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# THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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## *CBC newsmagazine stirs controversy over Galicia Division*

by **Andrij Wynnyckyj**  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — Cardinal Myroslav Lubachivsky's blessing of Ukrainian veterans of the Galicia Division at the 50th anniversary of its formation in the summer of 1993 is once again a focus of controversy in the North American media.

On March 5 and 10, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's television newsmagazine "The Fifth Estate" broadcast a segment titled "Disorder in the Order," in its usual Tuesday evening and Sunday afternoon time slots.

Reporter Francine Pelletier focused on Michael Steeler, a man who recently resigned from the Sovereign Order of St. Stanislas, a Polish chivalric order that has a presence in North America, because he learned that Russian neo-fascist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy was accepted as a member and had been appointed deputy grand prior for the Russian Federation.

Before getting to the question of Mr. Zhirinovskiy, however, the broadcast touched on matters Ukrainian. With a photograph of the Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church's senior hierarchy filling the screen, Ms. Pelletier mentioned that Mr. Steeler, a member of the order since 1990 who had risen to the post of Canadian grand prior, became concerned that Cardinal Lubachivsky "blessed a reunion of second world war veterans, including veterans from the Nazi SS Galicia division," and wrote to the Vatican's secretary of state to express his concern.

"What was a prince of the Catholic Church doing blessing former Nazis?" Ms. Pelletier related, "That's what the grand prior of Canada, Michael Steeler, wanted to know."

In an interview setting, Mr. Steeler then said, "And I think that the blessing of the SS by Lubachivsky was to restore confidence in the Nazi SS, and that they were to be presented as knights, and therefore honorable people. It's Holocaust denial."

The "Disorder in the Order" of the segment's title allegedly became manifest when the order's grand master, Count Juliusz Sokolnicki, asked Mr. Steeler to desist in his "crusade" after initially having been "very, very much in favor of my questioning the pope about this."

Mr. Steeler's disaffection was further exacerbated when he learned that the openly racist Mr. Zhirinovskiy was made a high-ranking officer of the order. In the program, Count Sokolnicki and the U.S.-based St. Stanislas grand chancellor, Maj. Gen. Earl Morris, are seen issuing apology for Mr. Zhirinovskiy.

Count Sokolnicki calls the Russian

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## Constitutional Committee approves draft of Ukraine's new constitution

by **Marta Kolomayets**  
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Calling it a "historic event" in Ukrainian state-building, Deputy Volodymyr Stretovych told reporters a draft constitution had been approved by the Constitutional Committee on March 11 and would be submitted to the Parliament in the near future.

Mr. Stretovych, chairman of the judicial/legal reform subcommittee of the Constitutional Committee and a member of the parliamentary faction Agrarians for Reform, joined Parliament Chairman Oleksander Moroz at a press conference on March 11 after 26 members of the 40-member Constitutional Committee voted "to approve and submit for review by the Supreme Council the draft constitution of Ukraine and to take into account remarks and proposals of the Constitutional Committee." Only 33 members of the committee were present at the meeting; Mr. Moroz abstained from voting.

Despite a thumbs-up sign from Deputy Oleksander Yemets, a member of the Constitutional Committee who walked out of the seven-hour meeting exhausted and exhilarated, most national democrats who attended the meeting, chaired by Mr. Moroz and President Leonid Kuchma, agreed that the mood was turbulent and

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President Leonid Kuchma and Parliament Chairman Oleksander in a June 8, 1995, photo at the time a Constitutional Accord was signed by Ukraine's executive and legislative branches.

## American combines may be headed for Ukraine

by **Yaro Bihun**

WASHINGTON — If all goes well in Congress, Ukrainian farmers may well be harvesting a good part of this year's crop on modern American combines — and bringing in up to 30 percent more than they would with the equipment they normally use.

Eight days following Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma's talks with Clinton administration officials in Washington, the Export-Import Bank of the United States on March 1 took a preliminary step in support of a \$187 million sale of 1,049 John Deere combine harvesters and other agricultural equipment to Ukraine.

The Ex-Im Bank's board of directors referred the transaction to Congress for a 30-day review period, after which the board will take final action.

"We're very happy to hear this news," Ukraine's ambassador to the United States, Yuri Shcherbak said upon hearing about the Ex-Im Bank action.

"We expect that the U.S. Congress will accept this agreement, and that 60 percent of these combines will take part in this year's harvest in Ukraine," Dr. Shcherbak said. The agreement stipulates that the remaining 40 percent of the

equipment will be delivered in 1997.

"This is extremely important for us, taking into account that while the low-quality and ineffective combines currently in use in Ukraine lose up to 30 percent of the harvest, the John Deere combines — and I had the opportunity to sit in them and observe their technical capabilities — lose less than 1 percent of the harvest," he said.

"This means that we can boost the harvest by 25 to 28 percent simply by using these modern, comfortable and effective combines. And if we can get them this year — and we believe that we can," Ambassador Shcherbak said, "our harvest will be so much the better for it."

Dr. Shcherbak said it is a "mutually beneficial deal," providing jobs in a number of Midwestern states — Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Missouri and Ohio — and creating new jobs and opportunities in Ukraine as well.

According to the agreement, Ukraine will create spare-parts centers for the John Deere combines, and there is talk about possible joint production of these combines in Ukrainian factories, according to the ambassador.

He praised John Deere's "wisdom and foresight" in getting in early to study Ukraine's agricultural needs and

potential. "They are the pioneers, and other American firms are now following in their footsteps," he said.

During President Kuchma's recent visit to the United States, a number of American agribusiness companies showed great interest in Ukraine, Dr. Shcherbak said. "They are ready to make large investments in Ukraine, transferring new technology, know-how, pesticides, fertilizers, and the like."

"This is very important for us," he added, "because improving Ukraine's agricultural production is priority No. 1 of our reform program."

Commenting on the Ex-Im Bank's decision, John Deere spokesman Robert Combs said, "We are grateful that the bank has chosen this opportunity to take a crucial step in supporting the establishment of a major U.S. presence in an exciting, new and promising market."

Under the deal, John Deere would sell the combines and related equipment to Ukragroprombirzha of Kyiv. Ex-Im Bank would provide a \$171.3 million loan guarantee to Societe Generale of New York, and Ukraine's Ministry of Finance would guarantee the loan's repayment. The loan would be repaid in two tranches: the first in 10

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# ANALYSIS: The key to reform in Russia is found in Ukraine

by Taras Kuzio

President Leonid Kuchma visited the U.S. on February 20-22 while President Bill Clinton will visit Kyiv in April. Assuredly, high on the agenda of their talks are Western assistance to Ukraine, the forthcoming Russian presidential elections and Ukrainian security related to fears that President Boris Yeltsin will lose the elections. In contrast to neighboring Ukraine and Poland though, where Leonid Kravchuk and Lech Walesa were replaced by moderates still committed to reform, Mr. Yeltsin may be replaced by a new tsar or a commissar.

Ominous signs are emanating from Russia these days — particularly for its neighboring states, such as Ukraine. The new foreign minister, Yevgeniy Primakov, is the brainchild behind two documents that outline Russia's current policies of transforming the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) into a vehicle to recover its superpower status; these are titled "Russia and the CIS: Does the Western Position Need Correction?" (September 1994) and "The Strategic Course of the Russian Federation with Member-States of the CIS" (September 1995).

Back-room negotiations between Our Home is Russia, the party of power close to the current leadership, and Vladimir Zhirinovskiy's Liberal Democrats, held since the December 1995 parliamentary elections, have served to reinforce the evolution of the current Russian leadership away from reform towards more patriotic, anti-Western and integrationist policies. Russia no longer hides its plans to be *primes inter pares* (first among equals) within the CIS, and President Yeltsin in January was elected chairman of the CIS Council of Heads of States for the fourth year running.

With only four months left before the Russian presidential elections, it has become clear that it is not domestic factors that will decide whether Russia stays on a course of reform, but its relationship to Ukraine. If Russia were to reject nation-state in favor of empire-building policies after the June elections, this would spell the end of reform in Russia and the possible advent of a new Cold War with the West.

As President Kuchma has said, "Without Ukraine, there can be no Great Russia. I think that from all points of view an independent, economically strong Ukraine in the center of Europe is the best anchor of stability for the European continent."

Without Ukraine, any attempts by the Russian leadership to forge a new Eurasian empire out of the CIS that would challenge the West and NATO as a new military bloc would be doomed to failure. Both in the 1650s and 1920s Muscovy and Soviet Russia, respectively, became the Tsarist Russian empire and the USSR only after Ukraine joined Russia in a new union. In 1991 the former USSR disintegrated after Ukraine rejected Soviet and Russian calls to sign a new union treaty. Russia's great power status, therefore, relies completely upon coercing Ukraine back into a new alliance.

Since the end of last year, Russian Defense Minister Pavel Grachev has visited the three core CIS states to buttress Russia's plans to forge this anti-NATO military bloc by building on bilateral ties. Negotiations with Ukraine have proven

to be the most difficult, and President Yeltsin publicly complained at the January CIS summit in Moscow that President Kuchma was not heeding his calls for tighter CIS integration into a new confederation that would be naturally dominated by Russia.

In contrast, Belarus and Kazakhstan have de facto become large Russian forward military bases, and Alyaksandr Lukashenka, the eccentric president of Belarus, has even offered to re-establish nuclear missile bases in his country if NATO expands into Central Europe. Russia's new draft military doctrine, prepared by the Institute of Defense Studies and published last September, already talks in such Cold War terms, threatening to invade the Baltic republics and deploy tactical nuclear weapons in response to the expansion of NATO.

