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## Ukraine reports poor harvest; analysts cite misguided policy

by Pavel Politiuk

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KYIV — Ukraine, once the breadbasket of Europe and then the Soviet Union, harvested just 26.5 metric million tons of grain in 1998 — down about 25 percent from the previous year's crop of 35.5 million tons.

The crop of 26.5 million tons was the second worst since independence in 1991 and far below Soviet-era harvest levels of about 50 million metric tons. Only the 1996 harvest was poorer at 24.5 million tons.

Ukraine's Agriculture Ministry officials blamed drought and the crisis in neighboring Russia, while independent agricultural analysts said the poor performance had more to do with a misguided farm policy since independence.

"This (poor crop) is the result of serious drought in the eastern and central Ukrainian regions, such as Kharkiv and Poltava," said Stepan Dovhan, vice-chairman of the sowing department in the Agriculture Ministry.

However, agricultural consultant Serhii Feofilov put the blame elsewhere. "The results expose the absence of market reforms in Ukraine and the Ukrainian Agriculture Ministry's misguided policies," said Mr. Feofilov, director of the Kyiv-based UkrAgroConsult company.

Analysts said policies that protect the

Soviet-style collective farms from market reforms and radical changes, which would make them more effective and competitive, are at the heart of Ukraine's agricultural problems.

"Private land ownership is the key problem for Ukrainian agrarian reforms, and any changes are impossible without it," said Mykola Vernytsky, analyst at Ukraine's Agricultural Exchange.

The Constitution of Ukraine allows private land ownership, but analysts say there is no mechanism to properly implement such reforms. The left-leaning Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada has said repeatedly that it will not allow the privatization of land.

Last week President Leonid Kuchma appointed Mykhailo Hladii to the newly created post of vice prime minister of agriculture and, while announcing the appointment, said that the main task for the former head of the reform-minded Lviv Oblast would be to introduce radical market reforms.

"Hladii's task is to quickly implement market reforms in the Ukrainian agricultural sector and to introduce private land ownership," said Pavlo Haidutsky, deputy chief of the Kuchma administration and a former agriculture minister.

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## Presidential campaign season in full swing, as two parties announce support for Udovenko

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Several of Ukraine's leading parties and the country's Parliament made key announcements on January 15-16 on presidential elections — signs that the campaign season is moving into full swing.

While the Rukh and the Reform and Order parties officially declared they will back former Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udovenko for president, leaders of the National Democratic Party and the Social Democratic Party (United) announced the formation of a centrist coalition to include the Green Party and Ukraine's largest business association.

The political moves occurred after Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada passed a presidential election law that specifies the manner in which the 1999 elections are to proceed.

The law, approved on January 15 by a vote of 232-32, stipulates that presidential candidates can be nominated by political parties or a group of at least 500 voters. Each candidate must collect at least 1 million signatures, with a minimum of 30,000 each from 18 of Ukraine's 25 oblasts.

To be elected in the first round a candidate must receive more than 50 percent of the vote. If no single candidate receives a majority, then a second round will take place between the two highest vote-getters, during which a simple majority will be sufficient for victory.

The first round of elections is scheduled for October 31.

The election law requires that a candidate be at least 35 years old and have lived in Ukraine a minimum of 10 years.

Although the law will not go into effect until it is signed by President Leonid Kuchma, its passage prodded several parties to begin moving forward their election strategies.

Hours after the vote on the election bill, Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko and former President Leonid Kravchuk announced the formation of the All-Ukrainian Zlahoda (Concord) Association of Democratic Forces, a political organization geared to unite centrist political movements into a single force for the elections.

With some 300 invited guests on hand — many there simply as interested observers — Mr. Pustovoitenko read a resolution that outlined the Zlahoda coalition's aims as: "confirming a democratic, law-governed and socially oriented state, [caring for] the well-being of its citizens, overcoming the estrangement between the state and society, and forming a society of solidarity that is true to general human values."

Prime Minister Pustovoitenko will co-chair the organizing committee of the political coalition along with Mr. Kravchuk, today a national deputy and a



Hennadii Udovenko

leader of the Social Democratic Party (United); National Deputy Ivan Plushch of the National Democratic Party; Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko; and Donetsk Mayor Volodymyr Rybak.

Other members of the committee include Zinovii Kulyk, until recently President Kuchma's minister of information, Yevhen Kushniarov, a former presidential chief of staff and current head of the New Ukraine political organization, and Anatolii Tolstoukhov, the current minister of Cabinet affairs (a position formerly known as minister of the Cabinet of Ministers).

The coalition brings together the major centrist political parties and figures. The National Democratic Party, the Green Party and what is left of the fragmented Social Democratic Party (United) without Yevhen Marchuk, as well as the Liberal Party and the Democratic Party form the core of the new alliance.

Zlahoda also has the support of two former prime ministers, current National Deputies Vitalii Masol and Yukhym Zviahillskyi, as well as backing from Anatolii Kinakh, the head of the Ukrainian Entrepreneurs and Industrialists Union, the largest business association in Ukraine, which is politically close to the president.

Although many on the organizing committee are past or current members of the administration or the government of President Kuchma, the prime minister, speaking at a press conference after the announcement, declined to say whom the movement would support in the October presidential elections. "We do not want people whose aim is to deny support to somebody. When the formation of the association is complete we will decide

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## Ukrainian organization protests Wiesenthal Center's mail solicitations

Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association

CALGARY — Representatives of the Ukrainian Self Reliance League (USRL) of Canada have formally protested to Canada's Minister of National Revenue, Herb Dhaliwal about unsolicited bulk mail solicitation for donations by the Toronto-based Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Center, which lists itself as having Canadian Charitable Registration No. 0567586-21-27.

Recently, members of the USRL and other Ukrainian Canadians have received correspondence from the Wiesenthal Center which claims that thousands of Ukrainians who were members of the Ukrainian Division Galicia during the second world war and who allegedly slaughtered Jews in that period, are now living comfortably in Canada.

The Wiesenthal Center's literature makes no mention of the fact that members of this division were screened by Canadian, British, American and Soviet officials just after the war and that, in 1986,

Canada's Commission of Inquiry on War Criminals, headed by Justice Jules Deschenes, reviewed their status and again cleared the unit of any complicity in war crimes.

More recently, Canada's Minister of Justice Anne McLellan herself acknowledged in correspondence with the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association that there is no evidence that would merit the commencement of court proceedings against any member of the Galicia Division.

The USRL's president, Edmonton lawyer Eugene Harasymiw, has asked that the Minister of National Revenue explain how the distribution of "hate literature" of this type by the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Center can be defined as "charitable." The USRL has also called for the revocation of the Friends of the Wiesenthal Center's charitable status in Canada. Mr. Harasymiw likewise recommended that the minister of justice formally investigate the Wiesenthal group's activities to determine if they have

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## NEWS ANALYSIS

**Is the Cold War really over?**

by Paul Goble  
RFE/RL Newswire

A leading Russian foreign policy analyst has suggested that the Cold War is not yet over – an argument that not only challenges most assumptions about that conflict, but also underscores the difficulties its participants may have in cooperating in the future.

Writing in the current issue (No. 5, 1998) of the Russian foreign policy journal *International Affairs*, Sergei Kortunov argues that the Cold War has not been about ideology or containment of the Soviet Union, as Western writers claim, but rather reflects the West's "total rejection" of "the legitimacy and legality of historical Russia."

Mr. Kortunov, who is the vice-president of the Russian Foreign Policy Association, makes a number of points in support of this position. He says that Moscow won World War II "as Great Russia, not as a Red Empire." He insists that neither the Soviet Union nor Stalin had any ambitions after 1945 and that that the West rejected all Moscow's efforts to ease conflict.

And he argues that the West not only continued but expanded on the Nazi approach toward Russia by promoting the idea of "mythical" states to dismember the Russian heartland. Indeed, he says, "the world anti-Russian center moved from Berlin to Washington" following the defeat of Nazi Germany.

Consequently, no right-thinking Russian, Mr. Kortunov adds, can accept the idea that the West has been "right" during the Cold War because that would mean not simply "the renunciation of Communism" but the acceptance of "the fallacy of the entire Russian historical idea – of the entire Russian Orthodox idea in history." That, in turn, would mean accepting what he suggests is the Western view of Russia as an evil empire or even – and here he quotes former U.S. National Security Adviser Zbigniew Brzezinski – "a redundant country."

Paul Goble is publisher of RFE/RL Newswire

**Pravda Ukrainy regains license**

Eastern Economist

KYIV – The Justice Ministry on January 5 renewed the license of the newspaper *Pravda Ukrainy*, although there was no room for controversial Editor-in-Chief Oleksander Horobets.

Publication of the paper was first suspended on January 28, 1998, at the request of Information Minister Zynovii Kulyk on the charge that its registration documents did not correspond to legislation. The move caused a storm of protest in the Verkhovna Rada, as it was argued that the Information Ministry had overstepped its authority in ordering the paper's closure.

To complicate matters, the paper was closely linked to the opposition Hromada faction, whose leader Pavlo Lazarenko immediately accused the government of trying to silence criticism in the run-up to last March's parliamentary elections.

*Pravda Ukrainy's* new editor-in-chief, Olha Pronina, said the first issue of the paper is planned for January 19. Initially, the paper's print run will be around 40,000. Before the 1998 closure, the presses were churning out up to 500,000 copies per edition, many of

Unfortunately, Mr. Kortunov goes on, "most democrats" in Russia itself do not deny Moscow's "defeat" in the Cold War or conceal their "joy" over it or even their role in bringing it about. And he cites with approval the observation of one Russian analyst that "it is much more convenient for the 'democrats' to pretend that the West has never carried on an unrelenting struggle against our former motherland, Russia-USSR, and that it was only by our own efforts that we destroyed the 'evil empire.'"

Mr. Kortunov argues that any fair-minded assessment will show that, "strictly speaking, the Russian Federation was 'fighting' against the USSR on the side of the West" and that only after the 1991 break-up have some Russians begun to recognize that they have been helping the West pursue an anti-Russian rather than anti-Soviet strategy.

On the one hand, Mr. Kortunov's article offers nothing new. All his arguments have been made by Soviet ideologues in the past and by Russian nationalist writers in more recent times. And all his positions have been dismissed by the most serious scholars in both Russia and the West.

On the other hand, Mr. Kortunov's argument is striking both substantively and politically.

Substantively, his suggestion that the Cold War is not over and will continue until the West accepts Russia's legitimacy and even its moral equivalence highlights the deep suspicion many Russians now have about the West.

Politically, the appearance of this article in Russia's premier foreign policy journal, one addressed not only to its own diplomats but also to the West, indicates that ever more people among the Russian political elite share Mr. Kortunov's anti-Western positions.

And by providing ideological justification for those in Moscow who want to adopt a tougher line against the West, Mr. Kortunov's argument may become a self-fulfilling prophecy, exacerbating tensions between East and West to such an extent that he and others will be seen as justified in claiming that the Cold War is not yet over.

which were distributed free of charge, financed by the Hromada faction. Ms. Pronina also said that the newspaper has broken off all relations with the Hromada Party.

She also said that former Editor Horobets had submitted his resignation of his own free will at the request of the newspaper's journalists. Mr. Horobets is now in detention, accused of raping one of his secretaries. He has been held by authorities since his arrest on September 30, 1998.

Ms. Pronina promised that the paper will return to its socio-political centrist traditions, and will defend its independent and objective position. *Pravda Ukrainy* is one of Ukraine's oldest newspapers, having celebrated its 60th birthday weeks before its suspension last year.

*Pravda Ukrainy* was originally the mouthpiece for the Komsomol, the youth arm of the Communist Party. After Ukraine proclaimed independence it severed ties with the Communist Party and developed a tradition of defending perceived corruption and anti-democratic activities, particularly within the Cabinet of Ministers and the president's office.

**NEWSBRIEFS****Rada votes to start abolishing presidency ...**

KYIV – On its third attempt, the Verkhovna Rada passed a motion that provides for abolishing the Ukrainian presidency, Interfax reported on January 14. By a vote of 237 to 26, the Parliament decided to ask the Constitutional Court to rule on whether the parliamentary motion on abolishing the presidency conforms with provisions of the Constitution of Ukraine. In the event of a favorable ruling, the Verkhovna Rada can vote on a constitutional amendment abolishing the post of president. A two-thirds majority (300 votes) is required for a constitutional amendment to be passed. (RFE/RL Newswire)

**... resorts to blows over joining CIS body**

KYIV – The same day, Communist and Rukh deputies came to blows over a vote on whether Ukraine should join the Commonwealth of Independent States Interparliamentary Assembly, Reuters reported. The clash occurred after an electronic display in the legislature showed that the motion to join the CIS body had been rejected. Only 174 left-wingers voted in support of the motion. Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko ordered a two-hour recess following the incident. (RFE/RL Newswire)

**Kwasniewski pledges 'permanent support'**

WARSAW – Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski told his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, in Warsaw on January 15 that Poland will render "permanent support for Ukrainian efforts in international institutions," including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the European Union, Polish Television reported. President Kuchma said Ukraine wants to follow Polish models of integration with Europe. He added that assertions that economic reform in Ukraine has been halted are "groundless." The reform continues, he said, but owing to insufficient aid from world financial institutions, its pace is unsatisfactory. "We are witnessing an experiment in which the doctors, having diagnosed how to treat the patient, are indifferently watching if the patient will die or survive," Mr. Kuchma commented. Both presidents agreed to participate in the May opening of the reconstructed Ukrainian-Polish cemetery in Lviv, which recently provoked tension in mutual relations. (RFE/RL Newswire)

**Lazarenko to face Swiss next month**

KYIV – Former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko must return to Switzerland by

February 15 to face interrogation by Swiss authorities. He was released in December on \$3 million (U.S.) bail, following his arrest on charges of money-laundering as he tried to enter the country on a Panamanian passport. Mr. Lazarenko, leader of the Hromada Party, denies all charges. (Eastern Economist)

**Mejlis office in Crimea firebombed**

SYMFEROPOL – Unknown attackers early on January 15 threw several bottles containing flammable liquid through the windows of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis, a self-governing body of Crimea's 275,000-strong Tatar minority, the Associated Press reported. The blaze destroyed the office of Mejlis Chairman Mustafa Jemilev and seriously damaged documents and computers in other sections of the building. Mr. Jemilev expressed doubt that the police would find the attackers, adding that the authorities are still looking for the perpetrators of a similar attack in 1993. (RFE/RL Newswire)

**Kazakhstan, Georgia reject idea of union**

ALMATY – Kazakhstan's Foreign Minister Qasymzhomart Toqayev has issued a statement saying that while Kazakhstan respects the decision by the presidents of the Russian Federation and Belarus to create a union with a joint currency, Parliament, army and citizenship, his country will never join such a union in view of its geopolitical location and the present level of integration with other CIS states, Interfax and RFE/RL's Almaty bureau reported. Interfax reported that, in his weekly radio broadcast on January 11, Georgian President Eduard Shevardnadze also denied that Georgia would join that union. (RFE/RL Newswire)

**Rada salaries and incomes scrutinized**

KYIV – According to Verkhovna Rada Vice-Chairman Adam Martyniuk, national deputies make 600 hrv, or \$166.50 (U.S.) per month. Mr. Martyniuk did not deny that many deputies find other sources to boost their incomes by taking on work in addition to their responsibilities in Parliament, although such activities are prohibited by the Constitution. In addition, many deputies legally receive fees for scientific and other works. (Eastern Economist)

**Single Rukh candidate gains support**

KYIV – Rukh Party Chairman Vyacheslav Chornovil announced on January 19 that he had withdrawn his candi-

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## Presidential campaign...

