvinsky's studies there with V. Novak and J. Holfeld (1909-1911). The demanding score (about 33 minutes long), was completed upon Barvinsky's graduation from the Prague State Conservatory.

Strange as it may seem, the finished score was apparently shelved and there is no evidence that it was ever performed in public, not even by the composer himself. For some unknown reason Barvinsky seems to have disowned his own creation.

For decades Barvinsky never mentioned his Piano Sonata in print and others, writing about his music, followed suit for lack of information. In 1948 the composer was arrested and exiled, and many of his unpublished manuscripts were destroyed by Communist Party bureaucrats. Barvinsky died in 1963, taking with him the mystery surrounding his unknown Piano Sonata.

New developments

Circa 1973 the Ukrainian Canadian pianist Luba Zuk, while in Toronto visiting the late pianist Lubka Kolessa, came across unfamiliar manuscripts in the music collection of her former teacher. With Prof. Kolessa's permission, Prof. Zuk borrowed almost 20 works for piano by Nestor Nyzhankivsky and Vasyl Barvinsky, had a 35mm microfilm made of the lot and returned the holographs to Prof. Kolessa.

When Prof. Zuk telephoned this writer about her find, she pointed out that the film contained unfamiliar music, works once presented to Prof. Kolessa but never performed by her. Prof. Zuk concluded that I would find the film interesting and should try to identify its contents.

Indeed, the enlargements of the film frames revealed interesting and little-known music in the characteristic handwriting of Messrs. Nyzhankivsky and Barvinsky. Both were highly gifted composers as well as convincing pianists – qualities that imparted an extra dimension to their music.

Among Barvinsky's pieces I immediately recognized the “Ukrainian Suite,” complete with titles of folk songs used for each movement, but the finale or last part was missing. Barvinsky's other works were also titled and dated.

Under the magnifying glass

One large composition in several movements however, was without a title, although the work was signed and dated – “W. Barwinskyj, 1909-1911.” Its positive identification came only after careful

study of the core and another source – Barvinsky's worklist for piano solo, which was compiled in 1964 by his widow, Natalie. Close to the top of this list there was the entry – Sonata in C-Sharp Minor in four parts (Prague, 1909-1911). The score I held coincided with the entry in every respect.

We now had the Piano Sonata, safe and complete as written at the time Mykola Lysenko was still recording his own arrangements. Together with the Piano Concerto in F Minor (which was rediscovered in 1993), there was almost an hour of additional Barvinsky music that had not been heard for the greater part of this century.

Wytwycky expounds

I next approached Dr. Wasyl Wytwycky, dean of diaspora musicologists and an authority on Barvinsky, for a full evaluation of the newly assembled scores. Work on this project was carried out in 1981-1983. Dr. Wytwycky's delight and enthusiasm were accompanied by the realization that the sonata was really Barvinsky's first attempt at such a form. (In this respect Barvinsky and Levko Revutsky in Kyiv pioneered the piano sonata form in 20th century Ukrainian music.)

In Dr. Wytwycky's estimation, Barvinsky's initial attempt was “ambitious” and occasionally even “overdone,” unlike the fully balanced and mature “Ukrainian Suite,” which was not completed until 1922.

Still, in Dr. Wytwycky's opinion, Barvinsky had no real reason to suppress his early sonata. At the same time, Dr. Wytwycky noted that the score never circulated and, therefore, never received any mention let alone analysis or publicity. Dr. Wytwycky went on to add that Barvinsky made no attempt whatever to “nationalize” his sonata by using Ukrainian folk motifs, but rather chose the medium of abstract expression char-

acteristic of the early 20th century.

There are those who may speculate whether this abstract and difficult sonata was dismissed due to its lack of tangible or “national” elements. While such a theory could be entertained, we must not forget that Barvinsky's cycle of Preludes for Piano, Op. 1 (1908-1909) were likewise conceived without direct folkloric input, and remained exceedingly popular with Ukrainian listeners, not to mention audiences in the West.

Back to Ukraine

Once the music was copied, it could be returned to Ukraine. The city of Lviv became the logical choice as the repository for both the works of Barvinsky and those of his colleague, Nyzhankivsky. A copy of Barvinsky's sonata was sent to composer and conductor Mykola Kolessa. Its first printing was by the Kyiv publishing house Muzychna Ukraina in 1990. The work received high ratings and critical praise from the late Mykola Hordiychuk, Kyiv's top music scholar.

Three years later the Piano Sonata was given its Lviv premiere in a memorable performance by Oleh Kryshchalsky, a former student of Barvinsky.

The sonata's world premiere was held at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York on February 20, 1988, on the very day of the 100th anniversary of Barvinsky's birth, under the auspices of

the Ukrainian Institute of America – with Mr. Grill at the piano.

