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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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## Chornovil killed in car accident

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Vyacheslav Chornovil, a Verkhovna Rada national deputy, long-time leader of the national-democratic Rukh Party and a former Soviet political prisoner persecuted for his human and national rights activity, died in a car accident in the early morning hours of March 26. (News of the death reached The Weekly as the paper was going to press early Friday morning.)

The catastrophe occurred just before midnight near the village of Horodysche, on the Boryspil-Zolotonosha highway close to Boryspil International Airport (located outside of Kyiv), when the Toyota in which the Rukh leader was traveling collided with a Kamaz tractor-trailer truck.

Mr. Chornovil and his driver, who was not identified, were killed instantly. Mr. Chornovil's press secretary, Dmytro Ponomarchuk, was hospitalized with serious injuries.

Traveling in a separate vehicle that was following the Chornovil car was former Minister of Foreign Affairs Hennadii Udovenko, whom Mr. Chornovil's Rukh Party is supporting as a presidential candidate in the upcoming elections. The car in which Mr. Udovenko was traveling was not involved in the collision. Reuters reported that Mr. Udovenko ruled out foul play in Mr. Chornovil's death, calling it a tragic accident.

At press time no other information was available

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## Rada condemns Kosovo air strikes as aggression

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Ukraine's Parliament issued a resolution condemning NATO air strikes into rump Yugoslavia and called on its Cabinet of Ministers on March 24 to change Ukraine's non-nuclear status as a response to the military action.

In a strongly worded statement – passed by a vote of 231-46 (with 346 deputies registered as present) – the Verkhovna Rada condemned the bombing raids that began several hours later as “aggression against a sovereign state.”

The Verkhovna Rada resolution attacked NATO for not holding true to its own charter, which states that the organization is a defense alliance whose sole goal is to defend member-states from attack.

It said also that NATO has no authority to move on Yugoslavia and its Kosovo region without the approval of the United Nations Security Council.

The measure was strongly supported by leftist forces, while deputies of the center-right voted against condemning NATO's actions.

NATO Secretary General Javier Solana, in a statement announcing NATO's military intentions issued two days

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## Netanyahu in Kyiv to promote Israel-Ukraine relations



Efrem Lukatsky

Israel's Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu shakes hands with Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma during a press conference in the Mariinsky Palace in Kyiv.

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma signed a memorandum of mutual understanding in Kyiv on March 21 that they hope will strengthen the ties between the two countries and help invigorate an exchange of capital investment.

“The Ukrainian government pays great attention to the deepening and broadening of cooperation with Israel,” President Kuchma told a press conference after the signing ceremony at the Mariinsky Palace in Kyiv.

Mr. Netanyahu spent less than seven hours in Kyiv on his way to Moscow, where he was to meet with Russian President Boris Yeltsin, but it was sufficient time to lay the groundwork for increased cooperation between the two countries.

In Ukraine's capital Mr. Netanyahu met with both the Ukrainian president and Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko, visited with leaders of the Jewish community of Ukraine and laid flowers before the menorah memorial at Babyn Yar, where thousands of Jews and others were exterminated after Hitler's Nazi war machine overran Kyiv.

It was the first visit to Ukraine by an Israeli government leader since the late Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin traveled here in 1997.

A primary aim of the two sides during the current visit was to stimulate bilateral economic cooperation.

Mr. Netanyahu said at his press conference in Kyiv that after more talks, which would assure that Israeli business capital would not be squandered, investment money would begin to arrive.

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## Genocide memorial in Ottawa gains support

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – The effort to establish in Canada's capital an inclusive museum commemorating the victims of genocide is gathering momentum.

Sarkis Assadourian, a member of Parliament (MP) from Brampton, Ontario, introduced Bill C-479 on February 15, which mandated “the establishment of an exhibit in the Canadian Museum of Civilization (CMC) that recognizes the crimes against humanity that have been perpetrated during the 20th century.”

The private members' bill has since received the support of over 100 MPs (at least 10 from each of the five recognized parties) in the House of

Commons, Canada's federal legislature, and will now pass to the Private Business Subcommittee of the Standing Committee of Procedure and House Affairs, which will consider whether it will be submitted for a vote.

A private members' bill requires unanimous consent in the House to be passed into law.

Daniel Kennedy, the legislative assistant at Mr. Assadourian's Ottawa office, confirmed that a decision on whether the bill is votable is expected in about eight weeks, but he cautioned against relying on strict timelines.

Mr. Kennedy said the Liberal MP is very grateful for the support expressed by Ukrainian Canadians across the

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## ANALYSIS

## Kuchma and the "Ukraine 2010" program: remnants of Soviet-era planning policy

by Volodymyr Zviglyanich

Since Stalin's crackdown on the peasantry in 1929, known as the "epoch of the great turn" – i.e., the abolition of individual farms and the introduction of collective farms, or kolhospy – Soviet life was arranged according to so-called five-year plans, or "piatyrychky." The philosophical background of such algorithms of social life stems from the ideas of Karl Marx about the organization of agricultural activity according to the way English manufacturers – the only existing industrial enterprises in the mid-19th century – functioned.

Marx considered the peasants a class inimical to the messianic role of the "proletariat," which was connected with the abolition of private property (including land ownership) and establishment of "transparency" in the sphere of social relations similar to the patterns of organization in industrial operations.

In Soviet times this idea was modified in accordance with the five-year term between party congresses, as foreseen by the statutes of the Communist Party. Congresses usually reviewed the accomplishments of the previous five-year plan and gave the guidelines for the next five

*Volodymyr Zviglyanich is an adjunct professor of East European area studies at George Washington University and a senior fellow at the Jamestown Foundation.*

years. These plans were arranged along the lines highlighted by Marx, i.e., they were transparent, all-embracing, and industry- (rather than human-) oriented.

Not a single plan was ever accomplished, and dozens of millions of people were slaughtered for the sake of societal manipulation.

### Historical background

After the break-up of the Soviet Union, Ukraine never had a step-by-step program oriented to provide the prerequisites of a market economy. In 1992 it blindly followed Russia's distorted and one-sided attempt at "shock therapy," which was aimed at price liberalization. The move pumped the population's savings into the pockets of the "new Ukrainians" practically overnight.

Sweeping hyperinflation and growing popular discontent with Leonid Kravchuk's chaotic economic maneuvers brought Leonid Kuchma to power with his 1994 "radical reformist program." It was based, however, on the methodology of previous Soviet planning: introduction of societal changes from above by increasing the role of the state in market transformations.

The results of this methodology (despite some sober ideas in the 1994 plan) were devastating: collapse of the national economy; a 2.4 times decrease of the GDP; 1.1

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## Competing visions of NATO's future highlighted at enlargement ceremony

by Paul Goble

RFE/RL Newsline

The March 12 celebration of the formal inclusion of the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland into NATO highlighted the existence of three very different views among alliance members about the nature of the challenges they face and about the proper role of the Western alliance in meeting them.

The first view, articulated most strongly by the leaders of the newest members of the alliance, might be called the traditional one. It identifies Russia as the most likely potential threat. It presents NATO as a guarantee of the independence and security of alliance members precisely because it, unlike any other European institution, involves the power of the U.S. in the defense of the continent.

The second view, reflected in the speeches of many European leaders, downplays the possibility of a Russian threat and insists that the alliance not expand its mission beyond its traditional one as a defense pact. Some of those who hold this view stress the role of the alliance in maintaining a link with the U.S., while others see it as a security system that will permit the gradual expansion of Europe itself.

The third view, presented primarily by U.S. officials, shares the assessment of most Europeans that Russia is no longer a threat, but argues that other threats to the security of the continent, such as the conflicts in Bosnia and Kosovo, mean NATO must assume a new and more active role. And that new role must be undertaken, they argue, even if the alliance has to redefine

*Paul Goble is the publisher of RFE/RL Newsline.*

itself as something other than simply a defensive institution.

As they have in the past, spokesmen and commentators in alliance countries insisted that these views do not reflect any fundamental divisions in the alliance. Instead, they said, such variations in view are simply matters of differing emphasis on parts of a common agenda.

But in the absence of a common threat identified by all members, these differences are likely to grow. And to the extent that happens, they are likely to have a profound impact on those who have joined or want to join the alliance, on links between European members of the alliance and the U.S., and on relations between NATO, its individual members and the Russian Federation.

The most immediate impact of these divisions within the alliance may be on those countries that have recently become members and on those that want to join as soon as possible. All these countries want to join NATO because they see the Western alliance as the best means of protecting themselves from a potential new Russian threat. If they discover that the alliance now has a different agenda, they may find themselves in some difficulty.

The governments of these countries have justified the financial costs of NATO membership in terms of the popular perception that the alliance has not undergone any fundamental changes. If it becomes obvious to many people in these countries that the Western alliance has changed, at least some segments of the member-states' populations may be less willing to pay those costs.

And, these regimes have counted on the alliance precisely because of its U.S.

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## NEWSBRIEFS

### Ukrainian police arrest sex trade gang

SEVASTOPOL – Police in the port of Sevastopol, Crimea, arrested two men and a woman suspected of selling some 200 females age 13-25 to individuals engaged in illegal sex business abroad, UNIAN reported on March 17. The three allegedly received \$2,000 for each woman sent to night clubs in Turkey, Greece or Cyprus, where the women were subsequently forced to become prostitutes. The International Organization for Migration estimated last year that more than 1 million Ukrainian women seeking work abroad are in danger of becoming ensnared in the illegal sex business. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### President signs election bill

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma signed the law on presidential elections. He had vetoed the legislation last month, but the Parliament overrode his veto. According to the new law, the presidential campaign will officially begin on May 4. The nomination of candidates will start 10 days after that date and will last 30 days. Candidates can be proposed by political parties or by at least 500 voters. To be placed on the ballot, the nominees must be at least 35 years old, must have resided in Ukraine for the past 10 years, and must collect the signatures of at least 1 million of Ukraine's 35 million eligible voters. The election will take place on October 31. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma urges democratic forces to unite

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma addressed the nationwide forum of democratic forces Zlahoda (Concord) in Kyiv on March 19, urging those formations to unite in order to support Ukraine's independent statehood and economic reforms. "All of us must make a choice between statehood and amorphousness, between reforms and a retreat [from them], between democracy and anarchy or totalitarianism," the March 20 Uriadovyi Kurier quoted him as saying. The initiative to form Zlahoda came from Prime Minister Valerii Pustovoitenko in an attempt to enlist wider support for Mr. Kuchma's re-election bid. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Industrial giants to be privatized

KYIV – The Ukrainian government has ordered that 12 industrial giants be prepared immediately for sale to private owners, the Associated Press reported on March 22. In particular, the government is offering a 53 percent stake in the Illich

metallurgical plant, a 52 percent stake in the Odesa oil refinery, and a 29 percent stake in the TurboAtom company, which manufactures nuclear power plant equipment. The offer is seen as the government's move to entice foreign investors and raise revenues to pay off mounting debt obligations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### Kuchma speaks on language issue

KHARKIV – President Leonid Kuchma, while on an official visit to predominantly Russian-speaking Kharkiv, stated that he does not "support forcible introduction of the Ukrainian language." Addressing Education Ministry officials, the president stressed, however, that Ukraine cannot be careless about the nation's language and emphasized the need to create a favorable environment for learning Ukrainian. The president dismissed charges of oppression against Ukraine's Russian-speaking population as provocative allegations aimed at, on the one hand, stirring up inter-ethnic controversies and, on the other hand, undermining Ukraine's international image as an emerging democracy. Ukraine's Constitution, President Kuchma said, guarantees free development, use and protection of Russian and other minority languages, and this democratic principle must be adhered to. (Eastern Economist)

### Ukraine ratifies N-cooperation pact

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on March 19 ratified a deal with the United States that will allow Ukraine to import much-needed modern technology to revamp its troubled nuclear industry. The two countries had signed the treaty on peaceful cooperation in the field of nuclear energy in May 1998. Parliament spokesman Mykola Khotskyi said the deal was made possible after Ukraine bowed to U.S. pressure in March 1998 not to build turbines for Iran's planned Bushehr nuclear power plant. Kyiv says U.S. technology could help improve safety at its nuclear reactors. A total of five nuclear plants operate 14 Soviet-designed reactors, which generate almost half the electricity consumed by the country. Hennadii Sazonov, a director at the state's nuclear energy company EnergoAtom, said the treaty could allow U.S. companies to join with Ukraine in setting up capacity to produce nuclear fuel originally supplied from neighboring Russia. Nuclear energy authorities say Ukraine will continue to buy Russian

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# INTERVIEW: Ukrainian World Congress President Askold Lozynskyj

Following a meeting of the Presidium of the Ukrainian World Congress at its headquarters in Toronto on February 19-20, Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj of The Weekly's Toronto Press Bureau conducted the following interview with the UWC's new president, Askold Lozynskyj, who was elected at the congress in December 1998.

**How have the first 100 days gone in your term as UWC president? What kind of issues have been identified and what kind of momentum do you hope you're building for the next five years?**

The first 100 days were essentially devoted to administratively setting things up.

We must develop a system of communication that is suitable for a world community organization. Being able to communicate with the community in Russia, Australia, what have you, in the least expensive possible manner, is a priority. To this end, we will establish a smoothly functioning website on the Internet and an e-mail network.

Another priority is getting our message across to non-Ukrainians everywhere that there is a worldwide community. In my opinion, if we become more visible, we'll become more of a force to deal with.

***I think there is a need for an all-encompassing, all-diaspora organization that deals with the Ukrainian government, as well as the governments of the world, on an equal footing, in defense of Ukrainian minorities no matter where they reside.***

In terms of issues, there is the matter of the Ukrainian minority in Slovakia. This is a test case. Insofar as Ukrainians in Slovakia are being discriminated against, we should be able to put ourselves in a position to exert some pressure on the government. This should be easier now that the Slovak government is pro-West, or West-oriented, as opposed to the administration of [former President Vladimir] Meciar.

We need to develop better relations with the Ukrainian government. The government should see the diaspora as more than a source of occasional capital infusion for its diplomatic missions and take our recommendations seriously. We hope to have an impact on how cultural and educational policy is made in Ukraine.

The Ukrainian government often simply ignores the diaspora and yet, when they need us for financial purposes, they seem to find us. In some sense, it has to be a carrot-and-stick approach – if you want our assistance, you're also going to have to accept our advice and criticism.

Another area of concern, to my mind, is that the UWC has not developed a sufficient political status as a non-governmental organization. To remedy this, I believe we should secure recognition by the United Nations.

We are now attempting to become members of the U.N.'s Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) with consul-

tative status. This is a difficult process. We have a lot of work to do and the deadline is June 1.

The UWC itself must reform. Much of the UWC's administrative structure is antiquated and its by-laws are chaotic. We don't have rules of procedure for our committees, commissions and councils. We have a foundation that functions in support of the UWC, but in essence there is no legal binding relationship between the foundation and the UWC.

According to the by-laws, we are a Western diaspora organization, while we should establish ourselves as an all-diaspora organization.

**At the recent congress in December 1998, three models had been examined: that the UWC represents the Western diaspora exclusively; that it is all-diaspora; that it would like to represent the Eastern diaspora, but given limited resources this needs to be approached cautiously. Do you believe that the ensuing debate resolved this question?**

If you had asked me this question five years ago, I would have said the UWC is a Western-diasporan organization, but that there is a need for an all-diasporan organization. At that point, I thought the Ukrainian World Coordinating Council would be able to carry out this function.

