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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Ukraine says it will shut down Chornobyl plant by year's end

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Vowing to fulfill the promises it made to the world back in 1995 and demanding that the United States and Europe fulfill their obligations as well, the Ukrainian government announced on March 29 that it will close the Chornobyl nuclear power plant by the end of the year.

That day the Cabinet of Ministers adopted a resolution forming an ad hoc committee on closing the facility and giving its Ministry of Fuel and Energy three months to draw up specific plans for taking off-line the last operating reactor and mothballing the Chornobyl nuclear complex, the site of the world's worst nuclear disaster in 1986.

The resolution states that within six months a parallel plan is to be developed for relocating employees of the nuclear facility and on the future of Slavutych, the city that was built to house Chornobyl workers.

But the key point of the resolution may be the statement that everything is dependent on talks with leaders of the G-7 industrialized nations and the European Community to assure that Ukraine receives adequate financing to help offset the costs of the project.

Albright to visit Kyiv

WASHINGTON — U.S. Secretary of State Madeleine K. Albright will travel to Ukraine on April 20-21, following her visit to Central Asia, the State Department announced on April 5. This will be her second trip to Ukraine as secretary of state; her previous visit was in March 1998.

While in Kyiv, Secretary Albright will consult with Ukrainian government officials on a broad range of bilateral and multilateral issues, including Ukraine's efforts to accelerate market reforms and speed its integration into the Euro-Atlantic community.

According to a press release distributed by the Office of International Information Programs at the State Department, Ms. Albright will underscore the United States' strong support for the ambitious reform agenda being undertaken by President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko.

In a June 1995 memorandum of understanding signed with the G-7 in Denver, Ukraine agreed to shut down the Chornobyl plant in exchange for financial support for the closing and the development of alternate energy sources for the energy-poor country. Ukraine claims that since then it has received little support; only serious pressure to keep its end of the bargain.

"One of the main provisions of the resolution says that the Ukrainian delegation should begin work on reaching clear agreements on the volumes and terms of such funding," said First Vice Prime Minister of Energy Yulia Tymoshenko.

The specifics, as Ms. Tymoshenko delineated them, include agreement on the construction of alternate facilities and the settlement of social problems that will follow the closure of Chornobyl.

Thus far Ukraine and the West have had no luck finding common ground on the first issue. Kyiv has demanded that the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development give Ukraine some \$1 billion to complete construction of two reactors, one each at the Khmelnytskyi and Rivne nuclear complexes, which it says would offset the energy lost by Chornobyl's closure, but the EBRD, which has been tasked with determining just what Ukraine needs, has repeatedly delayed its support for the project.

The West has suggested additional gas turbine and hydroelectric energy-generating plants, which Ukraine believes would not adequately fulfill its needs.

During a visit to Kyiv on March 23, Charles Frank, first vice-president of the EBRD, told the Ukrainian government not to put too much hope on a decision to support the K2 and R4 reactors, as the additional units at Khmelnytskyi and Rivne are known, adding that such a decision is unrelated to the need to close Chornobyl.

He explained that the primary requirement for financing — a determination that the two reactors will prove profitable — has yet to be fulfilled. "Certainly there is no sense for us to invest in the Rivne and Khmelnytskyi nuclear power plants if there is no guarantee of a return of this money," said Mr. Frank.

Mr. Frank explained that, although the level of payments is beginning to rise in Ukraine, it still is not sufficient to offset the cost of running the reactors, and will

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Verkhovna Rada overwhelmingly passes government's economic revival program

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The parliamentary majority in Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada easily passed the government's economic revival program on April 6, which Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko had pushed as the keystone to the country's economic revival.

Only the Communist faction voted overwhelmingly against the program, dubbed "Reforms for Prosperity." Although two influential parliamentary factions, the Social Democratic (United) and Regional Rebirth factions had voiced concerns over certain features of the program in the two weeks since it was presented to the Parliament, their members fully backed the plan during the floor vote.

Prime Minister Yushchenko, who broke into a wide grin as the results of the vote appeared, had staked his future and that of his government on the plan, which he has called one of Ukraine's last chances to

develop a normal free market economy.

During floor debate the day before approval, Mr. Yushchenko called the economic reform program his government had developed "unique."

"The program is not unique because it is the best, we have never made such a claim," explained Mr. Yushchenko. "Its uniqueness lies in the fact that, for the first time since the independence of Ukraine, [such a document] has a historical chance to become a reality, to be given life. This is not the first reform program, but it is the first program that has a realistic chance of being given more than formal political support."

In the end, 261 national deputies supported the resolution and 103 voted against.

In a sign that the power of the left in the Parliament has diminished greatly, its forces offered only muted resistance to the resolution, which puts Ukraine on a decisively reformist and monetarist path.

Socialist faction leader Oleksander Moroz, addressing the parliamentarians just before the final vote, insinuated that passage of the resolution was a fait accompli and that it was time the majority members stop playing games and get it over with.

"If you do not support the government's plan today, then it means that you are against the president. We all know that is not possible," said Mr. Moroz.

The Social Democrats (United) and the Regional Rebirth factions, who are closely aligned with President Leonid Kuchma, repeatedly had raised concerns that the



Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko

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Polovchak supports Elian

MIAMI — Once known as "the littlest defector," Walter Polovchak met with Elian Gonzalez on April 2 and said he understands how the 6-year-old feels, reported the Associated Press.

"I think he knows the difference between freedom and not having freedom," Mr. Polovchak said at the end of a 45-minute meeting. "You don't have to get hit by a car to know it's painful."

Two decades ago, Mr. Polovchak, then 12 years old, defied his parents and chose to stay in the United States while they returned to Ukraine, then a part of the Soviet Union.

Though he listed Jell-O and bananas as top reasons for wanting to stay in the United States, what he really was expressing was a love of freedom, Mr. Polovchak explained.

Mr. Polovchak's refusal to return to Ukraine with his parents set off a five-and-a-half-year custody battle that didn't end until he turned 18 and was granted

U.S. citizenship. Now an office manager in Chicago, married and the father of a 6-year-old boy, Mr. Polovchak told the Associated Press he has been following Elian's case since the boy was found clinging to an inner tube off Florida's coast on Thanksgiving Day.

Mr. Polovchak said he volunteered to come to Miami and his way was paid by a California doctor with no connection to the Cuban exile community. Mr. Polovchak offered his opinion that the best solution for Elian might be for his father, Juan Miguel Gonzalez, to come with his wife and young son to live with him in the United States, rather than fighting to take him back to Cuba.

He said he understood the pressures of being a child caught in a tug of war between competing ideologies. "I was looked at as a traitor to my country," he said. "My father was under a lot of pressure to return. Elian's father is under tremendous pressure, too," he underlined.

Price rollback

The newsstand price of The Ukrainian Weekly has been rolled back as of April 1 from \$1.25 to \$1 per copy. Our April 2 issue reported the change in a news story about the latest meeting of the Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association (our publisher), which made that decision. The newsstand price in Ukraine remains \$2.

ANALYSIS

Can Putin move Russia beyond obstructionism?

by Christopher Walker
RFE/RL Newsline

In Soviet times, the prevailing Communist concept of equality was based on the notion that it was fairer for all to fail than for one to prosper. As Russia has slid from the reform path and turned further inward over the course of the past half decade, it is reasonable to ask whether Vladimir Putin's Russia will rely on this old Soviet model or on one based upon cooperation and mutual advantage.

For Russia's immediate neighbors, the stakes are particularly high. And the Baltic countries are a case in point.

Indeed, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia are among the most interested parties in the intense speculation over how Mr. Putin's ideological orientation and governing style will evolve now that he has won the presidential election. The Baltic countries want to anchor themselves in the West and intend to fulfill this goal by joining key Western institutions, namely the EU and NATO.

Over the past several years, Russia's stance toward the Baltics has been demonstrably uncooperative on a range of matters, including sensitive border disputes, as well as citizenship and language issues. Whether or not Mr. Putin believes there is a long-term benefit for Russia through cooperation with its three Baltic neighbors will determine if Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia realize their ambitions to join Western clubs according to their own timetable, rather than one controlled by Moscow.

In the immediate aftermath of the Soviet Union's collapse, there was a period of cooperation, at times even characterized as a "partnership," between Russia and the West. But since the successes of Communist and nationalist forces in the 1993 and 1995 parliamentary elections, Russia has moved away from such cooperation.

In fact, the nature of Russia's obstruc-

Christopher Walker is a New York-based analyst specializing in Eastern European affairs.

tionism over the past several years can be seen to fall into two categories: one active, the other passive.

Active obstructionism was born of the failure of Western-style reforms to take root and the steady erosion of Russian living standards. Nationalists and Communists took advantage of a sour popular mood to slow down cooperation with the West on a number of fronts. While NATO's action in Kosovo clearly annoyed Russia, Moscow's increasingly uncooperative posture predated the NATO campaign.

But perhaps more troubling is the variant of Russian obstructionism that is passive in nature, resulting principally from political gridlock and administrative incompetence. Severely drained by Russia's financial collapse, institutional exhaustion and corruption, President Boris Yeltsin's administration was cataclysmic in its final years. Mr. Yeltsin himself was the clearest emblem of the overall moribund state. During this period, diplomats from neighboring countries routinely complained that they were unable to obtain decisions from Moscow or often simply could not locate an appropriate official in Moscow to answer their calls.

Russia's negative behavior manifested itself in other ways, including the conduct of military exercises with such provocative names as "Operation Comeback" on its borders with the Baltic countries or threatening to apply sanctions or otherwise isolate countries with which it disagreed. Russia has recognized that its poor relations with the Baltic states may be used as a tool to keep the Baltics from advancing toward western institutions.

Much of Mr. Putin's popularity is derived from the substantial support he enjoys as a result of the war in Chechnya and what is best described as the remilitarization of Russia. For the time being at least, it appears the campaign in Chechnya has served Mr. Putin's purpose, allowing him to garner considerable domestic political support, while

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Gluzman among people of the year

Eastern Economist

KYIV – The Prometheus-Prestige prizes for 1999 were awarded in the Liudyna Roku ceremony at the Ukraina Palace of Culture on March 18. This year's results offered a few surprises, such as political activist Semyon Gluzman, who was named Human Rights Defender of the Year.

"I have never been awarded anything before," he said, "and I intend to continue working until all courts and all the law enforcement agencies in my country truly defend human rights."

Dr. Gluzman is a physician/psychiatrist, a former political prisoner of the Brezhnev regime in the USSR who served 10 years of imprisonment and exile for conducting an independent psychological examination of Petro Grigorenko, a former Soviet Red Army general-turned-political dissident who became a founding member of the Moscow and Ukrainian Helsinki monitoring groups. Dr. Gluzman founded the International Medical Rehabilitation

Center for the Victims of Wars and Totalitarian Regimes in 1994. [His appeal for support of the center was published in The Ukrainian Weekly on February 27.]

Yevhen Chervonenko, president of Orlan, a large beverage producer, was named Industrialist of the Year. Blitz-Infom was named Company of the Year and its magazine Natali won Magazine of the Year for the third year running, beating out newcomer PiK (Polityka i Kultura) and the stylish Akademia.

Pop Star of the Year went to popular Lviv singer Ruslana and Athlete of the Year went to Andrii Shevchenko, the soccer star now playing for Milan. Business Development Committee head Oleksandra Kuzhel was named Woman of the Year.

Unlike previous years, the 860 specialists could only nominate candidates in designated categories, not in their own sphere of activity. Organizers still are not excluded, however, and Man of the Year went to Mykhailo Semynozhenko, head of the organizing committee.

NEWSBRIEFS

Will Rada approve referendum results?

KYIV – Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk told journalists in Kyiv on April 3 that the Verkhovna Rada may not endorse constitutional amendments approved in the April 16 referendum, Interfax reported. Mr. Medvedchuk said the parliamentary majority currently has 276 deputies, while constitutional amendments should be approved by no less than 300 votes. "Today it is impossible to say unambiguously what will happen if the Parliament fails to implement the results of the April 16 nationwide referendum," Mr. Medvedchuk added. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Moroz: referendum initiators failed

KYIV – Socialist Party leader Oleksander Moroz told Interfax on March 29 that the ruling of the Constitutional Court to strike two questions from the April 16 referendum signifies the "bankruptcy of the nationwide referendum contrivance." Mr. Moroz added that "the main goal pursued by the [referendum] initiators was to obtain the possibility to amend the Constitution by means of a referendum and to revise it." According to Mr. Moroz, those initiators "did not achieve anything" since it is the Parliament that will make amendments to the Constitution if they are approved in the referendum. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Officials: collective farms are no more

KYIV – "The Soviet-era system of collective farms has ceased to exist in Ukraine," the Associated Press quoted Vice Minister of Agriculture Roman Shmidt as saying in Kyiv on March 28. Mr. Shmidt said 10,551 collective farms have been reshaped into 11,100 new agricultural enterprises, mostly joint-stock companies and cooperatives. The reform was in accordance with President Leonid Kuchma's decree last December. That decree, however, stopped short of allowing the free sale and purchase of land. Mr. Shmidt argued that after disbanding collective farms, some time will be needed to eradicate the Soviet-era mentality among Ukrainian farmers. "I am not sure if this Soviet collective farm system has ceased to exist in [the farmers'] minds," he noted. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Deutsche Welle airs Ukrainian program

KYIV – Deutsche Welle Director-General Dieter Weirich has inaugurated a 15-minute daily program in Ukrainian, Interfax reported on March 27. The program consists of three information blocks: international news, Ukrainian news and a press review (focusing on German-Ukrainian relations). Deutsche Welle is planning to expand this daily program with a 15-minute German-language course for

Ukrainians. According to Interfax, 10 Ukrainian radio stations have already expressed their readiness to rebroadcast the Deutsche Welle Ukrainian-language program, which goes on the air at 7:30 a.m. (Kyiv time) on short-wave radio. The program is also available in RealAudio format at: <http://www.dwelle.de/ukrainian>. (RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report)

Kuzmuk meets in U.S. with Cohen

KYIV. "The results of the visit to the United States was greater than were expected," stated Defense Minister Oleksander Kuzmuk after his official visit to the US March 29-31. During the visit Minister Kuzmuk held talks with his American counterpart William Cohen on a number of issues, including rebuilding of Ukraine's armed forces, transition to a professional army, and status of the Yavoriv military training grounds. Learning from the U.S. experience, Ukraine is introducing the rank of sergeant into the military structure added Minister Kuzmuk. Secretary Cohen expressed an interest in purchasing some Ukrainian armored vehicles. (Eastern Economist)

Kyiv dismisses criticism of Chechen center

KYIV – Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Ihor Hrushko on April 4 said the ministry is surprised by Russia's "inadequate reaction" to the opening of an information center by the Free Caucasus committee in Lviv, Interfax reported. Mr. Hrushko added that the opening of the center was initiated by the Ukrainian National Assembly (UNA), which is a legally registered association. "Ukraine, as a legal democratic state, considers it impossible to implement any sanctions against citizens who are using their right to freely express their stance without violating national laws," Mr. Hrushko noted, adding that the center does not reflect the government's official viewpoint. ITAR-TASS on April 3 quoted an official from Russia's Foreign Affairs Ministry as saying that the inauguration of Lviv's Chechen center is an "openly unfriendly step with regard to Russia." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Opposition marks 'Unification Day'

MIENSK – Some 500 people marked the anniversary of the April 2, 1997, pact on the creation of a Belarusian-Russian union state with a memorial service for those who fought for Belarus' independence in the past, Belapan reported. The service took place at the monument in Minsk to Belarusian poet Yanka Kupala. The police did not intervene even though the meeting was not authorized. The anniversary is an

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Helsinki Commission hearing focuses on organized crime and corruption

by Chadwick R. Gore

WASHINGTON – “Widespread corruption in countries of the OSCE threatens their ability to provide strong independent legal regimes, market-based economies and social well-being for their citizens. Corruption is stymying economic reforms in these countries and impeding efforts to improve the status of disadvantaged groups,” said Helsinki Commission Chairman Rep. Christopher H. Smith (R-N.J.).

“In the absence of effective civil rule of law, mafia have flourished through their corrupt connections, gained power over whole sectors of economies and derailed legislative reform agendas inimical to their interest,” he added at the March 23 hearing of the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe, known as the Helsinki Commission.

The hearing, the second in a series, examined the impact of organized crime and corruption in southeast Europe and Central Asia, and both regional and international efforts to address this threat. As the United States has a strategic interest in promoting democratic reform and stability in southeast Europe and the former Soviet Union, the Helsinki Commission has pressed for greater involvement by the Organization for Security and Cooperation (OSCE) in Europe in efforts to combat corruption.

“This commission has pushed for a greater recognition of the threat of organized crime and corruption in the OSCE and supported efforts to develop an OSCE strategy to combat them. The U.S. delegation to the annual meeting of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly last year in St. Petersburg, Russia, co-led by myself and Sen. [Ben Nighthorse] Campbell, called for the convening of an OSCE ministerial meeting to develop strategies to combat these threats. I par-

ticularly appreciate the leadership of the co-chairman on this initiative. At the OSCE PA, we also introduced a resolution condemning the cross-border trafficking in women and children which, along with drugs and weapons, is a major industry for organized crime entities. Our commission worked closely with the State Department to ensure that combating crime and corruption was on the agenda of our heads of state during the OSCE Istanbul Summit last November.”

Co-Chairman Campbell (R-Colo.) said, “Organized crime and corruption directly bear upon U.S. security, economic and political interests at home and abroad. ...Twenty-five years after the signing of the Helsinki Final Act, there is perhaps no single greater threat to the core OSCE principles of democracy, human rights and the rule of law than organized crime and corruption. The United States and the OSCE have vested interests in effectively combating organized crime and corruption. I intend to continue to play an active role in developing concrete recommendations to advance within the framework of the OSCE.”

Witnesses at the hearing included Rob Boone, assistant secretary for narcotics and international law enforcement affairs, U.S. Department of State; James K. Weber, deputy assistant director, Investigative Services Division, Federal Bureau of Investigation; John Tennant, deputy assistant administrator, U.S. Agency for International Development; Adrian Karatnycky, president, Freedom House; and, Nancy Lubin, president, JNA Associates Inc.

“This is a matter in which the initiative of the commission under your leadership, as well as that of your parliamentary colleagues from other OSCE nations, has been of decisive significance,” said Mr. Boone.

