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## Controversy over hiring of former OSI chief brings issue before Parliament committee

by **Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj**

*Toronto Press Bureau*

OTTAWA — The Parliament of Canada's Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights devoted its 58th meeting, held on April 28 in Room 371 of the West Block Building here, to address questions surrounding the hiring of Neal Sher, a former director of the U.S. Justice Department's Office of Special Investigations (OSI), as a consultant to the Canadian Justice Department's Crimes Against Humanity and War Crimes Section (WCS).

The meeting was requested by the Official Opposition's justice critic, Jack Ramsay of the Reform Party, in response to protests over the hiring of Mr. Sher.

Mr. Sher appeared as a witness before the committee, accompanied by Assistant Deputy Attorney General John Sims, a senior member of the Justice's Department legal operations sector, head of legal services at the Ministry of Citizenship and Immigration, and a senior WCS official.

Mr. Ramsay said he called Mr. Sher before the committee because of the heavy volume of correspondence had received complaining about the OSI's handling of individual cases, in particular the case against retired Cleveland auto-worker John Demjanjuk.

Besides addressing the particulars of Mr. Sher's work with Canada's war crimes unit, much of the session centered on a re-examination of the Demjanjuk case, and of the fraud committed by the OSI attorney in preparing for Mr. Demjanjuk's denaturalization (since reversed) and extradition.

Members of the Liberal government in attendance included Committee Chair Shaughnessy Cohen (from the Ontario riding of Windsor-St. Clair), Paul DeVillers (Ontario, Simcoe North, also parliamentary secretary to Stéphane Dion, minister of intergovernmental affairs), John Maloney (Ontario, Erie-Lincoln, the committee vice-chair), Derek Lee (Ontario, Scarborough-Rouge River) and Andrew Telegdi (Ontario, Kitchener-Waterloo).

Justice Minister Anne McLellan's parliamentary secretary, Eleni Bakopanos (Québec, Ahuntsic), did not attend, nor did the parliamentary secretary to Solicitor General Andy Scott, Nick Discepola (Québec, Vaudreuil-Soulanges), nor former Secretary of State for Multiculturalism Sheila Finestone (Québec, Mont Royal).

From the opposition there was Mr. Ramsay (Alberta, Crowfoot), Progressive Conservative Justice Critic and House Leader Peter MacKay (Nova Scotia, Pictou-Antigonish-Guysborough) and New Democratic Party Justice Critic Peter Mancini (Nova Scotia, Sydney-Victoria).

Committee Vice-Chair Paul Forsyth (British Columbia, New Westminster-Coquitlam) and Garry Breitkreuz (Saskatchewan, Yorkton-Melville), both

members of the Reform Party, as well as the two MPs from the Bloc Québécois (Michel Bellehumeur, Berthier; Richard Marceau, Charlebourg) on the committee did not attend.

Ms. Cohen's late arrival cut about 15 minutes from the scheduled two-hour hearing, which could not be extended because of a crucial vote that evening in the House of Commons.

### Particulars of the hiring

Mr. Sims led off the session by explaining "why we decided to hire a consultant at all, why we picked Mr. Sher, what we've asked him to do, and, perhaps as importantly, what he is not doing."

Mr. Sims said that "only a few years remain to deal with those who were engaged in reprehensible conduct during the second world war" and that the pursuit of such individuals is "a highly specialized business." He added that the U.S. is an "obvious source" of people involved in the effort, the OSI in particular, and that "this led us to Mr. Sher."

The Justice Department official said Mr. Sher was hired as a consultant to Paul Vickery, director of the WCS, and to him-

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## Albright clears the way for Ukraine to receive suspended U.S. aid funds

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright on April 29 cleared the way for Ukraine to receive nearly \$100 million in suspended U.S. economic aid, reported the Associated Press.

The move was based on a finding that Ukraine had made significant progress toward resolving disputes with American investors. A handful of cases remain unresolved, said James P. Rubin, the State Department spokesman. Consequently, about \$10 million to \$15 million in assistance will be held back.

Congress ordered the cutoff after American firms complained they were victims of corruption, bureaucratic red tape and other impediments to business. "We appreciate the efforts made by the government of Ukraine to help resolve these cases," Mr. Rubin said.

Ukraine ranks third in terms of U.S. aid allocated, but trails smaller neighboring countries in foreign investments. Ukraine has attracted \$1.4 billion in direct foreign investment since it gained independence in 1991. Ukraine was to receive \$225 million in U.S. assistance until Congress cut off further aid except for humanitarian help and nuclear disarmament pending settlement of a dozen cases of complaints by U.S.

investors.

Reuters reported from Kyiv that Western entrepreneurs and diplomats in the Ukrainian capital said the U.S. decision to release all but a fraction of U.S. aid funds earmarked for Ukraine may be sending too weak a signal to the country to improve its business climate.

"The question is whether (withholding) the \$20 million is an adequate signal to Ukrainian authorities that there is a problem, or whether it will be seen as the U.S. caving in," one Western diplomat said.

"It's just not enough," said one Western businessman, who asked not to be named, of the U.S. measures.

A Western diplomat who did not wish to be identified told Reuters that the United States was reluctant to be seen as abandoning Ukraine. The diplomat said Secretary Albright's failure to certify the funds would have ended all funding from international funding bodies, which have frequently expressed frustration with the slow pace of economic reform in Ukraine.

The International Monetary Fund last week said there would be no more talk of a \$2.5 billion Extended Fund Facility credit

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## Yale conference underlines necessity of institutional reform in Ukraine

by **Yaro Bihun**

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — In order to become a full-fledged democratic state with a modern market economy capable of sustaining it, Ukraine must adopt important institutional reforms, ridding itself of some of the harmful remnants of the Soviet system as well as some new impediments that have evolved during the transitional period.

That appeared to be the general consensus at the April 24-25 Yale University conference on "Institutional Reform in Ukraine: Implications for Emerging Markets." The conference brought together more than 130 experts and other interested persons from the United States and Ukraine, including government officials, parliamentarians and representatives of the World Bank and the National Bank of Ukraine, professors of leading educational and research institutions, businesspersons, investors and students.

The fourth such conference in four years, it was part of the multi-year Yale-Ukraine Initiative established to enhance the study of Ukraine at Yale with funds from the Chopivsky Family Foundation.

The goal of the conference was to identify and analyze the institutional impediments in Ukraine's political, financial, economic, agricultural, legal and

administrative systems, as well as to recommend solutions.

What could have been expected to be a theoretical, academic discourse from the outset was enlivened with dramatic news and current examples of problems: two days earlier, the head of Ukraine's Interbank Currency Exchange and former director of the National Bank of Ukraine, Vadym Hetman, was killed in Kyiv, which kept the current National Bank chairman, Viktor Yuschenko, from appearing as the conference's keynote speaker.

There were Cabinet changes in the agriculture and economy ministries in Kyiv during the conference, and Ukraine's former justice minister and conference participant Serhii Holovatyi lost his seat in the Verkhovna Rada when a judge unexpectedly invalidated the results of the parliamentary election in his Kyiv district.

Mr. Holovatyi, who did not know the court was even considering the case, learned about the decision while in New Haven and announced it during a panel discussion on legal reforms. (See sidebar on page 3.)

Of the more than 20 participants who presented papers and addressed the conference, some were more optimistic than others about Ukraine's chances of removing such impediments as excessive regu-

lations, an outmoded bureaucracy, and organized crime and corruption that are strangling the development of a free-market economy in Ukraine.

### "Birth pains of new nation"

The most optimistic appeared to be the former U.S. ambassador to Ukraine, William Green Miller, who filled in for Mr. Yuschenko during the opening session and was the honored speaker at the conference dinner.

He pointed out that Ukraine is going through "the birth pains of a new nation," starting from scratch in every aspect of its life. Those who refer to it as a "basket case" might do well to remember that the United States also was seen as a "basket case" in its early years — probably more so than Ukraine is today, he added.

"So, a temporary state of difficult economy at the beginnings of nations is something that the world has witnessed many times," Ambassador Miller pointed out.

He said that Ukraine is only halfway through its necessary and difficult transitional process, in which, in addition to its many problems, it has many great achievements — in human rights and nuclear disarmament, among others — which should be celebrated. He called Ukraine "the most important country in

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## NEWS ANALYSIS

## Ukraine's parliamentary elections and the prognosis for the future

by Taras Kuzio

Ukrainian voters went to the polls on March 29 with a bewildering range of choices that would be difficult to understand for a seasoned Western political scientist, never mind a Ukrainian voter. The Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) concluded that the legal framework was "extremely complex" because, in effect, four electoral systems were in effect (two systems, proportional and majoritarian, for candidates to the national Parliament; a majoritarian system to the Crimean Supreme Council and a majoritarian system for local elections). The OSCE and the PACE recommended that legislation be "consolidated" in the future.

The late passage of amendments to laws, or laws themselves, added to the confusion (e.g., candidates ran both on party lists and in majoritarian districts). This was the first election in Ukraine where voters were expected to act positively (that is, vote in favor of a candidate – not strike off all those one opposed).

Municipal elections in the cities of Kyiv and Sevastopol, which have all-republican status, did not go ahead because of controversy between the legislature and executive over the powers allotted to mayors in these two cities. Approximately 80,000 Tatars without Ukrainian citizenship were unable to vote, the majority of whom would have

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voted for Rukh. The new Crimean majoritarian election law also failed to provide quotas for national minorities (unlike in 1994).

A further and perhaps more important confusion rested upon the bewildering range of election blocs on the party list for elections to the Verkhovna Rada. Thirty election blocs competed for votes. Of those, only approximately a quarter were based upon established political parties rather than upon hastily convened blocs and interest lobbies for trade union, women's, regional and military interest groups.

The far left proved to be the most disciplined, while the democratic parties continued to be divided more by personalities than ideologies or platforms. The left included long-time allies from the Communists to the Socialists/Agrarians, who deliberately did not unite under one platform in order to attract as wide a spectrum of voters as possible.

The Progressive Socialists, who split from Oleksander Moroz's Socialists a number of years ago, are a "loose cannon" because they have remained supportive of roughly the same policies as the Communists and the Socialists/Agrarians, while condemning them for all manner of sins, including responsibility for Ukraine's economic crisis.

The Union (Soiuz) bloc, based upon the former Russia bloc in Crimea that came to power in 1994-1995, also took away votes from the Communists. With the collapse in support for Crimean separatism in 1995 and the requirement to re-register political parties from regional to national ones after the

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Efrem Lukatsky

President Leonid Kuchma votes at a Kyiv polling station in the Luteranska District near presidential offices.

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Institutions offer \$100,000 reward

KYIV – The Ukrainian Interbank Currency Exchange, Ukrainian Bank Association, Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, Ukrainian Agrarian Exchange and the Ukrainian Stock Exchange have offered a reward of \$100,000 (U.S.) for information leading to the capture of persons responsible for the murder of the head of the Ukrainian Interbank Currency Exchange, Vadym Hetman. He was murdered April 22. (Eastern Economist)

### Kuchma edict focuses on corruption

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed an edict on combating corruption, Ukrainian Radio reported on April 28. The document envisions such measures such as stripping national deputies of their immunity and limiting the immunity of judges. It also mandates drawing up a procedure for financing political parties and public organizations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Miners to strike on May 4

DONETSK – Miners voted at a national rally on April 26 to hold a national strike on May 4. They are demanding a ban on coal imports, better conditions and the payment of back wages. (Eastern Economist)

### Deputy proposes anti-Kuchma faction

KYIV – Verkhovna Rada National Deputy Mykhailo Brodskyi, in an open appeal published in Kievskiy

Viedomosti on April 28, called on national deputies to set up an anti-presidential faction in the legislature. Mr. Brodskyi said he believes the current authorities have discredited themselves through embezzlement and totalitarian tendencies. Mr. Brodskyi is a businessman with a major share in the Kievskiy Viedomosti daily newspaper. He was imprisoned for 42 days on charges of illegal property deals and was released from his solitary confinement cell in Zhytomyr on April 21 upon confirmation of his election to the Verkhovna Rada, which confers immunity on him. He was in prison on charges of illegal trading. (RFE/RL Newsline, Eastern Economist)

### Lazarenko candidate for Rada chairman?

KYIV – "The Hromada association is consulting with other parliamentary parties on candidates for the post of Verkhovna Rada chairman," said one of the party's leaders, Oleh Bilous, on April 27. He said Hromada would most likely nominate Pavlo Lazarenko for the post. According to Rukh leader Viacheslav Chornovil, other candidates for the post of chairman include Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs President Anatolii Kinakh, Kharkiv Oblast Administrator Oleh Diomin, and the Communist chairman of the Parliament's Foreign Relations Committee, Borys Oliynyk. Mr. Chornovil commented, "If the speaker is leftist, a coalition Cabinet will never be formed." (Eastern Economist)

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## Kuchma signs law criminalizing trafficking of women, children

Embassy of Ukraine

WASHINGTON – President Leonid Kuchma on April 13 signed a law on criminal charges for trafficking in human beings. The bill was passed by the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada on March 24.

As stipulated by the law, persons involved in direct or indirect, open or hidden, trafficking in human beings aimed at sale for sexual exploitation, for use in the pornography business or use in military conflicts, as well as persons who adopt children for commercial purposes, will face criminal charges and will be punished by imprisonment for a period of three to eight years with confiscation of their property.

Persons involved in the sale of children and officials who abuse their positions to this end will be punished by

imprisonment for a period of five to 10 years. In situations where trafficking in human beings led to serious consequences or was organized by a criminal grouping, and in cases when the trafficking was intended for the transplantation of human organs, the punishment is increased to eight-15 years.

As stated by Nina Karpacheva, vice-chairperson of the Ukrainian Parliament's Committee on Human Rights, up to 85 percent of Ukrainian women involved in prostitution abroad are forced into this business against their will. She said that tens of thousands of Ukrainian women have been turned into "white slaves" in many countries, in particular in Greece, Turkey, Israel, Germany, Belgium and the Netherlands.

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## Heeding EBRD request, Ukraine delays start-up of Chernobyl reactor

by Pavel Politiuk

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV — Ukraine has made a decision to delay the start-up of reactor No. 3 at the Chernobyl nuclear power plant after the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development asked Kyiv to postpone the move until after the EBRD's annual convention to be held in the Ukrainian capital.

On May 8 to 12 thousands of top European bankers plan to take part in the EBRD conclave in Kyiv. Some of delegates were worried about the start-up of reactor No. 3.

"We understand the request from the EBRD to Ukrainian leaders and suppose that we can delay the start-up," the director of the Chernobyl plant, Serhii Parashyn, told journalists on April 27.

But Mr. Parashyn said the station is prepared to switch on the reactor, and there are no technical reasons to delay the start-up. "All reactor systems are prepared and we can guarantee their safety and security," he said. He added that only political factors could lead to a postponement.

Last summer operators found they had to replace more aging fuel systems in the third reactor than had been foreseen. Then they found cracks in the seams of cooling pipes that needed to be fixed. They have also had trouble financing the repairs.

Mr. Parashyn said the station plans to present a special report to EBRD experts that will show the results and consequences of the long-term repair on reactor No. 3.

But he indicated that the opinion of foreign experts is not enough for the station and Chernobyl will await a decision from Ukraine's Nuclear Regulatory Agency on whether it will permit operation of the reactor.

He also said that the Chernobyl plant will be temporary stopped by the end of this year to make repairs necessary to improve its safety.

None of the four reactors at Chernobyl, site of the world's worst

nuclear disaster on April 26, 1986, is currently operational, but the government would like to restart at least one unit in May to help meet the country's energy needs.

Ukrainian officials said they are prepared to keep Chernobyl's only functioning reactor open well into the 21st century. The reactor, which has been under repair since last July, is scheduled to resume producing electricity in May.

In 1995 Ukraine and the Group of Seven leading industrialized nations agreed to close the plant in exchange for Western aid. The money would help complete two nuclear reactors to compensate for the energy that Chernobyl provided.

"Chernobyl will be closed — that is clear," President Leonid Kuchma said after a ceremony near the Kyiv monument to Chernobyl's victims. "We do not have any other choice."

Mr. Kuchma added that the definite shutdown date depends on when promised Western aid will arrive. But the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development is not expected to make a decision on whether to fund the new reactors until late this year. The loan is estimated at \$1.2 billion.

President Kuchma said Ukraine is tired of waiting for Western financial assistance and is ready to join forces with Russia to finish building two new nuclear reactors to compensate for the closure of the Chernobyl nuclear plant.

During the summit of CIS heads of state in Moscow, the Ukrainian president met with President Boris Yeltsin to discuss Russian participation in the project. Spokesman Oleksander Maidanyk said Ukraine plans to obtain equipment from Russia and hopes to complete reactors in Rivne and Khmelnytskyi by the year 2000.

"In principle, we have decided to build the blocs together with Russia, because we could wait for money from the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development for the next 10 years at least," the Interfax news agency quoted President Kuchma as saying.

## Holovatyi's election invalidated

by Yaro Bihun

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

NEW HAVEN, Conn. — Serhii Holovatyi, president of the Ukrainian Legal Foundation and former justice minister of Ukraine, on April 25 condemned an unexpected court invalidation of his election to the Verkhovna Rada. He said the action was politically motivated and accused President Leonid Kuchma's administration of being behind it.