Unfortunately, the UWCC has been a dismal failure.

I think there is a need for an all-encompassing, all-diaspora organization that deals with the Ukrainian government, as well as the governments of the world, on an equal footing, in defense of Ukrainian minorities no matter where they reside.

This situation has evolved substantially in the past five years, and I think that since the UWCC hasn't worked out, this forces the UWC into a new role.

**Based on a decision of the February 19-20 UWC Presidium meeting, three UWC representatives will be traveling to a UWCC session in Kyiv in May. During the proceedings just concluded, you mentioned that the UWCC has distanced itself from its Soviet past. However, some UWC officials suggested that concerns over by-laws, conflict of interest and financial/budgetary matters had not been addressed. Do you believe that UWCC President Ivan Drach can now be prompted to address these issues?**

To my mind, the problems with the by-laws were not all that significant. We are working off a set that was registered with the Ukrainian Ministry of Justice in 1995. To be sure, when the ministry had subsequently asked the UWCC to change some language to bring them into line with Ukrainian law, UWCC officials added some things that the UWC was not informed about, and that's the problem.

However, these are minor difficulties, not of great concern.

In terms of the UWCC budget, the problem is one of financial accountability. A budget is submitted annually at their general meetings, but there is no subsequent accounting.

They have a radically different understanding of accounting than we do. For instance, there is constant commingling of funds among various organizations, there is no distinction made between business activities and non-business activities.

One of the biggest arguments we had with them was over one of the UWCC's purpose clauses. It was stated that the UWCC was to conduct commercial activities, but we pointed out that this is

not appropriate for a civic, non-governmental organization, but they don't understand that.

They also don't understand conflict of interest. That's, unfortunately, the mentality they have. It's, unfortunately, true of many organizations in Ukraine, but it's going to take a while for them to change, and we have to be patient. I don't think it's an insurmountable obstacle.

I think the reason the UWCC is not a functioning entity is because of its leadership. There are plenty of capable people in Ukraine, and Mr. Drach is an excellent poet, but he's a terrible administrator.

**Meanwhile, his term continues for another three years?**

That's right. But he's willing to step down at any time, and he suggested as much at the last [worldwide Ukrainian] forum, but nobody was willing to step up and run for or assume the presidency.

**What are the major obstacles facing the UWC as an effective representative body?**

A malaise in the community. Some no longer believe the UWC is necessary. Some are convinced the Ukrainian government stands up for the interests of Ukrainians everywhere, whereas in actuality the government is finding it difficult to effectively protect the interests of Ukrainians within its own country.

Of course, the circumstances are somewhat understandable, since it's a fledgling state. However, some factors are less so. For example, corruption is pervasive, the criminality is amazing. Former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko is a case in point. Unfortunately it seems

that he is more the norm than the exception.

**A recent letter to the editor to The Ukrainian Weekly questioned whether the UWC is still relevant. Would you care to comment?**

Yes, I read that. Essentially, Mr. [George] Primak's argument boils down to a conviction that the Ukrainian government can fulfill the UWC's role.

He's correct in some areas, for instance in his criticism that the UWC didn't pursue the issue of compensation of Ukrainians victimized by Germany's policies during the second world war, as the World Jewish Congress did.

However, we are on top of the issue now and intend to make our representations in this area, make claim forms available to members of the community, and so on.

To a certain extent, the criticism stems from a comparison to the World Jewish Congress. You can't really compare the UWC and the WJC fairly because the latter represents as many people as the state of Israel does, and draws on considerably greater resources.

For the longest time the UWC attempted to represent a fragmented community of at most 4 million Ukrainians worldwide, with only tenuous external legitimacy.

Just as the state of Israel has been a remarkable focus for the Jewish community, so I believe [Ukraine] should be for the Ukrainian diaspora.

In the past, we in the Ukrainian diaspora were often simply dismissed as fringe elements concerned with the freedom of a supposedly non-existent

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## BUSINESS IN BRIEF

### Tractor-producing JV in the works

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma met March 16 with U.S.-based Case Corp. President Jean-Pierre Rosso. During the meeting Mr. Rosso confirmed his intention to invest approximately \$30 million into a joint venture to be based at PivdenMash, specializing in tractor production. Mr. Rosso also announced that the Case Corp. is ready to invest \$10 million into creation of a joint leasing company. President Kuchma said he hopes that Case's investments provide a working model for other foreign investors. (Eastern Economist)

### Volvo seeks ministerial cooperation

KYIV – Representatives of Sweden's Volvo-Penta company in Ukraine proposed on March 17 that the Industrial Policy Ministry discuss possible cooperation on designing innovative gas engines. Industry Policy Ministry representatives announced that, in their letter to the ministry, Volvo officials mentioned the company had already created a special working group including representatives of Volvo Truck, Volvo Bus and Volvo Penta to participate in discussions. The group also intends to search for potential partners in another countries. (Eastern Economist)

### Regional wine production up in 1998

KHERSON – Despite falls in grapevine production at most Kherson Oblast vineyards, 1998 wine production grew 44.4 percent over 1997 figures, thanks to the agricultural firm Sepro, which, working mostly with raw material from other regions, provided 64 percent of oblast production. In the 1980s 40 percent of Kherson Oblast budget incomes came from the sale of grape and wine products, but winter crop damage and a lack of funds have badly hit the industry. (Eastern Economist)

### Nestlé invests in Lviv confectioner

LVIV – Svitoch head Andrii Tavpash on February 10 announced details of the company's cooperation with Nestlé. The planned investment of approximately \$40 million (U.S.) should guarantee Svitoch's dominance of the domestic confectionery market. (Eastern Economist)

### Investment figures show big shortfall

KYIV – State Statistics Committee figures show a huge shortfall in investment in Ukraine. Figures show demand for investment outstripping supply by 16 to 1. In 1998 Ukraine received \$718.1 million (U.S.) in direct foreign investments, up from \$615.6 million in 1997. Since independence, Ukraine has attracted just \$2.78 billion (U.S.) in

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## Netanyahu in Kyiv...

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"A great future is awaiting Ukraine," said the Israeli prime minister.

In 1998 commodity turnover between the two countries reached \$174 million, a 39 percent rise from the previous year. Ukraine's exports to Israel grew to \$132 million, chiefly in ferrous and non-ferrous metals, chemicals and agricultural products.

In 1998 Israel sold Ukraine mostly agricultural goods, chiefly citrus products, as well as machinery. By the end of 1998 approximately 120 Israeli companies had invested some \$12.6 million into the Ukrainian economy.

During his meeting with Mr. Pustovoitenko the Israeli prime minister emphasized that this country's businessmen also are prepared to invest in Ukrainian companies and introduce new technologies.

Mr. Pustovoitenko and Mr. Netanyahu discussed closer ties in education and culture as well. The Ukrainian prime minister underscored that Ukraine is ready to further aid the spiritual and cultural development of the Jewish population in Ukraine.

During the Soviet era, Jewish synagogues and cultural centers were routinely shut down and many Jews felt they were ostracized and even persecuted because of their ethnicity. In the 1970s the Jewish population slowly began to leave the Soviet Union, including Ukraine, which turned into a mass exodus after Ukraine declared independence.

President Kuchma told the Mariinsky Palace press conference that today the government is doing everything possible so that all the diverse ethnic groups of Ukraine "would view Ukraine as their homeland."

Nonetheless, he gave assurance that no one would hinder any Jewish person's desire to leave the country for Israel and that he would personally take charge if barriers arose.

"If such cases are registered, I am prepared to intervene in order to cross the 't's and dot the 'i's,'" said President Kuchma.

Interfax-Ukraine reported that at a meeting between the countries' foreign ministers, Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk said he and his Israeli counterpart, Ariel Sharon, had reached agreement on "significant invigoration of political contacts" and will hold regular consultations from now on.

Mr. Tarasyuk also disclosed that the two sides had signed a document on cooperation in the military-technical field, which the Ukrainian foreign affairs minister called "of a general character," although he would not give specifics.

## Chornovil killed...

(Continued from page 1)

on the details of the accident.

Mr. Chornovil, who was born in Cherkasy Oblast in 1937, spent many years in the Soviet gulag for his outspoken views in support of Ukrainian national aspirations. The human and national rights advocate served three terms for "anti-Soviet activity."

His first came after he spoke out about the 1965-1966 secret trials of leading Ukrainian intellectuals and compiled eyewitness documentation of the proceedings. The result was a book, "Lykho z Rozumu," (The Misfortune of Intellect), published in English as "The Chornovil Papers."

In 1972, as the editor of the underground samvydav journal Ukrainian Herald (Ukrainskyi Visnyk), he was imprisoned once again during the wave of arrests that swept Ukraine.

He became a member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group in 1979. In 1980, while still serving his previous term, he was rearrested and sentenced yet again by Soviet authorities. In 1988 he became a founding member of the Ukrainian Helsinki Union.

With the beginning of glasnost, Mr. Chornovil became a key founder of Popular Movement of Ukraine (Rukh), an organization that called for Ukraine's independence, and is considered a primary catalyst in the social upheaval that consumed the Soviet Union in the late 1980s and early 1990s. He was elected to the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine in 1990 and re-elected in 1994 and 1998. In 1991 he was a candidate for president of Ukraine.

Mr. Chornovil, who was a journalist by



Vyacheslav Chornovil with fellow Rukh activist Les Taniuk during a meeting in September 1991, soon after the proclamation of Ukraine's independence.

training, continued to work in that capacity as editor-in-chief of the Rukh publication Chas-Time.

On February 12 of this year Mr. Chornovil was ousted by fellow national deputies as head of the Rukh faction in Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada and 16 days later was removed as Rukh Party chairman in what he described as an illegitimate Rukh Congress. A week later, however, a separate regularly scheduled congress of Rukh reasserted Mr. Chornovil's position at the top of the organization (now dubbed Rukh-I) he had led for nearly a decade.

Funeral arrangements were not complete at press time, but Ukrainian Television said

Mr. Chornovil would be buried on Monday, March 29. Preliminary reports said a public memorial service is to be held at the historic Teachers' Building, once the headquarters of the Central Rada, on Sunday, March 28. The funeral liturgy is to be offered at St. Volodymyr Sobor, and burial will be at Baikove Cemetery.

News of Mr. Chornovil's death was announced in the Verkhovna Rada the next morning by Parliament Chairman Oleksander Tkachenko. A framed portrait of Mr. Chornovil and flowers were placed on the national deputy's seat in the chamber.

(Roma Hadzewycz contributed to this report.)

## Rada condemns...

(Continued from page 1)

before the attack on Yugoslavia began, said the military alliance had adhered to all international agreements on Yugoslavia.

"NATO has fully supported all relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions, the efforts of the OSCE [Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe] and the Contact Group," read Mr. Solana's statement.

The air strikes into Yugoslavia have caused a strong reaction from Ukrainian leaders, particularly the Communist-controlled Verkhovna Rada.

The day after the resolution was passed, and with more attacks by NATO likely, Communist Party member Borys Oliynyk, who heads the Foreign Affairs Committee in the Parliament, took to the main podium to demand that the Ukrainian ambassador to Washington, as well as the chief Ukrainian diplomats in all "the aggressor states," be recalled to Ukraine "for consultation."

He said that NATO's action in itself is sufficient reason to discontinue relations with the defense alliance.

In addition, NATO's aggressive stand requires that Ukraine rearm itself with nuclear weapons, said Mr. Oliynyk, which he termed "an automatic response." Mr. Oliynyk warned that "nobody has the right to forbid Ukrainians from coming to the aid of their Yugoslav brothers."

Ukraine agreed to divest itself of its large nuclear arsenal and declared that it would maintain non-nuclear status in January 1994 in a trilateral pact it signed with the United States and Russia.

Since then there have been intermittent calls by individual national deputies from both the political left and right for nuclear rearmament. However, the latest Verkhovna Rada declaration is by far the strongest and most concerted such effort.

It follows on the footsteps of a similar decision on March 24 in Moscow, where the Russian government said it will cease its cooperation with NATO and was look-

ing at the possibility of rearming Belarus with nuclear weapons.

The Ukrainian government, which has repeatedly stated that it is against military intervention in Kosovo and has called on NATO to act only after U.N. Security Council authorization, issued a statement on March 25 through its Ministry of Foreign Affairs that expressed deep concern over the use of force by NATO.

"The use of military force against a sovereign state without the sanction of the U.N. Security Council, the only body authorized to make decisions for maintaining peace

and security, is unacceptable," read the statement, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

The Foreign Affairs Ministry called for "returning as quickly as possible to a peaceful settlement through political means ... and extending wide autonomy to Kosovo."

The day that NATO Secretary General Solana issued his statement, President Leonid Kuchma said Ukraine would support the use of force in Kosovo only after all attempts for a peaceful settlement had been exhausted and then only with U.N. Security Council approval. He commented that "a poor peace is better than any use of force."

## Embassy of Ukraine in D.C. hosts farewell exhibit of Krychevsky art



Yaro Bihun

Ambassador Anton Buteiko on March 10 welcomes invited guests to a farewell exhibit of oil paintings and watercolors by Mykola Krychevsky, part of a 112-work collection donated to five museums in Ukraine by Kateryna Krychevsky-Rosandich. The collection was exhibited on February 20-March 7 at The Ukrainian Museum in New York. Born in Kharkiv in 1898, Mykola Krychevsky settled in Paris in 1928 and spent most of his creative years in France. He died in 1961. Prior to Mrs. Krychevsky-Rosandich's donation, very few of this noted artist's works found their way back to his homeland.

### How to reach

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## Free Choice Coalition to coordinate voter education and monitor presidential elections

by Roman Woronowycz  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – A coalition of non-governmental organizations in Ukraine has announced that it will coordinate efforts to ensure that the 1999 presidential election process will be democratic, free and fair.

Leaders of the group, which has labeled itself the Free Choice Coalition, said at a press conference in Kyiv on March 22 that the organization has tasked itself with educating Ukraine's electorate about new electoral legislation and with spurring young adults – who are most apathetic towards Ukrainian politics – to vote. As well, the coalition plans to develop an intricate system of election media coverage and monitoring.

Thus far 63 NGOs from 14 of Ukraine's 25 regions have signed on to the project. The individual organizations cover a wide range of social activities: from student groups, press clubs and women's centers to polling organizations and political science foundations.

"We believe the elections of 1999 will be very important for Ukraine – no less so than the referendum of December 1991," said Ilko Kucheriv, a leader of Free Choice and director of the sociological monitoring group, Democratic Initiative. "They will determine Ukraine's future," he added.

Presidential elections in Ukraine are scheduled for October 31 of this year.

For seven years, economic indicators in Ukraine have fallen and the standard of living has declined, which has left much of the population disenchanted with democracy and capitalism – a good

portion of them yearning for a return to the old system. As a result, many experts, as well as Ukraine's political left, believe the time is ripe for a Communist revanche.

Others believe that President Leonid Kuchma, who has taken great pains to control the media through his political associates, will do almost anything required to retain the presidency.