FOR THE RECORD: Ukraine's efforts to combat corruption

Following are excerpts from the statement delivered by Rob Boone, deputy assistant secretary of state, Bureau for International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs, at the March 23 hearing before the Commission on Security and Cooperation in Europe.

The U.S. has a keen interest in supporting the development of the rule of law in Ukraine. The secretary of state has identified Ukraine as one of four democracies deserving of particular attention this year. The others are Nigeria, Indonesia and Colombia.

Official corruption is perceived to be widespread in Ukraine. President [Leonid] Kuchma has repeatedly expressed concern about the societal threats posed by organized crime and narcotics in Ukraine and has criticized the control efforts of law enforcement and judicial authorities.

The task of reformers in Ukraine remains daunting. Key pieces of legislation, such as an anti-money laundering law, a criminal procedure code, and civil and ethics codes have yet to be enacted. A transparency program developed two years ago under the auspices of the World Bank remains largely unimplemented, although some progress has been made in the procurement area and on business licensing.

Ukraine has taken some actions to

address the threat of organized crime and corruption. Ukraine attended the First Global Forum on Fighting Corruption in February 1999 and will also attend the regional conference later this month in Bucharest. In September 1999 the United States and Ukraine signed diplomatic notes that allow for provisional application of a bilateral Mutual Legal Assistance Treaty (MLAT). The MLAT now serves as a framework for legal assistance and cooperation between our two countries in the areas of the investigation, prosecution and prevention of crime. The MLAT has been approved by the Ukrainian [Verkhovna] Rada. We await Senate advice and consent to ratification on our side.

We are also working with Ukraine in our bilateral Law Enforcement Working Group (LEWG) to develop an action plan to address issues involving trafficking in women and children, intellectual property rights, organized crime, financial crimes and corruption.

Recently the FBI hosted a delegation of Ukrainian law enforcement officials in San Francisco for the U.S.-Ukrainian Organized Crime Conference. This conference, which was also attended by numerous U.S. law enforcement officials and prosecutors, gave officials on both sides an opportunity to review our progress in ongoing investigations and to plan cooperation in future cases.

“Corruption was, as we all know, a staple of the Communist regimes in the former Soviet bloc. So it should not surprise us to learn that 10 years after the fall of the Berlin Wall, corruption is still very much a part of everyday life in this region,” said Mr. Tennant. “But let me emphasize that corruption is in no way limited to Europe and Eurasia. This is at root a development issue, borne mostly of inadequate or weak democratic institutions. Therefore, we cannot treat the symptom of corruption without also addressing the illness of, among other things, an overly centralized, bureaucratic and ineffective system of governance.”

Mr. Karatnycky underlined: “The fight against corruption is popular in the West and with the publics of the region. As a result, all sorts of regimes – including some of the most corrupt – undertake highly publicized efforts to root out corruption and graft. Yet, in a context in which the rule of law is absent and the judiciary is under the control of an authoritarian ruler, justice frequently is perverted.”

“We must be careful not to view the struggle against corruption as somehow divorced from economic and political reform. In particular, we should refrain from collaboration in government anti-corruption activities in those post-Soviet regimes in which opposition is suppressed, the media are censored and controlled, and the executive authority is subsequent to the judiciary,” he cautioned “In many of these countries, the struggle against corruption is frequently a means of settling score with political opponents. Thus, U.S. cooperation in the anti-corruption efforts of such regimes, effectively corrupts our own standards of respect for the rule of law.”

Ms. Lubin pointed out: “The general system of crime and corruption in Central Asia is so complete one cannot tell what is official and what is not. There is little appreciation in Washington of the real environment. Thus, there is trouble in implementing well-conceived programs from Washington in the area.”

When asked whether the U.S. should

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BUSINESS IN BRIEF

Donetsk Oblast to get \$519 M in investments

KYIV – Sixty-four investment projects worth a total of \$519.5 million (U.S.) will be implemented in the Donetsk Oblast in 2000, stated DerzhZovnishInform, the state monitoring center for foreign markets. Thirty-six projects worth \$314.5 million will be implemented in the metallurgy and chemical sectors; 16 projects worth \$146.7 million in light and food industries; and five projects worth \$10.8 million in agriculture. The projects include the Donetsk Donbas hotel with \$20 million in investments, modernization at Styrol – \$3.6 million and modernization of production at Novokramatorsk machine plant – 12 million hrv. (Eastern Economist)

Freedom Farm promotes agriculture

CHICAGO – Freedom Farm International Inc. has operated in southern Ukraine for the last nine years and currently has 9,000 acres in production. The company leases land at \$10 per acre, and with the new land privatization laws expects to buy land for \$90 per acre. Freedom Farm presently reaps a 35 percent return on its investment. The company is planning a farm tour in July 22-28 to familiarize U.S. investors with the agricultural potential of the region. (Eastern Economist)

\$259 M in investments expected from Canada

KYIV – No less than \$259 million (U.S.) of investments from Canada are expected in 2000, stated DerzhZovnishInform, the state center for monitoring of foreign markets. Ukrainian and Canadian enterprises signed 18 agreements including: a \$6 million (U.S.) contract for construction in the Vinnytsia Oblast for production of abrasive granite; a memorandum for Kyiv-based Darnytsia chemical plant worth \$47.5 million; and a \$5 million contract for production of bottles for Persha Hyldia vodka. Canadians also plan to invest \$491.2 million in reconstruction of Lviv's airport, \$228 million in the central district of Lviv and \$96.4 million in two buildings in Kyiv. Another \$45 million is for 10 coal enrichment projects. (Eastern Economist)

10 percent of budgets go for construction

KYIV – An average of 10 percent of all profits of local budgets since the beginning of 1999 were allocated for major construction, said Yevhen Zhovtiak, vice-chairman of the Verkhovna Rada's Committee on Budget Issues. This figure grew 0.6 percent from the previous year. The leaders among oblasts in terms of allocation to major construction, are Zakarpattia with 36 percent of budget profits, followed by Odesa and Kyiv with 22 percent each. (Eastern Economist)

Polish-Ukrainian trade is in decline

KYIV – The volume of trade between Ukraine and Poland for the first nine months of 1999 was \$387 million (U.S.), which is half of what it was during the same period in 1998, stated participants of a Ukrainian-Polish conference on international trade. The decline for the most part is explained by the fact that Poland set a customs tax on Ukrainian goods, which is higher than for European goods. (Eastern Economist)

Ukrainian-Chinese JV to produce transformers

ZAPORIZHIA – ZaporizhTransformator and a Transformer Plant from China are creating a joint venture in China for the production of transformers. Agreements are currently being reviewed by the Chinese government. The share of the Ukrainian side in the authorized capital of the JV will be more than 20 percent, which will mostly consist of know-how, equipment and some monetary injections. The Chinese side will contribute premises and equipment to the authorized capital. In addition, the Chinese government has allocated \$12 million (U.S.) in credit to the JV for the purchase of technology. (Eastern Economist)

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Detroit area community organizes committee to mark second millennium

by Wasyl Kolodchin and Irene Pryjma

GROSSE POINTE, Mich. – A Ukrainian community committee has been formed in the metro Detroit area to celebrate the 2,000th year since the birth of Jesus Christ.

The committee consists of representatives of all Ukrainian religious confessions. The committee is structured as follows:

- Honorary Committee: the Very Rev. Paul Bodnarchuk, the Very Rev. Mario Dacechen OSBM, the Very Rev. John Lazar, the Very Rev. Roberto Lucavey OSBM, the Very Rev. Andrew Rogers, the Very Rev. Wayne Ruchgy and the Very Rev. Basil Salkovsky OSBM;

- Executive Committee: Paul J. Dzul, chairman; George Korol, co-chair; Zenon Wasylkewych, treasurer; Lidia Gulawsky, Ukrainian secretary; Natalia Maruszczak, English secretary; and Roman Lazarchuk, archivist;

- Representatives of Catholic and Orthodox parishes: Jaroslaw Baziuk, Adrian Bluj, Theodore Gelemey, Jerry Kisil, Jane Orlyk, Zenovij Stelmach and Zenon Wasylkewych.

- Committees and subcommittees: Organizational – Jaroslaw Duzyj, chair; Lubomyr Lypeckyj, co-chair; Program – Roma Dyhdalo, chair; Vera Petruska, co-chair; Concert – Wolodymyr Dyhdalo, chairman; Olga Solovey, co-chair; Religious Matters – Stefan Fedenko, chair; Adrian Bluj and Mark Liskiowsky, co-chairs; Finance – Alexander Serafyn, chair; Olga Maruszczak, co-chair; Public Relations – Wasyl Kolodchin, chair; Irene

Pryjma, co-chair; Audit – Anna Chubaty, chair; Mark Liskiowsky, co-chair.

As this 2,000th anniversary year is a time for spiritual renewal, a time for feeling the nearness of Christ, reinvigoration and mobilization of the lay apostolate, the Ukrainian Committee of Michigan to Celebrate the 2,000th Year of the Nativity of Jesus Christ has approved a series of events, conferences, lectures, panels and spiritual exercises planned by its Program Committee.

The first event, a lecture on the topic "What Does it Mean to be Christian?" with the Very Rev. Bernard Panchuk OSBM as the main speaker, followed by a divine liturgy, was held on March 11 at St. Josaphat's in Warren, Mich.

Also scheduled are:

- May 20 "Day of the Child" program to be led by the Rev. Roman Dusianiowskyj;

- June "Day of the Woman" program to be led by Sister Marina Bochnewych OSBM;

- June 18 combined moleben (prayer service) on the grounds of St. Josaphat Church, exhibition of icons, lecture about icons;

- November 28 lecture on the topic "Where is Contemporary Christianity Heading?" by the Rev. Benedict Groshel, director of spiritual development for the Archdiocese of New York.

To conclude the celebrations of this jubilee year 2000, a concert will be presented by the combined choirs of Metro Detroit at the end of November.

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OBITUARY: Sister Leonard Jeanne Fetzko, former GI, member of Sisters Servants

SLOATSBURG, N.Y. – Amidst plans that were being made by the Congregation of the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate to celebrate the golden jubilee of her religious life, Sister Leonard Jeanne Fetzko died on March 4, after a lengthy illness.

Sister Leonard was born on June 4, 1913, in Yonkers, N.Y., the 10th of 11 children born to Simeon and Rosalie (Fedorko) Fetzko. She was baptized in St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church in Yonkers on June 14, 1913.

The Great Depression ended her hopes of attending college, so she joined the United States Army and served both here and abroad in Egypt and Africa for three years. Receiving an honorable discharge after World War II ended, the GI Bill for veterans permitted Jeanne Fetzko to graduate as a certified dietitian.

After a year's internship at Mary Immaculate Hospital in Jamaica, N.Y., Ms. Fetzko became the head dietitian at the Good Samaritan Hospital in Suffern, N.Y. It was during this time that she became acquainted with the Sisters Servants of Mary Immaculate and entered the novitiate in Ancaster, Ontario, in August 1950.

Completing her novitiate training and taking the religious name Sister Leonard, she returned to the United States, where her ministry continued until her death.

Sister Leonard served the community as a dietitian in Chestnut Hill and Lansdale, Pa., Willington, Alberta, and at St. Joseph's Home in Sloatsburg, N.Y. She served also as teacher and principal in parishes in Rochester and Buffalo and St. Mary's Villa Academy in Sloatsburg, N.Y., as well as in Detroit, Passaic and Elizabeth, N.J., Cleveland and Shamokin, Pa.

She also served as the assistant directress of novices, provincial councilor and vice-provincial. Sister Leonard died at Nyack Manor Nursing Home in Valley Cottage, N.Y., where she was a resident since January 1998, having dedicated her life to God and his Holy Mother for 50 years.

Sister Leonard's body was returned to



Sister Leonard Jeanne Fetzko

St. Mary's Villa on March 6. The parastas was served on March 7 by Msgr. Leon Mosko, and the Revs. Bohdan Danylo, Ivan Kasczak, Walter Wysochansky, Peter Ohirko and Ivan Tykhovick, and the Rev. Deacon Cyril. The responses were sung by the sisters, lay associates, family and friends.

Following the parastas, the Revs. Kasczak and Tykhovick, representing chaplains in two branches of military service, offered a prayer service to honor one who had served her country well.

On March 8 Bishop Basil H. Losten offered the divine liturgy with a panakhyda at the cemetery assisted by the Rev. Deacon Cyril.

Three military representatives from West Point and a bugler participated in the ceremony following the panakhyda by folding the flag that had covered the coffin, saluting and presenting the flag to Sister Michele Yakymovitch, provincial superior, as taps were played in the background.

Sister Leonard is survived by several nieces, nephews and cousins.

Community remembers Myroslaw Samchyshyn

by Dr. Pavlo Pundi

CHICAGO – Members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society chapter in Chicago and the staff of the Encyclopedia of the Ukrainian Diaspora on February 5 commemorated the late Myroslaw Samchyshyn at services celebrated by the Rev. Mitred Ivan Krotec and the Rev. Myron Panchuk at Ss. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Church.

A week later Father Pankraty celebrated a memorial mass at the Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral of St. Volodymyr in Chicago. This was followed by a luncheon in the parish hall prepared by the Sisterhood of St. Olha.

Sviatoslav Lychyk led a program that included a presentation by Serhiy Illiuk about the life of Prof. Samchyshyn and his activities in journalism, scholarship and community life. He also enumerated his extensive efforts on behalf of St. Volodymyr Parish. Oleksandra Diachenko-Kochman, former director of the Saturday school at the Cathedral of

St. Volodymyr, mentioned also the late wife of Prof. Samchyshyn, Olha (nee Decyk), who had been a longtime parishioner and teacher at the school, a helpmate and advisor to her husband.

Dr. Pavlo Pundi spoke about the activities of the professor as a member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh). That scholarly association in 1985 published the extensive work, "A Thousand Years of Ukrainian Culture," financed by the Drs. Peter and Olha Mociuk Foundation. The book was recently republished in Ukraine. Prof. Samchyshyn had been very gratified, and hoped to have his work published in English also. NTSh in New York funded a translation, prepared by Marko Levytskyi, but Prof. Samchyshyn died suddenly on February 5, 1999, before the publication of the English-language version.

The board of the NTSh chapter in Chicago, on the advice of Prof. Vasyl Markus, decided to send the manuscript, along with additional materials and disquettes to New York, where the NTSh Publications Committee is expected to proceed with publishing the translation.

Mr. Lychyk informed those present that Prof. Samchyshyn was a benefactor of the Museum-Library at the Ukrainian Orthodox Church Center in South Bound Brook, N.J., where his scholarly papers and archives will be preserved and a memorial tablet installed.

Addendum

The UNIAN photo of Atena Pashko placing flowers at a memorial service to her late husband, Vyacheslav Chornovil (April 2) was taken at the foot of a cross erected at the site of the accident in which Mr. Chornovil was killed on March 29, 1999.

A Ukrainian Summer

Appears May 7 in The Ukrainian Weekly

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Relax at Soyuzivka...
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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



The Cholhan boys (from left) Christian, 11, Hilary, 13, and Jeremy, 9, sons of Dr. Hilary and Myroslawa Cholhan of Rochester, N.Y., are new members of UNA Branch 325. They were enrolled by their grandmother Larisa R. Paschuk.



The Lenchur children (from left) Katherine, 4, Peter, 2 1/2, and Christine, 4, children of Dr. Peter Lenchur and Dr. Ruta Cholhan Lenchur, are new members of UNA Branch 325 in Brooklyn, N.Y. They were enrolled by their grandmother Larisa R. Paschuk.



Daphne A. and Justin E. Werz, children of Maria E. and Christopper M. Werz, are new members of UNA Branch 352 in Chester, Pa. They were enrolled by their grandparents Robert J. and Irene M. Bandersky Long.



Mission Statement

The Ukrainian National Association exists:

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

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

“Mittenwalders” announce reunion at Soyuzivka

by Michael Komanowsky

BLUE BELL, Pa. – More than half a century has passed since students of the displaced persons camp in Mittenwald, Germany, bid farewell and departed for faraway countries, including the United States and Canada, taking with them pleasant memories of dear friends and acquaintances as well as memories of good, and bad, times. Very few settled near enough to one another to be able to maintain the close relationships that they had formed during their unforgettable years in Mittenwald.

In response to numerous requests for a reunion, a committee has been formed that has made arrangements with the management at Soyuzivka, the Ukrainian National Association's resort in upstate New York, to accommodate a convention from May 21 to 23. Additional details of the program will soon be published in the press.

In order to assure a big turnout and thereby make this 50th anniversary reunion a resounding success, efforts are being made by the committee to inform the largest number of former “Mittenwalders.” However, this is a formidable task; therefore, the committee is asking everyone to inform and remind their acquaintances personally about this event during meetings, or by mail, phone or e-mail, and to urge them to bring along their guests as well.

This reunion offers a unique opportunity to rekindle old memories, to revive old friendships, to share life's experiences and to pray for the departed hard-working faculty who, despite an almost complete lack of suitable facilities and textbooks, provided an education that, was equal to that obtainable in well-equipped schools in the countries where the DPs settled.

The committee is planning a general program for the reunion which, among other events, will include a banquet, a divine liturgy and a requiem liturgy in memory of those who have departed. However, members of the various schools (the Ukrainian gymnasium, the teachers, institute and the trade school), as well as individual classes of these schools are encouraged to additionally plan their own separate events.

To assist the committee with program coordination, persons interested in organizing separate events should contact Michael Mochula, Orest Kuzma or George Ukrainskyj in a timely fashion to ensure that no scheduling conflicts arise. The committee members may be reached at the following telephone numbers: Michael Mochula at (973) 340-8495, Orest Kuzma at (860) 257-4833 and George Ukrainskyj at (973) 740-1633.

To reserve rooms, please contact Soyuzivka, UNA Estate, P.O. Box 529, Kerhonkson, NY, 12446; telephone, (914) 626 5641; fax, (914) 626-4638.

