

INSIDE:

- Ukrainian Broadcasting Network goes off the air — page 3.
- Stranded freighter to leave New York harbor — page 3.
- "Dity Ditiem" project helps Chernobyl victims — page 10.

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\$1.25/\$2 in Ukraine

Hryvnia drops in value by 20 percent Gas shortage seen as cause of destabilization

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — A gasoline shortage in Ukraine has caused the destabilization of the hryvnia and a 20 percent drop in its value against the dollar in the last two weeks.

The Ukrainian currency, which had held at around 4 hrv to the dollar on the Ukrainian currency exchange for most of the year, began to fall about a week after gas prices more than quadrupled in the country almost overnight beginning on July 16. Although prices have fallen back by more than a third from a high mark of around 6 hrv for a liter, the currency has continued to decline.

The currency plunge became critical on August 9 when the hryvnia surpassed the upper limit of the currency corridor set by the National Bank of Ukraine at 4.60 hrv to the dollar for 1999. The is a value parameter set by the NBU to foster confidence in the stability of the Ukrainian currency against the dollar and other foreign currencies.

On August 10 the foreign exchange rate for the hryvnia dropped to 5.05 to the dollar before strengthening some.

NBU Chairman Viktor Yuschenko has refrained from using any of the \$1.2 billion in foreign currency reserves that the bank holds because such an intervention would not support the hryvnia. He said the hryvnia will only strengthen after the government puts together effective meas-

ures to stabilize the market for oil products.

"If we get a balanced situation in the market, we don't exclude that we will resort to [an intervention]," said Mr. Yuschenko on August 11.

A day earlier, as the currency slightly rebounded, the NBU chairman said he saw no reason to expand the corridor and that the currency would naturally, move back within it. "It has been an unpleasant brief episode," said Mr. Yuschenko, who has been appearing on national television regularly to contain some of the currency damage and build trust in the hryvnia, which to some degree has been propelled downward by public mistrust in the inherent stability of the currency.

The hryvnia's fall has been exacerbated by a run, albeit a modest one, on currency exchange points, where Ukrainians have been changing their hryvni into dollars in anticipation of further devaluation.

Mr. Yuschenko has stated that the National Bank of Ukraine would black-ball banks that have been exchanging their own hryvni for dollars; he offered a list of 12 such banks, among them several major financial players.

Mr. Yushchenko's restraint has been supported by President Leonid Kuchma, who on August 7 said the fall of the hryvnia was not totally unexpected.

"Look at the state of the economy," said the president. Do you think that the

(Continued on page 13)

Supreme Court overrules Election Commission, admits more candidates into presidential race

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Ukraine's Supreme Court, exercising its authority and independence for the first time on the national political arena, has overturned several Central Election Commission decisions not to register presidential candidates.

In the last week the CEC has been forced by the Supreme Court to register four candidates whom it had rejected after deciding that each one had gathered less than the 1 million authentic signatures that are required to get on the October presidential elections ballot. Each of the four — Vasyl Onopenko, Mykola Haber, Oleksander Rzhavskiy and Mykola Bazyliuk — had submitted more than the required minimum by the July 12 deadline. The CEC had ruled that hundreds of thousands of those signatures gathered by the four presidential hopefuls and two other possible candidates were fraudulent and rejected their candidacies on that basis.

On August 6, Ukraine's Supreme Court, to which all six of the rejected candidates had appealed the CEC decisions, ruled against the CEC in the matter of Mr. Onopenko and demanded that the CEC immediately register the Ukrainian Social-Democratic Party leader.

On August 9 it decided that the CEC had no grounds to throw aside the candidacy of Mr. Haber of the Patriotic Party,

as well. A day later the court accepted the appeal of Mr. Rzhavskiy, who leads the Single Family political association. On August 11, Slavic Party nominee Mr. Bazyliuk found salvation in another Supreme Court decision and was registered as the 13th candidate for president.

The Supreme Court has been basing its decision in each case on CEC's failure to uphold its own procedures. Most notably, the court has ruled that the election commission should have determined within five days of receiving the nominees' signature petitions whether the candidates could be registered.

According to the Supreme Court, when the CEC determined that any of the candidates had gathered less than the minimum of 1 million signatures required by law, with at least 30,000 from each of at least 18 oblasts, it then was compelled to give each candidate an additional two days to scrape up the needed balance.

In each case the court ruled that because the CEC failed to follow the procedure as outlined in Ukraine's presidential election law, it was now required to extend a spot on the October ballot to the candidate.

The CEC has defended its actions and stated that the court is rendering decisions without a full presentation of the evidence.

CEC Chairman Mykhailo Riabets said at an August 10 press conference that he does not agree with the Supreme Court rulings, but that he is following its orders and registering the candidates in a gesture of respect for the rule of law.

"The Supreme Court has not given us any documentation to explain the rationale behind its ruling," explained Mr. Riabets. "They have never asked for a key piece of evidence: the actual signature petitions submitted by the candidates," he added.

The Supreme Court has said that it does not need to review the signatures because it is not questioning the veracity of the CEC conclusions, merely the procedures that were used.

Mr. Riabets said the judicial decisions would be appealed to the Supreme Court Collegium.

The CEC was overwhelmed in the last week before the deadline for submitting petitions, when it received some 15 million signatures from candidates. Mr. Riabets had stated at the time that the deluge of last-minute submissions was, in his opinion, an attempt to clog the system and compromise it.

The candidates, while happily accepting the Supreme Court rulings, maintain that they have each legally gathered far more than the minimum number of signatures required and that the CEC deci-

(Continued on page 13)

Long-lost estate of J.S. Bach's son discovered in Kyiv

by Christoph Wolff

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. — The long-lost estate of Johann Sebastian Bach's second son, Carl Philipp Emanuel Bach, has been discovered in Kyiv, where it is preserved as part of the music archive of the Berlin Sing-Akademie. In order to protect it from being destroyed during the war, the Sing-Akademie's archive, with one of the world's most important collections of 18th century music, including significant and largely unique Bach family materials, had been moved from Berlin to Ullersdorf Castle, Silesia, in 1943. The archive then disappeared and with no information available about its post-war fate, it has been missing for over half a century and long feared destroyed.

This writer, professor of music at Harvard University and dean of its Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, has been following several leads to the whereabouts of the material for more than two decades in connection with

research on the musical sources of the Bach family.

Patricia Kennedy Grimsted, an associate of the Ukrainian Research Institute at Harvard University, who directs a project on Russian and Ukrainian archives, has been searching in Ukraine in connection with her book, "Trophies of War and Empire." The close collaboration between Prof. Wolff and Dr. Grimsted, together with Prof. Hennadii Boriak, deputy director of the Institute of the Archaeography and Source Studies of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine led to the recent discovery. Earlier last month Prof. Wolff, Dr. Grimsted and Barbara Wolff, music cataloguer of Harvard's Houghton Library, identified and examined the Sing-Akademie collection in the Central State Archive-Museum of Literature and Art of Ukraine in Kyiv.

The Berlin Sing-Akademie, founded in 1791 by Carl Friedrich Fasch (a colleague and friend of the younger Bach) and directed from 1800 to 1832

by Carl Friedrich Zelter, presented a celebrated performance of Bach's St. Matthew Passion in 1829 under the direction of Zelter's pupil, the young Felix Mendelssohn. Its music archive contains well over 5,000 items (mostly manuscripts) that have been preserved in excellent conditions. Even before its wartime disappearance, as a private collection without a professional archivist, the materials were largely inaccessible to scholars, and its provisionally catalogued holdings have never been systematically studied.

The estate of C.P.E. Bach (1714-1788), which forms a central portion of the Sing-Akademie archive, includes music by his father and brothers, a collection of works by his father's ancestors called "Old Bach Archive" (many in copies from J. S. Bach's hand) and, most importantly, the bulk of his own compositions in autograph or authorized copies, among them 20 Passions,

(Continued on page 11)

ANALYSIS

Tilting the chessboard in Moscow: Yeltsin names another prime minister

by Paul Goble
RFE/RL Newsline

Once again, Boris Yeltsin has tilted the political chessboard in Moscow, giving himself new room to maneuver by upsetting the calculations of others – at the cost of throwing the Russian government into turmoil.

On August 8, the Russian president fired his prime minister, Sergei Stepashin, along with the entire government, and replaced him with Vladimir Putin, until now head of Russia's Federal Security Service (FSB) and a longtime KGB agent.

In making this change, Mr. Yeltsin said he wants to put Mr. Putin in a position to succeed him as president, thus highlighting Mr. Yeltsin's growing unhappiness with the political coalitions now being formed against him and hinting at his approach in the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections. Further, this latest move – particularly in the context of the renewed fighting in the North Caucasus – raises the possibility that President Yeltsin will seek to postpone those votes by declaring a state of emergency or will try to gain more influence over the electoral process by putting himself in a position to do precisely that.

But any short-term gains he may have made in the overheated politics of Moscow may be swamped both by the probable reaction of his political opponents and the

even more predictable reaction of international financial markets and Western governments.

Precisely because most of Mr. Yeltsin's opponents are likely to view his motives as a transparent threat to themselves and because the president has used similar tactics in the past, political leaders in the Duma and in Russia's regions are likely to redouble their efforts to gain power at his expense.

The electoral coalitions that have emerged in the last few weeks are likely to consolidate rather than crack as a result of Mr. Stepashin's departure and Mr. Putin's appointment. Those involved in such coalitions will doubtless conclude that President Yeltsin's move is directed not only against their current clout but also their future power in the Russian state.

That may make the confirmation of Mr. Putin more difficult rather than less. It may also lead to new demands for President Yeltsin's impeachment and possibly trigger other kinds of political maneuvers against an action that many political figures, not to mention the Russian public, are likely to view as the latest indication of Mr. Yeltsin's arbitrariness and unfitness for office. Thus, once again, it is likely to be proven that the hottest month politically in the Russian capital is August.

Moreover, this pattern of domestic unhappiness with Mr. Yeltsin's move may be compounded by the reaction of the West. Both financial markets and international

(Continued on page 16)

Paul Goble is the publisher of RFE/RL Newsline.

Ukraine is succeeding in spheres of foreign policy, energy independence

by R.L. Chomiak

Ukraine must be doing something right in the spheres of energy independence and foreign policy. One indication of this is the July 17 article in the Kyiv newspaper Zerkalo Nedeli, an article that was summarized by Jan Maksymiuk of RFE/RL Newsline (The Weekly, August 1).

Generally, Zerkalo Nedeli is a serious newspaper, but as does most of the newly independent media in Ukraine, at times it fumbles. The article by Sergei Goncharenko, "Ukrainian Diplomacy Myths," resembles the temper tantrum of a 2-year-old rather than a serious analysis of the political situation – with particular reference to Ukraine's energy supply. One of my journalistic sources in Ukraine claims the author hid behind the pseudonym of Sergei Goncharenko – hiding behind pseudonyms is a device from the Soviet days used for vitriolic articles that unfortunately still has currency in independent Ukraine – and that he must be very close to the editor if she decided to publish the piece that is clearly below the newspaper's usual standards.

The author's aim was to fire a torpedo at Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Minister Borys Tarasyuk for his unabashed pro-Western policy moves, and to undermine Ukraine's deliberate (if slow) moves to seek sources of energy other than those flowing from Russia.

I would describe it as a view of Ukraine's "Russia lobby" – the people who

are dismayed by Ukraine's refusal to return to the fold.

Shortly after the collapse of the Soviet Union, world oil producers began salivating over access to the Caspian Sea reserves, now controlled not just by the Soviet Union and Iran, but by the "upstarts" like Kazakhstan, Azerbaijan, Turkmenistan and Georgia.

Last December in Washington, Cambridge Energy Research Associates held a second annual international conference devoted to finding solutions for Caspian pipeline construction. Ukraine was represented by Valerii Shuliko, project coordinator of the Eurasian Oil Transportation Corridor and by Ambassador Anton Buteyko. Energy Secretary Bill Richardson and Ambassador Richard Morningstar spoke from the U.S. government point of view. There also were executives of every major American oil company and partners of Washington law firms.

The simplest way to transport new oil from the Caspian Sea would be via Iran, with its big infrastructure built to a large degree with American know-how. However, when it comes to oil, politics plays a bigger role than geography or cost effectiveness. At this time, for the U.S., Iran is not an option.

The U.S., however, has an important strategic ally in Turkey, and the U.S. was pushing for construction of a long and expensive pipeline to Ceyhan, Turkey, and from there move on to the world markets. The Ceyhan pipeline would branch off from an existing one, running from Baku, Azerbaijan, to Supsa, a Black Sea port of

(Continued on page 18)

R.L. Chomiak is a Washington journalist who for the past five years has divided his time between the United States and Ukraine.

NEWSBRIEFS

Kyiv reacts cautiously to Russian reshuffle

KYIV – The newly appointed prime minister of Russia, Vladimir Putin, remains unknown to the Western world. Ukraine, however, seems to see few benefits from the shuffle in the Russian government. "Any changes in Russia's government always make Ukrainian-Russian relations more difficult," Vice Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh said. Oleksander Moroz, presidential candidate, former chairman of Parliament and the head of the Socialist Party of Ukraine, said on August 9 that "the resignation of Sergei Stepashin's government will not influence the situation in Russia to any serious extent." Mr. Stepashin was dismissed because he began to "make his own political game" commented Mr. Moroz. Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko said the dismissal is an internal affair, "which may influence Russian-Ukrainian cooperation." He added that "changes in Russian officials often influence the work of the Ukrainian-Russian commission for economic cooperation, break agreements that were reached and personal contacts, and it's very hard to start everything from scratch." (Eastern Economist)

Peaceshield '99 under way in Lviv Oblast

YAVORIV, Ukraine – Military delegations from around the world converged on the Ukrainian military training grounds of Yavoriv, Lviv Oblast, for Peaceshield '99. The international military computer-simulated training officially got under way on August 5. Participants include defense ministers from Ukraine, Georgia, Azerbaijan and Moldova, representatives from military institutions in Bulgaria, Poland, Romania, the United States, Turkey and France, and the military attachés of Belarus, Vietnam, Greece, India, China, Poland, Romania, Slovak Republic, the United States, Finland, Switzerland, Japan, the United Kingdom and Belgium. A total of 1,238 military officials are participating, including 501 from Ukraine and 368 from the U.S. (Eastern Economist)

Canadian flight inspection team visits

KYIV – A Canadian verification group was in Ukraine on August 8-13 under the auspices of the Open Skies Agreement. This is the first visit of Canadian inspectors to Ukraine and is a reciprocal visit, as Ukrainian representatives have already visited Canada. The main aim of the inspection team is to make a training observation flight over Ukrainian territory. The flight was planned for August 11 and was to be made

by an eight-member group of inspectors (six Canadian and two American) on a specially equipped Canadian Air Forces C-130H aircraft. (Eastern Economist)

Supreme Court reinstates Kyiv mayor

KYIV – The Supreme Court of Ukraine on August 6 reversed the decision of the Vyshhorod District Court canceling Oleksander Omelchenko's election as Kyiv mayor. The three-judge civil affairs collegium acted after a protest by the Supreme Court chairman against the lower court's ruling. The Vyshhorod court had annulled the election results after a complaint was filed by two losing candidates, Mykola Hrabar and Hryhorii Surkis. The Supreme Court stated that the chairman's protest "should be accepted in full." The election was the first public vote for a Kyiv mayor since Ukraine became independent in 1991. (Associated Press)

Kyiv struggles to avoid loan default

KYIV – The Finance Ministry on August 5 said some 50 percent of its Eurobonds sold through Merrill Lynch have been converted into new Eurobonds maturing in February 2001. Ukraine sold some \$400 million in T-bills through Merrill Lynch in 1997 and was to have redeemed them last September. It needs around \$3.5 billion to service debts by the end of 2000, but the National Bank of Ukraine has only \$1.3 billion and is dependent on the IMF's \$2.6 billion loan program. A government delegation was to visit the International Monetary Fund's headquarters in Washington to seek new loans. "We have agreed on some questions but others demand an elaboration of positions and wordings," the Associated Press quoted Vice Prime Minister Serhii Tyhytko as saying. Ukraine is counting on receiving some \$180 million in IMF credits this month. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Military parade slated for August 24

KYIV – A military parade marking the eighth anniversary of Ukraine's independence will be held in Kyiv on August 24 starting at 10 a.m. on Independence Square. According to the Kyiv City Administration, 122 units will participate, including 36 aircraft and 14 parade battalions from the armed forces, National Guard, State Border Guard and Internal Affairs Ministry forces. The Kyiv City Administration on August 3 agreed to allocate 70,000 hrv to the 72nd Mechanized Division for helping organize the parade and feed the soldiers. The parade is being funded by the state budget. (Eastern Economist)

(Continued on page 4)

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Ukrainian Broadcasting Network goes off the air, citing financial crisis

by Irene Jarosewich

FORT LEE, N.J. – The last day of broadcasts for the Ukrainian Broadcasting Network's satellite radio and television programming from Ukraine and its five-day-a-week morning AM radio program, "Ranok z Namy," which serves the New York, New Jersey and Connecticut area, was August 6.

Due to a severe financial crisis at SkyView World Media (formerly Ethnic American Broadcasting Company), the owner of Ukrainian Broadcasting Network (UBN), the company is undergoing a restructuring that includes the elimination of its weakest networks, among them UBN. Also eliminated were the Italian and Filipino networks. Among those remaining are the Russian, subcontinent Indian, Greek, Vietnamese, Chinese, and Arabic networks.