Because Ukrainian politics in general and elections in particular have been bereft of any sense of order, or at times even lawfulness, and because many candidates do whatever it takes to win, Free Choice Coalition members believe that monitoring the electoral process is crucial to a legitimate outcome.

"Today we have a situation in which a large portion of our society does not believe that elections can be fair," said Mykola Tomenko, director of the Institute of Politics, another key leader of the Free Choice Coalition. "It is our goal to help develop the trust in a fair outcome."

Free Choice expects to assemble close to 20,000 independent monitors around the country to track the election campaigns of all the top candidates and hopes to have a structure in place that will allow them to predict with a high degree of probability what the outcome will be in order to detect any attempts at fraud and ballot-stuffing.

To motivate the youth vote and to overcome cynicism by middle-aged and older voters that a democratic election is not possible in Ukraine, Free Choice is also planning a series of television programs as well as a "show-tour" along the Dnipro River that will stop at major cities along Ukraine's major waterway.

"We will do all we can so that all candidates have equal exposure on Ukrainian television, especially government-controlled television," said Serhii Taran, vice-president of the Institute of Mass Information.

The television project will take three forms. First, the coalition will fund a program for middle- and older-generation Ukrainians to convince them that democracy and a free press must be a standard of any type of society and that every citizen has the right to have his voice heard.

opinions on the elections to political leaders gathered at the television studio through an Internet connection to the studio while the results are still being analyzed.

Another innovative idea that Free Choice will utilize to raise voter awareness in Ukraine will be a riverboat show along the Dnipro that will feature Ukraine's brightest musical and sports stars. Plans call for, not simply a series of concerts at port cities along the Dnipro, but a complex series of presentations and information sessions highlight-

***"We believe the elections of 1999 will be very important for Ukraine – no less so than the referendum of December 1991 ... They will determine Ukraine's future."***

*– Ilko Kucheriv, a leader of the Free Choice Coalition*

Another TV program will be developed for younger voters, who are more attracted to pop stars and sports figures than politicians. It will include entertainment along with messages by leading entertainers that the youth vote is important.

In the last stage of the television project, an election night broadcast will cover the day's events and will include an interactive "tele-bridge" as Oleh Pavlyshyn, who will direct the television project, called the effort.

In the first-ever attempt in Ukraine, people from all over Ukraine will be able to communicate their thoughts and

ed by meetings with the stars.

The Free Choice leaders emphasized that although theirs is a loose coalition with few regulations, the one inviolable rule is that no group should support or endorse any candidate.

"There will be no leader of the coalition; we will be a loose group with a united goal," said Ihor Popov, director of the Committee of Voters, who will coordinate the 20,000 election observers. "Each group will have its own agenda. There will be few meetings such as today. But if any member expresses support for a single candidate that group will be expelled automatically."

## Genocide memorial...

(Continued from page 1)

country, and has also been in contact with representatives of the Cambodian and Chinese communities.

### Ukrainian community support

In an interview on March 23, Adrian Boyko, vice-president of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress and chair of its Government Relations Committee, told The Weekly the UCC considers Mr. Assadourian's bill "uniquely Canadian in its inclusiveness."

"This proposed legislation builds upon the fact that we are a multicultural country, that we show our inclusiveness in all that we do," Mr. Boyko said.

The UCC official added that this approach would "prevent the pitting of groups against one another, the very thing that produces the attitudes and environment that make genocide possible."

Mr. Boyko stressed that such an institution is necessary because "children need to be educated about this side of human nature, this side of history, so that it cannot happen again."

The UCC government relations chair pointed out that there is no such general-focus institution anywhere in the world, adding, "as it was in proposing the establishment of United Nations peacekeeping forces, Canada can once again be a leader in human rights and human endeavor by supporting such a museum."

In February the Ukrainian Canadian Civil Liberties Association had issued a statement in support of Mr. Assadourian's bill. "We urge MPs in every political party represented in the House of Commons to endorse Mr. Assadourian's initiative and to work with the many Canadian ethnocultural communities who are in favor of a Genocide Museum in our nation's capital," it read.

### Background of effort

The CMC, where the exhibit proposed by the legislation would be located, is a multi-facility institution overseen by the Heritage Ministry. In 1997 the War Museum, one of the CMC's facilities, held hearings to address concerns that a proposed gallery devoted to the Nazi Holocaust was not sufficiently inclusive.

In mid-1998 a decision was made to focus on the creation of a traveling exhibit on the Holocaust.

Since then, various local branches of the UCC (particularly Ottawa, Toronto and Sudbury), the UCCLA (in Vancouver, Calgary, Kingston and Toronto) and a Working Group chaired by Montreal-based historian Prof. Roman Serbyn have championed the idea of including testimonies about the sufferings of various groups at the hands of the murderous Nazi machine, as well as broadening the scope of institutional commemorations of victims of genocide, such as the victims of the 1932-1933 Soviet-engineered famine in Ukraine.

Since the summer of 1998, UCC Ottawa Branch President Oksana Bashuk Hepburn has been particularly active in lobbying museum officials, as well as local MPs and officials at the Heritage Ministry.

### Four reasons for a museum

Prof. Serbyn, a member of the department of history at the Université du Québec à Montréal, has issued a pamphlet on the issue of an inclusive museum in question-and-answer format.

One question asks: "Why must the Canadian public be educated about the various genocides?" The answer: "If genocide is an aberration in history, it has proven to be of a recurring type. It is important that we realize this and study the various forms this tragedy has assumed in the past, in order to prevent repetition in the future."

"A museum dedicated to any one genocide would be sufficient to show the horrors of mass extermination," it is affirmed in the pamphlet, "but such a museum could not reveal the variety of means used by ruthless regimes to execute their crimes. In order to understand how starvation was used in some African genocides, no other previous genocide is as instructive as the Holodomor (Ukraine famine of 1932-1933)."

Prof. Serbyn's pamphlet sets out four main reasons for a Canadian museum dedicated to genocide:

"(1) to commemorate all the victims of all genocides in a proper and dignified manner;

"(2) to sensitize the Canadian public to the atrocities of genocide and provide an effective tool for the education of future generations, in the spirit of tolerance and respect for human life, so as to ensure that similar horrors are never repeated;

"(3) to express empathy for the various ethnocultural communities who have found haven on Canadian shores, but whose relatives, at other times and in other lands, had been victims of these most atrocious crimes;

"(4) to provide an original and uniquely Canadian way of expressing our concern for issues of general human interest and importance."

On December 21, 1998, the UCC had sent a letter to Heritage Minister Sheila Copps endorsing the idea of a Genocide Museum. Signed by UCC President Eugene Czolij, it is currently being reworked as an official position paper to be adopted at a board of directors meeting in June.

The letter reads: "The UCC believes that a museum dedicated to the victims of all genocides would be a noble and dignified way for Canada to demonstrate to Canadian citizens and to the international community its readiness to condemn genocides."

The purpose of such an institution, according to the UCC letter, would be to "sensitize future generations by disseminating valuable information about such tremendous human tragedies to ensure that similar horrors are never repeated."

The letter refers to the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives resolutions adopted in October 1998 on the 65th anniversary of the famine, and the City of Montreal's fall 1998 erection of a monument dedicated to all the victims of genocides in the 20th century.

### CMC in "holding pattern"

Stephen Inglis, director general of the CMC's Collection and Research Branch, told The Weekly on March 23 that plans for the traveling exhibit on the Holocaust, which were to be finalized this month, are "in a holding pattern, affected somewhat by discussions at the political level."

Mr. Inglis said the introduction of Bill C-479 was part of "a general feeling that any national presentation should be inclusive and should reflect the experience of many groups in Canada."

The CMC official added that "the government is sensitive to those concerns, and discussions on the issue are quite active."

Mr. Inglis said the CMC "will be doing something, it's just a question of when it would proceed." He added that if an exhibit were permanent, "this immediately involves questions of a site and a building. Our idea was that if a traveling exhibit were prepared, it would serve as an impetus for a core collection of material."

The CMC official said that if original plans were followed, the traveling exhibit would have been ready for 2001-2002.

## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### An inclusive museum on genocide

In recent months, thanks to the introduction of a private members' bill by a parliamentarian of Armenian background, Canada's Ukrainian community has been handed an opportunity to publicly occupy the moral high ground on the issue of commemoration of victims of genocide.

On February 15, Sarkis Assadourian proposed in Bill C-479 that a permanent exhibit be set up at the Canadian Museum of Civilization "that recognizes the crimes against humanity perpetrated during the 20th century and acts as a reminder of the inhumanity of people towards one another."

This has allowed a project which the Ukrainian Canadian Congress proposed to Heritage Minister Sheila Copps in December 1998 to receive airing in debate in the country's highest and most public political forum, instead of the airless chambers of academia or bureaucratic meeting rooms.

In the words of Adrian Boyko, UCC vice-president and chair of its Government Relations Committee, the bill is "uniquely Canadian in its inclusiveness" and an opportunity for Canada to "once again be a leader in human rights and human endeavor by supporting such [an exhibit]."

At such an institution, all members of humanity could meet and understand that a genocide can happen to any people. Equally important: the specifics of how a genocide occurred to a certain people – such as the Holocaust of the Jews, the Famine directed at Ukrainians, the Massacre of Armenians, the Killing Fields of Cambodia, the ethnic cleansing in the former Yugoslavia – are an important object lesson about the need to recognize and curb the dark side of our natures.

The frightening fact of the recurrence of genocide as depicted in such a museum should serve both to ensure vigilance and to quicken empathy.

The horrors of the recent decade seemed to spring out of a bizarre complacency borne out of perceptions that genocide is somehow exceptional. Instead of being made vigilant by the call "Never Again," it seems the world was repeatedly lulled by a sense of "It couldn't be happening again."

As was written in this space earlier this year, "genocides don't belong to the people on whom they were inflicted. They are history's burden of responsibility placed on humanity's shoulders, which asks: Why wasn't it stopped? What have you done to ensure that it never happens again?"

Thanks to Mr. Assadourian, Ukrainian Canadians and other supporters of the bill can claim the moral high ground. But the task ahead is not the easier for it. A moral high ground calls for a heightened sense of moral responsibility and discipline, not for thin-skinned sensitivity to insult if one's project is opposed.

For example, understanding and tact will be needed to draw others on side for the project, such as members of the Jewish community who insist on separate Holocaust memorials. After all, it was a concern for inclusiveness in a Holocaust exhibit that enabled the space on the high ground, presently illuminated by Mr. Assadourian's bill, to become visible.

The establishment of an inclusive exhibit or museum would appear to be a morally unassailable proposition. Bill C-479 stands on high ground, but politically it needs shoring up. A private members' bill needs unanimous support from every one of the 295 members in Canada's House of Commons, and a lobbying effort spearheaded by Mr. Assadourian (supplemented by the UCC's various branches) is in full swing.

March  
31  
1869

### Turning the pages back...

Fans of the TV series "Homicide" should hearken to the life story of Ukraine's pioneer in forensic science and criminology, Mykola Bokarius. His very name is like something out of an Edgar Allan Poe story.

Born on March 31, 1869, in Odessa into a high school teacher's family, he graduated from the medical faculty of Kharkiv University in 1895, then worked as an intern at a surgical clinic in the city, and began lecturing on plastic anatomy at the Kharkiv Art School.

In 1897 he secured the post of assistant dissector at the chair of forensic medicine at his alma mater. He received his M.D. in 1902. In 1903 he joined the faculty as assistant professor with the forensics chair and the faculty of law. In 1910 he was awarded a full professorship and published his landmark textbook (in Russian), "Sudebno-Meditsinkie, Mikroskopichnie i Mikrokhimicheskie Issledovannie Vecshchestvennykh Dokazatelstv" (Forensic, Microscopic and Microchemical Investigation of Material Evidence). Five years later came a forensic primer for use in the courtroom. (In 1930 it was reworked into a reference work for jurists and doctors). In 1923 he established the Scientific Research Institute of Forensic Medicine in Kharkiv, which was renamed in his honor upon his death.

Thanks to the Ukrainianization policies of the day, we have titles on forensics in Ukrainian. Dr. Bokarius founded and edited two journals: *Arkhiv Kryminolohiyi ta Sudebnoyi Medytsyny* (Archive of Criminology and Forensics, 1926-1927) and *Pytannia Kryminalistyky ta Naukovo-Sudebnoyi Ekspertyzy* (Issues of Criminology and Forensic Expertise, 1931).

From 1924 onward he served as a consultant to the Ukrainian Main Militia in Kharkiv. Dr. Bokarius also had senior government positions in the commissariats for education and health. Dr. Bokarius analyzed over 5,000 items of material evidence, performed over 3,000 autopsies, and wrote more than 130 scientific works. He invented various forensic medical instruments, special chemical methods of analysis and techniques of evaluating clues. According to the *Who Was Who in the USSR* compiled by a Munich-based institute for the study of the Soviet Union, "his sperm test and macroscopic method of examining strangulation marks are to be found in all manuals and textbooks of forensic medicine."

Acknowledged as the Ukrainian SSRs leading forensic medical expert, his laboratory was renowned throughout the USSR. Dr. Bokarius died in Kharkiv on December 23, 1931.

Source: "Bokarius, Mykola," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine, Vol. 1* (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1984); *Who Was Who in the USSR* (Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1972).

## ON THE AIR: Documentary recounts Ukrainian experience

by Andrij Kudla Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO – A landmark documentary on the Ukrainian experience in this century, "Scarred by History," will return to television screens across Canada on March 30, April 3 and 4. Significant viewer support of the one-hour film has prompted History Television, a Toronto-based division of the Alliance Communications Corp., to give the film a wider airing as part of its "War Stories" series.

According to the official news release, "the story of Ukraine is told through the lives of Jaroslav 'Jerry' Sywanyk, a Ukrainian immigrant to Saskatoon [Saskatchewan] and his immediate family, specifically his sisters, Maria, Olga and Olena, who remained in Ukraine."

The western Ukrainian experience of Austrian rule, Polish domination, Nazi occupation, and Soviet conquest and repression is vividly brought to life through footage obtained from archives in Ukraine – some never before aired in the West – interviews with Mr. Sywanyk, and the testimonies of relatives interviewed in the summer of 1998, in his native village of Markova, near Manastyrsk in western Ukraine.

Mr. Sywanyk joined the Galicia Division, was interned in Italy and the United Kingdom, and then immigrated to Canada.

Maria Sywanyk-Kapeniak followed her in-laws to Siberia when they were arrested and exiled. Soon after her return, she was arrested for telling a joke about Stalin (her 8-year-old son was coerced into testifying against her), originally sentenced to be shot, then sent off for 25 years in the gulag.

Her husband had gone into the underground, then emigrated to Chicago, whence he applied unsuccessfully to bring her over after she was released from the camps in 1971. She died in 1988 in Markova.

Olga Sywanyk-Zayats remained in the village, but her husband, Konstantyn, died of malnutrition while in transit to the gulag. She herself was identified as an "enemy of the people" and died of cancer at age 50.

Olena's daughter, Iryna, died of cancer at age 10, and her husband, Ivan Dzhedzhora, also joined the Galicia Division. In the late 1940s she made a fateful decision not to accompany messengers



4 Square Productions

**Pavlo Balatsky interviewed in the village of Markova, in western Ukraine, in June 1998. He recounts the details of the tragic life of his cousin Maria Sywanyk and the turbulent processes of history that scarred the life of his family.**

sent by her husband to bring her out to the West. In one of the documentary's more poignant moments, she is quoted to have said on her deathbed in 1992: "I lost my child, I lost my husband. What kind of life have I lived?"