The contrast with Ukraine could not be more different. These days U.S. officials repeatedly praise President Kuchma for his continued commitment to reform, de-nuclearization, peaceful resolution of domestic disputes over the constitutional process and the Crimea, and Ukraine's cooperation with Western institutions such as NATO's Partnership for Peace (PFP) program. Last year Ukraine, the first CIS member-state to join the PFP, participated in the largest number of PFP exercises within the program of any former Soviet bloc country.

"We want to be of help in any way we can as they stay on the path to economic reform. We are supporting the reform effort and will be supporting them in connection with the IMF," U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said in February after meeting President Kuchma in Helsinki.

This strategic importance of Ukraine to Western security is at least being appreciated by Western policy-makers and leaders. It comes after three years of a 'Russia-first' policy (1992-1994). For the first time since the collapse of the former USSR, Ukraine now ranks ahead of Russia as a recipient of U.S. aid (and the third largest after Israel and Egypt). Russia, which obtained more than 80 percent of U.S. aid to the CIS in 1992, now receives less than 20 percent. U.S. State Department spokesman Nicholas Burns said recently, "There is no government that is closer to us right now than Ukraine."

Under President Kuchma, Ukraine has made a conscious decision to adopt a pro-European orientation. Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk recently admitted that he travels as often to Brussels these days as he does to Moscow. Ukraine's support for an evolutionary expansion of NATO, membership in the Council of Europe and application to join the Central European Initiative, while restricting its involvement in the CIS to purely economic matters, clearly reflects Kyiv's preference for European — as opposed to Eurasian — integration.

"We consider the integration of Ukraine into the world's political and economic system to be one of the most important guarantees of preserving our sovereignty and independence," Mr. Marchuk said. He also proposed the formation of a club of Central European prime ministers that would ensure permanent consultation and regular meetings.

It is in the West's interests to ensure that these trends continue at a time when Ukraine could be facing one of the greatest threats to its security from Russia, three-quarters of whose population, according to a recent opinion poll, still

(Continued on page 19)

## NEWSBRIEFS

### Fire damages Ukrainian TV, radio studios

KYIV — A fire destroyed three floors of Ukrainian State Television and Radio's main broadcasting facility on March 10, international and Ukrainian agencies reported. The cause of the blaze remains undetermined. Management said the fire caused damage totaling millions of dollars and destroyed the company's main TV and radio studios. Broadcasts resumed the next day from reserve studios. The government has set up a special committee to investigate the cause of the fire, which Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk had ascribed to "subjective factors," a euphemism for negligence. (OMRI Daily Digest/Reuters)

### Radiation leak at Chornobyl revealed

KYIV — The Ministry of the Environment has revealed details of a serious radiation leak that occurred on November 17, 1995, inside the Chornobyl nuclear power plant, international and Ukrainian agencies reported on March 10. The incident, which registered three on the international scale of one to six, took place when a nuclear fuel rod split open while Reactor No. 1 was being refueled. The reactor hall was reportedly contaminated. Details of just how serious the incident was emerged only last week after the ministry received a new report from nuclear specialists, Ukrainian officials said. (OMRI Daily Digest)

### Romanians against treaty with Ukraine

BUCHAREST — Nine cultural and other organizations sent an open letter on March 11 to Romanian President Ion Iliescu, Prime Minister Nicolae Vacaroiu, Foreign Minister Teodor Melescanu and the Parliament demanding that Romania not sign a friendship and cooperation treaty with Ukraine, Radio Bucharest reported the following day. The signatories said the treaty should not be approved unless territories incorporated into the Soviet Union after World War II and now belonging to Ukraine are given back to Romania. Among the organizations that signed the letter was Vatra Romaneasca (Romanian Cradle), whose political arm, the Party of Romanian National Unity, is a member of the ruling coalition. (OMRI Daily Digest)

### Ukraine to build planes in Iran

KYIV — The Cabinet of Ministers on March 12 issued a resolution setting out the development of the aircraft-building industry to the year 2000. Present priorities call for the development and mass production of a new generation of air-

planes: the AN-70 military transport; AN-70T civilian version; the medium-range passenger jet Tu-334 and the local service AN-140. According to confidential sources, the AN-140 will be mass-produced in Iran. The production run is expected to bring tens of millions of dollars to the Antonov Design Bureau and Ukraine's government. No official confirmation of this is yet available, however. (Respublika)

### Proposed Kaliningrad link worries Poles

WARSAW — Russian President Boris Yeltsin's plan to build a highway and railroad linking the enclave of Kaliningrad with Belarus via Poland is causing considerable unease among Poles. The Polish government says neither Moscow nor Miensk has so far consulted Warsaw about the project. Gazeta Wyborcza quoted the Kaliningrad mayor on March 11 as denying that no one from the oblast has held talks with the Polish authorities. He said the Kaliningrad population is against such "extraterritorial" transport links. After Lithuania drastically raised its transit charges last year, Russia has been using alternative routes for trains and goods bound for Belarus. (OMRI Daily Digest)

### Eight dead in Donbas coalmine fire

KYIV — Fire raced through a mine in the Donbas area on March 11, killing eight miners in the latest of a long series of accidents in the coalfields of eastern Ukraine. Ivan Savchenko, chief technical inspector in Donetsk, said the fire broke out in equipment about 3,000 feet underground in the Skhidna Sukhodolska mine, about 12 miles from the Russian border. Eight bodies had been recovered while several other miners received burns. A total of 61 miners have died since the beginning of the year in Ukraine, about the same rate of deaths as last year, when accidents cost 339 lives. Last month, Ukraine's miners suspended a two-week strike after the government began to provide some of their wages unpaid for months. But trade union leaders say discontent remains rife in the loss-making coalfield and some miners had still not been paid their back wages. (Reuters)

### Christopher to visit Ukraine

KYIV — U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher is to visit here on March 19, to discuss both bilateral issues and regional security problems, including NATO expansion, said Foreign Ministry Spokesman Yuriy Sergeyev on March 12. Also on the agenda are the Balkans and nuclear disarmament issues. (Respublika)

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# Vitaliy Keis on the state of Ukrainianization in the Donbas

NEW YORK — Dr. Vitaliy Keis, professor of English at Rutgers University's Newark campus and native of the Donbas region of Ukraine, recently returned from a semester-long teaching stint in Slavianske, a medium-sized city in the Donetsk Oblast. Prof. Keis taught at the Slavianske State Pedagogical Institute, the leading teacher-training institution in the oblast and the center of Ukrainianization efforts in the heavily Russified Donbas.

During his half-year in the Donbas, Prof. Keis's activities, originally intended to be limited to the teaching sphere, crossed that self-imposed boundary numerous times. Some of his observations cast doubt on official Ukrainian governmental assertions that the Ukrainianization of schools is proceeding apace, while others highlight the mixed feelings towards the Ukrainian language and culture that characterize today's Donbas.

This interview was conducted by The Ukrainian Weekly editorial assistant Yarema A. Bachynsky and also draws on material presented by Prof. Keis in January during his appearance before the Shevchenko Scientific Society in New York.

## PART I

### What did your academic activity at the institute consist of?

I taught two courses at the institute: an English rhetoric/composition course as well as a course on contemporary Ukrainian diaspora literature. This course focused heavily on the New York Group of Writers. In the English course I had about 20 students, but the Ukrainian course was attended by over 200 students. There were two lecture hall sections; each was held once a week for two hours; a two-hour recitation in groups of 25 students would meet once a week also.

Professors in Ukraine teach longer hours than here, or perhaps my long hours were a result of the tremendous interest and demand for the diaspora literature course. There were no free moments. I taught Monday through Thursday. Friday through Sunday I was on the road, at some newspaper, school, television program, etc. Sometimes I got calls at midnight advising me to be ready at the crack of dawn because I would be going to Kramatorske [another city in Donetsk Oblast] or some other city to inspect a school, or meet with students, or something similar. Besides teaching, I took an active part in the political life of the area, spent much time politicking. Something, by the way, which I had not planned on doing.

Where does the Slavianske Institute fall in the educational scheme of things in Donetsk Oblast?

Donetsk is a million-plus city; it is the region's capital. The Slavianske Institute, though not nearly as prestigious as Donetsk University, nonetheless plays a far more important role in the Ukrainianization and indeed in the general education of the oblast's youth. Where the university turns out high-level scholars, academics who can debate the finer points of the Ukrainian language, philology etc., the institute trains teachers who then go out into the oblast and bring the Ukrainian revival straight to primary and secondary school stu-

### How much Ukrainian are Ukraine's children learning?

The chart below illustrates the number of hours of Ukrainian language study required by the Ministry of Education of Ukraine for government-run secondary schools where Russian is the language of general instruction. Presently, such schools account for over one-third of all secondary schools in Ukraine. Note that the number of hours is on a per annum basis. The reduced number of hours of required instruction (reflected in the 1995 figures) in the Ukrainian language is similar to that given to other (foreign) language study in most secondary schools in Ukraine.

Level	1993	1995
Grade 5	102 hours	85 hours
Grade 6	102 hours	85 hours
Grade 7	85 hours	85 hours
Grade 8	68 hours	68 hours
Grade 9	68 hours	68 hours
Grade 10	34 hours	34 hours
Grade 11	34 hours	34 hours

Source: Program for the Secondary General Educational Schools: Ukrainian Language in Schools with Russian as the Language of Instruction, Grades 5-11; Ministry of Education of Ukraine, Directorate of Schools; Kyiv, Osvita, 1993,1995.