According to Ihor Dlaboha, UBN's general manager, revenue from subscriptions, advertising and equipment sales to the only 24-hour-a-day Ukrainian language satellite network fell short of the projected revenue required to justify keeping the network going. The network provided newscasts, films, as well as broadcasts of historical, political and cultural programs from Ukraine on radio and television.

UBN made its own direct contracts with programming suppliers in Ukraine, having signed its first memorandum of agreement in 1996 with then-Minister of Information Zinovii Kulyk, head of the umbrella broadcast media agency Ukrainian State Television and Radio Company (Derzhtele-radio).

UBN then signed contracts with Ukraine's radio and television companies, as well as Konsern RRT, the state technical facility that handled the satellite transmission from Ukraine to the United States. According to Mr. Dlaboha, UBN paid for

all the programming, as well as for the satellite transmissions from Ukraine, which over the years totaled several million dollars.

Mr. Dlaboha cited some of the causes of UBN's demise, among them his observation that Ukrainians in the United States do not exist as a marketing or commercial entity. There is no large, centralized databank of names, addresses and phone numbers of Ukrainian Americans that vendors, advertisers and others can tap into, no statistics about Ukrainians or Ukrainian language speakers. Therefore, he says, as far as business is concerned, "nobody believes we exist," despite demographic information that there are more than a million Ukrainians in the United States.

Another problem is the differences within the market - Ukrainian language speakers from previous immigrations differ greatly from the those in the past 20 years. Also, he noted, many people cited disillusionment with Ukraine as a reason to not subscribe. Also, for many older Ukrainian Americans, the technical aspect (UBN required installation of a small satellite dish to receive the transmissions) was daunting.

The Greek community, noted Mr. Dlaboha, which joined SkyView later than the Ukrainian service, had three times as many subscribers as UBN, despite competition from other Greek networks; the Russian network prides itself on having more than 60,000 satellite and cable subscribers. (RTN, the oldest Russian-language cable network in the United States, was recently bought by SkyView.) The Vietnamese network, said Mr. Dlaboha, was able to sign up more people in two months than UBN did in one year.

According to Mr. Dlaboha, at present SkyView Media has no plans to again consider Ukrainian programming.

U.S. House of Representatives passes foreign aid legislation

by Michael Sawkiw Jr.

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – After four days of debate and introduction of amendments on the House floor, the U.S. House of Representatives passed the foreign aid bill on August 3. In an overwhelming show of support for U.S. programs overseas, the members of Congress voted 385-35 for the \$12.6 billion foreign aid bill.

The president has threatened to override the foreign aid bill due to its low levels of funding as compared to the proposal he had submitted.

The House bill including of \$725 million for the FREEDOM Support Act (FSA) for the Independent States (IS) of the former Soviet Union. This funding level falls far short of the president's request of \$1.032 billion, of which a sizable portion (\$250 million) was designated for nuclear threat reduction (NTR) programs in Russia.

The bill notes that it "renames the heading 'Assistance to the Independent States of the Former Soviet Union,' dropping the word 'new' after nine years." Like most House bills, country-specific earmarks are deleted from the final version of the proposed law.

The House bill also limits U.S. foreign assistance to any one country in the IS/FSU to no more than 25 percent of the entire funding level for the FSA account, or approximately \$180 million.

Consideration of certification language for Ukraine was removed from the bill. In the bill's report language, the appropriations

committee states: "During the past two years, as an incentive for Ukraine to support necessary reform efforts and end harassment of American investors, the Foreign assistance Appropriations Act included language that withheld one-half of Ukraine's Assistance." The committee recommends that linking U.S. assistance to specific investor's problems will not change the situation in Ukraine as much as continuing support for humanitarian help, "partnerships and others forms of cooperation with non-governmental organizations in Ukraine ... and technical assistance to reform-minded local and regional governments."

Emphasis in the House bill was also placed on private-sector development in Ukraine. "Universal access to information," states the House bill, "gives small-scale producers information about market conditions that allow their businesses or farms to succeed." Furthermore, direct U.S. foreign assistance to Ukraine's central government is frowned upon by the House appropriations committee and thus requires the coordinator of U.S. foreign assistance to the NIS to consult with the committee before making any such decisions. Instead, the committee proposes that "community-based initiatives help create jobs and increase production as they expose communities to democratic processes."

Since the House and Senate versions of the foreign aid bills differ in their amounts and programs, a conference committee will be called in September (following the August congressional recess) to finalize a compromise bill.

Stranded freighter to leave port Ukrainian veterans provide assistance to crew

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – The Ukrainian freighter Znamia Oktiabria (Banner of October) that has been waiting for new shipping orders since April finally has been scheduled to take on cargo and head to the Caribbean.

The ship was to pick up 260 used cars and trucks on Thursday, August 12, at the Howland Hook Container Terminal on Staten Island and to transport them to the Dominican Republic and Haiti.

For four months the ship of Ukrainian sailors with a crew of 23 men and three women had been stranded in New York Harbor without replenished food supplies, paychecks or further sailing orders. The 3,900-ton vessel arrived on April 13 after its last delivery of cars and trucks – a routine trip it had been making every two weeks for two years, company officials said. But the crew was halted because of the shipping company's bureaucratic procedures and some canceled shipments.

The ship's master, Capt. Aleksandr Golub, 62, had repeatedly requested sufficient supplies and was repeatedly denied aid from the shipowner's American representative, Capt. Vladimir Shamshin. Speaking through the New York Times, Capt. Golub reiterated his plea for supplies to the ship's owners, the Azov Shipping Co., based in Mariupol, Ukraine. Only one shipment, a 22-day supply of food, was received on July 1, which the crew managed to stretch out

for 30 days.

The plight of these sailors aboard the Banner of October had not gone unnoticed by the Ukrainian American community as well as the Westchester County (N.Y.) community. The Ukrainian American Veterans, the Seaman's Church Institute and the U.S. Coast Guard took on responsibility.

The newly formed Post 301 of the Ukrainian American Veterans in Yonkers, N.Y., has been a particularly strong supporter of the assistance mission. Taras Szczur, post commander, took charge of collecting boxes of bottled water, meat, rice, watermelons, cans of tomato sauce, pasta, crates of carrots and liquor which were shipped to the sailors on August 3. The 1,000 pounds of donated food and supplies were enough to feed the sailors for several days.

According to The Journal News, after Mr. Szczur, Mr. Skirka (vice-commander) and 13-year-old Roman Mikula generously delivered these provisions, Capt. Golub ran to the side of the ship and yelled graciously, "All happy. So, so happy!"

This dedicated post of veterans had carried out a similar mission for another Azov ship, the Mikhail Senko on April 16 of this year.

On August 2 yet another Azov ship, the Viktor Talilikhin, arrived in the harbor and is being closely watched by the Coast Guard, the Seaman's Church Institute and Ukraine's Consulate General.

BUSINESS IN BRIEF

AmCham members confer with Tyhytko

KYIV – U.S. Chamber of Commerce (known as AmCham) members expressed understanding of Ukraine's difficult economic situation and extended their positive appraisal of efforts taken by the president, Cabinet of Ministers and the National Bank of Ukraine to stabilize current economic disequilibrium. They also voiced readiness to further cooperate with Ukraine, especially in investment projects during a July 28 meeting with Serhii Tyhytko, vice prime minister for the economy. In describing Ukraine's current situation, Mr. Tyhytko focused on indicators of socio-economic development. In the course of discussion, participants drew the minister's attention to the instability of Ukraine's tax legislation which is a serious obstacle to investing in the economy. Mr. Tyhytko, in turn, informed the gathering that the Verkhovna Rada had passed a law on product-sharing agreements," changes to the laws on value-added and income taxes, and a draft tax code. Company officials present said these measures were indeed devised to straighten out certain nuances that raise fears among foreign investors. (Eastern Economist)

Dutch ambassador eyes Sumy investment

SUMY – Dutch Ambassador to Ukraine Onno Hatting van't Sant visited Sumy Oblast on July 29-31 at the invitation of Sumy Oblast State Administrator Volodymyr Scherban. "I'm impressed by the quantity of businessmen and investment projects I saw on the first day of my visit to Sumy," said the ambassador. He held negotiations with three oblast state administration vice-chairs, the mayor of Shostka, and officials from several large chemical, agricultural and machine-building enterprises. Mr. Sant promised to help to carry out a tender among Dutch companies to invest in some local projects. Holland will offer its technologies in the pork, forage and dairy industries. (Eastern Economist)

Business booming in metals for Donetsk

DONETSK – Donetsk Oblast saw 245 objects privatized in the first half of 1999, the target being 400, announced Volodymyr Altyynyk, head of the Donetsk regional branch of the State Property Fund on July 28. According to his data, 1.414 million hrv of privatization revenues have been transferred to the SPF and 1.495 million hrv to local budgets. In that period, investments in the region totaled 177.5 million hrv and \$20.08 million (U.S.), which exceeds the amount envisaged in stocks sale contracts. The largest investment, a total of US \$58.08 million (U.S.), came from the Metals Russia company to the Donetsk Metals Works. Stock sales in the first half of 1999 totaled 1.95 million hrv, 277 rent contracts were signed and 3.985 million hrv were received in rentals. (Eastern Economist)

Ukraine's grain crop predicted to grow

KYIV – Government agricultural specialists said on July 27 that Ukraine's farmers had harvested 13.3 million tons of grain – 750,000 tons more than in 1998. According to government experts, the early grain crop yield in 1999 will be much lower than in 1998, at 22.1 metric centners per hectare. In 1998 the yield was 23.9 metric centners per hectare. The government is confident, however, that the yield decrease will not affect the total crop since grain areas in 1999 are larger. (Eastern Economist)

(Continued on page 19)

OBITUARY: Edward Dmytryk, Hollywood film director

ENCINO, Calif. – Edward Dmytryk, a versatile film director who worked with some of Hollywood's biggest stars to create an array of memorable movies, and whose film legacy was overshadowed by his decision to ultimately cooperate with the House Un-American Activities Committee (HUAC) investigation into Communist infiltration of the film industry in the 1940s, died at his home on July 1 at the age of 90.

As one of the "Hollywood 10," a group of screenwriters, directors and producers who were cited for contempt of Congress by the HUAC for refusing to acknowledge a Communist affiliation – he served a four-and-a-half-month sentence at a Federal prison camp in West Virginia.

"When I die, I know the obits will first read – 'One of 'Hollywood's Unfriendly 10', not – director of 'The Caine Mutiny,' 'The Young Lions,' 'Raintree Country' and other films,'" he was quoted by The New York Times as having said a decade ago.

Mr. Dmytryk was a rising young director at RKO Pictures when he joined the Communist Party of the United States (CPUS) in 1944, using the name Michael Edward. When the party changed its name to the Communist Political Association he joined again – this time under his own name.

Mr. Dmytryk was subpoenaed by the HUAC in 1947. Believing that the committee was unconstitutional, he refused to tell the committee whether he was a Communist during his initial HUAC testimony.

After his release from prison he was blacklisted by the major studios and unable to find work.

In 1951 he reappeared before the panel, acknowledged that he had been a Communist Party member from 1944 to 1945 and confirmed other witnesses' party membership.

The motivation for his decision to reappear before the panel continues to be variously ascribed by different newspapers.

Citing his 1978 autobiography, "It's a Hell of a Life, but Not a Bad Living," The New York Times noted that in looking for a way to break the blacklist, Mr. Dmytryk concluded: "I had to purge myself: Hollywood's right wing had to have its pound of flesh. They were riding high now, and there was no way they were going to let anyone off the hook. It was an eye-for-eye attitude, but who could blame them?"

On the other hand, the Associated Press reported that Mr. Dmytryk acknowledged a Communist affiliation and "named names" only after he finished his jail term, quoting him as having remarked in 1988 that he hadn't done so before "because they would call me a coward; they'd say I was doing it simply to stay out of jail."

"I had long been convinced that the fight of the Hollywood 10 was political, that the battle for freedom of thought, in which I believed completely, had been twisted into a conspiracy of silence. I was being forced to sacrifice my family and my career in defense of the Communist Party, from which I had long been separated and which I had grown to dislike and distrust.

"My decision was made easier," he continued, because "my experience as an actual party member had been rather meager, and I couldn't name anybody who hadn't already been identified."

Dr. Myron Kuropas in a column titled "Hollywood Reds" (The Ukrainian Weekly, April 18), refers to the book "Odd Man Out: A Memoir of the Hollywood Ten," where Mr. Dmytryk describes how he came to his agonizing decision. "You know they talk democracy but prepare the way for the most inhuman autocracy in human history ... why are you still protecting them? Could you still be searching for utopia? Or could you still believe there is a possibility of a decent world through Stalinism?"

Controversy continued to surround Mr. Dmytryk for the remainder of his career. In 1988 the Barcelona Film Festival organized a symposium about

the Hollywood blacklisting of the 1950s at which Mr. Dmytryk was publicly denounced by three of the original "Hollywood 10."

Mr. Dmytryk's early films included "Hitler's Children," "Behind the Rising Sun," anti-Fascist melodramas; the thrillers "Murder, My Sweet?" (1944) and "Cornered" (1945); "Back to Bataan" with John Wayne, and "Till the End of Time," a drama of returning soldiers.

In the period of the Red Scare, he had been nominated for an Academy Award as best director for "Crossfire," a powerful film about anti-Semitism starring Robert Ryan, Robert Mitchum and Robert Young.

After recanting, he returned to a successful career directing "The Caine Mutiny" with Humphrey Bogart in 1954. In the mid-1950s and '60s he directed major films including "The Broken Lance" with Spencer Tracy; Graham Greene's "The End of the Affair" with Deborah Kerr; "The Left Hand of God" with Bogart and Gene Tierney; "Soldier of Fortune" with Clark Gable; "Raintree County" with Elizabeth Taylor and Montgomery Clift; and "The Young Lions" with Marlon Brando, Mr. Clift and Dean Martin.

He continued to make films with big stars until his career waned in the '70s. These movies included "Warlock" with Richard Widmark and Henry Fonda; "A Walk on the Wild Side" with Jane Fonda, Barbara Stanwyck and Laurence Harvey; "The Carpetbaggers" with George Peppard and Alan Ladd; "Where Love Has Gone" with Bette Davis and Susan Hayward; and "Bluebeard" with Richard Burton.

Edward Dmytryk was born on September 4, 1908, in Grand Forks, British Columbia, the second of four sons of Ukrainian immigrant parents. His father, Michael, succeeded in slipping the family into the U.S. to avoid being interned by the Canadian government during World War I for having immigrat-

(Continued on page 13)

Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

Privatization of energy sector ordered

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on August 3 signed a decree ordering the sale of 26-35 percent of shares in four energy giants that control thermal power plants and are majority-owned by the state, the Associated Press reported. At the same time, Mr. Kuchma ordered the sale of majority stakes in seven regional electricity distributors and of 26-45 percent of shares in another 12 such companies. This attempt to privatize Ukraine's energy sector comes three months after the Procurator General's Office moved to revoke privately owned stakes in seven energy-distribution companies on charges of financial machinations. (RFE/RL Newline)

President signs law raising pension

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed a law raising the minimum monthly pension from 16.6 hrv (\$4.15) to 24.9 hrv, the Associated Press reported on August 3. The Parliament adopted the law in mid-July after failing to overrule Mr. Kuchma's veto on a previous bill that would have raised the minimum monthly pension to 55 hrv. Under the signed law, those pensioners receiving less than 46 hrv a month will be paid a special living allowance of up to 21.1 hrv. (RFE/RL Newline)

Kuchma OKs peacekeeping contingent

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma signed a law on sending 800 Ukrainian peacekeepers to Kosovo, the Associated Press reported. Ukrainian officials said the contingent will include a 100-bed military hospital with 246 personnel, a four-helicopter unit with 90 servicemen, a 108-strong logistics company with 17 armored vehicles, and a 356-strong motorized infantry battalion. The U.S. has pledged financial assistance to install the Ukrainian contingent in Kosovo. (RFE/RL Newline)

Inspectors arrive to certify chopper unit

LVIV – A group of four inspectors from NATO headquarters arrived in Lviv on August 9 to certify the helicopter unit belonging to Ukraine's armed forces that is to make up part of Ukraine's peacekeeping contingent in the KFOR multinational peacekeeping force in Kosovo. It is expected that the results of the inspection will be released on August 16. The unit consists of four Mi-18 transport helicopters and 90 servicemen. If the inspection is successful, the helicopters will leave by August 23 for Macedonia, where they will wait for the remainder of Ukraine's peacekeepers. Then, Ukraine's peacekeepers will head for a small settlement near Skopje, where they will be based. There, side by side with U.S. servicemen under whose control they will serve, Ukraine's personnel will carry out their mission. (Eastern Economist)

IMF mission mum on new tranche

KYIV – An IMF mission left Ukraine on August 2 without recommending the release of a new tranche of the International Monetary Fund's \$2.6 billion loan program, the Associated Press reported. An IMF statement summing up the mission's two weeks of work noted that so far this year tax revenues have been lower than expected, while recent tax legislation changes have further diminished expected revenues. The IMF promised to resume discussion with Ukraine at the end of August after the government takes steps to slash spending and increase budget revenues. (RFE/RL Newline)

UNWLA holds "Soyuzianka Day" at Jersey shore



During "Soyuzianka Day" at the Jersey shore, seated are: (from left) Nadia Bihun, Olha Hnateyko, Joanna Ratych, Maria Polanskyj, Iryna Kurowyckyj, Anna Krawczuk and Luba Bilowchutchuk.

by Anna Krawczuk

SANDY HOOK, N.J. – The New Jersey Regional Council of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America held its annual "Soyuzianka Day" here at Clearwater. Not even the heat-wave prevented members and guests from attending and enjoying the Jersey shore, its fresh air, sandy beaches and saltwater bathing.