Also titled "Nezahoyeni Rany" (Unhealed Wounds), the documentary is the creation of Regina, Saskatchewan-based 4 Square Productions and Kyiv-based Novyy Kanal, and was originally broadcast on January 5.

The film's world-premiere, attended by Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow, was in Regina on November 17, 1998. The Ukrainian premiere took place at the headquarters of the National Television Company of Ukraine in Kyiv, on January 30.

The documentary's screenplay was written by Maggie Siggins, a co-owner of 4 Square Productions, who won the Governor

(Continued on page 9)



4 Square Productions

**Jaroslav (Jerry) Sywanyk (in embroidered shirt) visiting his native village of Markova in western Ukraine in the summer of 1998. He speaks to Yaroslav Hladkyi (in cap), Olena Sywanyk's son-in-law and the choir conductor of the local Ukrainian Catholic church, which Mr. Sywanyk and other Ukrainian Canadians assisted in reconstructing.**

## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### The diaspora's mission remains unchanged

Dear Editor:

It is no secret that Ukrainian national identity, language and culture were systematically and brutally oppressed and persecuted during 70 years of Communist rule. During that time Ukrainian national identity and culture were largely preserved through the efforts and sacrifices of the diaspora. With the dawn of Ukrainian independence it was assumed that the basic mission of the diaspora, that is, preservation of national identity and culture, was accomplished and could be passed on to Ukraine, now free and independent. With considerable fanfare, flags and symbols of national identity – including the legacy of Ukrainian National Republic (UNR) – have been transferred to “new Ukrainians” in the old country, while the diaspora was left in a search of a new mission.

Scanning the latest news on the pages of The Ukrainian Weekly it appears, however, that our hopes and expectations for independent Ukraine fell far short of the mark and our celebration of Ukrainian independence might have been a bit premature. Today's Ukraine of Lazarenko, Tkachenko, Vitrenko, Symonenko, criminal clans and the self-destructing anarchy (“otamanschyna”) of the democratic bloc is not exactly what we had hoped for.

It appears that 70 years of Communist rule in Ukraine have indeed succeeded in creating Homo Sovieticus (Soviet man) and a class of ruling kleptocrats (thieves) lacking common decency, humanity or honesty who are prominently seen in the Verkhovna Rada. Homo Sovieticus is doing well and is prospering. These utterly corrupt elites in the guise of “new Ukrainians” have robbed the country of its wealth and well-being, including \$30 billion that the government is looking for in foreign banks, while the population was left in dire economic distress and misery.

It wasn't supposed to happen that way. In 1991 most of the educated opinion in the West was that, of all the former Soviet republics, Ukraine had the best chance of succeeding in the global environment. Endowed with superb natural resources, including the best agricultural land in Europe, with a highly educated population, and the inheritor of an extensive infrastructure of a superpower, there appeared to be no limits to the political and economic potential of Ukraine.

Well, nobody took into account the legacy of Homo Sovieticus. Ethical culture was not a part of his Communist past, and it is absent today. Neither the wealth of natural resources nor a highly educated population can compensate for the lack of ethical culture.

So where does all this leave the diaspora? It is obvious that the road to a truly civilized and independent Ukraine will be long and torturous. This fact defines the mission of the diaspora for the year 2020 and beyond. Our mission remains very much the same as it was for the past half century: to preserve Ukrainian national identity and culture abroad, while assisting Ukraine at the grassroots level. We should re-examine our relationship with the ruling classes of Ukraine. It seems that the time for unqualified moral, political and financial support for the kleptocrats in the guise of “new Ukrainians” is over.

The time has come to direct our efforts at the grassroots, to promoting

Ukrainian statehood by assisting in building a civil society, and raising levels of national consciousness and ethical culture, while continuing to preserve the Ukrainian national identity and culture abroad.

This will be a long and tedious process. However, tentative steps are already being made in that direction. The Weekly recently reported about direct and individual actions taken to help Ukrainian intellectuals, who are and always have been the backbone of the independence movement. This is a small step in the right direction. Hope for the future of Ukraine depends on such small steps.

Ihor Lysyj  
Austin, Texas

### Thanks for publishing article on embroidery

Dear Editor:

Please accept my thank you for publishing Orysia Tracz's articles. I would like to comment on her article on Ksenia Kolotylo. I stand behind her 100 percent on the subject of embroidery that is changed and adapted to personal use as Ukrainian embroidery. Except for very talented individuals who come up with fresh, new patterns, most embroideries are gifted hands-on people.

Had Ms. Kolotylo in her introduction clearly stated that her patterns were “based” on Ukrainian embroidery and titled it to show that, then it would have made a difference in how her two volumes were accepted, especially by those of us who believe in keeping the old embroidery patterns the way they were done in the past.

Now we see new patterns coming from Ukraine and that is the way it should be – folk art is created in the geographical area where it is located. And certainly if embroiderers are interested in copying the present patterns, coloring and embroidery method, it's very well and dandy, but do not change something that was done in the past – that is a part of history. Today ladies do not wear Victorian dresses just because there is interest in things Victorian.

I certainly believe that Ms. Kolotylo is a fabulous embroiderer – but her statements that she was retaining Ukrainian embroidery patterns for the future certainly do not wash with me. Collections of embroidery are certainly very good, but let's not attribute the changed or altered patterns to original Ukrainian embroidery!

Please continue to publish articles not only on politics, but also by authors who might have another viewpoint than that of the general reading public.

Dora Horbachevska  
Philadelphia

### Disappointed by column “Return of the Natives”

Dear Editor:

As a faithful and appreciative reader, and a subscriber of The Ukrainian Weekly for so many years, I am deeply disappointed by your publication of the tendentious, disparaging and ignoble article by Myron B. Kuropas titled “Return of the Natives” (January 24).

As Dr. Kuropas is a historian, I must ask: What happened to his historical objectivity? Where is the truth?

W. Sochaniwsky, M.D.  
Toronto



## The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

### My Irish soul-cousins

As I watched and listened to the “Irish Tenors” singing during the Prairie Public Television membership drive this week, with each song I felt a closer kinship to them and the Irish. A long time ago I heard someone say that the Ukrainians are the Irish of the East, and the Irish are the Ukrainians of the West. Much in our histories is common: a fierce love of land, independent spirit, invasion and subjugation, intense struggles for freedom over the centuries, genocides by famine, emigration, exile, foreigners settling the land, invaders' attempts to systematically destroy the language, history and culture, loss of ethnic lands, and ultimate independence. Both our people have that ancient folk heritage, and we all sing, dance, cry, fight and love.

The three Irish Tenors are not as famous, nor as operatically gifted, as “The Three Tenors” (Pavarotti, Domingo and Carerras). The latter are professionals, who live and breathe by their enormously wonderful voices. They sing whatever is on the operatic or concert program, in whatever language, although nothing melts your heart more than Pavarotti singing his Neapolitan songs –

you can see on his face that these come from his Italian soul.

The Irish Tenors, Anthony Kearns, Ronan Tynan and John McDermott, have other lives. Mr. McDermott is actually a Canadian of Scottish/Irish heritage, who tours throughout North America. Mr. Tynan is a medical doctor, and a champion equestrian, who has won trophies at Irish and international song festivals. Mr. Kearns is a lyric tenor who currently tours with the English Light Opera Company.

What comes across in their faces and voices as they sing the lyrics is that deep personal sense of love of homeland and longing to return home, bitterness over loss of freedom, acceptance of death for that freedom, and immense belief in the return of independence. Many of these songs from previous centuries are now Irish folk songs, while the ones from the early part of this century are the songs of the freedom fighters.

These songs are deeply relevant to them and to the audience; they are personal, nostalgic and emotional. In their performances the tenors sing about and live

(Continued on page 18)

## A Ukrainian Summer

Appears May 2 in The Ukrainian Weekly

*Escape to the Catskills...  
Relax in Wildwood...  
Take up folk dancing...*

*How will you enjoy your Ukrainian summer?  
Read our special section for tips on where to go,  
what to bring and whom to see!  
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**THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY**

## Business in brief

(Continued from page 3)

investment from abroad. The biggest single investment, a total of \$92.1 million, came from Coca Cola Amatil Ukraine. The majority of investments came from the United States, the Netherlands, Britain, Germany, Korea, Russia and Cyprus. The regions that received most investments are: Kyiv, Zaporizhia, Odesa, Dnipropetrovsk, Cherkasy, Donetsk and Crimea. Speaking at a February 16 roundtable titled "Investment in Ukraine: Realities and Perspectives," the chairman of the National Agency for Development and European Integration, Roman Shpek, said the government and the Verkhovna Rada had failed to create favorable conditions for investors, to improve tax legislation and to stabilize the microeconomic situation. He called investment figures "insignificant." (Eastern Economist)

### Odesa attracts bulk of foreign interest

ODESA – Recently released figures show that foreign businessmen have invested \$167.3 million (U.S.) in the Odesa Oblast's economy, making that oblast second after Kyiv in terms of direct foreign investment volumes. Foreign businessmen from 81 countries worldwide are registered as co-founders of over 1,800 companies in Odesa Oblast. (Eastern Economist)

### French motor giant opens showroom

KYIV – Renault Dealer KiyAuto has opened a showroom in Kyiv. "The new salon showcases two models, the Renault 19 and Renault Megane," stated Renault's sales manager, Didier Iver. He said that in 1998 only 400 Renaults were sold in Ukraine. KiyAuto director Oleh Tkachenko said that the dealer network in Ukraine will be broadened and new centers in Odesa, Lviv, Zaporizhia and Kryvyi Rih will be set up. (Eastern Economist)

### Plane project is finally off the ground

MOSCOW – The first test flight of the Russian-Ukrainian TU-334 passenger plane took place successfully on February 8. Development of the plane, designed by Russian and Ukrainian experts, was initially stalled due to a lack of cash. Once testing is completed, the plane will be manufactured at plants in Ukraine and Russia. Twenty-four airlines have placed advance orders with the Ukrainian Aviant plane-building plant for more than 200 TU-334s. Ukrainian, Russian and Slovak companies were among those placing orders. China and Iran have already expressed an interest in purchasing TU-334s. (Eastern Economist)

### Farming sector assesses 1998 production

KYIV – The Agriculture Ministry has announced that meat production in the cattle-breeding industry was up in 1998 by more than 2 percent in comparison with 1997, registering the first increase in five years. Meanwhile in the crop-growing sector, output dropped by 14 percent. Specialists forecast a 10 percent rise in output of the main agricultural crops in 1999. (Eastern Economist)

### UAE delegation meets Donetsk administration officials

DONETSK – Questions of trade and economic cooperation between the Donetsk Oblast and the United Arab Emirates were discussed during a February 26 meeting between Donetsk City Administration heads and representatives of UAE business circles. Donetsk Administration Deputy Head Viktor Khamuliak commented after discussions: "The perspective has emerged of a new market for the domestic piping industry, which will help compensate for the diminished Russian market." Speaking on other export projects, Mr. Khamuliak added, "we are currently discussing producing pipes at the Khartsyz Piping plant for a pipeline in Iran." (Eastern Economist)

### КРАЙОВА ЕКЗЕКУТИВА І КРАЙОВА РАДА УКРАЇНСЬКОГО КОНГРЕСОВОГО КОМІТЕТУ АМЕРИКИ

З нагоди Свят Воскресіння Христового пересилають святочні побажання і вітають Ієрархів Українських Церков, Президента України достойного Леоніда Кучму, Уряд України і його представників в США, Українські Збройні Сили, Українську Всесвітню Ко-ординаційну Раду, Світовий Конгрес Українців, увесь українсь-кий нарід на Батьківщині і в діаспорі, всі організації в США, а зокрема членів УККА і його симпатиків.

Нехай воскреслий Христос обдарує всіх своїми ласками і хоронить нашу Україну та допоможе їй вийти із тяжкого економічного положення та стати на правдивий самостійницький шлях.

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## Ukrainian World Congress...

(Continued from page 3)

entity – Ukraine. Our local political representatives, congressmen, senators, what have you, would talk to us as constituents, but quietly they went back to their offices thinking that we were nuts.

Now Ukraine is a formidable force. Even if it does absolutely nothing, its geostrategic location makes it a focus of policy. The certification of aid for Ukraine by the U.S. happened not because the Ukrainian government had made sufficient progress, but because the U.S. administration was afraid to send the wrong message; was afraid to lose Ukraine as an ally in that part of the world.

The UWC as a diasporan organization should capitalize on this.

**To return to the UWC's relationship with the Ukrainian government, you were recently in Ukraine and had difficulties in securing an audience with President Leonid Kuchma. Was this simply circumstantial or a snub?**

I was told that there wasn't enough time. It could have been a personal snub. I know the president was very upset when Mr. Lazarenko came to the U.S. [in 1997] and was hosted by me at my house.

In Ukraine, if you meet with a person the perception is that you fully support their politics or their positions. When [former prime minister Yevhen] Marchuk spoke at a recent convention of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, the next day a newspaper in Ukraine reported that the UCCA had endorsed Mr. Marchuk for president.

I met with Mr. Marchuk when I was in Ukraine recently and one of his friends wrote in a periodical that the UWC supports his candidacy. But I met with [former Foreign Affairs Minister Hennadii] Udovenko, too, and I will be meeting with Oleksander Tkachenko in May, I hope to meet with Oleksander Moroz, and so on.

My intention as UWC president is to meet with every candidate to present issues that are of concern to the Ukrainian community in the diaspora. We can't do anything about the elections in Ukraine, and we don't intend to interfere, but we can certainly let them know where we stand.

**The new UWC administration seems to be a mix of veterans and new blood.**

I'm actually very happy with both my executive and the heads of national representations around the world. Australia, France, Canada have young blood coming in.

The older generations have done an excellent job, and there is now a new leadership in the community.

Although the December congress could have been more successful, in terms of numbers, in terms of composition of the delegates it was very good and the discussions were very worthwhile.

I have a good relationship with Mr. [Viktor] Pedenko, the secretary general, Ms. [Maria] Szkambara, the vice-president, and believe that I've already established a good working relationship with the entire presidium.

And central to our communications strategy is newcomer Oksana Horikh, chairman of the Conference of Ukrainian Youth Organizations. She'll be coordinating the construction of our website.

Ms. Horikh is very energetic, she has a plan of action as to how to integrate the activities of Ukrainian students, first in North America, and then around the world. She's exactly the kind of person the UWC has needed to attract.

## Documentary...

(Continued from page 6)

General's Award for non-fiction in 1992. The book that garnered the prize, "Rage of the Land," has been adapted for television as a four-hour dramatic mini-series scheduled to air this fall on the Canadian CBC and American CBS networks.

Her husband, Prof. Gerald Sperling, head of the political science department at the University of Regina and 4 Square's other co-owner, acted as executive producer for "Scarred by History."

The director was Guo Fangfang, who immigrated from China to Canada in 1989.

The documentary is narrated by Saskatchewan-based actor Eva Petryshyn.