The 11th grade at the Ukrainian-language school in Prelisne.

dents. They are doing this as we speak, where at all possible. Things were so bad in the past with teaching Ukrainian that only poorly or even unqualified individuals were assigned to teach Ukrainian.

The Donbas does not need academics; Kyiv, Kharkiv, Lviv have plenty of those. That's why the institute's worth is almost immeasurable. It is the center of Ukrainianization in the Donbas. And the institute would not be what it is without the determined and persistent work of Prof. Vasyl Horbachuk. He is a good academic, a scholar and a patriot fully committed to rebuilding the prestige and primacy of the Ukrainian language on Ukrainian territory.

What is Prof. Horbachuk's position at the institute? And how is the institute structured?

He is the dean of the Novyi Korpus [New College]. Let me explain. The institute consists of four colleges or campuses, if you will. It trains teachers for all of the Donbas. Although I do not know the total number of students for the institute as a whole, the Ukrainian department at the Novyi Korpus alone consists of 300 students (200 full-time and about 100 part-time) and 40 professors. The Staryi Korpus [Old College], where pedagogy per se is taught, is about three times as large, and everything is taught in Ukrainian there. But ours [the Novyi Korpus] is the one that trains all the "revolutionaries." That is, those teachers who will insist on Ukrainianizing the schools regardless of official attitudes.

At the end of their training, how many of these teachers will stay in the Donbas?

The large majority will remain in the Donbas. They start teaching even before they are finished with their studies at the institute. Many are assigned permanent teaching locations before graduation. They are from the Donbas and they will work in and for the Donbas.

In your talk at the Shevchenko Scientific Society in January, you commented extensively about how ethnic identity does not accurately predict a Ukrainian citizen's attitude towards Ukrainianization. You mentioned a Prof. Vnukova in this regard. What led you to hold her in the high esteem you do?

Prof. P. Vnukova is the chair of the pedagogical department at the institute. At first I had no contact with her because she is not a philologist. I met her first in Mykolayivka, a small town in the Slavianske region with a wonderful high school supported by the local factory but government-run. The school is equipped with the most modern computers and teaching aids. Naturally, Russian is the language of instruction there.

Recently the institute "adopted" the school. We were invited to a presentation by the faculty and administration to inspect the school. Prof. Horbachuk invited me along as an observer. During the course of the visit, students gave a concert, all very nice. But everything, including teachers' presentations, was exclusively in Russian. Even the standard set of national symbols, trident etc., at the school entrance were surrounded by

Russian-only signs explaining their significance.

When the principal got done talking, we were invited to give a critique. Sitting there and seething, I contravened parliamentary procedure and raised my hand, even though as a non-faculty guest I did not have a voice. Surprisingly, I was recognized. I started speaking, in Ukrainian. I noted there were no Ukrainian language signs, and that I was very surprised to hear and see the schoolchildren give an exclusively Russian concert. What surprised me most was that the emcee was a Ukrainian language teacher, yet she led the event entirely in Russian. I expressed my dissatisfaction.

Immediately after I finished, Prof. Vnukova spoke; following her, Prof. Horbachuk. All three of us spoke in Ukrainian and highlighted the same problems. The teachers and administrators were most unhappy because we had ruined their day. Towards the end, a mathematics teacher got really annoyed at me, saying I should have stayed in the U.S.A. and not have come to meddle in "their" affairs. So it was with the Ukrainian language teacher. The pro-rector of the institute said he would launch an investigation of the high school, inasmuch it was clearly violating the law on languages and was under the institute's purview.

Following this affair I remarked to Prof. Vnukova: "It's great there are such patriotic Ukrainian women here." And she responded, "Sorry, but I am 100 percent Russian." That shocked me. She is Russian, her husband is Russian, at home they all speak Russian, but the entire family, kids and all, know the state language, Ukrainian, and do not dishonor it in any way. She told me that as a Ukrainian citizen, her loyalty rests with Ukraine, even though her ethnicity and native language are Russian.

Did you ever experience unpleasantness of a Ukrainophobic or anti-Ukrainian character directed at you, while teaching, or at some other time and place during your stay in the Donbas?

At school I did not have this, other than the just-mentioned incident. However, my students told me of one incident related to my visit. At Slavianske School No. 5, a prestigious math and science institution similar to New York City's Bronx High School of Science, the administration is stridently anti-Ukrainian. After considerable begging and pleading by parents and students alike, the school set aside one room for a Ukrainian activities club, which the students proceeded to upgrade with Ukrainian motifs and a small library.

In that room, the activities club meets. Students self-teach Ukrainian, with no official support; they have no teacher. These students invited me to speak before them. I insisted they get the principal's permission. This took some time, and finally I was allowed to speak there, although the principal made a point of unloading her anti-Ukrainianism on me prior to going home that afternoon. In talking with some of the students during our time together, I was told the principal had angrily complained about "Americans" "always coming [to Ukraine]," etc.

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## Ps/Bs inaugurate forum series with focus on Quebec situation

by Andrij Wynnyckyj  
Toronto Press Bureau

TORONTO — The Canadian Professional and Business Federation kicked off its series of open forums under the heading "Canada in Crisis: Disaster or Opportunity?" with a lecture on the present situation in Quebec by Yarema G. Kelebay, professor at McGill University's Faculty of Education in Montreal. The first forum was held on February 24, at the Sunset Inn in Mississauga, Ontario.

According to UCPBF President Raya Shadursky, host of the evening, the series is the brainchild of Michael Wawryshyn, the UCPBF's Ukrainian Canadian Congress liaison.

"It's time that the Ukrainian community made Canada a priority issue and Ukraine a secondary issue," Mr. Wawryshyn told *The Weekly*. "If we are going to preserve and develop our community here, we badly need to do this."

"It's a very critical situation in the history of this country. Many of our members and people in our community have expressed frustration that they want to confront the political and economic crisis facing this country, but have had no avenue to do this," he added.

Mr. Wawryshyn said the UCPBF hopes to provide a forum for discussion and contact, and to attract the participation of Canada's other ethnic communities in the project.

Mr. Wawryshyn said that by involving a broad spectrum of Canadians, "maybe we can come to some kind of a consensus. Only if people start looking at these questions en masse, and listening to what everyone has to say, will we be able to find solutions to problems that seem out of reach."

According to the UCPBF's handouts, the Italian Canadian community is a possible co-sponsor of the upcoming March 29 debate on multiculturalism between Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies co-founder Manoly Lupul and Liberal government backbencher John Nunziata.

The UCPBF also intends to invite Matthew Barrett, the Bank of Montreal's chairman, to speak about financial implications of Quebec's separation (possible sponsorship with the Irish Canadian community); Saskatchewan Premier Roy Romanow and/or former Ontario Premier Bob Rae on Canada's political prospects and future; and a panel to discuss larger economic and political issues affecting small and medium-sized businesses (a potential joint event with the German Canadian community).

### Kelebay on Quebec

Prof. Kelebay's talk was co-sponsored by the federation's Toronto chapter and Media Watch Ukraine, and was titled "The 1995 Quebec Referendum and the World According to the Parti Québécois." Mr. Wawryshyn introduced the McGill scholar as "one of the foremost experts on Ukrainians in Quebec and author of countless articles on a wide range of themes."

Prof. Kelebay's topic most obviously and dramatically illustrates the sense of disarray and malaise in Canada — a country recently rated as one of the better places in the world to live by the United Nations.

Prof. Kelebay began by tracing the intellectual roots of separatist thinking in the potential breakaway province, a reading based on an article he published in the University of New Brunswick's Conflict Quarterly in 1981. He said the conflict in Quebec is "between two ideological tendencies and postures, not between two peoples: it is a collision of ... a liberal-democratic federal vision of the future; and the world according to the

Parti Québécois" (PQ).

Prof. Kelebay contended that a mix of British Fabian socialism and anti-colonialism, French "gauchisme" and secularizing anti-Catholicism, Italian thinker Antonio Gramsci's imperatives to "capture the culture to capture the state," added to local historical mythology about the conquest of French Canada by the English in 1760 determined much of what drove Quebec's political culture today.

Prof. Kelebay suggested that the idea of sovereignty-association (under which a separated Quebec would maintain substantial economic and political ties with Canada), introduced into national politics by the late former Quebec Premier René Levesque, was a classically Marxist dialectical reconciliation of two opposites.

Prof. Kelebay conceded that this perspective could be seen as dated, but claimed it still had relevance in the present-day, "because world views are not readily or easily discarded."

However, beyond asserting this is so, Prof. Kelebay did little to demonstrate how the currents of thought that shaped Quebec's Quiet Revolution of the 1960s and early 1970s were manifest in the Quebec of the 1990s.

In fact, in deriding newly anointed PQ leader Quebec Premier Lucien Bouchard's opportunism, pointing out that he had belonged to five parties over the course of his political career, Prof. Kelebay appeared to demonstrate how easily inconvenient world views can be jettisoned in pursuit of a political goal.

Prof. Kelebay said he was unsure of the PQ's "present philosophical address" and simply professed to be "at a loss" about what they are doing or thinking.

Prof. Kelebay also did not mention the growth of a right-leaning faction of the separatist movement headed by Mario Dumont, leader of the Parti de l'Action Démocratique, with whom a coalition was formed just prior to the referendum campaign.