Lost letter arrives

Thus, after many decades the sonata is finally in general circulation. Its history may be compared to a long journey by a letter, written over 80 years ago, mailed, then misplaced and not delivered until now to the addressee – the general public.

This rather special letter is signed by a kind and gentle composer with a striking visage. His features are distinctive, just like his signature.

The RCA Studio recordings by Michael Grill were produced by the writer two years ago in a limited, privately issued cassette. The initial run using a German text has been sold out, but plans are under way to re-issue the recording, this time with English titles, possibly featuring the Piano Sonata and “Ukrainian Suite” with other Barvinsky pieces, as performed by Mr. Grill. Inquiries may be sent to: Roman Sawycky, P.O. Box 375, Cranford, NJ 07016.

Postscript

The reader may be puzzled as to the late Lubka Kolessa became the recipient of the original scores of Barvinsky and

(Continued on page 10)



The beginning of Barvinsky's Piano Sonata. A reproduction of the composer's manuscript (1909) formerly in Lubka Kolessa's archive.



Halyna Kolessa (center) presents the archives of Lubka Kolessa to Halyna Tykhobaieva, director of the Solomiya Krushelnytska Memorial Museum in Lviv. Looking on is Prof. Mykola Kolessa. The paintings on the left also are part of the archives.

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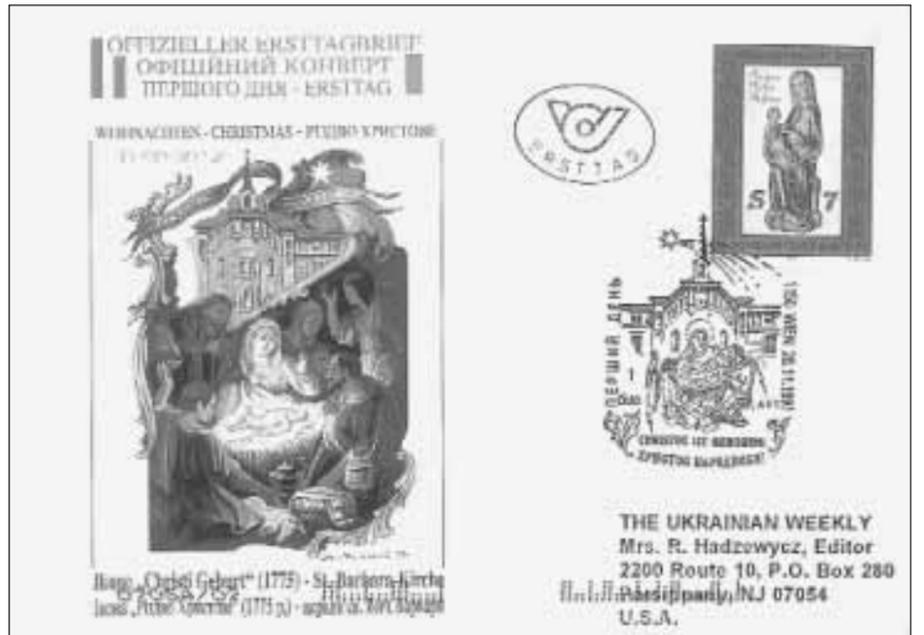
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Austrian philatelists celebrate new issue



On the occasion of the first day of issue of the Austrian stamp "Christmas 1997," an exhibit of icons from St. Barbara's Church was held in Vienna City Hall. The official first day cover and special postmark of November 28, 1997, released through the efforts of the Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria, show the icon "Nativity of Christ" by Moses Subotic (1775) in front of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of St. Barbara in Vienna. The design is by Lviv artist Ivan Turetskyi.

On a discovery...

(Continued from page 9)

Nyzhankivsky. One has to bear in mind that at age 16 (at the end of World War I), Ms. Kolessa was already famous in Austria and Germany. Renowned German conductor and pianist Bruno Walter referred to Ms. Kolessa as "certainly one of the most superb pianists of our time." By the mid-1920s composers of note sent her their works in the hope that this brilliant, young artist would introduce their work abroad.

At that time Barvinsky and Nyzhankivsky were leading representatives of Ukrainian piano music. Ms. Kolessa was from western Ukraine and she identified with this music and promoted it enthusiastically.

Prof. Kolessa's performances and recordings of Nyzhankivsky's works in Europe were followed by New York pre-

mieres of Barvinsky's music, which was for the most part, unpublished at the time.

Prof. Kolessa's achievements will be assessed upon the full study of her archive. That task has recently been undertaken by piano music specialists in Lviv. Shortly before her death last August, the 95-year-old pianist entrusted violist Halyna Kolessa with the task of transferring her effects from Toronto to the Solomiya Krushelnytska Memorial Museum in Lviv - to be housed and exhibited there exclusively.