RECORDING DEPARTMENT MEMBERSHIP REPORT – FEBRUARY 2000

Martha Lysko, National Secretary

	Juvenile	Adult	ADD	Total
Total Active Members – 1/2000	7,502	15,871	3,858	27,231
Total Inactive Members – 1/2000	7,306	18,237	0	25,543
Total Members – 1/2000	14,808	34,108	3,858	52,774

ACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 2/2000

New members	11	26	0	37
New members UL	0	0	0	0
Reinstated	0	8	3	11

Total Gains:	11	34	3	48
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Losses in 2/2000

Died	1	28	0	29
Cash surrender	11	31	0	42
Endowment matured	24	15	0	39
Fully paid-up	13	17	0	30
Reduced paid-up	0	0	0	0
Extended Insurance	8	21	0	29
Certificates lapsed (active)	6	12	11	29
Certificate terminated	2	2	1	5

Total Losses	65	126	12	203
Total Active Members - 2/2000	7,448	15,779	3,849	27,076

INACTIVE MEMBERSHIP

Gains in 2/2000

Paid-up	13	17	0	30
Reduced paid up	0	0	0	0
Extended insurance	8	21	0	29

Total Gains	21	38	0	59
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Losses in 2/2000

* Died	1	40	0	41
* Cash surrender	10	23	0	33
Pure endowment matured	0	1	0	1
Reinstated to active	0	8	0	8
Certificates lapsed (inactive)	0	0	0	0

Total Losses	11	72	0	83
Total Inactive Members – 2/2000	7,316	18,203	0	25,519

TOTAL MEMBERSHIP - 2/2000	14,764	33,982	3,849	52,595
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(* Paid up and reduced paid up policies)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Dumka: half-century of song

The Ukrainian word "dumka" has two meanings: the first meaning is thought or opinion – "v mene bula taka dumka" – and the second meaning is that of a lyrical song or instrumental composition patterned on traditional folk-song melodies. It is lyrical song that the Dumka chorus of New York has brought us for 50 years.

Founded in 1949 in New York as an all-male chorus composed of 40 members, Dumka became a mixed male-female choir in 1959. Since its beginning it has been directed by a half-dozen conductors, currently by Maestro Vasyl Hrechynsky.

Dumka held its first concert in Manhattan's Beethoven Hall on Sunday, February 12, 1950, an event attended by about 300 guests. The first program included many Ukrainian carols, "schedrivky" and religious hymns since the concert preceded a traditional Christmas season "prosfora" dinner. Into the Ukrainian American community at the time, post-war immigrants had just begun to arrive and the Dumka chorus made a profound impression on the guests of the first concert.

The Ukrainian Weekly wrote of the first concert: "If ever you have been caught in the expectant hush of a gathering mid-summer storm and, by a sudden clap of thunder, found yourself engulfed in pulsing waves of magnificent sound and force ... [then] you might envision the impact of the first crashing chords sung by the new Dumka chorus ... Nothing like it has been heard in and around New York in years ... not since the days when the great Koshetz waved his magic hands over the 'human organ' of the seven [combined] Ukrainian Catholic church choirs ... and from those 350 throats evoked the pealing fortissimos and the poignant pianissimos that gave rise to the Koshetz Legend. ... Inevitably, the many 'Old Guard' Ukrainians present as guests ... did apply the Koshetz yardstick and found the measurement exciting. Under the direction of [Leonty] Krushelnysky, the chorus showed such a mastery of choral harmony, cleanness of attack, dynamics and diction, and such an intelligent and instant response to the director's every gesture that one could easily hope for the additional and needed mastery in the near future of the fluid phrasing, the delicate counterpoint and the sensitive 'feel' for each song that has seldom been heard since the Carnegie and Town Hall concerts of the combined choruses."

Dumka's concert that afternoon was greeted with a standing ovation and was returned with two encores.

Fifty years later the chorus is again preparing to make a profound impression as it celebrates its golden anniversary on Sunday, April 9, at 2 p.m. in The Great Hall at The Cooper Union. The concert program will include classics by Ukrainian composers such as Bortniansky, Lysenko, Liudkevych, Nyzhankivksi, Kos-Anatolsky, Kolessa, Leontovych, as well as arrangements by contemporary composers such as Yevhen Stankovych among its close to 20 selections.

For 50 years the chorus has been maintaining and cultivating the beautiful heritage of Ukrainian secular and religious music. For this we say thank you to Dumka and offer a "Mnohaya Lita" – may you long continue to bring us your heartfelt song.

April
9
1967

Turning the pages back...

Thirty-three years ago to the day, the Ukrainian Folk Art Museum was officially opened in New York City at the Ukrainian Institute of America. The museum was inaugurated "with the snip of a ribbon, [by] Mrs. Stephanie Pushkar, president of the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, and Mr. Theodore Dzus, president of the Ukrainian Institute of America."

As correspondent Marta Baczynsky wrote in *The Weekly*, "The affair at the Ukrainian Institute of America realized a dream long held by the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, to create a permanent exhibit of Ukrainian folk art in the United States. This dream was also shared by the late William Dzus, founder of the institute, with whose understanding and efforts the collection found a home."

In her speech before some 250 persons in attendance, Mrs. Pushkar underlined that the UNWLA feels "a responsibility to preserve our culture, which forms the basis of understanding of our nation." And she noted that the museum had a dual purpose: to provide an opportunity both for young Ukrainians to acquire knowledge of their heritage and for the world to appreciate the broad scope of Ukrainian creativity.

Mr. Dzus observed that it was "a great privilege" for him to bring to life the agreement for the museum made between his father and Helen Lotocky, honorary president of the UNWLA.

A preview of the museum was held two days prior to its official opening for specially invited guests: leaders of American and ethnic women's organizations, diplomats stationed in New York and their spouses. And a day before the preview a press conference at the museum was attended by the ethnic and New York press, including *The New York Times*, *The New York Daily News* and the *New York World Journal Tribune*, as well as the *Voice of America*.

The museum collection, which filled three rooms of the stately mansion, comprised examples of diverse Ukrainian folk arts, including pysanky, ceramics, folk costumes, tapestries, woodcarvings and embroidery.

The roots of the Ukrainian Folk Art Museum can be traced to an exhibit of folk art organized in 1926 by the one-year-old UNWLA at the Hotel Astor in New York. In 1933 the UNWLA collection was shown at the World's Fair in Chicago.

Source: "Ukrainian Folk Art Museum Opens in New York City" by Marta Baczynsky, *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 15, 1967; "Ukrainian Folk Art Museum to be Opened in New York," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, April 1, 1967.

NEWS AND VIEWS

Aid to Ukraine and why it does not work

by Walter Prochorenko

Ukraine has been the recipient of substantial aid from the United States and from Western European countries, but so far none of this aid has made a dent in the Ukrainian economy, which appears to be deteriorating at a progressively faster pace.

The question is "Why?"

Certainly the amount of aid received by Ukraine is proportionally far less than that received by European nations from the Marshall Plan after World War II, even though the situation (at least psychologically) in Russia, Ukraine and other Soviet bloc countries was similar because of the breakdown of the union.

When systems change, most people find themselves lost in new environments. This happened after the abolition of slavery in the United States, and the consequences are still being felt. This is happening now in all industries with the advent of the Internet and new ways of working, buying, playing, socializing and communicating. Change does not always come easily – especially to people who were mostly concerned with making a living and feeding their families.

However, the biggest reason that aid to Ukraine (and to Russia for that matter) has not worked, has to do with how it was, and is, disbursed. This is not a simple issue; it is as complex as the various programs that have been instituted. However, if we look at the basic principles of this aid, we can certainly have a good idea of why the problems exist.

• **Direct aid:** It is a well-known fact, and one of human nature that when one receives something for nothing one appreciates it far less than when one earns that something. The process of giving direct aid is accomplishing exactly the opposite of what it is trying to cure.

In its own way Moscow "funded" all major projects in Ukraine, which included the arts, education, roads, theaters, airports, resorts, plants, etc. Ukrainians came to expect that when money was needed they contacted Moscow, and Moscow sent it to them. Now the same is happening with the West.

When Ukraine runs out of funds it asks Washington, or Bonn, or Brussels, for some funds, and after much hand-wringing, threats, requests for promises, and "investigation" it usually gets them. This succeeds only in buying a few more months of time, but resolves nothing. The funds do not go to "kick-start" the economy or to fund new industries or businesses. It goes to pay some interest debts, build a few more palaces and dachas for the elite and as in the case of Russia, feed a few more Swiss accounts.

• **Consultants:** How does a 28-year-old "financial consultant" from the International Monetary Fund or the World Bank or any other Western institution, tell a hardened, Soviet-educated, bloated bureaucrat how to run a bank, or change some laws, or introduce security measures, or run his plant. It's like trying to convince an 800-pound gorilla to go on a diet. It does not happen. There isn't even a basis for any constructive communications. The 28-year-old may be the smartest person in the world, and he may have the best ideas, but

Walter Prochorenko is a businessperson with more than 35 years of experience in international markets. He has traveled to, done business in, and lived in over 80 countries. Since 1994 he has concentrated on doing business in Ukraine in the real estate development and construction fields and has been involved in such unique projects in Ukraine as establishing the first golf resort, the first five-star hotel, and a Formula 1 track.

there is no way to communicate them to the people who can make a difference.

Similarly, how can the young, energetic, and brilliant Western staff members and financial geniuses from the Big Six (now probably Big Four) consulting and accounting firms communicate their ideas to companies that on a daily basis are faced with unrelenting bureaucracies and unbelievable corruption?

And as brilliant as they are, these individuals are usually on a two- to three-year contracts, have no roots or future in Ukraine, and are often more concerned about the opening of a new pub or the arrival of spring than they are about helping change the system. They are surrounded by a bevy of beautiful women, relatively low prices (in proportion to their salaries), an exotic environment, and a small and intimate community of their peers. What do they have to worry about? Certainly not the future of the Ukrainian economy.

• **Corruption:** When Benjamin Franklin said: "when the people shall become so corrupted as to need despotic government, being incapable of any other," he could have been speaking about Ukraine. His words certainly reflect what is happening in Belarus. No matter how one slices it, corruption is the basic downfall of the present Ukrainian society; it is truly a cancer that is eating away at the core of Ukraine.

Sure, it exists in other societies, even in our own United States. But in Ukraine (as well as in Belarus and Russia) it has achieved a form of its own. It is corruption for the sake of corruption. Nothing works without it. You can't get one document from any government agency without paying a "fee" on top of the official one. In most cases the requests for "fees" are so blatant as to invite published schedules. Taxes are assessed not on earnings but on the "needs" of the individual tax collectors and their offices. In some cases, during particularly bad collection periods, tax collectors ask for "loans" for the budget which then are never repaid.

If Ukrainian authorities could collect taxes on all the "fees" that are collected, even at a 10 percent rate, Ukraine could probably easily pay off all of its debt and have a substantial surplus for the future.

No matter how much aid flows into the country, corruption will ensure that much of it will make it flow out just as easily.

Recently an official in Russia asked for a "fee" of \$1 billion to push a certain project through. When asked if he knows what \$1 billion looks like, he replied that he doesn't, but it surely would be sufficient for him to buy himself a few "necessities." The system is so ingrained from Soviet times, when workers were paid with whatever they could steal and trade, that it is difficult for a Westerner to understand how to change such a system.

However, if Ukraine is to take its place among European nations and if it is to be "trusted" by businesspeople, it must rid itself of this stigma. Fortunately, the present administration has started taking steps to stem this problem. But we fear the process may take a very long time.

• **Solutions:** I once promised myself that I would never criticize anything unless I was able to offer at least some solutions or suggestions in order to make it better. In keeping with this promise, I humbly offer the following thoughts.

The theme of a science fiction book by an Australian author (whose name escapes me) was that the worst crime that could possibly be committed was lying. The premise was that, from this relatively simple crime, all others evolved. Similarly in

(Continued on page 9)

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Kuropas should pay a visit to Cuba

Dear Editor:

I never miss Dr. Myron Kuropas' thought-provoking columns in *The Ukrainian Weekly*. I happened to be on vacation in Cuba when the January 23 issue arrived. After reading Dr. Kuropas' article I realized that the author has never visited Cuba and therefore does not really know what is going on there now. Although American citizens are not permitted to travel to Cuba, journalists may obtain special permission to go there. I strongly urge Dr. Kuropas to visit Cuba and see this country for himself, instead of drawing on very old and tired clichés about this country.

From first-hand experience I can say that Cuba is changing and moving slowly towards a market economy. Tourism is booming in this beautiful country, now home to a variety of Canadian and Spanish hotel chains. Joint ventures initiated by Mexican, Italian, and Israeli companies are on the increase. Cuba's population is highly educated, with some Cubans speaking four languages fluently. People are kind and hospitable, and their love of children is remarkable and exceptional. Family ties are strong.

That is why I am both shocked and surprised that the little Cuban boy Elian, following his traumatic experience at sea, is being made to live with strangers in a foreign country, and has become a political football and pawn of unscrupulous strangers. He should have been returned to his father immediately. According to international law, the United States has no right to keep Elian – this is ordinary kidnapping with political overtones. Furthermore, this little boy has suffered a profound trauma and should be seen by a psychologist. He can get professional help in Cuba for free.

Elian's mother apparently was misled by her boyfriend and did not have enough common sense not to take her small child on a hazardous journey in a leaky boat. For her foolishness she paid with her life.

And what of Elian's future in the United States? The thrill of receiving lots of toys and another trip to Disneyland will not last for long. Soon he will be "free" to experience an inferior education, watch violence and sex on television, and observe how schoolchildren blast away at each other with guns.

Elian's loving family and his father's house in Cuba await him, so his American relatives in Miami should have no fear for either his safety or his well-being.

Halina Szymonowicz, M.D.
Montreal

FDR's shortcomings hurt Ukrainians

Dear Editor:

Some comments on the views (March 12) of Alexander Kuzma and Boris Danik. Mr. Kuzma in his long-winded defense of FDR basically rehashes the same propaganda that Mr. Danik gave us in his first letter. Essentially, FDR promised all Americans a bacon-and-eggs breakfast in the midst of the Depression, and he delivered! Those who don't agree with this are labeled "right-wing ideologues-crusaders" who are jealous of the "New Deal" and are always denigrating it as the "raw deal."

These two authors don't seem to realize that not all critics of FDR are "right-wing" anything. It's not FDR's mixed bag (capitalism with socialist safeguards) that both-

ers me. It's his unprecedented (for an American president) violation of human rights! No other U.S. president put more innocent American citizens and their families into concentration camps, depriving them of their property, assets and civil rights. FDR has been accused of being a war criminal for this as well as for his complicity in the Pearl Harbor massacre. The entire post-war Ukrainian immigration of displaced persons and their descendants are lucky that FDR died when he did for this brought an earlier end to the disgraceful "Operation Keelhaul" that forcibly returned refugees to Stalin.

The tragic histories of Japanese Americans, Italian Americans, and German Americans have been well documented. The plight of Ukrainian Americans has barely been scratched although Dr. Myron B. Kuropas alludes to it in his history of the Ukrainian National Association.

I recall the story a Ukrainian American Catholic priest told me about how the FBI visited and warned him that his sermons were being "monitored" for Ukrainian patriotic content which they considered to be "subversive." He was told to stick to the gospels and to forget about the ongoing martyrdom of the Ukrainian people. Mr. Kuzma's time would be better spent declassifying anti-Ukrainian FBI files instead of worrying about FDR's reputation.

Mr. Kuzma berates Dr. Kuropas for not showing enough respect and homage to Gandhi, Martin Luther King Jr. and to Rukh. However it was George Orwell who eloquently asked what good would a million Ukrainian Gandhi types do in the face of Stalinist terror such as in 1933? Indeed our people have produced (maybe overproduced) their share of Gandhi and King types. These types do succeed in achieving change in capitalist countries, but are useless in murderous totalitarian regimes.

The USSR collapsed because its elite lost its fanatical fervor and nerve in resorting to mass murder on a grand scale using the formula handed down by Stalin. See the book "The Uses of Terror" by Borys Lewytsky for an understanding of how the Communists could have maintained perpetual power. When the Soviet elite didn't have the stomach to massacre the thousands of Germans dismantling the Berlin Wall (they still had the will to commit small massacres, like in Lithuania), it was clear their end was near.

Mr. Danik admits that Soviet spies successfully infiltrated the German high command and FDR's inner government, but claims this was insignificant. Let me give him a clue. Germany lost the war, and the United States lost its top secret atomic bomb to Stalin. Soviet espionage had nothing to do with any of this? Yeah, right!

He also maintains that FDR did not give away Eastern Europe to Stalin. Isn't it odd, however, that when the Western powers told Stalin that he overstepped the deal by taking Austria and Greece he quickly backed off. The Western powers didn't give a hoot about the Slavic nations and gave Stalin a free hand in terrorizing them.

Actually, this may have been fortuitous for Ukrainians because who knows what would have been left of our nation had the Communists not diluted their terror on others. Suffice it to say, prior to Communist occupation, few of our neighbors respected us. After experiencing pan-Slavic Russian communism, Poland's traditional antipathy changed and it eagerly became the first country to recognize independent Ukraine.

In conclusion, both of these authors have overreacted in a partisan way to Dr. Kuropas' critiques of FDR's shortcomings, and have neglected to consider how those shortcomings have hurt both Ukrainians in Ukraine and Ukrainian Americans.

Jaroslaw Sawka
Sterling Heights, Mich.

PERSPECTIVES

BY ANDREW FEDYNSKY



Turning painful memories into gold

My mother knew how to say, "Your hands up!" in five languages. It was a standing joke in our family back in the 1950s.

"Renzy dogury!" Mama would say in Polish, in a mock stern voice. I'd raise my arms and she'd help me take off a pajama top or sweater. Just for fun, she'd change languages and say it in German: "Hande hoch!" Every now and then, she'd throw a curve ball and do it in English. My younger brother Pete and I would laugh at her funny accent and she laughed too. When she was tired or had run out of patience with her boys, she'd just say it matter-of-fact in Ukrainian, the everyday language in our home.

She could also say it in Russian, but that one really gave her the creeps and we only heard it once or twice much later, during those rare moments when she gave voice to the memories that haunted her: the time the NKVD took young Ukrainians ("nashi khloptsi" – our boys) to be hanged for joining the hopeless struggle for Ukraine's independence. Another memory that had her gasping with horror was Nazis rounding up Jews from the village for what everyone knew would be certain death. Ukrainians were luckier: chosen for their vigor and youth, they were shipped to Germany to be slaves. Mama escaped that fate because she had a baby – my older brother George – although dodging slave labor only meant she was there when the Red Army and the political commissars came to the village and taught everyone, "Your hands up" in Russian.