This omission led Prof. Kelebay to make the single most important error of his presentation. "Separatism is being carried by an old guard of aging ideologues," he claimed. In fact, Mr. Dumont, 25, is one of the youngest party leaders in Canadian history, and no exception to the rule within his movement.

On the other hand, Prof. Kelebay accurately pointed to the ascendancy of racial-ethnic nationalism in Quebec's separatist movement, as shown by former Premier Jacques Parizeau's railing at "money and ethnics" for having deprived the "yes" to separation side of victory in the October 30 referendum.

### Post-referendum atmosphere

The Montreal-based academic painted a vivid portrait of the poisoned and apprehensive post-referendum atmosphere in Quebec.

He mentioned the xenophobic "anti-immigrant" sentiment that led to Mr. Parizeau's outburst and the incident in which Bernard Landry (now the head of a super ministry involving finance, revenue, industry, trade, science and technology), "raged against immigrants who stole his triumph," in the lobby of the Intercontinental Hotel following the plebiscite.

Prof. Kelebay mentioned the anonymous letter mailed to media outlets, and published in early January by the separatist-leaning *Le Devoir*, from a group calling itself "The Anglophone Assault Group" that threatened Mr. Bouchard's life.

Prof. Kelebay said "all Anglo spokesmen condemned the letter, doubted the

(Continued on page 16)

## Ukrainian Village Corp. donates \$12,000 to help infants in Ukraine

DETROIT — Representatives of the Ukrainian Village Corp., near Detroit, donated \$10,000 so that Ukrainian infants could survive a trip to the hospital, now a very risky business.

The check was presented at Henry Ford Hospital on January 25 by the members of the Ukrainian Village board for the hospital's "Ukrainian Project," geared to help the Regional Clinical Hospital in Lviv. An additional \$2,000 was raised for the project in February.

The Ukrainian Village is a seniors' housing and apartment complex in the Detroit suburb of Warren.

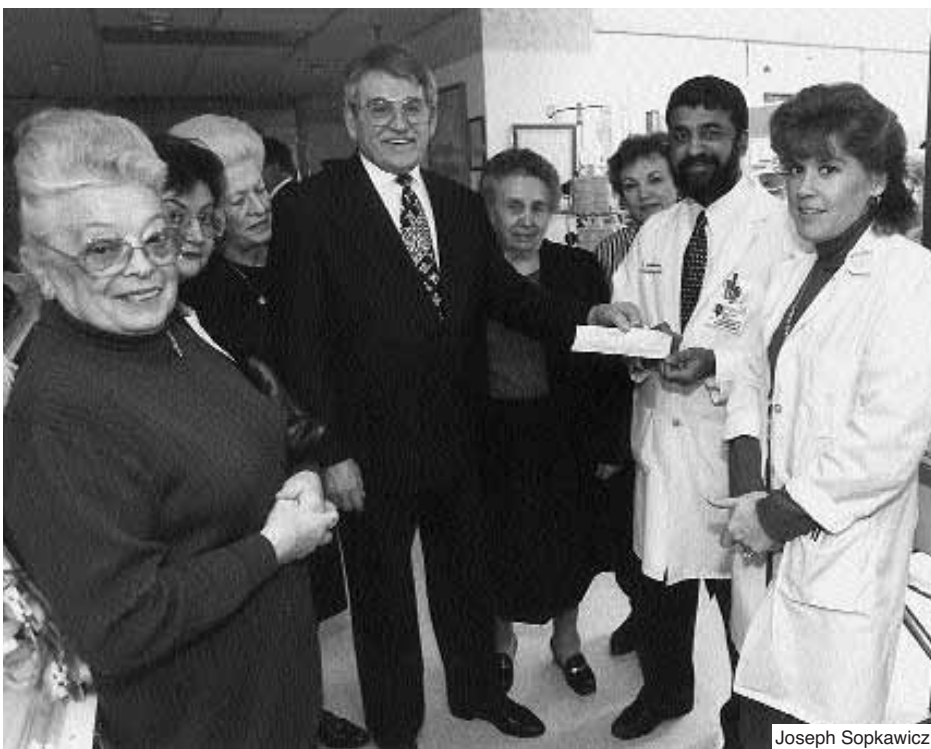
Meeting with the Henry Ford Health System's corporate vice-president Richard D. Wittrup, and the assistant vice-president, Alan R. Case, members of the Village board, President Stephen M. Wichar Sr., First Vice-President, Justine Malaniak Nelligan, Third Vice-President Stefania Dub, Treasurer Juliana Maziak, Manager Christine Shumejko — and a resident member of the UV,

Rozalia Slywka — toured the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit at Ford Hospital, and were shown the type of equipment ordered for the infants' transport.

The doctor working directly with the Lviv hospital and director of Ford's NICU, Dr. Sudhakar G. Ezhuthachan, and Clinical Nurse Specialist Christine Newman, explained that a warming isolette — known as a neonatal transport system — will be sent to Lviv to keep sick babies warm in transit.

Dr. Ezhuthachan explained that with poor roads and long distances, a child's health is at risk just in getting to the hospital for help. According to recent statistics, the birth rate in Ukraine has been dramatically decreasing, partly due to deaths during the early neonatal period.

The spirits of the Ukrainian Village board members and staffers were high, with representatives promising continuing efforts. Mrs. Dub, with a twinkle in her eye, said she just might organize a rummage sale at the Village.



Stephen Wichar (center), president of the Ukrainian Village Corp., and board members present a \$10,000 check toward an isolette for the "Ukrainian Project," a Henry Ford Hospital program out of Detroit to help the Regional Clinical Hospital in Lviv. From left are: Stefania Dub, Christine Shumejko, Justine Malaniak-Nelligan, Rozalia Slywka and Juliana Maziak with representatives of Henry Ford Hospital Dr. Sudhakar G. Ezhuthachan and Christine Newman, R.N.

## Ukrainian Technological Society elects officers, plans activity for '96

PITTSBURGH — The membership of the Ukrainian Technological Society convened its 27th annual General Assembly here at St. John the Baptist Ukrainian Catholic Church on February 18.

Acting President Ihor Havryluk welcomed the members and guests, who heard reports on the 1995 activities of the society. The UTS Scholarship Program awarded nine grants to college students totalling \$3,300.

Halya S. Polatajko, society representative to the Federation of Ukrainian American Business and Professional Associations, reported that the society had completed its assigned task of publishing the 1995 directory of federation members on time and within budget. She also reviewed the society's role in organizing the visit of the first president of Ukraine, Leonid Kravchuk, to Pittsburgh on January 22-23, 1995.

Marta Pisetska Farley reviewed the annual dinner/dance and the 1995

Ukrainian of the Year Award presentation to John Smith of Pittsburgh.

The following were elected to serve one-year terms: Mr. Havryluk, president; Ms. Pisetska Farley, vice-president; Nickolas C. Kotow, secretary; Anthony H. Szmul, treasurer; and executive board members Irene K. Grimm, Daria B. Jakubowycz, Mark Jakubowycz, Michael Korchynsky and Ms. Polatajko.

Plans for the 1996 Scholarship Program included awarding one scholarship in memory of Gloria J. Kinal, past chair of the UTS Scholarship Committee, whose sudden death at a young age has greatly saddened the Pittsburgh Ukrainian community, and the possibility of giving one scholarship to a student from Ukraine in an international study program.

Plans were also initiated for participating in the community's observances of the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl nuclear accident and the fifth anniversary of the independence of modern-day Ukraine.



# “Mayor of Second Avenue” Abe Lebewohl cherished his Ukrainian roots

by Stephanie Charczenko

NEW YORK – The morning of March 4 marked a tragic day in the East Village in New York City. As the news of the brutal murder of the owner of the Second Avenue Deli, Abe Lebewohl – known as the “Mayor of Second Avenue” – started coming through the airwaves, grief-stricken members of this close-knit community started chattering on the corner of 10th Street and Second Avenue.

All of the local television and radio stations, as well as every newspaper in New York City, carried the news of the Ukrainian Jewish immigrant who was slain while depositing his daily receipts.

The news of Mr. Lebewohl’s death sent shock waves not only throughout the East Village community, but through a network of people in all walks of life in New York who were touched by his benevolence – a network that included the Newspaper Guild (to whom he sent sandwiches every single day for the duration of their strike), former Mayor Edward Koch (who received a heart-shaped cake made of chopped liver when he won the mayoral election), Curtis Sliwa of the Guardian Angels (to boost the ratings for Mr. Sliwa’s radio talk show, Mr. Lebewohl dreamt up a contest that was publicized on the show), and NBC union employees, to whom Mr. Lebewohl sent sandwiches for the entire 21 weeks of their strike in 1987.

Mr. Lebewohl was more than just a deli man who made the greatest pastrami sandwiches in New York City, the most delicious chopped liver this side of the Atlantic and the best chicken soup since Mama’s “rosil.” He was the quintessential “mensch” (a great humanitarian). A man who loved people and his business, he worked seven days a week, and still made most of his own deliveries in that famous white truck of his.

He was much too busy to linger, but never too busy to help the needy or commemorate a special moment in someone’s life. He was a man for all people, a gender-blind, selfless human being whose generosity knew no boundaries. So, it is only appropriate that he be remembered through some of his thoughtful deeds.