Mr. Holovatyi was participating at a Yale University conference on institutional reforms in Ukraine when he learned from an associate about the Pechersk region court's April 24 decision.

He announced the news to a startled audience during a discussion of legal system reforms in Ukraine.

Mr. Holovatyi said that when he left Kyiv for the United States on April 22, he was not aware there was an appeal pending before the Pechersk region court.

In a statement released on April 25, Mr. Holovatyi said the Central Election Commission had dismissed an earlier grievance filed by several defeated candidates, ruling that the alleged violations could not have affected the outcome.

While at Yale, he learned from his assistant, Kostiantyn Mazur, that some candidates apparently appealed to the Pechersk court, citing violations by someone other than Mr. Holovatyi, and that the judge overturned the commission's ruling.

"This is in violation of procedures," he said, noting that he was not notified about a pending court hearing. "Maybe they took advantage of my being out of the country," he added.

Mr. Holovatyi pointed out that if, indeed, there were violations that would require the invalidation of election results, then those responsible should be prosecuted. "But if it is decided that there were violations, and the election results are invalidated, but no one is held responsible, then it's a political decision," he said.

"I'm convinced that there is no cause for invalidating the results," he added. "It's a political vendetta against me by the Kuchma government because of my staunch opposition to Kuchma."

Mr. Holovatyi said that in a private conversation with his colleagues following the



Serhii Holovatyi

court ruling, the judge admitted that he was pressured to rule as he did and that he was promised the position of deputy chief of the Pechersk region court.

In an interview, Mr. Holovatyi said that, running as an independent, he received more votes (22,500) than his top two opponents combined — Vechirniy Kyiv Editor Vitalii Karpenko of the National Front (12,000) and Ivan Zaiets of Rukh (7,000).

He said that both Mr. Karpenko and Mr. Zaiets waged an "all-out campaign" not against Communists or Socialists, but — "not without partisan direction" — against him.

"I think that it was a calculated action by the government," he said. Rukh participated in the ploy, he said, because, under Vyacheslav Chornovil it has become "greatly dependent on and subservient to the Kuchma government."

Mr. Holovatyi also questioned the motives of Mr. Karpenko, whom he described as a former Communist "apparatchyk" who "somehow found himself a place in Slava Stetsko's National Front."

Mr. Holovatyi said he plans to appeal the Pechersk court ruling to Ukraine's Supreme Court, and, if necessary, to the European Court of Human Rights, "which has jurisdiction when all national human rights protection avenues have been exhausted."

## Controversy over hiring...

(Continued from page 1)

self. "Mr. Sher's wise counsel keeps us from reinventing legal arguments ... and helps us to search through archival material we might have overlooked or not delved into deeply enough."

Mr. Sims said that upon Mr. Sher's hiring on December 12, 1997, the U.S. attorney had been signed to an open-ended contract providing for a fee of \$200 (U.S.) an hour with a ceiling of \$75,000. Mr. Sims said this was a standard rate for counsel retained in such matters, and that at this rate he expected the WCS to avail itself of Mr. Sher's services for the remainder of this year, with a possible extension if permitted.

Mr. Sher offered that his normal billing rate at his Washington law firm of Schmeltzer, Aptaker, Shepard, PC, was much higher.

Mr. Sims said the consultant has been in Ottawa an average of three to four days a month. Mr. Sher volunteered that in addition to consultancy done while in Ottawa, he also did work for Canada's WCS at his Washington office.

Mr. MacKay asked if Mr. Sher is currently under contract to any agency or organization which "might create the appearance of conflict of interest," and the U.S. litigator affirmed that he is not.

Mr. Sims said that "erroneous specula-

tion" about Mr. Sher's role had come to his attention. He said the U.S. attorney is "not the boss of the war crimes unit, nor does he question witnesses, act as court counsel or decide on our litigation strategy. In fact, Mr. Sher doesn't decide anything. He is an advisor." Mr. Sims reiterated that Mr. Sher is "not an employee of the Department of Justice," but a paid consultant to its officials.

Mr. Sims suggested that Mr. Sher's hiring raises the WCS's prestige. "It is important to know that our efforts are in the same league [as those of the OSI]," he said.

Mr. Sher began by expressing his pleasure and honor at being asked to assist the WCS and to appear before the Standing Committee on Justice. "Presumably I was retained because of my 15 years' experience with the OSI," he said, which included 11 years as its director. "My expectation, my belief, my hope was to share some of what I learned at the OSI," he said.

Mr. Sher said that during his stint at the OSI he became familiar with "the types of cases the Canadian office was working on," and had "met the people involved in the Canadian effort."

The former OSI director said the problem of pursuing war criminals "was not unique to the U.S. or Canada ... The people who committed the crimes ... went all over the world. Many came to America, many came here to Canada, many went to Australia," the Nazi hunter said.

Mr. Sher said he is not an expert on Canadian law and doesn't pretend to be. "My role is to advise, make suggestions on how the American experience might be of assistance here ... Mr. Sims and Mr. Vickery are free not to take my advice," the consultant said.

Mr. Sher complimented the Canadian WCS, saying, "I have been impressed with the vigor of its staff," adding that it is "reminiscent of the atmosphere at OSI. I find this very heartening."

### Soviet evidence 100 percent reliable

Mr. Sher said he is familiar with allegations that the Soviet regime, the KGB in particular, supplied Nazi hunters with phony evidence. "I personally interviewed a KGB officer who was alleged to have fabricated evidence," the former OSI official said, "and it became clear that the evidence [the officer was offering] was legitimate." Mr. Sher said the KGB officer told him "he knew of no instance where phony documents were sent to the West to be used in trials."

He continued by noting that in the 1950s and 1960s Germany's prosecutors of Nazi war criminals "relied on Soviet-sourced evidence and found it to be 100 percent reliable."

For Mr. Sher, "the inherent difficulties of proof that can arise in these cases [in which Soviet evidence is used] is something I've

had experience with." At any rate, he suggested that "admissibility ... is something for [Canadian] courts to decide."

The newly appointed advisor said the search for evidence was made dramatically easier since the fall of the USSR, since the countries of the former Soviet Union have proven willing to assist investigators of war crimes and have opened up their archives to Western officials.

"My reputation at OSI was that I was a tough prosecutor but a fair one," Mr. Sher said, adding that people had misunderstood him when he described himself as having "fire in the belly." The former OSI director explained that this meant he understood the importance of the task at hand and the constraints of time placed upon it.

Regarding the criticism surrounding his appointment as advisor to the War Crimes Section, Mr. Sher said "it comes with the territory," saying he had joked to Mr. Sims about it to the effect that, "it made me feel like a much younger man, because I had been under criticism 15 years ago when I was at OSI."

Mr. Sher recalled that he'd "closed hundreds of cases, even though I had very good reasons to believe the individual was involved" in war criminality, but his sense of responsibility as a prosecutor led him to pursue only those cases that he was certain would result in convictions or the appropri-

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# In memoriam: The Rev. Stephen Knapp, priest, scholar and patriot

by Daria M. Stec

MINNEAPOLIS – It was with deep sadness and regret that the parishioners of St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church received news of the death on December 8, 1997, of the Rev. Mitred Steven V. Knapp, Ph.D., S.T.L., who had served as their beloved pastor for more than 28 years until his retirement in 1992. With Msgr. Knapp's death, the entire Ukrainian American community lost a great spiritual leader, scholar and patriot.

Msgr. Knapp was born on November 28, 1909, in Simpson, Pa., the oldest of nine children. His parents, Mykhaylo and Barbara (Orynnyk) Knapp, emigrated to the United States from the village of Zhygestiv, in the Lemkivschyna region of Ukraine. After he expressed his desire to study for the priesthood, Msgr. Knapp was sent to Rome in 1927 by Bishop Constantine Bohachevsky of Philadelphia. In 1929 the Angelicum University of Rome awarded him a doctorate in philosophy and in 1933, a licentiate in sacred theology.

On November 13, 1932, Msgr. Knapp was ordained to the priesthood at St. Josaphat Pontifical Seminary in Rome by Bishop Josaphat Kotsylovsky of Peremyshl (then in western Ukraine), who in 1947 died as a martyr for the faith in a Soviet prison. Prior to returning to the United States, Msgr. Knapp visited western Ukraine and Lemkivschyna, where his parents had been born.

Msgr. Knapp's first assignment was as assistant pastor at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception in Philadelphia. In 1934 he was appointed pastor of St. Volodymyr Ukrainian Catholic Church in New Kensington, Pa. It was here that Msgr. Knapp began his lifelong work of establishing appropriate and beautiful places of worship for Ukrainian Catholics in the United States; in his 19 years at St. Volodymyr's, Msgr. Knapp built a new church and school, organized a cultural center and purchased a residence for the sisters.

In 1952 Msgr. Knapp was assigned to St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Detroit and in 1956 to the Church of the Immaculate Conception in Hamtramck, Mich. Deeply committed to the spiritual and cultural development of Ukrainian American youth, Msgr. Knapp decided to organize the first Ukrainian co-educational high school in the United States. The school would offer spiritual teaching in the Ukrainian Catholic Church and courses in Ukrainian language, literature,

*Daria M. Stec is a former parishioner of St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church in Minneapolis.*

history and culture, along with a traditional college preparatory education.

Then, as throughout his long service to the Ukrainian Catholic community, Msgr. Knapp delighted in the accomplishments of his young parishioners, taking every opportunity to praise and encourage them. Classes at the Immaculate Conception Ukrainian Catholic High School in Detroit began in 1959. Msgr. Knapp also helped found St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church and its parochial school in Warren, Mich.

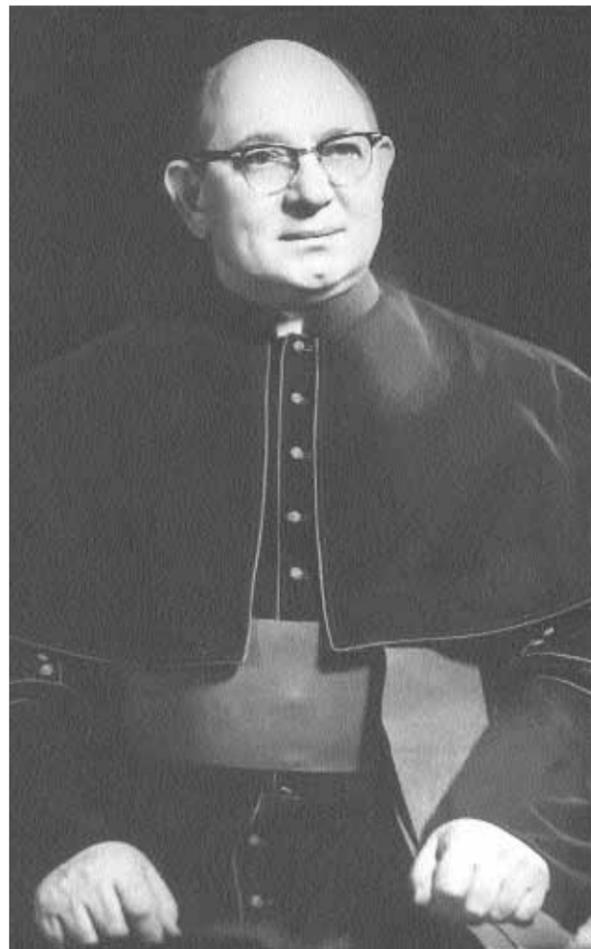
His work completed in Michigan, in 1962 Msgr. Knapp was assigned to the Cathedral of St. Nicholas in Chicago. That same year he was invested as monsignor and papal chamberlain.

Msgr. Knapp would spend the longest period of time in service to God as pastor of St. Constantine Ukrainian Catholic Church in Minneapolis. From the time of his arrival in 1964, he took on the task of revitalizing a relatively small church and community. His unstinting efforts led to the blessing of a new church in 1972, one of the finest examples of Byzantine architecture whose interior is intricately painted by the well-known Ukrainian artist Mykhaylo Dmytrenko. Along with the church, Msgr. Knapp built a new rectory, purchased a home for the sisters and established a Ukrainian museum/gallery dedicated to Cardinal Josyf Slipyj.

While pastor at St. Constantine's, Msgr. Knapp took on the additional duty of serving as pastor of St. Stephen's Ukrainian Catholic Church in St. Paul, Minn. When Msgr. Knapp retired after 60 years of priesthood in 1992, he moved back to Detroit to be near his family.

Through the years, the Ukrainian Catholic hierarchy bestowed many canonical honors upon Msgr. Knapp for his work. In 1973, while on a visit to Minneapolis, Cardinal Slipyj, patriarch of Ukrainian Catholics, honored Msgr. Knapp with the title of canon. In 1976 Msgr. Knapp was elevated to the rank of prelate of honor. In 1981 Cardinal Slipyj conferred upon him the rank of mitred archpriest – the highest distinction for a priest of the Eastern Byzantine Rite Church. On October 20, 1989, the Minneapolis/St. Paul Ukrainian community honored Msgr. Knapp on the occasion of his 25th anniversary as the pastor of St. Constantine's.

Bishop Innocent Lotocky of the St. Nicholas Eparchy in Chicago sent the following message: "Your tireless, self-sacrificing efforts and complete dedication during the past 25 years have resulted in miraculous achievements. The beautiful new church, comfortable dwelling for priests, precious museum and convent for the sisters



Msgr. Stephen V. Knapp

are fruits of your labor and love for the Ukrainian Church and its people. The entire Eparchy of St. Nicholas – and especially your parishioners in Minneapolis – are proud to have this opportunity to give you a proper recognition for these accomplishments."

Msgr. Knapp understood the importance of establishing a Ukrainian Catholic presence in the United States that would serve the spiritual needs of the Ukrainian Catholic faithful, a presence of which Ukrainian Catholics would be proud and non-Ukrainians would admire. Yet his legacy goes far beyond the visible beauty of St. Constantine's and the other churches that he built. First and foremost, Msgr. Knapp worked tirelessly to be a spiritual leader and guide to his parishioners. Through his profound and thought-provoking sermons as well as other spiritual works, he inspired his parishioners to work hard at living a Ukrainian Catholic life in word and in deed.

He will also be remembered for his support and guidance of youth organizations, such as the Zahrava Ukrainian Dance Ensemble, which brought together youth from the entire Minneapolis Ukrainian American community and showcased Ukrainian folk dance across the United States and Canada. He was also very active in the establishment of the St. Constantine's Saturday School, ensuring that the young students had access to quality education about the Ukrainian Catholic religion, as well as Ukrainian language, history, literature and culture. He earned the respect of many, and church celebrations – such as the 50th anniversary of his priesthood in 1982 and the commemoration in 1988 of the Millennium of Christianity in Ukraine – drew prominent Ukrainian and non-Ukrainian religious, political and community leaders alike.

Finally, Msgr. Knapp never forgot his roots, and provided spiritual, moral and material support to the faithful in Ukraine.

Msgr. Knapp is survived by his brother, Mykhaylo Knapp, and his family; sisters Elizabeth Knapp, Dolores Knapp, Olha Prokopyk and her family, Ivanna Spakowsky and her family and Shirley Clark.

## Papal decree proclaims Sister Josaphata "venerable"

SLOATSBURG, N.Y. – Pope John Paul II on April 6 read the decree proclaiming the heroic virtues of the Servant of God Josaphata Hordashevska, co-founder of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate, and granted her the title of "venerable."

Present at the ceremony of the reading of the decrees were: Church dignitaries, the personnel of the Congregation for the Causes of Saints; Sister Teresa Kito, superior general of the Sisters Servants; Sister Dominica Slawuta, postulator of the cause, and other superior generals and postulators.

The process of beatification-canonization of the Servant of God was officially opened in the Eparchy of Peremyshl in March 1992, and completed in September 1993. The process was then transferred to the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome, where it was studied by various canonical, historical and theological commissions and by the cardinals. Every commission, after diligent study, gave this cause a unanimous, positive vote.

On the basis of the results of these studies, the holy father proclaimed that Sister Josaphata possessed heroic virtues and lived according to them. For beatification, it is necessary that a medical commission approve a miraculous cure that happened in 1986 through the intercession of Sister Josaphata. This miracle is presently being studied by medical experts at the Congregation for the Causes of Saints in Rome.

Sister Josaphata is the first Ukrainian woman who is going through the process of beautification-canonization. In Ukrainian Catholic Church only St. Josaphat and the Pratulynski martyrs went through the process of canonization.

Called in 1892 to lead the first apostolic community of women in the Eastern Church, Josaphata painstakingly and with heroic dedication "served her people where the need was the greatest." She united in herself a deeply prayerful life and an all-out involvement in the active apostolate of ministering to the spiritual, social and cultural needs of her people.



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Gregory Huger



Oleh Soskin



Serhii Teriokhin

## Yale conference...

(Continued from page 1)

the post-Soviet world" in light of its crucial role in European security.

Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Yuri Shcherbak, did not attend the conference, but in a greeting faxed to its organizers pointed out that a growing number of governments are realizing that their most effective role is not in directing but in refereeing their national economies. The government of Ukraine recognizes that its administrative structure has not been as effective as it should have been in implementing the president's reform program. The bureaucracy, he said, was more interested in pursuing its own agenda.