George was in diapers when the Nazis came. He was 5 when the Soviets occupied the village and Mama taught him to say, "Glory to Father Stalin."

"Yurchyk was such a smart boy," Mama said. "He knew the lies to tell and who to tell them to. That was no way for a child to grow up." By the time we were in Cleveland lifting up our arms at bedtime, George was old enough to dress himself.

Looking back, it was a miracle, really, that the family ended up in Cleveland where our mother could play "Hands up!" with us in the different languages she had picked up along the way. We laughed and never thought that this was strange. It was just Mama having fun with her children, using the material the last 15 years had given her: "Renzy dogury! Hande hoch!"

Mama spent World War II in Podillia, in western Ukraine. Our father was in Vienna with the small Ukrainian student community there. In 1946, when the war was over, he got some forged documents from the Viennese refugee network and left the British Zone for Soviet Ukraine. Leaping from a moving train, he walked to the village where he had last seen his wife and son three years before and together they made their way to the West.

After a couple of years in displaced persons camps, we ended up in Pennsylvania and finally, in 1954, Cleveland, where Tato worked in a factory. It was 10 years since he'd left a Nazi prison cell in Linz. Ten years before that, he'd done time in a Polish prison. Once in America, his biggest challenge was paying off a mortgage and sending his kids to college. He died in 1981; my mother died in 1985.

This is the bare bones story of how our family came to America. After my Mama and Tato died, I found letters and documents testifying to all this, including the forged letter of transport and the phony passport – neatly stacked in a drawer. None of this, unfortunately, had been of much interest to me when I was growing up. I just wished that my parents wouldn't keep speaking Ukrainian to us in public. Their accented English, of course, was no better and I'm ashamed to say, that I often burned with embarrassment, conscious of the fact that they weren't like everyone else's Mom and Dad.

Today, too late to tell them, I can't begin to tell you how proud I am to be their son and how much I admire the generation of men and women like them who lived through such tough times, then settled in America where, on the surface at least, they assumed ordinary American lives.

What they also did was organize a wholesome community that kept their children busy with Saturday schools, dance classes, youth organizations, summer camps, choirs. They rolled up their sleeves and went to work, continuing the struggle for Ukraine's freedom and independence in the only way they knew how, by replicating the institutions they had known in the old country and by giving their children the best education the new world had to offer. That's heroic. And theirs is a story worth telling.

That's why I'm so glad that Yaro Bihun, a frequent contributor to *The Ukrainian Weekly*, is reconstructing his own family's history. I know Yaro from Cleveland's Ukrainian community in the 1950s and 1960s. Recently he did a couple of articles for *The Weekly* describing his trip to Ukraine where he found the family burial plot and discovered details about his roots. Along with the article was a photograph of Yaro's father and his buddies in a Polish prison in 1929. I bet there are fascinating stories behind that photograph and I hope Yaro gets around to telling them. It would help me understand my own father's experience. Still a teenager in 1932, he had been arrested by Polish police for distributing Ukrainian nationalist newsletters. "Renzy dogury!"

Like others of his generation, like Yaro's father, my father spent a few years in jail. Every now and then Tato asked Mama if she could make the soup he ate in prison and she'd shoot back: "That's impossible. You were always hungry then and no cook can compete with that!"

Like "Hands up!" that interchange was another standing joke in our family. And in the family context, that didn't seem unusual either. So we never pursued our parents for details. Now that they're gone, I wish we had.

So I hope a lot of people follow Yaro's example and find out what they can about their families. If you have elderly parents or grandparents, ask them to tell you their story. Write it down. Videotape it. Record it. Do it for your children, for your grandchildren, for history.

A few people, of course, are doing just that. My father's best friend, Dr. Volodymyr Bodnar, in his late 80s and

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Newsbriefs

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official holiday in Belarus called "Unification Day of the Peoples of Belarus and Russia." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Lukashenka says crackdown was mistake

MIENSK – Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka has said the March 25 police action in Miensk, which led to the arrest of several hundred people, including some 40 journalists, was a "misunderstanding and mistake." Mr. Lukashenka pledged to journalists to "sort out" the circumstances surrounding the incident and "draw conclusions," Belarusian Television reported on March 31. On March 25 Mr. Lukashenka was on an official trip to the United Arab Emirates. Internal Affairs Minister Yuriy Sivakou told Belarusian Television after the March 25 arrests that Mr. Lukashenka had instructed him "to ensure order and security during his absence," adding that the ministry "complied with this instruction." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Amnesty decreed for untaxed capital

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has signed a decree whereby untaxed capital of individuals is to be legalized by submitting a revenues declaration to the State Tax Inspectorate without indicating the source

of those revenues, the Eastern Economist Daily reported on April 3. The decree intends to boost investments in the Ukrainian economy, improve tax revenues and stop the outflow of capital from the country. Mr. Kuchma also ordered the Cabinet of Ministers to draft a law that would ban officials from seeking information about the declared capital's origin and include a promise that the "earnings legalized under this law would not be confiscated in the future," the Associated Press reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Odesa holds the festival of humor

ODESA – The main event of the traditional Humoryna took place April 1. Humoryna 2000 began at 10 a.m., when the Mother of Odesa memorial was unveiled near the Literary Museum. Observers noted that, unfortunately, the organizers of Humoryna 2000 overlooked Ukrainian comedians and spent a lot of money to hire Russian stars. (Eastern Economist)

EBRD plans more cooperation with Kyiv

KYIV – The European Bank for Reconstruction and Development "is planning to continue its operations in Ukraine in both state and private sectors," said First Vice-President Charles Frank on March 23. Marking his visit to Ukraine, Mr. Frank said he had very

interesting and useful meetings with Ukrainian officials, including Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, First Vice Prime Minister Yurii Yekhanurov, National Bank of Ukraine Chairman Volodymyr Stelmach, and Vice Prime Minister Yulia Tymoshenko. According to Mr. Frank, the issues of the energy sector, small and medium-size business and privatization were discussed at the meetings. "The EBRD is ready to provide its financial support on pre-privatization if the reforms continue on track," Mr. Frank stated. In 1999, the EBRD issued 250 million euros for financing various projects, this is the largest amount of money since the EBRD began operations in Ukraine. To the end of 1999, the EBRD and Ukraine have signed 34 contracts for a total amount of 806 million euros. Twenty-one of these projects involve the private sector. (Eastern Economist)

Miensk, Kyiv simplify citizenship switch

MIENSK – Miensk and Kyiv on March 30 exchanged the ratification instruments of a 1999 agreement on a simplified procedure for changing the citizenship of Belarusians permanently residing in Ukraine and of Ukrainians in Belarus. "This procedure will take no more than a month and will be free of charge," Belarusian Television quoted Ukrainian Ambassador to Belarus Anatol Dron as saying. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine to require visas from Slovaks

KYIV – Ukraine has informed Slovakia that Kyiv will introduce "an appropriate travel regime" for Slovaks in response to Bratislava's decision to introduce visas for Ukrainians beginning June 28, Interfax reported on March 30. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Patriarch criticizes Ukrainian officials

MOSCOW – Patriarch Aleksei II of Moscow and All Russia criticized the Ukrainian government on March 29 for its support for creating an independent Ukrainian Orthodox Church. Patriarch Aleksei said "statesmen in Ukraine are still making appeals to establish an independent Church" and that such appeals are deepening the rift in the Orthodox community, Interfax reported. He added that he reminded Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma that the Moscow Patriarchate had "granted complete autonomy to its Kyiv Exarchate" in January of this year. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Could Japanese sect sabotage Chernobyl?

MOSCOW – Citing reports by the Tokyo police, Izvestia reported on March 30 that the Aum Shinri Kyo sect is in possession of classified information on "some Russian nuclear systems" and "technical data" that in theory could be used to cause another major accident at the Chernobyl nuclear power station in Ukraine. A Tokyo-based computer company founded by the sect has apparently managed to acquire classified data on nuclear facilities worldwide, including information on the system for emergency situations at Chernobyl that had been requested "on behalf of" the Japanese Foreign Affairs Ministry, ostensibly to offer assistance to the Ukrainian authorities. The Aum Shinri Kyo sect was outlawed in Russia following the 1995 sarin gas attack in the Tokyo subway. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Georgia, Ukraine reaffirm partnership ...

TBILISI – Leonid Kuchma met with his Georgian counterpart, Eduard Shevardnadze, in Tbilisi on March 15, Caucasus Press reported. The two presidents signed a joint statement on extending bilateral cooperation within the framework of a relationship that Mr. Kuchma described as "deeper than just a special partnership." Mr. Shevardnadze told journalists after his talks with the Ukrainian president that the

two countries' interests "completely coincide," according to Interfax. Those interests include the possible transport of Caspian oil to international markets via Ukraine and the TRACECA transport project. Ukraine is also likely to be formally included in the Friends of the U.N. Secretary-General Group, which is seeking to mediate a solution of the Abkhaz conflict. (RFE/RL Newsline)

... discuss GUUAM group of states

TBILISI – At their joint press conference on March 15, President Eduard Shevardnadze said that he and President Leonid Kuchma want regional cooperation within GUUAM (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan, and Moldova) to serve the interests of all its members, Caucasus Press reported. The Georgian president noted that the doors of that group are open to new members. But he stressed that the alignment is primarily economic and that military cooperation between its members plays only a minor role. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Sailors on China Breeze convicted

KYIV – Houston County Court has convicted the three Ukrainian sailors from the vessel China Breeze. The sailors were convicted of drug smuggling and each will serve 25 years in prison. It is still to be decided whether the sailors will be allowed to serve the term in Ukraine. (Eastern Economist)

Length of military service to decrease

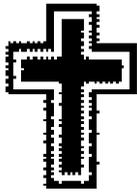
KYIV – Ukrainian Center for Economic and Policy Studies proposed to decrease the term of obligatory military service from 18 months to one year. This will decrease the number of conscripts and improve their social and educational conditions after their service. The decrease in military service corresponds to the world trends, stated the experts. The service term in Poland, Slovakia and Moldova is 12 months. The experts stated that such a decrease is possible as early as 2001. The Verkhovna Rada on April 4 approved changes to the law "On alternative non-military service" by which citizens are allowed to serve in state social organizations. The Red Cross is not on this list. (Eastern Economist)

Drop box speeds U.S. visa process

KYIV – The Consular Section of the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv has expanded the categories of the persons who may apply for a visa without an interview. The drop-box procedure enables applicants to leave their documents at the consular section and collect their visa on the following day. The drop-box can be used by the following: individuals with an earlier visa in their current passport, people with a valid IAP-66 for four-year college or university study programs and dependents listed on the IAP-66, and applicants over age 60. The price for a U.S. visa varies from \$30 to \$75 (U.S.). (Eastern Economist)

Fifth polar expedition under way

KYIV – Eight participants of the fifth Ukrainian polar expedition, headed by Yaroslav Kutsenko, are on their way to their destination in Antarctica. They were seen off on February 2 by the first vice-chairman of the State Science Committee, Borys Hryniiov, participants of previous expeditions and their relatives. The remainder of the expedition, headed by Volodymyr Vaschenko, joined the main group of 45 scientists in Sevastopol. They departed on February 8 for Antarctica to replace the group that has worked at the Akademik Vernadskyi station since April 1999. The trek to Antarctica was expected to take 45 days. In 1999 the State Innovation Fund issued 5.2 million hrv to finance the fifth Ukrainian Antarctic expedition. (Eastern Economist)



У глибокому смутку ділимося сумною вісткою,
що з волі Всевишнього в середу, 8 березня 2000 р.,
на 86-му році життя, відійшла у вічність наша дорога МАМА і БАБА

СВ. П.
д-р мед.

ОЛЬГА КОРОПЕЙ

Залишила в жалі:

доньку – ОКСАНУ з мужем ОСИПОМ
сина – ОЛЕГА з дружиною ЖАНИС
внуків – АНДРІЯ і НИКОЛАЯ
– ЛЕСЮ, БОРИСА і ЛІНУ

та ближчу і дальшу родину в Америці і Україні.

Висловлюємо глибоку вдячність родині та приятелям, які своєю участю вшанували пам'ять дорогої Покійної на Панахиді, 10 березня 2000 р., Службі Божій в церкві св. Юра та на похороні, 11 березня на цвинтарі св. Андрія в С. Бавнд Бруку, Н.Дж.

Щиро дякуємо всім, хто надіслав вислови співчуття, квіти, пожертви на Служби Божі та щедрі дари на Чорнобильський Фонд.

Вічна їй пам'ять!

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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Sculptural memorial recalls victims of genocidal famine

NEW YORK – A temporary sculptural memorial recognizing victims of the Great Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933 titled "Winter Provisions" by Karla Roberts has been installed in Tompkins Square Park near the eastern edge of the Ukrainian neighborhood in Manhattan, where it will be on display through Eastertime.

The beautiful and unassuming work, a quiet yet profound statement on the oppression of the Ukrainian people, takes the form of a bird feeder. Made of steel and glass, it consists of three posts varied in height, each delicately supporting a small structure that invites birds to come and feed. By using seeds as bird feed in the sculpture, the artist has created a metaphor for the lost human lives and the stolen grain.

On its base are depicted symbolic images taken from pysanky, or Ukrainian Easter eggs: rakes, meaning a plentiful harvest; ladders, symbolizing the passing into another existence; and birds, representing spring, good harvests and the warding off of evil. The physical design of the feeders was derived from the architecture of both grain silos and wooden churches. The community element is represented by multiple feeders.

The inscription on the base, which appears in both English and Ukrainian, reads: "In the memory of the more than 5 million souls who were victims of the Great Famine, winter 1932-1933, Ukraine."

Ms. Roberts received a grant from the Society for Environmental Graphic Design to research and produce the work. She came upon the theme of the famine three years ago while living in the Ukrainian neighborhood in Chicago and conversing with people in

the community.

In her statement regarding the proposed installation, Ms. Roberts noted that upon having interviewed several Ukrainians, she "know[s] this to be a very imbedded part of their history that has personally touched many." She added that "As a resident of Seventh Street [in Manhattan], I appreciate their conservation of their own culture and (the) ethnic diversity they contribute to the city of New York."

A graduate with an MFA degree from the School of the Art Institute of Chicago, Ms. Roberts lives in the Ukrainian neighborhood in New York and teaches typography and graphic design at the Parsons School of Design. Her special area of interest is sculptural work in various media, especially artwork for public spaces. This is her second installation in New York.

A card issued by the City of New York Parks and Recreation announcing the exhibit notes: "During the winter of 1932-33, Stalin commenced the collectivization of agricultural regions in the Soviet Union to make the nation more homogenous. As part of his plan, he oppressed the Ukrainian people, systematically eradicating their individual freedoms of culture, religion and language. Because their land was one of the largest and most fertile in the Soviet Union, Stalin confiscated all wheat, animals and farmlands, claiming these as Soviet property. Reports vary that from 3 million to 12 million Ukrainians starved to death during the winter. Although millions starved, any existence of a famine was denied by the Soviet government, and only recently, discovered by the public at large."



A sculptural memorial to victims of the Great Famine of 1932-1933 titled "Winter Provisions" by Karla Roberts stands in New York's Tompkins Square Park.

USUF's Petrach Project laying foundations in western Ukraine

by Olenka Dobczanska

WASHINGTON, – In late 1999 the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation received a grant to oversee construction of a \$250,000 community center and a \$60,000 rectory for the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha in Stryi Dobrotvir (Lviv Oblast, Kamianka-Buzka raion), from Virginia James, trustee of the William and Helen Petrach Estate.

William Petrach, a Ukrainian American from Virginia, died in 1998 at age 80 as a result of a tragic accident. Mr. Petrach, who was originally from the village of Stryi Dobrotvir, was a retired federal government employee. During his lifetime he and his wife amassed a large estate, which was to be distributed following his death through the William Petrach Charitable Trust. It was Mr. Petrach's wish to use part of the trust funds for the construction or repair of various public and religious buildings in his village.

Upon receiving the award, the foundation appointed Dr. Stephan Kurylas as project coordinator. Not only was Dr. Kurylas helpful in his counsel to Mrs. James regarding project recipients, but he was a resident of Stryi Dobrotvir for 10 years. His knowledge, background and contacts in Ukraine were all seen as key to the potential project activities.

In October 1999 Dr. Kurylas and John A. Kun, USUF financial administrator, traveled to Ukraine to organize the Petrach project there. "Our goal was to familiarize ourselves with specific local conditions and to create two committees that will administer construction of the two buildings," said Dr. Kurylas. "This community center is going to be a rather large and imposing building. It will house a theater, a gym, a post office, a communications office, a first aid clinic, local government offices, several food outlets and a library. So, you see, this is an ambitious project."

To facilitate implementation, meetings were held with numerous leaders, including banking officials, construction personnel,

government leaders like Yaroslav Yanyshyn, head of the Kamianka-Buzka raion, and Mykhailo Khimka, head of the Village Council in Stryi Dobrotvir, and church officials. With the cooperation of Mr. Khimka, an open town meeting was held on a cold Sunday afternoon for village residents in Stryi Dobrotvir's elementary school with USUF's representatives participating.

The packed house of village residents heard several presentations by Mr. Khimka, Dr. Kurylas and Mr. Kun. For Dr. Kurylas, it was a real homecoming, as the crowd truly appreciated his return and his personal anecdotes. "At the town meeting, there were people who remembered William Petrach and his family. There were also people who knew my family and my father. People in Dobrotvir remember him fondly and he was instrumental in beginning the construction of the Church of Ss. Volodymyr and Olha," said Dr. Kurylas.

"You could also tell that people were taking our proposals seriously because many promised to help with the actual construction," he added. "People were offering help to do things like mixing cement or digging ditches. They are truly happy about the opportunity and, as they expressed it, they want Dobrotvir to have something to be proud of."

At the meeting Mr. Kun underscored the fact that people in the United States are not only interested in working for projects funded by the government, but also want to support all genuine community, cultural, spiritual and educational efforts in Ukraine. The villagers enthusiastically invited Dr. Kurylas and Mr. Kun to return to Stryi Dobrotvir for the ribbon-cutting ceremony upon the completion of the construction of the community center and church rectory.

For more information or to contribute, contact the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation at 733 15th St. NW, Suite 1026, Washington, DC 20005; telephone: (202) 347-4264, fax: (202) 347-4267; e-mail: usuf@usukraine.org; website: www.usukraine.org.