Lubka Kolessa's archive represented the sum total of a rare career. Complications set in, when Prof. Kolessa vacillated at the 11th hour about transporting the archive to Lviv. Halyna Kolessa persevered, then faced a difficult trek transporting the archive first back to the United States, and only then to its final destination - Ukraine.

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

some 1.6 million Poles were deported to labor camps during World War II and that approximately half of them perished. (RFE/RL Newline)

Posthumous recognition for Stus

KYIV - The late poet and Soviet political prisoner Vasyl Stus was posthumously awarded the Order of Yaroslav the Wise (fifth degree) "for achievements recognized by the Ukrainian state in the development of national culture and for civic courage in defending the ideals of humanism and the independence of Ukraine." The medal was awarded in accordance with a presidential decree. Stus, a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group died at the age of 47, under mysterious circumstances on September 4, 1985, at the notorious Perm Camp No. 36, where he was serving a sentence of 10 years' imprisonment and five years' exile for "anti-Soviet agitation and propaganda." (Respublika)

New passports go into service

KYIV - As of January 1, Soviet passports are no longer valid in Ukraine for travel abroad. Nearly 1 million citizens of Ukraine have traded in their old USSR passports for new ones issued by Ukraine. A measure providing for the issuance of

new passports had been passed last August by the Cabinet of Ministers. (Respublika)

Kyiv halts Russian flight to Transdnierster

KYIV - Ukrainian authorities on January 8 prohibited a military transport plane from flying over Ukrainian territory between the Russian Federation and Tiraspol, Moldova, because Moscow has not paid for the use of the air corridor, the Russian command in Moldova's Transdnierster region told ITAR-TASS. Russian military flights have been using this route on a daily basis for some time, but Russian authorities have indicated they would use regular commercial flights in the future. (RFE/RL Newline)

Inflation rate down in Ukraine

KYIV - Inflation in Ukraine fell to 10.1 percent in 1997 - the lowest level since that country became independent, the State Statistical Committee told ITAR-TASS on January 8. That represents a steep decline from an inflation rate in 1993 of more than 10,000 percent. The government predicts that the economy will begin to grow by 0.5 percent this year, marking the first growth since independence. In other economic news, Ukraine's Cabinet of Ministers said it will abolish the value-added tax on Russian goods as of February 1 if the Russian government does the same for Ukrainian goods. (RFE/RL Newline)

Wayne State U. program focuses on Eastern European business

DETROIT – The School of Business Administration at Wayne State University was awarded a U.S. Department of Education grant in the spring of 1997 for the development of the Interdisciplinary Program in Eastern European Business. The grant proposal was a collaborative effort between the School of Business Administration and the department of German and Slavic studies at Wayne State.

One of the primary objectives of the Eastern European business program is to prepare globally competent professionals who will position the United States to compete more effectively in today's dynamic world economy. Three educational requirements are addressed by the program in reaching this objective.

The first is to develop a cadre of culturally prepared professionals in American business, government and educational institutions who are capable of addressing U.S. emerging interdepen-

dence with nations that have been relatively neglected.

The second requirement is to focus on Eastern European cultures and languages, given the key strategic role that Eastern Europe will play in the political stability and economic progress of the post-Cold War world.

The final requirement is to strengthen the bonds across disciplines as part of fortifying WSU's internationalization initiative.

Winter 1998 courses offered at Wayne State University in the Eastern European Business Program will include: The Changing Face of Eastern Europe, taught by Profs. Vera Andrushkiw and A. Klin-Norris; Business in Transition in the Emerging Republics taught by Profs. Andrushkiw and Attila Yaprak; and Internship in Eastern European Business, supervised by Prof. Andrushkiw and J. Wagster.

League of Ukrainian Catholics meets

PITTSBURGH – The League of Ukrainian Catholics (LUC) held its 59th annual convention here on October 10-12, 1997. Hosted by the Western Pennsylvania Council and chaired by LUC Treasurer Nicholas Kotow, the event was held at the Sheraton Hotel Station Square. The national board of directors was elected at the general business meeting.

Hilary A. Kinal takes the helm as president. Issues on his agenda include the following: a communications initiative to develop a LUC Web site; a spirituality initiative to promote the beatification of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky; a membership activity initiative, a "Year of the Family" event that will focus on families, singles and youth; and selection of a delegate to attend the Church sobor to be held in Lviv on August 20-31.

LUC board of directors includes Theodore Stenko, vice-president; Mary Ann Grimm, recording secretary; Mr. Kotow, treasurer; Sister Zenovia Chmilar SSMI, corresponding secretary; Esther Grimm, membership director; Sister Marina Bochnewich OSBM, religious director; and Helen Labinsky, publicity. Three candidates for spiritual director have been submitted to Metropolitan

Stephen Sulyk for his appointment.