On this point he found no argument from Serhii Teriokhin, a member of the Verkhovna Rada and co-chair of the Ukrainian Institute of Civil Society. Unlike some Latin American and African governments accused of corruption, he said, "the most corrupt element in my country is not the governing clans or individual dictators, but the so-called 'medium tier of the administration,' which is the first to contact with the license or state-permit seekers."

### "The first barricade"

It is the resistance of this bureaucratic elite, the "apparatchyks," that form what Mr. Teriokhin called "the first barricade" on the road to deregulation. Among the other "barricades," he said, are the central government's desire to create artificial monopoly markets that it can control, the lack of a clear distribution of power among the president, the Parliament and the Cabinet, and an inefficient budget system that results in a high level of government intervention in business activity.

Oleh Soskin, director of the Institute for Social Transformation, said Ukraine must make a number of major changes in what basically has been a colonial system in order to transform it into a system with a normal, modern market economy.

"First of all, we have to build an economic foundation that is based on private ownership – not monopoly ownership, but private ownership – that creates a strong middle class, which today is lacking in Ukraine," Mr. Soskin said.

He added that Ukraine also needs the formation of non-governmental organizations, which are essential to a democratic society, as well as sound political institutions.

The killing of Vadym Hetman, Mr. Soskin said, is related to the struggle over these changes between differing clans and power centers – especially in the fight over the privatization of large state enterprises, dealing with energy, metals, chemicals and, most important, land.

### Hetman: "the first victim"

"This is what the struggle is about between the various political clans and financial groupings," he said. "And the first victim in this war, in the new post-election period, was Vadym Hetman," he added. "This is a very bad omen, indeed."

As things stand now, Mr. Soskin said, reforms are at a standstill and growth of private enterprise is "a fairy tale." He was not optimistic about future reforms in Ukraine, in light of the leftist gains in the Verkhovna Rada, where – with what he expects will be the cooperation of former prime minister Petro Lazarenko's Hromada Party – the left will control Parliament and block any real reforms.

In the conference session on financial institutions, Prof. Robert Kravchuk of Indiana University pointed out that with the growth of the shadow economy, which does not

pay taxes, it has become clear that the government has been trying to balance the budget on the backs of state workers, pensioners and students. This is possible, he said, because of the lack of transparency in the budget process.

Because the oblasts and cities are dependent on the national budget, he said, budget shortfalls and cutbacks are undermining their development. And this, as members of other panels pointed out, has resulted in the reliance and expansion by local bureaucracies of their regulatory and licensing power in order to increase revenues – which, in turn, drives more enterprises into the shadow economy and decreases further national tax revenues.

In the panel discussion on investment, both Scott A. Carlson, president and CEO of the Western NIS Enterprise Fund, and Valerii Schekaturov, managing partner of the Ukraine Fund, whose firms have a number of successful investments in Ukrainian enterprises, presented a positive picture of the investment climate there.

Mr. Carlson said there is "a high margin for error" because there is little competition in this emerging market, but added that there is "no margin for error" when it comes to adhering to numerous government regulations.

He and Mr. Schekaturov pointed out that much attention also must be paid to selecting management as well as to training. Mr. Carlson found that the two most difficult things to do in Ukraine in this area is to train an effective sales force – you have to start from scratch – and to convince the personnel that "the customer is always right."

### Unrealized potential of agriculture

Morgan Williams, president of the Ukrainian Agricultural Development Company, said that the agricultural sector, which has always been "ripped off" in the history of Ukraine, continues to have a great but as-of-yet unrealized potential.

He said he found it terrible to look at the best land in the world being worked by poor farmers all because they were working under the worst system in the world.

Peter Sochan of the Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs

pointed to increased government control of various parts of agricultural production that keep that sector from developing as it should – by creating new monopolistic parastatals, controlling fertilizer and seed distribution, and fixing and manipulating prices.

Gregory Huger, who is based in Kyiv and directs U.S. Agency for International Development programs in Ukraine, Belarus and Moldova, said that agricultural land privatization is moving forward and undergoing "a historic transformation," although its ultimate success will not be easy.

The Ukrainian government, he said, needs to make some basic policy decisions that will take the government out of agriculture and marketing, and support private sector development and open markets.

Discussing needed reforms in Ukraine's legal system, Mr. Holovaty said much has been accomplished in this area, especially with the adoption of the new Constitution in 1996, which he described as "one of the most progressive constitutions in Europe."

In a country where such concepts as "the rule of law," "division of power" and human rights were unknown, much has been accomplished, he said – with the help of a constitution that proclaimed a law-based state, human values, government guarantees of human rights, government checks and balances, and reduced the prosecutorial powers of the state.

### No "public service ethos"

The areas that need attention are land reform, the budget and relationships among the local, regional and national governments. Among the stumbling blocks on the road to these reforms, Mr. Holovaty noted the lack of a "public service ethos" among public servants and the complete lack of interest on the part of the "post-Soviet nomenklatura" in any reform, since it profits under the current system.

Joining Mr. Holovaty in the legal session was American

(Continued on page 13)



Former U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine William Green Miller (right) discusses reforms with participants of the Yale University Conference on Institutional Reform in Ukraine.

# On the eve of the UNA convention: historian reflects on Soyuz's role

by Roma Hadzewycz

Since the release last summer of the centennial history of the Ukrainian National Association written by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, the author has been traveling to various Ukrainian communities – most recently to Pittsburgh on April 26 – to speak about his book and the world's oldest and largest Ukrainian fraternal organization.

During his work on "Ukrainian-American Citadel: The First One Hundred Years of the Ukrainian National Association," Dr. Kuropas said he learned about the enormous role the UNA played in the development and growth of the Ukrainian American community. "The UNA truly is a citadel and remains as a beacon for all Ukrainians worldwide," he told *The Weekly* soon after the book was published. "It is my hope that this book will awaken Ukrainians in North America to the importance of continuing to support this exemplary institution," he added.

Dr. Kuropas is an educator and an adjunct professor in the department of leadership and educational policy studies at Northern Illinois University. He is the author of "The Ukrainian Americans: Roots and Aspirations, 1884-1954," which was published in 1991 by the University of Toronto Press. Dr. Kuropas is an honorary member of the UNA General Assembly and a former supreme vice-president and supreme advisor of the organization. He served as special assistant for ethnic affairs to President Gerald R. Ford.

"Ukrainian-American Citadel" was released by Eastern European Monographs. (It is available for \$25, plus \$2.50 postage, from Ukrainian Educational Associates, 107 Ileshamwood Drive, DeKalb, IL 60115; or the Svoboda Bookstore, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.)

**You have been appearing in Ukrainian communities, Chicago, Detroit and Pittsburgh to name a few, to speak on the topic covered by your book, a centennial history of the UNA. Other than promoting your book, of course, what is your message to our community?**

I am a bell-ringer. My talk is a wake-up call. In my various presentations to Ukrainian Americans, I emphasize the fact that we exist today as a separate ethno-national community because of two major institutions: the Churches and the fraternal.

The Ukrainian Churches provided two crucial elements to our definition of who we are: moral consensus and national self-consciousness. Ukrainian fraternal reinforced our national identity and offered us civic pride.

Today, both institutions are in trouble. The Ukrainian Catholic Church, for example, had 320,000 members in 1960. By the end of 1997, there were only 127,194 faithful according to the Official Catholic Directory. The Ukrainian Orthodox Church also is losing members.

Narodna Pomich (Ukrainian National Aid

Association of America) is belly-up. The Providence Association is declining. The Ukrainian Fraternal Association is hoping to merge with the Ukrainian National Association. The UNA had some 70,000 members only eight years ago, while today our total membership is around 59,000.

If both the Churches and the fraternal collapse, our community will face extinction. I want our people to know that we have as yet created no other institutions that can take the place of the Churches and fraternal. Our professional societies and credit unions are helpful, but they are not as inclusive as the Churches and fraternal.

**How would you describe your work on this book; how many years' work does it represent? And, why did you want to write this book after you had already written a history of the Ukrainian community in the United States? What was your goal in this particular history?**

My work on the UNA history was a labor of love. I have been a member of the UNA almost from the day I was born. My father, I, and my son Stefko have been or are members of the UNA General Assembly. The UNA is very dear to my entire family.

I worked on the UNA history during three summers as well as weekends. I wrote this book for Ukrainians all over the world. It has been translated into Ukrainian already, and we're waiting for the UNA Executive Committee to approve publication in Ukraine.

All Ukrainians should know about the oldest, continuously functioning Ukrainian financial institution in the world. They should also know about the Svoboda daily, the UNA publication which is the oldest continuously published Ukrainian-language newspaper in the world. Because of its unique nature, the UNA deserves its own history, separate from the history of the Ukrainian community.

**Do you have any interesting anecdotes from information you came across about the UNA's past? Was there anything about the history of the UNA that surprised even you, the UNA's historian?**

When I began writing the book, I was sure that the UNA Home Office had all of the convention minutes, all almanacs and other archival material of value to a historian. I soon discovered that this was not the case. I had to rely on back issues of Svoboda, The Ukrainian Weekly, archival material at the Immigration History Research Center at the University of Minnesota and interviews to write a credible history.

There are a number of facts that I uncovered, the most enjoyable of which was the discovery of the identity of Burma Capelin, the nom-de-plume of a controversial Ukrainian Weekly columnist from the 1930s and 1940s. No one seemed to remember his real name. It was only after I read a number of his columns from that time period that I took a guess and called the person I thought it was. As it turned out, I was right. Burma Capelin was Dr. Stephen Mamchur, who passed away recently.

What surprised me most was what happened to the UNA during the Great Depression of the 1930s. I would have thought that it was a dreadful period for the UNA. It wasn't. Between 1920 and 1941 the UNA membership almost doubled. In addition, the UNA published a monumental 40th anniversary history, inaugurated publication of The Ukrainian Weekly, helped establish the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, appointed a sports director who created a number of baseball and basketball teams for the youth throughout the nation, and mounted an anti-defamation campaign against left-wing elements such as the American Communist Party and the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith.

Despite enormous financial pressures, the 1930s was one of the most productive decades the UNA ever enjoyed. Members who lost their jobs were provided with low-interest loans so that they could continue to pay their premiums. That was fraternalism at its best.

Finally, I was surprised to learn that the UNA was far more democratic in the past than it is now. For decades, members as well as delegates could express their views, both positive and negative, about the UNA. Svoboda encouraged such comments and UNA executives didn't stand in the way. Most of the comments were published just prior to each convention (they were called "projects" in Ukrainian) and ran for many months. Our membership was really involved with the UNA and wanted to be heard.

All of that ended during the 1960s when UNA executives concluded that negative comments from the mem-

bership should not be published because it would hurt the organization. That decision, in my opinion, disillusioned our members and effectively stymied grass-roots involvement.

**Not everyone, of course, will read your book. What do you think is most important for people – both Ukrainians and non-Ukrainians – to understand about the history of this 104-year-old fraternal organization?**

Not everyone will read my book because only 1,000 copies have been printed. It will soon become a collector's item gracing the libraries of only the most discerning and erudite Ukrainians. Of course, such a large book cannot be read in one sitting. It is to be read slowly and savored, much like a prime steak or good cognac.

The book is divided into decades, and I suggest readers fortunate enough to obtain a copy begin with the decade with which they are most familiar to get a feel for the way the book is organized. Each chapter is divided into sections that can be read separately and begins with an overview of what was happening in the

*It was fraternalism that sustained us in the past, and it is fraternalism that will carry us in the future.*

United States during the decade being reviewed.

Another approach is to pick and choose a topic, defamation, for example, and trace its origins and continued development. Serious readers will soon discover that much of what appears to be new in our history really is not new at all.

The most important fact about the history of the UNA is that it was built on the shoulders of giants – priests and laypeople who were visionaries with courage, devotion and exceptional energy. Given such a gift – and few ethnic groups have been so fortunate – we can't just ignore it or dissipate it through mismanagement.

**What, historically, has been the role of rank-and-file members of the UNA? Did they, can they, make a difference in what direction the organization takes?**

Historically, the rank and file played a significant role within the UNA. During crucial periods of our evolution, they stepped up to the podium, as it were, and were heard. As I mentioned, they offered "projects" prior to every convention; their views were published in Svoboda; there was lively debate on significant issues on the convention floor. Although UNA executives were not always pleased with what was said or written, they didn't stifle discourse.

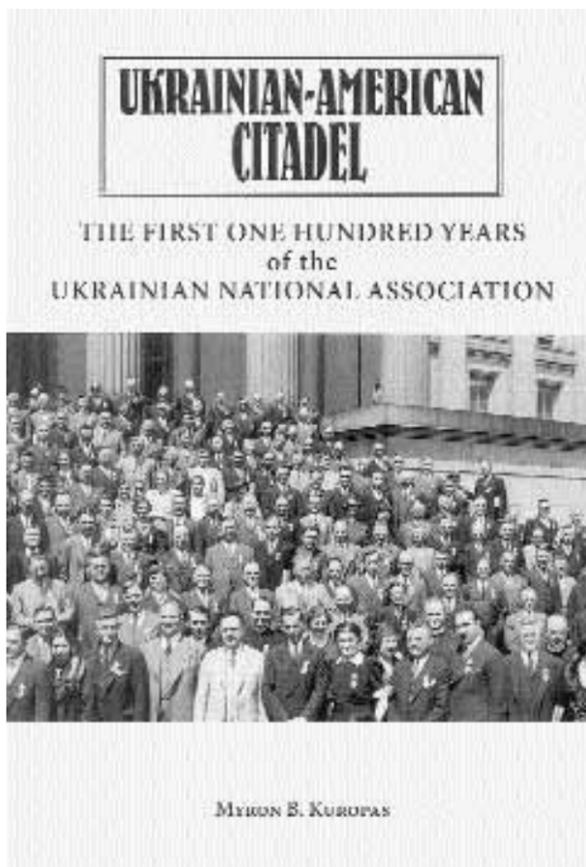
When the resolutions of convention delegates were honored, the UNA prospered. When UNA executives began ignoring convention resolutions because, as was often argued, "they were unrealistic," the UNA began its decline.

**We are conducting this interview just three weeks before the UNA convenes its 34th Regular Convention in Toronto, and much of your book details the decisions made by UNA conventions through the decades. At this year's quadrennial gathering, crucial decisions are sure to be made that will affect the UNA into the next century. Is there something you would like to impart to UNA'ers and, in particular, to convention delegates, as they get ready for this convention? Some words of wisdom, if you will, from the UNA's historian.**

I believe this convention will be perhaps the most consequential convention in our history. This convention will determine where we will be in the 21st century. The best advice I can give convention delegates is to question everything that is being reported by UNA General Assembly members. For too many years delegates have tended to be quiescent, content to listen and to quietly pass on all recommendations from the executive.

I would also advise delegates to demand that time be set aside to truly debate such momentous questions as changes to the by-laws, mergers, name changes and publications. The way we resolve these issues will

(Continued on page 16)



# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Young UNA'ers



Thomas Garren Bocon and his younger brother, Joseph Andrew, were enrolled by their parents, Thomas and Laurie Bocon, into UNA Branch 271 in Elmira, N.Y.



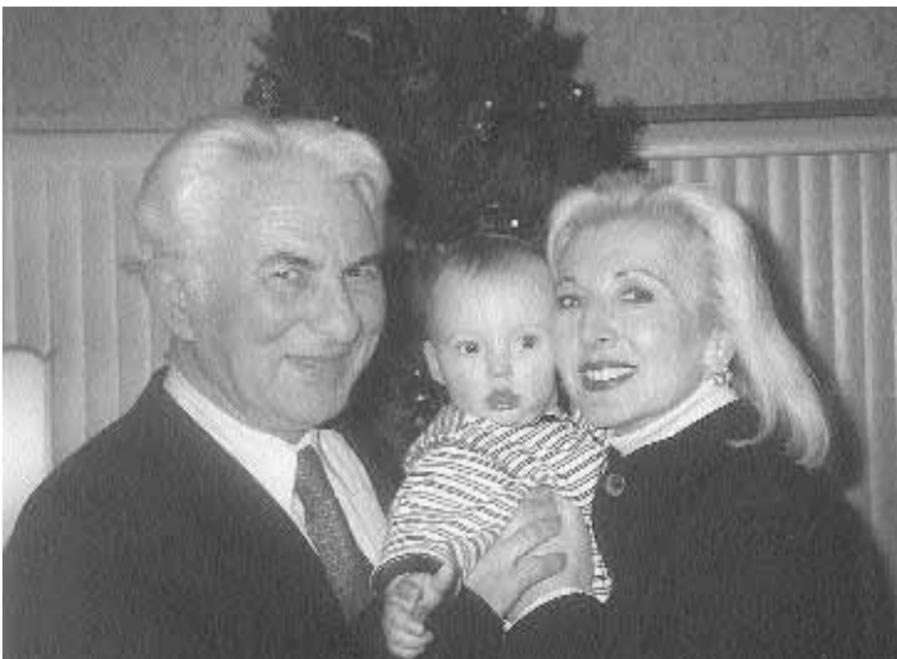
Oksana Maria Zaviysky, daughter of Yaroslav and Natalia Zaviysky, is a new member of UNA Branch 155 in Perth Amboy, N.J. She was enrolled by her grandparents Vasil and Maria Zaviysky.