Regional Council President Maria Polanskyj greeted members and guests,

among them UNWLA President Iryna Kurowyckyj, Honorary President Anna Krawczuk, Honorary Member Joanna Ratych, New Jersey Regional Council Honorary Presidents Nadia Bihun and Olha Hnateyko, (Mrs. Hnateyko is also president of The Ukrainian Museum in New York current president, Scholarship Chair Luba Bilowchutchuk, and Viktor and Olha Liss, who donated land in Putnam Valley, N.Y. to the UNWLA for a Soyuzianka Home.

In an informal, friendly outdoor

atmosphere Mrs. Kurowyckyj reviewed UNWLA activities, emphasizing the need for new members and the celebration of the 75th anniversary of the UNWLA in the year 2000.

She also reported on the UNWLA's sponsorship of and participation in the Joint Conference of Ukrainian American Organizations in June.

Later, an informal program was presented by the UNWLA's New Jersey branches, followed by the singing of Ukrainian folk and other songs.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

A mid-year review of organizing achievements

by **Martha Lysko**
UNA National Secretary

Andrij Skyba and Jacek Koczarski once again lead in the Ukrainian National Association's organizing activity. During the first half year of 1999 the top organizers were Mr. Koczarski, a professional organizer, and Mr. Skyba, a UNA advisor and secretary of UNA Branch 399. Since January through the end of June Mr. Koczarski enrolled 52 members insured for \$334,000. Mr. Skyba enrolled 23 members insured for \$230,000. In third place is the secretary of UNA Branch 496 in the state of Washington, Myron Pylypiak. Though he is in third place during this report period, having enrolled 16 members insured for \$105,000, he has often been the top organizer in past years.

The UNA set its quota for 1999 at 1,250 new members. As of the end of June the UNA gained 291 members, or 23 percent of the annual quota. Our top three organizers are responsible for 31 percent of the quota attained thus far. The UNA has 259 branches in 27 districts. Thus, it appears that only 22 percent of branches have actively participated in organizing work.

Nine members each were successfully added by the Rev. Dr. Myron Stasiw, UNA director for Canada; and our long-time professional organizer John Danilack. Branch 360 Secretary Joseph Hawryluk enrolled eight members. Six

members each were enrolled by three secretaries; three secretaries enrolled five members each; six enrolled four each; nine enrolled three each; and 18 secretaries enrolled one member each into the UNA. Only 58 secretaries joined in our organizing campaign. Among them is Advisor Skyba, who seriously took on organizing work since he was elected to that position at the 1998 convention. He not only represents the UNA in the Chicago District, but also increases our organization's membership.

The Northern New Jersey District Committee is in first place among districts, having gained 73 members out of its designated quota of 130 members. The district has attained 56 percent of its annual quota. In second place is the Buffalo District which, thanks to Mr. Hawryluk who enrolled eight of the 11 new members gained by that district. The Buffalo District has fulfilled 55 percent of its quota for 1999. The "United Branches" are in third place, having achieved 52 percent of their annual quota. Has your branch enrolled a member this year?

A half year has already passed, and all districts must reactivate their organizing work so they are not left behind. Half-year statistics on organizing activity are provided on the right.

(Translated from the original Ukrainian by The Ukrainian Weekly.)

SEMI-ANNUAL ORGANIZING RESULTS: JANUARY TO JUNE 1999

Number of districts	27
Number of branches	259
Enrolled new members	291
Total insurance	\$2,867,023.00
Average amount of insurance per person	\$9,852.31
Assigned quota	1,250
Quota achieved	23.28%

District	Quota 4.5%	New members	Percentage quota Achieved	Total insurance
1. Northern New Jersey	130	73	56.15%	\$684,562.00
2. Buffalo	20	11	55.00%	\$173,000.00
3. Various	50	26	52.00%	\$239,000.00
4. Chicago	95	33	34.74%	\$391,000.00
5. Boston	10	3	30.00%	\$9,000.00
6. Baltimore	20	6	30.00%	\$85,000.00
7. Connecticut District	35	10	28.57%	\$65,000.00
8. New York	85	22	25.88%	\$202,000.00
9. Albany	40	10	25.00%	\$150,000.00
10. Pittsburgh	70	16	22.86%	\$82,000.00
11. Winnipeg	10	2	20.00%	\$50,000.00
12. Shamokin	45	8	17.78%	\$48,000.00
13. Niagara	25	4	16.00%	\$31,000.00
14. Central New Jersey	45	7	15.56%	\$53,000.00
15. Philadelphia	135	17	12.59%	\$214,461.00
16. Detroit	80	10	12.50%	\$98,000.00
17. Toronto	100	12	12.00%	\$61,000.00
18. Woonsocket	10	1	10.00%	\$50,000.00
19. Wilkes-Barre	20	2	10.00%	\$8,000.00
20. Montreal	30	3	10.00%	\$16,000.00
21. Minneapolis	10	1	10.00%	\$5,000.00
22. Allentown	30	3	10.00%	\$28,000.00
23. Syracuse	35	3	8.57%	\$18,000.00
24. Cleveland	60	5	8.33%	\$46,000.00
25. Rochester	40	3	7.50%	\$60,000.00
26. Youngstown	10	0	0.00%	\$0.00
27. Central	10	0	0.00%	\$0.00
TOTAL	1,250	291	23.28%	\$2,867,023.00

Michael Turko retires as Branch 63 secretary

by **Martha Lysko**
UNA National Secretary

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – In the history of our organization we have had many good secretaries and outstanding organizers. These people through their hard work and dedication made this organization what it is today. Ukrainian National Association considers Michael Turko one of the leading organizers of this great organization. Without constant influx of new members our organization will not survive into the 21st century.

In his long tenure as secretary of Branch 63 and chief organizer Mr. Turko assured the future survival of his branch and our society. Over the 39 years that he served as secretary he organized close to 1,500 new members. His branch is one of the largest branches in our community and thanks to his hard work and persistence. He considers organizing new members his chief responsibility. The secret to his success is his persistence and close ties with his community. He also was eager to serve his members and would demand immediate action at the Home Office if the needs of his members were not met promptly.

In February, when Mr. Turko announced his retirement as secretary of Branch 63 in Ford City, Pa., and passed the leadership of the branch to his son Michael S. Turko: I reflected on the long career of this dedicated secretary. It is with great regret I had to accept his decision although he assured me he was not riding off into the sunset. He promised to continue doing what he does best and organize new members. Even though he has been ill, he still managed to give us four new applications this year. As he often remarks, he works best in the last quarter of the year.

Those who know Michael Turko also know that besides the UNA he has another great interest. Mr. Turko is an avid gardener. Our employees at the Home Office



Michael Turko

have often been treated to the fruits of his labors. In the fall his labors turn indoors and UNA once more profits from his hard work. He floods the Home Office with new membership applications.

Mr. Turko was always a man of action. He played basketball in high school. In World War II he served in the Air Force. After the war Mr. Turko worked for Pittsburgh Plate Glass until his retirement. He coached little league and officiated at basketball games. He continues to be a man of action. He avidly pursues his great interests gardening and the UNA. He now enjoys his family, grandchildren and his garden.

Mr. Turko, the Ukrainian National Association thanks you for 39 years of dedicated work. You left a wonderful legacy and set a great example for all secretaries. We wish you well and much enjoyment in your leisure, but most of all we wish that you will continue helping UNA in achieving its organizing goals.

TOP UNA ORGANIZERS

Organizer	Members Organized	Amount of Insurance	Branch Number	District
1. Jacek Koczarski	52	\$334,000.00	777	Various
2. Andrij Skyba	23	\$230,000.00	399	Chicago
3. Myron Pylypiak	16	\$105,000.00	496	Various
4. John Danilack	9	\$107,000.00	142	Northern N.J.
5. Myron Stasiw	9	\$45,000.00	49	Toronto
6. Joseph Hawryluk	8	\$155,000.00	360	Buffalo
7. Barbara Bachynsky	6	\$95,000.00	184	New York
8. Nicholas Diakowsky	6	\$22,000.00	161	Pittsburgh
9. Vera Krywyj	6	\$80,000.00	174	Detroit
10. Genevieve Kufta	5	\$203,000.00	171	Northern N.J.
11. Myron Luszczyk	5	\$40,000.00	379	Chicago
12. Andre Worobec	5	\$90,461.00	127	Buffalo
13. Joseph Chabon	4	\$20,000.00	242	Shamokin
14. Marguerite Hentosh	4	\$28,000.00	305	Shamokin
15. Walter Krywulych	4	\$85,000.00	266	Albany
16. Myron Kuzio	4	\$19,000.00	277	Connecticut
17. Michael Turko	4	\$40,000.00	63	Pittsburgh
18. George Yurkiw	4	\$16,000.00	130	New York

Ukrainian National Association Year 2000 Readiness Disclosure

As we approach the year 2000, members of Ukrainian National Association can have confidence that they will receive the same level of service as they have for the past 106 years and that their records will be protected.

The UNA has assembled a Year 2000 Project Team which is meeting regularly. It prepared an assessment of exposure to possible Y2K problems. Our IBM main computer and personal computers as well as their operational software and administrative software are year 2000 compliant. They were tested internally but will be re-tested by outside specialists and will be year 2000 ready. The UNA is making reasonable inquiry of its service providers and vendors whether they are taking all appropriate steps to become year 2000 ready on a timely basis.

Any questions or concerns in regard to the UNA's preparedness, may be directed to the Home Office at (973) 292-9800.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Getting it wrong

It's amazing, with all the historical resources available, that somebody could get something so wrong - especially a general readership publication such as U.S. News & World Report, which this week published a double issue dedicated to "The Year 1000: what life was like in the last millennium."

In the section called "Heroes: fearless, devout and terrifying," the following caption jumps out: "In converting Kievan Rus, Vladimir made Russia what it is today."

Unfortunately, there's more.

The sidebar on Grand Prince Vladimir (referred to as "king" in another sidebar) is titled "A trader in theology; The mercantile origins of Russian orthodoxy"; it incorrectly notes that Volodymyr converted his subjects "to the Eastern Orthodox branch of Christianity" and in the next paragraph informs readers that his "choice was by no means a foregone conclusion" as "there were Catholics among Vladimir's ancestors."

Don't the magazine's editors know the distinction between Rus' and Russia? Doesn't anybody at the newsmagazine know history or know how to consult good historical sources? Doesn't anyone realize that there was no Orthodoxy or Catholicism yet, that Volodymyr the Great adopted Christianity before the schism?

A timeline in the first millennium issue gives the following information: "980 - With the help of Vikings, Vladimir establishes the first Russian dynasty in Kiev." And then there is a fold-out map that identifies what should properly be called Kyivan Rus' as Kievan Russia, followed by the description, in parentheses, "Viking descendants," leading one to think there were no people on those territories before the Vikings arrived. A fact box on "Viking Kingdoms" notes that the Vikings "went ... east to settle in Russia."

Oh, boy. Kind of makes your head spin, doesn't it? This, unfortunately, is what passes for history on the pages of our magazines. There's just no way this can be considered educational, or informative, or even useful. Furthermore, such "reporting" can only be perceived as a disservice to readers.

And, there's more.

Next we took a look at the on-line version of the magazine, which included lists of sources for more information - all of them, you guessed it, Russian: the Russian Embassy in Washington, the Russian Studies Program at Bucknell University (which is linked to the site of none other than the Moscow Patriarchate of the Russian Orthodox Church), something called Russia.Net., and others. Need we say more?

We thought we'd fought this battle back in 1988, when Ukrainians around the world marked the Millennium of Christianity in Kyivan Rus', the first state of the Eastern Slavs, located on the territory of present-day Ukraine. Now, 11 years later, comes this reprehensible article in a major U.S. newsmagazine. It's as if there were no Ukrainian connections to Kyivan Rus', as if there were no Ukrainian sources (what about the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute's Millennium Project?), almost as if there were no Ukraine. In fact, the only reference to Ukraine is this snippet: "Even today citizens of Kiev, now the capital of independent Ukraine, make pilgrimages to a monument commemorating Vladimir's deed."

Our advice: Save your \$3.95 (that's the newsstand price), borrow a copy of the August 16-23 issue of U.S. News & World Report from someone, go to the library or check it out on line (www.usnews.com). Read it, get angry, and write letters to the magazine for getting so many things so wrong and, most importantly, incorrectly attributing the history of Rus' to Russia. The address of the editorial offices: U.S. News & World Report, 1050 Thomas Jefferson St. NW, Washington DC 20007-3837; e-mail: letters@usnews.com

Maybe, just maybe, they'll get it right in time for the next millennium.

August 17 1883

Turning the pages back...

Toma Kobzey, a lifelong indefatigable defender of workers' and peasants' rights, was born in the village of Kniazhe in Sniatyn County, in Galicia on June 30, 1895. He immigrated to Canada in 1911, settled in Winnipeg and joined the Ukrainian Social

Democratic Party. The party was banned in 1918 for organizing anti-war protests, and reconstituted itself as the Ukrainian Labor-Farmer Temple Association (ULFTA) that year. Kobzey was among its leading activists, serving as secretary through the 1920s and into the 1930s. He rose to the Politburo of the Communist Party of Canada.

As the civil war raged overseas in 1918-1921, pitting, in part, Symon Petliura's Ukrainian National Republic forces against the Bolshevik Red Army, Kobzey made a fateful choice in favor of the eventual victors. In January 1922, writing in the ULFTA's organ, Robitnychi Visti, he attacked the nationalist camp in Canada for turning the Winnipeg-based Mohyla Institute from a facility dedicated to secular education to a "nursery for priests" and a "boarding house for lawyers" - exploiters of the working people.

Following the establishment of a Soviet Ukrainian state and its adoption of a Ukrainization policy, he and many in the ULFTA had reason to feel triumphant. However, in 10 years he would begin a journey that was to describe a full circle. Kobzey was, as historian John Kolasky wrote, "a man of integrity," and not among those blinded by "a crusading ideology and a faith that gave promise of a proletarian millennium." News of the genocidal artificial famine of 1932-1933 shook his beliefs, and when Canadian activists Myroslav Irchan and Ivan Sambei disappeared in Stalin's gulag in 1934, he'd had enough.

The following year, when the ULFTA convention refused to condemn the mass deportations, terror and famine in Ukraine, Kobzey joined Danylo Lobay, editor of Robitnychi Visti, in a demonstrative walk-out which became known as "the Kobzey-Lobay revolt." They broke away to form a non-Communist labor and cultural organization, the Workers' and Farmers' Educational Association, later merging with other like-minded organizations to establish the Alliance of Ukrainian Organizations (AUO).

In Pravda a newspaper established with Lobay in 1936 (it ceased publishing in 1938), Kobzey attacked Stalin, his murderous famine and purges, his duplicitous nationalities poli-

(Continued on page 9)

FOR THE RECORD

Scholars write to Kuchma on state of Ukrainian language

Below is the text of a letter dated July 7 sent to President Leonid Kuchma by the American Association for Ukrainian Studies and members of the Association for the Study of Nationalities gathered at the recent World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities.

Dear Mr. Kuchma:

The executive committee of the American Association for Ukrainian Studies, and 30 members of the Association for the Study of Nationalities at the fourth annual World Convention of the Association for the Study of Nationalities (The Harriman Institute, Columbia University, April 15-17), express deep concern with the status and current rapidly deteriorating conditions of the Ukrainian language in Ukraine.

It is because we fully respect the ideal of Ukraine as a multinational homeland for a variety of national and ethnic groups that we firmly believe this goal can be achieved only if there is a single common state language enabling all of Ukraine's citizens to communicate effectively and to interact harmoniously. The

Ukrainian language as the language of the majority population of Ukraine naturally fills that role.

We appeal to you to adopt government measures that will strengthen the status of the Ukrainian language in the media, in the government, in the publication industry, in educational institutions, in scholarship and in research.

Dr. Michael M. Naydan, President American Association of Ukrainian Studies

For the undersigned: Olga Andriewsky, Vera Andrushkiw, Antonina Berezovenko, Michael Bociurkiw, Jose Casanova, Natalia Chechel, Vitali Chernetsky, Anna Chumachenko, James Clem, Robert De Lossa, Marta Dyczok, Daria Dykyi, Liliana Hentosh, Alexander Hryb, Halyna Hrybowych, Alexandra Hrycak, Jaropolk Lassowsky, George Liber, Jaroslaw Martyniuk, Askold Melnychuk, Alexander Motyl, Larissa Onyshkevych, Yves Passerand, Anna Procyk, Roman Serbyn, Yuri Shevchuk, Natalia Shostak, Orest Subtelny, Frank Sysyn, Myroslava Znayenko.

NEWS AND VIEWS

New Jersey's Ukrainian Festival: UCCA Coordinating Council's view

by John Burtyk and Joseph Jacus

The article published in The Ukrainian Weekly of June 6, "Reasons for the doom of Ukrainian Festival U.S.A" written by Stan Jakubowycz created more confusion than explanations. The writer attributed the demise of the festival to selfishness, greed, stupidity and petty Ukrainian politics on the part of the Festival Committees and the New Jersey Coordinating Council of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (NJCC-UCCA).

By this unfounded allegation he not only distorted the truth, but also offended all the hard-working people who are still trying to keep the Ukrainian heritage alive. Unfortunately, he failed to say that for last 13 years he did nothing to help the Ukrainian Festival. He was too busy with the international festivals.