Convention workshops were held on October 11. Workshop topics included: The X Generation (the Baby Boomers 1946-1962 and the Xers 1965-1982), The Spiritual Life of Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky, The Archdiocesan Catechists Program, The New Basilian Spirituality Center and The Church's View on Living Wills.

The keynote speaker at the banquet was the Rev. John Ciurpita on "Our Celebration of Hope for the Next Millennium."

On October 12 the newly elected board of directors was installed prior to the divine liturgy, which was celebrated by Bishop Robert Moskal of St. Josaphat's Diocese in Parma and Bishop Basil Losten of Stamford.

The League of Ukrainian Catholics was organized by the late Metropolitan Ambrose Senyshyn as an extension of the Church to lend lay assistance to a growing Ukrainian Catholic community. Its mission is to provide means by which Ukrainian Catholic laity can actively participate in the life of the Church. Further information can be obtained by contacting: Hilary A. Kinal Esq., 682 Third St., Beaver, PA 15009; tel. (412) 774-9055, fax (412) 773-2909.

Hartford TV...

(Continued from page 4)

from the UNWLA, the SUM-A Medical Aid Project and other Western medical aid providers. The team also toured the Volyn Regional Children's Hospital in Lutsk, one of the latest hospitals to receive substantial aid from the CCRF.

Ms. Sindland interviewed several representatives of the CCRF for the Fox broadcast, including Executive Director Nadia Matkiwsky, Ukraine's In-Country Director Nathan Hodge, Director of Development Alex Kuzma and Assistant to the Executive Director Ksenia Kzyk, as well as Ukrainian medical experts. The CCRF team was in Lviv monitoring the distribution of aid from its 19th airlift, which was coordinated with and greeted by First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton during her visit to Ukraine.

Nuclear safety issues have attracted growing interest in Connecticut as the state's nuclear plants owned by Northeast Utilities have been cited for serious safety violations. The Fox-61 broadcast took pains to distinguish between the design

of American nuclear plants, which include numerous safety features never installed in the graphite-based RBMK technology utilized in Soviet reactors. Nevertheless, the news report reflected on Chernobyl as the worst-case scenario that could result from gross negligence and defiance of safety procedures at nuclear facilities.

The Fox broadcast received favorable commentary in the Hartford Courant, the New Haven Register, the Connecticut Journal Courier and other print media. It also stimulated schoolchildren and teachers in at least two Connecticut communities to initiate holiday gift drives for the CCRF.

Ukrainian communities that wish to have the four-part series broadcast in their area should contact the program director or general manager of their local Fox-TV affiliate and request that the affiliate contact Fox-61 to obtain the series. April 26 is the 12th anniversary of the explosion.

For further information contact Fox-61 News, 1-800-788-0852; or the Connecticut office of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, (203) 407-0261.

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Ukrainian themes in Western music to be highlighted at UIA concert

by Roman Sawycky

NEW YORK — The Chamber Music Society of the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York, the artistic director of which is Mykola Suk, will be heard in a rare program titled "Ukrainian Themes in Western Music" on January 24 at 8 p.m. The concert — more than a year in preparation — will include selections from Loeffler, Liszt, Rachmaninoff, Hummel, Rands and Beethoven.

Featured performers are Oksana Krovytska, soprano; Mr. Suk, piano; the Leontovych String Quartet; Vyacheslav Bakis, piano; and guest artist Maria Elena Tobon, flute. The concert is sponsored by the Self-Reliance (N.Y.) Federal Credit Union.

One wonders why master artists or writers did not concern themselves with Ukrainian themes, while master composers left so much evidence to the contrary. This concert offers a tantalizing taste of what is out there waiting to be heard.

Alsation American composer Charles Loeffler (1861-1935) spent his childhood near Kyiv (late 1860s) and later recalled those musical impressions in major works. He was, therefore, a cosmopolitan impressionist drawing from many sources, fashioning his music carefully with skill and sensitivity. "Les Veilles de l'Ukraine," based on Gogol (Mykola Hohol), is a suite of four movements, originally scored for violin and orchestra. It premiered in 1897 with the composer as soloist and the Boston Symphony under Arthur Nikisch. The work's bright harmonics incorporate Ukrainian modal flavor, song fragments and an exuberant folk humor often found in Gogol. The suite was never published or recorded; this performance makes use of the original manuscripts.