Brendan Alexander Malycky, born August 3, 1993, in Calgary, Alberta, is a new member of UNA Branch 500. He is the son of Andrew and Cynthia Malycky and was enrolled by his grandparents Alexander and Nancy Malycky.



Andrew W.J. Roach, seen above at the age of 8 months, is a new member of UNA Branch 323. He is the son of William and Anna Maria Roach of Raymore, Mo., and was enrolled by his grandfather John Brysky, who is president of Branch 323.



Andrew McMeekin, 9 months old, is the son of Ross and Christina McMeekin of Huntington, N.Y. He was enrolled into UNA Branch 76 by his grandparents George and Oksana Bazylevsky, with whom he is seen in the photo above.

## UNA DISTRICT COMMITTEE MEETING

### New Haven

BRIDGEPORT, Conn. — The annual meeting of the New Haven District Committee of the Ukrainian National Association was held here at Holy Protectress Church hall on March 14.

The meeting was opened by Taras Slewinsky, president of New Haven Branch 59, who welcomed all present and then handed over conduct of the meeting to the district chairman, Ihor Hayda. The Rev. Stepan Yanovsky delivered the invocation and deceased members were recalled with a moment of silence.

Twenty-nine members representing UNA branches 12, 59, 67, 253, 254, 277, 350 and 414 were present at the meeting. Also present was UNA Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky, who was welcomed to the meeting as the representative of the UNA Executive Committee.

The meeting participants unanimously elected the following to serve as the meeting presidium: Alexander Pryshlak, chairman; Stepan Tarasiuk, secretary. Mr. Tarasiuk read the minutes of the previous district meeting, which were accepted with minor addenda.

Mr. Hayda then reported on the work of the New Haven District during the past year and a half. He noted that five smaller UNA branches were merged with others and that this lessens the workload of UNA executive officers. He noted that new secretaries had taken over work in three branches: Branch 59 – Bohdan Doboshchak, Branch 350 – Stepan Bakay and Branch 414 – Gloria Horbaty.

Mr. Hayda also reported that he had convened a meeting of the district on September 14, 1997, at the time of the annual Ukrainian Day held in Stamford, Conn. The district fulfilled 66 percent of its annual membership quota for 1997, with branches in Bridgeport and Hartford showing the most organizing activity.

The district treasurer, Hryhoriy Gina, reported that the district had donated \$200 to the Stefanyk Library in Lviv and for the publication of textbooks in Ukraine, but that it was not successful in collecting dues from UNA branches.

The chairman of the auditing committee, Myroslav Trojan, noted that he had reviewed the treasurer's books and found everything to be in order. This was seconded by Volodymyr Glova, a member of the auditing committee. Mr. Trojan's proposal to give the outgoing district officers a vote of confidence was unanimously approved.

Mr. Olesnycky then addressed the meeting participants. His first order of business, however, was to present a certificate of gratitude to Mr. Slewinsky for his many years of dedicated service to the New Haven District and as secretary of UNA Branch 59.

Mr. Olesnycky then proceeded to give a report on the state of the UNA. His principal topic was the proposed mergers of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association and the Ukrainian National Aid Association of America with the UNA, which will be voted on at the UNA's 34th Regular Convention in Toronto in mid-May.

He said the UNA had benefited from the sale of its headquarters building in Jersey City, N.J., and its move to Parsippany, N.J. Mr. Olesnycky also said that the deficit of the UNA's official newspapers, the Svoboda daily and The Ukrainian Weekly could be eliminated if the two were combined.

The district meeting then proceeded to elect the following as its officers for 1998: Mr. Hayda, chairman; Myron Kuzio, vice-chairman; Mr. Tarasiuk, secretary; Mr. Slewinsky, treasurer; Mr. Pryshlak, Dmytro Stec, Stepan Pokora, George Stachiv and Volodymyr Ditkovsky, members at large. Elected to the auditing committee were: Mr. Trojan, chairman; Mr. Glova and Stepan Mykhailyshyn, members.

As a plan of activity for the coming year, the district has delineated the following: enrollment of new members, merger of smaller branches and appointment of younger branch secretaries. An informational meeting is to be held in September, once again as part of the Ukrainian Day festivities in Stamford.

At the conclusion of the meeting, participants socialized over refreshments.



UNA Vice-President Nestor Olesnycky (right) presents a plaque of gratitude for many years of service to the UNA to Taras Slewinsky during the annual meeting of the New Haven District Committee.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### The UNA's convention

As this issue of The Weekly goes to press, it is only two weeks before the opening day of the 34th Regular Convention of the Ukrainian National Association — a gathering that promises to be one of the most significant in the history of this 104-year-old fraternal organization.

Among the matters awaiting action by convention delegates representing branches throughout the United States and Canada are mergers of two similar Ukrainian fraternal associations with the UNA, amendments to the by-laws and the election of a new General Assembly — comprising executive officers, auditors and advisors.

Each of these is vital to the survival of our Soyuz, which is now facing trying times. The mergers have the potential (we say "potential," as the relevant facts and figures will be presented at the convention) of strengthening this community institution and unifying our community. Amendments to the by-laws (these proposals, too, will be made known at the convention) can make the UNA structure more efficient and its officers more accountable. The election of new leaders will give them the opportunity and the power to lead, to truly lead, the UNA into the next century.

In between all the reports by officers, decisions about mergers and by-laws, and campaigning by office-seekers, there will be a very basic undercurrent: the question of what the UNA is to be. Yes, it's true, the UNA's purposes are described in its charter. And, yes, its principles have been reiterated in the UNA Mission Statement adopted in 1997. But let's not kid ourselves, nothing is a given ... The key questions that will be posed at the 34th UNA Convention are: Will the UNA stay true to its founding principles? Will fraternalism continue to be the foundation of the UNA? Or will this be abandoned in favor of some corporate ideal?

No doubt some of these questions will be addressed by candidates for UNA office. And the delegates, before they cast their ballots, should feel duty-bound, as elected representatives of the grass-roots membership, to find out what the candidates — incumbents and newcomers alike — stand for, to learn about the candidates' vision for the UNA's future. To be sure, that job is made even more difficult by the fact that few candidates have publicly announced their intentions, with many of them choosing to wait, for various reasons, for the convention to arrive before testing the waters. Delegates must read and listen to the outgoing officers' reports, ask questions and insist on getting the answers they need to vote wisely. And, if they do their homework, perhaps the delegates will elect the leaders this great organization deserves.

The decisions made by convention delegates also have ramifications that transcend the membership rolls of the UNA. After all, the fates of the UNA and our community here in the United States, and to a lesser degree in Canada, have always been intertwined, as anyone familiar with the history of our diaspora community can attest. Ergo, the quadrennial convention's unparalleled importance.

The previous UNA convention held out the promise of taking the UNA into its second century of existence. This convention, if successful, will take the UNA into the next millennium.

May  
6  
1864

### Turning the pages back...

Kyrylo Trylovsky, the founder of the Sich movement and the Sich Rifleman, commonly known as the "Sich father," was born on May 6, 1864, in Bohutyn, Zolochiv county (about halfway

between Lviv and Ternopil) in Galicia. After graduating from Lviv University, he practiced law in Kolomyia.

In October 1890, as a young intellectual influenced by the socialist ideals of Mykola Drahomanov, he joined with older activists such as Ivan Franko, and took part in the founding congress of the Ukrainian Radical Party, known as the "Radykaly," the first Ukrainian party with a defined program, a mass following and registered membership.

Trylovsky remained a URP leader when in 1899 two groups that were increasingly uncomfortable with the party's leftist leanings split off to form the Ukrainian Social Democratic Party and the National Democratic Party. In 1907 he was elected to the Austrian Parliament in Vienna.

In May 1900 he founded the Sich society, an organization established to promote physical education and national consciousness (as well as to set up firefighting brigades), and oversaw its spread in Galicia. In 1902 he established a popular monthly magazine, *Zoria*, based in Kolomyia, and served as its editor. In 1908 in Stanyslaviv (now Ivano-Frankivsk) a central Sich council was established with Trylovsky as its president.

1913 was a banner year for Trylovsky. He was elected to the Galician Diet and during a Ukrainian filibuster directed at measures discriminating against his compatriots, made a 10-hour speech and buried the chamber in hundreds of motions.

Also that year, he founded a paramilitary organization he called the *Ukrainski Sichovi Striltsi* (Ukrainian Sich Rifleman — USS). At the outbreak of the first world war in August 1914, he convened an eight-man USS Combat Board with himself as its chairman to assist in Austria's effort against the Russian empire.

In October 1918, with the proclamation of the Western Ukrainian National Republic, Trylovsky's party joined the Ukrainian National Rada, but he left for Vinnytsia when Yevhen Petrushevych was declared "dictator plenipotentiary" in June 1919. He then concentrated on organizing Sich on a civic level, establishing committees in Vinnytsia, several locals in Pokuttia and Transcarpathia and, eventually, in Vienna, where he moved in 1921.

Returning to Galicia in 1927, he came back to live in Kolomyia, but he travelled throughout the region, overseeing Sich operations, publishing Sich songbooks and contributing articles to various publications. For many years he was a correspondent for *Svoboda*, and also wrote for another U.S.-based publication, *Narodne Slovo*.

Trylovsky died in Kolomyia on October 19, 1941.

Sources: "Trylovsky, Kyrylo," "Sich," "Ukrainian Radical Party," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vols. 4, 5 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993).

## Our modern-day Moses: Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky

by the Rev. Bohdan Lukie

I remember when Itzhak, better known as Kurt Lewin, came to Roblin, Manitoba, and when he told me about a modern-day Moses — ours, and his!

The year was 1959. The place was St. Vladimir's College, a minor seminary, run by the Redemptorist Fathers. I was in Grade 11. With 49 other students I listened to this Ukrainian Jew speak. He praised one of the greatest European prelates of this century, Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky, who headed the Ukrainian Catholic Church for nearly half a century until his death on November 1, 1944.

I had never before heard of Metropolitan Sheptytsky. I was just a farm kid from Grandview, Manitoba. And yet here was Kurt Lewin, a Holocaust survivor, a Haganah commander during the siege of Jerusalem, an Israeli Army officer, the great grandson of Isaac Schmelkes — a rabbi of Lviv still revered by Orthodox Jewry as a spiritual and intellectual giant — telling me about his Ukrainian savior.

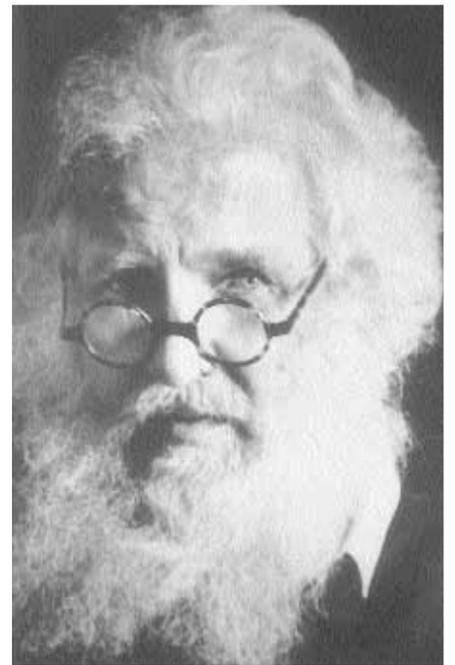
Mr. Lewin had come to Manitoba at the invitation of the Rev. Michael Hrynchynshyn, the postulator in the cause of the beatification of Metropolitan Andrei. Mr. Lewin was passionately committed to that purpose. He told us that we, as future priests of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, should know what our metropolitan had done for the Jews of Ukrainian Galicia under Nazi occupation. He spoke about how his own life was saved when the metropolitan gave him shelter in Lviv's St. George Cathedral and of how the metropolitan, who stood resolutely in favor of Ukraine's independence and shared in the general euphoria of liberation from the Soviets, nevertheless, maintained a critical vigilance toward German rule.

In February 1942, the metropolitan dared to lodge a protest with Heinrich Himmler against the destruction of the Galician Jewish community. The Nazi functionary who delivered Himmler's response bluntly told the metropolitan that if it were not for the metropolitan's age, he would have been shot for meddling in matters that should not concern him.

The metropolitan saw things differently. He persisted with works of Christian charity. He soon mobilized a Christian opposition to Nazi rule in western Ukraine. He let the Vatican know what was happening, in late August 1942, when he wrote to Pope Pius XII, alerting the holy father to the "almost diabolical" nature of the German regime. A few days later he repeated that condemnation in a letter to Cardinal Eugene Tisserant, prefect of the Congregation of Eastern Churches.

He also encouraged Christian resistance. Working with his brother, Klymentii, leader of Lviv's Studite monks, the metropolitan gathered together a small army of nuns and priests who would risk their own lives in clandestine rescue and sanctuary operations. False baptismal certificates were arranged for no less than 200 Jewish children, who were then smuggled to monasteries, orphanages and convent schools in and around Lviv. All of these children's lives were saved — 15 in the metropolitan's own residence. This at a time when sheltering Jews was a criminal offense punishable by death.

The Rev. Bohdan Lukie, CSSR, is pastor of Holy Eucharist Ukrainian Catholic Church in Toronto.



Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky

Rabbi Dr. David Kahana also survived thanks to the metropolitan's intervention. Later he drew up a list of over 240 Ukrainian Catholic priests who saved Jews. This good rabbi noted that his list was not exhaustive.

The lives of thousands of Ukrainian Jews were saved at the metropolitan's command. And all remember how, in November 1942, Metropolitan Sheptytsky issued what was to become his best-known pastoral letter, "Thou Shalt Not Kill." His message on the sanctity of human life was a clear condemnation of genocide.

Attempts to have the metropolitan proclaimed a saint have foundered on the protests of some Poles, on the propaganda of the Soviets and on the indifference or hostility of certain groups within the Jewish diaspora. In 1994, in his book "A Journey Through Illusions," Mr. Lewin wrote about how he had tried to interest the American Jewish Congress and the Anti-Defamation League of the B'nai B'rith in "this extraordinary saga of assistance." That was in 1951. No one cared then. No one seems to be interested now. As Mr. Lewin has observed, even Yad Vashem, Israel's memorial dedicated to keeping alive the memory of the Holocaust, "seems to have difficulty in recognizing the man's compassion and assistance extended to the Jewish community in his diocese at the time of its martyrdom and destruction." To this day Metropolitan Sheptytsky is not honored in Israel.

Of late there has been much debate about whether the Catholic Church did enough to save Jews during the Nazi terror. There can be no doubt that Metropolitan Sheptytsky did, acting as a leader of the Ukrainian Catholic Church, as a Ukrainian patriot, and as a man of rare intellect and spirituality. If he had been discovered, he would have been martyred, joining the many millions of other Ukrainian victims of the Holocaust.

This year marks the 50th anniversary of the state of Israel, which on April 22 paid special honor to those who risked everything to save Jews. I shall pray that this will be the year in which Israel recognizes Metropolitan Andrei Sheptytsky as a Righteous Gentile, for many years ago, a Holocaust survivor told me that this man's deeds were truly holy.

Perhaps if Tel Aviv finally honors Metropolitan Sheptytsky as a Righteous Gentile, then, one day soon, Rome will also confirm that Metropolitan Andrei was a saint — a Moses whom Itzhak and I share.

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### A thank-you from Dnipropetrovsk

Dear Editor:

I am writing to thank you for the subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly funded by Self-Reliance (N.Y.) Federal Credit Union.

This subscription is of great value to us because both professors and students have access to original material, especially since our students take a course called "Mass Media English."

We would appreciate if you could renew the subscription to The Ukrainian Weekly for one more year.

Again, thank you for your assistance.

**Alla Anisimova**  
Dnipropetrovsk

*The writer is head of the English Philology Department at Dnipropetrovsk State University.*

### Re: New Jersey's Ukrainian Festival

Dear Editor:

As past chairwoman and member of the Ukrainian Festival Committee of New Jersey, I felt it necessary to explain some reasons why the committee has decided not to participate in this year's Multicultural Festival at the PNC Bank Arts Center on September 26.

Since 1990 there has been a steady decline in attendance at the festivals held at the Garden State Arts Center, today known as PNC Bank Arts Center. This may be attributed to a variety of reasons, among them numerous festivals held at many locations on the East Coast during the summer period, program content, change of festival date from June to September and general apathy of the public.

During this period the Cultural Fund continually cut our budget but interestingly enough its portion, fees for administrative stage hands and ticketing, were all rising. The committee was always under pressure to do more or the same with less. When we requested to see the details of their portion of costs, our efforts were consistently denied. There was always the threat from the Cultural Fund that if we couldn't break even, we might not be allowed to participate in future festivals.

The result of this kind of thinking was that the Cultural Fund, which is an extension of the New Jersey Highway Authority that sponsors programs for seniors, youths and the disabled, did not permit us to use the stage in 1997 since attendance for the main stage program in 1996 was very poor. Thus, for 1997 we had only a small program. The results were horrific attendance.