Aid to Ukraine...

(Continued from page 6)

Ukraine, the worst crime must be classified as "corruption." If this can be eliminated, then half the battle will be won. The rest of the economic impetus will come from the feeling of a new beginning.

"Don't send a boy to do a man's job." A cliché, sure, but very true in the case of Ukraine's system. Yes, it is extremely difficult to find good experienced people to go to countries like Ukraine and to devote a lot of time to the betterment of the system. But they do exist, and they are the ones who should be tapped to do the "consulting" work in Ukraine. They can truly communicate on a one-on-one basis with the existing authorities. They understand better what the other side can do. They have a "feel" for negotiations and strategies. They also command more respect in a society that has not yet caught up to the nerdy geniuses of the Internet generation.

When distributing aid, all agencies should look at who will be making the main decisions. If it is a Washington bureaucrat who has never put a penny of his own money on the line, his results will be far less effective than an individual who has been through all the pain, suffering and uncertainties of working with his own funds. Calvin Coolidge said it best: "Nothing is easier than spending the public money." How can a salaried employee who has never had to worry about his next paycheck understand the value of hundreds of millions of dollars that are meant as seed

money to get an economy going?

Economists and professors are great at theoretical solutions, and they should definitely assist in the process. But the actual disbursement and control of the funds should be in the hands of individuals who have risked their fortunes and futures on new enterprises.

Surprising as it sounds, the successes or failures of entrepreneurs should never be the litmus test of their capabilities. Business is full of individuals who have tried and failed, and tried again, and then succeeded in their goals. As Georges Clemenceau once commented: "A man's life is interesting primarily when he has failed – I well know. For it's a sign that he tried to surpass himself." There are a multitude of individuals who have tried many things in Ukraine; many have not succeeded due to the system or other considerations – but these are exactly the types of individuals the various funds and Western governments should tap for their work and distribution of grants. These are doers, not theoreticians.

I have lived and done business in several "emerging countries" – among them Korea, Japan the Philippines, Thailand, Turkey, Egypt, Saudi Arabia, and even some places in the Pacific no one has heard about. In all cases, the process was virtually the same. But all the countries managed to emerge and prosper.

One thing for sure, things will improve in Ukraine. Of this I am certain. The question is will this occur in our lifetime, or will several generations have to suffer before we see what could have been.

Ukrainian ship to participate in OpSail

KYIV – The Batkivschyna schooner will have left Ukraine on April 7 for its latest destination: America. The 90-foot, two-masted vessel, with its unique cement hull design, will sail through the Black and Mediterranean seas and the Atlantic Ocean on its way to San Juan, Puerto Rico, by May 25, in time to join the OpSail fleet.

OpSail 2000 – the largest maritime event in history – will bring ships from over 60 different countries, including Ukraine, to selected ports along the eastern coast of the United States. The tour will culminate in New York Harbor for a historic July 4 Independence Day celebration.

Captain Dymytrii Birioukovitch – who also helped invent the lightweight concrete bottom design utilized by the gaff schooner – hopes, by sailing abroad, to increase the general public's awareness of Ukrainian history, culture, sovereignty and geopolitical and economic potential. He is a retired engineer and lifelong sailing enthusiast who, for the past two years, has pursued his vision of a five-year world tour.

"Our mission," he says, "is a straightforward one. We wish to acquaint Americans and Canadians with our people and our ship, and with business opportunities to be found in our country. We are now 52 million Ukrainians living in a country the size of France. For years, nothing was heard about us, but that is changing. Ours is a proud culture and we will travel a quarter of the way around the world to shake hands with other proud peoples."

Formally invited last year by King Juan Carlos of Spain, Capt. Birioukovitch and his Batkivschyna traveled 3,600 nautical miles through the Dardanelles and the Sea of Marmara, through the Mediterranean Sea's unfriendly weather conditions, and

through the Strait of Gibraltar, into the Atlantic Ocean en route to El Ferrol, Spain, where the crew took part in the 500th anniversary celebration of the Spanish Armada.

This year's trip has an added feature. A special project organized jointly with Kirk Middle School in Wilmington, Del., will connect the school and the ship via special satellite and Internet link. Each day for 20 minutes the ship will give an update and a lesson on the students' homepage. The subjects will include geography and history.

Also, a film crew will be on board to record a television series. The "Discover Ukraine" project coordinators are also continuing discussions with Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry to have Ukrainian diplomats make presentations aboard the ship about Ukraine's economic and geopolitical potential while it is in harbor at various ports, including Miami, Norfolk, Va., Baltimore, Wilmington, New York, New London, Conn., Halifax, Nova Scotia, and Portland, Maine.

As the Batkivschyna was ready to depart, Capt. Birioukovitch issued a call to Ukrainian Americans and others to join the crew at various points along the way. "For those who wish to join us," he explained, "we have room for 11 crew members during our sails across the Mediterranean, the Atlantic, and our cruise along the East Coast of North America. One of the very special moments that takes place in each port will be the traditional Parade of Sails. On those occasions we can have up to 60 sailors-in-training on board."

For additional information on this historic undertaking, visit the "Discover Ukraine" website at <http://www.discover-ukraine.kiev.ua> or the Batkivschyna website at <http://www.teachout.org/sail/sched.html>.

PACE takes a step back from suspending Ukraine

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe voted on April 4 to impose sanctions on Ukraine only in the event that it does not implement the results of its national referendum in a constitutional manner, or if changes to the Constitution are enacted illegally.

The body, which is an organization of representatives of the national Parliaments of Europe, made the decision after a panel of its Constitutional experts decided that a recent decision of Ukraine's Constitutional Court to drop two of the most controversial questions brought the Ukrainian national poll closer into line with European standards and expectations.

The decision is a watered down version of an earlier recommendation proposed by a PACE monitoring commission, which originally stated that if the national poll takes place Ukraine's membership should be suspended.

Ukraine and the Council of Europe have been at odds since the monitoring commission visited Ukraine at the behest of a number of Ukrainian national deputies and criticized the constitutionality of the referendum. The national deputies, mostly leftists or opponents of President Leonid Kuchma's policies, had requested that the European body review the legality of the referendum.

Controversy has enveloped the referendum from the day the president signed an executive order scheduling it for April 16. Although officially the referendum is said to be a result of a popular initiative begun in the Zhytomyr Oblast, many political experts believe that it was a result of a concerted effort by the presidential administration and persons close to President Kuchma to secure for him additional executive powers.

In its resolution PACE criticizes changes as proposed in the Ukrainian referendum, which it says could disproportionately shift the balance of power between the executive and the legislative

branches of government. It expresses doubt that a national referendum as organized in Ukraine was truly the result of a "peoples' initiative," and urges the president to delay the referendum until a new law on referendum procedures is passed. Ukraine's current law was passed prior to the 1996 Constitution and thus does not support provisions of the country's fundamental law.

The diluted threat by PACE comes after extensive negotiations and consultations with members of the Ukrainian parliamentary delegation to PACE who were seeking a compromise decision. Over strong dissent from Ukrainian National Deputy Serhii Holovaty, a vocal critic of President Kuchma who has maintained that no referendum can take place, the delegation convinced the monitoring commission that had visited Ukraine to reduce its recommendation for an unequivocal suspension.

The Ukrainian delegation was aided by a decision by the PACE's constitutional experts, the Venetian Commission, which ruled during its regular session on March 31-April 2 that after two critical questions were dropped the referendum was more in line with Western norms.

The day before the vote of the full body took place, PACE President Lord Russell-Johnston said he did not believe that any sanctions will be placed upon Ukraine. He explained that the ruling of Ukraine's Constitutional Court "has undoubtedly changed the political climate in Ukraine," according to RFE-RL.

On March 29 the court dismissed two of the referendum's six questions as unconstitutional: one which asked the nation for a vote of no confidence in the Verkhovna Rada and the other, a query on the right of the people to directly approve a new Constitution through a national referendum, which it said circumvents the process for constitutional change.

Ukraine's Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk addressed the

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Verkhovna Rada...

(Continued from page 1)

program insufficiently addresses social welfare issues and improperly restructures the energy sector. Political experts said the reason for their resistance could be laid to some extent at the feet of the leaders of the factions, respectively, Oleksander Volkov and Viktor Medvedchuk, businessmen who are thought to have extensive dealings in the oil and gas trade.

In a lobbying strategy unusual for this country, where much occurs behind closed doors, government ministers met very publicly with faction leaders and members of many of the parliamentary committees who would determine whether the program would pass during the two weeks before the final vote. The government accepted dozens of changes and clarifications to its program in the hope that there would be minimal resistance to approval.

The government even went so far as to put its authority and very existence on the line. Prime Minister Yushchenko and his lead man on the program, Minister of the Economy Serhii Tyhypko, had often stated that should the program fail to receive the Parliament's blessing the government would resign.

The proposals from the Parliament led to a 25 percent growth in the size of the document, but Mr. Yushchenko said he was satisfied, because no fundamental changes were made in the program's targets and goals.

While explaining that the recent growth in economic indicators provided a good starting point from which to proceed full

force with implementation of reforms, he warned that stumbling blocks still lie ahead – including the need to cajole businesses out of the shadow economy, where today they feel most comfortable, and to repay wage and pension arrears, which he called an "amoral phenomenon."

He called the new economic program "a challenge to the tragedy of poverty" and said that the ultimate goal must be to create a middle class.

"Concurrently, it must aim to free potential for the formation of a middle class. Without it we will not win the fight against poverty, which then will destroy us," said Mr. Yushchenko.

The program is a five-part plan with 21 end goals to revitalize the Ukrainian economy. If fully carried out, it envisages an eventual 1.3 to 1.4 fold rise in real incomes for Ukrainians and an annual average economic growth of 6.5 percent beginning in 2002. For fiscal year 2000, it forecasts a GDP increase of 1 percent to 2 percent and the repayment of all wage and pension arrears. The program also sets targets for vast reductions in the bureaucracy and the streamlining of government.

Now that the program has been approved, Mr. Yushchenko and Verkhovna Rada Chairman Ivan Plushch said they will sign a memorandum of cooperation between the two branches of government, which have had strained relations for the last several years.

The memorandum was proposed by the Coordinating Council that guides the recently formed parliamentary majority and has been viewed by Prime Minister Yushchenko as imperative to the success of the government's economic program.

Ukraine says...

(Continued from page 1)

only reach the appropriate level if the electricity-generating sector is completely privatized. He said that in the end, the EBRD is looking for "the least costs with the greatest efficiency."

The two sides can't seem to agree even on the cost of finishing the two reactors. The EBRD maintains that it would take an additional \$1.72 billion to complete the projects, while the Ukrainian government says it could be done for around \$600 million.

An EBRD report issued at the time of Mr. Frank's visit shows that safety is another major issue.

The report states that "the reactors K2 R4 are far below present safety standards and would not be allowed to operate in any Western country." It also criticizes Ukraine for refusing to upgrade the reactors until after the first three-year fuel cycle is completed.

To what extent Ukraine is ready to close Chornobyl without full financial support from the West is not clear, but the government is giving every indication that it feels the ultimate fate of the nuclear power plant lies with the G-7 and the European Union.

"It is not merely a question of us unilaterally shutting down the third power unit

at Chornobyl and stopping there," said Natalia Zarudna, press spokesman for Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko. "We want all aspects of the closure, the technical, financial and social, to be settled," which she explained was envisaged in the 1995 memorandum of understanding.

There are some experts in the government, none of whom have been willing to go on the record, who state that all the problems presented by the closing of Chornobyl do not have to be addressed at the moment, because the plant can operate safely until at least 2004 with only minor upgrades and revampment.

Nonetheless, President Leonid Kuchma affirmed his support for the government plan when he signed the Cabinet resolution on March 30. He said that if all the problems can be resolved, Chornobyl will go off-line permanently "not later than December of the current year."

A crucial development for financial support for the closing will occur in May, when Ukraine, with the support of Germany, is planning a second donors' conference to be held in Berlin. A similar conference in November 1997 at the United Nations, co-chaired by President Kuchma and U.S. Vice-President Al Gore netted Ukraine about \$35 million. At the G-7's June 1997 Denver summit of the member-states promised \$300 million. In 1995 the G-7 originally pledged \$3 billion to assist in the Chornobyl shutdown.

Stamp appearance is latest honor for Wayne Gretzky

by Inger Kuzych

SPRINGFIELD, Va. – Of the five major team sports in North America – baseball, basketball, football, ice hockey, and soccer – it is in hockey that Ukrainians have had the greatest impact. This should not be that surprising since this sport is still dominated by Canadians (some 60 percent of National Hockey League (NHL) players hail from the Dominion) and there are well over one million Canadians of Ukrainian background (some 4-5 percent of the population

of Canada). Virtually every NHL team has at least one player with some Ukrainian blood and this prominence accounts for The Ukrainian Weekly's Ihor Stelmach always having plenty to write about in his "Ukrainian Pro Hockey Update" column. One player about whom Mr. Stelmach was frequently able to wax poetic was Wayne Gretzky, the soft-spoken superstar who rewrote the NHL's record book and who is Ukrainian on his father's side.

Hockey remains firmly entrenched as Canada's national game and stamps fea-

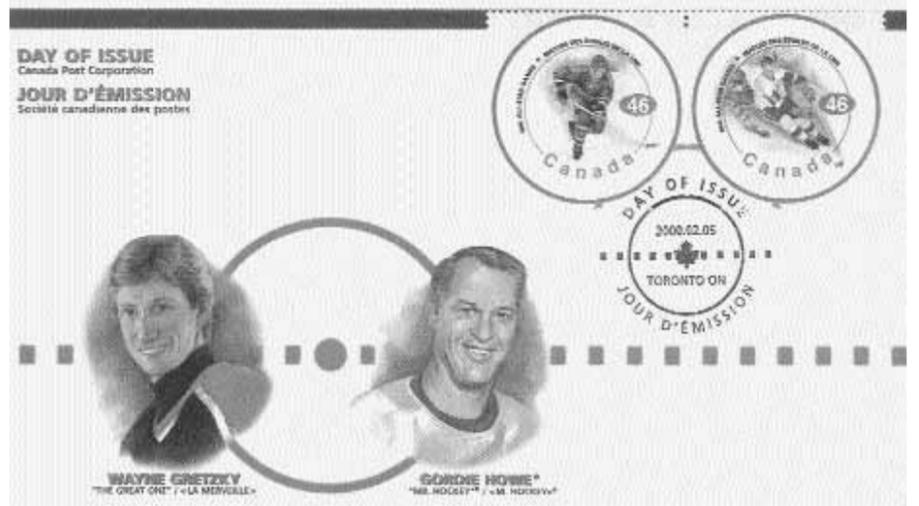


Figure 2

turing the sport have appeared on a number of occasions in the past. This year the NHL celebrated its 50th All Star Game in Toronto (the site of the first such contest). To honor the event, on February 5, the day before the game, Canada Post issued a special souvenir sheet that depicted six of the sport's greatest players, living and past. The men honored were: Wayne Gretzky, Gordie Howe, Maurice Richard, Doug Harvey, Bobby Orr, and Jacques Plante.

Artists Dan Fell and Vincent McIndoe created this issue by combining canvas illustration with computer design. Round-action vignettes of each of the players appear on square stamps (each denominated 46 cents) in the center of the souvenir sheet. Each stamp is flanked by a portrait of the player (Figure 1).

A set of three first-day covers was also prepared for the occasion. Wayne Gretzky's stamp appears with that of Gordie Howe, Mr. Gretzky's boyhood idol. The two men also appear on the cachet portion of the cover (Figure 2). It was Mr. Howe's many records that Wayne Gretzky spent his career chasing; in most cases he was able to break the established benchmarks. In all, Mr. Gretzky retired holding or sharing 61 records: 40 for the regular season, 15 for the Stanley Cup championship playoffs, and six for the All Star Game. (It takes a page and a half in the NHL Record Book 2000 just to list them all.) The most impressive records are those

for most goals, assists, and points in not only the regular season, but also in the playoffs and All Star Games.

Mr. Gretzky is regarded by experts as one of the greatest hockey players ever; if not the best, then certainly in the top handful. Reams of newspaper and magazine articles have been written about him, his career, and his family. I'm not about to try and match any of the superlatives found in those publications, but I will refer readers to Mr. Stelmach's valedictory article that appeared in The Ukrainian Weekly on April 25, 1999.

On November 22, 1999, Wayne Gretzky was officially inducted into the Hockey Hall of Fame, the highest honor possible for a hockey player. The customary three-year waiting period for was waived, only the 10th time this has happened.

The previous month, on October 1, 1999, Mr. Gretzky's number 99 was officially retired. This action, signaling that the number would never again be worn by another player, was carried out not only by the Edmonton Oilers, the club he played with the longest (10 years), but by every team in the NHL. Such a league-wide number retirement was unprecedented in hockey, but quite appropriate for the player dubbed "The Great One."

The souvenir sheet and the set of three first-day covers may be obtained from Canada Post by calling 1-800-565-4362. The Canadian prices are \$2.76 and \$3.66 respectively.