The son of a local businessman who owned a lumber mill in western Ukraine, Abe Lebewohl was born in the town of Kulykiv, near Lviv, in 1931. In 1939, when the Soviets occupied western Ukraine and nationalized all businesses, the elder Lebewohl was arrested and exiled to Siberia for 10 years of hard labor, and little Abe and his mother were banished to Kazakhstan, thus escaping the horrors of the Holocaust. After the war, the family was reunited and given the opportunity to return to western Ukraine and then to Poland. Escaping Poland illegally, the family traveled through Austria and settled in a refugee displaced persons camp in Rivoli (near Turin) and Barletta (near Bari), Italy, and finally in 1950 they arrived in America.

Working as a waiter in a 12-seat capacity coffee shop on Second Avenue and 10th Street for several years, Mr. Lebewohl and his family eventually pooled their resources and in 1954 bought the small shop. Abe or Abie (as everyone endearingly called him) and his Second Avenue Deli soon became legendary in the East Village (an area bordering First and Second avenues between Houston and 14th streets). Through the years Abie expanded his deli to accommodate 250 people. Although the restaurant was considerably larger than the original one, the ambiance was warm and friendly, and the food – kyska, kasha, varenyky, goulash – just like a home-cooked meal at Babtsia’s (grandma’s) house. Among his customers were such luminaries as: Joe DiMaggio, Muhammad Ali, Jackie Mason, Bob Hope, Joan Rivers, Raoul Felder, Milton Berle and a list of famous celebrities all the way to Hollywood and back.

The population of this thriving downtown neighborhood was made up of the wave of immigrants arriving from Eastern Europe after the war, among them the Ukrainians and Jews. Taking on the flavor of a small village or “selo,” the community was the hub of Jewish and Ukrainian life and, in fact, lower Second Avenue was known as the “Yiddish Broadway”; it boasted several Jewish theaters that attracted many affluent theater lovers from uptown. Mr. Lebewohl’s love of these Yiddish theaters inspired him to build the “Walkway of Yiddish Actors” at the storefront entrance on Second Avenue. He also named one of the rooms in the deli the “Molly Picon” room after the famous Yiddish actress of the time, and was a philanthropist who made many very generous contributions to the theaters.

Ukrainian and Jewish business owners worked and lived side by side, among them the Kobasniuk Travel Agency at East 10th Street; St. George Church, Surma (the Ukrainian shop) and the Hebrew Actors Guild were all located on East Seventh Street. Mr. Lebewohl’s deli existed in the midst of a blooming Ukrainian community: Plast and SUM-A, the Dumka choir, the Ukrainian National Home, all on Second Avenue, and many others.

Though Mr. Lebewohl was a very religious Jew who

abided by all of the Jewish traditions and closed his deli for all of the Jewish holidays, he also respected the heritage of his homeland and often would not let a needy Ukrainian customer wait his turn in line because, he said: “It’s your Christmas, you shouldn’t wait...or pay.”

So proud was Abe of his Ukrainian-Jewish heritage that he even traveled to Ukraine in the 1970s at a time when it was not quite so popular and not particularly safe. An advocate of small business and community cooperation, he made all of his travel arrangements through his neighbors across Second Avenue, the Kobasniuk Travel Agency.

True to form, when Ukraine declared its independence four and half years ago, Mr. Lebewohl was so elated that he immediately prepared a huge platter of deli goodies and sent them to his Ukrainian friends at the Kobasniuk Travel Agency across the avenue. On December 1, 1991, when the Ukrainians voted in a referendum for Ukrainian independence, Mr. Lebewohl once again cheered and repeated the celebration with another platter for his fellow Ukrainians at the travel agency.

When the Consulate General of Ukraine set up temporary quarters at 157 Second Ave., Mr. Lebewohl greeted them with an elaborate feast to welcome his new “susidy” (neighbors).

Andrew Lastowecky of the Anthony Shumeyko Insurance Agency Inc. recalls one occasion when a prominent Ukrainian dignitary arrived in New York. When he heard of the Jewish immigrant from Ukraine who owned the Second Avenue Deli he insisted that they dine at his establishment. Mr. Lebewohl was so thrilled that there was a Ukrainian diplomat in his deli that he literally rolled out the red carpet for the party of five. He closed off the Molly Picon Room in the back of the restaurant, prepared a banquet fit for kings...and refused to take a penny from them.

In another instance, the Society of Ukrainian Jewish Relations (SUJR) sponsored an evening in honor of Rabbi David Lincoln in May of 1995. SUJR appealed to several Ukrainian business owners and individuals to make small donations of sustenance for the function. The Second Avenue Deli was asked to contribute the kosher fare for the Jewish members of the audience. Mostly everyone contributed a platter of cold cuts or a plate of pastries, but Mr. Lebewohl (whose heart was as big as the sandwiches he prepared) went one step further – he delivered such a multitude of epicurean delights that suddenly everyone became kosher that evening. Although he was always invited to attend, once again he was just too busy and never stayed for the applause that he so much deserved.

Another event held by the Society of Ukrainian Jewish Relations was the Ukrainian Jewish Conference at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, just a few months ago in December. Not expecting such a large turnout, the society arranged to provide only coffee and cake for its audience. As the day progressed the numbers in the audience increased, and it was obvious there was a crisis at hand: not enough food. It was a Sunday, late morning – who could one turn to for a spur of the moment catering job?

A quick telephone call to Mr. Lebewohl; the telephone conversation went something like this: “Abie, we need your help! How much will a platter of food for about 50 people cost and can you deliver it within half an hour?” Mr. Lebewohl responded: “You worry about your conference, and I’ll worry about the food.” Mr. Lebewohl himself delivered the food in the white van he always drove around in (even to formal occasions, decked out in a tuxedo) within 20 minutes and refused to take any money, even though contributions were not solicited for this event.

Upon the arrival of Leonid Kravchuk, the first presi-



Abe Lebewohl

dent of independent Ukraine, Mr. Lebewohl was among the few businessmen who attended a private meeting with Mr. Kravchuk. Although he had previously met with the foreign minister of Russia to discuss opening a deli in Moscow, he quickly abandoned that idea when he met with Mr. Kravchuk, and voiced his interest in starting a business in Ukraine. The president of Ukraine was so delighted at the prospect that he invited Mr. Lebewohl to Kyiv to start making arrangements for his new venture. Unfortunately, the difficulty of private enterprise in Ukraine at that time thwarted the project.

During Leonid Kuchma’s first visit to the United States, St. George Church on East Seventh Street hosted an event in the president’s honor to introduce him to the parishioners. So many people attended that it was difficult to get a front row seat, and many had to squeeze into the back pews to get a glimpse of Ukraine’s second president. Displaying both his Jewish and Ukrainian heritage, there in the very front of the church, with a yarmulke prominently displayed on his head, was none other than Abe Lebewohl, beaming with pride at President Kuchma, the leader of his native country. Even though Mr. Lebewohl had left Ukraine more than 40 years ago, he never forgot his roots and still spoke Ukrainian fluently.

Funeral services for Abe Lebewohl were held at the Community Synagogue on East Sixth Street, which was cordoned off by the police department, causing a huge traffic jam all the way uptown. After the funeral services, attended by over 1,500 people from all walks of life, including many Ukrainians, as per tradition in Ukraine Mr. Lebewohl’s casket was carried through the streets of his neighborhood with a procession of mourners who came to bid farewell to their beloved friend. A squad of police cars then escorted Abe Lebewohl’s hearse up First Avenue to the cemetery.

## Pylyp Orlyk Institute receives Eurasia Foundation grant

by Olenka Dobczanska

WASHINGTON – The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation has received a new grant for \$127,600 from the Eurasia Foundation to support the activities of the Pylyp Orlyk Institute for Democracy in Kyiv.

As one of the first institutions of its kind operating in an independent Ukraine, the Pylyp Orlyk Institute has earned a reputation as a reliable, non-partisan information resource for Ukrainians on democracy and civil society. Among other activities, the institute maintains a library on public policy issues, provides informational support to policy-makers and the media, and provides regular feedback on how events in Ukraine are viewed by policy-makers in the West, particularly in the United States.

The Eurasia Foundation is a privately managed grant-making organization established with financing from the U.S. Agency for International Development. It supports technical assistance, training, educational and policy programs in the new independent states of the

former Soviet Union, excluding the Baltic States.

In just over two years, the Eurasia Foundation has awarded over \$25 million in grants to over 800 projects and set up six field offices, including one in Kyiv, to help generate new indigenous projects and evaluate on-going ones.

The Eurasia Foundation’s previous grant of \$78,000 was instrumental in the Pylyp Orlyk Institute’s ability to provide timely and independent information in 1994-1995. This new Eurasia grant validates the USUF’s efforts and will enable the Pylyp Orlyk Institute to continue its proven activities while further broadening the public policy debate in Ukraine.

The U.S.-Ukraine Foundation is a not-for-profit, non-governmental organization whose goal is to foster democratic and free-market development in Ukraine.

For more information about its activities, contact: U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, 1511 K St. NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005; telephone, (202) 347-4264; fax, (202) 347-4267; e-mail, ukraine@access.digex.net.



## THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

### Who will face Chornobyl?

Last year on April 13, President Leonid Kuchma made a political commitment to shut down the Chornobyl atomic power plant, site of the world's worst nuclear accident in 1986. His decision was hailed around the world as an act of courage, and Ukraine was given assurances it would not be left alone to face the fiscal problem of the Chornobyl station's shutdown.

As we noted in our year-end issue for 1995, it took almost all of 1995 for Ukraine to reach an agreement with the Group of Seven countries regarding financial aid and further cooperation in helping restructure energy-poor Ukraine's power industry. Last year in May, the Parliament of Ukraine had appealed to the Group of Seven for aid — scientific, technical and humanitarian — to shut down the Chornobyl complex and to deal with the 1986 nuclear disaster's aftereffects on the people and the environment. The appeal pointed out that Ukraine alone cannot even begin to think of financing Chornobyl's closing and clean-up.