All along, the [festival] committee had concerns about the relationship with the Cultural Fund. It was obvious that a huge facility like the center's theater can make a lot of money booking a prominent concert on a Saturday and not have to deal with money-losing festivals. All attempts to improve this situation were met with concern and criticism that we were not brining in cold hard cash.

In planning for 1998 we were told that we would not be allowed to have a separate festival but that five ethnic groups that have not produced a profit would be grouped together in something called a Multicultural Festival to be made up of the Polish, Ukrainian, Slovak, Jewish and Chinese communities.

We were also told that we would not be able to use the main stage and that all five groups would have to share the parking lot for the festival events. The reasoning was that the main stage, as well as the mall, will be under construction. Needless to say, all the committees were very upset and started an active letter-writing campaign to local newspapers and to the office of New Jersey Gov. Christine Todd-Whitman.

We also could not get a guarantee from the Cultural Fund that we could ever have our own festivals again. I see this as a means to an end for the Cultural Fund. For political reasons, the fund did not want to be responsible or accountable for stating that the festivals couldn't continue, so the Cultural Fund chose to make it so difficult that the committees themselves would pull out. My understanding is that the Polish Committee also is not going to participate in the Multicultural Festival.

So, where do we go from here? We are planning to have a Ukrainian Festival on a smaller scale this year. On Saturday, September 26, we are planning a festival in Whippany, N.J., with a dance to follow at the Ramada Hotel in nearby East Hanover.

Stay tuned for more details regarding event activities.

**Luba Z. Siryj**  
Bellemead, N.J.

### Kuropas should be lauded for candor

Dear Editor:

Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, should be congratulated for courage and candor in defending the good Ukrainian-name in his column of March 1 titled "Should Neal Sher be disbarred?"

I have no doubt that the overwhelming majority of Americans who deeply care about the honesty and integrity of our judicial system, would answer this question about Neal Sher with a resounding "Yes!" Not only Mr. Sher, but all the other OSI attorneys as well who, according to the ruling of the U.S. District Court of Ohio, "acted with reckless disregard for their duty to the court and their discovery obligation." It is obvious now that Mr. Sher and other OSI attorneys consciously and deliberately perpetrated fraud upon U.S. courts, the whole American judicial system and last but not least, on American society.

If those "tainted fraudulent acts" and the "reckless disregard for the truth" can be considered crimes, then by law, not only should all of them be disbarred, but they also should be brought before a court of law for trial and if found guilty receive severe punishment. The punishment should be consistent with the enormity and gravity of damage done by Mr. Sher and other OSI attorneys.

It is a chilling thought for the overwhelming majority of Americans to realize that Mr. Sher and the OSI attorneys who were supposed to be honest beyond any shadow of doubt, violated their duty to uphold the law.

Members of the American Bar Association, the Ukrainian American Bar Association and other professional organizations whose good name and reputation as attorneys was severely damaged by Mr. Sher and a small group of dishonest lawyers should take immediate steps toward bringing him and this group of lawyers to justice and thus restore the integrity of the American judicial system.

**Eugene L. Kuz, M.D.**  
Savage, Minn.

## PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



### Hooray for Ukrainian democracy

Ukraine held parliamentary elections last month, and you can spin the outcome any number of ways. A lot of observers looked at the results and declared the Communists the big winners. With 24.7 percent, they got more than twice the votes that Rukh received for second place. Take another look, though, and compare this year's election with the results the Communists polled for the last 70 or 80 years when they got every vote cast. This year, more than three-quarters of the people of Ukraine voting in a free election, said "no" to communism. It's easy to see why. When Communists ran things, they did a terrible job. Their legacy over three generations in power includes mass murder, famine, foreign aggression, environmental catastrophe, intellectual stagnation, financial bankruptcy, alcoholism, corruption, spiritual emptiness ...

Today, Communism in Ukraine is running on the inertia built up over three generations when it was the only party with the right to organize. That organization is still largely intact and is still capable of winning local elections, but from a national perspective communism is a spent political force that focuses on the past, evoking the "good old days" of Leonid Brezhnev. Fortunately, those days are gone and they're not coming back. That's not to say that communism isn't still dangerous. It is. Its leaders, though, have no vision, no ideas. The communist's answer to Ukraine's problems is to surrender sovereignty to Moscow. That still appeals to a lot of people, but it's not decisive: even in coalition with other parties, the Communists will not be able to control a majority in the next Parliament. Unless they change drastically, their only role will be to block reform and that's not a winning program for a country hungry for progress and eager for change.

The real winner in Ukraine's 1998 parliamentary election is democracy. In less than a decade, Ukraine has gone from a system with one political ideology to one with a broad spectrum of different parties: socialists, Greens, National-Democrats, Christian Republicans, National Front, Agrarians, Workers, Women, Muslims — 30 in all.

Certainly this reflects an immature political system, but it's healthy nonetheless, particularly compared to the time not so long ago when there was only communism and one set of views that tens of millions were forced to accept. Those who disagreed were tossed into prison or an insane asylum. Today, there is disagreement, there is rivalry, but no repression and no political violence. Ethnic and religious minorities enjoy full rights, even fielding their own political parties.

The election was clean and turnout was impressive: more than 70 percent. To its credit, Ukraine has already had one transition of presidential power and is now preparing for the next presidential election with every expectation that it will be fair and democratic. Winners and losers will abide by the results, just as they did in the election last month.

Achieving a stable democracy is a big deal for Ukraine. It's not something everyone expected. In 1991, President George Bush warned the Ukrainian Parliament that "Americans will not support those who seek independence in

order to replace a far-off tyranny with a local despotism." More recently in 1996, during the same week that Ukraine launched its currency reform replacing the kupon with the hryvnia, Forbes magazine published an outrageous article about Ukraine titled "Tinderbox?" The author, an associate editor at Forbes, warned darkly that "the world may not have seen the end of turmoil in Eastern Europe. Keep your eye on Ukraine." Comparing Ukraine to Iran, Bosnia and Chechnya, he profiled a militiaman from the lunatic fringe as if he were typical of most Ukrainians. Last month's election was a much more eloquent response to Ukraine's critics than any letter to the editor of Forbes could ever be.

Today, there's no shortage of problems to report from Ukraine. But, there's good news, too. The hryvnia is maintaining its value, half the economy is privatized, Ukraine's democracy is strong and the strategic partnership with the United States is steady and firm. The elements are in place for growth and development, but the new members of the Verkhovna Rada have their work cut out for them.

On paper, the parties dedicated to Ukraine's independence and to free market reforms constitute a majority. Now it's up to their leaders to work together and with President Leonid Kuchma for the fundamental changes that will bring Ukraine into the economic mainstream. The country needs investors. Investors need to know they can make an honest profit from their efforts. One of the first items on the Verkhovna Rada's agenda, therefore, has to be tax reform and the elimination of burdensome regulations. The multiple licensing requirements that exist today breed corruption and stifle economic growth. Another priority will be to unleash Ukraine's enormous agricultural potential. Give people land and the freedom to cultivate it. Agricultural support industries, food processing, marketing and exports will inevitably follow.

In the coming months and years, Ukraine will gain strength from democracy. The inexperienced political parties that polled in the single digits will learn from each election. Coalitions will form, parties will merge, leaders will rise to the occasion.

The United States has been a good friend of Ukraine, providing assistance, offering valuable advice, extending military cooperation, lending diplomatic support. Congress, which is now considering the 1999 budget, cannot but look favorably on the way democracy is taking root in this important country. Congress, by the way, deserves a good deal of credit for funding the programs that encouraged the growth of Ukrainian democracy. Similar encouragement and resources are still needed to help Ukraine get out of the economic mess that communism left as its legacy.

The 1998 election demonstrates that Ukrainians have decisively rejected that evil doctrine, but they are not yet ready to unite around a national party. As the memory of communism's sorry legacy begins to fade, a sense of Ukrainian identity will grow and with that a national consensus on something greater than the rejection of communism will emerge. Democracy is disorderly and cacophonous, but it sure beats every other system. So let's hear it for democracy: Trychi Slava!

## 1997: A year of Yurii Andrukhovych in print

by Marko Andryczyk

LVIV – Anyone within earshot of discussions about contemporary Ukrainian literature is undoubtedly familiar with the name Yurii Andrukhovych. Within the last 10 years, the poet, prose writer, and essayist has emerged as one of contemporary Ukraine's writers that readers find most fascinating.

In terms of publication and exposure, 1997 proved to be a most active year for Mr. Andrukhovych. In 1985, through correspondence from his home town of Ivano-Frankivsk, Mr. Andrukhovych, together with Rivne's Oleksander Irvanets and Lviv's Viktor Neborak formed the literary collective Bu-Ba-Bu.

To date, three collections of Mr. Andrukhovych's poetry have been published: "Nebo i Ploshchi" (Sky and Plazas, 1985), "Sered Mista" (In town, 1989) and "Ekzotychnyj Ptakhy i Roslyny" (Exotic Birds and Plants, 1991). Numerous anthologies, journals and newspapers, including "Tvory Bu-Ba-Bu" (The Works of Bu-Ba-Bu, 1995) and "From Three Worlds: New Writing from Ukraine" (1996) have also presented Mr. Andrukhovych's writings both in the original Ukrainian and in translation into Polish, German and English.

In 1990 Mr. Andrukhovych, perhaps overwhelmed by the multitude of characters he created in his poetry, and the individual depth with which he invested them, ceased writing verse and concentrated instead on writing prose. In total, he has written three novels: "Rekreatsiyi" (Recreations), "Moskoviada" and "Perversiyi" (Perversions) all of which were first serialized in the literary journal *Suchasnist*.

In 1997, all three novels were published in individual volumes. That year also saw the re-publication of the most well-known of his poetry collections, "Ekzotychni Ptakhy i Roslyny."

This collection, together with Neborak's "Litayucha Holova" and Propala Hramota's "Propala Hramota," are among the most essential texts that in defining Ukrainian's cultural rebirth in the early years of its inde-

pendence. Due to its popularity, copies of "Ekzotychni Ptakhy i Roslyny" were always difficult to obtain and it is for this reason and for the fact that the author himself no longer owns a copy of this book that Mr. Andrukhovych decided to re-release it.

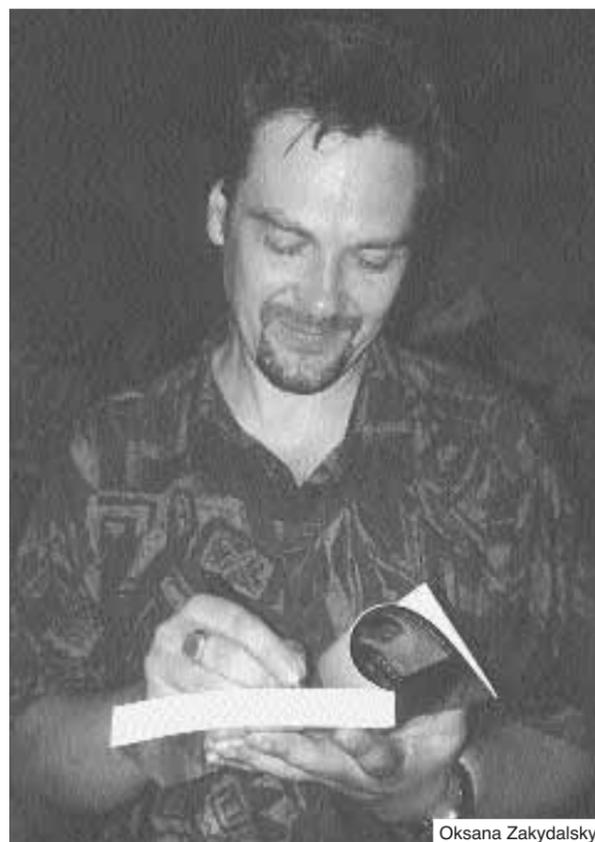
The 1997 version of "Ekzotychni Ptakhy i Roslyny" differs from its original edition in design and somewhat in content. For this publication, the author chose to add selections from his other works and omitted several poems from the 1991 original and reworked others. This volume also concludes with the long poem cycle "India," the writer's last work in verse.

"Ekzotychni Ptakhy i Roslyny (z dodatkom Indiyi)," as the collection is formally titled is enhanced by icon-collage illustrations designed by contemporary Ukrainian artist Izdryk. It was published by the Ivano-Frankivsk publishing firm, Lilea-HB and is "edited" by a fictitious list of editors (all variations of names of Mr. Andrukhovych's personages).

"Ekzotychni Ptakhy i Roslyny" was formally presented on December 5, 1997, at the Lviv Palace of Art. At the presentation, Mr. Andrukhovych chose only to read a few of his poems himself and instead called upon his colleagues to perform their interpretations of his poems. They included Mr. Neborak, Nazar Honchar (from the Lviv poetry collective LuHoSad), Roman Chaika (from the Lviv rock group Mertyvi Piven), Halia Petrosanak and Izdryk.

Mr. Andrukhovych concluded the evening by reading "India" accompanied by former Ne Zhurys composer Yuri Sayenko. This presentation of the poem, a somewhat metaphysical mind excursion between heaven and hell in search for the possibility of raising life to a higher level was effectively mind-blowing and proved to be the evening's highlight.

The year 1998 continued to welcome Mr. Andrukhovych with accolades. Interestingly, and much to the admiration of Mr. Andrukhovych's closest colleagues and most loyal admirers, Mr. Andrukhovych withdrew his nomination for the Shevchenko Prize in Literature and in doing so, forfeited his chances for a



Oksana Zakydalsky

Yurii Andrukhovych at a Lviv book launch last summer

substantial monetary reward. He explained this act with several reasons ranging from the humble ("my chances weren't very good anyway") to a defiant criticism of the current state of affairs in Ukraine. Unwilling to recognize this "social" prize as this would signify an acceptance of the current state of affairs in Ukraine, Mr. Andrukhovych rejected the politics of this potential honor. In doing so, Mr. Andrukhovych chose to cling to his "unofficial," independent, roots which nonetheless managed to sprout him in the contemporary literary world as a fascinating representative of his exotic homeland.

## Ukrainian artists restore grand old theater in Detroit

by Kathryn Solovey Babak

DETROIT – As strains of Verdi's "Aida" could be heard in Grand Circus Park in the heart of downtown Detroit, two artists from Ukraine glowed with pride at being essential to the restoration of the lobby of the Detroit Opera House for the 1997-1998 season of the Michigan Opera Theater (MOT). The skills of Volodymyr Mayorchak and Bohdan Chernetsky were essential to this huge restoration project; they both continue to work on the new home of the 25-year-old MOT.

Over the years, the MOT has been performing at several sites in Detroit, but none of them has had the stage facilities to perform a full opera repertoire. In 1988 the MOT invested in the purchase of the once-grand masterpiece known as the Grand Circus Park Theater for their future home.

At its original opening in 1922 the magnificent theater, designed by famed architect C. Howard Crane, was Detroit's first movie palace. Originally known as the Capitol Theater, it was created in the spirit of the great Italian opera houses with murals, stencil work, Tiffany-style glass, crystal chandeliers, marble and hand-molded plaster. Of great interest to the MOT was the theater's superb acoustics. However, the building had been in decline for many years and was finally completely closed in 1985. After its closure, all of the theater's pipes froze and then burst so that a complete \$28 million restoration was necessary to bring the theater back to the splendor of its 1922 opening.

Two artists, both of whom recently immigrated from Ukraine, worked extensively on the 2,000-square foot, three-story lobby of the theater. Their work included general and decorative painting of the interior walls, and the painting of 28 murals gracing the lobby. Eight large murals depict allegories – the goddesses of justice, history, fine arts, poetry, theater, music, comedy/tragedy and industry. The



Artists Bohdan Chernetsky (foreground) and Volodymyr Mayorchak at work.

original murals had been stretched and hung like easel paintings, but moisture and temperature changes had caused them to crumble and crack. A decision was made to paint new murals on canvas that would reproduce the previous works and apply them directly to the drywall. The Ukrainian artists undertook a new method of doing this works using two different techniques: acrylics for the ornamentation and oil blended with wax for the compositions. This gives an artistic finish to the murals and will help retain their beauty for many years to come.

Mr. Mayorchak has been in the United States since 1994 and resides in the Detroit metropolitan area where he has his studio. He was educated at the Ivan Trush College of Applied Art in Lviv, and then completed his education in 1989 at the Fedorov Ukrainian Polygraphic Institute in Lviv. Mr. Chernetsky graduated from the Lviv Institute of Applied and Decorative Arts (now known as the Artists' Academy) in 1981. He has his studio in the Cleveland area and has been in the United States since 1991.

Both artists have displayed their art

work at exhibits in the United States and Europe. They have worked extensively on restoration work and new projects in Ukraine and other European countries, and the U.S. The studios of both men undertake projects of a religious or of secular nature – interior and exterior painting, design and artistic finishing of interiors, gold leafing, monumental paintings and portraiture.

For more information about their work, interested persons may contact Mr. Mayorchak at (734) 525-7197, or Mr. Chernetsky at (440) 888-8845.