Luba Siryj, the festival's chairperson, thoroughly explained why the festival was renamed and changed its location in an article published in The Ukrainian Weekly last year. As she noted, after 1990 attendance at all of the festivals including ours, gradually declined. It is not true that professionalism was replaced by amateurism. Over the course of 23 years, virtually every professional group in the United States and Canada participated in our festivals.

In 1996 and 1997 the Arts Center,

John Burtyk is president and Joseph Jacus is secretary of the New Jersey Coordinating Council of the UCCA.

under the new management of PNC Bank, refused us the use of the main stage. In 1998 they suggested that we participate in a multi-ethnic festival consisting of five different nations, which was to be restricted to the park grounds. After careful consideration, the Committee opted to move the festival to Cedar Knolls Park.

The loss of thousands of dollars in revenue from the Ukrainian community did not go unnoticed. The Arts Center quickly presented a new offer in 1999, which is under the consideration for the next year.

In his article, Mr. Jakubowycz falsely accused the NJCC-UCCA of being interested only in taking profits from the Ukrainian Festival. The UCCA never received any money from the festival, nor did it make any collections. The sole source of income came from the evening dances, which the UCCA organized and paid for. And as rule, at every UCCA general meeting, money is appropriated for Ukrainian youth organizations and other community needs.

Despite unfounded criticism and unhealthy publicity, we are planning another great Ukrainian Day, to be held on September 25 in Cedar Knolls Park. There will be plenty of music, good food and monetary rewards for participants in a young talent competition. And there will certainly be an evening dance at the Ramada Hotel on Route 10 in East Hanover, N.J.

Everybody is invited, including our critics. Come and see for yourself. Ukrainian Day is for all of us.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY Visit our archive on the Internet at: http://www.ukrweekly.com/

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

An indispensable source of information

Dear Editor:

I would like to commend you for your excellent coverage of the "Synergy" conference in Washington.

Also noteworthy was Mykola Ryabchuk's recent insightful analysis of the cultural and political crossroads in Ukraine: "One Nation, Two Languages, Three Cultures."

The Weekly is indeed an indispensable source of information on current developments in Ukraine and the Ukrainian American community.

Roman Wolchuk
Jersey City, N.J.

Let's boycott CBS because money talks

Dear Editor:

I read The Ukrainian Weekly each week and enjoy all of it. However, the letter by Oles Cheren, titled "60 Minutes continues its bias," has me upset. Mr. Cheren is quite correct in his complaint about CBS's bias against Ukrainians. However, it will do little good because the exposure is not in the "mainstream" of events.

I have been boycotting CBS since the original broadcast, even though I also wrote letters to the producers without any responses. Now is the time to "hit them where the money is," so to speak. Every Ukrainian, Ukrainian American, all Slavic people and others should boycott CBS until they see their "bottom line" affected.

When CBS complains about the boycott affecting them, then, and only then, shall we be in a position to direct terms. In the United States this is what really matters: the bottom line. It is up to us, the Ukrainian diaspora, to start fighting for our due recognition in society. It will not be easy but it will be worth it!

Ihor P. Petrenko
Springfield, Va.

What about wave of new immigrants?

Dear Editor:

As a subscriber I have been reading this newspaper for seven months now. While the paper seems to attempt to cover everything Ukrainian from the North American perspective, it and the community it speaks for apparently have a huge blind spot. This spot has to be huge if they don't see the current wave of immigration from Ukraine involving tens of thousands of people.

Ignoring a phenomenon has always been the worst way of dealing with it.

I also am a recent arrival and I would like to say a few words through this paper to the North American Ukrainian community and, with some luck, to open a dialogue.

Most of you are aware that Ukraine is an extremely harsh place to live in, and many leave it for the same reason and under similar circumstances as the previous waves of immigrants – out of despair and the hopelessness of their situation. So please don't look down your noses at recent arrivals, while you ostensibly have an exclusive right to live in the comfort and safety of your American homes and love Ukraine vicariously.

Isn't it time for the North American Ukrainian community to stop acting like an exclusive club and try to help and involve the new arrivals in Ukrainian life in America? This is going to be a difficult challenge, because the new arrivals are not organized and not used to active involvement in social life. But a lot is at stake here – like the future of North American Ukrainian community. Will it grow and become a powerful voice in the United States and Ukraine, or will it just linger on without the influx of fresh blood?

Sergey Chikakov
Brooklyn, N.Y.

Congratulations to Helen Smindak

Dear Editor:

I want to congratulate and thank Helen Smindak for her many years of service. Her "Dateline New York" and other in-depth articles have enlightened us all. What a delight to have read about the success of so many Americans of Ukrainian descent succeeding in the various fields of entertainment.

Her research and talent combined have produced pages of cultural information that have enriched my background and helped to instill in me an appreciation of my heritage. Mnohaya Lita to you, Mrs. Smindak!

Mary (Danyluk) Plaskonos
Hamden, Conn.

Koropeckyj's reaction was unwarranted

Dear Editor:

Re: "Column's rationale was questionable," the letter by Roman Koropeckyj (June 13).

As a longtime reader of The Ukrainian Weekly I appreciate very much the articles written by Dr. Myron Kuropas, who is very knowledgeable in Ukrainian history and also very objective in his work.

I find the "questionable" column by Dr. Kuropas to be very informative, based on well-documented material without any anti-Semitic remarks, which I assume exist only in Mr. Koropeckyj's imagination.

There is no reason at all to call the column questionable. No one in his right mind would suspect every Jewish neighbor of working for the Israeli Mossad. I am old, but not paranoid.

Jaroslav Kaczaj
Cheltenham, Pa.



The things we do...

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

Beyond the smoke

So what's the big stink about cannabis anyway? I have it in my home year-round, and bring it out for our most important family occasions. To me it is special, but not in the way you think. Because of the permeating, lingering aroma and the effects of marijuana smoke from the 1960s, many North Americans panic at even the mention of the hemp plant, no matter what its benefits. But while marijuana and hemp are the same species, cannabis, they are not the same. The fear of the hallucinogenic effects of cannabis blinds both the general population and the authorities to its practical and medicinal uses, which are prevalent in other parts of the world.

While marijuana and its effects remain in the headlines, more and more Canadian fields are being sown with hemp. In mid-April, Consolidated Growers and Processors of Canada Ltd. announced the construction of the largest hemp processing plant in the world in Dauphin, Manitoba. The first hemp processing plant in Canada since the 1930s, it will be an enormous economic boost to Dauphin, creating at least 100 permanent jobs. The two-operation (fiber and seed) plant will be built on about 60 hectares of land and will process hemp grown on 20,000 hectares in the region. The plant will cost about \$25 million, and will be operational by the spring of 2001. Ukrainian and other Eastern European advisors have been involved in the stage of plant cultivation. Because the black-soil-rich Manitoba Parkland region in which Dauphin is located has a very large Ukrainian population from the first settlements over a century ago, hemp in a way, hemp is returning to its traditional Ukrainian roots.

Even though I am a baby boomer, I must be culturally deprived, because I smoke neither grass nor tobacco. Yet I am quite comfortable with hemp. I inherited a tablecloth from my mother-in-law that she made over 60 years ago in her village of Rybnyky, Ternopil region, Ukraine. This is not an ordinary store-bought table cloth. She made it from scratch, real scratch: sowed the hemp seeds, cultivated and weeded the plants, harvested and soaked them, retted, swingled, braked them, spun the fibers, wove the threads and embroidered the fabric once it was woven. The tablecloth is in remarkable condition, with the embroidery still vibrant, and the slightly off-white-with-a-touch-of-grey fabric still smooth and strong. Reverently I bring this tablecloth out only for Christmas Eve and Easter, and for special family celebrations such as christenings.

I also have a hempen embroidered blouse from the Yavoriv region, near Lviv, in western Ukraine, that is 60 to 70 years old, homespun, hand-sewn, and embroidered. My mother brought it back in the 1970s from her only visit to Ukraine since leaving home involuntarily during World War II. In addition to the lavish embroidery, the seams and gathers themselves are the result of fine, fancy handiwork. I doubt I could handsew a garment with such attention to both strength of construction and finery of detail. I was thrilled to receive this antique shirt, and wore it on the next Sviat Vechir (Christmas Eve). However, when I sent our family Christmas photograph to my mother, her response was unexpected. She was upset that I wore this blouse, and to my bewildered questioning replied that

"in our family [i.e., her formerly wealthy family in Ukraine] we wore only the white linen cloth, never the greyer hempen cloth [which poorer families wore]. Don't wear that blouse again!" Over half a century later, family status still mattered to her.

These are my tangible connections to hemp. The plant has been around in Europe since the beginnings of agriculture back in the Neolithic (New Stone Age). As a textile plant, for Ukrainians it has been an important source of fabric, bags and rope. It has male and female plants, with the male plant producing the finer fiber for fabric, the female plant producing seeds and the rougher fiber for cord and sacks. As a food source, hemp oil was and is regarded as absolutely the best vegetable oil around. Mention hemp oil to Ukrainian old-timers (either from the Canadian prairies or from Ukraine), and their eyes light up and their faces beam – the pampushky (filled doughnuts) fried in this oil are out of this world. Back in the 1960s, there were news reports of Ukrainian farmers in Alberta being up in arms over the RCMP prohibiting them from growing "konopli" [hemp] – why, everyone knows that it is the best-tasting and healthiest food oil with the lowest cholesterol level! What do you mean people smoke it?! No kidding? Why would they do that?!

In Ukrainian tradition, hemp has both a practical and a ritual significance. As the two earliest fibers used by humans, flax and hemp are more than just sources of food and cloth, they are symbolic. Christmas customs celebrated in every Ukrainian Canadian home on Christmas Eve originated in prehistoric times, and the now sometimes incongruous rituals reflect that antiquity. We no longer sprinkle hemp, flax and poppy seeds under the tablecloth to symbolize fertility, and we no longer present the carolers with "povismo," hanks of hempen and flax fibers ready for spinning. These traditions are no longer practiced, because of our mostly urban lifestyles, and because these fibers are not cultivated as frequently in North America. Nowadays, a check for a charity or for an organization and some refreshments are the norm for carolers. In Ukrainian tradition, the earliest "gifts" to mankind are still celebrated at Christmas: the first everyday grains, the gathered foods and fibers for clothing. The pre-Christian koliadky sing about the first golden threads being spun and the fabrics being woven. Throughout Europe, including England, there are remnants of ancient rituals celebrating hemp.

Sure, sure, all this is interesting, but get to the smoking part! Sorry to disappoint you, dear reader, but in Ukrainian tradition there is little to report on the hallucinogenic front, and no mention of smoking at all. Herodotus does mention that the Scythians threw hemp seeds on the hot rocks in their saunas, and then emerged laughing. They lived on the territory of Ukraine and may have been some of our ancestors, but in all my research I have found no mention of hemp products being used by Ukrainians to get high (except in recent times, under influence from the West). When I ask old-timers about smoking the stuff, they look at me strangely. "It stank! Who would want to smoke that?!" "We wouldn't even feed it to the geese!" "After it soaked in the pond for two

(Continued on page 12)

The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor and commentaries on a variety of topics of concern to the Ukrainian American and Ukrainian Canadian communities. Opinions expressed by columnists, commentators and letter-writers are their own and do not necessarily reflect the opinions of either The Weekly editorial staff or its publisher, the Ukrainian National Association.

Celebration of Ivan Kupalo ritual benefits Chernobyl relief efforts

by Alex Kuzma

CANTON, Conn. — A consortium of musical groups on June 26 presented a re-enactment of the ancient Ukrainian mid-summer ritual of Ivano Kupalo in a special benefit performance for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund.

The performers included a number of Connecticut-based artists, including the Yevshan Chorus, the Zoloty Promin Dance Ensemble, a bandura quartet and recording artist Olya Chodoba-Fryz.

The outdoor concert was hosted by Lou and Judi Friedman, well-known as environmental activists in New England and long-time supporters of the Chernobyl relief mission. The Friedmans' home, located near the Roaring Brook Nature Center in Canton, Conn., provided an ideal setting for the Kupalo ceremonies, with picturesque woodland trails, meadows, ponds and cattail marshes.

Before an audience of over 200 guests, the ritual unfolded on an upland meadow nestled between tall stands of white spruce and oak. Soloists Ms. Fryz and Christina Jamahian began the ceremonies with an incantation to the summer solstice, singing "Ivanku, Ivanku" from an outdoor balcony. As they finished their duet, members of the Yevshan Choral Ensemble emerged from different corners of the outdoor theater behind the audience, singing a haunting arrangement of a Kupalo chant by the Canadian musicologist Edith Knock. The singers converged at the center of the meadow and continued to sing the Kupalo round until they had all assembled on a knoll overlooking the audience.

Next, dancers from Zoloty Promin, dressed in folk costumes from the Poltava region, greeted the audience with a traditional welcoming dance ("Pryvit").

Ms. Jamahian welcomed the guests and gave a brief explanation of the Kupalo cer-

emony, which incorporates ancient courtship rituals with the feast of St. John the Baptist. Dating back to pre-Christian times, Kupalo has been celebrated for centuries as a commemoration of the summer solstice, and a celebration of the power and enchantment of nature.

Ms. Jamahian traced Kupalo's common threads with Celtic, Scandinavian and other European festivals, including the mythical figures and stories made famous by Shakespeare's "A Midsummer Night's Eve."

Following this introduction, the Yevshan Chorus sang "Tsarivna," an evocative chant describing the mystical courtship between the forces of spring and summer.

After several more folk songs rendered by Yevshan and Ms. Fryz, the choir led the audience on a half-mile walk along a woodland path lined with ferns and hemlocks. Along the way the group encountered a wood nymph ("mavka," played by Melanie Bonacorsa) who greeted them with traditional promises of secret treasures, enchanted love and magical spells hidden among the ferns.

The woods echoed with the calls of thrushes and catbirds mingled with human voices as the choir, occasionally joined by members of the audience sang "Tuman Yarom," "Soloviyu" and other Ukrainian folk songs as the nature walk continued.

Eventually the choir and guests emerged from the forest and gathered around a small pond where the "mavka" invoked the purity of the water, reciting an old Ukrainian blessing translated by playwrights Virlana Tkacz and Wanda Phipps. The choir sang "Oi, Hyllia," a favorite love ballad from the villages of Ukraine, and moved on to a second pond where the Zoloty Promin dancers waited on a large deck overlooking the water. The dancers, under the direction



On a platform overlooking a shaded pond, the bandura quartet of Olya Chodoba-Fryz, Daria Richardson, Christina Jamahian and Irene Kuzma accompany the Yevshan Ukrainian Choral Ensemble.

of Orlando Pagan (an alumnus of the Roma Pryma-Bohachevsky School of Dance in New York) performed a suite of Hutsul and Bukovynian dances. The Yevshan Chorus continued with a series of love songs, including "Verbovaia Doschechka" with soloist Daria Richardson.

In keeping with Kupalo tradition, the women's ensemble from Yevshan lit candles and set them on wreaths of flowers that were cast adrift on the water. The wreaths were retrieved by several male vocalists and the symbolism of the ritual was explained.

In one of the more remarkable moments in the program, the chorus sang the Avdievsky arrangement of the love ballad "Whose horse is this" ("Oi chy to kin stoyit?"). Simultaneously, along the shoreline of the pond, hostess Ms. Friedman escorted a chestnut-colored horse adorned with bells and flowers braided into its mane. Sitting astride the horse was dancer Larysa Oprysko, who dismounted and performed a slow pas de-deux with Stephen Dmyterko in response to the verses of the song.

The program concluded with a grand finale on the deck of the pond featuring the principal dancers from Zoloty Promin and a rousing rendition of "Susidka" by Yevshan.

The artistic program was followed by a pot-luck reception on the patio of the Friedman home. Among the guests was Igor Sikorsky Jr., a Rocky Hill attorney who is the son of the aviation pioneer and

helicopter inventor Igor Sikorsky who emigrated from Kyiv in the 1920s and later established the Sikorsky Aircraft manufacturing plant in Connecticut. Mr. Sikorsky made a special presentation of historic photographs of his father's pioneering flight from St. Petersburg to Kyiv. He thanked the Friedmans for hosting this event, and he expressed his support for the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund and its relief mission to Ukraine.

Earlier CCRF Executive Director Nadia Matkiwsky had presented Ms. Friedman with a richly embroidered Ukrainian blouse from the Ternopil region as a token of her esteem for the Friedmans' strong commitment to the protection of the global environment. Mrs. Matkiwsky thanked the hosts not only for their work on behalf of the Chernobyl children, but also for their tireless efforts to raise public awareness of environmental hazards.

The Kupalo fund-raiser resulted in over \$6,000 for the CCRF. Plans are under way for similar programs next year. The CCRF is an award-winning charity that recently completed its 23rd airlift to Ukraine. The fund is planning a training conference for neonatal specialists this fall and is developing long-term hospital partnerships with Ukrainian medical facilities in eight provinces.

Contributions to CCRF are fully tax-deductible and may be sent to: Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078. For further information call (973) 376-5140.

DISPATCH FROM SOYUZIVKA: Dumka performs during sold-out weekend

by Tanya Singura

Special to *The Ukrainian Weekly*

KERHONKSON, N.Y. — The July 31-August 1 weekend was sold out at Soyuzivka. Our summer concert series continued with the Dumka Chorus on Saturday night, July 31. The choir, which has gotten a large following, sang some new songs as well as old favorites. As concert-goers exited the hall, they headed upstairs toward the sounds of Crystal. Crystal, making its second appearance at Soyuzivka this summer, kept everyone on Veselka patio dancing until dawn.