Finally, at year's end, it seemed the West had begun to understand the tremendous financial hardships associated with shutting down the Chornobyl power plant. At their November meeting in Vienna, the G-7 said Ukraine would not stand alone when it confronts the Chornobyl closure. Then, in December, Ukraine's minister of environmental protection and nuclear safety, Yuriy Kostenko, and Canada's vice-premier and secretary of the environment, Sheila Copps, acting on behalf of the G-7, signed an agreement in Ottawa that provided for more than \$2.3 billion in financial assistance so Ukraine could close the station down by the year 2000, clean up Chornobyl's contamination and provide for new energy sources. However, Ukraine's officials insisted that these costs would be more than \$4 billion.

Now, according to a report by Reuters, both President Leonid Kuchma and Prime Minister Yevhen Marchuk have expressed doubts that the previous Western offers of assistance will be realized. And, they add, they cannot begin to act on the shutdown until the promised funds are made available. To be sure, the fate of the infamous plant has been placed on the agenda of the G-7 meeting scheduled for April — at the time of the 10th anniversary of Chornobyl disaster. But where is it being held? In Moscow!

Meanwhile, far from the Russian capital, the suffering in Ukraine, Belarus and westernmost portions of Russia goes on. In Ukraine alone, according to statistics released by the Ministry of Health, some 125,000 people have died as a result of the nuclear nightmare that is Chornobyl — as a result of diseases related to the 1986 accident. And, Chornobyl's deadly fallout continues. Birth defects are on the rise, and the World Health Organization has reported that cases of thyroid cancer among children have increased up to 100 times in radiation-affected areas. Scientists working in "the zone" around the plant have documented genetic mutations in all forms of life. Environmental and medical crises abound in the wake of Chornobyl. And then there are the energy shortages that have compelled Ukraine to employ a system of rotating power blackouts to save both energy and money.

Would it not behoove the leaders of the world's largest industrial powers, the G-7, to travel to Ukraine to see first hand what Chornobyl has wrought? Would it not be wise for the Ukrainian government (as suggested by Askold Lozynskyj, president of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, during a Chornobyl fund-raising banquet earlier this year) to invite the G-7 leaders to visit Kyiv, and Chornobyl and its environs, so they could see with their own eyes a tragedy whose scope is so difficult to comprehend?

March  
17  
1847

### Turning the pages back...

Fedir Vovk was Ukraine's greatest anthropologist-archaeologist, and the abortive "Treasures of Ukraine" exhibit that was to have toured museums in Canada this year, as well as the

Cro-Magnon exhibit at the Museum of Natural History in New York City, owe much to his research.

Fedir Vovk was born on March 17, 1847, in Kriachkivtsi, near Pyriatyn, about 140 kilometers southeast of Kyiv.

A graduate of the Nizhen gymnasium as well as the universities of Odessa and Kyiv (1871), he became active in the Kyiv Hromada, and founded the southwestern (Ukrainian) branch of the Imperial Russian Geographic Society.

In the late 1870s, Vovk did archaeological research in the Kyiv Gubernia and Volhynia, then fled abroad to escape tsarist persecution. From 1887 he studied anthropology, comparative ethnography and archaeology in Paris, where his doctoral dissertation on primate and human skeletal variations in feet was awarded the Godard Prize (1890).

In 1899 he was made a full member of the Shevchenko Scientific Society. In 1904-1906 he participated, along with the society's luminaries Ivan Franko, Ivan Rakovsky, Zenon Kuzelia and Lev Hankevych, in a series of anthropological and ethnographic expeditions in (Austrian-controlled) Bukovyna and Transcarpathia.

Over the course of his career, Vovk amassed a vast collection of materials and data from various regions of Ukraine, on which he laid the foundation for the chairs of geography and anthropology at St. Petersburg University.

After the Revolution of 1905 eased the intensity of Russian autocracy somewhat, he traveled to the imperial capital to become a custodian of the Ethnographic Museum there and lecture at the university. In 1907 he was given full membership in the Ukrainian Scientific Society.

As another revolution broke the Russian monarchy's back in 1917, Vovk was appointed professor at Kyiv University while abroad. He never made it, dying en route in Zhlobin (near Homel) in Belarus, on June 30, 1918.

Source: "Vovk, Fedir," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 5 (Toronto: University of Toronto Press, 1993).

## Rice takes the lead in New Jersey to commemorate Chornobyl disaster

by Walter Bodnar

NEWARK, N.J. — Utilizing his dual position as New Jersey state senator and city councilman, Ronald L. Rice will take the lead in New Jersey in commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Chornobyl nuclear disaster by sponsoring and presenting resolutions both in Trenton, the state capital and in the city of Newark.

The two ceremonial introductions of the Chornobyl commemorative resolutions will take place at the following locations:

- in Trenton, on Thursday, March 21, at 2 p.m. in the New Jersey State Senate Chambers, 125 W. State St., and
- in Newark, on Wednesday, April 17, at 7 p.m. in the City Council Chambers, third floor, City Hall, 920 Broad St.

The resolutions state, in part that "the people of Chornobyl, still heavily burdened with the aftereffects of the nuclear explosion, continue to drink radioactive water, eat radioactive food and suffer from diseases caused by radiation, i.e., cancer, leukemia, diminished immunity, birth defects..."

Mr. Rice, a member of the Health Committee in the state Senate, represents a large constituency of Americans of Ukrainian heritage both in the West Ward of Newark and the 28th Congressional District of New Jersey, which encompasses a part of Newark plus Irvington, Maplewood and South Orange.

In addition to his governmental duties, Mr. Rice has shown a sensitivity to the needs of the Ukrainian American com-

munity that he represents, and has willingly taken a personal approach to its desires and aspirations. The 10th anniversary commemoration of the Chornobyl disaster is but one of the many legislative actions that he has introduced.

He also has initiated resolutions supporting the independence of Ukraine, legislation to include studies in the New Jersey State Curriculum Guide of the Ukrainian famine of 1932-1933, and resolutions and statements on Chornobyl during the past 10 years.

Mr. Rice, who has announced his readiness to run for the office of mayor of Newark in order to root out corruption and improve the quality of life in the area for people of all races and creeds, extends his scope beyond the borders of his district.

He was introduced to Ukrainian environmental and health concerns by Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine and the Green World organization in Ukraine. This is reflected in his resolutions that state: "It is both proper and fitting for the members of this House to pause in their deliberations to recognize the tireless efforts of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine in New Jersey, the Green World in Ukraine and other environmental organizations that recommend closing of the Chornobyl nuclear power station in Ukraine since it endangers the health and life of the people of Ukraine and surrounding areas, and destroys their natural resources by rendering them radioactive."

## OPEN LETTER: Chornobyl's challenge

Dear Readers:

April 26 will mark the 10th anniversary of the deadliest nuclear catastrophe known to man: the Chornobyl nuclear power plant explosion. Under the banner of "Chornobyl Challenge '96," The Children of Chornobyl Foundation, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council are spearheading a nationwide series of commemorative events marking this mournful anniversary.

Together with the national efforts, the Ukrainian community of Greater New York has come together in an effort to raise public awareness of the facts surrounding the catastrophe. This will be achieved through a series of public events, including commemorative ecumenical services, educational seminars, public meetings and exhibitions.

The New York chapters of the aforementioned organizations, as well as the Ukrainian National Women's League of

America, Plast, SUM-A, the Ukrainian Engineers Society of America, The Ukrainian Institute of America and the Ukrainian Museum, have gathered under the umbrella of Chornobyl Challenge '96 to realize these goals. Your participation in this effort is integral in ensuring its success.

To learn more about this campaign, please call the New York committee chairman, Lew Dobrijanskyj at (718) 762-8531, or attend a committee meeting, held every Monday at 6 p.m. at the Selfreliance building, 98 Second Ave., in Manhattan. We are particularly in need of people interested in fund-raising, media and government relations, and events planning.

Come join us and help make a difference. Chornobyl is a global problem affecting all of us. By raising public awareness today, we not only pay tribute to the victims of the past, but secure a safe future for generations to come.

Peter Charchalis  
New York

## Aleksey, not Peter

Last week's "Journalist's Notebook" contained a factual mistake, which was pointed out by a loyal reader of The Weekly, R.L. Chomiak.

The events surrounding the Treaty of Pereyaslav of 1654 concern a fateful alliance of the hetman state under Bohdan Khmelnytsky and Muscovy's Tsar Aleksey Mikhailovich, not Peter the Great as erroneously stated in last week's column.

According to the Encyclopedia of Ukraine, the treaty was negotiated between Hetman Khmelnytsky and his General Military Council on one side and Muscovite envoys led by Vasilii Buturlin on the other.

The encyclopedia notes that the treaty

consisted of two main documents, including the tsar's patent to the Zaporizhzhian Host and 11 articles concerning military, political and technical details. The original documents have not been preserved, but translations and drafts of the tsar's patents have survived.

Orest Subtelny, in his book, "Ukraine: A History," points out that the interpretation of the treaty has been the subject of frequent debate among scholars and notes that at least five major interpretations of the Pereyaslav agreement do exist. What is clear, however, is that a radical restructuring of political alliances in the region was an immediate result of the agreement.