## An appreciation: the late Lubka Kolessa, pianist, international virtuoso

by Dr. Ireneus Zuk

MONTREAL – To her students, the distinguished lady was always simply “Madame Kolessa” or “Madame K.” In fact, this extraordinary woman had been one of Europe’s most celebrated pre-war pianists. At a time when musical performers were known for their unique personalities, she embodied the notion of the international virtuoso.

Lubka Kolessa was born on May 19, 1904, into a family of scholars in Lviv, a city with a rich musical tradition and at that time a part of Austria-Hungary. Her uncle, Filaret Kolessa, was one of the towering figures in the early history of ethnomusicology. Her father also had been a noted scholar, later rector of the Ukrainian Free University, and shortly after Lubka Kolessa’s birth, an elected member of the Austro-Hungarian Parliament in Vienna.

For this reason, the young child was able to study in that great musical center with Louis Thern, and on graduation from the Vienna State Academy was awarded the Bösendorfer Prize. After further studies at the graduate school, with the Liszt pupil Emil Sauer, she was awarded the State Prize, at that time the highest award in Austria. Additional studies followed with another Liszt student, Eugen d’Albert, who markedly influenced her concept of tone and style.

At the age of 15 she was already used to extensive tours that eventually took her to most major cities in Europe and to South America. She also frequently appeared as soloist with major orchestras and performed repeatedly under the most eminent contemporary conductors, including Karl Böhm, Bruno Walter, Wilhelm Furtwängler, Felix Weingartner, Willem Mengelberg, Sir Henry Wood, Erich Kleiber, Herbert von Karajan.

Throughout the world she was acknowledged as a front-rank pianist by audiences and critics alike. Her concerts were anticipated with great enthusiasm. I remember my late mother, a personal friend of this remarkable lady, recounting how a Kolessa concert would be preceded for weeks by a wave of excitement, and her appearance would create a frenzied reaction not unlike that accorded today’s rock groups.

During the 1938-1939 concert season her schedule consisted of 178 concerts. It was in the early 1940s, at the height of her international career, that Mme.

*Ireneus Zuk is director of the School of Music at Queen’s University, Kingston, Ontario.*

Kolessa arrived in Canada and soon thereafter began her concert activity in this country. She gave many public recitals and also appeared with orchestras, including the Toronto Symphony Orchestra as well as the New York Philharmonic. On the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation she performed weekly in several series of recitals, each series dedicated to the presentation of major piano works of an individual composer – Bach, Mozart, Beethoven, Schubert and Chopin.

It was also at this time that Mme. Kolessa began her pedagogical activity. She initially taught at the Toronto Conservatory of Music and subsequently was invited to head the Senior School upon its creation. Later, while continuing to be a resident of Rosedale, she taught at three Montreal institutions: the Conservatoire de Musique et d’Art Dramatique de la Province de Quebec, the Vincent d’Indy School and the Faculty of Music at McGill University. During each academic year she made weekly trips from Toronto to Montreal, until her retirement in the 70s.

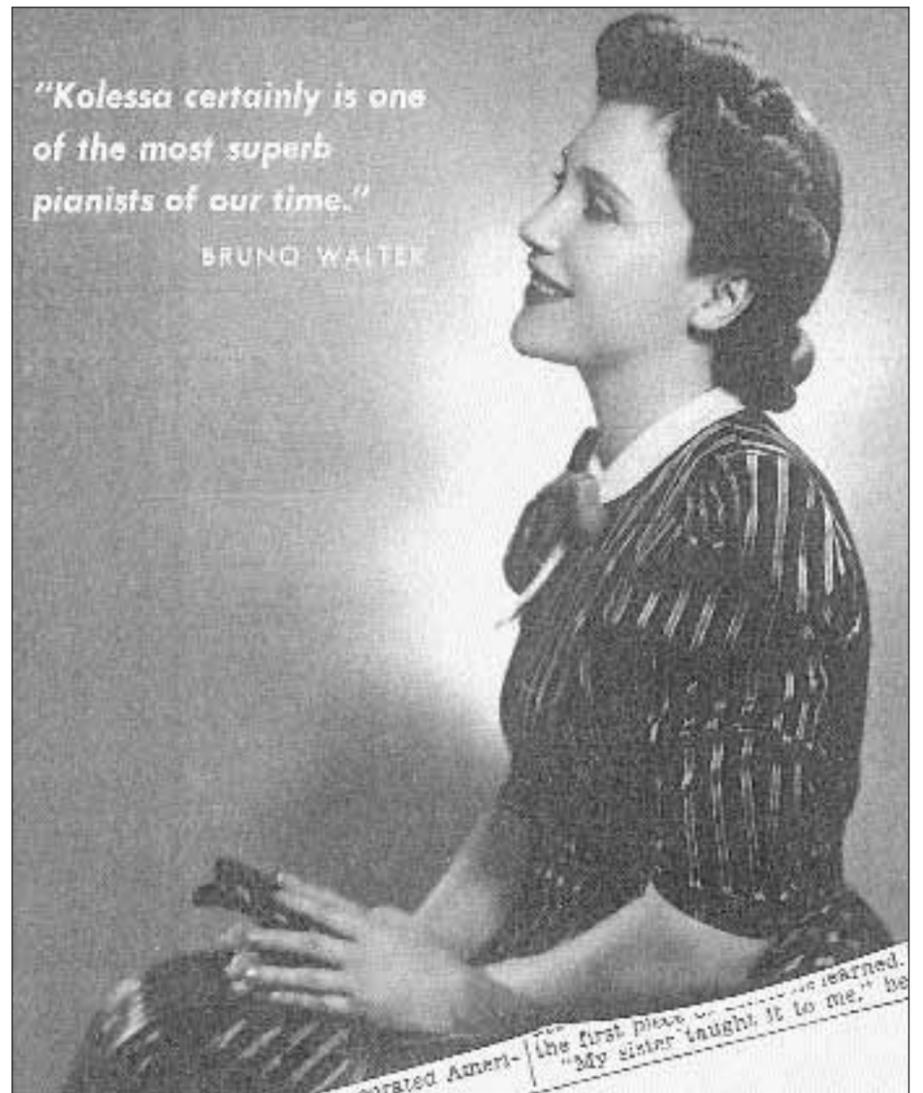
Mme. Kolessa was an insightful interpreter with a sure and brilliant Lisztian technique. A few quotes from New York critics give an idea of the deep impact she had on her listeners:

“... a pianist of uncommon personality and charm. Her playing showed that she has something of her own to say as a musician and what she has to say was worth paying attention to. Here clearly was an artist with a mind and heart of her own ... she played with elegance of style and consistency of character. The accent was on expression, not on technical fireworks. For she was making music which should be the aim of an evening in Carnegie Hall.” – Harold Taubman, *The New York Times*.

“Her work last night revealed her to be a pianist of genuine individuality. The pianist’s innate musicality and delicacy of style were ingratiatingly in evidence in her interpretation ... She brought to her conception the breadth of style, the impassioned sweep, ... the reflectively poetic touch needed for a telling conveyance of the composer’s [Chopin’s] message.” – Jerome D. Bohm, *New York Herald Tribune*.

[Headline] “Kolessa at Carnegie where she belongs.

...That was the beauty about Lubka Kolessa’s playing. No matter what she played – Bach, Debussy, Schumann, Mozart, Chopin – a sure discipline held everything in line. The control was unwavering through the toughest stretches.



Lubka Kolessa in the 1940s (as she appeared in a promotional brochure).

“Still, the control wasn’t the cold academic kind that crowds out feeling. Miss Kolessa applied plenty of warmth where it was needed, but it never sizzled over to the point of warping the line.

“The playing was clean and transparent in all idioms tackled by Miss Kolessa ... The outlines were softly molded, and details were filled in as if by the gathering momentum of the music itself.

“Anyway, remember the name – Lubka Kolessa. She will probably be back now as a seasonal regular.”

– Louis Biancolli, *New York World Telegram*.

Mme. Kolessa was not only a great performer she was also an inspired and inspiring teacher. She had that special ability to convey her tremendous knowledge of technique and repertoire in her lessons. There can be no doubt about how greatly she enriched the musical scene in Canada.

As a student of two Liszt pupils, Mme. Kolessa ably handed down this famous pianistic tradition to her Canadian stu-

dents. These include many prominent musicians: conductor Mario Bernardi, composer-pianists Clermont Pépin and John Hawkins (University of Toronto), and pianists Howard Brown (professor emeritus, Bishop’s University), Patricia Grant Lewis, Richard Gresko (deceased), Millicent Kavanaugh, Gordon Kushner (former vice-principal and acting principal, RCMT), John McKay (Gustavus Adolphus College, Minn.), Louis-Phillipe Pelletier (chair, piano area, McGill University), Eugene Plawutsky (chair, performance department, McGill University), Pierrette Froment (Ottawa), Luba Zuk (piano faculty, McGill University) and this writer.

Mme. Kolessa died in Toronto this past summer. To the very end she kept in contact with a few of her former students. To me, she was a constant source of understanding, advice and inspiration. Mme. Kolessa will be greatly missed not only by her former students, but also by the Canadian music community as a whole.

## Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation assists Church in Ukraine

CHICAGO – The Ukrainian Catholic Education Foundation (UCEF) has received \$100,000 in donations during its first year. Founded in January of 1997, to assist the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Ukraine, the charity also educates Americans about the Church’s needs.

Last year’s grant recipients in Ukraine included the revived Lviv Theological Academy, the oral history program of the Institute of Church History and a Christian youth radio program. In addition, the UCEF has arranged for several thousand dollars in donations of books and teaching materials.

About one-third of the donations have come from outside the Ukrainian

community, including Roman Catholic parishes in Illinois, North Carolina and Arkansas. The foundation’s president, Prof. Jeffrey Wills, attributes this success to the efforts of Roman Catholic volunteers in Ukraine who have returned to tell their communities about the challenges facing the Church in the post-Soviet period. The UCEF hopes to increase its outreach to the American public at-large in the coming year and to continue to raise awareness needs.

To inaugurate its lecture series, the Chicago-based foundation also sponsored presentations by Yaroslav Hrytsak, professor of history at Lviv State University, and Olena Dzhezhora, professor of European his-

tory at the Lviv Theological Academy. Both stressed the critical importance of the Catholic Church and humanities education in contemporary Ukraine.

In addition to the gifts received to date, several significant pledges for the foundation’s future programs have been made to the foundation’s endowment campaign. The parish of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha in Chicago has pledged \$250,000 for a chair in theology in memory of their late pastor the Rev. Marian Butrynsky. At a luncheon in Detroit, Bishop Lubomyr Husar applauded Dr. Alexander Gudziak and Yaroslava Gudziak for their commitment of \$250,000 for a professorship at the Lviv Theological Academy. In addition, at an event held in Miami Beach to

celebrate the 100th birthday of Michael Szypula, a pledge of \$100,000 for a commemorative lectureship was committed.

The directors of the foundation are the Rev. Ivan Krotec of Chicago, Prof. Brian Daley of the University of Notre Dame, and Prof. Wills, who is currently teaching in Ukraine as a Fulbright Scholar. Headquartered in the Ukrainian Cultural Center in Chicago, the foundation has been granted 501(c)(3) status as a tax-exempt charitable organization. All donations are tax-deductible. For further information, please contact: Bryon L. Brindel, 2247 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago, IL 60622; telephone, (773) 235-8462; e-mail, UCEFCHGO@aol.com.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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## Ukraine's parliamentary...

(Continued from page 2)

adoption of the Ukrainian Constitution in June 1996, the Russia bloc had transformed itself from a separatist lobby into a pan-Slavic one. Union's main campaign platform, therefore, called for Ukraine's membership in the Belarusian-Russian union.

It is strongly rumored that the presidential administration was behind the creation of splinter left-wing election blocs whose aim was to divide the left vote. To some degree this tactic was successful. The Progressive Socialists campaigned on television against the other two left-wing blocs and Hromada in an, at times, unholy alliance with the party of power. The Labor Ukraine bloc united under itself veterans, groups in an attempt to prevent the Communist Party of Ukraine (CPU) from monopolizing this important voter constituency of pensioners. The All-Ukrainian Workers Party, created by the Federation of Trade Unions which has always maintained its Soviet-era cozy relationship with the authorities, also aimed to attract the vote of disgruntled workers.

The wild card undoubtedly was Hromada, the political party created by former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko. Ukrainian state television and the authorities harangued Hromada continuously in a media blitz that sought to link the party to the far left as a broad threat to Ukrainian democracy and statehood. To some degree this alliance of convenience is in the making because Mr. Lazarenko has little option but to search for allies among the left after being disowned by all democratic parties.

The other two noticeable anomalies in the election campaign were the campaigns by the Social Democratic Party (United) and the Greens. The SDPU benefited from high-profile linkage to Ukraine's most popular football team, Dynamo Kyiv, the entire squad of which joined the party in an election gesture. Unfortunately, Dynamo's thrashing by Juventus on March 18 lost it approximately 2 percent in votes. The SDPU may also have been damaged by having former President Leonid Kravchuk in its top five on the proportional lists, although Kravchuk loyalists reiterated that in the Kravchuk era, unlike today, there were no wage arrears. The success of the SDPU in getting through the 4 percent barrier was important also for former Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk's presidential bid in October 1999.

The Greens launched a highly successful election campaign that brought them from nowhere into fourth place by focusing upon young and disgruntled voters. Their large vote, largely a protest vote, hid the fact that the party had largely been bought and taken over by businessmen, the majority of whom are from the energy sector, which is a major threat to the environment.

### The election campaign

There was never any doubt that one thing would remain the same in the newly elected Parliament: namely, that the largest faction would be again the Communists. However, since early 1998 opinion polls had consistently underestimated the size of the vote for the CPU at only 12 to 15 percent. More than a third of voters had remained undecided right up until election day, and many of them had decided to vote for the left as a protest vote against the economic crisis — not as a vote in favor of communism. On election day a poll by Democratic Initiatives and SOCIS-Gallup gave results that more closely resembled the final results of the elections with the CPU in a clear lead.

The three key questions would be: would the CPU increase its numbers in the Verkhovna Rada from approximately 90 in 1994-1998; would the Socialist/Agrarian party bloc also increase its numbers; if both the

Communists and the Socialists/Agrarians increased their representation would they, when combined, control more than 50 percent of the seats in the Verkhovna Rada? If so, Ukraine would be in for a period of instability, uncertainty and heightened conflict between the Verkhovna Rada and the executive branch.

### The election results

The three main left-wing blocs obtained 24.68 (CPU), 8.59 (Socialists/Agrarians) and 4.05 percent (Progressive Socialists) giving them 37.32 percent of the 225 seats in Verkhovna Rada allocated to or by proportional votes. The democratic parties that made it through the 4 percent barrier were Rukh (9.42), the Greens (5.39), National Democratic Party (5.01), Hromada (4.71) and the SDPU (4.01), for a total of 28.54 percent.

Both the left and the democratic parties that made it past the 4 percent barrier will obtain additional votes when they are distributed to them from the election blocs that did not make it through the barrier.

There were few regional disparities in the election results. Rukh and national democrats obtained their main support in western Ukraine, while the CPU and the Socialists/Agrarians did well, respectively, in eastern and central Ukraine. In Dnipropetrovsk, Mr. Lazarenko's base, the CPU was pushed into second place by Hromada. Due to proportional voting, the CPU and Rukh did make inroads into areas where they were usually absent (Rukh in Crimea, where it was supported by the Tatars, and the CPU in the city of Kyiv).

### Implications for the future

- The new Parliament is unlikely to have a 50 percent majority by the left (let alone a constitutional two-thirds majority). Hence, it will not be dominated by the three main left-wing election blocs.

- Whether the Verkhovna Rada will be more effective in pursuing reform will depend upon two factors: first, whether the left again dominates its top positions; second, the quality of the centrist and national democratic blocs and their ability to unite. The democratic forces are likely to be buttressed by the independents and entrepreneurs who comprised most of the candidates elected to the 225 seats elected on a majoritarian basis. The 1994-1998 Verkhovna Rada suffered from an amorphous and weak center that sometimes voted with the left and at other times with the right.

- If the left again takes control of the top positions in the Parliament, conflict with the executive is inevitable. The CPU has openly called for the post of the president to be abolished, and for the National Bank of Ukraine and the Cabinet of Ministers to be brought under parliamentary control. At the same time, a less amorphous center in the Verkhovna Rada is likely to boost the reform process in Ukraine — although this still is likely to be evolutionary, not radical, in form.

- President Kuchma, whose popularity has sunk to an all-time low of only 10 percent who look favorably at his accomplishments, has long threatened to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada and implement reform through a powerful executive, which is the norm in the CIS. This solution would be advantageous for economic reform, but it would weaken the democratic process.

- The election blocs that backed President Kuchma (the National Democratic Party, dubbed the "party of power"), Mr. Marchuk (the SDPU) and Mr. Moroz (the CPU and the Socialist/Agrarian bloc) all made it through the 4 percent barrier. Thus, the conflict between the Verkhovna Rada and the executive will inevitably continue and it will be a major factor in the October 1999 presidential election campaign.

## Albright clears...

(Continued from page 1)

until Ukraine met conditions to clean up its economic act. The World Bank also has withheld about \$600 million.