On Ukraine's end, Novyy Kanal and National Television Company executive Olexander Pelekh was the other executive producer; Alexander Globenko and Anatoly Karas served as associate producers-researchers; Serhiy Mykhalchuk, co-director of photography; Alexey Stremovsky, co-soundman; Serhiy Bondar, camera director.

According to their official press release, 4 Square Productions, the prime movers in producing the documentary, is "a multimedia, multi-dimensional film and video

production company involved in all aspects of film, video and audio production and publishing. We have written award-winning books, directed feature films, hosted documentaries and produced variety shows both in Canada and abroad."

According to the release, 4 Square Productions has a special interest in international co-productions, having completed projects in Ukraine and China, with upcoming projects in China, Cuba, Ukraine and Poland.

The primary impetus for the production was Premier Romanow's visit to Ukraine in 1995.

The Saskatchewan provincial government, through the Department of Municipal Affairs, Culture and Housing and the Department of Intergovernmental Affairs, actually initiated the project and facilitated the contacts between Canada's and Ukraine's production teams.

The Winnipeg-based Shevchenko Foundation provided seed capital for the project, while the Toronto-based Ukrainian Research and Documentation Center provided assistance in research.

Telefilm Canada also made an investment in the \$300,000 (Canadian) production, while History Television and the Saskatchewan Communications Network

provided the pre-licensing that enabled it to go forward.

"Scarred by History" will be shown by History Television on March 30, at 1 p.m. (Eastern), 9 p.m., midnight; then again on Saturday, April 3, at noon, and Sunday, April 4, at 10 a.m.

History Television is carried by Rogers Communications in Toronto and Vancouver; by Shaw in Toronto, Winnipeg, Saskatoon, Calgary, Edmonton, Vancouver and Victoria; by Westman Cable in Brandon, Manitoba; and Northeastern Cablevision in Yorkton, Saskatchewan.

\*\*\*

For further information, History Television can be reached at 121 Bloor St. E., Suite 200, Toronto, Ontario, M4W 3M5; telephone, (416) 967-0022; fax: (416) 967-0044; website, <http://www.historytelevision.ca>.

For viewers interested in sending their reactions to the program by e-mail, the address is: [feedback@historytelevision.ca](mailto:feedback@historytelevision.ca)

Copies of "Scarred by History" may be purchased for \$20 (Canadian) from 4 Square Productions, 1808 Smith St., Suite 220, Regina, Saskatchewan, S4P 2N4; telephone, (306) 525-9888; fax, (306) 525-8588; e-mail, [4square@cableregina.com](mailto:4square@cableregina.com).

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УПРАВА СОЮЗІВКИ



## REPORT AND REMINISCENCE: *Teaching English in Mykolaiiv*

by Roman and Stephanie Karpishka

### PART I

July 1998 marked our third tour of teaching English as a second language (ESL) in Ukraine under the Ukrainian National Association-sponsored program, working in collaboration with the local Prosvita Society in the town of Mykolaiiv in the Lviv Oblast.

Our summer experiences in Zalischyky (1995) and Mykolaiiv (1997) were helpful in preparing us to organize the courses and related field trips, as was the fact of having some of the same students, whose interests and linguistic potential were already known to us.

This way, like other ESL summer teachers – some of whom have had up to six tours of duty – we are being drawn ever more closely to our distant motherland. Even though our passports are “inozemni,” the magnetic attraction to Ukraine and its deserving youth becomes stronger after every trip, and soon after returning to North America plans begin to form about what we will do the next time.

Despite the local economic hardships, the parents of our students were generally supportive of our efforts, and rules were bent to waive the 10-hrv “registration fee,” with Mrs. Skolozdra (head of the local Prosvita) asking for young volunteers to instead do clean-up chores about the premises where our classes were to be held.

We were also fortunate to receive a \$500 donation from the Lachine (Montreal) Prosvita Society, which was applied to the purchase of dictionaries and various video cassettes used in the ESL courses. About 30 videos were transcribed to the European PAL system in anticipation of our 1998 duties, and it was a pleasure to watch our eager students recognize geographic places in English-language travelogues about Ukraine, or recall known eras of Ukrainian history shown to them in English (from “Kniazha Doba,” or the Princely Era, to the 20th century).

This use of today’s video technology was also sweetened by evening presentations of various Hollywood classics (“The King and I,” “Taras Bulba,” “Snow White,” and for a good laugh – “Home Alone” and “Mrs. Doubtfire”).

Book lessons were supplemented by games, and Monopoly required the students to read their chance cards in English, as well as learn the economic principles of “capitalism.” We found that a traveler’s set

of Scrabble was particularly useful for competitive point scoring of words, and dictionaries had to be put to intensive use by the group of advanced students.

Students in this select group were also given greater responsibilities and creative time to develop their English linguistic and literary skills. For example: each had to write a four-page autobiography in English, which was useful for their teacher to identify interests and to better choose which subject matter to focus on during the 80 hours of formal lessons. Also, these older participants (generally age 16-17) had to keep a daily diary, to be submitted after a few days for English grammar and syntax corrections.

In keeping with the spirit of facilitating the teaching of English by relating lesson contents to Ukrainian themes, we selected Ivan Franko’s “Lys Mykyta” for our students to express their poetic talents in blank verse in English. This was rather more challenging in class than they had expected, especially since they had to capture the essence of that famous author’s classic – without producing a rendition of the same, which would merely be a dictionary exercise.

One artistically inclined pupil proposed a compromise on her assignment, and instead of her stanzas created a small oil painting of four rams charging the wolf, at Lys Mykyta’s suggestion, in measuring their inherited fields. The art work was a welcome addition to the Ukrainian cultural identity we were trying to instill in the youth, while expanding their horizons in the use of the English language.

Another series of pleasant classroom exercises was the oral reading of translated short stories by the emigre Ukrainian humorist and author Mykola Ponedilok. His satire and vignettes about the condition of immigrants in North America brought smiles and welcome realism about the trials and tribulations of recent arrivals to the New World. Despite their own desires to project a greater sophistication, some students empathized with the plight of their older “uncles” in the diaspora, and seriously wondered if they themselves would ever encounter similar situations.

It was truly a “virtual” trip, in English, down a nostalgic road that still wanders in the psyche of many displaced persons who remember their own immigration experiences in North America. Despite the hardships of an earlier generation, none of our students were discouraged from someday at

least visiting that great country called America, confirming the rationale for their serious study of the English language.

We took several field trips to the nearby historic city of Lviv this past summer, during which we got to visit the Ukrainian National Art Museum (near the main Post Office on Copernicus Street). There we were fortunate to have as an art guide our Canadian friend and neighbor, Lesia Hawryluk, who also interviewed several students for later broadcast on Radio Canada International.

Unfortunately not all art museums were accessible or open every day – truly a loss of potential tourist revenues in the summer for the people of Lviv. Hopefully this policy will soon change, but even more necessary is a change in attitude by the doorkeepers and “dyzhurni” at those little publicized cultural spots.

Although we did enjoy organ recitals and trumpet music (Shubert’s Serenade) at the former Dominican Church, the reception given to our advanced students at the Stefanyk Library was at first less than warm. A bored magazine-reading receptionist (refusing to accept 6 hrv, under \$3 U.S.) would not allow the purchase of an English Shakespeare book “because the ‘closed’ library was being cleaned that day.” Saying sarcastically that we could phone the director “if we had any complaints,” she provided us the phone number of the library director, Larissa Ivanivna Krushelnyska.

Ms. Krushelnyska did meet us in her office and devoted over an hour of her time to our group, explaining how the Stefanyk Library (the second largest in Ukraine) is the 10th largest in the world, with over 7 million volumes. She also spoke about various new publications and related some of the bureaucratic difficulties she and her staff – unpaid for three months – were encoun-

tering in contemporary Ukraine. Thus, from an initial brush-off, the library visit in fact concluded as an enriching and educating experience for all concerned. We left with the knowledge that determined people, despite their dire economic circumstances, still are dedicated to the preservation of culture in Ukraine.

The experience of negative gatekeeping was manifested also at three other museum sites in Lviv, but fortunately the words that we were “uchyteli z Kanady” (teachers from Canada) opened doors to us.

The “Rusalka Dnistrova” museum was officially closed “na remont” (for renovation), but after entry was gained the students eagerly transcribed (oh, for a handheld scanner) excerpts from original handwritten manuscripts of Markian Shashkevych (1811-1843), who led the literary revival in western Ukraine based on use of the vernacular.

Similarly, at the Novakivsky and Kulchytsky art galleries, we were let in after some begging at the door, but then treated with great courtesy and offered detailed explanations by the director of the former gallery. She recounted how Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky himself, seeing the artist’s talent in Krakow, Poland, invited Oleksii Novakivsky to Lviv, providing him a residence near St. George Cathedral, thus recognizing a major 20th century artist.

Pondering these circumstances it was sad to realize that for Ukraine’s own youth today the doors to such cultural treasures are virtually closed, unless they are lucky enough to be accompanied by an insistent teacher from overseas. Surely, this policy must change, and it is hoped that maybe in some small way these humble comments will open the eyes of officials responsible for the promotion of culture and education.

## Competing visions...

(Continued from page 2)

dimension. If they decide that Europe and the U.S. are moving in different directions on security questions, that, too, may lead some to question the value of alliance membership.

The impact of these differences on ties between NATO’s European members and the U.S., also is likely to grow. Not only are Europeans seeking to play a larger role in a grouping long dominated by Washington and are thus prepared to play up divisions that they once would have ignored, but the U.S. also appears to many of them divided over the future role of NATO and thus open to pressure.

Both Europe and the U.S. downplay any immediate Russian threat. Indeed, both appear to want to include Moscow in ever more alliance councils. But they openly disagree on what Europeans call “out of area” activities and what Americans stress are the major challenges facing the West now: the violence in the Yugoslav successor states.

But the greatest impact of these differences within the alliance is likely to be on relations between the alliance and its individual members, on the one hand, and

Moscow, on the other.

The Russian leadership not only opposes the expansion of the Western alliance to the east, but also believes that NATO – which it describes as a “relic of the Cold War” – should cease to exist. Consequently, it is almost certain to seek to exploit these differences in approach in at least three ways.

First, it is likely to try to avoid any step so overtly threatening as to re-unite the alliance. Second, it is likely to continue to reach out to European countries, such as Germany, that appear most opposed to U.S. efforts to redefine the mission of the alliance.

And third, Moscow is likely to try to play up the notion of a special relationship with Washington, something that may anger Europeans and restrict U.S. efforts to overcome the divisions within the alliance itself.

Fifty years ago, one observer commented that NATO existed to “keep the Russians out, the Americans in and the Germans down.” Today, both the divisions within the alliance and the policies of its members could create a situation in which the Russians are increasingly inside Europe, the U.S.’s role there reduced, and the roles of individual European states far larger and more unpredictable.



Roman and Stephanie Karpishka with their students in front of a monument to Taras Shevchenko in Mykolaiiv.

## DATELINE NEW YORK: The news from A to Z (continued)

by Helen Smindak

### Jovovich for L'Oreal

Movie actress, model and folk singer Milla Jovovich is sporting a different hair color these days – “Cardinal,” a rich auburn brown, identified as No. 67 in L'Oreal's new Feria haircolor line.

As L'Oreal's spokesperson, Ms. Jovovich has been tossing her tresses seductively in recent TV commercials.

Cardinal is a deeper, subtler shade of red than the pinkish hue of the actress's looks in the 1997 movie “The Fifth Element,” in which she starred with Bruce Willis. Quite different, too, from the red coif she wore in Spike Lee's 1998 paean to a high school football star and his imprisoned father, “He Got Game,” which won two thumbs up from film critics Siskel and Ebert.

The Feria commercial, according to L'Oreal, touts “a multi-faceted, multi-ethnic and multi-gender collection designed for women and men who are daring enough to be different.”

In an earlier L'Oreal ad, Ms. Jovovich filmed a memorable commercial for L'Oreal Rouge Pulp, acting the part of a pouting, wise-cracking, cigarette-dangling model.

The Kyiv-born actress, who posed for magazines, starred in films and got herself a record deal by age 15, released a mandolin-enhanced CD in 1995 called “The Divine Comedy,” which includes the Ukrainian folk song “Oy u Hayu, pry Dunayu, Soloveiko Klyche.”

### Kytasty and Buryat music

It was a rare and exotic combination, listeners agreed, as the voices and instrumental music of bandurist Julian Kytasty and Buryat throat singer Battuvshin vibrated on consecutive evenings at St. Mark's Church-in-the-Bouwerie and the La Mama Theater in the East Village.

Five traditional folk instruments were brought into play – the Ukrainian bandura and the old-time kobzarska bandura, the Buryat limbe (flute), the morin khvoor (bowed instrument known as a horse-head fiddle) and the hunkhoor, a similar instrument that is plucked.

Mr. Kytasty is well-known as the artistic director of the New York School of Bandura, as he is for frequent recitals that display his mellow voice in traditional folk songs and ancient Ukrainian dumsy. The Buryat singer Battuvshin (he uses only one name), who was in town to take part in the Yara Arts Group's new production “Flight of the White Bird,” is an expert in traditional Buryat throat singing, which produces a deep guttural sound or drone (sometimes two sounds at the same time: one low, the other high).

At St. Mark's, where the artists performed epic and sacred songs at the invitation of St. Mark's Poetry Project, Mr. Kytasty used recent English translations by Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps in two epic songs (dumsy). In one of these, copying authentic Ukrainian “brother and sister” style, Mr. Kytasty's Ukrainian version was interwoven with the English translation, sung by Cecilia Arana. Another duma, a lament of captives, was sung in English by Mr. Kytasty to music he had created.

Excerpts from “Flight of the White Bird” – an all-sung work featuring the music and legends of the Buryat people who live in Siberia near Lake Baikal – were performed by Battuvshin, a dozen Buryat artists, and Tom Lee and Meredith Wright of the Yara Arts Group.

For the LaMama evening, Mr. Kytasty and Battuvshin presented some solo works, teaming up instrumentally and at times vocally to perform traditional Kobar music, an arrangement of an old kobza dance melody and a couple of Mongolian pieces. Buryat and Mongolian epic songs, presented by Battuvshin and two Buryat colleagues, capped the unusual evening with a flourish.

### Pianists in their prime

The past weeks have brought Manhattan audiences a trove of great piano music by virtue of such outstanding keyboard artists as Vitalij Kuprij, Alexander Mikhailuk and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, all born in Ukraine.

Mr. Kuprij, currently studying at Philadelphia's Curtis Institute of Music, made an auspicious Carnegie Hall debut on March 7. He performed with the 100-member New York Youth Symphony in a program that included Liszt's Piano Concerto No. 1. An award-winning pianist, the 25-year-old artist is also a rock musician who has recorded CDs with his band, Artension,

and solo instrumental albums. He has toured extensively in the U.S. and Europe, and has given rock concerts in Japan.

Mr. Mikhailuk, 29, the first-prize winner of the 1998 Young Concert Artists International Auditions in New York, gave a solo recital at the 92nd Street Y on March 2. His New York debut program included Schubert, Chopin, Bach-Busoni, Shostakovich and Stravinsky works. Two weeks earlier he presented a similar program in a concert at Dowling College in Oakdale, Long Island. He has concertized widely in Europe, and is presently studying in Germany.