This week's Hutsul Night also brought back a favorite duo at Soyuzivka. Greg Hrynovets along with Stepan Ben, back from Ukraine, were once again entertaining the crowd. Although the duo hasn't played together for more than five years, they sounded better than ever singing their new summer hit "Kurka z Mayonezom," which brought the Trembita Lounge audience to their feet following Hutsul Night.

We finally got a respite from the hot humid weather here at Soyuzivka. Although the temperatures are still in the mid to upper 80s during the day, the drier, cooler air is a welcome change.

A lack of rain, however, also has

Tanya Singura is activities director at Soyuzivka.

been affecting the area. A fire on the Lundy Estate, approximately 10 miles from Soyuzivka, broke out on Saturday. Smoke could be seen over the mountain from the Veselka Patio during Monday night's Steak Night and was finally brought under control later in the week. Lake Minnewaska, only 10 minutes from Soyuzivka, has also been suffering from the lack of rain. They have been battling a root fire for over three weeks.

Soyuzivka was spared what could have been a disaster had one of our workers not been quick to spot smoke while pulling into the parking area near Sich (the worker's dormitory). A smoldering log was found to be the cause of the smoke and was quickly extinguished. It was a reminder to all that we must be extra careful and cautious in these dangerously dry conditions.

The lack of rain has also become a widespread concern. Wells have been running low, including ours here at Soyuzivka. A total of 60,000 gallons of water was trucked in on Wednesday to fill up our reserves; 18,000 gallons were brought in the week prior to fill up the swimming pool. Some guests have been happy to help by conserving water. Another guest suggested we allow 15 people at a time to shower in the water fountain. If we don't get rain soon, we're going to have to ask each of our guests to bring two or three gallons of water with them. Pray for rain!



CCRF staffer Ksenia Salewycz embraces Alina Kytasta-Kuzma, a "mavka"-in-the-making at the Kupalo fund-raiser.

DATELINE NEW YORK: Ukrainian stars on Broadway

by Helen Smindak

At 23, Jeremy Kushnier is Broadway's youngest leading man. His work in the musical "Footloose" has brought him nominations for two awards: the Helen Hayes Award and the Theater World Award. He is described by reviewers as "a high-spirited hero, coming across as a sweet guy with just enough edge to be interesting" (Michael Sommers, *The Star-Ledger*, Newark, N.J.) and "hugely appealing" (David Patrick Stearns, *USA Today*).

When "Footloose" premiered last October, Casper Citron of WOR-Radio declared: "Jeremy Kushnier bursts onto Broadway with the kind of fresh exuberance that strives to please everyone no matter what their age." Roma Torres of NY1 News, who liked his "James Dean good looks," said he is "a terrible threat: he acts, dances and sings like a seasoned pro."

Syndicated columnist Liz Smith called him "the dancin' boy who comes to town from wicked Chicago and shakes things up" and gushed: "Talk about charisma – this kid's going places. Hollywood will knock any minute."

The commendations don't appear to have turned this young Canadian head. When we met in the midtown office of the musical's press representatives, just after a Wednesday matinee performance, Mr. Kushnier was poised but unpretentious. Dressed in T-shirt and jeans, a backpack slung over one shoulder, he apologized for keeping me waiting, though he was only a few minutes late. Fielding questions, talking enthusiastically about his first Broadway role and his plans for the future, he radiated a dynamic personality, a charm heightened by large expressive eyes set in a handsome face.

Mr. Kushnier has an extremely busy schedule these days, one that keeps his 5-foot 10-inch frame at a lean and slim 145 pounds no matter how much he eats. He appears eight times a week in a high-energy musical with a contemporary pop-rock score, playing Ren McCormack, the high-school kid who moves from Chicago to stodgy Bomont (somewhere in the heartland of America) and sets the whole town "footloose" to discover the joy of music and dancing.

The action unfolds through sensational, show-stopping numbers, including a schoolgym scene, a number at the Burger Blast Restaurant featuring fun on rollerblades, a Wild West scenario and a knockout musical scene – "Let's Hear It for the Boy" – that brings the house down.

Standing in contrast to all the high-flying youths tumbling, leaping, trampolining, rope-climbing and flipping about are subdued tableaux centered around the town's apprehensive preacher and his sympathetic wife (Stephen Lee Anderson and Dee Hoty) and a romantic interlude between Ren and the preacher's daughter (Jennifer Laura Thompson).

"I couldn't ask for a better vehicle to show people what I'm capable of. I get to sing, I get to dance and to act. I'm extremely thankful every day for this opportunity and this

Turning the pages...

(Continued from page 6)

cy, and the Russian chauvinism of the Soviet Communist Party. From 1938 to 1940, he took up the task again as contributing editor of the periodical *Vpered*.

In 1940, Kobzey was among the leaders who prompted the AUO to reconstitute itself as the Ukrainian Workers' League and join with other non-Communist organizations in the country to form the Ukrainian Canadian Committee (now Congress).

In 1966, Kobzey published a monograph on the writer Vasyl Stefanyk, "Velykyi Rizbar Ukrainskykh Selianskykh Dush" (The Great Sculptor of Ukrainian Peasant Souls). As the literary scholar Danylo Struk noted in his own study of the writings and criticism about the writer, "Whereas any Soviet Ukrainian work on Stefanyk would or could contain the appellation 'Sculptor of Peasant Souls,' Kobzey inserts the adjective 'Ukrainian,' to make sure the point is not missed that these peasants are Ukrainian."

Prof. Struk added: "Kobzey [portrays] Stefanyk as a fighter for peasant rights, but with a nationalist conscience." Kobzey had come full circle.

He managed to complete his detailed memoirs, "Na Ternystykh ta Khreshchatykh Dorohakh" (On Thorny Paths and Ways of Crossroads), which were published soon after his death.

Toma Kobzey died in Winnipeg on August 17, 1972.

Sources: "Kobzei, Toma," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 2 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1988); John Kolasky, "The Shattered Illusion" (Toronto: PMA Books, 1979); Danylo Struk, "A Study of Vasyl Stefanyk" (Littleton, Colo.: Ukrainian Academic Press, 1972).



Joan Marcus

Jeremy Kushnier in a scene from the Broadway musical "Footloose."

experience, because it's been amazing," Mr. Kushnier admits.

"I get a little bit of celebrity, I get a little bit of financial stability, and at the same time I get to do what I love, so I'm truly excited about it," he sums up.

Things are buzzing for him offstage as well. Mr. Kushnier says he has "a million things going on" – he's doing some pre-production work on "a little independent movie that I might be doing later on" and he's working on a reading of a new musical. There are press interviews and numerous public appearances at malls, schools and parks, including a performance at Macy's July 4th fireworks display seen live by spectators and viewed by many more on TV.

The Winnipeg native has been dancing since the age of 3, when his parents, Craig and Gail Kushnier, enrolled him in sadochok (pre-school). He went on to dance for several years with the Rozmai and Rusalka ensembles in Winnipeg, and he recalls learning about Sviaty Mykolai and Ukrainian holiday customs during Sunday School classes at church.

"I'm a pure-bred Ukrainian," he says proudly, "except for a little bit of Polish on my great-grandfather's side, which he never admitted to." His Ukrainian lineage comes from grandparents Anne and Nicholas Kushnier and Anne and Henry Mycan.

Artistic talent seems to run in the Kushnier family: brother Serge, 17, is a dancer who was recently accepted to the Canadian national tap team, while his brother Bryce, a 19-year-old university student, leads a rock band. Mr. Kushnier's comment on this topic: "I think there's a natural tendency in our family to perform. My mother has always loved theater, and we (kids) grew up watching musicals and Tony awards on TV. One of my grandfathers says he used to tap."

Staging "little shows around the house and imitating Michael Jackson" for his parents led to enrollment in a musical theater class for young people offered by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet. After five or six years of jazz, tap and ballet classes, he moved on to the Winnipeg School of Performing Arts to study musical theater and dance for a couple of years. He also trained with private voice teachers for two or three years, but vocal studies were not a high priority, he says, since "I'm a person who learns by doing rather than schooling."

Knowing from age 10 that he wanted to be in theater work, he was ready to attempt professional stage work after completing high school, but attended the University of Winnipeg for a year for his parents' sake. "They've always been supportive in what I've done, and they wanted to make sure I didn't close off any doors," he explains.

Truly convinced that his future lay in the theater, he headed for Toronto, auditioned for several shows and was hired for "The Who's Tommy" and then the Canadian tour of "Tommy." He remembers the years in Toronto as a happy time when "I was very content to be doing good work that didn't necessarily run forever but that I enjoyed."

There was a "hard, devastating eight months" when he wasn't doing anything. That slow period ended abruptly when his agent informed him about an audition for a

"Footloose" tryout being held the next day in New York. Scrounging together some money, he boarded a bus at 7 p.m. and arrived in Manhattan the following morning, in time for the audition. A follow-up audition a day later turned the trick – he was engaged to perform in "Footloose" and participated in a five-week workshop.

During the year between the workshop and the beginning of rehearsals for the Broadway run of "Footloose," Mr. Kushnier returned to Toronto to perform in the original Canadian company of "Rent." In October 1998 "Footloose" premiered at the Richard Rodgers Theater in New York, and Jeremy Kushnier became an overnight sensation.

He sees "Footloose" as an important benefit for the theater community, drawing young people to the theater and giving them an opportunity to "see something that doesn't talk down to them, doesn't belittle them or make fun of them, that isn't so high and mighty that it goes over their heads." He hopes these young people will be the next generation to support live theater, which he feels is necessary for theater to be sustained.

Where does he go from here? His answer: "I'd like to do a film, even though I love theater – and I really like New York, I feel at home here."

"I hope this show will run for a long, long time, and I'm going to stick with it for a while because I really enjoy doing it," the star enthuses. "But my heart is really in acting."

We parted on that note, and he was off for "a quick bite to eat and a quick nap" to re-energize him for the evening performance before another packed house.



Jeremy Kushnier

Youngsters from Ukraine bring "Dity Ditiyam" project to the U.S.

by Bohdanna Wolanska

ELLENVILLE/GLEN SPEY, N.Y. – We wait in the hot summer evening, 3-year-old Teodor and I. Finally the van rolls in, its many windows full of small, eager faces and large suitcases. Peering through the darkness, the lad riding my hip asks:

– “To nashi dity?” [“Are those our children?” “Nash,” best translates as “one of us.”]

– “Tak,” I smile, surprised at the question, “To nashi!” [Yes, they’re ours.]

Out of the tangle of arms and legs in the van tumble 15 people of various sizes and ages: one caretaker, one young driver, and 13 kids age 10 to 11. They are artists, they are winners of children’s competitions in Ukraine.

They are also healthy children from Chernobyl, and they come on an errand of mercy: to help save their less fortunate brothers and sisters. They are performing all over the U.S. to help repair the Children’s Hospital at Bila Tserkva, where their families were resettled from Chernobyl’s Fourth Zone. They call themselves “Dity Ditiyam” (by the children, for the children).

The children spend a few days at the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) camp, catching their breath, tending to their instruments and costumes, adjusting their biological clocks, getting acquainted with their Ukrainian American counterparts. But the hospital is not nearly large enough to accommodate the needy, so the concerts must begin.

First, a dress rehearsal for the camp participants. The children weave a story made of poetry and song, remembering the nuclear explosion, recounting the macabre assurances that all was well – little voices, little people dressed in the graceful and colorful traditional garb of their motherland, seeing the horror through a child’s eyes. But there is hope, too. After all, the Chernobyl catastrophe forced the country to face down its oppressor, to “arise and break the chains,” as Taras Shevchenko, the bard of Ukraine, bade them do.

There is the seasoned conviction of a veteran actor spilling poems from 10-year-old lips. There is the amazing, gutsy verve of folk-style singing from a 13-year-old who sometimes accompanies herself on bandura. There is a poetic, heart-stopping routine by a young gymnast, perching swan-like above the stage on one leg, or one hand. There is the stylish Hutsul duo of dancers with “topirysi,” the traditional axes-cum-walking sticks of the Ukrainian mountain men. There is the sweet nightingale song from a little 10-year-old diva, blond as the sun, with all the other children singing the chorus, and a pert solo folk dance from her older sister, equally blond. There is the masterful, sonorous violin of a 12-year-old virtuoso, going well beyond words, where only music can take you, playing hypnotic compositions written by his older brother, who accompanies on keyboard or guitar (he plays standing, with the guitar slipping ... I present him with my guitar strap after the next number). There are scenes depicting a mother’s grief as she clutches her baby, willing to make it well by the strength of her love and dedication, but unable to do so.

We forget the sweltering heat and pesky insects of this extraordinary summer. I am not surprised to find myself wiping tears away, as do other camp counselors and stray adults in the audience. I am not even very surprised that little music-loving Teodor, at first expectantly sitting alongside to watch “nashi dity” perform, in time climbs onto his mother’s lap for comfort, later dissolves in tears beyond his comprehension, and eventually has to leave the hall, unable to regain his composure.

But I am surprised to find the teens from the camp sitting spellbound, totally silent for perhaps the first time since camp began. A few snuffles and even the occasional sob escape their efforts at suppression. No matter that many of them have trouble putting together a single gram-



Bohdanna Wolanska

The “Dity Ditiyam” ensemble on the Verkhovyna stage. Natalia Scherban (center) performs the solo.



Present and future virtuosos: Vasyl Popadiuk (left) and Dmytro Demidov.

matically correct sentence in Ukrainian – the heartfelt appeal of “Dity Ditiyam” has transcended thousands of miles of separation and decades of “Russification” on one side of the ocean and “Americanization” on the other.

Two days later, a mini-version of the concert is presented at the Verkhovyna Youth Festival, and the road trip has begun in earnest. Violin star Vasyl Popadiuk, the “world’s fastest fiddler,” is on the program and strikes up a friendship with our shy young violinist, Dmytro Demidov. The two quietly intense virtuosos, present and future, play an impromptu duet backstage between numbers (oh, for a video camera!). Mr. Popadiuk graciously recognizes his future competitor. The other children approach, shyly at first, then surround him for autographs.

The concert resumes, and the audience, melting under the sun of the record heat wave, nevertheless reacts just like the summer camp kids did. We open our hearts to these children, “our” children, and our pockets. We take up a collection for the hospital. We buy them fruit for their long journey to the next city.

These children have retold us the terrible tale that we are to remember forever; they have wrung our hearts with images of young children forced to become adults before their time. But this is not merely another pathetic hardship case bidding for our overtaxed attention and overspent wallets. What they especially have shown us is the formidable depth of their artistic talent, their unquenchable desire to become all they can be, their inexhaustible strength and optimism in the face of seemingly overwhelming obstacles. They are not only a symbol of the hardships Ukraine suffers today, they are also a symbol of what glories her future may bring tomorrow.

The “Dity Ditiyam” tour is still in progress. Go, see them, hear them, be amazed and moved. Cry, laugh, remember why you’re proud to be a Ukrainian. Give them money for the hospital. Give them food for the road, so they don’t have to spend precious capital. Give them pocket money – they are not being paid. This is one touring group that will give you back much more than you give them.

Look for them according to the remaining schedule: August 15 – Chicago; August 22 – Minneapolis; August 27 – Detroit and August 28 – Cleveland. Donations can also be sent to the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003, with the note “Chernobyl Children’s Hospital” in the memo section of your check.

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.
- ✦ Photographs (originals only, no photocopies or computer printouts) submitted for publication must be accompanied by captions. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- ✦ Full names (i.e., no initials) and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- ✦ Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- ✦ Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- ✦ Persons who submit any materials must provide a daytime phone number where they may be reached if any additional information is required.

“Collectors’ Bounty”: Pushkar and Rak collections at The Ukrainian Museum

by Marta Baczynsky

NEW YORK – “Collectors’ Bounty: Selections of Paintings and Drawings from the Fine Arts Collection of The Ukrainian Museum” is currently being shown at the museum, offering a rich palette of art works of some of the most important, best known, admired and beloved Ukrainian artists.

The exhibition was developed from paintings and drawings that were recently donated to the museum from the collections of Dr. Wolodymyr Pushkar, and the estate of Bohdan and Oksana Rak. The exhibit is scheduled to close on September 26.

Eleven artists are represented: Mykola Azovsky (1903-1947), Mykola Butovych (1895-1961), Alexis Gritchenko (1883-1977), Liuboslav Hutsaliuk (1923), Fedir Konovaliuk (1890), Borys Kriukov (1895-1967), Mykhailo Moroz (1904-1992), Oleksa Novakivsky (1872-1935), Myroslav Radysh (1910-1956), Ivan Trush (1869-1941) and Ivan Izhakevych (1864-1962).

The timeframe encompassed by this exhibition is the second half of the 19th century to the present time. The 32 paintings exhibited reflect the styles that dominated certain periods, such as impressionism and expressionism.

The artists were born in different parts of Ukraine and are of various generations. Although they were all nurtured and sustained by their common cultural heritage that is so strongly evident in the works of several of these artists, the creative output of each is mostly a reflection of that individual’s specific journey to find artistic fulfillment.

This exhibition is part of a series of exhibitions titled “In Celebration of Private Collectors.” Through these the museum would like to acknowledge the important role that private collectors have played in the formation of significant collections, which they in turn shared with the general public, whether through loans for special exhibitions or outright gifts to cultural institutions. It is mostly through the generosity of several such private collectors that the museum has been able to build its Fine Art Collection.

Dr. Pushkar has donated several of the paintings on the exhibit to the museum in memory of his wife, Stefania. Among them are several rare paintings by Ivan Izhakevych. These may be the only works of the artist to be seen in the United States,

perhaps anywhere outside of Ukraine. Dr. Pushkar and his wife owned important art works, both in the Ukrainian fine arts and folk art category. In 1990 he donated a valuable collection of ceramics from Pistyn and Kosiv to the museum, also in the memory of his wife. These donations have a very special significance to the museum, due to the fact that Mrs. Pushkar has played a role in the history of the institution.