Franz Liszt's (1811-1866) grandiose canvases were sometimes followed by deli-

cate miniatures completing his own portrait of a romantic hero. Liszt, who toured in Ukraine, spent an entire year there in 1847. The ancient ballad of tragic love, attributed to the legendary Kozak songstress Marusia Churai, "Oy Ne Khody, Hrytsiu," served as base material for Liszt's "Balladed' Ukraine," part of the set "Glanes de Woronince" (The Voronyntsi Sheaf).

Taras Shevchenko's poetry emerged in works by Mussorgsky and Prokofiev, while Tchaikovsky and his protégé Sergei Rachmaninoff preferred the bard's bucolic or brooding moods. Rachmaninoff, a frequent visitor to Ukraine, chose three Russian translations by Pleshcheyev and Bunin, dealing with the theme of fate, the cornerstone of his own musical oeuvre. All three songs, penned in 1893 and 1906, are monologues or vocal declamations with well-developed piano parts, which may serve as duets for voice and piano.

One 18th century tune, "The Kozak Rides Beyond the Danube," was never surpassed in terms of world acceptance when compared with other Ukrainian melodies. Not a folk song, it was penned by the Kozak poet S. Klymovsky and depicted the sweet sorrow of parting lovers. It served the Austrian-Bohemian piano virtuoso, Johann Nepomuk Hummel (1778-1837), who came up with the most delightful, classic trio on this material (Vienna, 1818). The richness of color, ornamentation and dynamic motion surpass even the Beethoven chamber piece on the same tune.

Among Beethoven's (1770-1827) most splendid works are the three String Quartets Op. 59, commissioned by and dedicated to the Ukrainian Count Andrii Rozumovsky. Until recently, Western musicology had simply assumed the folk themes employed in the set were Russian. (The count's roots were not well publicized, and he was the ambassador of Russia.) The late Yakov Soroker documents in his definitive volume "Ukrainian Musical Elements in Classical Music" (Toronto: CIUS Press, 1995) that such "obligatory" analyses have been erroneous. Soroker supports the view that Beethoven preferred Ukrainian folk songs to the Russian, due to the closeness of Ukrainian melodies to the European music system.

'Bay Area 1997'...

(Continued from page 8)

minister of health could only say that information was not available.

After further research, Dr. Elloway said he was appalled by the lack of standards in data gathering and at the lack of data. The project's aims are to establish a center in Kyiv for teaching and for the analysis of infectious and contagious diseases, to set up a local area network (LAN) with computers in Kyiv and in all the oblasts, and to provide Internet access for communication, education and research.

The 3-H Project will receive a portion of the proceeds from ticket sales to the March performance of the Odesa Philharmonic Orchestra in the Bay Area.

Others interested in helping this project should contact Dr. Elloway at: telephone, (415) 892-3300; e-mail, elloway_john@msn.com

The conference ended with a documentary of a 1981 expedition to Mount Everest with Dr. James Morrissey, the doctor who accompanied this expedition, which included the famous Sir Edmund Hillary. The expedition was a first attempt to scale the east side of that peak.

Later that evening participants gathered for dinner and a dance, and to speak with the presenters who had made the "Bay Area 1997" conference a success.

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COMMUNITY CHRONICLE

St. John's School presents Christmas concert



NEWARK, N.J. – St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School, presented its annual concert of Christmas carols, "Let Us All Rejoice Together on This Day," on December 21, 1997. Choirs of the lower grades and the upper grades, as well as a girls' ensemble comprising students from grade 5-8, a bandurist group and a sopilka orchestra, presented a program that included international carols sung in Ukrainian, English, French, Spanish and German. Seen above is the upper grades choir; below is the lower grades choir. Opening remarks were delivered by Sister Chrysostom, principal; while closing comments were offered by the pastor, the Rev. Frank Szadiak. Donations collected at the concert held in St. John's Church went toward supporting the elementary school.



Chicago school celebrates St. Nicholas Day



CHICAGO – A representative of Gov. Jim Edgar presented a letter of congratulations to the School of Ukrainian Studies at its annual St. Nicholas Day celebration on December 20, 1997. Seen are: (front row, from left) Nadija Z. Chojnacki, Pat Michalski, assistant to the governor for ethnic affairs, and Adriana Saldon; (back row) Christina Keryczynskyj, Zenia Forowycz and Ivasyk Kavchak.

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Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Daneyko benefits from NHL'S new policy

The home phone, disconnected two weeks before Kenny Daneyko disappeared, left no forwarding message to hell. Things had to be worse than bad for a guy who played 388 straight games only to submit to substance-abuse treatment in mid-season.

Only a break, a tear, a crane or tear gas has gotten Daneyko out of the New Jersey Devils' line-up over 13 completely dependable years. One of the very best guys in the NHL is also one of the toughest. Daneyko would rather cut off his left arm and keep playing with the right one than make excuses. He must have hit a bottom most of us can't even fathom.