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how we are going to proceed," said Prime Minister Pustovoitenko.

The prime minister denied that the coalition is essentially a political vehicle for the re-election of President Kuchma and underscored that the presidential administration is not behind Zlakhoda's formation, a statement supported by President Kuchma's press spokesman Oleksander Martynenko.

However, political observers say the organization has little purpose except to work to get President Kuchma four more years in office.

"The people who have joined Zlakhoda owe political debts to Pustovoitenko and Kuchma," said Serhii Naboka, a political analyst who is also director of the UNIAR (Respublika) news agency.

Mr. Naboka explained that many members of the new political organization would not benefit from a change in presidents. "For most of these people a change is not desirable. They can only continue their interests with support from the current president."

Mr. Naboka also said that he, as well as other political observers, do not think that Zlakhoda will have a substantial impact on the presidential elections. "I do not believe that they will be effective. They will meet a few more times, make a few more declarations, and that will be it," said Mr. Naboka.

He explained that President Kuchma will rely on his oblast leaders and the presidential administration apparatus, as well as the support of a few business leaders, to put together an effective election campaign.

However Mr. Naboka said the January 15 event did have meaning as an official

beginning of the president's re-election campaign. "This is a very important chapter in the political show of the presidential election season," said Mr. Naboka.

With much less pomposity, Rukh and the Reform and Order Party, which in early December formed a political coalition for the presidential elections, used the passage of the presidential election law to state that on January 16 they had agreed to support Mr. Udovenko, a former minister of foreign affairs and past president of the United Nations General Assembly, for the post of president of Ukraine.

The candidacy of Mr. Udovenko is supported also by the Christian Republican Party, which has joined the center-right coalition.

At a press conference on January 21, Vyacheslav Chornovil, leader of the Rukh Party, said that Rukh support for Mr. Udovenko is still subject to approval by a Rukh convention scheduled for May, but that he will remove himself from consideration as a potential presidential candidate.

"I will officially remove my name from consideration in favor of Hennadii Udovenko at the next party convention," said Mr. Chornovil.

Mr. Udovenko said it was premature to discuss what his presidential agenda might be. "Now the important thing is to lay a firm foundation for the political bloc we have formed and to organize."

Mr. Udovenko is the fifth candidate to throw his hat into the presidential ring. He followed President Kuchma; National Deputy Marchuk, former head of the Social Democratic Party (United), who recently left to form his own political organization; National Deputy Natalia Vitrenko, leader of the Progressive Socialist Party, and Serhii Holovatii, a former minister of justice under President Kuchma.

Mr. Haidutsky said he expects that Ukraine's troubled farms, stricken by chronic shortages of money, large debts and outdated farm machinery would not gather more than 30 million metric tons of grain.

Grain is not the only sector of agriculture where harvests are down: Ukraine's sugar beet harvest was about 15 million metric tons in 1998, compared to earlier predictions of some 20 million tons and a 1997 harvest of 17.5 million tons.

"This harvest shows the huge crisis in our agricultural sector: farms do not have the money to cultivate land well, and the very small yield is the result of this trend," explained Petro Pasechnyk, head of the Agriculture Ministry's sugar beet and sunflower seed department.

The poor sugar beet harvest resulted in an equally meager production of white sugar for 1998. The association of sugar producers, Ukrtsukor, announced last week that Ukraine's white sugar output totaled just 1.875 million metric tons in 1998, compared to more than 2 million tons in 1997. They said it was the worst year for white sugar since the end of World War II.

Officials say that Ukrainian farms have exhausted the potential of their Soviet-era machinery and have done nothing to replace it. That, for one, has thrown the sugar beet harvest back to the pre-mechanized era of the 1930s.

Analysts warn that if urgently needed reforms are delayed any longer, Ukraine soon may not be able to feed itself.

## BUSINESS IN BRIEF

### Volvo studies JV opportunities in Zhytomyr

ZHYTOMYR – Volvo representatives visited the Zhytomyr region on the invitation of the head of the Zhytomyr Oblast State Administration, Volodymyr Lushkin, on December 15-17, 1998. The aim of the visit was to study the possibility of creating a joint venture assembling Volvo buses at the Zhytomyr repair plant. During meetings with local businessmen, Volvo manager Johann Nilsson confirmed that, in spite of the recent crisis, Eastern Europe and the new independent states remain a zone of special interest for Volvo. In particular, he mentioned that in 1997 Volvo set up an assembly plant for buses in Omsk, Siberia. Mr. Nilsson scheduled the next visit to the Zhytomyr region for the beginning of 1999, but stressed that any decision hinged on detailed research of the Ukrainian market. (Eastern Economist)

### Omnipoint chooses new partner in Ukraine

CEDAR KNOLLS, N.J. – Omnipoint Communications has announced its two new international roaming partners. The Personal Communications Services provider activated its first roaming deal in Ukraine with Ukrainian Mobile Communications and its second agreement in South Africa with Mobile Telephone Networks. "It is clear Omnipoint is the standout in the wireless industry when it comes to international roaming," said Omnipoint President George Schmitt. Omnipoint uses GSM (Global System for Mobile) communications wireless technology. (Eastern Economist)

### Daewoo to rethink scale of operations

ZAPORIZHIA – Due to the consequences of the world financial crisis AvtoZaz-Daewoo must urgently amend its business plan or even draw up a new one, Oleksander Sotnykov, the board chairman said on December 30, 1998. According to Mr. Sotnykov, while the new business plan is not ready, the tentative target figure for car production at Zaporizhia in the first quarter of 1999 has been fixed at 1,500 cars. AvtoZaz-Daewoo's target sales figure for the same period is nearly 15,000 cars. Plant employees have been given an extended Christmas holiday which will last until mid-February. In early 1998 AvtoZaz-Daewoo's plan for the year was to turn out 40,000 Tavrias and 32,000 Korean models. In reality, only 11,128 Tavrias and 12,926 Korean cars of various makes have been manufactured and only 44 percent have been sold. In view of this, Kim Wu Jung, Daewoo president, proposed that total output at Zaporizhia be limited to 10,000 cars per year. The Ukrainian party, however, does not agree to this proposal, Mr. Sotnykov said. According to AvtoZaz experts' calculations, in Ukraine alone 37,000 to 39,000 cars could be sold annually. And as the Korean party's commitment in the contract on setting up the joint venture was to export 50 percent of cars, the sales figure could be brought up to 72,000, added Mr. Sotnykov. (Eastern Economist)

### Chornobyl employees get state support

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on January 8 signed a law granting tax breaks for companies whose work is related to the planned closure of the Chornobyl nuclear power station. The law introduces five-year tax breaks both for companies participating in the plant's closure and for businesses that will be started in a 30-kilometer zone around the plant to provide jobs for plant employees. Additionally, foreign-made equipment needed to shut down the plant can be imported tax-free, and former plant employees will be eligible for special financial assistance from the state for more than a year while they search for new jobs. (Eastern Economist)

## Ukraine reports...

(Continued from page 1)

However, agricultural analysts say poor legislation and Ukraine's old ways of management hamper land privatization and the use of the country's world renowned fertile black soil as a commodity or as collateral for borrowing.

Mr. Vernytsky explained that Vice Prime Minister Hladii will have a tough time fulfilling his mandate. "He will not be able to achieve anything before the Parliament has resolved the issue of private land ownership," said Mr. Vernytsky.

Other analysts said Mr. Hladii also would receive a hostile reception from local government officials in Ukraine's rural regions, who oppose market reforms and cling to Soviet-era collective farming, and saw no chance for Mr. Hladii to put serious market reforms into place in the sector.

Agriculture Ministry officials hope the new agrarian leader will help it to overcome the huge crisis in that sector and have already optimistically forecast a 1999 harvest of about 35 million metric tons of grain.

"We predict that Hladii's coming will mean a new stage for Ukrainian agriculture, and it will be the market stage," said Mr. Haidutsky. But he added that the Agriculture Ministry's forecast for 1999 is overly optimistic and that there are no real grounds for expecting such sharp growth in the grain harvest for this year.

## Speaking of Ukraine...

*Ukraine figured in major address of both President Bill Clinton and Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright on January 19. Following are quotations from both speeches.*

• From President Clinton's State of the Union address delivered on January 19:

"We must expand our work with Russia, Ukraine and the other former Soviet nations to safeguard nuclear materials and technology so they never fall into the wrong hands. My balanced budget will increase funding for these critical efforts by almost two-thirds over the next five years."

• From Secretary of State Albright's remarks before the Council on Foreign Relations in New York on January 19:

"Unfortunately, many new democracies are fragile and their people only partly free. As our own history attests, building true democracy is hard and slow. We must forge a community of democratic nations that will support each other, learn from each other, and work together to defend freedom where it exists and promote it where it does not. And we must prepare for critical tests of democracy this year in important nations such as Colombia, Indonesia, Nigeria and Ukraine."

## Ukrainian organization...

(Continued from page 1)

indeed been distributing "hate literature" through the Canadian postal system.

Commenting, UCCLA Chairman J. B. Gregorovich, said: "We believe in free speech. If the Friends of the Simon Wiesenthal Center wish to continue to mouth nonsense about the Ukrainian Division Galicia there is nothing we can do about that, but we fail to see how that kind of activity can ever be considered charitable. We find the literature being distributed by this group to be menda-

cious, malicious and, worse: it specifically targets an identifiable group within Canadian society for opprobrium and contempt."

He continued: "It is hard to understand why the minister of justice would not find this material to be a species of hate literature. We certainly expect Mr. Dhaliwal to revoke this group's charitable tax number. There is a well-funded federal War Crimes Unit whose purpose it is to investigate whether there are any war criminals in Canada and to prosecute those against whom there is compelling evidence of wartime complicity in atrocities."

*Copies of The Ukrainian Weekly's annual special issue covering the major events and noteworthy people of the year are still available. The issue, "1998: The Year in Review" – the largest Weekly ever printed at 44 pages – may be purchased for \$2 per copy (postage included) by sending a check to: The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.*

# Minneapolis parish dedicates new addition: a library

by Dr. Michael J. Kozak

MINNEAPOLIS – Over 100 years have passed since the arrival in Minneapolis of the first settlers from Ukraine. Because of many initial obstacles and tremendous difficulties, religious and community life was established just 85 years ago. Once established, however, the community grew in size and strength.

In 1913, these early settlers from Ukraine, in order to preserve the faith of their forefathers, under the leadership of the Rev. Constantine Kurylo, built a church and placed it under the patronage of St. Constantine. Many priests and faithful, through sacrifice and hard labor, assured the future existence and growth of this newly established Ukrainian religious community.

The arrival of new immigrants after World War II gave new impetus to this congregation. With increased membership, the need for a parochial school became very evident. At the time, the Rev. Peter Leskiw was pastor of the parish. Under his guidance and leadership, in 1956 a school building along with a spacious auditorium became a reality.

In 1964 a new chapter was opened when the Rev. Stephen Knapp became pastor of St. Constantine's Parish. He immediately noticed the need for a new church. The response was overwhelming. Soon the great task was completed. On the site where there once stood a little church, now stands an impressive complex of buildings: a school building, a rectory, an art gallery named in honor of Patriarch Josyf Slipyj and a new church.

The church is decorated with a beautiful iconostasis, mosaics by Prof. Ugo Mazzei of Rome, chandeliers imported from Greece, and an interior decor created by the well-known artist Mychailo Dmytrenko. The church's impressive beauty and the works displayed in the art gallery splendidly represent the greatness of Ukrainian culture, which is closely tied to the spirituality of ancient Ukraine.

With the retirement of the Rev. Knapp, the Rev. Michael Stelmach became pastor. With his arrival in 1992, a new page was turned in the history of the parish. To enhance the cultural offerings of the parish, the Rev. Stelmach was approached by Dr. Michael Kozak and Dmytro Tataryn with the idea of establishing a library. The pastor immediately and enthusiastically agreed to implement it.