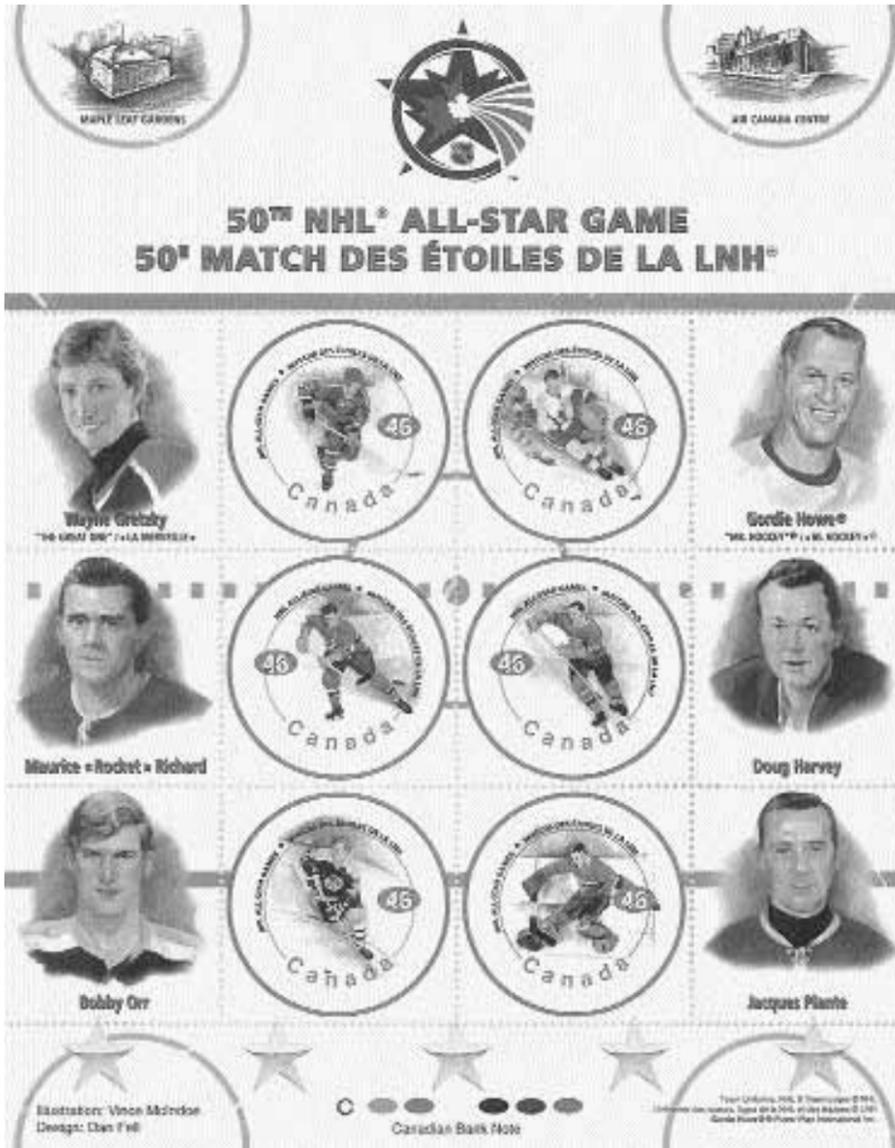


Figure 1

PACE takes a step...

(Continued from page 10)

Parliamentary Assembly prior to the April 4 vote and asked that the legislators of Europe understand that Ukraine will not make any changes demanded by the referendum results without abiding strictly to requirements in the Constitution of Ukraine and underscored that President Kuchma has said he will not make illegal amendments to the fundamental law. Mr. Tarasyuk also noted that Ukraine wants to continue its cooperation with the PACE and is moving to fulfill all the promises that it made when it joined the organization in 1995, most recently with the ban on capital punishment.

After the vote, however, Mr. Tarasyuk expressed disappointment with the result. "Unfortunately, I cannot say that the decision is the compromise that the Ukrainian delegation was seeking," he said.

Although the Verkhovna Rada, which has primary responsibility for making amendments to the Constitution, has said that it was ready to review and consider any of the questions affirmed in the referendum, lawmakers may not be able to find the needed votes to endorse constitutional amendments should they be approved on April 16.

While constitutional amendments must be approved by a two-thirds vote of the Parliament, there are only 276 deputies who belong to the parliamentary majority, which is most likely to support the changes.

Klychko loses bout in Berlin

BERLIN – World Boxing Organization heavyweight champion Vitalii Klychko (or Klitschko, as his name appears in the news media) lost his title on April 1 in a bout in Berlin against American Chris Byrd.

Telecast by HBO, it was Klychko's third title defense; he entered the contest with a record of 27 knockouts in 27 fights.

Byrd, the 1992 Olympic silver medalist who had a record of 31-1, was a late substitute for Donovan Ruddock, who withdrew because of a stomach injury.

Klychko stopped fighting in the 10th round of the 12-round contest after a shoulder injury became so aggravated that he could not continue. According to the Associated Press, Klychko said: "It had pain since the third round. I hit with heavy pain."

The judges, one German and two Americans, had scored Klychko as the winner of six of the nine rounds fought. But, when he dropped out, they declared Byrd the winner.

Various news media reported that Klychko saw his loss as merely a temporary setback and vowed to return and regain his title once his injury has healed.

Entering the ring with his entourage, including a flag-bearer carrying the Ukrainian flag and another holding aloft his WBO world championship belt, Mr. Klychko was heavily favored to win the bout. Present at ringside was Klychko's older brother, Volodymyr, also a boxer.

Commentators for HBO referred to Klychko as (correctly) the only boxer with a Ph.D. and (incorrectly) as "the former Russian." As well, Harold Lederman, whose columns appear on the HBO website, referred repeatedly to Klychko as "the Russian," and to his team as "the Russians."

Better set these cable guys straight ... in time for Klychko's next fight.



Reproduction of an HBO advertisement for the Klychko vs. Byrd heavyweight fight.

INTERVIEW: Bohdan Budzan on the work and goals of the International Management Institute

Bohdan P. Budzan assumed the position of director general of the International Management Institute Kyiv (IMI-Kyiv) in January 1997. In that role he seeks to strengthen the leading position of IMI-Kyiv in Ukrainian business education. At the same time, Dr. Budzan is a senior lecturer and teaches upper-level management courses at the institute.

Dr. Budzan is a candidate of science (equivalent to a Ph.D.). He completed the International Senior Managers Program at Harvard University and became a member of the Academy of Sciences of National Progress of Ukraine.

Previously he served as: head of the Department of Relations with International Financial Organizations of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine, where he helped structure Ukraine's first institutional loan; liaison officer with the World Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, International Monetary Fund, U.S. Agency for International Development and the European Union; head of the Department of Privatization and Entrepreneurship Development of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine; and supervisor of the development of economic reform structures and the promotion of privatization and entrepreneurship following the collapse of the USSR.

From April 1993 to December 1996 Dr. Budzan was executive director of the International Renaissance Foundation (a charitable foundation), where he worked for the development of an open society in Ukraine.

The interview below was conducted by Roma Hadzewycz in 1999 and 2000 at The Ukrainian Weekly's editorial offices in Parsippany, N.J., and via e-mail.

What's the difference between IMI-Kyiv, which you manage, and other higher educational institutions?

First of all, I'd like to emphasize that IMI-Kyiv was the first educational institution not just in Ukraine, but in the entire former USSR, which started training specialists through its MBA program as far back as 1989, just before the collapse of the socialist superpower. Dr. Bohdan Hawrylyshyn, a Canadian of Ukrainian descent and well-known scientist and economist, was the founder of IMI-Kyiv and foresaw the necessity of training top professional managers for Ukraine.

IMI-Kyiv is a non-governmental educational institution that enjoys foreign financial and material support and the status of a Ukrainian-Swiss joint venture that was established as a post-graduate business school.

From the beginning the institute was committed to the adaptation and implementation of the world's most advanced management theories and methods of teaching, while simultaneously taking into account the specific character of the Ukrainian economy during its transition to the free market. Our main goal is quality; therefore, we are committed to be not only the largest, but also the most modern and successful business school in Ukraine.

By the way, courses at our institute are given in Ukrainian, although this is not easy, and in English.

Whom do you teach, and what are your specific goals?

I'll start from the second part of the question. Our stated purpose includes two main tasks.

On the one hand, for many decades Ukraine didn't have its own independent state and never in its previous history, contrary to Western European countries, did it have experience with a real market economy. This is now happening for the first time

ever – and I might add from the very basics, from scratch. That means that we have a strong need for as rapid as possible an infusion into the economy of highly educated business managers for enterprises of all ownership types. We are working assiduously to satisfy this need and to resolve this problem.

On the other hand, there is a growing number of foreign investors who want to do business in Ukraine. Those people are experienced and quite well prepared for the design and management of business in their own respective countries, but in Ukraine they are facing quite different and specific conditions, and unique problems. That's why we see our mission in the training and retraining of specialists for foreign firms that have come to Ukraine or that have been founded here, and are looking for success in the Ukrainian market.

Let me now address the first part of the question: Whom do we teach? Inasmuch as the program time is limited, we are oriented to people who have already had basic higher education and are able to follow a program of intensive study – for a full-time program, one year, for a part-time program, two years – to acquire competencies and further advance their business skills through a fast-paced, high-quality and intensive MBA program.

As IMI's 10-year experience shows, our graduates – we've already had 700 of them – easily enter the real economy of the competitive business community and achieve success as business practitioners, managers and government officials in Ukraine, and enjoy rapid promotion and success in corporate, government and private business careers.

Investing in human resources is the most effective way to help Ukraine create a better life for its people.

Among the institute's graduates are: Serhii Zavadskyi, manager of the European office of Du Pont de Nemours International S.A. (Switzerland), Tetiana Kunina, Cash Flow Department manager, Philip Morris Representative Office in Ukraine; Oleh Mozgovyi, head of the State Commission on Securities and Stock Market; Roman Shpek, head of the National Agency of Ukraine on Development and European Integration; Yuri Sakva, vice minister of energy of Ukraine; and many others. We are also very honored to have our graduates serve on the faculty of our institute.

We also gladly provide short-term executive management programs to experienced specialists who have already worked in business or government administration and who seek to update their skills, background and qualifications but can't leave their jobs for an extended period of a year or two. Through such specialized programs we provide students with the latest information that supplements their previous professional experience.

Could you describe the programs at IMI-Kyiv and the careers into which your graduates move?

Our proudest accomplishments are IMI-Kyiv's programs. Real progress was achieved in terms of enrollment: 264 students are presently following seven MBA programs. These seven MBA programs include: a full-time MBA program (one year), three part-time MBA programs (two-years), an MBA program with special emphasis on international banking and an MBA program with special emphasis on the energy sector. A new modular format of

the MBA program was introduced this year.

The two-year modular MBA program consists of one-week study units delivered every two months. It is mainly intended for executives from outside of Kyiv. The new program format employs a distance-learning method, which allows for training students outside of Kyiv. Another element is computer simulation sessions through the Internet.

The institute supports small and medium-sized businesses and provides short-term management programs for government and business executives through its Small Business Incubator Program.

IMI-Kyiv also conducts a Partnership for Effective Management Program (PEM), ensuring a link between management education and management practice. This program plays a key role in the establishment of continuous relations with business through the creation of a network of business contacts centered at IMI-Kyiv.

The question concerning our graduates requires perhaps a longer answer, but let me offer a brief overview. Most of our graduates are in middle management – around 59 percent – and 38 percent of them are chief administrators of supervisory boards and top managers, that is general directors, presidents, financial directors and chief accounting managers.

Our institution continues to be in touch with former students through the Alumni Association. All IMI-Kyiv alumni are invited to attend the annual alumni meetings on the first Saturday of April. The meetings are organized by the Alumni Association and supported by the institute's administration. As the alumni body is growing in number and becoming more diverse and noteworthy



Dr. Bohdan Budzan

a big new project involving the United States, Poland and Ukraine, through which we will try to use the Polish experience to build Ukraine's democratic and civil society; this program also includes management in business education.

We also have very good relations and partnerships with several American universities. Our partners are: Loyola College, Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Minnesota, as well as the Harvard Business School because that is where we train our professors. For example, I graduated from the Harvard Business School in 1996, completing its advanced management program.

What is very important is that we work very closely with American institutions, such as Barons Group and the Institute of International Education, through which we conduct programs to train bankers and especially managers for the energy sector. Each year many of our students visit the United States for a three-week internship.

And one of our partners, incidentally, is Self-Reliance (New York) Federal Credit Union, whose CEO and president is Bohdan Kekish. Every year our students spend a few days in this credit union and learn something about insurance about credit activity.

We visit many, many banks, the stock exchange and some universities, too. All of my students have a three-week internship in the United States or in Western Europe. This gives them an opportunity to see the world through another looking glass.

And for many of these students such internships are their first trip abroad?

Some of them, particularly the students from the energy sector, came to us from various regions of Ukraine, maybe 80 percent of them never visited the United States or Western Europe. For them it's the discovery of a new world.

The mentality of these people changes for the better. They become more demanding and more professional as bosses: it's no longer just do what I say you should do, sometimes it's a discussion, sometimes an alternative decision is reached. They change. I have examples of how they behave after such studies abroad. They are more inquisitive, they are much more responsible, they also become more confident in what they do as professionals.

I'm interested in the difference in psyche between the Soviet-era manager and the graduates that you produce. Can you give us some examples?

I can give you a perfect example. Last year one of our advanced students made a speech and said to a minister, "Mr. Minister

(Continued on page 13)

Bohdan Budzan...

(Continued from page 12)

now you will report to us how you managed us." The minister said "What? What did you say? I will report to you?" He said, "No, no I will not report, because that is not accepted." You see here we had 34 students from the energy sector who have a different vision. This was confusing for the minister because these people were so honest, so open. They were so confident in themselves that they allowed themselves to question the minister of energy – and this ministry is almost like the military.

Second point: my students sometimes ask me, "What should I do when my boss is crazy?" I say that you should replace him. First of all, you should try to train him to become better. If you don't succeed, you should replace him or her.

I teach the course on self-management and such questions arise very frequently when people tell us: You are telling us how it should be, but in reality in my life there is a boss who cannot even understand this. What a shame that I am here, and not him, listening to your lecture so that he could change his attitude.

Others say: You know, because of your courses, my bosses have begun to treat me differently. At first they were very displeased with how I behaved toward them, and now they have begun to use the fact that I now have a different management style and sometimes, indirectly, they half-consciously learn from me. But they do not admit this.

You see what is happening? A boss treats you in the manner that you allow yourself to be treated. What is important – and this should be underlined – people at our institute are very concretely and progressively forming their own values. And when they go into an organization with these changed values, a different atmosphere is created around them. Some fight these changes, while others say: Perhaps I should try this. Teach me how you did this.

All these factors exist, but nonetheless they move in the direction of an awareness that there are certain values and that they should mesh with the values of the organization – and thus a critical mass of new thinking is created. Sometimes, two or three good people in one organization can create a totally different environment.

And that is why when people come to us to study from an organization, we say don't send only one student, send two or three. Because if there is only one, he will be the white crow and it will be very difficult for him; if there are more like-minded people a critical mass is created and there is a different line of development.

What are some of those different values to which you have been referring?

The first of these is that people take responsibility upon themselves for the decisions they make. In the old system the decision came from above – I did as I was told. Now I participate in a discussion about how a decision is applicable and how it fits my needs and how it coincides with our goals. Furthermore, I now take responsibility for implementing that decision.

So the first very real difference is that people start to take responsibility for what they do – not what the party committee or the director told them to do.

A second very important factor is that people are much more confident and brave; they stand up for their point of view because they have enough knowledge, and that knowledge often is stronger than that of the people assigning them tasks. They search for alternatives, more effective ways of executing a task or implementing a program. They have more of a basis on which to assume such responsibility and thus have more confidence.

Third, there is more ethical responsibi-

ty, more morality. Less and less among such people do we see a multiple morality: I say one thing, think another and do a third. More and more often we see that people have something inside themselves in which they believe and which they defend. And they are not afraid to do this. Therefore, the fear of having an individual opinion and defending it disappears. This is extremely important. It is another concrete example of a change in mentality.

Explain to me the difference between a boss of the old times, and a boss who has graduated from your institute. What is his attitude toward his colleagues, his co-workers, his employees?

It is difficult to make a general statement, but I would say that they are more able to work as a team, they are more able to listen to someone else's opinion, they are able to invest more in the development of personnel, which was quite rare in the past.

Here's a very pertinent example: The president of a recently privatized company came to study with us. When he came he saw that his staff was not prepared for this. The next year he sent two of his people to study with us at the institute – they learned what he had learned. This would never happen in earlier times. This boss decided to send his people so that they could all work together. Therefore, the new bosses invest more in people, they listen more to people. Along with this they become more involved in analyzing decision-making: they review alternatives and decisions are made in a more professional manner.

Previously, an order was executed simply because it was an order. This is a fundamental difference. This affects how work is done, how projects are accomplished, how money is counted.

Now you have to use an honest system of normal financial management. What also is very important is that we teach people about the international financial system – we have courses in the international accounting system and about the transformation of Ukrainian institutions to that system.

Quite often it is forgotten that Ukraine is a state that declared its entry into the European and world systems, and that within that system you have to speak the language that is understood. Our students are learning to speak in the language of world-wide management.

About your students: are you afraid of a brain drain?

No, I am not afraid of this. First of all, I believe that Ukrainians travel beyond the

borders of Ukraine not because they want to be outside of the country, but because they can find better personal fulfillment. Ukraine right now does not offer them the opportunities to do this. Most people who have left dream of returning to Ukraine. It is only natural for a person to want to realize himself.

Here is a telling example: Ninety-seven percent of my graduates did not leave Ukraine. They live and work in Ukraine. Ninety-seven percent! And they work in joint ventures in Ukraine, they have created their own businesses, they work in Ukrainian banks, even in Ukrainian companies, for the Ukrainian government. Our graduates may be found at the ministries of energy, the National Bank of Ukraine and other government bodies.

You are now celebrating IMI-Kyiv's 10th anniversary. You must be quite proud of this major accomplishment.

The institute's 10th anniversary is being celebrated through a number of special events during 1999 and 2000. The main and concluding event will be a conference to be held on April 8 dealing with "The Role of Management Education and Management Development for the Ukrainian Economy." Conference participants will be representatives of businesses, education, government, the Parliament and mass media of Ukraine, our international partners and donors, and, of course, our alumni. This event will help us to bring together a highly professional group from all our friends and partners, and we are expecting an international group of guests and conferees. It is very important for IMI-Kyiv as an international institution to create and develop strong partner relations with Western businesses and business schools.

And speaking of strengthening these relations and creating new ones, I would like to let you know that we have invited a group of successful U.S. and Canadian businessmen of Ukrainian ancestry to our institution for the purpose of familiarizing them with IMI-Kyiv – its faculty, staff, students, alumni, local supporters and facilities, as well as sharing with them our plans for the institute's future development.

We wish to have this group of distinguished businesspersons share their valuable experiences with IMI-Kyiv students. In this way we hope to expand the circle of enthusiastic supporters of our institution who will join with us in our efforts to educate entrepreneurial, qualified and ethical managers who will enable Ukraine to participate successfully in the world's global economy.

This idea, by the way, came about fol-

lowing a discussion one evening at the home of American businessman George Chopivsky in June 1999, when he invited me, Walter Baranetsky, Walter Nazarewicz and others, to his home for a friendly gathering. I would like to use this opportunity to express my appreciation to all the people who were involved in this project, who created this idea and developed it.