Take it from Paul Holmgren, someone who has been there. It took as much courage as it took honesty and pain for Daneyko to voluntarily join a rehab program.

"The embarrassment has something to do with not wanting to (come forward)," said Holmgren, the Philadelphia Flyers' director of player personnel, who has been dry for three years. "You feel so hopeless, alone, like there's no way out. At that point you need to be able to reach out to someone away from what's going on."

The National Hockey League provides that now. Daneyko knew, no matter what shame or pain he would have to confront in coming forward, there would be no cutoff from his livelihood.

The most important group helped by the 1995 collective bargaining agreement was those previously too frightened to seek treatment. Imagine the pressure on a millionaire knowing how much money he might sacrifice in 28 days at a treatment center. Worse, imagine the dilemma of the minimum-salary player drowning in booze, wondering how he could pay his bills in the short term or even keep his job in the long run if he came forward.

That excuse is gone now. There is no penalty in step 1, the one that Daneyko took, and there are measures of compassion

all the way up to and through step 4, which calls for suspension without pay for at least one year while still holding out the possibility of reinstatement.

Holmgren, who was coaching the Hartford Whalers when he got sick and tired of being sick and tired, had to depend on the kindnesses of his bosses, with absolutely no guarantees.

"I didn't know what was going to happen, but Brian Burke and Gary Bettman were beneficial," Holmgren said. "They put me where I needed to be. (Owner) Richard Gordon was tremendous. Now, a player will know for sure that the league and team will do that if they need help."

We don't know how many others still do. Dr. Brian Shaw and Dr. David Lewis, who direct and oversee the NHL-NHLPA joint program, will not, according to the league, speak even generically on substance abuse, let alone comment on the extent of the problem. There is a belief throughout the sport, shared by Holmgren, that alcoholism is on the decline, but they don't take polls in the closet.

"Awareness of players is much better now," Holmgren says. "Players drink less today because players are in better shape, but the odd guy is going to get taken in and swallowed up, just like the odd CEO of a major corporation."

Holmgren has had several persons he played or worked with come to him.

"Basically, I tell them that they're not alone, that there are lots of people in the same boat, and there are ways to get help and get better," he said. "To the best of my knowledge, a good share of them are doing well."

"Something like job stress might speed up the process, but there comes a point where the most important thing in your life is drinking, and it doesn't have anything to do with anything else. So, if Kenny did this in the summer or in mid-season, it doesn't matter."

"When he comes back, he has to find

(Continued on page 15)

EPCOT gives...

(Continued from page 1)

February 1 deadline for a letter of intent and a security deposit from all corporations that will be sponsoring pavilions. The early deadline will enable Disney's producers, engineers and architects to partner with the various sponsors in designing the pavilions.

"We have sent letters to companies that already have corporate alliances with the Disney Co., as well as to American companies that have divisions in Ukraine," noted Mr. Harper. "To date none of these organizations has come forth as a potential sponsor of a Ukrainian pavilion," he added.

Consequently, as the February 1 deadline approaches, Mr. Harper has noted that he will follow any potential lead and speak with any potential sponsor. "It would have been great to have had the support of a Coca-Cola or a McDonald's, but there is no reason why we can't go with a private company or an individual who understands the value of this type of pavilion."

Mr. Harper may be reached at (407) 427-4982 or via e-mail at home, ukraine7@yahoo.com, or at the office, jason_harper@studio.disney.com

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Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 14)

new friends, new things to do with his free time. The easiest thing will be going to practice and playing the games."

The hardest part, Daneyko has probably already accomplished. He has admitted the problem. The NHL has, too, after a long painful, denial that, in its own way, was almost as sick as Doug Harvey, Derek Sanderson and Howie Young became. Now, as long as Kenny Daneyko is on the road to recovery, so is the entire National Hockey League.

A Daneyko update: Devils' owner John McMullen said he was informed that the defenseman was doing well in substance abuse rehab and would be back this season.

Tverdovsky finds temporary home

Oleg Tverdovsky finally found a team this season, but he's still far from ending his contract impasse with the Phoenix Coyotes. In a highly unusual arrangement, Tverdovsky joined the American Hockey League's Hamilton Bulldogs, the development team for Phoenix's Western Conference rival Edmonton Oilers.

Tverdovsky, 21, is a Group II free agent and has been unable to reach agreement on a new contract with the Coyotes. But the fourth-year defenseman said he wants to get back on the ice and, since he lives in Toronto, decided Hamilton would be a perfect fit.

"It has been a long time since I played my last game so it's time to play some hockey," said Tverdovsky, the second overall pick in the 1994 entry draft by the Mighty Ducks of Anaheim.