As a community activist, Mrs. Pushkar had two vital interests in her life: the woman’s movement and the arts, to the welfare of which she devoted a great deal of time, expertise and energy. While still in Lviv, she was the co-founder of the popular women’s journal *Nova Khata* and the director of the *Ukrainske Narodne Mystestvo* cooperative. She organized the Ukrainian pavilion at the World’s Fair in Chicago in 1932-1933, with an exhibition of a collection of Ukrainian folk art. Many decades later this collection, which had been cared for by the Ukrainian National Women’s League of America (UNWLA) through the years, became the nucleus of the Folk Art Collection of The Ukrainian Museum in New York City, which was founded by UNWLA in 1976. Mrs. Pushkar was also the president of UNWLA in 1966-1971 and the co-founder of the World Federation of Ukrainian Women’s Organizations.

Guided by their love and appreciation of Ukrainian art, Bohdan and Oksana Rak were able to build an impressive collection of works of noted Ukrainian artists, among them Novakivsky, Moroz, Hryshchenko and others, total of 26 paintings. The collection also included a remarkable drawing by Novakivsky, which was revealed to be one of a series of sketches that the artist had made for a monumental painting for a church. While both were still alive, Mr. and Mrs. Rak had willed their much prized collection to The Ukrainian Museum, which the museum received following the death of Mrs. Rak in February this year.

Both Mr. and Mrs. Rak were community activists, and toward that end they gave, freely and generously, both their time and financial support. Mr. Rak was the co-organizer of the Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada, which he headed for several years. He was also the

(Continued on page 13)



“Blessed Mother with the Child Jesus” by Oleksa Novakivsky (1872-1935), paper, ink, pencil (Fine Art Collection of The Ukrainian Museum, gift from the estate of Bohdan and Oksana Rak).

Long-lost estate...

(Continued from page 1)

50 keyboard concertos, and many other vocal and instrumental works. Most of the compositions, including all the Passions, more than two-thirds of the keyboard concertos, many chamber works, and are unpublished and have never been available for performance or study.

In addition to important 17th and 18th century manuscripts, the Sing-Akademie collection also contains substantial holdings (in part stemming from the Bach estate) of works by Georg Philipp Telemann (220-plus cantatas), Carl Heinrich and Johann Gottlieb Graun (more than 150 vocal and over 420 instrumental sources), Johann Adolf Hasse (about 130 vocal and 80 instrumental sources), Franz and Georg Benda (about 120 works), and compositions by many musicians from 18th and early 19th century Berlin, most of them associated with the Prussian royal court. Goethe’s letters to Zelter, from the famous Goethe-Zelter correspondence, also form part of the archive.

Trophy art, library books and archives from Western Europe transferred to the former USSR after World War II were, for the most part, kept hidden throughout the Soviet period. However, since its independence, Ukraine has led former Soviet republics in restitution efforts and signed a cultural agreement with Germany providing for the mutual return of wartime cultural trophies. A number of symbolic acts of restitution have taken place in recent years, including the 1996 return to the

Dresden Art Gallery of valuable albums of drawings and lithographs found in Kyiv and the return of three drawings to the Bremen Kunsthalle from private sources in 1997. Ukraine has simultaneously received from Germany some important cultural treasures that had been seized by the Nazis during the war.

The over 5,000 music scores from the Sing-Akademie archive identified this summer in Kyiv undoubtedly represent the most valuable trophy collection to have surfaced in Ukraine. The Main Archival Administration of Ukraine and the Central State Archive-Museum of Literature and Art are closely cooperating with the Harvard specialists and agreed to plan a collaborative project with Harvard University and the Packard Humanities Institute to make these uniquely important materials available for research and performance.

A catalogue of the Bachiana in the Sing-Akademie archive is projected as part of the Bach Repertorium series, a research project on the music of the Bach family jointly undertaken by the Harvard Music Department and the Leipzig Bach Archive. It is hoped that the Academy of Music in Kyiv will be able to participate. The project will also be closely coordinated with the Sing-Akademie of Berlin, one of Germany’s oldest continuing performing organizations, and there is hope that the priceless musical sources will eventually be returned to their original home.

Christoph Wolff is William Powell Mason Professor of Music and dean of the Graduate School of Arts and Sciences, Harvard University.



“Flute Player” by Ivan Izhakevych (1864-1962), oil on canvas (Fine Arts Collection of The Ukrainian Museum, gift of Dr. Wolodymyr Pushkar in memory of his wife, Stefania).

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Beyond the smoke

(Continued from page 7)

weeks, do you think anyone in their right mind would want it?" They, like I, did not even understand what part was smoked.

One woman said that hemp was sown thickly, because each stalk meant that much more fiber, so there were few leaves along the sides. Only later did I learn that the best smoking was from the tops. My mother-in-law mentioned how difficult it was to weed the hemp, because you could only work in it for short periods of time, since after a half-hour or so you had a terrible headache from the smell, especially on a hot sunny day. This very strong smell is noted in folklore, and the saying "He jumped out like Philip out of the hemp" [vyskochyv iak Pylyp z konopel] describes a rabbit hiding himself and his scent in the hemp stand, and then jumping out, dazed from the smell, after his pursuers have passed. In western Ukraine, under Polish rule before World War II, Ukrainian farmers grew tobacco illegally (to avoid high Polish taxes). Ironically for us now, they hid their tobacco by planting it inside stands of legal hemp, which was higher and smelled much stronger than the tobacco.

Hemp was used medicinally as a painkiller, especially during childbirth labor and other extreme pain, for sleep-inducement and as a poultice. No matter which Ukrainian medical or folk source I check, hemp is listed as a medicinal plant, with no mention of smoking (even for medicinal purposes) or hallucinogenic use. The encyclopedic dictionary Likarski Roslyny (Medicinal Plants) published in Kyiv by the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in 1991, lists konopli posivni [seeding hemp], cannabis sativa as one of the 1,297 medicinal plants of Ukraine cultivated as a textile and oil-producing plant that often grows wild. The seeds (semen cannabis sativae) and the tops of the female plants (with the flowers and leaves) are used for medicinal purposes. In folk medicine, an infusion of the leaves is used as a sedative, an analgesic, and a hypnotic (sleep-inducer). Hemp "molocho," i.e. "milk" - an infusion of crushed hemp seeds - is used as an anti-septic, diuretic, softener, emollient and a general tonic. The infusion is prescribed for infections of the digestive and genitourinary tracts, hemorrhoids, dropsy, scrofula, tuberculosis, nervous exhaustion and hypolactia. Folk medicine suggests hemp seed sauteed with salt as an aphrodisiac ("strengthens sexual activity" - the old-timers' Viagra?). As an analgesic poultice,

heated and crushed hemp seed is applied to ease the pain of mastitis, chronic rheumatism and burns, and to soften boils and abscesses. Cannabis is used internally and externally, sometimes in combination with other medicinal plants.

The non-medicinal hallucinogenic use of cannabis and poppies (papaver) began only a few decades ago in Ukraine, under Western influence. There have been stories of poppy pods disappearing overnight from gardens with the alleged addicts apparently unaware that it is only the unripe pod that produces the latex for opium. While there may be a remnant of the drug in the dried poppy seeds (as those who have taken a drug test after eating poppy seed bagels found out), but it is minute.

Renowned Canadian poet Andrew Suknaski wrote "Konopli" ("The Land They Gave Away," Edmonton: NeWest Press, 1982). In it "dido's" [grandfather's] friends suffer withdrawal pangs because of the scarcity of tobacco during World War I, and smoke whatever leaves are around, from bullrushes and nettles, "and simply anything." But Suknaski's dido [in this case, great-grandfather]: "... silent as granite in his corner of the living room, was often lost in a cloud of rising smoke like a chimney on a cold windless winter morning, baba coughing and chiding dido ... dido always mumbling between well-spaced blissful eternities and keeping his secret. 'Faino babo ... faino ... vse bude iak zoloto' ... [beautiful, old woman, beautiful ... everything will be like gold!]" But this dido's "secret" indicates that cannabis was not ordinarily smoked, since the other didos try smoking many other things first, and not konopli.

The cannabis grown for fiber differs in potency from that grown for hallucinogenics. The line often repeated is that one would have to smoke a field of the former to get any semblance of a high. Now that marijuana use is being eased in legally for medicinal purposes, and Canadian fields are growing industrial hemp for fabric, cord and paper on an experimental basis (hemp fabric, what a novel concept, eh?), maybe North American society will accept the ancient practical uses of this useful medicinal and fiber plant. We need to look beyond the smoke - and the smoking - to see the positive uses of this ancient plant. How does the song go? Everything old is new again.

I long to taste pampushky fried in hemp oil.

An abridged version of this article appeared in *The Dauphin Herald* (May 25).

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Edward Dmytryk...

(Continued from page 4)

ed from Austro-Hungary. The family first lived in San Francisco and then in Los Angeles.

Edward began selling and delivering newspapers at age 6 and left home at 14, becoming a messenger at Paramount Pictures for \$6 a week while attending Hollywood High School. He rose to projectionist at 19, film editor at 21 and director at 31. He studied at the California Institute of Technology for a year, but dropped out to learn about movie-making.

As noted in The New York Times obituary, he said his most valuable training was tightening scripts for maximum effect and minimum dialogue. As for directing,

he believed "the hand on the tiller" should be "gentle, but firm – and undivided." He said a director should also be a film's producer; the dual assignment "eliminated the need for compromise," which he deplored as "the single most difficult problem facing any creator."

In later years Mr. Dmytryk taught film theory and production, first at the University of Texas in Austin, then at the University of Southern California. He also wrote several books on filmmaking, among them "On Screen Directing."

Mr. Dmytryk's first marriage, to Madeleine Robinson, ended in divorce in 1948. The director is survived by his wife, Jean Porter, an actress whom he married in 1948; two sons, Richard and Michael; two daughters, Victoria and Rebecca; and three grandchildren.

Supreme Court overrules...

(Continued from page 1)

sions were politically driven from above. None of them is yet ready, however, to identify specifically who handed down the command.

"I can state frankly that the CEC decision was a political order," said Mr. Rzhavskiy after the Supreme Court ruled in his favor. He would not state who gave it, however.

A successful fellow appellant, Mr. Onopenko, would only say that the orders came from "the gang on Bankivska Street" (where the presidential administration buildings are housed).

"Riabets would not have broken the law if he had not received orders from above. What scares me is not that it was ordered on Onopenko, but the whole principle behind it," explained Mr. Onopenko.

He said what was surprising to him as he watched the court proceedings was that the CEC lawyers could not explain why they had thrown out signatures, and did not even describe the signature verification process.

Mr. Onopenko, who until 1995 was President Leonid Kuchma's minister of justice and has been associated with the Supreme Court in the past, gave high praise to the judicial body's assertion of authority over the election process.

"The third branch of power is finally getting on its feet and beginning to make the decisions required of it," said Mr. Onopenko.

There has been speculation among political observers, however, that the Supreme Court ruling also is entrenched in politics.

One theory suggests that Supreme

Court Chief Justice Vitalii Boyko is using his position to throw wide open the election process that the presidential administration has attempted to quietly craft.

A press secretary to one of the original candidates registered for the presidential elections, who wished to remain anonymous, explained to The Ukrainian Weekly that Mr. Boyko and the president had been at political odds since Mr. Boyko was recalled as ambassador to Moldova not long after Mr. Kuchma took office.

According to the press secretary, Mr. Boyko's loyalties lie with Oleksander Moroz, one of president's chief rivals in the upcoming elections, who as chairman of the Verkhovna Rada supported the nomination and election of the former ambassador to head the nation's highest appellate court.

Because the six candidates who were not registered by the CEC are given almost no chance of winning the elections, they will most likely eventually throw the little support they have to one of the front-runners in exchange for political consideration. In this case the recipient of the added support could be Mr. Moroz.

Not everyone agrees, however. Mykola Tomenko, a political analyst for the Institute of Politics, said that although there may be some merit to such a conspiracy theory, he could not agree that such overt political maneuvering is taking place.

"It is far from clear who will benefit politically from a large field of candidates," explained Mr. Tomenko. "If [Vitalii] Kononov [the Greens Party candidate] and Rzhavskiy throw their votes to Kuchma in the end, then it will be for his benefit. They have both supported him in the past."

As The Weekly was going to press, Interfax-Ukraine reported that the Supreme Court had ordered that Mr. Kononov be registered as the 14th candidate in the presidential elections. Still undetermined is the appeal filed by the sixth candidate who was rejected by the CEC, Yuri Karmazin of the Defenders of the Homeland Party.

The immediate question is whether the elections themselves are now under threat. If Mr. Riabets and the election commission are forced to resign, which several of the latest candidates are calling for, it would be nearly impossible to elect a new commission in time to still hold the vote at the end of October.

For now, Mr. Riabets is refusing to consider even the possibility of his departure.

"The Central Election Commission and its chairman are not preparing to offer their resignations and will continue to execute their responsibilities in full until the elections are completed," said Mr. Riabets on August 10.

Hryvnia drops in value...

(Continued from page 1)

exchange rate that we had was realistic given our situation?"

But several days later the government was ready for a limited intervention.

Both Vice Prime Minister of Economic Reforms Serhii Tyhypko and the president's chief economic aide, Pavlo Haidutsky, called for the NBU to intercede to keep the hryvnia within the currency corridor after it had strengthened to 4.50 hrv against the dollar the morning of August 11.

"Today, when the turmoil on the oil product market is subsiding, an opportunity has appeared to use the potential of an intervention to improve the situation on the foreign currency market for supporting the hryvnia," said Mr. Haidutsky.

He explained that 90 percent of the hryvnia's drop in value can be attributed to the sharp rise in oil products. He said that had the NBU intervened earlier, oil and gas traders could have made even more money by converting their already usurious profits from the astronomical

rise in oil prices into dollars. He said that it was better to have let the hryvnia float, which deflated the added income the traders could have made.

The same day the NBU and the government issued a joint statement in which they detailed a plan to keep oil price instability from affecting the strength of the national currency in the future. The plan calls for governmental non-interference in price formation and oil distribution, and incentives to lure oil and gas traders back into the Ukrainian market.

The government has said the acute oil and gas shortage that hit Ukraine in mid-July was caused by a drastic depletion of in-country reserves after the harvest season went into full swing. The marketplace would have replaced the stocks naturally, but many of the trading companies were leery of the Ukrainian market after the government had stopped subsidizing import tariffs.

In addition, many of the firms that had supplied Ukraine with oil and gas, most Russian-based, lately have been turning to other markets, where they can demand a higher price for their product.



We are deeply saddened to announce the passing of

IVAN BOHDAN SIMON ZAYAC

on Thursday, August 5, 1999

Born in Lviv, Ukraine, on October 6, 1910.

Came to the United States in 1948. Citizen of the U.S. since 1955.

Studied music, law and architecture in Poland, Ukraine, France and the United States.

B.Arch. degree, Cooper Union School of Architecture, NY;

M.Arch. degree, Columbia University, NY;

Architect for I. M. Pei & Partners, Edward Durrell Stone, Mies van der Rohe, Philip C. Johnson, Edward Larrabee Barnes.

Building projects include: IBM Building, Seagram Building, and GM Building, NYC; State University, Albany, NY; National Gallery of Art, JFK Center for Performing Arts and Kennedy Center, Washington, DC; John Hancock Building, Boston; Museum of Ukrainian Art, Hunter, NY; Ukrainian Cultural Center; numerous private houses.

Survived by his wife, Stephanie Dorosh Zayac, of Forest Hills, NY, daughter, Maria Falina Zayac, of Rome, Italy, step-daughters, Daria Dorosh of Forest Hills, NY, and Christine Schaefer of Englewood, NJ, and his beloved grandchildren, great-grandchildren and family members.

Viewing was held from 4:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. on Friday, August 6, with the Panakhyda at 7:30 p.m. at Peter Jarema Funeral Home, 129 E. 7th St., New York City.

Interment was at St. Andrew's Cemetery, South Bound Brook, NJ after a Mass at St. Andrew's Chapel at 10:30 a.m., Saturday, August 7, 1999.

"Collectors' Bounty" ...

(Continued from page 11)

president of the Dumka Chorus. For many years Mrs. Rak was an active member of UNWLA, holding many posts in the organization, among them president of the New York Regional Council during the years 1966-1970 and 1974-1975.

Both were members of the museum since 1978 and its generous supporters. When Mr. Rak died, his wife opened an endowment fund in his name, donating \$25,000 to the institution.

On exhibit also are various publications (monographs of the artists.)

The Ukrainian Museum is open to the public Wednesday through Sunday, 1-5 p.m. Admission is \$3 for adults, \$2 for senior citizens and students. Admission for museum members is free.

For further information, call the museum office, (212) 228-0110, or visit the website at http://www.brama.com/ukrainian_museum.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

to be published in The Ukrainian Weekly – in the Ukrainian or English language – are accepted by mail, courier, fax, phone or e-mail.