During our discussion before this interview you mentioned the Ukrainian-Polish conference on Business Development and Management Education in the Context of Globalization, which was held in Kyiv on September 16-18, 1999. What was significant about that conference?

This conference became the first step in implementing the Cooperation Agreement between IMI-Kyiv and the Leon Kozminsky Academy of Entrepreneurship and Management.

The importance of the conference was recognized at the highest level. Representatives of the Polish and Ukrainian governments offered statements of welcome – from President Alexander Kwasniewski of Poland and from President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine, both of whom described the event in the context of Ukrainian-Polish cooperative arrangements.

We were also delighted to receive as our honored guest from America Prof. Roman Szporluk, director of the Ukrainian Research Institute, Harvard University.

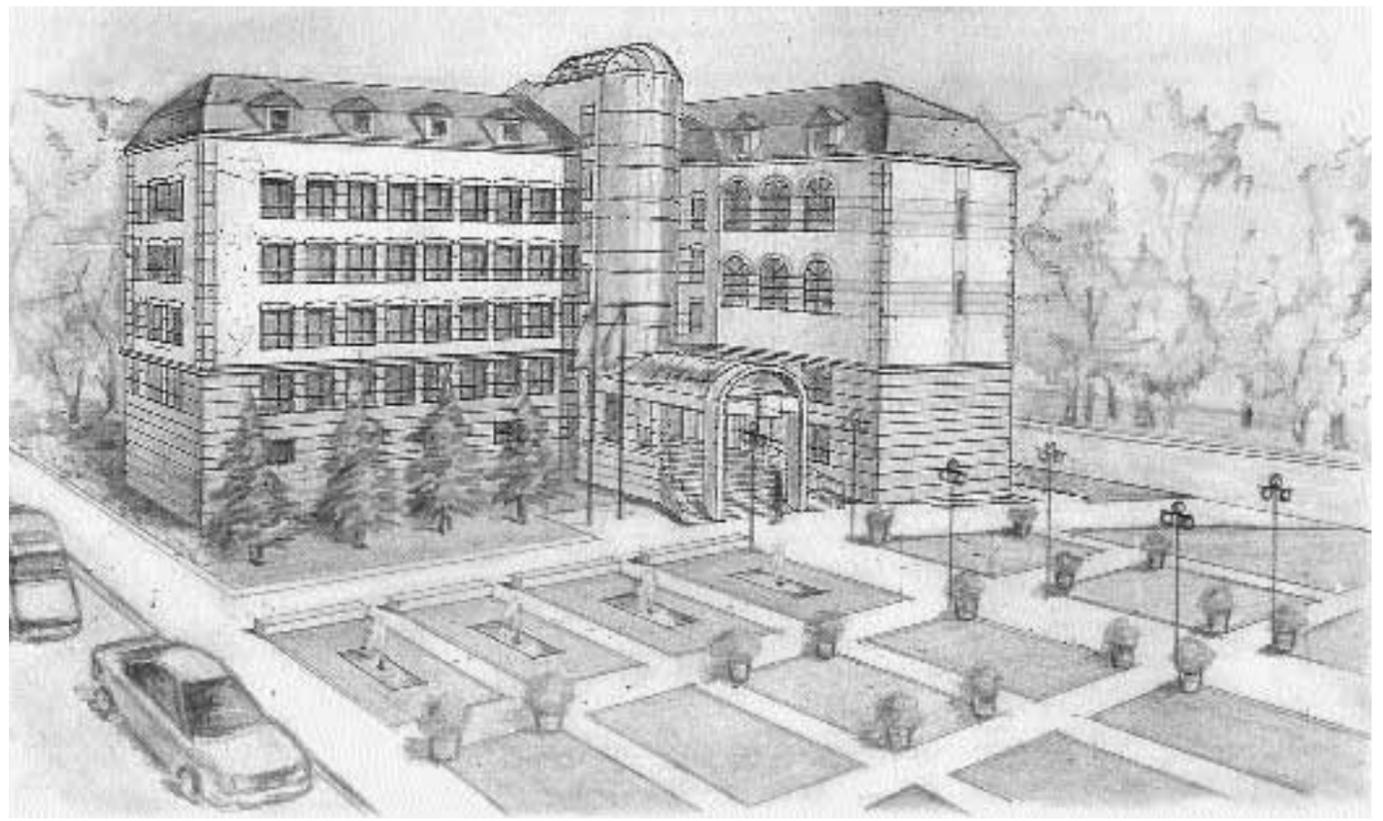
The participants found the conference to be a positive and effective event, a crucial step towards understanding the role of Polish-Ukrainian relations in national business education and development. Ukrainian business representatives were unanimous in recognizing the importance of having effective communications at all company levels, interacting and sharing common approaches. They have shown their readiness to collaborate with business education today in order to prepare top-quality managers for tomorrow.

The conference concluded with the announcement of the subject for the next Polish-Ukrainian conference, namely "Knowledge Management for Transition," which is to be held in the autumn of this year in Warsaw.

Does IMI-Kyiv have any problems or face any difficult challenges at this point in its development?

I wish I could reply positively but, in fact, we do face particular challenges and

(Continued on page 16)



An artist's sketch of the International Management Institute's new building in Kyiv.

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Business in brief

(Continued from page 3)

Unilever will buy into Donetsk company

DONETSK – The deputy director of ZAT Marg-Vest in Donetsk, Viktor Azarov, reported that Unilever Foods Ukraine is ready to invest \$36.5 million (U.S.) in the acquisition of the corporate rights of Marg-Vest, a company specializing in the production of mayonnaise and margarine, the reconstruction of its plant and the purchase of raw materials. The investment project was reviewed at a recent meeting of the Donetsk Oblast Council on special zones and investments. The general manager of Unilever in Ukraine, Chris Key, said that “the proposed agreement is a fantastic opportunity for Unilever and Marg-Vest alike,” and promises the shareholders a healthy amount in the buyout of Marg-Vest. A protocol of intent has been signed by the two companies for the buyout of 75 percent plus 1 or 100 percent of Marg-Vest’s share. (Eastern Economist)

Tractors delivered to South Korea

KHARKIV – The Kharkiv Tractor Plant shipped 34 HTZ-121 tractors to South Korea. The shipment is the last of 60 tractors built for South Korea, the largest contract – worth \$1 million (U.S.) – for the plant in 1999, said the director of the plant, Dmytro Serhienko. Continued cooperation will depend on the results of the adaptation of Ukrainian tractors to South Korean agricultural technology. (Eastern Economist)

New Dnipro tractor is introduced

DNIPROPETROVSK – PivdenMash has assembled the new Dnipro tractor, which features an improved design and universal technical characteristics. The new tractor is able to perform any mechanical operations in the field due to its diverse system of connecting attachments. Dnipro’s front axle was designed in cooperation with the Italian company Cararro, while the engine was the joint work of the Italian Iveco company and Zaporizhia Motor-Sich. The tractor’s capacity is 80 hp and 100 hp. It also has a hermetically sealed cabin and an air conditioner. The Dnipro tractor will cost about \$15,000 (U.S.). (Eastern Economist)

Commodity deal made with Uzbekistan

KYIV – The Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine has authorized the closed joint stock company Ukraine-Uzbekistan Trading House to ensure commodity supplies in an agreement signed by the governments of the two countries. Under this agreement Ukraine will get cotton from Uzbekistan and pay for it with industrial goods. The government regulation allows other companies to supply goods to Uzbekistan as well, but such companies must first sign corresponding agreements with the Ukraine-Uzbekistan Trading House. The State Customs Service is tasked with ensuring that the goods supplied within the inter-governmental agreement clear customs, as they are delivered to Nikopol spinning mill’s and IllichivskZovnishTrans company’s bonded warehouses. The Ministry of Foreign Economic Relations and Trade must take stock of the goods supplied on the basis of the Ukrainian-Uzbek agreement, and the Transport Ministry must give priority to this deal and provide an ample number of railroad cars and containers. (Eastern Economist)

Zhytomyr could be rich in diamonds

ZHYTOMYR – The Zhytomyr region has potential for the exploration of diamond mines, said the director of the ZhytomyrBudRozviduvannia, Mykola Shvydkyi. Referring to the results of research and exploration, as well as materials from the international practical science conference called “Prospecting and Search for Diamond Mines in Ukraine,” Mr. Shvydkyi observed that the Berdychiv-Shepetivka and Novohrad-Volynskiy-Bilokorovytsi regions have good prospects. Investing minimal sums in prospecting and searching for diamonds in the oblast could turn the Zhytomyr region into one of the richest in Ukraine, emphasized Mr. Shvydkyi. The crystal deposit field within the oblast almost reaches the surface, so when the diamond mines are discovered, extraction will be least costly in Ukraine. Mr. Shvydkyi said that only 400,000 to 500,000 hrv are required for the start-up, which is 10 times less than traditionally needed for extraction. Reduced expenses are due to a new device that allows for a perfect scan at a depth of 5 kilometers within three to five minutes; there are no similar devices anywhere else in the world. (Eastern Economist)

Dairy farm shows its true colors

VINNYTSIA – The Illints Dairy in the Vinnytsia Oblast recently launched production of colored milk. Children like the new product because they can choose from among blue, violet or brown milk. The various colors are the result of chocolate additives. The dairy also offers skim milk with 0.5 percent fat content. (Eastern Economist)

Food exports to Russia rose in 1999

KYIV – The volume of exports of food and agricultural products to Russia in January through September 1999 increased by 23.3 percent, compared to the same period in 1998, according to a statement by the Foreign Relations and Trade Ministry. The exports of machine-building and chemical products are also increasing. In January through October 1999 the trade volume between Ukraine and Russia was \$8.258 billion (U.S.), which is 37.5 percent of Ukraine’s net exports. A total 68.4 percent of Ukraine’s imports from Russia are energy products. (Eastern Economist)

Mitsubishi dealer opens new showroom

KYIV – A new automobile showroom called Niko-Ukraina, the official distributor of Mitsubishi Motors in Ukraine, was opened on January 13 in Kyiv. The facility includes a service center and a bar-restaurant. (Eastern Economist)

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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Small community organizes Ukrainian Week in Los Alamos

by Anna Chopek

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. – High in the mountains of northern New Mexico, the week of March 6 was designated as Ukrainian Week at the Senior Center in Los Alamos.

Three generations of the Chopek and Sydoriak families, formerly of Boston, arranged and took part in the event: Anna Chopek and her sister, Stephanie Chopek (wife of Stephen Sydoriak), along with her daughter Katherine Sydoriak Lawrence and her granddaughter Cassiope Sydoriak.

Ms. Chopek and Mrs. Lawrence held a pysanka-making workshop. At a separate session Ms. Chopek presented a talk on 20th century conditions in Ukraine. After a Ukrainian lunch, Ms. Chopek showed a video about the Carpathian mountain area, focusing on the customs and traditions of the Hutsuls.

At an evening gathering Ulana Kebalo George, originally from New York City,

gave a welcome with bread and salt, assisted by Mrs. Sydoriak's granddaughter, Cassiope, age 12. Mrs. Sydoriak spoke about Ukrainian history, liturgical and folk music, folk dancing and folk art with an emphasis on Ukrainian embroidery. An international folk dance group from Los Alamos ended the program with Ukrainian folk dances.

Ukrainian pastries were prepared by Sheila Lysenko, wife of Walter Lysenko, formerly of Pittsfield, Mass., Gloria Evanycky Sharp, formerly of Ambridge, Pa., Mary Ellen Bdzil, wife of John Bdzil of Cleveland, Irene Bubernak, wife of Joseph Bubernak, formerly of Old Forge, Pa., Mr. Bubernak and Mrs. George.

There are only 14 Ukrainian Americans in Los Alamos, yet Ukrainian Week was greeted with much interest and good attendance by the community.

Even in this mountain outpost of Los Alamos, Ukraine lives.



Los Alamos Ukrainians during "Ukrainian Week": (from left) Walter Sydoriak, Cassiope Sydoriak, Dr. Stephen Sydoriak, Anna Chopek, Stephanie Chopek Sydoriak, Ulana Kebalo George and Katherine Sydoriak Lawrence.

Helsinki Commission...

(Continued from page 3)

deal with corrupt governments and engage them programmatically, both Mr. Lubin and Mr. Karatnycky felt the United States must deal with these countries at all levels, but does not have to embrace them and give a stamp of approval. "It's not if, but how, we engage them," said Ms. Lubin.

The full text of the testimony given at the Helsinki Commission hearing is available at www.house.gov/csce/.

The 1999 OSCE Istanbul Summit Charter recognized the multi-dimensional threat posed by corruption, and the

OSCE Permanent Council is currently examining ways of contributing to efforts to combat corruption.

In addition, the eighth annual meeting of the OSCE Economic Forum, scheduled for April 11-14 in Prague, will examine the impact of corruption on institution-building and the rule of law in the context of post-conflict rehabilitation. During its annual meeting in Bucharest on July 6-10, the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly will focus on "OSCE Challenges in the 21st Century – Good Governance: Regional Cooperation, Strengthening Democratic Institutions, Promoting Transparency, Enforcing the Rule of Law and Combating Corruption."

Can Putin move...

(Continued from page 2)

simultaneously diverting attention from Russia's serious economic and social ills.

It remains to be seen whether the campaign in Chechnya will restore Russia's sense of prestige in the longer term. Should the campaign ultimately fail, Russia would find itself enfeebled to an even greater degree. Success achieved on the basis of abject brutality is similarly no source of comfort. Despite claims of President-elect Putin's ostensible administrative prowess, rigorous discipline and high energy levels, he may not be capable of modernizing Russia quickly enough to keep pace with the rest of the world.

And, at the same time, Russia may not be willing simply to watch its immediate neighbors in the Baltics advance and join the former Soviet satellites in Central and Eastern Europe on the road to the West. Furthermore, Mr. Putin's stated intention of restoring Russia's strength and national prestige may not be consistent with integration into the community of nations and cooperation with Russia's neighbors.

Thus, if Moscow is unable to formulate a cooperative policy of its own – or otherwise come to terms with the fact that the Baltics and other states formerly under Moscow's domination will eventually join the West – Mr. Putin's Russia may end up playing the only role it believes that it can, namely that of a spoiler.

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Bohdan Budzan...

(Continued from page 13)

problems. These problems are in two areas: educational and financial.

The first area concerns a deficit of qualified professors on our staff who have international training experience. We are trying to solve this problem by intensifying the education and training of our teachers in such famous schools as the Harvard Business School, the Industrial Management School at Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, the London Business School, the Institute of Management Development in Lausanne, Switzerland and Loyola College in Baltimore.

Recently, on February 17, our institute and the Louvainium International Management Center in Belgium signed a partnership agreement. Cooperation between our two educational institutions will include student and faculty exchanges and will be expanded to include other projects in the near future. We also invite highly qualified visiting professors from Western business schools and universities to teach various courses at the IMI and to share their vast experience with our teaching staff.

The second problem – one that is very complex and perhaps is best characterized by the overall economic situation in the country – is a lack of funding for business education and financial difficulties in the institute's activities. To put it simply, we have sufficient funding for the basic educational process itself and that comes from the students' payments and grants – 10-12 percent of the budget. At the same time, however, we badly need additional resources to develop our facilities and to advance our informational and technical base.

We pay enormous rent because we don't have our own building. That is one of the major factors that inhibits our development. That factor motivated us to do our best in collecting funds to purchase our own building. Members of our supervising board, such as the previously mentioned Dr. Hawrylyshyn, as well as Mr. Chopivsky, Swiss banker Rudolf Mueller and Swedish businessman Adolf Lundin have made donations to purchase an unfinished building in downtown Kyiv. Therefore, the first step has been taken. The second step will be completing construction and equipping of the institute with modern facilities. For those purposes, our financial needs amount to approximately \$1.2 million.

We would like to attract the attention of U.S., Canadian and domestic investors to contribute to the development of this competent institution that produces competent professionals for Ukrainian business and has an excellent reputation.

Investing in human resources is the most effective way to help Ukraine create a better life for its people. Those sponsors who do contribute, in addition to the personal satisfaction of being part of an important enterprise in Ukraine, will also be rewarded

by the institute in having their names given to auditoriums, halls, a computer center and library. We also plan to honor these people by placing memorial plaques and inviting them to participate in the IMI's festive activities.

Moreover, for benefactors of IMI-Kyiv there is also the possibility that IMI-Kyiv can provide office space, computer support, experienced personnel and business consultation when such might be requested of IMI-Kyiv. We have already begun to engage in this worthwhile enterprise and are ready to extend it in the future.

You said earlier that Ukraine desperately needs more specialists, managers. To conclude, let me ask: Do you see such leaders in Ukraine today?

Absolutely. First of all I see them among my students. I believe there will be more of them in the next generation of leaders. I think that in future elections we will see more such people. I believe that the next president will be a woman and that she will be a graduate of our Institute of Management. I may be kidding, but there have been so many cases where something I have said has come true.

Right now we are working on a women's program – we would like to attract women students from various regions who do not have money for studies. If we give them a scholarship, we will be able to train them in a year and they will enter the business world. They will be leaders, presidents of companies. That's really something.

I think we will develop into a school that will be for Ukraine what Harvard is for America.

For further information contact: International Management Institute, 19 Panas Myrnyi St., 01011 Kyiv, Ukraine; telephone, (38 044) 290-4330, 290-3352, 290-7246, fax, (38 044) 290-0495; e-mail, imi@mim.kiev.ua; website, www.mim.kiev.ua.

Detroit area community...

(Continued from page 4)

In addition to the above scheduled events, a number of lectures and panel discussions are planned to discuss the Eastern Church and its characteristic forms of worship; the Day of the Family; the role of laity in the Church; the state of Ukrainian Churches in the diaspora – its problems and perspectives; and a program for youth.

Events will take place in the Social Center of St. Josaphat Catholic Church in Warren, Mich., and in the hall of the Orthodox Cathedral of St. Mary Protectress in Southfield, Mich. The committee will endeavor to make all events bilingual (Ukrainian and English).

The committee has invited faithful of all confessions to become part of the working committee and to actively participate in all planned events.