A group of parishioners, including Mr. Tataryn,



Members of the new library's board of directors: (from left) Dr. Peter Popadiuk, Slavomyr Luciw, Halyna Megits, Dmytro Tataryn, the Rev. Canon Michael Stelmach, Dr. Michael J. Kozak, Wolodymyr Anastas and Myron Pawlyshyn.

George Haynus, Wasyl Mocio and Wolodymyr Kuzniak, and more recently Halyna Megits, sacrificed much time and energy to establish the library in one of the rooms of the school building. Many books were donated by Dr. Julian Pawlyshyn, Alice Danyluk, Michaeline Raymond, Irena Pluwak, Vera Kennedy, Dr. Peter Popadiuk, Wasyl Dombrowsky, Slavomyr Luciw, Roman Korol and Wolodymyr Kos. The local Ukrainian credit union donated \$250 toward procurement of the a complete set of "Litopys UPA." (Chronicle of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army). Thanks to all these donors, the library currently consists of about 2,000 books in the Ukrainian and English languages.

There is great hope that, over time, this endeavor will continue to grow and be of benefit to all those seeking a good source of information about Ukraine's history and culture.

To assure the library's proper functioning and expansion a board of directors was formed; it includes the Rev. Stelmach, Dr. Kozak, Mr. Tataryn, Mr. Pawlyshyn, Dr. Popadiuk, Walter Anastas, and Mr. Luciw.

The grand opening and blessing of the library took place, on December 6, 1998, in presence of many parishioners and guests. The program was opened with brief remarks by Dr. Kozak, who pointed out that the library is yet another impressive achievement of the parish and expressed sincere appreciation to all those who made contributions to its successful completion.

In conclusion, he invited the Rev. Stelmach to bless this new cultural achievement of the Ukrainian community: the Library of Ukrainian Learning named in honor of the Rev. Markian Shashkevych, the 19th century poet, spiritual leader and national hero of the Ukrainian people.

## OBITUARIES

### Dr. Roman Holiat, journalist and community activist, 76

NEW YORK – Dr. Roman Holiat, longtime correspondent for the Svoboda daily and contributor to the Ukrainian press in the diaspora, died here on December 24, 1998, at the age of 76.

Dr. Holiat was born on August 4, 1921, in Stare Misto, western Ukraine. After emigrating to the U.S. after World War II, he worked as a draftsman and



Dr. Roman Holiat

became active in Ukrainian community life. He received a J.D. degree from the Ukrainian Free University in Munich in 1949.

Dr. Holiat's affiliation as correspondent for Svoboda dates back to 1950. He was also a frequent contributor of articles to other Ukrainian press and publications in the diaspora, including The Ukrainian Quarterly.

Dr. Holiat was a corresponding member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York; a member of the Ukrainian Journalists Association of America, where he was served on the executive board; and a member of the Ukrainian Institute of America.

Dr. Holiat was secretary of UNA Branch 19 since 1962. He was actively involved in various fund-raising campaigns in the community, most notably for the Ukrainian Catholic University in Rome.

Dr. Holiat is survived by his wife, Yevhenia; sons, Yuriy and Edward, and their families; and brothers, Hylariy and Petro, and their families.

Funeral services were held on December 30, 1998, at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church in New York, followed by interment at the Gate of Heaven Cemetery in Hawthorne, N.Y.

### Wasyl Sharvan, producer of Buffalo radio program, 77

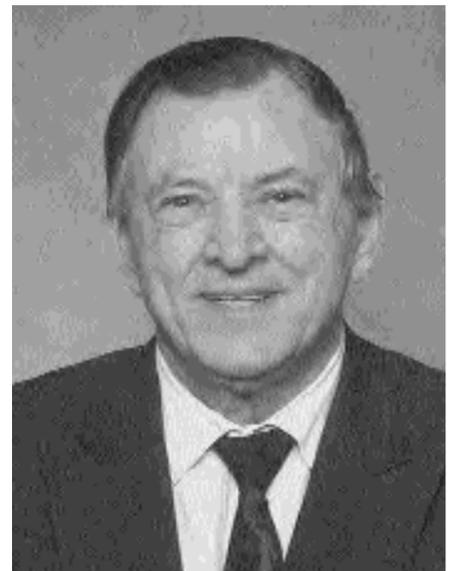
BUFFALO, N.Y. — Wasyl Sharvan, broadcasting producer of a long-running Ukrainian radio program and a leading Ukrainian community activist, died in his home in Williamsville, N.Y., on December 10, 1998. He was 77.

Mr. Sharvan was born on April 13, 1924, in Podusilna in western Ukraine. During World War II he joined with Ukrainian freedom fighters battling the Nazis and the Russians. As the war was coming to an end, after a brief imprisonment he fled Soviet-occupied western Ukraine, escaping to West Germany, where he married and practiced dentistry. He and his wife, Maria, emigrated to the U.S. in 1949.

In 1950 Mr. Sharvan founded the Sharvan Radio Program, dedicated to serving the Ukrainian community in western New York and southern Ontario. The program was first broadcast on WHLD on Ukrainian Christmas Day, January 7, and continued airing six days a week until two years ago when Mr. Sharvan's health forced him to cut back to once a week.

For his work in the Ukrainian community, most notably for the production of the radio program, Mr. Sharvan was awarded a citation by the World Congress of Free Ukrainians in 1993.

In memory of Mr. Sharvan, the long-running radio program, which was on air for 49 years, will continue to be broadcast



Wasyl Sharvan

by Sharvan family members and the program staff.

A leading member of the Ukrainian community, Mr. Sharvan served seven terms as president of the Western New York Chapter of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and has served many years on the national board of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM). He was a mem-

(Continued on page 14)

# THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

## Branch 180 helps Zakarpattia



UNA Branch 180 in Ohio sent 52 boxes of assorted items, clothing and vitamins to flood victims in Transcarpathia. The emergency relief was provided thanks to the efforts of parishioners from two Ukrainian Catholic churches: Holy Ghost in Akron and St. Nicholas in Canton. Aid for the victims was organized by Natalie Miahky, branch secretary. UNA member Christina Malanij-Kambrick coordinated the project in Canton. Seen above: Zenon Miahky, Peter Kulyk and Dr. Vladimir Shkilnyk sort and pack boxes for delivery to Ohio Export in Parma, Ohio.

— Natalie Miahky, branch secretary

## Branch 161 sponsors Christmas party for children



UNA Branch 161 in Ambridge, Pa., held its annual Children's Christmas Party on Sunday, December 20, 1998. Over 30 young members and children of branch members were treated to movies, refreshments and a visit from Santa Claus who brought them candy and toys. This event is a longstanding tradition for Branch 161; some of the children in attendance were third- and fourth-generation UNA members.

— Nick Diakowsky, UNA advisor

## Seniors schedule anniversary conference

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The 25th anniversary conference of the Ukrainian National Association Seniors will take place at Soyuzivka on June 13-18.

The executive committee is planning a special program for the occasion. UNA Seniors President Anna Chopek invites everyone who has ever held office with the UNA Seniors Association, and hopes

that all will attend and help the UNA Seniors celebrate.

As this is expected to be a very well attended event, it is important that reservations be made as soon as possible. Call Soyuzivka, (914) 626-5641, or write to: Ukrainian National Association Estate, Foordmore Road, Kerhonkson, NY 12446.

## School of Ukrainian Studies welcomes St. Nicholas to Buffalo

by Oksana Bereznytska

BUFFALO, N.Y. — There isn't a saint that Ukrainian children more eagerly await than St. Nicholas. Each one of us remembers our childhood when, sometimes bearing only a frugal gift, this saint came in the silent night and laid it under our pillows. His visit to the School of Ukrainian Studies this year fell on his feast day, December 19.

From early morning, students had eagerly awaited the arrival of their heavenly guest. They had started the day by attending holy liturgy celebrated by the Revs. Marijan Procyk and Wasyl Hrynkiw. Liturgy had begun with the song "O, Khto, Khto Mykolaia Liubyt" (Who loves St. Nicholas). In his sermon Father Marijan explained how important it is to help those in need.

It had been foretold that St. Nicholas would arrive at noon. All children in the Ukrainian community were invited to attend his visit, and one hour prior to the start of the program they began arriving with their parents. St. Nicholas' chancery was set in motion, as children anxiously awaited the special hour. Exactly at the appointed time, the story of St. Nicholas was told.

Students then enacted the drama "St. Nicholas is Coming," penned by V. Melnyk. In a wooded field, a group of girls pulling their sleighs lost their way home. As they endured windblown snow, angels appeared and comforted them: "It is St. Nicholas Day, and he will surely

come to you." Of course, evil spirits took the opportunity to try to weigh the children's hearts down with depressing thoughts.

In the final scene the children, under the direction of teacher Olha Czmola, sang several songs.

Finally, bells were heard and the children knew that St. Nicholas was near. They greeted him with the song "St. Nicholas is Coming." All — especially the youngest — watched the saint's every move. He advised the youngsters how they should behave, promising gifts that angels were already bringing down from his heavenly chancery. The children gleefully opened their packages.

At the close of the program school director Oksana Bereznytska thanked St. Nicholas and asked him to return to the children of Buffalo next year. She also greeted all present and invited them to enjoy the food prepared by the parents committee under the direction of Christine Chuchman.

Most deserving of praise and thanks were the teachers of "Ridna Shkola," Ms. Czmola, Christine Konowka, Natalie Chartoniak and Irene Waszczak, who produced the program.

Special thanks also went to the Ukrainian National Association Buffalo District, and its chairman, Zenon Bodnarskyj, for financial assistance that made this program possible.

(Translated by Yuri Hreshchysyn)



St. Nicholas distributes gifts to children of Buffalo's School of Ukrainian Studies.



### ~ IMPORTANT NOTICE ~

to UNA members and Soyuzivka patrons:

SOYUZIVKA will be closed from February 1 to April 15, 1999, ONLY.

The main building will be open all year.

For information and reservations for the 1999 season, please call:

Tel: (914) 626-5641 ♦ Fax: (914) 626-4638 ♦ e-mail: SQSS@aol.com ♦ Web: www.soyuzivka.com

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### The campaign begins

This week our Kyiv Press Bureau reports that the presidential campaign appears to be in full swing as two democratic parties have announced their support for a single candidate, several centrist parties have united in a coalition called Zlahoda (Concord) and the Verkhovna Rada passed a law that delineates how the 1999 presidential elections, scheduled for October 31, will take place.

The key question, of course, is whether democratic forces will be able to unite.

Already there is at least one hopeful sign. Two significant parties of the center-right, Rukh, and Reform and Order, have announced their support for Hennadii Udovenko, former minister of foreign affairs and former president of the United Nations General Assembly, a seasoned diplomat who served Ukraine since well before its independence, continued to serve independent Ukraine in various capacities such as ambassador to the U.N. and ambassador to Poland, and now serves as a national deputy.

Meanwhile, Zlahoda's centrist forces – the National Democratic Party (the political grouping most closely allied with President Leonid Kuchma), Social Democratic Party (United), Green Party, Democratic Party of Ukraine, Liberal Party and the Ukrainian Entrepreneurs and Industrialists Union – have stated that they, too, will back one candidate, though they have not declared who that will be.

Thus far, there are five declared presidential hopefuls. In addition to Mr. Udovenko, they are the incumbent Mr. Kuchma; Yevhen Marchuk, who is now forming his own political grouping; Progressive Socialist (now there's an oxymoron...) Natalia Vitrenko; and Serhii Holovaty, former minister of justice. That field may be winnowed or augmented as we draw nearer to the election.

President Kuchma warned late last year that, unless the democrats unite, the presidency will go to the left. He cited last spring's parliamentary elections when democratic forces could not – or would not – act in unison, and, as a result, left-wingers won nearly half the seats in the Verkhovna Rada. The end result is that these forces now have succeeded in paralyzing reform efforts. Of course, President Kuchma would like to see the center and center-right rally around him, and his supporters argue that he is the only one who can successfully fight off the challenge from the Communists, Socialists and others of that ilk.

Without suggesting whom they should choose, we cannot emphasize strongly enough that pro-democracy, pro-reform forces must put aside any petty differences and unite behind one efficacious candidate in the name of a greater goal: the well-being of Ukraine and its people. Clearly, Ukraine needs someone to take charge – to make the decisions that must be made if Ukraine is to overcome its current crisis.

It is a crucial time for Ukraine. The IMF and other international financial institutions, as well as foreign governments, are closely watching Ukraine's progress (or lack thereof) in economic reform. Living standards have declined markedly, and the question must be asked: how long can the people of Ukraine take such hardship? Newly released reports about Ukraine's 1998 harvest brought bad news: the grain crop of 1998 was the second worst since independence and below Soviet-era levels.

The presidential election of 1999 is sure to be a turning point, in either the positive or the negative sense. The democratic forces in Ukraine cannot afford to let this election slip out of their hands – the possible consequences are just too dreadful.

## NEWS AND VIEWS

### Why is Soyuzivka operating at a deficit?

by Walter Korchynsky

Recently I was asked by some members in my Ukrainian National Association branch, why our UNA Estate Soyuzivka cannot operate at a profit. As a UNA advisor for the last eight years, I have repeatedly asked myself that same question.

I have been involved in many discussions on this subject and I think it is important for UNA members to understand the operation of Soyuzivka as much as possible. Just as any other business, we have income and we have expenses, and our objective is to operate at a profit.

First, let's examine the income part of this equation.

#### Soyuzivka income

Soyuzivka is a seasonal resort, and the bulk of its income is generated during the summer. Where does Soyuzivka get its income? The answer to this is rather obvious: from the people who visit Soyuzivka. Income is generated basically from three sources: room rentals, food and beverages. The rental of rooms provides the largest profit margin followed by beverages and then food.