— Marta Kolomayets



## NEWS AND VIEWS

# Chornobyl's realities are forgotten

by Bozhena Olshaniwsky

April 26, 1986, is remembered in the annals of the history of humanity as the day of the world's worst nuclear accident – the 10th anniversary of which will be marked this year. We can lay the fault and responsibility for this infamous disaster at the feet of the former Soviet Union, which through its criminal disdain for the human needs and welfare of its citizens led to the Chornobyl catastrophe at the nuclear power station in Ukraine 10 years ago. Its aftereffects will be felt much longer than the aftermath of the nuclear bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki at the end of World War II. Let us hope that we have learned our bitter lesson and that no Chornobyls will ever happen again.

Although 10 years have elapsed since this disaster occurred, the effects of this nuclear accident are still being felt by many and may continue for generations to come. At present 3.5 million people live on Ukrainian territory still contaminated by radiation – 1 million of them being children. The government of Ukraine has been unable to relocate these people. It is reported that Ukraine's budget for expenses dealing with the aftereffects of Chornobyl has decreased to a tenth of what it was four years ago.

One gets the feeling that the Chornobyl problem has been moved to the back burner. When the subject of Chornobyl comes up, the concerns addressed are usually with the atomic reactor or the need for energy from the nuclear station – but not for the victims of the disaster. Meanwhile, the deadly effects of radiation continue to maim and kill an unprecedented number of citizens of Ukraine. Following are some statistics on the effects of the Chornobyl fallout, which should be acknowledged and seriously taken under consideration.

- The area contaminated by radiation is more than 19,500 square miles, which constitutes one-tenth of the entire territory of Ukraine, or 232,046 square miles. (As a comparison, Texas has 267,338 square miles.)
- There are 2,294 population units (cities, towns, villages) within this area.
- 17,761 square miles of agricultural land is contaminated by radiation.
- 16,989 square miles of forests are contaminated by radiation.
- 3.2 million persons have been affected by radiation.
- Over 1 million children are affected by radiation.
- More than 125,000 persons have died because of radiation exposure.
- 356,600 persons have participated in the liquidation and on-site clean-up of the aftermath of the Chornobyl accident.
- 50,000 Chornobyl clean-up workers have become disabled because of illnesses caused by excessive exposure to radiation.
- 6,000 clean-up workers have died directly due to radiation.

The Chornobyl problem has extended far beyond the borders of Ukraine and has caused grave consternation to medical doctors, scientists, politicians and governments officials of many countries. Tragically, Chornobyl proved that the "peaceful atom" knows no boundaries.

Recently an international conference dealing with the problems of "the medical consequences of Chornobyl and other radiation catastrophes" was held in Geneva with participants from 59 countries.

The main task of this conference was to analyze and summarize medical data gathered

on the aftereffects of Chornobyl in Ukraine, Belarus and Russia by the World Health Organization of the United Nations. Evhen Korolenko, of the Ministry of Health in Ukraine, attended the conference and stated that the Chornobyl catastrophe was the worst medical, ecological, economic, social, psychological and political disaster that ever befell Ukraine. "What can we do about Chornobyl?" is a question being asked more and more frequently by concerned individuals in many countries and also in the press.

Western Europe has finally acknowledged the fact that the closing of the Chornobyl nuclear power station is a concern not only of Ukraine but also of the international community, since Ukraine lacks the capability to solve this problem. A number of experts have stated that the Chornobyl nuclear reactor must be shut down since it is not safe and is a threat to humanity.

But, it is easier to say "shut it down" than to accomplish this task in the face of the facts that the Chornobyl plant produces 5 to 7 percent of Ukraine's power and that its closing, according to the Ukrainian government, will cost over \$4 billion. So far, the G-7 states have promised Ukraine \$2.3 billion, part of which is for loans for the construction of new power stations.

The chairman of the Parliament of Ukraine, Oleksander Moroz, stated that he is in favor of closing the Chornobyl station only if its entire cost is covered by the international community. Ukraine has no such funds available. He also stated that the memorandum on Chornobyl's shutdown, which was signed by Ukraine on December 20, 1995, in Canada, will ruin Ukraine's energy production system.

By his stance Mr. Moroz is using the closing of the Chornobyl power station as a bargaining chip to extract more money from the international community while the people of Ukraine continue to suffer as the negotiations drag. This is equivalent to being held hostage in a hostile and poisonous climate of excessive radiation, which poses a threat to the health and lives of all living things.

Ecological organizations such as Green World and Green Peace in Ukraine have appealed to Mr. Moroz to seriously consider closing down the Chornobyl plant. In their letter they point out that:

- The first nuclear disaster at the Chornobyl plant happened in 1982, but information about it was never disclosed.
- The second accident in 1986 wreaked nuclear havoc, affecting all of Europe.
- There were 125 accidents at nuclear power plants in Ukraine during 1994 – 109 of them were at the Chornobyl plant.

Numerous charitable, humanitarian and environmental organizations in the United States and Canada have focused their work within the realm of damage control, that is, helping the affected victims, the sick and the poor in Ukraine.

Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine (AHRU) has directed its work toward the prevention and removal of the cause of the problems at Chornobyl. Their primary thrust has been to shut down the source of contamination and move the potential victims from contaminated areas before they become sick. To this end, AHRU has directed its approach during the past nine years by writing appeals and sending petitions to the G-7 and the United Nations.

The next meeting of the G-7 will take place in April of this year in Moscow. The question "to be or not to be" for the Chornobyl power station will again be bantered about by the seven major industrial powers. And, Ukraine's good relations with the European community will probably be made dependent on the reso-

## Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas



## Dangerous misconceptions and delusions

A few weeks ago I was discussing the presidential race with a young, well-educated Ukrainian American and the topic of integrity and character came up.

"There's no such thing among politicians today," the young man insisted. "All politicians lie. It's part of the game."

"You don't really believe that," I responded in astonishment.

"I do," he replied. "You know it's true."

What an incredibly cynical statement for a person his age, I thought. Here was a youth barely out of college who has never worked a political campaign. Nor does he have any first-hand experience in government.

I've worked political campaigns. I've also had the good fortune to work as a government agency administrator and as a White House and a U.S. Senate aide. The young Ukrainian American is wrong. Very wrong. All politicians are not alike. It has been my experience that most politicians are honest, principled, sincere and hard-working. And, contrary to popular myth, they are held accountable, by their constituency, every two, four or six years. Character and integrity do count in politics. As Abraham Lincoln so eloquently put it: "You may fool all the people some of the time; you can even fool some of the people all the time; but you can't fool all of the people all the time."

The reason for this young man's cynicism – and he has plenty of company – lies with the arrogant, ignorant, left-leaning, overpaid and slothful media pundits who project their own lack of integrity onto others. As James Fallows points out in the February issue of *The Atlantic Monthly*, many American journalists have become indolent. Distrust has become a way of life because it's easier to assume a cynical posture, leap to conclusions, or slant a story to fit one's own political biases, then to spend time researching a news item in an attempt to present the truth. Far more than the politicians they criticize, journalists are out of touch with the American people. They are accountable to no one. They can write what they wish, how they wish, and they are rarely fired unless, of course, they plagiarize.

Fortunately, the American public is wise to the woeful status of American journalism. Mr. Fallows mentions a survey conducted by the Times Mirror Center for the People and the Press which concluded that while "the news media has a generally positive view of itself in the watchdog role" (can't you just see a smug Sam Donaldson and Eleanor Clift nodding in agreement), the public believes "the press gets in the way of society solving its problems; two out of three members of the public had nothing or nothing good to say about the media."

If you still believe the press is ideologically pure in its news coverage, compare the way journalists pandered to, and fawned over, Jesse Jackson during his runs for the presidency, to the way the media currently ignore Dr. Alan Keyes. Jesse, an ultra-liberal who expects the government to solve the problems of Black America, is deified. Dr. Alan Keyes, a conservative who believes Blacks should strive to solve their own problems, is ignored, even condemned as

a tool of the white power structure. The Rev. Jackson, who lives a lavish life style, has no visible means of support. A former university president, Dr. Keyes has written books and hosts a highly successful radio talk show.

Another widely held and dangerous misconception regarding national politics is that experience is a negative. Outsiders, somehow, are better than insiders because they're supposedly more pristine. Anyone who believes that myth is ignoring history. Just compare the legislative record of President Lyndon Baines Johnson, the consummate insider, with the records of Presidents Jimmy Carter and Bill Clinton, two outsiders. I'm not a fan of LBJ, nor do I think the Great Society programs he shepherded were good for the country. But he got things done. It is muddleheaded to believe that experience is a plus in all lines of work except governing.

A corollary of the insider-outsider absurdity is the idea that principles demand intransigence, never having to compromise. Sen. Robert Dole has been criticized for "making deals" because he wanted to get things done. In a democracy, the art of government is the art of compromise. America was founded on compromise. The allocation of representatives and senators agreed upon by our founding fathers during the constitutional convention has been called the "Great Compromise" because it satisfied the needs of smaller states such as Rhode Island, and larger states such as Virginia. All states accepted two houses of Congress because it provided for more equitable federal representation. Our Bill of Rights also was a compromise between federalists such as Alexander Hamilton and anti-federalists such as Thomas Jefferson. Compromise is the American way. Ukrainian Americans, who today no longer have a representative central organization, could learn from the American example.

The last delusion that threatens our political process is the belief that new ideas always lead to progress. Having new ideas means having "vision." President Kennedy had vision but he couldn't get his programs through Congress. LBJ did it for him.