THE ANNUAL MEETING OF UNA BRANCH 277, ST. JOHN SOCIETY

will be held on Saturday, April 16, 2000 at 6:00 p.m. in the lower hall of the Ukrainian National Home of Hartford, 961 Wethersfield Ave., Hartford, CT.

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In the early hours of June 19, 1999, Danylo Husar Struk died unexpectedly, while taking part in a conference marking the 250th anniversary of Johann Wolfgang von Goethe at the Ukrainian Free University in Munich. On the occasion of what would have been my dearest husband's 60th birthday, April 5th, 2000, I would like to extend my heartfelt thanks to all who honored him, as well as those who expressed their sincere condolences to me and to my family.

In the immediate aftermath of Danylo's passing, I experienced the truest support from our family, friends, and representatives of various organizations, for which I would like to thank to each and everyone from the bottom of my heart.

The warmth, consideration, and assistance proffered by the Rector of the Ukrainian Free University, Prof. Leonid Rudnytsky, Dr. Mykola Szafowal, and Mrs. Milja Frankewycz were truly the fruit of grace for which I am deeply thankful. From the first moment of my great personal tragedy they sought to ease the pain and restore the bearing of a person suddenly adrift in a foreign city.

His Excellency the Bishop Michael Hrynchyshyn has my undying gratitude for his attention and solicitous care, as well as for celebrating Masses and Panakhydas in my husband's memory, especially those during the interment of Danylo's ashes in the communal grave of members of the Shevchenko Scientific Society (NTSh) in Sarcelles, France,

on July 21, 1999. I am grateful to the Rev. Myron Moloshko, Vicar General of Germany, for celebrating the Mass and Panakhyda in Munich on the day of Danylo's cremation. I cannot find words to express my thanks to our dearest friends: Dr. Yuri Boshyk, Volodymyr Makarenko, and Oleksandra Dmytrenko. They interrupted their busy schedules to hasten to my side and offer me their unwavering support when I needed it most.

My deepest thanks go out to the organizers of the memorial services which were held:

- On July 2, 1999, at the University of Toronto; Danylo's colleague Prof. Maxim Tarnawsky, Prof. Jurij Darewych, Danylo's sister Nataka Husar, daughter Borysa and stepson Andriy;

- On July 11, 1999, in Sarcelles, France, the seat of the European branch of NTSh (of which Danylo was president at the time of his death); Prof. Arkadij Zhukovskiy, Stephane Dunikovskiy, Vira and Oleh Jatsenko, and Iryna Popovych;

- On August 17, 1999, in Kyiv: former staff members of the *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Ksenya Maryniak-Ovcharenko and Boris Balan;

- On October 24, 1999, at the University of Toronto; the Department of Slavic Languages and Literature, Profs. Maxim Tarnawsky and Christopher Barnes.

- On November 25, 1999, at the University of Alberta in

Edmonton; the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, its acting director Prof. David Maples.

I am indebted to those who organized the celebration of Masses and Panakhydas in Danylo's memory in Munich, Paris, Toronto and elsewhere. I especially thank my cousins, Ljubka and Bohdan Soroka for the Mass celebrated in the church of the Holy Eucharist in Lviv, Danylo's place of birth.

My heartfelt gratitude goes out to those who offered their words of remembrance at various commemorative functions honoring Danylo, but space does not permit me to enumerate them all here.

I would like to gratefully acknowledge the condolences sent by heads, presidents, and representatives of the following institutions: The Ministry of External Affairs of Ukraine, The National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, Harvard University, University of Toronto, the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HARI), the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies (CFUS), The World Council of NTSh and the NTSh branches of Ukraine, Western Europe, USA and Canada, the Ukrainian Free Academy of Arts and Sciences in the US, and the Ukrainian Free University.

I am deeply grateful for the condolences sent me by family, friends, the Plast Kurin' Burlaky, colleagues and co-workers.

I am forever indebted to Prof. Manoly Lupul, former CIUS director and close collaborator and friend of Danylo's, for the commemorative article which appeared in the *Globe and Mail* and later in *The Ukrainian Weekly*; to Jurij Andrukhovych, who devoted a column to Danylo in the Kyiv-based weekly, *Den*; and to Mariana Tkachenko, a student of Danylo's who wrote to the Toronto-based weekly, *Ukraina i Svit*.

My profound thanks go to the dearest friends who gave assistance and succor in my deepest grief; Nusja and David Biscoe, Ihor and Danya Chuma, Dr. William Chepesiuk, Daria and Jurij Darewych, Olya and Vasyli Kalymon, Luba and Jaropolk Osmak, Frank Sysyn, Uliana Pasichnyk and Maxim Tarnawsky, Iryna and Roman Wrzesnewsky, and Lesya Winnicki of CFUS.

I am deeply indebted to all those who donated and may donate to the Danylo Husar Struk Memorial Endowment Fund at the Canadian Foundation for Ukrainian Studies.

Words cannot express the gratitude I feel for the kindness, thoughtfulness and support I received from the first moments of the darkest day of my life from my sister Lesia and her husband, Roman, and my children, Andriy and Zirka, Julian and Kim, and Tetiana.

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The Foundation wishes to thank all who have contributed in memory of Danylo Husar Struk. Further donations to the Danylo Husar Struk Memorial Endowment Fund may be sent to:

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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 24)

will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., at 2 p.m.

NEW YORK: The 55th anniversary of the St. George Ukrainian Post 401 of the Catholic War Veterans will be celebrated with a luncheon at the East Village Restaurant, 140 Second Ave. This follows a Corporate Communion Mass at St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 22 E. Seventh St., at noon. Please join us in this celebration. Donation: \$20. For more information contact Commander Harry Polche, (718) 446-8043.

PASSAIC, N.J.: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 18 is planning an Easter Yarmarok (bazaar) to be held at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church Hall, 106 President St. Among the featured artists will be Christina Holowchak Debarry, Laryssa Martyniuk, and Slava Gerulak, as well as new artists from Ukraine. As always, pysanky and traditional Ukrainian crafts will be available, along with Ukrainian CDs and videotapes. Prospective vendors may contact the chairperson of the event, Sonya Capar, (973) 473-8755.

CARNEGIE, Pa.: The Ss. Peter and Paul Senior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League will hold its 34th annual pysanka sale and food bazaar at noon-4 p.m. in the parish auditorium on Mansfield Boulevard. Over 1,000 beautifully hand-written pysanky, food, as well as many cultural and religious items will be available for purchase. A museum show featuring an exhibit of Ukrainian art has also been scheduled. Also included in the day's activities will be a bake sale and Easter basket drawing by the parish school children. The church will also be open for viewing the iconography of Michael Kapeluck. There is no charge for admission. For more information call, (412) 276-0342 or (412) 279-2111.

Monday, April 17

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute (HURI) Seminar Series presents "Mykhailo Hrushevskyi and the History of the Cossacks: A Symposium." There will be a panel discussion with Frank Sysyn, director, Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research; Serhiy Plokyh, associate director, Peter Jacyk Center for Ukrainian Historical Research; Zenon Kohut, director, Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies; and Roman Szporluk, Mykhailo Hrushevskyi Professor of Ukrainian History and director, HURI. The panel will take place in the HURI Seminar Room, 1583 Massachusetts Ave., at 3:30-6 p.m. A book launch of Mykhailo Hrushevskyi's "History of Ukraine-Rus", vol. 7: The Cossack Age to 1625," translated by Bohdan Struminski, and open reception will follow. For further information contact Dr. Lubomyr Hajda, (617) 495-4053.

ONGOING

Monday-Sunday, April 3-30

OAKLAND, N.J.: A collection of pysanky, Ukrainian Easter eggs, and related items are on display at the Oakland Public Library throughout the month of April. The exhibit has been coordinated by Vera Chuma-Bitcon

of Wayne, N.J. Featured in the exhibit will be the work of well-known pysanka artist Sofia Zielyk of New York. The library is located at the Municipal Plaza on Ramapo Valley Road. For directions and library hours call (201) 337-3742.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, May 13

WARREN, Mich.: The School of Ukrainian Studies in Detroit will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a banquet at the Ukrainian Cultural Center at 4 p.m. Tickets: \$20, adults; \$15, children. A commemorative book, providing a detailed history of the school, will be available for purchase. Contributions (tax-deductible) from former students and friends of the school are welcome. For further information contact: Svitlana Leheta, (313) 640-8257; Marta Korol Skalchuk, (810) 582-9057; or e-mail: Martakorol@yahoo.com.

Tuesday-Friday, May 16-19

CHERNIVTSI, Ukraine: The First Congress of Ukrainian Historians will be held at the Fedkovych State University of Chernivtsi May 16-19. The organizational committee of the international conference is headed by Prof. Yuri Makar, dean of the history department at the University of Chernivtsi, and Prof. Lubomyr Wymar, president of the Ukrainian Historical Association (UHA) and head of the Historical Section of the Ukrainian Academy of Sciences in the United States, as well as the World Scholarly Council of the World Congress of Ukrainians. Apart from sessions on various periods in Ukrainian history, topics will include "Ukrainian Historiography on the Threshold of the 21st Century"; "Ukraine and 2000 Years of Christianity"; "World War II and Ukraine"; as well as auxiliary historical disciplines. A separate session, "Ukrainians and Poles in the 19th and 20th Centuries" will be conducted in cooperation with several Polish scholarly institutions. There are plans to have the proceedings and lectures published. Proposals for papers may be sent in the United States to Prof. Wymar, fax (330) 297-1390; or to Prof. Makar in Ukraine, fax 380-3722-2-19-94. The conference is organized by the Fedkovych State University in Chernivtsi, the UHA and the World Scholarly Council of the World Congress of Ukrainians.

Saturday-Sunday, May 20-21

PARMA, Ohio: St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral and St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral are hosting the program "United in Christ" to celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. There will be vespers at 5 p.m. Saturday, May 20, at St. Vladimir's with the participation of Metropolitan Constantine and Bishop Robert Moskal. A banquet and concert will be held at noon, Sunday, May 21, at St. Josaphat's Astrodome Hall. Two Ukrainian choirs, one adult and one youth, will sing liturgical music. Sunday event tickets are \$35, adults; \$20, children age 15 and under. Sales end May 7. For ticket information call Cornel Osadsa, (440) 526-5580.



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Addendum

In the Carpathian Ski Club's story about its annual ski races (March 26), the name of one of the event's sponsors, the Ramada Inn and Conference Center of East Hanover, N.J., was omitted.

Correction

In "Focus on Philately" (April 2), two references – one in the column itself and the other in the sidebar – were made to a "Figure 5." The illustration of a proof sheet of the St. Sophia Cathedral issue, which is cited in the column, was not published.

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UKELODEON

FOR THE NEXT GENERATION

A special audience – a special performance

by Roman Kovbasniuk

WHIPPANY, N.J. – On Sunday, February 25, my friends came to see me perform in “Babes in Toyland,” at the Shore Hills Country Club in Landing, N.J. For the past four months I have played Simple Simon on stage. As Simple Simon I sing, act and dance on stage.

I invited my friends from school to see my last performance of the year. I thought it was grand to have my friends at my show.

They thought the show was great. I thought it was the best performance I ever had – in fact the best of my entire life.

I have been on stage since I was 2 years old. I enjoy performing because it relaxes your body from working in school.

Even though I enjoy acting, I hope to become a movie animator someday. Maybe my friends will come to my movies and see all the things I have created. That would be really grand!



Roman Kovbasniuk, 9 (top right), with his school friends on the set of “Babes in Toyland.”

Parma freshman wins science awards

CLEVELAND – Cleveland State University was teeming with elementary and high school students on March 6-9, as the Northeastern Ohio Science and Engineering Fair (NEOSEF) got under way. Among the over 500 students from grades 7 through 12 was Ulyana Horodyskyj, a freshman at Padua Franciscan High School in Parma, Ohio.

Her project, “Sailing Into Space: Reflecting on a Solution,” was entered in the “Earth and Space” category and described her research on solar sails, a method of space propulsion that needs no fuel.

By the time the science fair was over, Ulyana not only won first place in her category, but sailed away with the Grand Award in Physical Science. This achievement entitles her to advance to the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair to be held in Detroit on May 7-13. (Ulyana will be presenting her research to the public on Thursday, May 11, at noon-3 p.m. at the Cobo Convention Center.)

This is the first time in NEOSEF’s history that a high school freshman has won such an honor. It was a sweet achievement for Ulyana, who had just turned 14 the previous week. She is showing an aptitude for the field of astronomy, following in the footsteps of her older brother, Lev, who is studying astrophysics at Johns Hopkins University in Baltimore, after attending the Intel International Science and Engineering Fair twice while in high school.

Less than a week later, Ulyana



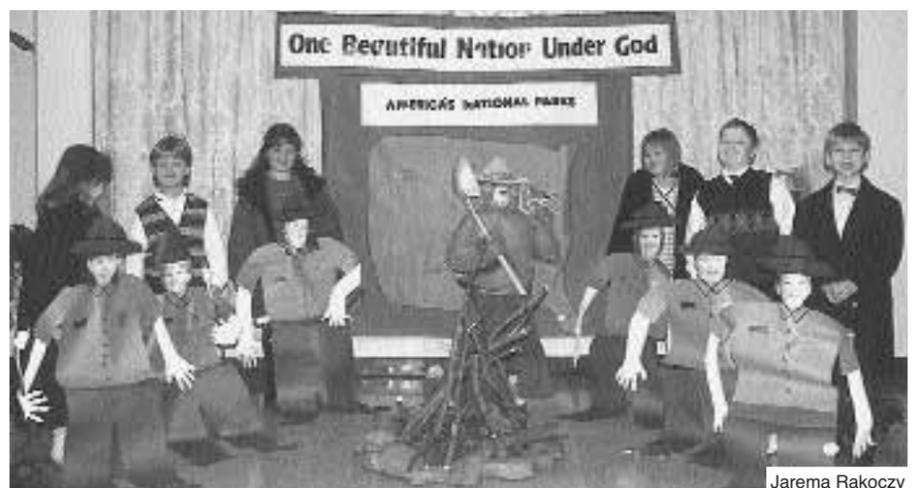
Ulyana Horodyskyj

participated in the Ohio Junior Science and Humanities Symposium, sponsored by the University of Toledo in cooperation with the Academy of Applied Science and with the support of the Departments of the Army, Navy and Air Force.

Ulyana’s research on solar sails was judged most outstanding paper and was awarded first place and a college scholarship. She will now present her work at the National Symposium in Washington on April 27-30. She will compete with about 50 students from the United States and U.S. military bases throughout the world for college scholarships.

Ulyana is excited about her work and plans to continue studying solar sails. Her parents, Ivan and Luba, of North Royalton, Ohio, and her grandparents, Wasyl and Olha Ilczyszyn of Parma, Ohio, and Iwanna Horodyskyj of Chicago, are very proud of her.

Students present Social Studies Fair



Jarema Rakoczy

NEWARK, N.J. – Students at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic School here prepared individual as well as class projects for the school’s Social Studies Fair. Seen above are second graders with their display. The fair was held in the St. John’s Church hall on Sunday, March 19.

OUR EDITORS:

UKELODEON is prepared by the editorial staff of The Ukrainian Weekly working in conjunction with Lydia Smyk, an elementary school teacher and mother of three. Ms. Smyk, who is originally from Ottawa, resides with her family in Orange, N.J.

OUR NEXT ISSUE:

UKELODEON is published on the second Sunday of every month. To make it into our next issue, dated May 14, please send in your materials by May 5. (We ask all contributors to please include a daytime phone number.)

Please drop us a line:

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Hartford youths remember Kruty

HARTFORD, Conn. – Members of the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) and the Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization, as well as students of the local School of Ukrainian Studies, jointly commemorated the Battle of Kruty of 1918 with a special program held at St. Michael Ukrainian Catholic Church. On the right the youths are seen in a group photo taken during the event.

At the Battle of Kruty a contingent of 500 young Ukrainian men, members of the student unit of the Sich Riflemen, the Khmelnytsky Cadet School and a detachment of Haidamaky, fought courageously against a superior Russian Bolshevik force of 4,000. The battle is remembered as a symbol of patriotism and sacrifice.



We honor Taras Shevchenko

Dear Myshka:

We celebrate Taras Shevchenko's birthday on March 9.

– Roman Duchnycz, age 5

Newark, N.J.

PS: I go to St. John's Pre-School and Pani Marta's Music School.

Editor's note: Thanks, Roman, for your answer to Mykola Myshka's question. Next time, why don't you send us a photo of yourself?

Myshka's new hobby



Mykola Myshka has been studying his stamps depicting Ukrainian Kozaks. Here is a stamp designed by his namesake, the famous Ukrainian artist Mykola Ivasiuk, in 1920. Can you identify the type of craft these Kozaks are in? What was this type of craft named after? Send your answers to Lida Smyk, 385 Tremont Ave., Orange, NJ 07050. The first correct response qualifies for a prize.

CHECK IT OUT:

Read about Canada's new stamp honoring hockey great Wayne Gretzky on page 11 of this issue. The stamp is one of a series of six that appear on a special souvenir sheet honoring hockey's greatest players.

Mishanyna

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F	U	N	G	N	I	N	T	H	G	I	L	O	U	S

Among Ukrainians the PYSANKA and KRASHANKA are vital to our EASTER traditions.

The word krashanka comes from the root "kraska," which means to COLOR. These eggs are hard-boiled and EATEN.

Pysanka has the root verb "pysaty," which means to WRITE. Designs are written on the egg with BEESWAX.

There are many ancient FOLK TALES and CUSTOMS involving Easter EGGS. In PAGAN times a pysanka SYMBOLIZED SPRING with a promise of new HOPE, LIFE, health and prosperity. After the acceptance of Christianity in 988 it became the symbol of Christ's resurrection and a promise of a better world.

HUTSULS believed that Jesus's mother tried to save his life by making pysanky to give to PILATE. As she cried, her TEARDROPS turned into brilliant patterns of color. When she came to Pilate they dropped and rolled all over the world just as Jesus' teachings of LOVE and PEACE spread throughout our world. Hutsuls also believe that as long as we make pysanky the world will continue to EXIST.

Does your mother or BABA have a bowlful of pysanky in the house? They are supposed to symbolize protection against such forces of nature as LIGHTNING and FIRE.

As Ukrainians we should be proud of this ancient ART form. This Easter SEASON we at Ukelodeon hope you will have an opportunity to make some pysanky. Have FUN!