As a business, Soyuzivka attempts to attract as many people as possible. This is done by holding swimming competitions, tennis tournaments and various children's camps, hosting wedding receptions, banquets, bus tours, clergy retreats, corporate meetings, organizational meetings and special events such as Fathers' Day celebrations, Halloween dances, Thanksgiving dinners, New Year's Eve dance, etc. In addition to all this, Soyuzivka provides top-notch entertainment and live dance bands every summer weekend at considerable expense.

The question, then is how do you increase income? You increase the income by increasing the number of people coming to Soyuzivka.

The next logical question is why people are not coming to Soyuzivka as they once did? There are several answers to this.

First, since Ukraine has become independent, many Ukrainians opt to travel there. Both seniors and students, who might normally come to the UNA resort, are now visiting Ukraine instead.

Second, the fall of the Canadian dollar to historic lows against the U.S. currency makes it very costly for Ukrainian Canadians to visit as they once did.

Third, the number of Ukrainians living in the eastern United States within driving distance of Soyuzivka has decreased dramatically. It is a well-known fact that many of our retirees have moved to such states as Florida, California or Arizona. Our younger generation has spread out to places like Nevada, Georgia, Texas or other places where they could find good employment. It's no longer that easy to visit upstate New York when you're a couple of thousand miles away.

#### Soyuzivka expenses

There are a multitude of expenses incurred in operating the UNA estate. You need labor, energy, insurance, maintenance and various equipment. Let's not forget the other items that people take for granted like soap, towels, glasses, waste removal, cleaning supplies, etc. Also, real estate taxes must be paid and they are quite high in the Soyuzivka area.

Let's start with labor. We can control our labor costs, but only to a certain degree. For example, the federal minimum

Walter Korchynsky of Horseheads, N.Y., is an advisor on the Ukrainian National Association's General Assembly.

wage was recently increased, which resulted in an approximate annual increase of \$25,000 of expenses at Soyuzivka.

Electricity, gas and oil in 1997 cost \$152,000. While studies have been done and energy conservation measures have been implemented, it is a fact that energy costs in New York State are among the highest in the nation.

Because Soyuzivka is located in New York, this means we are subject to the very demanding regulations that this state requires. As a facilities director in this state, I know first hand how costly it can be to come into compliance with the myriad health codes, fire codes, water safety codes, electrical codes, petroleum storage regulations, structural safety requirements, etc. Consider that we spent \$300,000 in 1992 to correct a structural deficiency in the pool. Another \$275,000 was expended on our water purification system to comply with New York state's health laws.

Insurance is another costly necessity of doing business. This year alone our liability insurance premium increased by \$9,000, raising the insurance premium to \$73,000 per year. Consider how many drinks you need to sell at the bar to pay for that.

Maintenance of the buildings and grounds is another necessity. Roofs need replacement as do boilers, pumps, freezers, refrigerators, lawn mowers, laundry equipment, kitchen equipment, television sets, beds, carpets, etc.

#### Conclusion

The Catskill region is not what it was 30 or 40 years ago. The beauty of the area is spectacular, but not the economy. Constantly increasing expenses and dropping revenues have forced once-thriving resorts like the Granit, the Nevele and the Concord into financial distress. The Granit, located just a few miles from Soyuzivka, was forced to close two years ago. The Nevele was sold and other resorts are having financial problems. So far, the UNA has managed to subsidize the cost of operating Soyuzivka. But how long can this go on?

In conclusion, the future of Soyuzivka is in real danger. We cannot lose Soyuzivka. I encourage everyone to think very seriously about this issue.

If you have any suggestions and ideas, no matter how far-fetched they may sound, please send them to: UNA, 2200 Route 10, P.O. 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

Mark your envelopes "Soyuzivka." As a member of the General Assembly newly re-established standing committee on Soyuzivka, I assure you that I will personally share all your ideas with the committee. Your involvement is needed and appreciated.

January  
28  
1874

### Turning the pages back...

For most of his life, Kost Losky was a "diaspora" Ukrainian, but he left his mark both in Ukraine and as a member of Prague's émigré community. Born in St. Petersburg on January 28, 1874, he studied law in the Russian imperial capital's university, then at Warsaw University.

Losky served in various capacities of the imperial administration in Siberia and Poland. Then he secured an appointment to a post in the Kholm-centered gubernial administration, and soon became a leading figure in the Ukrainian movement. In 1905 he founded a publishing house for popular Ukrainian books in Kholm and a branch of Prosvita in Hrubeshiv, a town about 60 miles north of Lviv. He also co-published the newspapers Buh (named for the river that marked boundary between the Austrian and Russian empires) and Nova Rada, and ran against the controversial Russian Orthodox Archbishop Yevlogii in an election to the Russian Duma.

Little is known about his other activities in the intervening 12 years, but in May 1917 he emerged as an assistant to the gubernial commission for Galicia (based in Ternopil) of the nascent Kyiv-based Ukrainian administration. That summer, Losky moved to Kyiv. In August 1917, he was made director of the Internal Affairs Secretariat's Refugee Department in the Kholm region, was elected chairman of the Kholm Gubernia Council, served briefly as chairman of the Kyiv City Council, and was a member of the Central Rada as a delegate of the Ukrainian Party of Socialist-Federalists.

In October 1917, he represented the Kyiv city military council at the Central Rada and that December became acting secretary of the Ukrainian National Republic's Secretariat of Foreign Affairs. In 1918, the Hetman government sent him as an envoy to Finland. When the UNR Directory took over, he was sent to Sweden, then Norway.

After brief sojourns in Berlin and Vienna, Losky settled in Prague in 1920, where he turned to scholarly work, establishing himself as a professor at the Ukrainian Free University (UFU). He served as the UFU's dean of law and social sciences (1927-1928) and prorector (1929-1930). He lectured and wrote monographs on Roman law, on classical history and contemporary politics. He also translated works of Anton Chekhov and Heinrich Heine into Ukrainian. He died in Prague on October 14, 1933.

Sources: "Losky, Kost," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 3 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993); *Ukrainska Tsentralna Rada*, Vladyslav Verstiuk ed., Vols. 1, 2 (Kyiv: Naukova Dumka, 1996); "Kost Losky," *Dilo*, October 22, 1933.

#### How to reach

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

MAIN OFFICE  
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and advertising departments):

The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10,  
P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054  
phone: (973) 292-9800; fax: (973) 644-9510

#### KYIV PRESS BUREAU:

The Ukrainian Weekly  
11 Horodetsky Street — Apt. 33  
Kyiv, Ukraine 252001  
phone/fax: (44) 229-1906

## LETTER TO THE EDITOR

### Is the UWC still relevant?

Dear Editor:

I read with interest The Ukrainian Weekly report of December 20, 1998, on the seventh conclave of the Ukrainian World Congress (UWC) and have also followed your recent reports on The Year 2020 Conference and other events that deal with the future of the Ukrainian diaspora, particularly in North America.

It is perplexing to me why the Ukrainian diaspora still needs bodies such as the UWC. The statement by the new president, Askold Lozynskyj, that the UWC must "function as a kind of government which defends the interests of the 20 million Ukrainians who live outside Ukraine, because the government of Ukraine is presently too weak to do it," is, in my view, preposterous.

First, this constant exaggeration of the size of the Ukrainian diaspora doesn't do much good to the credibility of UWC or other Ukrainian organizations who often bring up these inflated, self-serving numbers.

Second, the budget adopted by UWC (\$240,000 Canadian or \$150,000 U.S.) is so tiny that it will hardly pay for anything other than a small office, a secretary and perhaps the travel expenses of the UWC president. Maybe the Ukrainian government is weak, but it certainly has a bigger budget. By the way, at this rate, the bail money that Mr. Lazarenko paid in Switzerland, would have been sufficient to cover 20 years of the UWC's operations. Also, if one considers that a minute-long commercial on the Super Bowl telecast costs over \$1 million one realizes how insignificant the UWC budget is and how little can be achieved with it.

Moreover, a careful reading of your report shows that despite the glitzy arrangements at the Toronto meeting, there was not much said about the UWC's accomplishments. In fact, I could find no reference to a concrete achievement of any kind in the past few years.

If the UWC is trying to emulate the World Jewish Congress (WJC) then it is not succeeding very well. The WJC has recently obtained from the Swiss banks hundreds of millions of dollars for Holocaust victims and their descendants, and is now going after the various German companies that employed slave labor during World War II. Also, the billionaire president of the WJC, Edgar Bronfman, was bragging sometime ago that if needed, he could arrange a meeting with the president of the United States within 24 hours. I wonder if the president of UWC could do the same.

The point is one needs a lot of money to have that kind of influence or be a president of a real government; I am sure that if President Leonid Kuchma wanted to have a telephone conference with the president or the vice-president of the United States he could arrange it fairly quickly.

So, what does the UWC do? How many governments did it lobby on behalf of Ukrainians or Ukrainian interests in the past few years? How many legal actions is it pursuing in support of Ukrainians in the diaspora? What exactly does it do apart from "directing considerable opprobrium at Mr. [Ivan] Drach"? Is it merely a link between various Ukrainian organizations in several countries? If so, it seems to me that the Internet could probably do a better job – and essentially at no cost.

I also very much dislike this pompous name "Ukrainian World Congress" (we are the world!). I made an Internet search on Yahoo! and found 126 sites for world congresses of all kinds, going from those pertaining to archeology, cancer and football and ending with those relating to gays and lesbians. There were only three "national" world congresses, namely the World Jewish Congress, the Croatian World Congress and the World Sindhi Congress. Mercifully, the UWC was not among them, probably because its website is not yet in operation.

I understand that we needed the World Congress of Free Ukrainians when Ukraine was an enslaved nation. It provided a voice that somewhat counterbalanced the falsehoods of the Soviet Ukrainian republic and the USSR. Now, however, when Ukraine is a free and independent country, such a voice is no longer required. In this regard, I very much agree with the statement made by the new president of the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Ihor Gawdiak, as reported in the same issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, to the effect that in the future we, in the diaspora, will be working more as individuals "who as persons in position of responsibility can assist Ukraine."

I think it is time for us to shed many of these umbrella organizations and to become like the diasporas of other normal nations, such as the Irish, the Italians, the Greeks, etc., who still retain to some extent their identity without all these world congresses that more often than not lead to bickering and disunity, rather than useful action. In any event, an organization that no one wants to lead, and whose president is almost forcibly selected at the last moment, seems to be obsolete and of very questionable value.

George Primak  
Pierrefonds, Quebec

### Embassy updates, improves its website

by Irene Jarosewich

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – For those who haven't visited the Embassy of Ukraine's website (<http://www.ukremb.com/>) recently, it's time to take another look. The site has been updated and upgraded; it includes more Ukraine-related links and a great deal of useful information.

The site's main page offers 12 selections that include: Visa Information, Consular Division, Embassy Info, Embassy Staff, Embassy Tour, Ukrainian Diplomatic Missions in the U.S. and the World, Military Attache, Trade Mission, Leaders of Ukraine, Discover Ukraine, Press Releases and a Guest Book. The

Ukrainian Weekly's production and editorial staff, which uses the Internet a lot (and gets whiny and cranky when information is outdated or links don't work), was impressed with the upgraded site.

Probably one of the most useful selections is Visa Information. It's accurate, informative and, for the first time since independence, the various categories and subcategories of visas and requirements and fees make sense. The Embassy Tour selection is interesting and a good history lesson for teenagers, and the Military Attaché selection, with lots of photos of Ukrainian military hardware, is a good

(Continued on page 14)

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



### Return of the natives

Hardly noticed in the U.S., the 32nd national convention of the Ukrainian National Federation (known by its Ukrainian acronym, UNO) of Canada last June was another defeat for the increasingly irrelevant OUN(M), the so-called "Melnykivtsi."

By a vote of 64-49, a slate consisting primarily of Canadian-born delegates defeated a ticket composed almost exclusively of OUN(M) adherents. It was a momentous occasion, denoting the return of Canada's natives and the end of political dogma.

The return, according to reliable sources within UNO, was precipitated by a rumor that OUN(M) Chairman Mykola Plawiuk, now a bit player in Ukraine, was pushing for the sale of UNO assets in Canada so as to fund his sinking fortunes abroad.

The tone for the return was articulated in a speech by Andrew Gregorovich, son of UNO's first president. Mr. Gregorovich emphasized the initial Canadian character of UNO, suggesting that its erosion over the years was a catastrophe.

Founded in 1932, the Ukrainian National Federation of Canada has a long and distinguished history. Sympathetic to the Organization of Ukrainian Nationalists (OUN) initially headed by Yevhen Konovalts, UNO was ultimately predicated on seven core beliefs: faith in Canada and its future; faith in the dignity of the individual; faith in the democratic way of life; faith in the moral principles of Christianity; faith in Ukrainian cultural traditions and their integration into Canadian culture; faith in liberty as the right of every nation; faith in the liberty of Ukraine.

These same ideals were later adopted by the Ukrainian National Youth Federation (MUN – Molodi Ukrayinski Natsionalisty), an UNO youth affiliate founded in 1934. Nominally nationalists, the MUN leadership remained fiercely loyal to Canadian democratic principles.

When OUN was split between the "Banderivtsi" and "Melnykivtsi" in the 1940s, UNO's sympathies remained with Konovalts' duly elected successor, Andrii Melnyk. With the arrival of thousands of OUN members to Canada following the second world war, the Melnykivtsi gravitated to UNO, while the Banderivtsi established their own, separate organizations loyal to Stefan Bandera. For the next 50 years the two OUN's denigrated and undermined each other's initiatives in North America, leading to one of the most idiotically counterproductive, teapot tempests of the post-war era.