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SUMMER PROGRAMS 1999

Saturday, August 21 UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS

8:30 p.m. **CONCERT – SOYUZIVKA DANCE WORKSHOP RECITAL**
 Director: **ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY**
 10:00 p.m. **DANCE – music provided by TEMPO**
EXHIBIT – works of DARIA "DYCIA" HANUSHEVSKY

Sunday, August 22 UNWLA DAY

Saturday, August 28

8:30 p.m. **CONCERT – Soprano OKSANA CHARUK**
 Pianist **THOMAS HRYNKIV**
 10:00 p.m. **DANCE – music provided by NA ZDOROVJA**
EXHIBIT – works by TARAS BILTCHUK

Friday, September 3 LABOR DAY WEEKEND

8:30 p.m. **CONCERT – "VESELI CHEREVYCHKY,"**
CHILDREN'S FOLK DANCE BALLET from Lviv, Ukraine.
 10:00 p.m. **DANCE – music provided by LUNA,**
 "Midnight Bigus" in Trembita Lounge

Saturday, September 4

8:30 p.m. **CONCERT – Ukrainian Dance Ensemble "VITRETS" (Winnipeg)**
 Vocal Instrumental Ensemble **"VIDLUNYA"**
 10:00 p.m. **DANCE – music provided by TEMPO, ZOLOTA BULAVA**

Sunday, September 5

2:00 p.m. **CONCERT – "VESELI CHEREVYCHKY,"**
CHILDREN'S FOLK DANCE BALLET from Lviv, Ukraine.
 8:30 p.m. **CONCERT – Vocalist IVAN POPOVYCH**
 10:00 p.m. **DANCE – music provided by FATA MORGANA**

Every Friday evening, beginning at 10 p.m., on the Veselka patio – music by Vidlunnia

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.

SPORTSLINE

by Andriy Kudla Wynnyckyj

BASKETBALL

Ukrainian in top 10 in NBA draft

On August 2, Wally Szczerbiak, 22, a Ukrainian native of Madrid, Spain, who now hails from Cold Spring Harbor (Long Island), N.Y., was signed to a three-year \$6.47 million contract by the Minnesota Timberwolves of the National Basketball Association's Western Conference.

According to a report by Tim Klobuchar of the Minnesota Star Tribune, the value of the contract is "the maximum amount allowed ... under the league's collective bargaining agreement. Szczerbiak will make \$2.01 million this season, \$2.16 million in the second year and \$2.31 in the third. The team holds an option for a fourth year at \$2.9 million."

Earlier this summer, on July 1, Mr. Szczerbiak became a top-10 pick in the first round of the NBA draft. He was taken sixth over all by the Timberwolves, the decision made by the club's vice-president, former Boston Celtic star and recent Basketball Hall of Fame inductee Kevin McHale.

In the Associated Press story about the draft, Marty Blake, the NBA's scouting director, was quoted as saying: "Wally was the best shooter in college basketball [in the 1998-1999] season."

Minnesota Head Coach and General Manager Flip Saunders said: "We are pleased to have Wally on board. He's a smart player and a solid shooter. We feel he can contribute immediately."

Earlier this year, the New York Post's sports columnist Anthony Gargano wrote that the "Next [Larry] Bird looks like Szczerbiak."

Mr. Szczerbiak has turned pro spectacularly after an impressive four-year career at the University of Miami in Ohio.

The 6-foot-8-inch 240-pound-plus giant (by average human reckoning) is the Miami RedHawks' career three-point percentage shooting leader (43.1), ranks second on Miami's career list in scoring with 1,847 points (trailing only NBA star Ron Harper's 2,377 points), and is second in field goals made (671), and three-pointers made (204) and attempted (473); third in field goals attempted (1,310); fourth in field goal percentage (51.2), free throw percentage (80.9) and blocks (79); sixth in scoring average (17.6 points per game); seventh in minutes played (3,290); and 10th in rebounds (666).

He averaged just over 24 points per game over his final two college seasons (third in the entire U.S.), and in this last campaign led the team in a stunning run to the National Collegiate Athletic Association's round of 16. In the NCAA Tournament opener against Washington, he scored a career-high of 43 points (72.9 percent of his team's total, an NCAA Tournament record), lifting the RedHawks to a 59-58 win.

Mr. Szczerbiak led all NCAA Tournament scorers with a 30 points-per-game average and was named to the Midwest Regional All-Tournament Team.

In 1998, he led Team USA's march to the gold medal at the Goodwill Games with a squad-high 17.8 points-per-game average. This July, he was allowed to join a Team USA roster bursting with NBA superstars that won gold at the Tournament of the Americas (albeit for limited action). Thus, Mr. Szczerbiak qualified along with this edition of the "Dream Team" to play with the red-white-and-blue in the 2000 Olympics in Sydney, Australia.

Mr. Szczerbiak was already doing this kind of thing in high school in Cold Spring Harbor, where he scored a school-record of 1,709 career points (28.9 per-game average), earning 1995 Long Island and Nassau

County Player of the Year honors, and drawing recognition from Street & Smith's magazine as an All-American.

The reason? It's in his blood — his father, Walt Szczerbiak, 49, starred with Real Madrid (obviously not just a soccer team) in the 1970s, after playing for the American Basketball Association's Pittsburgh Condors.

The new Minnesota Timberwolf was born in Madrid during his father's sojourn in Spain, where Walt led Real to three European Championships and set the Spanish pro league's single-game scoring record (65). His grandparents Maria and Michael Szczerbiak were displaced persons who immigrated to the U.S. after the war, settling in Pittsburgh.

Then again, maybe it was nurture, not nature. The NBA draftee told the New York Post: "I played ball all the time growing up. I love the game, I study it. I think I'm a smart player. I play it with a sane head. My dad schooled me well."

BASEBALL

Konerko finds "sweet home" in Chicago

Yes, Virginia, there is a Ukrainian in the majors. In fact, he's been in and out of "The Show" for three years, struggling to make good on the raves he earned in minor leagues. After two difficult seasons with the Los Angeles Dodgers and the Cincinnati Reds of the National League, Paul Konerko appears to have found himself a home with the American League's Chicago White Sox.

And he's platooning with one of baseball's best — the awesome first baseman Frank Thomas.

As of July 30, the 23-year-old from Providence, R.I., had already played more games (82) in the bigs than with the Reds and Dodgers combined. His batting average stood at a healthy .302 and he'd swatted 15 home runs for 39 RBI, with an impressive .522 slugging percentage.

As Jason Beck, reporter for CBS SportsLine put it earlier in the season, "All Paul Konerko needed was a trade to the American League to hit himself out of a corner."

In 1994 Mr. Konerko was the L.A. Dodgers' first round draft pick, 13th over all. In 1997, playing for Triple-A Albuquerque as a catcher, he repaid their confidence by hitting 37 homers (tops in the Pacific Coast League, PCL), driving in 127 runs, while posting a .327 batting average and a .621 slugging percentage (also tops). This earned him the Taylor J. Spink Award as Minor League Player of the Year and the PCL's Most Valuable Player award. As ESPN's scouting report put it, "Paul Konerko was being touted as the next in a long line of Dodgers who became Rookie of the Year."

Unfortunately, what followed was a series of struggles and reversals. In part because the Dodgers' carousel involving catcher Mike Piazza, rookie sensation Eric Karros and the arrival of outfielder Bobby Bonilla sent him careening from position to position, Mr. Konerko went into a profound slump, got demoted to Triple-A, was traded to the Reds, slumped again and got sent back down to the minors.

In the off-season he requested a trade and got it. The change obviously did him good. In spring training this year he hit for a whopping .379 average with 17 RBI.

In the season's opening series in April, in an away game against the Seattle Mariners, the Chisox let him bat out of the DH spot to make him feel fully at home in the American League. Mr. Konerko responded by belting a two-run homer then blew open an 8-2 victory.

(Continued on page 15)

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Sportsline

(Continued from page 14)

On August 8 against Oakland (in a 7-5 heartbreak ninth-inning-loss), he went 2 for 4 (two hits in four plate appearances), and sent another ball into the seats, giving him 16 home runs for the season.

HOCKEY

Shvydkiy first round NHL pick

Sportsline's last installment introduced readers (and finally assuaged those who'd known all along) to the Kharkiv-born forward of the Barrie Colts, Denys Shvydkiy.

On June 26 in Boston's Fleet Center the 18-year-old was in the news again, picked 12th over all in the first round of the NHL entry draft by the Florida Panthers. At press time, the team had made no announcements on whether Mr. Shvydkiy will be signed to a contract to play in the NHL this year.

Other news out of the draft included the Phoenix Coyotes deal of Oleh Tverdovsky to the Anaheim Mighty Ducks for their 15th spot in the first round.

GOLF

Kuchar still an amateur

Thanks to golfer Matt Kuchar's grandfather, Maurice Kuchar, Sportsline wishes to correct an error made in the last installment and provide some further information. Mr. Kuchar has not yet turned pro, as was erroneously mentioned. His grandfather wrote on July 20: "[Matt] is still an amateur until he graduates next year from Georgia Tech ... He will be playing as an amateur ... at the Greater Hartford Open on a sponsor's exemption."

At the Greater Hartford in Cromwell, Conn., held July 25-August 1, he shot a first-round 76 six over par, then improved to 71 in the next round, but this

put him over the 139-point cut-off to qualify for further play.

According to an article in the USA Today's July 9 issue, Mr. Kuchar's game has suffered in part because of the heavy course load he undertook in order to be able to receive his diploma in 2000. At the Loch Lomond tournament in Scotland in early July, the 21-year-old from Lake Mary, Fla., just made the initial cut, recovering from a first-round 74 three over par to shoot a 69 in the second round. He either did not qualify or chose not to enter the British Open held the following week.

SOCCER HOLIDAY ANYONE?

Rabid Ukrainian sports patriots (those gazing all the way down to the end of this column qualify automatically) will be interested in the offer being made by the MSW Travel Group. Team Ukraine will be playing Iceland in Reykjavik on September 8, and you can be in the land of sweaters and volcanoes to watch the blue-and-yellows in European Cup qualifying.

The package provides for departures on the trans-Atlantic flight to Keflavik International Airport from New York's JFK, Boston, Baltimore or Minneapolis on September 6 or 7 (depending on whether you want the three-or four-day package), two to three nights accommodation, and daily Scandinavian buffet breakfasts.

The cost of the trip ranges from a four-day single room package at \$932 (US) to three-day shared triple package at \$654. Airport taxes and airfare are not included.

We thank Walter Hywel for this tip. Mr. Hywel can be reached (for information only) at (973) 751-5866. The MSW Travel Group can be reached at the Rockefeller Center, 630 Fifth Ave, New York, NY 10111; telephone, (212) 332-8933; fax, (212) 399-6277; e-mail, tbigler@mswtravelny.com

Sportsline can be reached by e-mail: toronto@ukrweekly.com.

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National Credit Union Association elects Denysenko to chair board

ROCHESTER, N.Y. – At its annual meeting and convention in Washington on June 27, the Ukrainian National Credit Union Association elected Tamara Denysenko as chairman of its board of directors. The UNCUA, a trade association of 22 Ukrainian American credit unions, serves over 75,000 members nationwide with assets exceeding 1.25 billion.

"For over 45 years, the association's credit union filled a special niche in the fabric of their respective communities," Ms. Denysenko said. "Each credit union not only provided unique and beneficial personal and business financial services, but also sustained its membership's common bond – their Ukrainian heritage and roots."

As the first woman to serve as chairman, Ms. Denysenko's mission is to facilitate the development of credit unions for a new wave of immigrants from Ukraine in the states of Washington and California. She plans to focus on strengthening the effectiveness of UNCUA as a trade association in the new millennium. Her goal also is to help position member-credit unions to successfully compete in the technologically evolving financial services industry, while fulfilling their social, cultural and educational missions in their respective communities.

Ms. Denysenko is the general manager/CEO of the Rochester Ukrainian Federal Credit Union. She has been actively involved in the credit union movement for over 20 years. She was editor of bilingual credit union publications, served as treasurer of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives, and was an officer and president of the Rochester District, New York State Credit Union League.

Over the past 10 years she traveled annually to Ukraine to help reintroduce



Tamara Denysenko

credit unions, provide humanitarian aid and strengthen the sister cities relationship between Irondequoit, N.Y., and Poltava, Ukraine.

In addition to her professional and credit union activities, Ms. Denysenko co-produced and co-hosted the first Ukrainian cable TV program in the Rochester area for seven years. She served in various community, church and professional organizations in Irondequoit, N.Y.

In recognition of her achievements she received a Silver Award from the World Council of Credit Unions, certificates of appreciation from Ukraine's ambassador to the United States and from the Ukrainian Credit Union Training Center in Kyiv. In 1995 she was named one of the Outstanding Women of Irondequoit. She and her husband, Walter, have three grown children, Nina, Andrew and Taras.



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 2. All advertising correspondence should be directed to Mrs. Maria Szeparowycz, advertising manager.
 3. Kindly make checks payable to Svboda or The Ukrainian Weekly, as appropriate.

Tilting the chessboard...

(Continued from page 2)

financial institutions are likely to react negatively to this latest indication of instability within the upper echelons of the Russian state.

The reaction of the markets is almost certain to be both quick and negative, driving down the ruble's exchange rate, reducing still further the willingness of private firms to invest there, and thus further exacerbating Russia's economic difficulties. All these developments will only highlight the conditions that are behind the growing opposition to President Yeltsin among the Russian people.

The initial reaction of Western governments is likely to be more cautious. On the one hand, many are likely to view Mr. Yeltsin's latest move the same way they viewed earlier ones of this kind – as a high risk but as perhaps the necessary step by someone many have come to view as the only reliable partner they have in Moscow.

On the other, precisely because Mr. Yeltsin has used this stratagem so often and

precisely because it is once again threatening to destabilize the political situation in Moscow, ever more voices in Western capitals are likely to begin to ask questions about his reliability and about relations with Moscow after President Yeltsin.

The latter response is particularly likely because of Mr. Yeltsin's suggestion that he would like to see Mr. Putin as his successor. Some are certain to be concerned by the prospect of a longtime Soviet spy at the head of the Russian government, while others will be worried by the possibility that Mr. Yeltsin may suddenly transfer power to Mr. Putin as a means of avoiding a loss in the upcoming parliamentary elections.

Each time President Yeltsin has tossed the Russian chessboard into the air in order to maintain power, there have been suggestions that he has used this strategy once too often. That is certain to be the case once again this week. And regardless of whether this is Mr. Yeltsin's final August ploy, the suggestions themselves will cast an ever larger shadow over Russian politics, the Russian people and Russia's relations with the West.

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Berwick activist helps orphans in Ukraine

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – During a recent visit to his homeland, Tymko Butrej granted Ukrainian orphans a better learning environment. He generously spent \$3,000 in the purchase of 100 double-seat desks for his former schoolhouse in Turka, Lviv Oblast.

The Weekly recently received a letter from Emilia Kalishovka, a teacher at the Turka orphanage, expressing the gratitude of the orphans, the teaching staff, and the headmaster for Mr. Butrej's kindness.

"At a time when a great number of children's health centers and hospitals

are being closed for lack of money, it would be no exaggeration to say that you are the only one who came forward and gave us friendly support. You can't even imagine to what extent we needed your help," she noted.

The letter also thanks Mr. Butrej in advance for his intention to purchase dinnerware and utensils for 200 orphaned children.

Mr. Butrej also sends packages containing clothes, shoes, school supplies and books to his relatives who, in turn, distribute them in surrounding areas.

Mr. Butrej is the secretary of Ukrainian National Association Branch 164 in Berwick, Pa., and is a former longtime chairman of the Wilkes-Barre District of the UNA.

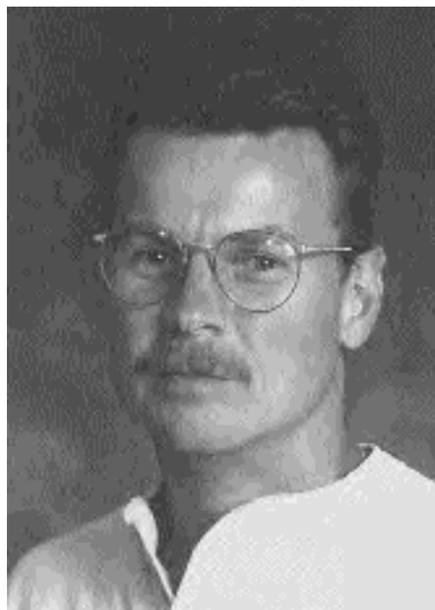
Named fitness manager at new student center

PHILADELPHIA – Alex Pastuszek has been appointed the fitness/recreation manager of the newly built Student Activities Center at the Philadelphia College of Osteopathic Medicine.

PCOM, one of the top five osteopathic medical schools in the nation, is celebrating its 100th anniversary this year. The new Student Activities Center will open in late August and will be the new training center for the Philadelphia 76ers, as well as a fitness center for students, faculty and staff of the college.

Mr. Pastuszek is the former owner of Alexander R. Pastuszek Contractors, an 18-year-old paving and concrete company that served the Delaware County area until 1998.

A "fitness personality" for more than 10 years, Mr. Pastuszek is the former owner of Total Body Works and a former instructor at The Sports Club in Woodlyn. Mr. Pastuszek is also the strength and conditioning coach of the Delco Phantoms Ice Hockey Club. Prior



Alex Pastuszek

to joining the staff of PCOM, he was a personal trainer and group fitness instructor at the Crozer-Keystone Healthplex in Springfield.

Mr. Pastuszek is a member of UNA Branch 231.

Recognized as "Realtor Emeritus"

SWARTHMORE, Pa. – William J. Pastuszek was one of two realtors in Delaware County recently designated Realtor Emeritus" by the National Association of Realtors.

Stanley J. Lesniak Jr., a past president of the Pennsylvania Association of

Realtors, presented certificates to Mr. Pastuszek of Swarthmore and Arthur G. Wagner at a recent membership luncheon meeting of the Delaware Valley Realtors Association at the Radnor Valley Country Club.