Mr. Vynnytsky, an established music personality who is a visiting member of the piano faculty at the State University of New York at Purchase, joined forces with violinist Daniel Phillips and cellist Vagram Saradjian for a concert at the Ukrainian Institute of America. The trio presented works by Schumann, de Falla, Rachmaninoff, Skoryk and Stankovych. Mr. Vynnytsky, a U.S. resident since 1991, and Mr. Saradjian have collaborated as a duo in recent years, making a critically acclaimed debut at Carnegie Hall after winning the Distinguished Artists Award in New York in 1994.

### Pocheptsov the artist

At the age of 7, George Pocheptsov is winning fame and fortune as a sophisticated visual artist.

Young George, who began painting (with markers) before he was 1 year old, has produced over 60 paintings, some of which are priced as high as \$6,600 and \$7,000. And there's a waiting list for his impressionistic, Chagall-like acrylic paintings, according to Boot Harris, owner of the Discovery Gallery in North Bethesda, Md., which exhibits the Pocheptsov works.

During the 21st annual Art Expo held at the Jacob Javits Convention Center in Manhattan on March 4-8, George made a personal appearance at the Discovery Gallery booth and was mobbed by the media and Expo visitors. Some 50 newspapers clamored for interviews, Mr. Harris told “Dateline.” The precocious artist and his paintings were shown on NBC's “Today” show on March 3.

George came to the United States from Kyiv with his parents four years ago. His father has since passed away, and George makes his home in Potomac, Md., with his mother, Dubrova Pocheptsov, who earned a doctorate in education in Ukraine but has begun formal studies here for a degree.

Pocheptsov paintings, as well as prints priced from \$150 to \$450, are available from the Discovery Gallery, (301) 365-8181.

### Polischuk scores again

A new work by American Ballet Theatre principal dancer Robert Hill, “Post No Scriptum,” with a score of the same name by Dmitry Polischuk, will premiere March 30 at a benefit performance at the Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse on East 68th Street.

The five-movement ballet will be danced by the ABT Studio Company, a small classical company that prepares young dancers to enter the American Ballet Theatre and provides opportunities for the emergence of new and established choreographers and composers.

Mr. Polischuk and Mr. Hill have collaborated before, last year on the ballet “Pulsar” and just this past February on a new pas de deux used in ABT's first masterclass of the season. Performed by ABT dancers Gillian Murphy and Marcello Gomes, the pas de deux comprises the final movement in “Post No Scriptum” and was used to demonstrate the process of creating a new work.

Mr. Polischuk is becoming well-known as a versatile composer for ballet and drama. He wrote the music and conceived and prepared all the sound effects for the Actors' Studio Free Theater drama “When Cuba Opens Up,” directed by Bill Hart at Raw Space on 42nd Street last fall.

In the U.S. since 1991, the composer, who is originally from Vynnytsia, Ukraine, has been working with choreographer Margaux Sappington's Daring Project company, in particular the ballet “The Calling.” The company will appear at the Joyce Theater in May. He is presently at work on the full score of an ABT ballet, “Baroque Game,” to be premiered at City Center in October.

### Smishkewych builds a career

Volodymyr Smishkewych, a 24-year-old tenor from Cranford, N.J., is on the way to a promising career as an



Milla Jovovich

opera singer and a specialist in early music, and ethnic and indigenous music.

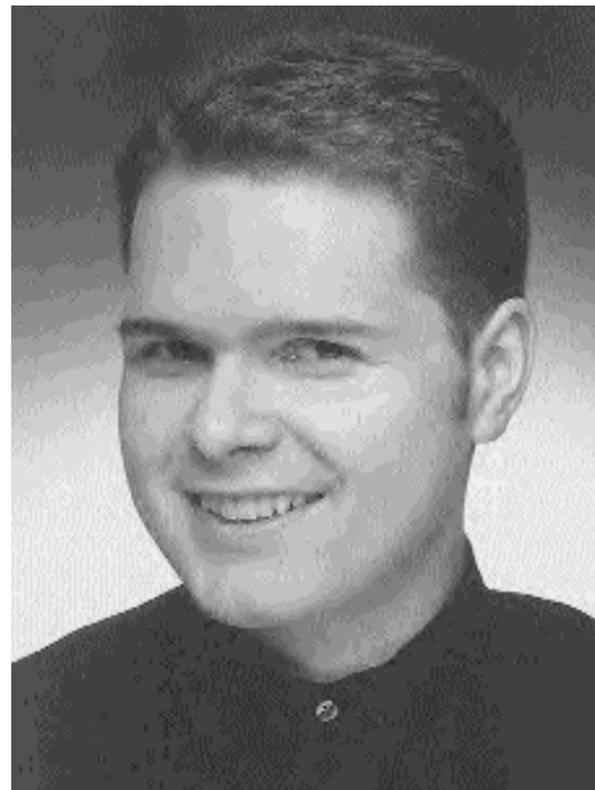
Mr. Smishkewych appeared last month in a program of French liturgical music during the New York Collegium's second program of the season at the Church of St. Vincent Ferrer. New York Times music critic Bernard Holland used the adjectives elegant and delightful in his review of the Collegium performance. Commenting on the “first-rate 16-voice choir,” Mr. Holland singled out eight featured singers, including Mr. Smishkewych.

The young tenor holds bachelor and master of music of degrees in voice performance from Rutgers University, where he was heard in several operas, including Massenet's “Wether,” Puccini's “La Boheme” and Weill's “Mahagonny.”

While pursuing studies in early music performance practice at Indiana University's Early Music Institute, he was heard in Handel's “Agrippina” and as soloist with the Indiana University Baroque Orchestra. An avid participant in ethnic and indigenous music, he has also performed with several chamber and folkloric ensembles in the U.S. and abroad.

As the progeny of a Ukrainian father and a Spanish mother – both of whom came from provinces called Galicia – the tenor is fluent in Ukrainian, Galician and Spanish. He says his research and performance specialty is Spanish early music.

(Continued on page 15)



Volodymyr Smishkewych

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BILINGUAL HOME APPOINTMENTS

## Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

### Professional minor league report

#### AMERICAN HOCKEY LEAGUE

The American Hockey League's new slogan is "The Ticket to the Show," and so far it has been a show with a surprise plot. While the defending Calder Cup champion Philadelphia Phantoms now look very mortal, the doormats of a year ago - the Providence Bruins and Rochester Americans - are poised to take control of center stage.

Here's how things shape up for AHL teams well into the second half of the current season. Teams are listed in order of division standing with special mention of Ukrainian players (in capital letters).

#### EASTERN CONFERENCE

##### New England Division

Providence Bruins - Have gone from worst to best. Lead the league in goals, but strong defense cannot be overlooked.

Hartford Wolf Pack - Enjoy roster stability. Despite close proximity and so-so record, parent Rangers haven't asked for too much help.

Beast of New Haven - Power play has produced nearly half the team's goals. Share affiliation with Carolina and Florida. Trio of Ukes on defense here: PETER RATCHUK (30GP-4G-14A-18PTS-24PIM), STEVE HALKO (24GP-IG-5A-6PTS-48PIM) and JOEY TETARENKO (37GP-IG-5A-6PTS-108PIM). Ratchuk has been up with Florida twice, Halko with the Hurricanes once.

Worcester IceCats - So-so goaltending with no true standouts on roster. Somehow still find ways to win. Defenseman JAROSLAV OBSUT is back up in AHL after starting year in East Coast League.

Springfield Falcons - Forty-three players and counting on roster thus far in 1998-1999. Phoenix and Los Angeles share this club.

##### Atlantic Division

Lowell Lock Monsters - Lost the services of a player (Jeff Libby) when his eye was lost due to a skate blade. Inaugural campaign in AHL. Veteran YEVGENY NAMESTNIKOV (20-7-8-15-18) started strong until felled by injury. Winger RYAN HUSKA (35-3-9-12-51) came over from Blackhaws organization.

St. John Flames - Team expected big things, but recall of top goalie by Calgary put major damper on expectations. Ex-Colorado Avalanche tough guy WADE BELAK comes over as part of monster

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#### TO ALL MEMBERS OF UNA BRANCH 348

Please be advised that Branch 348 will merge with Branch 230 as of April 1, 1999.

All inquiries, monthly payments and requests for changes should be sent to Mrs. Annabelle Borovitcky, Branch 230.

Mrs. Annabelle Borovitcky  
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Theo Fleury trade. Right wing GREG PANKIEWICZ (12-0-8-8-27) saw action in 18 games with Calgary prior to reassignment. Goaltender IGOR KARPENKO (18GP-951MINS-5W-7L-2T-3.34GA-.894PCT) is a back-up.

St. John's Maple Leafs - Franchise getting new home in 2000-2001 after city approved a new civic arena. Winger Jason Podollan one of league's top snipers.

Frederiction Canadiens - Big change: Montreal finally adding numerous young prospects. Most penalized team in circuit.

Portland Pirates - With new ownership and two NHL affiliates, have used over 40 players and seen over 70 transactions. This lack of stability affects performance. FRANK BIALOWAS (29-0-3-3-42) came over in deal from Philadelphia. RICK KOWALSKY (28-3-7-10-57) is a mainstay here. Defender GARY GULASH got into two games very early. Goalie JEFF SALAJKO (2GP-80MINS-0-1-0-5.25-.868) helped out during an injury crisis.

#### WESTERN CONFERENCE

##### Mid-Atlantic Division

Kentucky Thoroughblades - No longer rely on just Steve Guolla to score points, although he still leads the way. Becoming more balanced.

Philadelphia Phantoms - Team defense has tumbled and only eight players had a positive plus/minus rating. Rookie Jean-Marc Pelletier is one of top goaltending prospects around. Defenseman SERGEI KLIMENTIEV (43-5-12-17-99) tallied from the point before being dealt to Nashville.

Hershey Bears - Injuries for parent Colorado proved to be quite devastating for the Bears. Goalie Marc Denis helped keep the sanity when recalls left the line-up bare. Center YURI BABENKO (48-7-12-19-35) is solid two-way performer.

Cincinnati Mighty Ducks - Club relies on a few wily veteran minor leaguers to supply much of the offense. Need consistency and more bonafide NHL prospects.

##### Empire Division

Albany River Rats - It seems like every year some Rat comes out of nowhere to become a star. This year's version is somebody named Jeff Williams. Still young net-minder MIKE BUZAK (31-1576-11-9-3-2.74.911) is New Jersey's third goalie on the depth chart.

Rochester Americans - With seven players in double digits in goals, the team doesn't depend on any one player. Cory Sarich and Martin Biron are Sabre prospects.

Hamilton Bulldogs - Team will be feared in playoffs due to size on both wings and speed up the middle. Edmonton is known for its shrewd appraisal of young talent.

Adirondack Red Wings - Temporary addition of NHL vet Petr Klima temporarily added punch to a can't-score offense. However, this team is tough and could unseat someone in the playoffs.

Syracuse Crunch - Forwards on this team just may be the AHL's most skilled. Greatly lacking here: veteran leadership. Jointly stocked by Pittsburgh and Vancouver. BORIS PROTSSENKO (46-19-16-35-68) is in top three of all offensive categories.

(Continued on page 13)

# Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 12)

## INTERNATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

The first half of the International Hockey League season might have better been called the Houston Aeros' coming out party. Houston will have a number of teams on its heels as the second half winds down and throughout the playoffs in the battle for the Turner Cup.

The International League got younger and the play became more intense than in recent years. The league has begun to show the NHL it also is a good spot for developing prospects. Here's how things stack up for IHL teams.

### EASTERN CONFERENCE

**Detroit Vipers** – After standout Jeff Reese left the team, the goaltending dilemma was answered by Kevin Weekes. Winger PETER AMBROZIAK skated in four games early this season.

**Orlando Solar Bears** – Another club where goaltending was in question, but veteran David Littman is atop the league in victories.

**Cincinnati Cyclones** – To stay in contention and keep drawing fans, team made blockbuster trade while giving up fan favorites. Gutsy.

**Fort Wayne Komets** – The return of Andrei Bashkirov from Montreal has sparked the Komets. It's now or never for right-winger DAVID NEMIROVSKY (38-19-13-32-4), while blue-liner LEE SOROCHAN (40-0-8-8-198) survives in exile after banishment by the Rangers.

**Cleveland Lumberjacks** – Injuries to the parent Tampa Bay Lightning and the 'Jacks have kept the roster in constant state of change. A fourth- or fifth-place team.

**Indianapolis Ice** – After 11 years in the NHL, winger Brian Noonan has settled alongside Dave Hymovitz, giving the Ice a solid one-two scoring punch. Remi Royer is Chicago's top-rated defenseman.

**Michigan K-Wings** – Team's work ethic has improved under new coach Bill MacDonald, hired in June by the Dallas Stars. GT Marty Turco and LW Jason Botterill are keepers. Defenseman BRAD LUKOWICH (52-515-20-76) remains one call-up away from a permanent stay on Stars' backline.

**Grand Rapids Griffins** – Team's stumbling into last place in the conference is in part due to ineffective play of special teams. An independent unaffiliated team. After some time in Calgary TODD HLUSHKO (52-11-12-23-39) surfaced as a Griffin with hope for one last shot at the big show.

### WESTERN CONFERENCE

**Houston Aeros** – A veritable offensive juggernaut as the league's only team to average more than four goals per game. An independent franchise with lots of vets.

**Chicago Wolves** – If not for the Aeros, this would be the premier team in the IHL. Ukrainian-descent Wolves include defensemen PAUL KOCH (33-0-9-9-46) and JEREMY MYLYMOK (40-1-2-3-111). Wayne's youngest brother, BRENT GRETZKY, (17-6-9-15-9) has enjoyed the second half of the season in Chicago after starting 1998-1999 in Asheville of the United League.

**Long Beach Ice Dogs** – This dog pound has been ravaged by the injury bug, losing three regular blueliners for extended periods. Center Patrik Stefan could be top draft pick this summer.

**Manitoba Moose** – After taking a year plus to recover from injuries and raise awareness for child sexual abuse, Sheldon Kennedy returned to pro hockey with Manitoba. Has since moved on to Germany. Left wing JASON SHMYR (43-0-0-0-173) is a bruiser and a battler.

**Milwaukee Admirals** – As expansion Nashville's farm club have experienced first year woes because of parent club's frequent roster moves. SERGEI KLIMENTIEV (10-1-3-4-17) acquired in trade from Philadelphia. May get shot at Predators' blue line next season.

**Kansas City Blades** – Another horrendous start like last season put the Blades behind the eight-ball. Good goaltending tandem. Old Islander top draftee DAVE CHYZOWSKI (53-18-11-29-137), pivotman BRENDAN YAREMA (42-7-11-18-80) and defender DAN RATUSHNY (44-6-24-30-20) comprise Ukrainian trioka of minor league mainstays.

**Utah Grizzlies** – Coach-GM Butch Goring has not found any goaltenders to his liking, as witnessed by a whopping seven different candidates. Yet still a .500 record for the Grizzlies. Left winger CURTIS SHEPTAK (54-6-7-13-99) a regular as third-line checker and instigator.