While it is not unusual for NHL free agents to play for independent teams in the International Hockey League, every AHL team has an NHL affiliation and therefore are considered pseudo partners. But Edmonton GM Glen Sather and Tverdovsky's agent, Don Meehan, worked out details on a 25-game pro tryout contract, and Tverdovsky joined the Bulldogs on November 25.

The Coyotes were then told of the deal by Sather and did actually give their blessing.

"Glen (Sather) was courteous enough to give me a call and say he was doing it, but he didn't ask my permission," said Phoenix GM Bobby Smith. "It's great he's playing. It would be a bad thing for a 21-year old to not play the whole year."

That's what it appeared to be coming to with Phoenix also. Neither side said a deal was even close.

"There's still a difference on what we're willing to pay and what they're willing to accept," Smith said.

There was speculation Sather's signing of Tverdovsky to a minor-league tryout contract was the first step in initiating a trade.

"I've heard they've shown some interest, but I heard Phoenix doesn't want to talk

trade," said Tverdovsky, who played in all 82 games the past two seasons. He scored 10 goals and 55 points last year.

Tverdovsky had an assist and an empty-net goal in his AHL debut in a 5-1 Hamilton win over the Cincinnati Mighty Ducks. In his first six games (through late December 1997), Tverdovsky has tallied five goals and added three helpers for a total of eight points.

Berehowsky gets chance

The Edmonton Oilers didn't spend much on defenseman Drake Berehowsky. It just cost them a plane ticket to Edmonton and some training camp per diem - but their interest quickly paid off in his mind. And he jumped at the chance to justify their investment, no matter how small.

"I feel great," he said back in training camp. "I'm in the best shape I've ever been in. I've worked hard all summer with (Olympic bronze medal) cyclist Curt Harnett, and I think I'm stronger than ever. I think I'm ready to go."

The Toronto Maple Leafs thought so years ago. They drafted him 10th overall in 1990, but the smooth-skating, mobile blueliner could never put it all together. He played just 129 NHL games prior to this season. Injuries and inconsistency have dogged his career, and he has spent his past two seasons in the minors waiting for what very well could be one last shot at the big time.

Coming into training camp he was on the comeback trail. He agreed to come to Oilers' camp as a free agent - along with 75 other players on the list - and the 6-foot-2, 217-pounder brought a most positive attitude. He had no fear that past knee injuries would hinder his chances of passing the Oiler physical or competing in the camp. (He both passed the physical and won the competition by earning a regular berth on the blueline opening night.) But years ago torn anterior cruciate ligaments - the left one first and then the right - helped rip apart his NHL aspirations. In 1995 he was traded to the Pittsburgh Penguins, but played just five games before being demoted to the minors.

"I've been through some things that not every player goes through," he said. "Hopefully I'm a stronger and better person now. I know what I want. I had it and lost it, and I want to get it back."

After starting the current campaign with the parent Oilers, Berehowsky was reassigned to Hamilton (AHL) to re-focus along with several teammates. Re-focus he did, being recalled by Edmonton after an eight game stint with the Bulldogs. Through 22 games played with Edmonton in 1997-1998, Berehowsky has a goal, three assists and 40 minutes in penalties. He just may have made it back!

Quotes courtesy of Jay Greenberg, Kevin Oklobzija and Dan Barnes; The Hockey News and writers covering the AHL and Edmonton Oilers.

1997-1998 Salaries of Ukrainians in the NHL (U.S. dollars)

Wayne Gretzky	N.Y. Rangers	\$6,500,000
Keith Tkachuk	Phoenix	\$2,800,000
Dave Andreychuk	New Jersey	\$2,600,000
Peter Bondra	Washington	\$2,125,000
Alexei Zhitnik	Buffalo	\$1,500,000
Ken Daneyko	New Jersey	\$1,275,865
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Drake Berehowsky	Edmonton	\$318,750

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Borys Lotocki de Veligost

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- Doctor of Political Science, graduate of Institute d'Etudes Politiques, former President of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Orthodox Church of New York and faithful son of Ukraine.
- Funeral to be held at 3 p.m. on Saturday, 17th of January, 1998, at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of St. Andrew, S. Bound Brook, NJ.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Addendum

NEW YORK: The notice about the Saturday, January 24, Chamber Music Society of the Ukrainian Institute of America concert titled "Ukrainian Themes in Western Music" (which appeared in the January 11 issue) inadvertently omitted violinist Alex Kirilov as one of the concert performers, as well as the exhibit of bas-reliefs by Zenon Holubec. The concert program will feature works by: Charles Loeffler, "Ukrainian Evenings" after Gogol (world premiere; unpublished version for violin and piano); Franz Liszt, "Ballade d'Ukraine"; Sergei Rachmaninoff, Three Romances: Poems by Taras Shevchenko in Russian translation; Johann Nepomuk Hummel, Trio for Flute, Cello, and Piano, Op. 78; Bernard Rands, Lullaby for Soprano and String Quartet (world premiere); and Ludwig van Beethoven, Quartet in C Major, Op. 59, No. 3 ("Razumovsky"). The concert will be held at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St., at 8 p.m. Tickets: \$20; UIA members, \$15; senior citizens, \$10; and students, \$5.