The Realtor Emeritus designation is presented to those who have been realtors and association members for 50 years.

Mr. Pastuszek is an auditor of the Ukrainian National Association and a member of UNA Branch 231.

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Sep 10 Fri	PHILADELPHIA	Ukrainian Cultural Center
Sep 11 Sat	NEWARK	St. John's High School Gymnasium
Sep 12 Sun	SEAFER SPRING, MD	St. Andrew's Ukr. Orthodox Center *
Sep 13 Mon	VIENNA, VA	WOLF TRAP FARM PARK *
Sep 21 Tue	PARMA	St. Vladimir's Ukr. Orthodox Center
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Need a back issue?

If you'd like to obtain a back issue of The Ukrainian Weekly, send \$2 per copy (first-class postage included) to: Administration, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

The Carpathian Ski Club of New York

under the auspices of the

Ukrainian Sports Association of USA and Canada (USCAK)

will hold

**the annual
SWIMMING COMPETITION**

at Soyuzivka

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 4, 1999

Swim meet

Saturday, September 4, 1999, 10:30 a.m.

Warm-up at 9 a.m. for individuals championship of USCAK and Ukrainian National Association Trophies & Ribbons

TABLE of EVENTS

Boys/Men	INDIVIDUAL	Girls/Women
1 13/14	100m im	13/14 2
3 15 & over	100m im	15 & over 4
5 .. 10 & under	25m free	10 & under .. 6
7 11/12	25m free	11/12 8
9 13/14	50m free	13/14 10
11 15 & over	50m free	15 & over 12
13 .. 10 & under	50m free	10 & under .. 14
15 11/12	50m free	11/12 16
17 13/14	50m back	13/14 18
19 15 & over	50m back	15 & over 20
21 .. 10 & under	25m back	10 & under .. 22
23 11/12	25m back	11/12 24
25 13/14	50m breast	13/14 26
27 15 & over	50m breast	15 & over 28
29 .. 10 & under	25m breast	10 & under .. 30
31 11/12	25m breast	11/12 32
33 13/14	100m free	13/14 34
35 15 & over	100m free	15 & over 36
37 .. 10 & under	25m fly	10 & under .. 38
39 11/12	25m fly	11/12 40
41 13/14	50m fly	13/14 42
43 ... 15 & over	50m fly	15 & over 44
RELAYS		
45 .. 10 & under	4 x 25m free	10 & under .. 46
47 11/12	4 x 25m free	11/12 48
49 13/14	4 x 50m free	13/14 50
51 15 & over	4 x 50m medley	15 & over 52

Swimmers can compete in three (3) individual and one (1) relay events. Relay teams will be established by team coaches or representatives.

Entry deadline: Entry forms, provided below, must be submitted by August 23, 1999, to Marika Bokalo, Swim Meet director. There will be no registration at poolside. Registration fee is \$5.00 per swimmer.

Name: (English) _____

(Ukrainian) _____

Address _____

Zip _____

Telephone _____ Age _____

Male _____ Female _____

Club/Youth Association _____

Event _____ Entry time _____

Event _____ Entry time _____

Event _____ Entry time _____

Please send this entry form with entry fee (checks made out to "Ukrainian Sports Federation") to:
Marika Bokalo
742 Linden Ave., Rahway, NJ 07065
(732) 382-2223

Ukraine is succeeding...

(Continued from page 2)

Georgia. For oil-starved Ukraine this is a neat source of new energy, because Ukraine, too, is a Black Sea country, and could get the Caspian oil delivered by tankers.

To this end, Ukraine – despite crass interference from the "Russia lobby" – has been doing two things: building an oil terminal near Odesa, and a pipeline from Brody, near Lviv, to the Odesa terminal. Brody is where two big Soviet-era pipelines called Druzhba (Friendship) carry energy to European markets. Concurrently, Ukraine is modernizing a refinery in Drohobych, a short hop from Brody, to process the higher quality crude that would come from the Caspian.

All this would indicate, that things are moving along in the sphere of Ukraine's hoped-for energy supply diversification. The U.S., while still pushing for a big pipeline to Turkey's Ceyhan, has no objection to Ukraine getting some of the vast Caspian oil reserves.

Poland and Hungary are boosters for the Odesa-Brody pipeline, because they have access to the Druzhba pipeline and need more oil for their growing economies.

The countries of the southern tier of the former USSR see this route as an element of their independence.

Last April, when oil started to flow from Baku to the Georgian port of Supsa on the Black Sea, Georgia's youthful parliamentary speaker Zurab Zhvania called it a "vitally important project for the entire region, defining the region in the broadest sense as stretching from Ukraine all the way to Uzbekistan and Kazakstan. It gives us a chance to connect ourselves to each other and to the world in a way that keeps us free from political pressure or influence or manipulation."

And Speaker Zhvania said more, as reported by Stephen Kinzer in the April 13 issue of The New York Times: "[This project] means a great deal to us, which is why not everyone around us likes the idea. I'm talking about Russia, but also about Iran. They are not happy and I can understand why. Actually, I think our enemies understand the importance of this project better than our friends."

Russia is unhappy, because Russia is losing control over assets it feels belong to it and it is unhappy because this is yet another indication that the cozy arrangement it enjoyed in the Soviet Union is crumbling. So its lobby attacks.

The author of the article in Zerkalo Nedeli chose the favorite tactic of the "Russia lobby" – to ridicule Ukraine's moves as simply stupid and childish and doomed to failure.

The author brought up the fact that the U.S. government is pushing for the Baku-Ceyhan route from the Caspian oil fields, but didn't mention that it has no problem with some of the oil going to Brody; after all, the proven Caspian reserves are huge.

He warned that Ukraine has no tankers to ship the oil across the Black Sea, as if there

were a shortage of tankers in the world.

The author criticized Foreign Affairs Minister Tarasyuk for getting Ukraine into GUUAM (a loose regional arrangement comprising Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova), because, according to Mr. Goncharenko, they're all "losers," without influence in world politics and trade. But he made no mention of what Georgia's parliamentary leader, Mr. Zhvania, said about the Baku-Supsa pipeline project.

He then criticized Mr. Tarasyuk for not dealing with Kazakstan, without mentioning that since 1992 Kazakstan has been trying to find ways for its Caspian oil to reach world markets by means other than through the existing network, because Russia controls its valves and decides how much oil will flow. And he didn't mention another fact: Ukraine already has received Kazak oil – by rail.

The author even criticized Mr. Tarasyuk for not making a deal with Russia's old ally Iraq to buy its oil, somehow forgetting that he had already written Ukraine has no tankers, and Iraqi oil would have to reach Ukraine by sea. He also omitted the fact that Turkey is limiting tanker traffic through its narrow straits to the Black Sea.

And then the mysterious Mr. Goncharenko shed crocodile tears over the drop in Ukraine's international trade after Mr. Tarasyuk took over the Foreign Affairs Ministry from Hennadii Udovenko, but didn't mention that there were several global economic crises in that period that wrecked many countries' trade balances.

Mr. Goncharenko also pooh-poohed Ukraine's good relations with Poland by saying, "Unfortunately we have already convinced the Poles of our inferiority. They have begun to speak increasingly about Poland's special role in promoting Western values in Ukraine, about assisting us in building democracy, about supporting Ukraine in international organizations ..."

Some Washington officials are comparing the change in Ukrainian-Polish relations to the one that occurred between France and Germany in the early 1950's. They are seriously promoting, the Poland-America-Ukraine Cooperation Initiative, PAUCI. But this is yet another affront for the "Russia lobby." So it reacts in a temper-tantrum like that thrown by Mr. Goncharenko in Zerkalo Nedeli: Why can't these Ukrainians make do with what oil and gas Russia sends them? Why aren't they satisfied with Russia guiding them to the world? It's all Mr. Tarasyuk's fault. Get rid of him, President Kuchma, or else you'll lose the election.

But Mr. Goncharenko and Zerkalo Nedeli picked the wrong time for this temper tantrum. It came out just as the effect of purposely decreased world oil production became evident at the gas pumps and the drivers of Ukraine's 5 million automobiles were finding that it cost much more to run them. Perhaps some of them will realize that there's something wrong with Mr. Goncharenko's arguments in the usually respectable Zerkalo Nedeli and realize that more sources of oil are better than one.

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AUTHORIZED AGENTS

Business in brief

(Continued from page 3)

Vodka production begins in Kirovohrad

KIROVOHRAD – The spirits and vitamins plant at Mezhyrich, Kirovohrad Oblast, has created 140 new jobs and will supply over 800,000 hrv to the state budget because of a new automated line for manufacturing and bottling the vodka Viktoria. Now the plant will be producing three vodkas: Viktoria, Haidamatska and Ukrainka z Pertsem, or Ukrainian pepper vodka. (Eastern Economist)

Donetsk steel plant enters new markets

KYIV – Donetsk Steel Plant General Manager Oleksander Ryzhenko said on July 27 that the plant has been successful finding new markets for its pipe billets in the United States, Romania and the United Kingdom. According to Mr. Ryzhenko, deliveries of pipe billets have been proceeding apace for the past three months. According to the DSP head, until recently most of the plant's steel went to Asian markets. In the first half of 1999, DSP made approximately 600,000 tons of steel products. Although sales were unsatisfactory in the first two quarters of 1999, Mr. Ryzhenko said that prospects for the second half of the year are much better, especially when a new modernized electric furnace begins to operate at full capacity. (Eastern Economist)

45 percent stake offered in steel plant

KYIV – Ukraine's State Property Fund is going to trade a 45 percent stake in the Dzerzhynskiy Steel Plant via a non-commercial tender for cash by November 1. Two more stakes, of 10 percent and 13.83 percent, are to be traded for cash via stock exchange by October 1 and November 31, respectively. The state retains a 25 percent stake in DSP. The plant's managers are entitled to 4.97 percent of stock which they can buy for cash. Until now, 1.2 percent of shares has been sold, of this 0.52 percent on favorable terms to plant employees and 0.66 percent for privatization certificates. (Eastern Economist)

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 20)

For more information contact Nick Fil, (518) 785-7596.

WASHINGTON: The Washington Group (TWG) invites the public to a Ukrainian Independence Day Picnic at Fort Washington National Historical Park, Picnic Area "A" from noon to 6 p.m. Take Capital Beltway (I-495/1-95) to exit 3A (Indian Head Highway), continue south for four miles and turn right onto Fort Washington Road. Bring your own food and beverages (National Park policy does not permit alcoholic beverages). Field Artillery demonstration is scheduled as well as fort tours. Admission is free. For more information contact Oles Berezhny, (703) 534-0309, or Orest Deychakiwsky, (301) 937-0492 (evenings).

Tuesday, August 24

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: Philadelphia's Community Committee to commemorate the eighth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine invites all Ukrainians to join the commemoration that will be held in the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center at 700 Cedar Rd. at 7 p.m. The program will include a keynote address by Sviatoslav Karavansky, selections by the Prometheus Chorus, a performance by the dance ensemble Voloshky, the youth choir of the Ukrainian Evangelical Baptist Church, Kyiv opera singer Lyuba Shchybchyk, Lviv opera singer Oleh Chmyr and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky. At 6 p.m. a film about a military parade and a concert held on the occasion of the seventh anniversary of the independence of Ukraine in Kyiv will be shown. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$5 for students from age 13-18, and children under age 12, free. For more information call (215) 663-1166.

HORSHAM, Pa.: The Ukrainian American Sports Center Tryzub will commemorate the eighth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine at Tryzubivka on County Line Road and Lover State Road. The program will feature the Voloshky dance ensemble, Lvivian music ensemble and the Prometheus Chorus. Dancing to the music of Lvivian and special attractions such as a moon walk and a fun slide for children, sale of arts, crafts, souvenirs, food and refreshments will be offered. Stage show will begin at 2 p.m. Admission is \$10 for adults; free for children under age 13. Proceeds will benefit the Tryzub expansion fund. For more information call (215) 663-1166.

Saturday, September 25

CHICAGO: The Ukrainian American Veterans (UAV) and the Ukrainian American Military Association (UAMA) will hold its national convention banquet at the Chicago Marriott. The banquet keynote speaker will be Maj. Gen. Nicholas Krawciw (Ret.) of Washington. Tickets will be sold at Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church at 11 a.m.-1 p.m. for \$45 per person on Sundays August 22, 29 and September 19. For more information contact Roman G. Golash, convention chairman, (847) 963-0102, or e-mail him at Golash_Roman@compuserve.com.

Thursday, August 26

ALBANY, N.Y.: A broadcast of the Music Mountain concert which took place July 18 featured the Leontovych String Quartet and pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky in a program of works by Weber, Brahms, and Franck, may be heard on Northeast Public Radio, WAMC-FM (90.3) at 10:15 a.m.

Friday, August 27

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.: The central New Jersey branch of the Committee for Aid to Ukraine is celebrating the Independence Day of Ukraine at the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Davidson Avenue, at 7 p.m. The main address will be delivered by Oleksij Shevchenko. The artistic program will be presented by the ensemble Ukrainka Rodyna. Admission is \$10. Proceeds will be dedicated to help orphans in Ukraine. For more information, please call S. Gecha, (908) 755-8156, Rev. Lyszyk, (212) 873-8550, or I. Pawlenko, (732) 548-7903.

ONGOING

QUEENS, N.Y.: The Romanian Ripensia men's soccer team, with the support of Western Union, is launching a new tournament, The Western Union Cup. The participants of this competition are teams from Hungary, Japan, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Turkey and Ukraine. The competition began this weekend at Grover Cleveland High School field in Ridgewood located on DeKalb and Seneca Aves. and will continue with semi-finals on August 14-15 and finals on the weekend of August 21-22. Saturday games will start at noon and at 2 p.m. and on Sunday at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. Ukraine plays Hungary at noon on August 14. For more information contact Anghel Popa, (203) 622-6258 or e-mail, anghelpopulus@webtv.net.

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, August 21-22

LEHIGHTON, Pa.: The Ukrainian Homestead is sponsoring its seventh annual Ukrainian folk festival, to celebrate the eighth year of the independence of Ukraine. The festival includes Ukrainian arts, crafts, foods, vendors and refreshments. The Saturday stage show begins at 2 p.m. with performances by Dnipriany, Holubka Trio, the Kazka folk ensemble, the Voloshky and the Soniashnyk dance ensembles. The Sunday stage show begins at noon. The zabava on Saturday begins at 9 p.m., with music by Dnipriany. Admission to the festival is \$5 per person for a one-day pass or \$7 for a two-day pass. Children age 14 and under are admitted free. Admission to the zabava is \$10 per adult, \$8 for seniors and \$5 for students. Campsites are available, and the pool is open for the season. The Homestead is located at 1230 Beaver Run Drive. For more information, call Alex or Uliana Prociuk, (610) 377-4621 or (610) 377-2557.

TORONTO: The Ukrainian Canadian Congress, Toronto Branch will hold a celebration of the eighth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine at St. Volodymyr Cultural Center, 1280 Dundas St. W. and Fourth Line in Oakville. The celebration will include guest speaker Mykhailo Horyn of Ukraine. An Ecumenical service is at 11 a.m.; concert begins at 2:30 p.m. Included in the festivals are a yarmarok (bazaar), barbecue, hot lunches and drinks. Admission is \$10 per person (including parking). Children under age 12 are admitted free. For further information call (416) 323-4772.

BALTIMORE: The Ukrainian American community of Greater Baltimore under the auspices of the UCCA and UACC branches will celebrate the eighth anniversary of the independence of Ukraine at 5 p.m. in St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church at 2401 Eastern Ave., with a special ecumenical moleben. Following the church celebration, the banquet will be held at 6 p.m. in the church hall. Dr. Anton Buteiko, ambassador of Ukraine, has been invited to deliver the keynote address. All are invited to attend this special celebration. Donations for the banquet will be \$20 per person. For more information call (410) 276-1908.

Sunday, August 22

HARTFORD, Conn.: Commemoration of the eighth anniversary of Ukrainian independence, sponsored by the Council of Ukrainian American Organizations - Greater Hartford, will take place at 2 p.m. in J.B. Williams Park, Glastonbury. (Route 2, exit 9 at Neipsic Road). The program will include songs performed by Ukrainian choir Yevshan, under the direction of Alexander Kuzma, and recitations of poems by the School of Ukrainian Studies. Traditional Ukrainian food will be served. There will also be music and other entertainment for children and adults. Admission and parking is free. For more information call (860) 563-2717.

COHOES, N.Y.: A Ukrainian Field Day-Picnic will be held at Ukrainian Club (Park). Gates will open at noon. Ukrainian food will be served all day. At 3 p.m. there will be a short program commemorating Ukrainian independence. Games for children will begin at 4 p.m. Everybody is welcome. Admission is \$1. This event is sponsored by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Albany region.

(Continued on page 19)

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PLEASE NOTE NEW REQUIREMENTS EFFECTIVE SEPTEMBER 1:

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (**\$10 per submission**) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. Payment must be received prior to publication.

To have an event listed in Preview of Events please send information, in English, written in Preview format, i.e., in a brief paragraph that includes the date, place, type of event, sponsor, admission, full names of persons and/or organizations involved, and a phone number to be published for readers who may require additional information. Items should be no more than 100 words long; all submissions are subject to editing. Items not written in Preview format or submitted without all required information will not be published.

Preview items must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. No information will be taken over the phone. Items will be published only once, unless otherwise indicated. Please include payment of \$10 for each time the item is to appear and indicate date(s) of issue(s) in which the item is to be published. Also, please include the phone number of a person who may be contacted by The Weekly during daytime hours. Information should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054.

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