"No one wants to be seen as pulling the plug on Ukraine, because no one knows what the consequences will be," Reuters quoted the diplomat as saying. "The moral responsibility would be pretty heavy if it turned into Lukashenko-land two," he said, referring to neighboring Belarus, which is ruled by President Alyaksandr Lukashenka, a hard-liner who favors a Soviet-style command economy.

Secretary Albright's decision on certification was announced on a flight to Beijing from Tokyo; she is on a one-week trip to Asia.

### Statement on certification

Following is the text of the statement by Mr. Rubin of the U.S. Department of State on Secretary Albright's certification of significant progress on investment complaints in Ukraine.

Secretary Albright has decided to certify that the government of Ukraine has made significant progress toward resolving U.S. investor complaints. This decision fulfills a congressionally mandated requirement that would have cut off one-half of U.S. assistance to Ukraine unless such a certification was made.

We have worked very closely with the government of Ukraine over the past year to

push for resolution of the 12 specific complaints covered by the legislation. The secretary's decision to certify recognizes that the government of Ukraine has made progress, although not all of the cases have been resolved. We appreciate the efforts made by the government of Ukraine to help resolve these cases.

We remain concerned, however, about U.S. investor problems that remain unresolved, and more generally about Ukraine's poor investment climate and slow pace of economic reform. In addition to resolving the investment disputes, we urge the government of Ukraine to take specific steps to improve its investment climate, including instituting more transparent procurement and licensing requirements, implementing regulatory reform, improving protection of shareholder rights, improving enforcement of judicial decisions and enforcing a strong code of ethics.

In light of our continuing concern about foreign investment and the slow pace of economic reform in Ukraine, the secretary has directed the withholding of certain assistance funds to the government of Ukraine in areas where reforms have stalled and such assistance cannot be used effectively. If there is not significant progress in the next few months, these funds would be redirected to other areas in the private and non-governmental sectors.

We will continue to monitor closely Ukraine's success in addressing the problems U.S. investors face in Ukraine and in pushing effective economic reform.

## Yale conference...

(Continued from page 5)

University Prof. Louise I. Shelly, an expert on organized crime and corruption in Ukraine. The transitional period in Ukraine "is fertile ground for organized crime," she said. It has made inroads from the lowest to the highest levels of economic activity, and has become "a major impediment to the development of a market economy," she said.

The woman with boxes waiting at the train station, who is seen by some as the beginnings of commerce – albeit in the "shadow" for now – is really one small link in a chain of crime and corruption that runs throughout society, from high government officials to the policemen on the street who are paid to look the other way, to the ordinary citizen who buys the non-taxed product, she observed.

When Ukraine became independent it had no policy-making, legislative and regulatory experience and no political elite, said Bohdan Krawchenko, vice-rector of the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration. And this has resulted in many major problems he and like-minded individuals are trying to resolve.

The current central government is fragmented, has too many ministries and, unlike most governments, has no policy-making capacity, he said. The central government must be reformed and its problematic relationship with the local governments must be resolved, Mr. Krawchenko said, suggesting that one way to solve the latter problem would be to strengthen the municipal governments and possibly do away with the oblast and raion governments.

Also presenting papers at the conference and taking part in the discussions were: Viktor Lysytsky of the National Bank of Ukraine; Alexander Pivovarsky of the Harvard Institute for International Development; Richard Shriver, chairman of CIME and partner in the Lviv Consulting Group; Petter Langseth of the World Bank; Andrew Stone of the World Bank; and Joel Turkewitz of the International Center for Policy Studies. Stephen Holmes of Princeton University and New York University presented the conference summary.

In addition to the annual conference, the Yale-Ukraine Initiative includes student and research fellowships, courses, student and faculty exchanges with Ukraine, a lecture series and library support.



Yaro Bihun

Morgan Williams (right), president of the Ukrainian Agricultural Development Company, shares his observations about problems and benefits in that sector. Also participating in the discussion on food system reform are (from the left): Gregory Huger, USAID Ukraine mission director; Peter Sochan of the Citizens Network for Foreign Affairs; and Richard Shriver, chairman of CIME and a partner of Lviv Consulting Group.

## New Jersey state senator's resolution recalls Chernobyl

NEWARK, N.J. – New Jersey State Sen. Ronald L. Rice, who is running for mayor of Newark, N.J. in the May 12 election, introduced a resolution in the New Jersey State Senate that "marks April 26 as the 12th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster."

The resolution commends the tireless efforts that "recommend closing the Chernobyl Nuclear Power Station since it endangers the health and life of the people of Ukraine and surrounding areas and destroys their natural resources by rendering them radioactive ..."

Mr. Rice has established a record of supporting Ukrainian issues, such as Ukrainian independence, the Green World environmental movement in Ukraine and the "Rice amendment" that allows the study of the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933 and other genocides in New Jersey public schools in addition to the Holocaust studies.

In his current campaign for mayor of Newark, he has also focused his attention

on serving the needs of the Ukrainian American community for a number of years by delegating a Ukrainian representative or liaison to attend his staff meetings in order to become aware of current New Jersey legislation and to discuss proposals from Ukrainian Americans in the 28th District. In the past this position was held by George Tarasiuk, Oles Cheren, Odarka Polanskyj and Bozhena Olshaniwsky; at present the liaison is Daria Bekesewycz.

Walter Bodnar, public relations director for the League of Ukrainian Voters (LUV), stated: "Mr. Rice has the will to get things done, such as designating the area encompassing St. John's Ukrainian Catholic Church and Ukrainian Federal Credit Union as 'Ukrainian Plaza,' as well as support resolutions, proclamations, sister-city projects, and a city resolution upholding the \$225 million aid package to Ukraine as proposed by President Bill Clinton. He is worthy of LUV's endorsement as mayor of Newark."



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## SPORTSLINE

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

### SOCCER

Despite last fall's flying start, it now seems that this season will not be Ukraine's year in football (as the world knows it), and for that matter, it might also prove disappointing at home for perennial Ukrainian premier division champions Dynamo Kyiv.

As of April 21, they were second in the division behind Shakhtar Donetsk, albeit with two games in hand. Once riding as high as 14th in the European rankings, the "Dynamisty" have slipped from the European top 20.

One Ukrainian team that continues to distinguish itself is Torpedo Zaporizhia. They are among the "worst five," standing third from the muddy bottom, or 356th in Europe. They boast Europe's absolute worst attacking game, having scored only nine goals in 20 games, for an average of less than half a goal a game. Their defense also is among the "five worst," having allowed 49 goals, although not as baroquely catastrophic as Jiul Petrosani of Romania, which has allowed a staggering 107.

Karpaty Lviv enjoyed an unbeaten run of 12 games this season, and defeated Dynamo recently after the hapless Kyivans were dropped from the Champions Cup by Juventus in the return game.

Well, we've avoided that painful subject long enough.

On March 18, before a sell-out crowd of 100,000, Coach Valerii Lobanovsky's dream of a third European Cup victory (he won with Dynamo in 1975 and 1986) was dashed, as Dynamo Kyiv was thrashed 4-1.

No doubt, the coach jinxed his team with a throw-back quote.

According to Reuters, following the hair-raising 1-1 tie with Juventus in Turin, Mr. Lobanovsky quoted the geno-

cidial Joseph Stalin in cautioning his players not to become "dizzy with success." The murderous dictator originally made the remark in the final stages of the 1932-1933 famine in order to distance himself from the barbarities of his underlings during the collectivization drive.

Working in the other direction, the Dynamisty appear to have adversely affected the performance of a political party. Team President Hryhorii Surkis is also chairman of the centrist Social Democratic Party-United. Mr. Surkis hoped to translate success on the pitch to support at the ballot boxes. According to some observers, the defeat cost the party anywhere from 0.5 to 1 percent of the vote, and on March 29 left it perilously close to the 4 percent cut-off of the vote. The SDPU finished with 4.02 percent.

Be that as it may, on March 18, Filippo Inzaghi took up where he left off in Turin by scoring in the 29th minute. Juventus Zinadine Zidane worked his way down the left side of the penalty area, then launched a perfectly placed cross to Mr. Inzaghi, leaving him to simply direct the ball into a gaping net.

Then, in the 54th minute, it seemed that the impossible could still happen. Andrii Gusin (the goal scorer in the Turin match) sent a long shot at goalkeeper Angelo Peruzzi, and the Italian fumbled it. Serhii Rebrov pounced and the stadium went bananas.

The Italian team kept coming, and broke through. Mr. Inzaghi struck again in the 65th minute. On a corner kick from the left he rose higher than Ukrainian fullback Yurii Dmytrulin (who is taller by a few inches) and headed the ball past goalie Oleksander Shovkovsky.

In the 73rd minute, he did it again on a header. Mr. Inzaghi had scored a hat

(Continued on page 15)



Efrem Lukatsky

A view of the action in Dynamo's home game vs. Juventus.

## Sportsline

(Continued from page 14)

trick, his sixth goal in seven international games. The Kyiv throng was silenced and watched morosely as Alessandro Del Piero, thwarted so often in the home match, finally drove the nail into Dynamo's coffin four minutes from time.

That day, Monaco shocked the world by beating Manchester United to gain a berth in the semifinal. In the next round, Monaco even managed a 3-2 April victory over Juventus, but the Kyiv-killing black-and-white strippers won on aggregate, having taken the first match against the upstarts 4-1, and have thus advanced to the finals against Real Madrid.

Perhaps the only up note for Dynamo this season is that its defense, so tenaciously in evidence in Turin against Juventus, was fifth best in Europe, having given up only 11 goals.

Ukraine's junior team was the remaining hope for the blue-and-yellow to be represented at this year's football extravaganza in France. The team reached the 1/8 finals by beating Peru 2:0 and tying Finland 1:1, but lost to England, 5-2 on April 11.

From the excellent "Current Ukrainian Soccer News" Web page we learn that "the number of professional holidays in Ukraine, like Teacher's Day, the Day of Theater, etc., has been increased by a new one — The Day of Football ... April 29." The date is said to mark the official founding of Ukraine's national Team.

Visit: <http://www.netwave.net/members/jarmola/news.html>

### TENNIS

Profound apologies are due to Sportsline's tennis fans, but, due to technical difficulties, our access to the sport's stats and info has been impaired. Stay tuned for a full report in a few weeks.

Ukraine and England met in Davis Cup play in early April in their Group 1, Euro-Africa Zone playoffs, held in Newcastle, with Albion pasting the Rutheni 3-0.

Of course, not all of the Ukrainians involved were on the losing side. Transplanted Canadian Greg Rusedski can't shed his ethnicity (happily, neither does he deny it). On April 3, Mr. Rusedski defeated Ukraine's Andrii Rybalko 6-4, 6-0, 6-4; while Tim Henman outfought Andrei Medvedev in a close match, 6-2, 6-7 (4-7), 6-4, 1-6, 6-1.

The next day, Mr. Rybalko served as a replacement for Dmytro Poliakov, Mr. Medvedev's expected partner, and the Ukrainians battled gamely for 114 minutes, pushing the English duo to the limit, but ultimately losing 4-6, 5-7, 6-7 (9-11).

On April 5, in the reverse singles, Mr. Rusedski dominated the Kyivan Russian Mr. Medvedev 6-1, 6-4, while Mr. Rybalko managed to take a game but dropped the match to Mr. Henman 1-6, 6-2, 2-6.

Mr. Rusedski and the Union Jack thus advanced to the World Group qualifying round scheduled for September.

### ATHLETICS

It appears that Ukraine has another world beater in Sergey Bubka's event, the pole vault. On February 28, at the European Indoor Championships held in Valencia, Spain, Anzhela Balakhanova broke the women's indoor record of 14 feet, 6.75 inches by half an inch.

Ms. Balakhanova cleared the record height of 14 feet, 7.25 inches on her first attempt, erasing a mark set by Iceland's Vala Flossadotir in January. The Ukrainian's previous best was almost a full five inches lower (14 feet, 2.5 inches).

The glory did not belong to her for long, however, as Australia's Emma George went on a Bubka-like March tear into the record books. On March 7, Ms. George set an indoor mark of 14-8 in Adelaide, Australia, and on March 21,

went outdoors in Brisbane to set a height of 15 feet, 0.75 inches.

Stay tuned, as the International Amateur Athletic Federation Grand Prix season kicks off in May with events in Rio de Janeiro, Osaka and Eugene, Oregon (the Prefontaine Classic).

### YACHTING

Ruslana Taran and Olena Pakholchik are continuing their domination of the 470-class in yachting. On March 30 in Hayama, Japan, they won the Shiseido Cup, a four-day competition held in Sagami Bay, southwest of Tokyo.

Facing competitors from Japan, Germany, Italy, Australia and the U.S., the Ukrainians scored six victories, three second places, one third in the 11-race tournament. They also finished eighth in one race, but the worst result of the competition is dropped when the final tally is made.

The tandem (Ms. Taran is the skipper) are also the reigning world champions, having won last year's world regatta, held in August 1997 in Israel, where compatriots Vlada Krachun and Natalia Haponovych placed third. To boot, they won four out of five of the world's Olympic-class regattas held that year (the Kieler Woche, the SPA Regatta, Hyeres Week and the Shiseido Cup).

For their efforts, the Swedish-based International Sailing Federation (ISAF) awarded them the title "World Sailor of the Year" for 1997.

Ms. Taran hails from Yevpatoria and Ms. Pakholchik is from Kyiv. Formerly rivals, they hooked up in 1995, and success followed soon after, when they won that year's European championship, placed second at the worlds and then took the bronze medal at the Atlanta Games in 1996. Their coach is Viktor Kovalenko.

In case our readers were wondering, Ukraine does not have an entry in this year's Whitbread "Round the World" race.

### BADMINTON

On April 21, at the European badminton championships in Sofia, Bulgaria, four Ukrainians, Vladislav Druzhenko, Mikhail Mizin, Dmitry Miznikov and Konstantin Tatanov, lost their first round matches. Mr. Druzhenko had the misfortune of drawing the world's second-ranked player, Peter Gade Christensen of Denmark, and put up some valiant resistance before losing 12-15, 15-17.

Mr. Mizin lost to Russia's Vadim Itskov 6-15, 8-15, while Mr. Miznikov fared better, as he won his first game 15-9, but was ousted as Scotland's Craig Robertson took the next two by scores of 15-13, 15-11. Mr. Tatanov also managed to take one game, but lost 10-15, 15-11, 7-15 to Poland's Jacek Niedzwiedzki.

In the women's competition, Hanna Khomenko lost 6-11, 8-11 to Maria Kizil of Belarus; Natalia Holovkina lost 8-11, 1-11 to Rebecca Pantaney of England; and Olena Nozdran was wiped out 1-11, 3-11 by Russia's Elena Sukhareva.

In the team competitions Ukraine made good on its promotion to the Division 1 level, beating Russia 3-2 on April 18. However, the next day Ukraine faced Denmark, the country which has the potential to become the first non-Asian champion at the world tournament to be held in Hong Kong this month. The Danes won 5-0, taking the mixed doubles 15-5, 15-2; the men's singles 15-5, 15-2; the women's singles 11-2, 11-7; the women's doubles 15-2, 15-4; and men's singles 15-6, 15-12, in an awesome display of power.

### FIGURE SKATING

The doors were open for many of Ukraine's competitors at the World Championships held in Minneapolis on March 29-April 5, since many Olympians had decided not to compete due to injury (particularly in the men's singles).

Viacheslav Zahorodniuk unfortunately



Vsevolod Sokolyk

Ukrainian yachswomen Olena Pakholchik (left) and Ruslana Taran (right), with fellow Ukrainian yachtsman Ihor Matviienko (second from right) and hockey star Wayne Gretzky (second from left) in Toronto at the time of the 1995 yachting world championships. The venue: Mr. Gretzky's restaurant called Gretzky's.

damaged his chances for a podium in the short program, where he placed fifth. He rebounded in the long, placing third, and finished fourth overall.

Novice Yevhen Pliuta fared respectably, placing ninth. It appears that Dmytro Dmytrenko's days in competition are over, as he did not enter the competition.

Olena Liashenko kept Ukraine in the top 10 in the women's event, placing sixth in the short program and seventh in the long, for an overall seventh place. Kyiv's Yulia Lavrenchuk (IBM's "watch for me" girl) finished 12th.

In the pairs, Evgenia Filonenko and Ihor Marchenko were 11th, while in the ever controversial ice dance (in which the top four competitors appeared to have been assigned rankings prior to the competition) Irina Romanova and Ihor Yaroshenko rose from ninth in the compulsory to finish seventh overall. Olena Grushina and Ruslan Honcharov were 13th throughout.

Many have expressed concern about whether Ukraine has any depth in figure skating, since a drought of champions has set in since Oksana Baiul and Viktor Petrenko whetted our appetites.

Therefore, "Sportsline" notes that the 1998 the Junior World Championships held in December 1997, Yulia Obertas and Dmytro Palamarchuk won the pairs event, while compatriots Olena Kokhaneych and Vitalii Dubina, and Aliona Savchenko and Dmytro Boienko placed 12th and 13th, respectively.

Vitalii Danylchenko is ranked fifth in the world in the men's singles, but unfortunately had a rough outing in the long program and finished ninth overall. Khrystyna Kobaladze and Oleh Voiko are up-and-comers in ice dancing, also finishing ninth.