Monday, January 26

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is holding a lecture by Dr. David Marples, University of Alberta, on the topic "Ukraine and Belarus: A Comparison of Two Emergent Nations in the Post-Soviet Era." The lecture will be held at the CIUS Library, Athabasca Hall, at 3:30 p.m.

Friday, January 30

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is holding a short program to commemorate the life and many accomplishments of John Kolasky (1915-1997), a writer, educator and friend of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. The program will be held in the Heritage Lounge, Athabasca Hall at 7:30 p.m. For further information call (403) 492-2972.

Sunday, February 1

CHICAGO: The annual Christmas concert - "Koliaduiemo Ukraini," sponsored by the Rukh Movement to Aid Independent Ukraine

will be held at the St. Nicholas Cathedral, corner of Metropolitan Sheptytsky and Bishop Gabro streets (Oakley Blvd. and Rice St.) at 1:30 p.m. Nine choirs and ensembles belonging to various Ukrainian churches and institutions will take part in the concert. Proceeds to benefit cultural and social needs in Ukraine.

Monday, February 2

EDMONTON: The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies is holding a lecture by Colin Neufeldt on the topic "The Mennonite Experience During the Collectivization Period in Ukraine and Crimea." The lecture will be held in the CIUS Library, Athabasca Hall, at 3:30 p.m.

Saturday, February 7

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America and the New York Group are sponsoring an evening of music and theater to benefit Svito-Vyd, the magazine of contemporary literature and the arts. The program will feature the internationally acclaimed artist Wanda Glowacka, cello; Gregory Hlady, director and actor of stage and screen; Alexandra Hrabova, soprano, the New York Art Theater under the direction of Anatole Fourmanchouk, and Mykola Suk, piano. A reception, accompanied by music, will follow. Donation: \$50 per person; students and seniors, \$30. The event will be held at 7:30 p.m. at the Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. For reservations and additional information call (718) 601-5197.

Sunday, February 8

CHICAGO: Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, author of "Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association," will speak on the topic "The Future of the Ukrainian American Community." The presentation will be held at the Ukrainian Cultural Center, corner of Chicago Avenue and Oakley Boulevard, at 1:30 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Chicago District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association, the Ukrainian American Justice Committee and the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES IN PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:

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

Verkhovna Rada ratifies...

(Continued from page 1)

and a majority of leftists decided to discuss only the big treaty. "It is unfavorable for us," said Taras Stetsiv, lawmaker and head of the Lviv regional organization of the National Democratic Party.

"It is better for us to vote separately, because the Verkhovna Rada would reject the combined packet that's clear," Mr. Stetsiv said. "Ratification of the treaty shows the whole world that we want normal relations with Russia. This is a unique chance to make the Russian-speaking population of Ukraine loyal to the authorities."

Prior to parliamentary elections in March, the Verkhovna Rada and the president are seeking ways to win the votes of the Russian-speaking population, which comprises about 50 percent of Ukraine's voters.

"Today to be a Ukrainian patriot means to work for cooperation with Russia," said Ivan Chyzh, a Socialist faction leader Parliament.

The pro-Russian orientation of Ukrainian leftists never was a surprise, but the March elections have forced national democrats to look for supporters in eastern Ukraine, where relations with Russia were a tradi-

tional trump card used by communists.

"We can now say that the problem of relations between Ukraine and Russia lies within Russia, which has not yet ratified the treaty," said Mr. Stetsiv.

However, the Black Sea Fleet's division is not the only problem Ukrainian lawmakers have over the relationship with Russia. They have also organized over the controversial "zero option" regarding the partition of the former Soviet Union assets and liabilities.

Ukraine's government has already signed a document in which Ukraine ceded its portion of the Soviet debt and assets to Russia, but the Verkhovna Rada has refused to ratify it several times as unprofitable for Ukraine.

The ratification of the Treaty on Friendship, Cooperation and Partnership with Russia is only the first step in normalizing relations between the two most powerful republics of the former Soviet Union.

Volodymyr Horbulin, secretary of the National Security and Defense Council, said he expects more problems in the future. He noted that the ratification is a huge diplomatic step forward, but other points in Ukrainian-Russian cooperation will demand similar efforts from all of Ukraine's branches of power.