Back during the 1950s, however, newly arrived OUN(M) members, some of whom had served in the Ukrainian underground, were welcomed as heroes. Taking advantage of the goodwill showered upon them, but continuing to maintain their ties and loyalty to OUN(M) in Europe, they formed a secret network within UNO for the purpose of taking over the organization and its many large UNO halls throughout Canada. The shift in emphasis from Canada to Europe had a negative effect upon members of MUN, who, as they became older, felt estranged from their parent organization and drifted away. By 1960, UNO and its house organ, New Pathway, were firmly in the hands of the new group, the Melnykivtsi.

Alarmed by the shift, the Winnipeg and St. Boniface branches, as well as the Dominion honorary president, established a committee to defend the original aims of

UNO. The immediate reaction of the UNO Dominion executive and the presidium was to expel the members of the defense committee. Purged were Dr. (later senator) Paul Yuzyk, one of the founding members and first Dominion president of MUN; Michael Pohorecky, founder and editor-in-chief of New Pathway for 30 years; Walter Klymkiw, school principal and former Dominion president of MUN; W. Topolonycky, a former member of the UNO Dominion executive; and Ivan Hewryk, another former member of the UNO Dominion executive. The venerable Wolodymyr Kossar, an UNO stalwart, was eased out of a leadership role a year later.

A similar takeover was engineered within the OUN(M)-affiliated Organization for the Rebirth of Ukraine (ODVU) in the United States. After decimating MUN in America, ODVU's new leaders turned to an American-born – yours truly – in hopes of turning the organization around. Explaining MUN's return to its American roots in The Ukrainian Weekly of October 8, 1960, I denounced the tirades of "displaced politicians" who "chatter about the 'ivtsi' and the glory that once was Ukraine ... The kind of government Ukraine will adopt will largely depend upon the choice the people over there make. The harangues of ghetto politicians in America will not matter one iota."

Was I prescient in 1960 or what???

Concerned with developments within MUN in Canada, I traveled to Toronto that same year and met with Mr. Plawiuk, then the eminence grise of the OUN(M) operation. My trip accomplished nothing, Mr. Plawiuk and his people continued to dominate UNO until 1998.

As might be expected, Mr. Plawiuk was not amused by stories about the 1998 UNO remake that appeared in Ukrainian News, an Edmonton newspaper, under the headline "UNF returns to its roots." In a response published in the August 1-8 issue of New Pathway, Mr. Plawiuk took umbrage with the Ukrainian News report, arguing that UNO's roots had never changed. Sinking to a new level of hypocrisy, Mr. Plawiuk praised people like Sen. Yuzyk and Myhaijlo Pohorecky, UNO pioneers whom he helped purge from UNO.

Mr. Plawiuk now lives in Ukraine and is apparently still committed to purges. Recently he attempted to wrest control of the journal Smoloskyp from its long-time editor, Osyp Zinkewycz. At one time, both Mr. Zinkewycz and Smoloskyp were affiliated with OUN(M), but that relationship ended decades ago. While still living in Maryland, Mr. Zinkewycz became the voice of Ukraine's dissidents in the diaspora. Now a resident of Kyiv, Mr. Zinkewycz has devoted his life to working with talented young writers in Ukraine.

My dad once told me that there were two types of Ukrainian organizational leaders: those who actually lead, the "providnyky" (провідники), and those who merely head "ocholiuyut" (очолюють) an organization, the "nachalnyky" (начальники). The former get things done; the latter feed on the laurels of the institution. The former promote and energize excellence; the latter seek out excellence in order to stamp it out. Mr. Zinkewycz is a "providnyk." Mr. Plawiuk is a "nachalnyk," a little man who has created big trouble over the years, both in North America and Ukraine.

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## DATELINE NEW YORK: "Hopak" returns with Moiseyev

by Helen Smindak

The Ukrainian national folk dance "Hopak" has been part of the Moiseyev Dance Company's repertoire since this Russian ensemble was founded by Igor Moiseyev in 1937. The Russians know a good thing when they see it. Mr. Moiseyev, as a choreographer who has cast folk material in a theatrical light, certainly does.

In 1958 impresario Sol Hurok brought the Moiseyev troupe to New York's old Metropolitan Opera House on 39th Street, and Ed Sullivan introduced the dancers on his Sunday night CBS show "Toast of the Town." That event was recalled in a New York Times' feature story of May 11, 1997, in which Steven D. Stark described an era in American life when Ed Sullivan was the country's leading TV impresario for 23 years. The story, "When Sullivan Was Master of the Big Show," was accompanied by a four-column photo showing Sullivan on stage with the dancers, in Ukrainian costumes, poised to spring into the "Hopak."

Honored by the Russian government with the title State Academic Ensemble of Popular Dance, the group began to cover all continents when the Cold War first eased in 1955 – taking its ever-growing repertoire of dance and the "Hopak" around the world. The company has made eight visits to the U.S. since its initial visit in 1958.

Last in New York in 1991, the Moiseyev ensemble hit Carnegie Hall on January 13 and 14 with a program that climaxed with the "Hopak." The troupe also gave performances at Tilles Center in Brookville, Long Island (January 15 and 16) and at the Lehman Concert Hall in the Bronx (January 17) before setting out on a cross-country tour.

Reviewing the Carnegie Hall performance, Times dance critic Anna Kisselgoff pointed to outstanding old favorites, including the comic "Old City Quadrille" showing 19th century urban couples flirting within the confines of a formal dance, the fantastic "Partisans" number with its simulated horseback-riding guerrillas, the sumo-style wrestling match "Two Boys in a Fight," where she praised Alexander Matous-Martchuk for his wit and acute timing, and the "Gopak," which closed "a vibrant program."

Ms. Kisselgoff pointed out that the "Gopak" is known in Ukraine as "Hopak." As a dance critic, she has probably seen the "Hopak" before, or she gleaned this information from the printed program, which described the Ukrainian dance as "the best known and most popular of all Russian folk dances" and pointed it out as "the contribution of the [sic] Ukraine." ICM Artists, which is presenting the Moiseyev tour (and supposedly provided the program info) clings to the outdated article "the" – and still refers to the "Hopak" as a Russian dance!

Although Ms. Kisselgoff wrote about the company's "ever-stunning virtuosity" and technique "matched by visible artistry," she commented that the "Partisans" number with its theatrical image of anti-Nazi resistance had "lost some depth."

It's a phrase that could also be used to describe the company's interpretation of the "Hopak." This whirlwind dance, highlighted by the male dancers' spectacular knee-bends, leg stretches and high jumps, excited the near-capacity audience, but disappointed a Ukrainian reporter accustomed to the national spirit of Ukrainian dance ensembles. In addition, the women's costumes, with their rather skimpy jackets over shirts that featured elbow-length puffed sleeves, were

too stylized to be truly attractive.

New dances included "Seven Beauties," a mysterious women's dance from Bashkiria; "Egyptian Dance," with seven women swiveling their hips in Near Eastern style; a "Sicilian Tarantella" with a festive cart and human horses, and "Jewish Suite: Family Joys," a dramatic vignette depicting a village wedding of the past. The program also included folk dances from Romania, Belarus and Moldova.

Program notes for "Jewish Suite" revealed that Mr. Moiseyev choreographed the warm family celebration and its collection of colorful characters by drawing on the impressions of a childhood spent in Ukraine. Notes on the artists disclosed that Igor Alexandrovich Moiseyev was born "of Ukrainian parentage" in Kyiv in 1906. Although the boy spent the first seven years of his life in Paris, the family returned to the Soviet Union when he was 8 and lived for a time in Poltava, before settling in Moscow, where Moiseyev joined the Bolshoi Ballet at age 18.

Mr. Moiseyev, who turned 93 on January 21, continues to take a curtain call after every performance.

As one of the greatest choreographers in 20th century dance, Mr. Moiseyev can be added to the list of prominent artistic personalities who consider their homeland to be Ukraine.

Skoryk scores at UIA

Myroslav Skoryk, the Lviv-born composer of contemporary music who has written scores for some 40 films, including the beautiful Hutsul background music for the film "Shadows of Forgotten Ancestors," has been celebrating his 60th birthday during the past year with a series of concerts in Australia, Germany, Ukraine and the United States.

His latest concert, part of the Music at the Institute series, was held December 12, 1998, at the Ukrainian Institute of America, where the MATI Chamber Orchestra and the Vanguard Chamber Players presented several Skoryk compositions.

Virko Baley, another 60th birthday celebrant, conducted the orchestra in a performance of the 1965 work Partita No. 1 for String Orchestra, a piece whose second (Toccata) movement brought forth a unique interchange of quick notes between instruments before moving on to a dirge-like Fugue and a haunting Recitative. The chamber players performed the 1975 work Partita No. 3 for Two Violins, Viola and Cello, giving this sometimes pastoral, sometimes melancholy piece its first North American airing.

Following intermission, the world premiere of a new work unfolded before the rapt audience with Partita No. 7 for Wind Quintet. Commissioned by music publishers Oles and Olya Kuzyszyn of Woodbridge, N.J., at the request of MATI, the 1998 work includes four movements – Prelude, Dance, Elegy and Finale.

Describing the work during a post-concert reception, Mr. Kuzyszyn referred to it as "an electric piece that has a lot of musical humor." He amplified that statement by adding: "Partita No. 7 is a technically demanding work, with a great deal of lightheartedness built into it." Indeed, the concerto begins with a lovely melody, goes into a skip-temp dance followed by a contemplative elegy, and ends with a merry, lively finale.

Mr. Kuzyszyn's company, Duma Inc., has published other Skoryk compositions since its establishment in 1985, and



Helen Smindak

**Music publishers Oles and Olya Kuzyszyn display the manuscript of Myroslav Skoryk's new composition Partita No. 7 for Wind Quartet during a concert at the Ukrainian Institute of America.**

plans to publish Partita No. 7 in the near future.

For the evening's final performance, Concerto No. 3 for Piano, String Orchestra and Drum, a 1998 work receiving its New York premiere, Mr. Skoryk joined the orchestra at the piano.

Depicting the essential elements of human existence – Prayer, Dream and Life – the chamber concerto began with strong, forceful chords, a lyrical passage and rippling music followed by an introspective section as it interpreted prayer. Limpid, liquid piano notes that floated with the orchestra translated the dream sequence. Life came into focus with nightmarish, jangling music, a jazz tempo and drum beating, the piano tinkling as orchestra strings were struck in discordant sync, then piano and orchestra soared to a crescendo before concluding on a quieter note.

Mr. Skoryk also has written music for nearly 30 stage productions, including Lesia Ukrayinka's "The Stone Host," writes jazz and popular music, and is a respected musicologist as well as the author of numerous articles and two books. He holds a music festival in Lviv every spring and devotes a good portion of his time to reviving, editing and orchestrating works from the Ukrainian musical heritage of the 16th to the 20th centuries. Small wonder, then, that he is a winner of the prestigious Shevchenko Prize and has been awarded the title People's Artist of Ukraine.

The news in brief

Faced with an extended Christmas season because Ukrainians celebrate two Christmases – according to the Gregorian and the Julian calendars – Ukrainian organizations schedule a good many events in November and December. This, combined with other arts and entertainment happenings, makes for a merry pre-holiday season for most people, but creates a reporter's roadblock. To get around it, here's some news in capsule form.

• An exhibition of graphic works by Alexander Archipenko and oil paintings, watercolors and drawings by Alexis Gritchenko (Oleksa Hryshenko) opened with a festive champagne reception at The Ukrainian Museum on December 6,

1998. Acquired "under very generous conditions" from the private collection of Olena and Zenon Feszczak, 15 works of the two Ukrainian-born artists are now part of the museum's fine art holdings. Mrs. Feszczak has also donated to the museum one of Gritchenko's beautiful paintings "Les Chataignes" (Chestnuts). The exhibit was supplemented with other works by these renowned artists, either purchased earlier by the museum or received as gifts from Bohdan and Oksana Rak, Dr. Zenon Karatnytsky and the Plast sorority Pershi Stezhi. The exhibit will run through the end of February. Mr. Feszczak, who worked in Philadelphia at the Civic Center Museum and then at the Port of History Museum, served on The Ukrainian Museum's board from 1977 until his death in 1993.

• A clipping from The New York Times in 1952, reporting that "noted cancer specialist Dr. Zinovij Shtokalko was among 1,267 displaced persons who arrived in New York aboard the Navy transport carrier, Gen. Harry Taylor," was included in memorabilia displayed at the Mayana Gallery during an evening commemorating the late Dr. Shtokalko, a master bandurist who composed songs and ballads, improved bandura-playing techniques and developed his own distinct style of interpretation. He also arranged over 300 songs, dumy and ballads. The Times mentioned that Dr. Shtokalko, who had fled Ukraine in 1944 when the Soviet army advanced and completed his studies at Munich University, was accompanied by his wife, Ruth, a German actress. During the event Levko Maistrenko of Staten Island reminisced about his dear friend's intense humanitarian nature and artistic genius, and bandurists Julian Kytasty and Michael Andrec played songs they had learned from Shtokalko recordings and improvised on his composition Atonal Etude No. 2. Mr. Andrec also offered an excerpt from one of the ancient bylyny that Dr. Shtokalko was determined to revive.

• Members of Lydia Krushelnysky's Art Studio, stepping forth solo or in duos and groups on the stage of the Ukrainian National Home before Christmas, pre-

(Continued on page 9)

## Two Ukrainian women among entrepreneurs honored by theater community

by Cathy Zadoretzky

NEW YORK – Vera Shumeyko and Olga Shuhan of Kobasniuk Travel Agency were celebrated as recipients of the 1998 Local Heroes Awards, presented by the Alliance of Resident Theaters/New York (A.R.T./New York) on December 7, 1998.

They were among entrepreneurs of 28 small businesses in Manhattan who were honored for their unusual contributions to New York theater at the organization's annual meeting and reception at the Roundabout Theatre on Broadway.