**Las Vegas Thunder** - Bad News: the Thunder signed and later lost NHL Group II free agents Petr Nedved, Mike Wilson and Drew Bannister. More bad news: the Thunder severed its affiliation with Phoenix. Ex-NHLer RUSS ROMANIUK (54-25-14-39-61) remains one of IHL's top goal scorers. Defenseman NICK NAUMENKO (49-9-18-27-55) came over from Utah and can score from the point. ANDREI SRUBKO (29-0-5-5-108) and ALEXANDER ALEXEEV (7-0-2-2-4) have joined Naumenko back on the Thunder's blueline at various times this season. Back-up goalie KONSTANTIN SIMCHUK (12GP-546MINS-2-6-1-3-29-.901) takes an occasional turn between the pipes.

\*\*\*

*COMING UP: Mini-minor league reviews of those other professional hockey ranks a notch or two below the AHL and IHL in quality: a peak at the East Coast, United, West Coast, Western Pro and Central leagues. Yep, there's pucksters of some Ukrainian descent all over the place...*



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## To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, and the like – we receive from our readers. In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- ✦ News stories should be sent in **not later than 10 days** after the occurrence of a given event.
- ✦ All materials must be typed (or legibly hand-printed) and double-spaced.
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# Kuchma...

(Continued from page 2)

times devaluation of the hryvnia since its introduction in 1996; privatization – nicknamed “grabification” – which never led to the creation of a viable stock market; and huge wage arrears, reaching some 8 billion hry (\$2.5-3 billion U.S.).

The 1994 “radical” plan failed to reach its major goal: creation of a socially oriented market economy designed to satisfy the material and spiritual needs of the people (a slightly modified definition of the communist goal of party programs).

Now, during this election year, the administration felt obliged to propose to the population another long-term program to take effect as soon as the term of the initial 1994 plan expired in 1999. That's how the idea of the “Ukraine 2010” program emerged.

### Program's major features

In a three-hour speech at an economic-scientific conference in Kyiv on March 4 (Uryadovi Kurier, March 10), President Kuchma highlighted several priorities of this new social endeavor.

1) There are three stages to this program: economic stabilization in 1999-2000; acceleration of economic dynamics in 2001-2005, when the GDP will increase by 6 to 7 percent annually; joining the ranks of technologically advanced countries of the world in 2006-2010, when the GDP will grow 8 percent per annum. How such transformations will occur is not disclosed, however. It is supposed that after expected slide of the GDP some 1.5 percent in 2000, it will somehow increase 6 percent in 2001.

2) One possible source of such transformations is indicated: the development of “scientific and technological innovations.” This general outline of development for the next 12 years is aimed at increasing the level of economic competitiveness of Ukrainian goods and creating a viable internal market. Scientific innovations will be developed in such “priority branches” as agriculture, food processing, light industry, construction and services.

3) All these developments will be done within a “Ukrainian” model of economic growth, based on promotion of market relations and increasing the role of the state in this process.

4) The state will support the real economy, first and foremost, as well as all existing types of property: state, mixed and private.

5) In agriculture, the state will support emerging farms, as well as kolhospy.

6) The state will protect national producers without resorting to isolationism.

7) The state will radically increase wages and create a strong national market.

### Analysis of the program

The proposed program “Ukraine 2010” contains several positive aspects. Among them are: a condemnation of totalitarianism and administrative development of the economy as detrimental to the people; an understanding of the necessity of popular support for economic reforms; an understanding of the gradual nature of economic transformations for countries where the elements of the free market were totally eradicated; an emphasis on the urgent necessity of overhauling the pension system and introducing minimum hourly wages regulated by the state.

Meanwhile, the proposed program also contains major methodological flaws. Among the principal ones is the traditional Soviet enchantment with global projects and “round dates.” Mikhail Gorbachev promised that by the year 2000 every Soviet family would live in separate apartment; earlier, Leonid Brezhnev had promised in the “Food Program” adopted in

1980, that by the year 1990 food shortages in the USSR would disappear.

In the same fashion, President Kuchma's “Ukraine 2010” program promises to put Ukraine into the ranks of advanced market democracies, say, France or Germany, within 10 years' time.

The program reveals a lack of understanding of the basic principles of a market economy's emergence (versus creation of a “socialist” one). The first emerged as a natural, though societal, process. There were no theories of “building” markets in the 17th century; they appeared later, in the 18th-19th centuries. The “socialist” economy was created in theory by Marx and then thrust upon society, thus interrupting its natural evolution.

Likewise, the Kuchma program fancies “creation” of a market economy in Ukraine via imposition of a priori formulated measures onto society. This is the same methodology used to build the “socialist” economy; only the label is different. Instead of creating a set of culturally designated conditions for natural emergence (or revival) of market instincts, the “Ukraine 2010” program proposes increasing state mechanisms in all aspects of life.

Another drawback of the program is connected to its hypertrophied expectations. How and why will the GDP will increase from 0 (or a negative number) to 6-8 percent? Who will give money for the development of technological innovations? Who will buy Ukrainian hi-tech products in 2005-2010; who knows which products will be in demand; and why Ukraine is supposed to conquer the world with hi-tech products, rather than with things for everyday use?

President Kuchma concluded his speech with a claim that the economy will be separated from politics. However, an attentive analysis of his speech and the “Ukraine 2010” program gives one the impression that there remains a lot of work to be done in that direction.

## Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

nuclear fuel for now, but that in time the country will also import part of its requirements from other sources. (Reuters)

### Kazakstan, Ukraine hand over suspects

TASHKENT – Seven suspects in the February 16 bombings in Tashkent have been extradited from Kazakstan to Uzbekistan, ITAR-TASS and Interfax reported on March 18. According to reports, all detainees are ethnic Uzbeks, although some are citizens of Afghanistan and Kazakstan, and were found to be in possession of Wahhabi literature. Ukrainian police in Kyiv arrested four Uzbek nationals suspected of involvement in the bombings. In a March 16 statement Amnesty International identified two of the detainees as Yusif Ruzimuradov and Muhammed Bekjon, both members of Uzbekistan's banned Erk Party. Mr. Bekjon is the brother of Mohammed Solih, whom Uzbek President Islam Karimov had named as an organizer of the bombings. (RFE/RL Newsline)

### 92 percent of farms report losses

KYIV – The State Statistics Committee has said that 12,600 Ukrainian farms, or 92 percent of their total number, reported losses last year totaling to 4.3 billion hry (\$1.1 billion U.S.). According to the committee, an average farm spent 29 percent more on production costs than it received from the sale of its produce. Last year's agricultural output decreased by 8.3 percent, compared with 1997. (RFE/RL Newsline)

## The news from...

(Continued from page 11)

Upcoming projects include U.S. and European performances with Theatre of Voices and a production of Stravinsky's "Threni" with Netherlands Opera, directed by Peter Sellars in June and December.

The projected fall 1999 release of a CD by the New York Ensemble for Early Music, "Music for the Millennium: A Mass for St. Marcial by Ademar de Chabennes," will add to his discography, which includes "A Byzantine Resurrection" (a collection of Greek chants on the Focus label) and the New York Ensemble's "Nova, Nova" (Ex Cathedral label).

### VV – volume and vigor

A frenzy of sound, a solid mass of young people standing wall to wall and a shaking floor blasted into my consciousness when I entered the semi-dark Coney Island High Club in the East Village with a group of friends. The Kyiv-based band Vopli Vidopliassova was in town for a one-night stand and the crowd was completely caught up in the Ukrainian fervor and ethno-music rock sound, even though most of the fans appeared to be from Brighton Beach, Brooklyn's Russian enclave.

Fronted by Oleh Skrypka, the four-man band included the songs "Vesna" and "Hey, Liubo" from its 1997 CD in the evening's giddy menu. The music and the Ukrainian lyrics drove the crowd wild, and an enthusiastic fan jumped up on the low stage, waving a somewhat shabby Ukrainian flag.

After midnight, when the passion and fury subsided as the band took its leave and disappeared backstage, I squeezed a path to the stage in an attempt to speak to Mr. Skrypka. The way was barred by their "manager," who insisted the group needed to recoup. "No pictures, no interview. The band will come back in December," he said firmly.

Vopli Vidopliassova (the name comes from a character in a Dostoyevsky novel) first synthesized Ukrainian ethno-music with rock and performed in Ukrainian back in 1988. Immensely popular in Ukraine, the band worked in France for several years, then returned to Ukraine in 1998. It is often referred to as VV, pronounced becomes "Veh, Veh" in Ukrainian.

### Zankovetska Theater actors

The Lviv-based in Zankovetska Theater, its artistic director Fedir Stryhun and his wife, actress Taissa Lytvynenko, made Astoria, Queens, the last stop on their recent U.S. tour. The 14-member group appeared at the Holy Cross Ukrainian Catholic Church hall in "Vertepna Vystava," a collection of traditional and contemporary Christmas-season rituals and carols.

Zankovetska Theater actor Sviatoslav Maksymchuk, though not a tour participant, came to the U.S. ahead of the touring group to attend to publicity matters and plans to stay until mid-May. The renowned actor has been giving one-man theater performances before Ukrainian audiences in New Jersey, New York, Pennsylvania and Connecticut.

Here in New York City, he recited Ivan Kotliarevsky's "Eneida" – a parody of Virgil's "Aeneid," written in the Ukrainian vernacular – at a program dedicated to the 200th anniversary of Kotliarevsky's poem. (He is scheduled to appear at the Ukrainian National Home this afternoon, immediately following the Ukrainian Orthodox Federal Credit Union meeting [around 4 p.m.] )

## Twelve debutantes presented at Chervona Kalyna Ball



Alina Photo Art Studio

Debutantes, their escorts and Chervona Kalyna Ball committee members at the 1999 gala.

TEANECK, N.J. – Over the past 40 years, the Chervona Kalyna Ball has become synonymous in the Ukrainian community, especially among the young, with elegance, dancing and fun. This year no one was disappointed.

The tradition of the Chervona Kalyna Ball originated in Lviv, in the 1920s and was officially re-established in New York City in 1959 by the veterans of the Sichovi Striltsi, who in 1983 passed the patronage of the ball to the Chervona Kalyna Plast fraternity.

On February 13, to the music of two well-known orchestras, Tempo and Luna, in the grand ballroom of the Marriott Hotel at Glenpointe, 12 beautiful debutantes were presented by their parents to the gathered guests. The masters of ceremonies, Orest and Martha Kebalo, announced the debutantes and their escorts who, to the sounds of marches of the Sichovi Striltsi, beautifully executed a presentation dance choreographed by Ania Bohachevsky Lonkevych. Olya Stawnychy was the coordinator of the debutante program.

The debutantes were: Larissa Bohdanowycz (escorted by Volodymyr Chaban), Katrina Adrianna Durbak (Paul Farmiga), Kvitoslava Gorbaliuk (Petro Steciuk), Oksana Irena Huk (Marko Domaradsky), Laryssa Anastasia Huryn (Daniel Krup), Odarka Koshariuk (Adrian Berezowsky), Natalia Teodora Krawciw (Damien Matusiak), Katria Natalia Kuzmowycz (Darko Kocylowsky), Oksana Tatiana Polowczak (Adrian Pyrih), Victoria Melania Rakowsky (Andrew Brodyn), Xenia Rybak (Andrew Nynka) and Ustyia Zorianna Tarnawsky (Matt Hotra).

The chairman of the ball, Dr. Yaroslav Stawnychy, welcomed and greeted the many guests, especially the distinguished diplomats from Ukraine, among whom were Anton Buteiko, ambassador of Ukraine to the United States, Volodymyr Yelchenko, ambassador of Ukraine to the United Nations, and Consul General of Ukraine in New York Yuriy Bohaievskiy, with their wives.

Well over 900 guests danced to the magical sounds of the orchestras and lin-

gered long after the music ended. It seems no one wanted the evening to end. As the last Chervona Kalyna Ball of the 1900s, it was a great success. Organizers are looking forward to an even greater end-of-the millennium ball in the year 2000.

The Chervona Kalyna Ball Committee for 1999 included the following mem-

bers: Dr. Stawnychy, chairman; Ihor Sochan, administrator; Bohdan Tytla, press and tableau; Markian Tytla, flowers; Ms. Stawnychy, debutante coordinator, Marko Dulyk, Marko Lysynetsky and members of the Chervona Kalyna Plast fraternity. The commemorative program booklet was designed by Maria Sochan Tymc.

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# NOTES ON PEOPLE

## Inventors Hall of Fame honors Bell Labs scientists

NEWARK, N.J. – The New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame honored Bell Labs scientists Andrew Chraplyvy and Kenneth Walker and former Bell Labs scientist Robert Tkach as inventors of the year at a banquet on February 18 at the New Jersey Institute of Technology. Bell Labs is the research and development arm of Lucent Technologies.

In addition, Arthur Schawlow and Charles Townes, who invented the laser at Bell Labs in 1958, were inducted into the Hall of Fame.

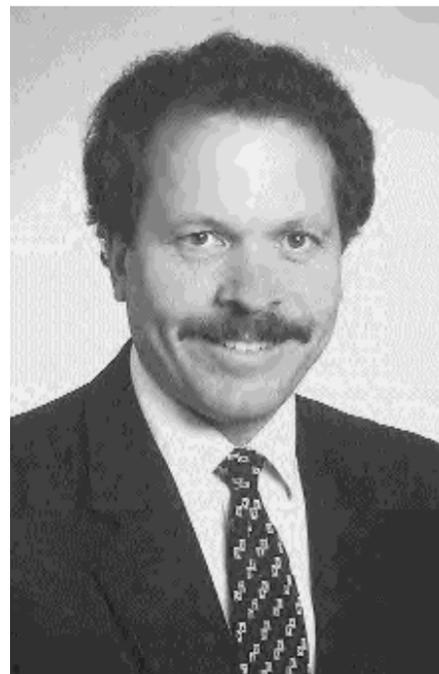
Drs. Chraplyvy, Walker and Tkach were honored for their invention of optical fiber for dense wavelength division multiplexing (DWDM), a technology that allows transmission of digitized information over multiple wavelengths, or colors, of light to increase the capacity of communications systems.

Their invention has been incorporated into Lucent's TrueWave optical fiber, designed for very high capacity communications systems.

The New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame selects its awardees based on the importance of the problem solved by an invention, the novelty of the invention, and its contribution to the advancement of the state of the art, its commercial impact, and its utilitarian or socioeconomic impact. To qualify, an inventor must have completed a substantial portion of the work in New Jersey or have been a New Jersey resident while working on the project.

Dr. Schawlow, now at Stanford University, and Dr. Townes, now at the University of California, Berkeley, in 1958 described the concept and design for the laser, initiating development of a new scientific field and laying the groundwork for a multibillion-dollar industry. Both have also received the Nobel Prize in physics.

Dr. Chraplyvy, head of the Lightwave Systems Research Department at Bell Labs in Holmdel, N.J., holds 17 patents covering lasers, fiber-optics, lightwave communications and optical interactions in solids. He joined Bell Labs in 1980 and has been active in various fields, including nonlinear infrared spec-



Dr. Andrew Chraplyvy

troscopy, high resolution spectroscopy, nonlinear fiber optics and lightwave communications systems.

He holds a B.A. in physics from Washington University, St. Louis, and M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics from Cornell University. He is a full member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society, a Bell Labs fellow and a fellow of the Optical Society of America.