However, there does appear to be reason for concern in the women's (or "ladies" as the skating federation prefers to call it) singles event, as there were no entries from Ukraine.

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## Manor Junior College receives three grants for dental facility

JENKINTOWN, Pa. – Manor Junior College, founded by the Sisters of St. Basil the Great, recently received three grants totaling \$30,000 to expand and upgrade its on-campus dental health facility, according to Virginia Saunders, director of Manor's Dental Hygiene Program.

Grants in the amount of \$10,000 each were received from the Montgomery Bucks County Dental Society, the John McShain Charities and the Pennsylvania Department of Economic and Community Development. According to Frank DeMarchi, Manor College's director of

development all three grants are part of a \$250,000 renovation project campaign for the dental center.

Established in 1979, Manor's Dental Health Center (DHC) serves as a full-service dental facility for the community and as a teaching facility for Manor students. Because it's a teaching facility, the DHC offers student-performed dental hygiene services in the new clinic for a nominal fee of \$12. Currently, over 2,000 patients receive care at the DHC. Manor's Dental Health Center is open five days a week, with day and evening hours. For information call (215) 887-7617.

## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

### Foreign affairs minister in Hungary

KYIV – In his first trip abroad as foreign affairs minister of Ukraine, Borys Tarasiuk said in Budapest on April 27 that his country supports a pro-European foreign policy, Hungarian media reported. Mr. Tarasiuk's Hungarian counterpart, Laszlo Kovacs, said Hungary has a vested interest in seeing a democratic, independent and stable Ukraine, and seeks to expand bilateral trade, border cooperation and joint efforts toward fighting organized crime. He told Mr. Tarasiuk that Hungary will support Ukraine's integration into international bodies such as the European Union and NATO, and asked him to continue pursuing minority policies that are in line with European norms. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma prefers free trade for CIS

MOSCOW – On arriving here on April 28 to attend the CIS summit of heads of state, President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine told journalists that free trade is preferable for CIS states over a single economic area. While admitting that the immediate introduction of a free trade zone within the CIS is unrealistic, President Kuchma said bilateral, trilateral and quadrilateral agreements should be concluded among CIS members that have adopted market economy methods. On April 29 the CIS summit unanimously approved Boris Berezovsky, powerful Moscow businessman and Yeltsin supporter, as executive secretary of the CIS. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Chernobyl rally held in Miensk

MIENSK – Some 7,000 people marched in downtown Miensk on April 25 to mark the 12th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster. The marchers, led by opposition politicians, shouted slo-

gans against President Alyaksandr Lukashenka's regime and demanded freedom for imprisoned opposition activists. They also demanded that Mr. Lukashenka be dismissed for "malicious disregard of the deadly danger of the Chernobyl catastrophe, economic collapse and deliberate devastation of the national culture," Belapan reported. The police detained some 30 protesters, including 17 members of the Russian Anti-Fascist Youth Movement who came from Moscow to take part in the rally, ITAR-TASS reported. The next day the police released all the Russian detainees and deported them on a night train to Moscow. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Armenia marks genocide anniversary

YEREVAN – President Robert Kocharian and members of the Armenian government on April 24 laid wreaths at a memorial to the victims of the 1915 genocide. Speaking to reporters after the ceremony, President Kocharian confirmed his government's intention that it will raise the issue of recognizing the genocide with Turkey. He denied that the move would harm Armenian-Turkish relations. Mr. Kocharian also advocated that an article pledging to achieve recognition of the genocide be included in the Armenian Constitution, RFE/RL's Yerevan bureau reported. In an April 23 address to mark the anniversary, the Armenian president argued that the absence of either recognition or expressed regret for the genocide contributed to the mass killings of Armenians in Sumgait in 1988 and Baku in 1990. He said that recognition of the 1915 genocide would "advance world peace." (RFE/RL Newsline)

### New theater to screen "Titanic"

KYIV – A new 320-seat theater, Kino Palats, equipped with a large screen and Dolby Digital Stereo Sound will open in Kyiv. It was to open on May 1 with the screening of "Titanic." (Eastern Economist)

## On the eve...

(Continued from page 6)

determine our future.

Finally, I would urge delegates to elect younger people to the General Assembly. Youth has enthusiasm, vigor and, most important of all, vision. The old guard has done their duty. They deserve to rest on their laurels.

**You've also been speaking about the future of the Ukrainian community? How are the UNA and the community's future intertwined?**

In my talks about the future of the Ukrainian American community, I emphasize the fact that no significant historical development in our community during the past 100 years has evolved without the UNA taking a leadership role. From the

beginning our community and the UNA developed a synergistic relationship that exists until today. Neither can long survive without the other.

**And, finally, if we could engage in some crystal ball gazing. How do you see the future of the UNA?**

I am optimistic regarding the future of the UNA. Our biggest challenge is to find a way to involve our newest immigrants from Ukraine and to attract our younger generation. The market is there, and we can reach it if we remember that our raison d'être is fraternalism. We must provide more and different fraternal benefits if we want to return to our former glory.

It was fraternalism that sustained us in the past, and it is fraternalism that will carry us in the future.

# Ukrainian American Veterans discuss Peace Shield missions



At a Chicago presentation of "Peace Shield Missions 1995-1998" (from left) are: Maj. Roman Golash, Sgt. 1st Class Peter Lysenko, Cmdr. Chuck Dobra and Lt. Col. Walter Chyterbok.

by Roman G. Golash

CHICAGO – Ukrainian American Veterans Post 32, held a conference for the community titled "Peace Shield Missions 1995-1998," on January 24 in conjunction with the Ukrainian American Military Association.

The moderator was Cmdr. Chuck Dobra, USNR, who is also the commander of the Judge Advocate Group at Great Lakes Naval Air Station.

Sgt. 1st Class Peter Lysenko, USAR, discussed his experiences at Peace Shield 95, which took place near Lviv. Sgt. 1st Class Lysenko is also a member of a local military intelligence language company.

A report on Peace Shield 96 was presented by Maj. Roman Golash, USAR, who is also the post commander and operations officer for the Ukrainian American Military Association (UAMA).

Lt. Col. Walter Chyterbok provided a report on the most recent Peace Shield 97 in California and discussed the next Peace Shield 98 mission, which will be held in Ukraine. Lt. Col. Chyterbok is a member of the 85th Training Division at Sheridan Reserve Center. The presentations were prepared in Ukrainian with overheads and slides.

Chicago UAV Post 32, which now has

20 members, continues to contact veterans of the U.S. armed services to join the local organization. In 1999 at the end of September, the local post will host the national convention in Chicago.

The UAV and UAMA are also considering the possibility of publishing a bilingual, Ukrainian-English, book on military missions to Ukraine since 1993 that will include mission descriptions and photos showing the evolving military relationship between the U.S. and Ukraine.

\*\*\*

Those with past military experience in the U.S. military can join the Ukrainian American Veterans; those who live in a city with no active post can organize a post. Those on active duty, or those who are members of the active reserve, may join the Ukrainian American Military Association. For more information contact Maj. Golash, via fax, (847) 885-8565, or e-mail, Golash\_Roman@compuserve.com.

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**BOYS AND GIRLS CAMP SATURDAY JULY 11 – SATURDAY JULY 25, 1998**

recreational camp for boys and girls ages 7-12  
 featuring hiking, swimming, games, Ukrainian songs and folklore, supervised 24 hr.  
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 As of March 1, 1998, the secretary's duties of Branch 347 were assumed by Mrs. Halina K. Archetto.  
 We ask all members of this Branch to direct all correspondence regarding membership and insurance, as well as their membership premiums to the address listed below:

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**TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 113**  
 As of April 20, 1998, the secretary's duties of Branch 113 were assumed by Mr. Donald J. Raishart.  
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### Controversy over hiring...

(Continued from page 3)

ate court orders.

Mr. MacKay, who said he is also a former prosecutor, took Mr. Sher to task for this attitude, saying that he had merely outlined the basic responsibility incumbent on any officer of the court. The Tory MP also alluded to other self-characterizations by Mr. Sher (which have appeared in the Canadian press) that he found troubling.

The PC Justice critic criticized Mr. Sher's use of phrases such as "fire in the belly," "imaginative law enforcement" and "personal involvement" (attributed to Mr. Sher by various media), which Mr. MacKay suggested were not attributes that Canadian prosecutors consider to be appropriate.

Mr. MacKay said that in his country crown attorneys "have an obligation to be fair and impartial." Referring to the findings against the OSI by Sixth Circuit Court Judge Gilbert Merritt, the Nova Scotia MP said prosecutors "must always disclose exculpatory evidence."

Mr. Sher explained that by "imaginative law enforcement" he had meant qualities that he looked for "in any junior attorney considered for appointment" to an office where he has worked, but agreed that "having said that, one has to abide by whatever rules binding the conduct of a prosecutor."

The New Democratic Party's Justice Critic, Peter Mancini (Sydney-Victoria, Nova Scotia) told Mr. Sher he had received letters from members of the Ukrainian Canadian community who are concerned that the former OSI director's presence as an advisor might contribute to overzealousness in prosecution.

Mr. Sher replied that "he would not have concern, seeing the way [the Canadian war crimes] office is operating and has operated."

Mr. Sher added that the effort to prosecute alleged war criminals "is not directed at any particular community. The fact that an individual has been brought up on charges is not a reflection on the entire community."

The Washington-based attorney said both Canada and the U.S., are nations of immigrants, and immigrants "from Eastern Europe, Central Europe, Western Europe, Asia, all over, have made significant contributions to their newfound homelands."

"Under no circumstances should any prosecution be seen as an effort directed at a particular group," he stated.

#### Not aware of certain Canadian inquiries

Mr. Sher referred to the report of the Deschenes Commission of Inquiry into the Presence of War Criminals in Canada, by referring to the recommendation that described denaturalization and deportation as an "appropriate and justified approach" to the problem.

However, Mr. Sher professed not to know about recent commissions of inquiry into wrongful convictions in Canada, such as those into the Donal Marshall case in Nova Scotia (which issued a report in 1991) and the Guy Paul Morin case in Ontario (which issued its report on April 9). Messrs. Telegdi, Ramsay and MacKay joined in encouraging Mr. Sher to acquaint himself with their work.

Mr. DeVillers asked whether any OSI prosecutors might be subject to criminal proceedings, or whether Mr. Sher was subject to any disciplinary action. Mr. Sher replied that he was not and that no such proceedings are pending against officials of the OSI.

Later in the hearing, Mr. Ramsay raised the matter of an investigation being conducted by the U.S. Department of Justice Office of Professional Responsibility (OPR) in connection with Mr. Sher's prosecution of the late Andrea Artukovic, a high-ranking official of the pro-Nazi wartime regime in Croatia deported from the U.S. to Yugoslavia and convicted of war crimes.

Mr. Sher said that Mr. Artukovic's son had accused him of perjury, but that OPR officials had recently assured him that "the allegation against me is totally unsubstantiated." Mr. Sher added: "Anybody can make an allegation. Thirty-two cents American, you put it in an envelope, you make the allegation and then it gets leaked."

Regarding other allegations in the Artukovic case complaint, Mr. Sher said, "among volumes of statements of witnesses, there were a few that were inconsistent."

Mr. Ramsay asked Mr. Sims if he was aware of the OPR investigation at the time of Mr. Sher's hiring, and the Assistant deputy attorney general replied that he was not and that Mr. Sher had informed him of it a few days before the April 28 hearing.

Mr. Sims added that he was satisfied with Mr. Sher's assurances in this regard, but conceded he might have made further inquiries had he known about the allegations prior to Mr. Sher's hiring.

Mr. Sims said he knew the Demjanjuk case had been referred to the OPR, but had been assured "the matter had been disposed of."

Mr. MacKay suggested that Mr. Sher should be more sensitive to the fact that in cases of prosecutorial misconduct, the question of individual guilt becomes moot in the eyes of the law. The PC justice critic said the prosecution bears an additional burden of responsibility.

Mr. MacKay asked the Washington-based lawyer if he was aware of the potential conflicts with the Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms inherent in the pursuit of Canada's present prosecution policy. Mr. Sher averred that he was not.

Mr. Sims interjected that he and Mr. Vickery, as well as other members of the WCS staff, would make determinations on whether any policy or legal move was in agreement with the Charter, and repeated assurances that Mr. Sher has not been and would not be a consultant on matters of substantive law.

#### Demjanjuk case revisited

Mr. Sher maintained he wanted to raise the Demjanjuk case because it appeared to be of central concern for those opposed to his appointment.

Mr. Sher asserted that the Israeli Supreme Court both overturned the death sentence imposed on Mr. Demjanjuk and implicated the man in participation in the massacre of thousands of Jews by referring to him as "Wachmann [Guard] Demjanjuk," and by saying that he was likely to have been at the Sobibor death camp.

Mr. Sher said that there are "indications" another U.S. prosecution of Mr. Demjanjuk will be pursued based on "non-Treblinka evidence."

"Anyone who doubts that [Mr. Demjanjuk] has blood on his hands," Mr. Sher said, should consider "the decision of the Israeli Supreme Court that set him free." This statement, and inferences that Mr. Demjanjuk is "a mass murderer," elicited reaction from Mr. Ramsay that he "deeply troubled" and "very concerned" about Mr. Sher's "respect for the rule of law" and "respect for the presumption of innocence."

Mr. Sher also catalogued a long list of evidence suggesting that Mr. Demjanjuk could have referred to himself as "Marchenko" (the surname established as that of "Ivan the Terrible" of Treblinka) and that he had also been a guard at the Sobibor death camp, among others.

Mr. Ramsay pointed out that Yoram Sheftel, Mr. Demjanjuk's Israeli defense counsel, "refuted [Mr. Sher's] approach to certain points" and had obtained 85 documents attesting that Mr. Demjanjuk was not Ivan the Terrible of Treblinka in his book on the trial. Mr. Sher countered that Mr. Sheftel "is a very colorful lawyer" and that Israeli prosecutors "would take exception" to their colleague's "characterizations and statements of fact."

(Continued on page 19)

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## Controversy over hiring...

(Continued from page 18)

Mr. MacKay said that Mr. Sher had made "a compelling case for another prosecution of Mr. Demjanjuk," but that this did not mitigate the gravity of allegations of prosecutorial misconduct in the original proceedings in the U.S.

In response to Mr. Mancini's query, Mr. Sher assured the committee he is not presently acting as a consultant or attorney for the U.S. government in the conduct of litigation against Mr. Demjanjuk.

### Assessment of OSI fraud

Turning to the decision by Judge Thomas Wiseman, the special master assigned to investigate the OSI's conduct of its case against Mr. Demjanjuk, Mr. Sher said "a lot of people" had characterized it as having found the OSI guilty of "good faith fraud."

The former OSI director also asserted that he respects, abides by, yet disagrees with Judge Merritt's decision that the OSI had perpetrated a fraud upon the Sixth Circuit Court in the course of its effort to denaturalize and deport Mr. Demjanjuk.

Mr. Ramsay raised the issue of an article printed in the Israeli newspaper Haaretz, in which Judge Merritt is quoted as saying that "the OSI lied through their teeth" to secure a decision against Mr. Demjanjuk.

Mr. Sher responded by questioning the publication's integrity. "I don't know if the quote is accurate, because it's coming from a newspaper," he said, to the amusement of the committee members. The former prosecutor commented that for a U.S. federal judge to make such statements was "extraordinary."

### Central questions not asked

Though much of the hearing dealt with the Demjanjuk case asked the direct question: was Mr. Sher directly responsible for the handling of the Demjanjuk case and

thus how much responsibility does he bear (or accept) for the "fraud on the court" Judge Wiseman and Judge Merritt found to have been committed by the OSI's attorneys?

Mr. Sher offered some oblique statements in this regard, conceding only that as OSI's director and deputy director "I bear a certain overall responsibility for what happened," but that "the office had about 30 cases going at any one time and our lawyers did not always bring all documents to the front office."

Mr. Sher said: "Mistakes were made that I wish hadn't been made."

Mr. Sher also asserted that it was not until 1991 that he first saw the exculpatory documents not offered to Mr. Demjanjuk's defense counsel and that one of the documents (a list of known concentration camp guards which did not include Mr. Demjanjuk, compiled by Polish authorities) was obtained by the Justice Department in 1978, before the OSI was formed, and then used in a different case.

The former OSI official did not respond directly to Mr. MacKay's request that he comment on allegations that exculpatory evidence was found in a dumpster behind the OSI's offices.

Mr. Sher claimed that the OPR investigated the instances of fraud and "rejected contentions that I had done anything improper, or that anyone at OSI had done so." The former prosecutor affirmed that "even Demjanjuk's lawyers did not personally attack what I had done."

Mr. Sher continued to contend that he "oversaw" the Demjanjuk case and yet was innocent of any prosecutorial misconduct in pursuit of it.

In closing the hearing, Ms. Cohen asked "If you're not dealing with substantive law or procedure, actual court room stuff, I take it your expertise is in what kinds of evidence can be obtained, how to get it and how to package it?"

Mr. Sher answered: "Yes."

## GREETINGS TO THE DELEGATES OF THE 34TH UNA CONVENTION TORONTO, CANADA, MAY 15 - 19, 1998



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