"I was very proud," said Mrs. Shumeyko, when Mrs. Shuhan was presented their award that evening on stage. The awards ceremony was attended by over 500 of New York's theater directors and stars.

A.R.T./New York serves New York City's 350 not-for-profit theater companies, from which have come some of the finest works of American professional theater. Their cumulative history of Pulitzer Prizes, Tony Awards, New York Drama Critics Circle Awards and a profusion of other commendations has distinguished the New York theater community as an epi-center of talent and innovation.

The Kobasniuk Travel Agency was nominated for recognition by the Yara Arts Group "for sending Yara to Siberia and for bringing them back."

"They did everything but rent our horses," recounted Yara Director Virlana Tkacz; "the Buryats did that for us."

The Yara Arts Group is a member of A.R.T./New York and creates theater pieces in collaboration with artists from the East, especially those of Ukraine. It is a resident company at the internationally renowned experimental theater, La MaMa, E.T.C. Yara has performed at festivals in Kyiv, Lviv and Kharkiv in Ukraine with artists such as the legendary Nina Matvienko. In recent years, Yara has initiated a variety of projects in Ulan Ude, Siberia, with artists from the Buryat National Theatre.

In fact, the troupe has worked abroad

nine times with the help of the Kobasniuk Travel Agency. Mrs. Shuhan, a travel agent with Kobasniuk, made all of Yara's arrangements. An actress who has worked in the Ukrainian theater, with the Yara Arts Group and most recently with the experimental theater group of Ping Chong, Mrs. Shuhan has been particularly adept at negotiating Yara's budgetary and artistic needs.

"I have been deeply touched by Olga's dramatic passion, always tempered by subtlety," reflected Ms. Tkacz. She first admired Olga at work as a student of Josyf Hirniak and Olympia Dobrovol'ska, original players with the theater group of Les Kurbas, Ms. Tkacz's inspiration.

"I am an avid theater-goer," remarked Mrs. Shumeyko, the agency owner, who remembers attending every stage play, operetta and concert at the Ukrainian National Home on Sixth Street with her parents when she was a young girl. "I danced in Vasile Avramenko's children's dance group – we were all about 12 and under – and we were very good." She recalled that her father, Stephan Kowbasniuk, sponsored the opera "Mazepa" for the stage impresario, Dmytro Chutro, in the early 30s, in which she and the other children in Avramenko's group danced one dance.

Mrs. Shumeyko's father founded the Kobasniuk agency (the "w" was eventually dropped) on the Lower East Side in 1920. He sold steamship tickets for the White Star Line and the United States Line, transmitted money to Europe for the immigrants living on the Lower East Side and did their taxes.

He also had a free mail service as a convenience for people, primarily working men, who were living as boarders and needed a trustworthy address to receive mail from family in Europe. He would place the letters on a counter inside the store window so that people could stop and look in the window for their mail. Many people came to him because he spoke six languages. He had been a translator of documents for the U.S. Patent Office when he first came to the U.S. from Ukraine.



At the 1998 Local Heroes Awards reception (from left) are: Olga Shuhan, Cathy Zadoretzky, Virlana Tkacz and Vera Shumeyko. Mmes. Shumeyko and Shuhan were recognized for their support of the Yara Arts Group, directed by Ms. Tkacz.

Stephan Kowbasniuk died in 1952. His daughter inherited his business and at that time continued the agency's close association with Lydia Savoyka of the National Catholic Welfare Council (NCWC), providing assistance to Ukrainians who wished to bring families to the U.S. from displaced persons camps in Germany. Applications were made through the NCWC at no cost to the applicants. The Kobasniuk Agency completed the applications for the price of \$2 per family.

When people expressed personal reservations to Mrs. Shumeyko about returning alone to Ukraine to visit families there, she decided to start a group tour business; and in the early 1950s, she led her first tour of eight persons to Ukraine. The tour business grew quickly and she became a firm, diplomatic navigator of the rigid Soviet bureaucracy. The

Kobasniuk Travel Agency is now the only Slavic-speaking (Ukrainian, Polish and Russian) agency that can boast of such a long history – 78 years – of sending people to all parts of Eastern Europe.

Among the speakers at the reception who saluted New York's non-profit theater community and its Local Heroes were Todd Haimes, artistic director of the Roundabout Theatre and board president of A.R.T./New York; Schuyler Chapin, commissioner of the New York City Department of Cultural Affairs; Bernard Gersten, executive producer of the Lincoln Center Theater; and Virginia Loulodes, executive director of A.R.T./New York.

In his keynote address to the assemblage of theater workers and supporters, playwright John Guare affectionately acknowledged the people of theater as "what the next generation is dreaming of."

## "Hopak" returns...

(Continued from page 8)

sented an afternoon of humor called "In a Crooked Mirror" to benefit The Ukrainian Museum. Their Ukrainian readings of anecdotes by Edward Kozak (Eko) and Vasyly Sofroniv Levytsky brought down the house. Supposedly typical of immigrant life, the hilarious anecdotes included "A Letter to the Old Country," describing the housewife who washed dishes in a Jewish restaurant so she can buy a dishwasher; "Household Instructions," a lengthy note from a wife giving her spouse explicit instructions about what to eat for lunch (and problems to avoid); and "Englishmen from Kolomyia," portraying two immigrants on a bus conversing in heavily accented English and puzzled about why everyone around them is laughing. The readers, clad simply in black, included Lesyk Kmeta, Mrs. Krushenytsky, Ivan Makar, Xenia Piaseckyj, Sofia Zielyk, Melanie Sonevsky and Yaroslav Szul.

In another pre-Christmas event, the Ukrainian director Roman Viktuk brought his ensemble of Ukrainian actors from Moscow to perform Jean Cocteau's "Sacred Beast" at the Tribeca Performing Arts Center in Manhattan. Two performances were given, both in Russian. Acquaintances of Mr. Viktuk say the director hopes to return soon to New York with his troupe to present a

Ukrainian production.

Winnipeg native Tannis Kowalchuk, a skilled experimental theater actress, relived the story of an unexpected and life-changing encounter with a huge cockroach in a production titled "The Passion According to G.H." She gave her solo performances at the 35-seat House of Candles on Stanton Street from November 9 to December 16, 1998, under the aegis of the North American Cultural Company. Ms. Kowalchuk, whose performance was described as "powerful, engaging and idiosyncratic," is now making her home in New York (she's married to New Yorker Brad Krumholz) and is currently assisting with administrative duties at the La Mama Experimental Theater. She's looking forward to doing a new theater project at La Mama in April.

For the end of the millennium, the Boym Design Studio of Manhattan has come up with limited-edition knickknacks that duplicate structures linked to famous tragedies. Available only through Boym catalogues, the "Buildings of Disaster" line includes a \$95, 1.5-pound replica of the Chernobyl reactor. Constantin Boym, the firm's co-director, who describes the souvenirs as "an artistic project," says the silvery-grey, six-inch high reactor, made of bonded nickel, is "one of the most sought-after pieces." Mr. Boym believes that souvenirs are important cultural objects "that store and communicate memories and reactions."

## Austrian postal release focuses on Kyiv's St. Sophia Cathedral



The Ukrainian Stamp Collectors Club of Austria has released an official cover and cancellation to recognize that St. Sophia Cathedral in Kyiv has been added to the UNESCO list of World Heritage sites. Both the cover and cancellation depict the ancient cathedral built in 1037 by Prince Yaroslav the Wise of Kyivan Rus'. The illustration is by artist Ivan Turetskyi of Lviv; design is by Erhard Steinhagen of Vienna. Also noted in the text on the back on the cover is that reconstruction done on the edifice through the centuries changed the outer appearance of the cathedral; frescoes and mosaics inside the cathedral date back to the 11th century.

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## NOTES ON PEOPLE

### Scholar honored by U. of Manitoba

WINNIPEG – In 1998 the recipient of a University of Manitoba Distinguished Alumnus Award was Dr. Peter A. Kondra, first honored at the alumni reception and dinner on September 19 and subsequently given the 1998 Distinguished Alumnus Award at the university's fall convocation.

He has distinguished himself as an academician and a leader among Ukrainians, having served as president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress Committee and principal of St. Andrew's College in Winnipeg.

Born in Saskatchewan in 1911, Dr. Kondra attended the University of Manitoba, where he studied at the Manitoba Agricultural College and received a B.S. in agriculture in 1934, followed by an M.S. in 1943. He continued his graduate studies at the University of Minnesota and received a Ph.D. in animal genetics in 1953.

During the period 1934-1945 he was employed as a research assistant at the University of Manitoba and at Agriculture Canada, and as a poultry specialist with Manitoba Agriculture. In 1946 he was appointed to the professorial staff in animal science at the University of Manitoba. In addition to being a highly respected teacher and consultant to the poultry industry, he conducted research and published over 50 scientific and semi-technical papers, many of which were presented at international conferences, including the 1966 World Poultry Congress in Kyiv.

In 1939-1939 Dr. Kondra initiated and carried out the first investigation into the hatching quality of commercial feeds for poultry breeders in Manitoba, which resulted in an immediate change in quality of two major sources of feed. At the outbreak of World War II he participated in an intensive campaign to increase the production of high-quality eggs for export to England to feed the Canadian Armed Forces.



Dr. Peter A. Kondra

He has carried out international projects, including a seven-week lecture and study tour in 1964 of universities and research institutions in Russia and Ukraine, sponsored by the Research Council of Canada and as a guest of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR.

He has served as an advisor to Khon Kaen University in Thailand, as an industry poultry advisor in Brazil and Costa Rica, and as a poultry breeding consultant in Ukraine. In 1969 he represented Canada at the United Nations Technical Conference in Bangkok. Dr. Kondra was appointed professor emeritus at the University of Manitoba in 1980.

Dr. Kondra has been active in numerous professional associations, including the Manitoba Institute of Agrologists, the Agricultural Institute of Canada, the Canadian Society of Animal Science, the Genetics Society, the American Society of Animal Science and World Poultry Science.

Dr. Kondra's very active role in the community includes service as chair of the building committee during the construction of the Holy Trinity Cathedral of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada;

(Continued on page 11)

### Receives award for public service

by Camilla Huk

WEST ORANGE, N.J. – He's the man who never says "no" to anyone. Most Ukrainians in New Jersey know him as an active Democrat and, indeed, he has been a member of the New Jersey Democrats since 1951, the same year he was elected president of the Ukrainian American Professional and Businessmen's Association. For several decades, Mike Matiash has met the insurance needs of many in the Ukrainian community, and he has prepared their tax returns for over 30 years.

Most know him, however, because of his charity work, kind heartedness and generosity. He is the man who calls you to let you know someone is seriously ill and could use a visitor in the hospital, or brings people together to arrange a funeral for someone who hasn't made arrangements for one. He's the person who helps the elderly find housing when there appears to be none available and he's the one who goes to court with those who need a translator.

A longtime member of the Ukrainian National Association (Branch 214) Mr. Matiash is always there. And, you're more likely to find him when you're in need.

The Giblin Association, a charity group organized in 1954 and sponsored by the

Essex and Morris County Democratic Association, also knows of Mr. Matiash's generosity and named him a recipient of its Community Service Award on November 30, 1998.

The awards event was held here at Mayfair Farms on a Sunday morning, after a liturgy at Sacred Heart Church. As president of the Ukrainian American Democrats, Marcanthony Datzkiwsky presented a plaque to Mr. Matiash on behalf of the Giblin Association.

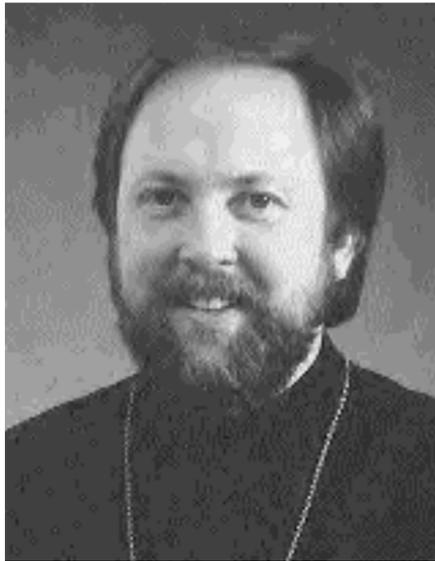
Mr. Matiash introduced his wife, Anna, his mother-in-law, Stephania Blazarko, Camilla Huk, his son's godmother, as well as his niece, Larissa Folk. He thanked the association and his friends, including Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Lesawyer, Mr. and Mrs. Datzkiwsky, Roman Pyndus, Walter Kulmatycky of the Ukrainian Center in Irvington, Walter Bodnar of the League of Ukrainian Voters, Roman Masier, all of whom were present at the event.

It was clear that most of the Ukrainian American attendees were well-known to the over 200 participants of the event. Very often members of Mr. Matiash's entourage were greeted warmly by councilmen, commissioners and other state officials.

The Giblin Association is headed by George W. Iverson, along with Patricia A. Trabacco. Since its founding by the late Thomas Giblin, it has supported diverse community service activities. Mr. Giblin's son, Thomas Jr., serves as counsel along with William H. Sheil.

# Galadza named to theological consultation body

OTTAWA – The executive committee of the Canadian Conference of Catholic Bishops recently appointed the Rev. Peter Galadza member of the North American Orthodox/Roman Catholic Theological Consultation. He is the first Ukrainian Catholic to join the ecumenical body in its 33-year history, and one of only two Canadian members. The consultation meets twice annually and regularly issues statements and position papers on matters pertaining to Orthodox/Catholic rapprochement.



Rev. Peter Galadza

The Rev. Galadza was also recently appointed convener of the newly created Eastern Liturgies Study Group of Societas Liturgica, the first person to hold this new position. Societas Liturgica is an academic association of liturgists founded in the 1960s with almost 500 members from around the world, representing all of the major Christian denominations. The first session of the study group was held in Turku, Finland, last year, and this year it will meet in Kerala, India.