Dr. Chraplyvy is also an active member of the Plast Ukrainian Youth Organization and its Chornomortsi fraternity.

He resides with his wife, Christine, and their children, Mark, Adrian and Natalia, in Matawan, N.J.

Established in 1987, the New Jersey Inventors Hall of Fame promotes and fosters creativity, innovation and invention contributing to economic growth and improving the quality of life. The Hall of Fame encourages recognition of New Jersey as the "Invention State."

The Hall of Fame operates from New Jersey Institute of Technology, a public research university, where a marble "wall of fame" was established in the lobby of the William S. Guttenberg Information Technologies Center. Including the 1999 honorees, the Hall of Fame has inducted 90 individuals and 11 corporations.

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# NOTES ON PEOPLE

## American scientists assess health problems in Donetsk

ELGIN, Ill. – Dr. Ulana Bodnar and five other American scientists were selected by the National Academy of Sciences to assess workers' health problems in the Donetsk region of southeastern Ukraine during the summer of 1997.

Their fellowship, part of the National Research Council's Young Investigator Program, was organized in cooperation with the Donetsk State Technical University. Participants included Dr. Bodnar, then at the Center for Disease Control's State Branch assigned to the Illinois Department of Public Health; Mary Dakin, Ph.D., Indiana University; Capri-Mara Fillmore, M.D., National Institutes of Health; Michael Hemesath, Ph.D., Carleton College; Irva Hertz-Piccinotto, Ph.D., University of North Carolina; and Maryann Suaro, Ph.D., U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

Dr. Bodnar, an infectious disease physician, is now a medical epidemiologist with the Division of Quarantine of the CDC's National Center for Infectious Diseases.

A report on the group's Donetsk mission appeared in the Winter 1999 issue of the EIS (Epidemic Intelligence Service) Bulletin. Following are excerpts from that publication.

\*\*\*

Dr. Bodnar and her colleagues examined how health issues in the Donetsk region have been affected by recent economic, political and social changes. The region plays a crucial role in Ukraine's economy because it contains one of the world's largest coal reserves and is the country's center for heavy industry.

Health issues, however, have remained a low priority because of broad economic challenges. "Political and economic changes in Donetsk have resulted in declining living standards and dramatically rising mortality rates," said Dr. Bodnar. "These factors have heightened labor unrest and have contributed to political and economic instability," she noted.

The visiting scientists first met with Ukrainian public health officials and researchers to gain a national perspective on Donetsk's health care policy and system, occupation health concerns and health statistics. They then traveled to Donetsk, a city of approximately 1.7 million persons located in the heart of the industrial region.

During the next three weeks, they visited various industrial plants, health-care facilities and local environmental institutions, but their most practical lessons came from conversations with Ukrainians whom they met outside of their scheduled activities. Because Dr. Bodnar speaks Ukrainian and colleague Mary Dakin, Ph.D., speaks Russian, they were able to obtain invaluable information that otherwise would not have been available to the group.

"We stayed in the international dormitory at the polytechnic, and each floor had one or two caretakers, who often took on a motherly role," said Dr. Bodnar. "Once the caretakers realized that I was fluent in Ukrainian and Mary was fluent in Russian, they frequently would wait for us to come in during the evening, and we would talk at length about what life there was really like. Of course, they had a keen interest about the United States as well. All of them were retired professionals who took these positions to supplement an inadequate and irregularly processed pension," she said.

From those late-night conversations and visits with family friends in Ukraine, Dr. Bodnar gained a deeper understanding of the average citizen's struggle to survive after the Soviet Union's break-up.

"Unhealthy lifestyles, poor health care, corruption and the slow pace of economic reform due to a dysfunctional Parliament all play a major role in the health problems of Donetsk," she said. Environmental pollution is just one contributing factor. "It runs so much deeper and also is related to the changing society."

For example, to access good health care, the typical person must now provide his/her own linens, syringes, medications and other medical supplies in addition to paying key medical personnel, often twice – officially and unofficially. Moreover, the gap between the wealthy and the poor is more noticeable now than it was under Soviet rule. Many people are unable to pay for basic utilities and food because their wage payments often are delayed by several months.

"So, many people take jobs on the side, legal and illegal, that pay on time and assure an income. That's why you find a Ph.D. cleaning floors," said Dr. Bodnar. "Reform is slow, and it hurts," she added.

Ukraine, like most of the former Soviet republics, is experiencing a public health crisis, explained Dr. Bodnar. Mortality rates are unusually high, and population growth has been negative in recent years. Health care practices and disease surveillance are slow to change. For nearly 80 years the Soviet government pressured health officials to downplay health problems and not make information readily available. "This Soviet legacy is ingrained in every aspect of life," she said. "Epidemiologists often realize they have a health problem, but they may be discouraged from reporting accurate information," she noted.

While visiting Donetsk's "sanepi" (epidemiological) station and observing methods of disease surveillance and investigation, Dr. Bodnar said she was impressed by epidemiologists' efforts to do good work despite difficult circumstances. "An epidemiologist I spoke to at length was very sharp. They collect a lot of information – I suspect more than is practically necessary. However, they have no input into what is tracked because the Ministry of Health determines which diseases are monitored. Standardization is a problem, because there are no case definitions," she stated. The fellows' visit to an occupational hospital also was revealing, even though the tour was designed to show the U.S. visitors only the city's best side.

Because they could speak Ukrainian and Russian, Dr. Bodnar and Dr. Dakin were able to speak privately with several individuals, who offered the group a more candid view of the health-care system. Ukrainian officials co-sponsoring the fellowship program were helpful, Dr. Bodnar observed, "but they were not expecting a group of Americans who could speak and understand the languages used, be mobile in the society, and know the political, economic and social background before arriving."

The six fellows are now preparing a final report of their findings for the National Academy of Sciences.

\*\*\*

Dr. Bodnar is a member of UNA Branch 131. She is the daughter of Chicago UNA activist Lev Bodnar.



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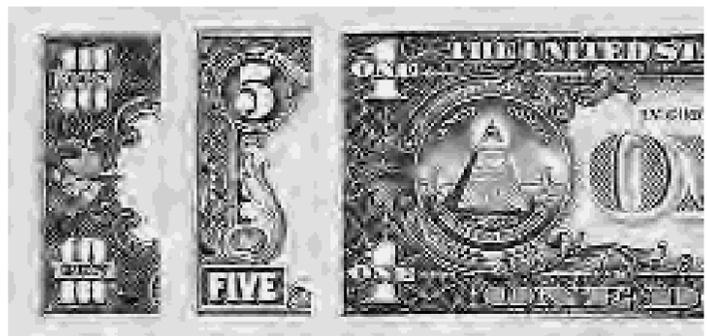
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### Attention, Students!

Throughout the year Ukrainian student clubs plan and hold activities. The Ukrainian Weekly urges students to let us and the Ukrainian community know about upcoming events.

The Weekly will be happy to help you publicize them. We will also be glad to print timely news stories about events that have already taken place. Photos also will be accepted.

MAKE YOURSELF HEARD.

## The Washington Group offers free memberships to 10 students

by Adrian B. Pidlusky

WASHINGTON – The Washington Group is once again offering 10 free one-year student memberships. Thirty-two students have signed on for free membership since June 1998. All full-time students attending an accredited institution qualify. The regular price for student membership is \$15.

TWG is an active and progressive Ukrainian American professionals' association based in Washington. TWG members are found not only in Washington, however, but also in more than 25 U.S. states, as well as Ukraine, Canada and elsewhere around the world.

The purposes of TWG are to establish a professional and business network of Ukrainian Americans in order to promote closer ties and contacts, strive to eliminate discrimination and prejudice aimed at Ukrainian Americans, facilitate close U.S.-Ukraine relations, nourish the development of a pluralistic and democratic Ukraine, encourage active participation of Ukrainian Americans in advancing the welfare of the community (and to have a good time in the process).

All TWG members receive: the organi-

zation's newsletter, TWG News, which includes job announcements; the TWG Membership Directory, listing contact information for professionals around the world in a variety of fields and organizations; invitations to panels, symposiums and lectures hosted by TWG throughout the year; the opportunity to attend concerts, art exhibits and receptions sponsored by TWG; and additional invitations to a wide range of social gatherings, including happy hours and outings.

Recent TWG events include: a Ukrainian Valentine's Day Party at a local restaurant; a forum with the special advisor to the U.S. secretary of state on the new independent states; a performance by the Kyiv Camerata and Leontovych String Quartet; and a happy hour at the Buffalo Billiards Bar and Grill.

All students qualify for the \$25 discount for the June Conference of Ukrainian Organizations in Washington. For more information on the conference see the website at [www.TheWashingtonGroup.org](http://www.TheWashingtonGroup.org), or call 1-888-RX-UMANA.

Contact TWG Membership Director Adrian Pidlusky with any questions or comments by e-mail, [apidlusky@sais-jhu.edu](mailto:apidlusky@sais-jhu.edu); or phone, (202) 667-1831.

## My Irish soul-cousins

(Continued from page 7)

the lives and history of the Irish. Even via the television screen I could feel the intense connection between the singers and their lyrics and the Dublin audience.

A prisoner, after writing words on a cell wall, sings, "Oh, Grace, just hold me in your arms, and let this moment linger, they'll take me out at dawn and I will die ..."

In other songs: "... a land that has never known freedom, and only our rivers run free ..." "... a land brought to its knees ... with their tanks and their guns, oh, my God, what have they done to the town I love so well ..." "The tears have all been shed now, we've said our last goodbyes ... and I miss

him, the old man." "... and I'll be dead as dead I'm going to be..." "The strangers came and tried to teach us their ways, and scorned us for being what we are..."

Then there is the song about Father Murphy challenging King George's troupes, rallying his rebels, until he is burned to death. These are not just songs of a particular war, they are songs about the continuing centuries-old struggle for freedom.

Sound familiar? Can you relate? Our "striletski" (Ukrainian Sich Riflemen of World War I) and "povstanski" (Ukrainian Insurgent Army of World War II) songs express the same thoughts. In them, as in the Kozak songs, there is the matter-of-fact acceptance of dying for one's homeland and the willingness of that sacrifice. There are plain descriptions of death (e.g., having the kozak's eyes covered with the khustyna [kerchief] or kytaika [silk scarf] so that the birds do not peck them out). We know the stories of the messages on the cell walls of Brygidky prison. Our songs about leaving home for a better place across the sea are just as melancholy. The Lemko songs are especially heart-wrenching, both the lyrics and the melody.

The two countries, while independent, still have ethnic lands under foreign rule. Ukraine has accepted its present-day borders, even though so many Ukrainians live on their ancestral lands now within Poland, Russia and other countries. Ireland has signed the agreement concerning Northern Ireland, but that situation still seems to be simmering.

One sad difference came to mind: although both nations were persecuted for their language and culture, Ukrainians are still able to sing their songs in Ukrainian, while the Irish have been singing their battle songs for Ireland in English, the conqueror's language. Yet it is because of this that the world understands their haunting lyrics.

If there were a similar Ukrainian concert, I think Ukrainian soloists would have harmonized more, but that may just be the style of Ukrainian singing (and, probably, they would not be tenors only).

Hearing and seeing those three men sing their hearts and souls out was a special bittersweet pleasure, because I could relate. Longing for and fighting for one's homeland is universal.

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Wednesday, March 31**

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America, 2 E. 79th St. (corner of Fifth Avenue), presents an exhibit of the art of the Ukrainian Easter egg (pysanka) at noon-5 p.m. The featured artist will be Sofia Zielyk, who has demonstrated the art and has exhibited her pysanky at The Metropolitan Museum of Art, Museum of Natural History of New York City, U.S. Senate Building, FAO Schwartz, B. Altman's and the Cathedral of St. John the Divine. She has also appeared on numerous TV shows, including programs of ABC and NBC affiliates. Ms. Zielyk has been interviewed by various newspapers and magazines, including New York Newsday, The World and I, and the Windham Journal. Her Easter eggs are on permanent display at The Ukrainian Museum in New York City and the Embassy of Ukraine in Washington. For information call (212) 288-8660.

**March through April**

**NEW YORK:** Bass Stefan Szkafarowsky will appear in two New York City Opera productions. On March 30, April 2, 8, 11, 14 and 17, he sings the role of Commendatore in Mozart's "Don Giovanni"; on April 13, 16, 18, 21 and 24, he plays the role of Der Kammersänger in Strauss's "Intermezzo." For information call the NYCO, (212) 870-5570.

**Friday-Saturday, April 2-3**

**MINNEAPOLIS:** For the 26th year, ODUM-Minneapolis/St. Paul will be holding its annual pysanky sales and demonstrations at all Twin Cities Byerly's stores. Pysanky, stands, instruction kits, supplies and books will be available for purchase at all locations. Sales and demonstrations will be on Friday, 10 a.m.-8 p.m., and Saturday, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. For additional information contact Valentina Yarr, (612) 378-1676.

**Saturday, April 3-Saturday, April 24**

**WARWICK, N.Y.:** An exhibit of photog-

raphy by Yuri Lev, titled "Hudson Valley Spirits," will take place at the Warwick Valley Winery. There will be an opening reception on Saturday, April 3, at 2-5 p.m. Call Mr. Lev, (212) 639-7705, during the day for directions and information.

**Thursday, April 8**

**WASHINGTON:** The Kennan Institute for Advanced Russian Studies is holding a seminar at 3:30-5:30 p.m. on the topic "Emerging Market Crisis in Ukraine: Lost and Found Opportunities." Featured speaker: Yuriy Yakusha, alternate executive director, International Monetary Fund, Washington. The seminar will be held in the fifth-floor conference room at the Woodrow Wilson Center, 1 Woodrow Wilson Plaza, 1300 Pennsylvania Ave. NW. Please bring photo ID to comply with security requirements for admission. For information call (202) 691-4100.

**Saturday-Sunday, April 10-11**

**WASHINGTON:** Jacques Hnizdovsky's woodcuts, linocuts and etchings will be on exhibition and for sale at William Greenbaum Fine Prints, during the 17th Washington International Print Fair, Holiday Inn, Rosslyn Westpark Hotel, 1900 N. Fort Myer Drive, Arlington, Va. Hours are: Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.; Sunday, 11 a.m.-5 p.m. For more information call (978) 283-0112.

**Wednesday, April 14**

**EDMONTON:** Dr. Dushan Bednarsky of the Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, University of Alberta, will speak on "Grecophiles and Westernizers: Kyiv Scholars at the Heresy Trial of Silvestr Medvedev." The lecture begins at 3:30 p.m. in the CIUS Library, 352 Athabasca Hall. For further information contact CIUS, (403) 492-2972.

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# KONTAKT

**Philadelphia** WYBE Ch.35 Sun. 2:00 PM

**New York** Back soon

**New Jersey**

**Ottawa** CFMT Sat. 1:00 PM

**Toronto**

**Thunder Bay** CHFD Sun. 12:00 PM

**Chicago** WFBT Sat. 4:00 PM

**Sacramento** RCC Ch 20 Mon. 7:30 PM

**Manitoba** CKY Sat. 11:00 AM

**Alberta** Access TV Sat. 2:00 PM

**Val d'Or Quebec** TVC-9 Sun. 8:00 AM

**Vancouver** RCC Ch 4 Tues. 8:00 PM

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