The Rev. Galadza is Kule Family Professor of Eastern Liturgy at the Sheptytsky Institute of Eastern Christian

Studies in the Faculty of Theology, St. Paul University, Ottawa, and a member of the School of Graduate Studies and Research, University of Ottawa. He also serves as the editor of the Sheptytsky Institute's academic review Logos: A Journal of Eastern Christian Studies.

## Scholar honored...

(Continued from page 10)

executive member of the Consistory of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada; executive member of St. Andrew's College board of directors and initiator of the college's million dollar endowment fund; chair of the Center for Ukrainian Studies; and member of the Alumni Association of the University of Manitoba.

Among his numerous academic, professional and community honors are: the Isbister Scholarship, University of Manitoba; honorary professor, University

of California at Berkeley; a scroll "in recognition of outstanding service to the Canadian Hatchery Federation"; the Taras Shevchenko Medal for distinguished service; and a scroll from Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau for contributions to multiculturalism in Canada.

Dr. Kondra is married to Rose Zubrak. They have three children, Zenon, Marusia and Peter Jr.

Both Dr. and Mrs. Kondra are descended from the group of Ukrainian immigrants known as "Dr. Joseph Oleskiw's settlers," who arrived in Canada over 100 years ago.

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## Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

### Enthusiastic Hrudey retires with no regrets

San Jose Sharks' goaltender Kelly Hrudey traded in his goalie mask and pads for a microphone. He called it an even swap. Hrudey, 37, closed the book on his 15-year NHL playing career when he announced his retirement on July 30, 1998. But he planned to stay real close to his beloved sport by working as a color commentator for Hockey Night in Canada.

"I have no formal training (in broadcasting), but I sure enjoy it," Hrudey said. "I'm going to tackle this as enthusiastically as I have my hockey career."

Hrudey, who also played for the New York Islanders and Los Angeles Kings, announced his retirement after the Sharks acquired goalie Steve Shields from the Buffalo Sabres.

"I have no regrets," Hrudey said at the time. "My retirement is a celebration, not a sad event."

The venerable netminder posted a career record of 271-265-88 (wins-losses-ties) and a goals-against-average of 3.43 with 17 career shutouts. He played in the Stanley Cup final in 1993 with the Kings and stopped 73 of 75 shots to lead the New York Islanders to a dramatic 3-2, four-overtime Game 7 victory over the Washington Capitals in the 1987 playoffs.

Despite such a long and storied tenure in the NHL, Hrudey said the most memorable moment of his entire career came at the very start. "The No. 1 highlight (was being) told I had made the New York Islanders (in 1983). What a thrill that was! They were four-time defending Stanley Cup champions. I remember going out in the parking lot and raising

my arms in the air like in the movie 'Rocky', at the top of the stairs."

### Two-year contract for Nikolishin caps protracted free agency

The Washington Capitals finally came to terms with their last Group II restricted free agent in late October and it couldn't have come at a more opportune time for all. The club and center Andrei Nikolishin announced they reached on agreement October 27, 1998, on a two-year deal that will pay the Ukrainian native \$1.9 million.

Nikolishin had sought a one-year contract for \$1.3 million, but the Capitals wanted a longer term. Nikolishin scored six goals and 16 points in only 36 games last season and then added a sole goal to go with a whopping, team-record 13 assists in 21 playoff matches.

Just a week before the Caps got Nikolishin to sign on the proverbial dotted line, they also came to terms with Russian defenseman Sergei Gonchar, inking their offensively inclined blueliner to a two-year, \$3.3 million package. Gonchar notched five goals in 72 regular season games last season and added seven goals in 21 playoff games last spring.

The day Nikolishin approved the deal, the Caps had seven players out hurt - five of them forwards, including three centers. The plan at the time was to put him into the line-up as soon as he passed his physical. Nikolishin hadn't played a game since the end of the playoffs, but had been working out with Moscow

(Continued on page 13)

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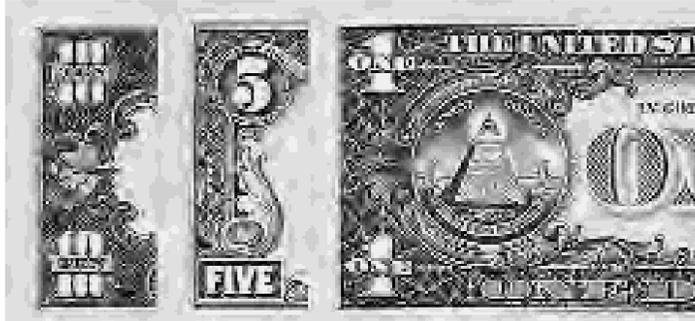
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# Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 12)

Dynamo in Russia. Coach Ron Wilson hoped the 25-year-old could go for at least a few games on adrenaline before his game conditioning was up to par. It proved to be the case. "Niko" jumped right into the fray.

With Nikolishin back in the fold, Coach Wilson thought he could finally start – injuries permitting – piecing together the forward lines that made a successful run through the playoffs all the way to the Stanley Cup finals last spring. Nikolishin had been teamed up with, believe it or not, fellow Ukes Peter Bondra and Steve Konowalchuk, then Bondra and Richard Zednik to make up the team's speediest forward line.

Nikolishin has proven to be a good worker down low and in the slot and has excellent skills at holding the puck until a linemate works his way into the clear. This asset was most evident in the play-offs last season. His career high for goals and assists is 14 and 37, respectively, both set in 1995-1996 as a member of the Hartford Whalers (remember them?), who drafted him 47th overall in 1992.

A 1998-1999 Andrei Nikolishin update: out injured for nine of the Caps' first 30 games, 2 goals-6 assists-8 points-10 PIM in 20 games.

## Belak adds crucial grit

Those looking for the most pleasant surprise in the Colorado Avalanche's training camp September 1998 needed to look no further than one Wade Belak. A first-round selection (12th overall) in the 1994 entry draft, Belak impressed in camp with his overall play. The 6-foot-5, 220-pound rookie defenseman was the talk of camp and earned a spot on the opening night roster.

Not only had Belak been a punishing checker and hitter on the ice, but his poise with the puck had improved greatly over last year.

"I feel a little more comfortable this year than I have the last two camps," Belak readily admitted during a chat with Adrian Dater last September. "We'll have to see what happens, but I'm going to do my best to stay here."

Belak quickly became a fan favorite in McNichols Sports Arena during the first three exhibition games. He registered several glass-rattling checks and more than held his own in several pugilistic confrontations. His presence gives the

Avalanche some much-needed toughness, something they didn't have enough of last year.

"By far, the kid who has shown the most in camp is Belak," said new coach Bob Hartley. "He plays with a lot of grit. Anybody who plays with a bit of a burr is going to get a long look with us."

Belak was also used at right wing in an exhibition game against the San Jose Sharks, which is something coaches often do with young defensemen looking to get a little more ice time on a deep club.

Through Colorado's first 30-plus games in 1998-1999, Belak dressed for some 17, being thus far held scoreless, but amassing 49 minutes in penalties. He is a tough presence on the Avs' blueline – a true enforcer!

*(Hrudey quotes thanks to Dan Wood, Nikolishin's courtesy of Dave Fay, both beat reporters covering their teams for The Hockey News.)*

## New chance for Berehowsky

If part of the expansion blueprint is to trade known veteran quantities for younger players with yet-undetermined potential, the expansion Nashville Predators are following this plan to a T. The Predators dealt proven goalie Mikhail Shtalenkov and center Jim Dowd to the Edmonton Oilers last October, and received in return two former Toronto Maple Leafs' first-round draft picks – goalie Eric Fichaud and defenseman Drake Berehowsky – as well as defenseman Greg DeVries.

The Ukrainian Berehowsky, chosen by Toronto 10th overall in 1990, has bounced up and down between the NHL and minors over some six seasons, but the 26-year-old made noticeable strides and progress playing a steadier game last season with Edmonton while wracking up 169 minutes in penalties.

DeVries, 25, averaged nearly 18 minutes a game last year, but was deemed expendable because of the Oilers' depth on defense.

"It was pretty apparent from our first few pre-season games that most of our defensemen were quick, but did not have a lot of size," said Predators' GM David Poile (a quote captured by Nashville beat writer Jeff Legwold). "These two guys (Berehowsky and DeVries) are bigger than anyone we had."

Berehowsky measures in at 6-foot-1 and 211 pounds, DeVries at 6-foot-3 and 218 pounds. Quite hefty!

## 1998-1999 Ukrainian NHL salaries

Wayne Gretzky	N.Y. Rangers	\$6,000,000
Keith Tkachuk	Phoenix	\$4,100,000
Peter Bondra	Washington	\$3,514,123
Dave Andreychuk	New Jersey	\$2,500,000
Alexei Zhitnik	Buffalo	\$2,500,000
Dimitri Khristich	Boston	\$1,950,000
Curtis Leschyshyn	Carolina	\$1,700,000
Oleg Tverdovsky	Phoenix	\$1,700,000
Ken Daneyko	New Jersey	\$1,275,818
Dave Babych	Philadelphia	\$1,000,000
Andrei Nikolishin	Washington	\$950,000
Richard Matvichuk	Dallas	\$871,300
Steve Konowalchuk	Washington	\$850,000
Brian Bellows	Washington	\$800,000
Eddie Olczyk	Chicago	\$600,000
Wade Belak	Colorado	\$525,000
Joey Kocur	Detroit	\$475,000
Brent Fedyk	N.Y. Rangers	\$450,000
Tony Hrkac	Dallas	\$350,000
Drake Berehowsky	Edmonton-Nashville	\$325,000
Mike-Maneluk	Philadelphia-Chicago	\$275,000
Greg Pankiewicz	Calgary	\$227,500



**Victor M. Woskobijnyk, 37, of State College, Pa., died on Tuesday, January 12, at Centre Community Hospital.**

**He was born on January 25, 1961, in Philadelphia, the son of Alexander P. Sr. and Helen Drobot Woskobijnyk, who live in State College.**

**He attended Mercersburg Academy and graduated from Williamsport Area Community College, now known as PA College of Technology.**

**He was a heavy equipment operator for a construction company in the State College area and cared for his children Victor A., Ashlee C., Jonathon D. and Alex G. Woskobijnyk in his home.**

**Besides his parents and children, he is survived by one sister, Laura Woskobijnyk Gryschuk of London, England and one brother, George V. Woskobijnyk of State College, Pa.**

**Visitation was held on Friday, January 15, from 7:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Koch Funeral Home, 2401 South Atherton Street, State College.**

**Funeral services were held on Saturday, January 16 at noon at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South Bound Brook, New Jersey, with the Reverend Jurij Sivko officiating. Burial was at St. Andrew Ukrainian Orthodox Cemetery in South Bound Brook, New Jersey.**

**Memorial contributions may be made to the State College YMCA, 677 West Whitehall Rd., State College, Pa. 16801**

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## Ukrainian Canadian Students Union to convene 46th congress in Calgary

CALGARY – The Ukrainian Canadian Students Union (SUSK) has announced that its 46th annual congress will be held February 18-22 in Calgary.

Almost 60 participants are expected to arrive from across the country, and perhaps the U.S.

"We have heard rumors U.S. students are thinking of coming up to Calgary to take part," said Mike Anisimovycz, organizing co-chair of the congress. "If that is the case, we'll be sure to show them not just the western hospitality Calgary is famous for, but some good Canadian hospitality as well."

SUSK holds a national convention once a year in one of its member cities, for the purpose of holding elections, setting policy and discussing important Ukrainian student issues. This year's keynote speaker will be Bishop Stefan Soroka of Winnipeg.

"He is young and dynamic, and I feel he can provide for the students present a proper mix of academic appeal and youthful vitality," said Mr. Anisimovycz. "Most Rev. Soroka's address will go hand-in-hand with

our 'millennium' theme," he added.

Students will be staying at Canada Olympic Park (COP), a tourist mecca just within the city limits of Calgary. "With a beautiful view of the city itself, COP is also conveniently located on the Trans-Canada highway, making it a convenient start-off point for all delegates wishing to partake in the wonderful skiing the Calgary Rockies have to offer," said Jeremy Andrusiak, the other co-chair of the congress.

Mr. Andrusiak added that he believes the excellent location of the 1999 congress will attract more delegates than expected. "Sign up early, that's my recommendation. We have a limited number of spots available, and we don't want to turn anyone away," he noted.

Those interested in attending or sponsoring the SUSK congress are welcome to visit the "Congress '99" website, located at [www.ucalgary.ca/~ukes/congress.html](http://www.ucalgary.ca/~ukes/congress.html); or to write to: The Ukrainian Students' Club, The University of Calgary MacHall No. 15, MacEwan Student Centre, 2500 University Drive NW, Calgary, Alberta, T2N 1N4.

## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

dacy from the upcoming presidential elections. He said a new bill by the Verkhovna Rada concerning the presidential elections calls for a concentration of efforts among democratic forces upon a single candidate. Mr. Chornovil's candidacy was initially proposed at the ninth annual congress of Rukh. The candidacy of popular former Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii Udovenko was proposed at the same congress. Regional Rukh organizations have now been advised to begin promoting Mr. Udovenko as the only candidate from Rukh. The Reformy i Porjadok (Reform and Order Party, headed by Viktor Pynzenyk, and the leadership of the Christian Republican Party said they would support a single candidate from Rukh. (Eastern Economist)

### President gets tough on immigration

KYIV – According to a presidential decree, the Cabinet of Ministers must take measures by February 1 to expel illegal aliens from Ukrainian territory. By the same date the government is to implement a network of automatic control and registration of foreigners and refugees into Ukraine. (Eastern Economist)

### Pifer speaks on money laundering

KYIV – Financial crimes in any country present a threat to its national security, said U.S. Ambassador Steven Pifer speaking on January 19 at the opening of an international seminar to discuss a proposed law titled "Actions Against the Legalization of Property and Funds Received Illegally." Ambassador Pifer said this problem is common to both Ukraine and the United States, and that law enforcement bodies of both countries have to make sure that criminals are not getting involved in financial structures. According to the envoy, Ukraine has taken an important step in fighting against organized crime by ratifying the Council of Europe convention on money laundering and the search and confiscation of illegal profits. The next positive step would be approval of the law discussed at this seminar, he said. (Eastern Economist)

### N-plant fully operational after repairs

ZAPORIZHIA – After the completion of long-term repairs, the third reactor of the Zaporizhia nuclear power station began producing electricity on January 13. Its power reached 600 megawatts, 60 percent of capacity, the next day. The reactor was inactive for a total of 109 days in 1998. The plant is Europe's largest atomic energy station, with six Soviet-designed VVER-1000 reactors. Ukraine is heavily dependent on its five nuclear power plants whose 14 reactors generated more than 40 percent of electricity in 1998. (Eastern Economist)

### Gazprom says Ukraine siphons gas

MOSCOW – Gazprom said on January 13 that it has documents that confirm Ukraine has illegally siphoned off Russian gas. According to Gazprom's press office, Russian gas shipments to and via Ukraine in December 1998 totaled 18.9 billion cubic meters, of which 11.5 billion were in transit to other countries, and 7.4 billion remained in Ukraine. Gazprom authorized Ukraine to take only 2.5 million cubic meters of Russian gas in 1998, meaning that almost 5 million cubic meters were misappropriated, the press office said. The office also calculated that Ukraine owes Gazprom \$1.6 billion for gas supplies. The day before, a Ukrainian official denied that Ukraine has siphoned-off Russian gas, and he also disputed the size of Ukraine's gas debt to Russia. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### PM shuns responsibility for siphoning

KYIV – Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko told a Cabinet meeting that

the government does not intend to "take the blame" for any unauthorized consumption of Russian transit gas, nor will it bear the responsibility for any related back payments, ITAR-TASS reported on January 18. According to Mr. Pustovoitenko, since the government has signed no agreement with Gazprom, it does not consider it necessary to answer Gazprom Chairman Rem Vyakhirev's telegram alleging that Ukraine siphoned off Russian gas last December. Naftohaz, Gazprom's Ukrainian partner, has also denied siphoning off Russian gas transiting Ukrainian territory. (RFE/RL Newswire)

### NDP set to offer Kuchma its backing

KYIV – The National Democratic Party, often labeled the party of power, will support Leonid Kuchma's candidacy in the forthcoming presidential elections, provided Mr. Kuchma agrees with the conditions proposed by the party's political executive committee, said NDP head Anatolii Matviienko on January 5. He stressed that the NDP is the only party so far to have initiated public dialogue with President Kuchma concerning conditions for offering him support during the elections. The party said its demands center on the economic and social sectors, the fight against corruption and on issues of cooperation with the Verkhovna Rada. If President Kuchma agrees to implement the NDP's demands, then the party will commit to cooperating with him regardless of the election results in October 1999. Mr. Kuchma has long been linked with the NDP, and has appointed a number of NDP members to posts in the Cabinet. (Eastern Economist)

## Wasyli Sharvan..

(Continued from page 4)

ber of the Anti-Bolshevik Block of Nations (ABN) and chairman of the Buffalo Chapter of the Ukrainian Friends of the ABN; director of the Captive Nations Committee of Western New York; chairman of the Buffalo Chapter of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine; and chairman of the local Harvard Ukrainian Studies Chair Fund.

Mr. Sharvan was also co-founder of the Dnipro Credit Union and owner of Orbit Gift Package Inc., an import-export business.

A long-time president of Ukrainian National Association Branch 127 in Buffalo, he was also vice-president and chairman of the UNA Buffalo District.

Mr. Sharvan is survived by his wife, Maria (née Boeck); two sons, Borys and Myron; a daughter, Larysa; and two grandchildren. Funeral services were held in St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Buffalo, followed by burial at St. Matthew's Cemetery in West Seneca, N.Y.

## Embassy updates...

(Continued from page 7)

site to visit for all those adolescent boys, age 13-30, who like to know about big things that go boom.

The Discover Ukraine page offers selections that link to sites such as Ukraine Online. Choose this page's Art selection for an impressive on-line tour of the collections of several Ukrainian artists.

Information on some of the linked sites is outdated (for example, Viktor Kryzhanivsky is still listed as the consul general in New York on the Consulate General of Ukraine site, and visa and travel information on some non-Embassy sites is wrong), but overall, the Embassy website is packed with information, and the links work.

The Embassy of Ukraine can be reached via e-mail at: [infolook@aol.com](mailto:infolook@aol.com).



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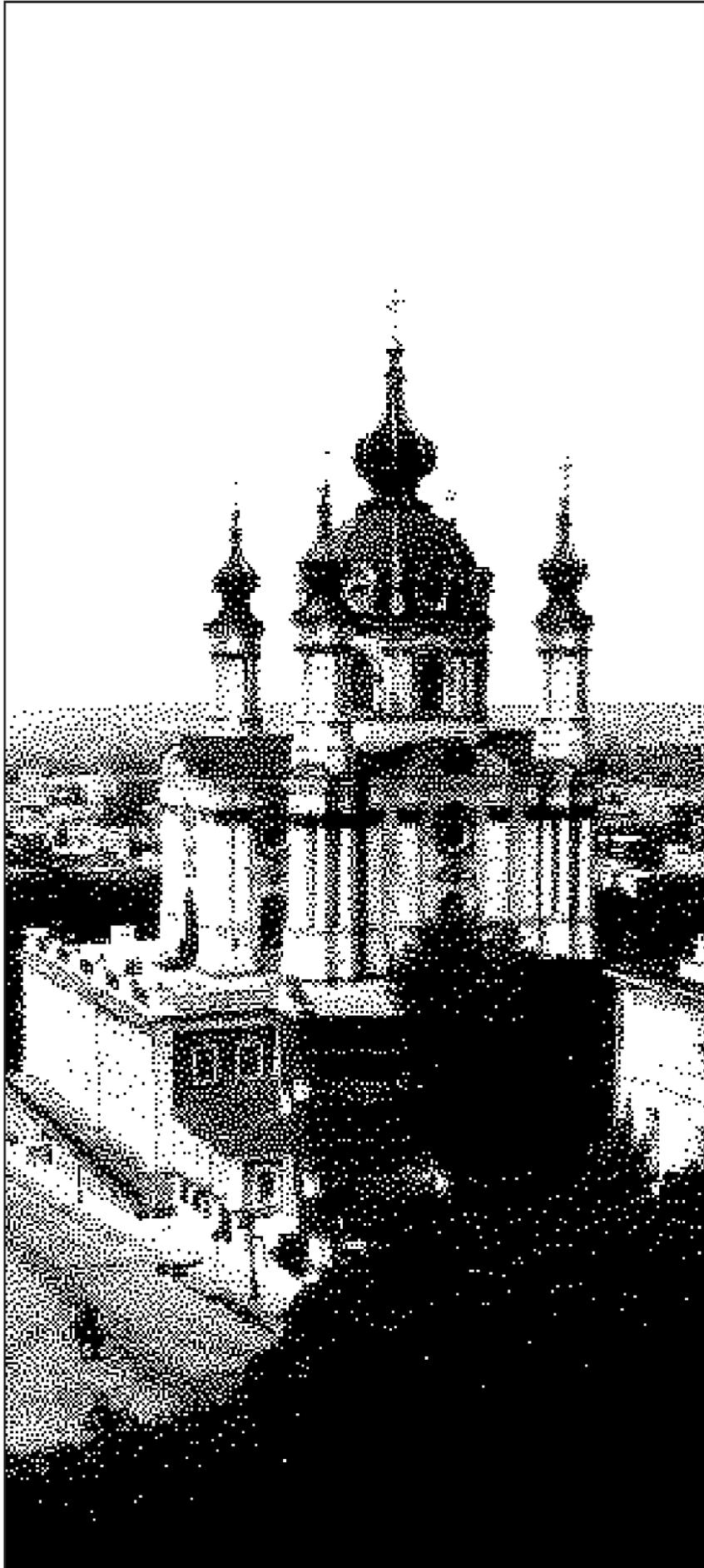
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**PREVIEW OF EVENTS**

**Sunday, January 24**

**IRVINGTON, N.J.:** The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) branch in Irvington invites the community to its traditional "Yalynka," to be held at the Ukrainian Community Center, 140 Prospect Ave., at 3 p.m. The evening will include traditional holiday fare and a performance by the SUM youth.

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Academy of Science in the U.S. is holding an anniversary conference titled "The Ukrainian Academy of Science: The Free Ukrainian Academy of Science in the U.S. - the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine." Taking part in the conference are Lubomyr Wynar, president, Ukrainian Historical Society; Vasyl Uliianovskyy, Institute of East European Studies, National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Kyiv; Vladyslav Verstiuk, Institute of East European Studies, (NASU); Jaroslaw Pelenski, Lypynsky East European Institute; Oleksander Dombrowsky, Ukrainian Academy of Science in the U.S. (UVAN); Tamara Bulat, UVAN; and Dr. Oleksa Bilaniuk, president, UVAN. The conference will be held at the academy's building, 206 W. 100th St., at 2 p.m. For more information call (212) 222-1866.

**Monday, January 25**

**EDMONTON:** The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, as part of its seminar series, is holding a lecture by Dr. Serge Cipko, department of history and classics, University of Alberta, titled "Embassies, Immigrants and the State: The Polish-Argentine-Ukrainian Triangle." The lecture will be held at 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, at 3:30 p.m.

**Saturday, January 30**

**NEW YORK:** The Kyiv-based Ukrainian rock group Vopli Vidopliasoiva will play its only New York concert at the trendy Coney Island High Club. VV is the group which in 1988 first synthesized Ukrainian ethno-music with rock and performed in Ukrainian. Immensely popular in Ukraine, it has worked for the past several years in France. VV returned last year to Ukraine and had two big hits with "Vesna" and "Liubov." It is fronted by Oleh Skrypka. Also appearing that night is the popular the New York Ukrainian band Gogol Bordello, famous for the punk cabaret style which it initiated. The group is fronted by Eugen Hutz. The concert starts at 10:30 p.m. Tickets: \$30; \$25, for Yara Arts group poetry festival participants being held earlier that evening at the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York. Coney Island High Club is located at 15 St. Mark's Place (Eighth Street between Second and Third avenues) in Manhattan.

**Monday, February 8**

**CAMBRIDGE, Mass.:** As part of its seminar series, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute is holding a lecture by William G. Miller, public policy scholar, Woodrow Wilson Center, and former ambassador of the United States to Ukraine, titled "Religion in Ukraine: Emerging from the Underground." The lecture will be held in the HURI Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 4-6 p.m.

**EDMONTON:** The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, as part of its seminar series, is holding a lecture by Dr. Brian Cherwick, department of modern languages and cultural studies, University of Alberta, titled "The Vinyl Community: Commercial Sound Recordings and Ukrainian Consciousness." The lecture will be held at 352 Athabasca Hall, University of Alberta, at 3:30 p.m.

**Wednesday, February 10**

**TORONTO:** St. Vladimir Institute, 620 Spadina Ave., presents a lecture titled "The Natural Year in Ukraine: How to Have a Good Year." Librarian Tony Rocchi will show how pre-Christian and Christian beliefs were combined to give the year a sense of purpose in the first of a five-part library lecture series. Fee: \$10 per lecture; \$40, for the series. Time: 7 p.m. To register call (416) 923-3318.

**Wednesday-Thursday, February 10-11**

**PITTSBURGH:** The Duquesne University Tamburitzans, America's premiere East European performing ensemble, is holding auditions to fill positions for the 1999-2000 production. Talented dancers, instrumentalists and singers are needed. High school seniors graduating in 1999, and college undergraduates are encouraged to apply. Folk arts experience is helpful, but not necessary. Successful applicants will receive substantial scholarship aid to attend Duquesne University in Pittsburgh. Auditions will be held February 10 and 11 in Pittsburgh at the Tamburitzans Administration Building. For more information, to request an application, or to schedule an audition, call the Tamburitzans at (412) 396-5185 or e-mail pudlak@duq2.cc.duq.edu. Visit the official Tamburitzans website at <http://www.duq.edu/Tamburitzans>.

**Sunday, February 14**

**NEWINGTON, Conn.:** The Hartford-based Yevshan Ukrainian Choral Ensemble will be presenting a concert of Ukrainian folk and sacred music titled "Songs of Love and Faith" at the Church of Christ Congregational (corner of Main and Cedar streets, Routes 175 and 176), at 3 p.m. The choir of 24 voices under the direction of Alexander Kuzma will perform works by Bortniansky, Koshetz, Kolessa, Leontovych and other composers. Proceeds will benefit the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund. For further information contact Cathy Zastawsky, (860) 563-5983, or the Connecticut office of the CCRF, (203) 407-0261. Tickets \$12 in advance; \$15 at the door; children under 12, free.

**Saturday, February 20**

**LAS VEGAS:** The Ukrainian American Social Club of Las Vegas will hold a Valentine's Day Party at 2704 Beachside Court, starting at 6 p.m. Admission: \$7 per person. Dress is casual. The club will furnish several main entrees; please bring a side dish or liquor, and check on what is needed by calling (702) 228-2312. Special guests at the party will be Nicholas and Helen Duplak; Mr. Duplak is editor of Narodna Volya. For reservations and additional information call the above listed number.

**PLEASE NOTE PREVIEW REQUIREMENTS:**

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

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