I believe more in old ideas, visions that have survived the test of time. No new taxes is a very old idea. The Boston Tea Party was a tax revolt that helped ignite the American Revolution. Judeo-Christian values, tax reform, school choice, governmental decentralization, a balanced federal budget, racial equality, regulatory reform, voluntarism, Americanism, a strong defense, and a judicial system that punishes criminals, are all old ideas that work. Easy divorce, more welfare, more government control, racial quotas, higher taxes, more federal regulation, multiculturalism, a diminished military, coddling criminals, abortion on demand through the third trimester, are all new ideas that are failing.

In the months ahead, Ukrainian Americans will be bombarded by political claims and counter-claims. All need to be considered carefully. Let's not be seduced by political opportunists (who promise one thing and do the opposite) and their disingenuous media accomplices whose agenda we don't share.

Bozhena Olshaniwsky is president of Americans for Human Rights in Ukraine.



## LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

### Yevtushenko is back as a college profes-

Dear Editor:

The New York Times of February 7 reported that Russian poet Yevgeny Yevtushenko has been named distinguished professor of Russian literature at Queens College in New York. Posturing before the reporter as a true Russian democrat and egalitarian, and evidently overdoing it a bit, Prof. Yevtushenko "brimmed with manic excitement" about the "ethnic mix" in Queens.

He also availed himself of the reporter's eager ear to recall how in the 1960s, while receiving an honorary degree from the same college, he had been "jumped" by "angry Ukrainian nationalists." The rest of the passage merits quotation: "They were the sons of people who collaborated many years ago with the fascists," said the poet, whose 'Babi Yar' decried the slaughter of Jews in Ukraine. 'They tore off my gown. Here in Queens.'

Somewhat later in that news item, the distinguished professor went on to explain his rather unusual teaching method: after boasting that he is neither qualified nor academically prepared to teach Pushkin, he assured the reporter that "I love Pushkin, and I teach love."

I should state, to begin with, that I do not favor any type of political demonstration that ends in violence, even in such a mild form as putting a rent in Prof. Yevtushenko's (presumably academic) gown. I should nevertheless remind him that Queens does not lie in a country where children are responsible for their parents' political indiscretions.

And, much more important, I should point out that his suggestion to the effect that the young demonstrators acted because of their "social origin" is a preposterous lie. I have no doubt that among them were sons and daughters of Ukrainians who had suffered at the hands of the Nazis, be it as slave laborers in Germany, inmates of concentration camps, or insurgent fighters against the Nazis in the Ukrainian underground. But, be that as it may, all this had absolutely nothing to do with their anger.

Perhaps we should remind our younger readers of Prof. Yevtushenko's role in the 1960s, and of the possible reasons that the "nationalists" chose him as the target of their ire. The young demonstrators, Americans of Ukrainian background, felt morally bound to draw the West's attention to the violent (far more so than a tear in a gown) persecution of the Ukrainian language, culture and intellectuals, which Moscow began to renew at that time. Among its victims were poets – some infinitely more talented than Prof. Yevtushenko – who eventually died or were permanently crippled in Russian concentration camps. It was at that time that real Russian dissidents, like Andrei Sakharov and Yelena Bonner, vehemently protested such fascist imperialism, to end up, not much later, in de-humanizing banishment. And it was around that time that truly gifted Russian poets were tried for vagrancy and hounded in similar humiliating ways.

While the wave of such fascist persecutions was beginning to crest in the Soviet Union, Mr. Yevtushenko, New York's darling dissident, was busy parading his "Russian soul" and "democratic views" around the United States, and receiving honorary degrees from tax-supported American universities. I should emphasize that he disported himself abroad with the obvious support of his fascist government. Using some of his early anti-Stalinist verses and his outspoken autobiography as a

lure, the Soviet government permitted, and probably even encouraged, Prof. Yevtushenko to play the role of a token dissident ("we, too, have freedom of speech!"), reading verses against the oppression of blacks in the United States and against American "provocations" in Cuba to gullible Western audiences.

Let us take a cursory look at what real Russian and Ukrainian dissidents thought of Prof. Yevtushenko's "anti-government" activities. The Russian dissident Ludmilla Alexeyeva, in her seminal study "Soviet Dissent," states that Yevtushenko enjoyed official approval (p. 13). The Ukrainian political dissident Leonid Plyushch, who spent years as a political prisoner in a Soviet insane asylum, writes in his autobiography "History's Carnival," that "Yevtushenko lost his sincerity . . . when he became an officially recognized 'oppositionist' who traveled abroad and helped the KGB demonstrate its liberality" (p. 47).

It seems to me that Prof. Yevtushenko was in all respects an ideal symbolic object of protest against the crimes of the government that he unofficially represented. Incidentally, the very style and tone of his insult, as quoted by The New York Times, does not augur a successful "reconstruction" of the man.

Well, Prof. Yevtushenko is back. It is symptomatic that he has begun his academic career at a public American university by fabricating a pack of lies, intended to malign an honest and hard-working American ethnic group. I have no doubt that he is fully aware of the possible repercussions: to compromise the Ukrainian American community as an influential Western spokesman for Ukraine, to pour salt on the mutually painful wounds in the torturous history of Jewish-Ukrainian relations (the obviously irrelevant reference to Babyn Yar, supplied either by the professor himself or by the reporter, is a particularly masterful touch); to put his two cents' worth into the already strained dialogue between Ukraine and Russia; to attempt to antagonize ethnic minorities in Ukraine, and ultimately to compromise Ukraine as an independent nation at a difficult moment of its development. This is Prof. Yevtushenko's kind of love.

As a not-so-distinguished, although professional, teacher of literature, I would like to suggest to Prof. Yevtushenko that, instead of forcing down his American students' throats the noxious brew of love and lies – a cynically hypocritical mixture, known only too well from the annals of the Russian empire – he serve his patrons more honestly by attempting to competently teach the truth. Wherever the truth might take him. After all, this is how we do it "here in Queens."

**Bohdan Rubchak**  
Chicago

*The writer is professor of Slavic literatures at the University of Illinois at Chicago.*

### Veryovka's repertoire: Russian or Ukrainian?

Dear Editor:

Here are my comments on the article "Russian or Ukrainian?" by Helen Smindak (February 18).

Yevhen Hrebinka had written "Black Eyes" (Chernye Ochy) in Russian (1843). He was a Ukrainian, but as many Ukrainian writers of that period he wrote some of his works in Ukrainian and some in Russian (e.g., the novel "Chaikovsky").

Therefore the poem "Black Eyes" has

a Ukrainian connection because its author was a Ukrainian. On the other hand, as literary work is concerned, it definitely belongs to Russian literature and not Ukrainian as it was written in Russian.

Thomas Moore (1779-1852) had written "Those Evening Bells" and it appeared in his collection "National Airs" (Melodies from other Nations, 1818-1827), Russian chapter. A Russian translation of "Those Evening Bells" was made by poet Ivan Kozlov (1779-1840).

Therefore Thomas Moore knew the melody of this song and gave it an English text. As his Russian chapter included songs of the Russian empire, Ukrainian melodies were not distinguished from Russian ones. I do not have Z. Lysko's "Ukrainian Folk Melodies," but if his text of "Vechernyi Dzvyn" is similar to T. Moore's, then probably the Ukrainian text was taken from T. Moore or from its Russian translation by I. Kozlov. If the text is different, that would indicate an original Ukrainian song.

**Andrij D. Solczanyk**  
Media, Pa.

### Ukrainian Canadians have right to speak

Dear Editor:

D.H. Struk in his letter (February 11) advises Ukrainians to "remain neutral" on the current Quebec debate, if they are unable to "empathize with Quebecers."

Many Ukrainians, as Prof. Struk knows, also define themselves as Canadians and have the same rights as other Canadians to participate in a pressing debate in which the future of the country will be decided. It would be erroneous to see this as an altercation between the Anglo-Saxons and the French, although often the rhetoric seems to illustrate this view.

If part of what motivates Prof. Struk is a repugnance for anti-French sentiment, he is to be lauded. Ukrainians have long been caricatured, stereotyped and subject to bigotry and thus should not subject any other race to this kind of treatment. My experience here in Quebec, however, leads me to be rather proud of Ukrainians. I don't know any Ukrainians who are not fluent in French, or who do not understand the struggle of the Quebecois for the preservation of their culture. Even the older people, who were not born here, speak French, and though it may be broken, as is their English, their effort is a testament of respect. As Ukrainians it would seem logical that we should be sensitive to the Quebec dilemma. However, it would be inaccurate not to recognize historical differences between Ukraine and Canada.

It is indeed true that in the past the Catholic Church in Quebec, local elites and an Anglo Establishment arrogance rendered the Quebecois people mute. But the Quiet Revolution of the past 35 years has been a resounding success. Quebecers are not oppressed today in 1996.

There are no longer wage disparities between Francophones and Anglophones living in the province. The majority of managerial positions, and almost all civil service posts, are held by Francophones, who make up 83 percent of the population of Quebec. Francophones very often outshine other Canadians in the arts and sports, and in many other fields, and intellectual life in Quebec is sophisticated and stimulating. (I do not know if the

situation of "Ukrainians in Halychyna under Poland" was ever comparable to this.)

But the important point is that advocating a federalist position does not preclude recognizing that Quebecers are a nation, or that they deserve empathy. Half of the citizens of Quebec, if not more, are federalists, as the recent results have shown. Perhaps the demands of Quebecers can be met by further decentralization of some portfolios, opening up the Constitution is another alternative, and some have suggested special status for Quebec. Canada is a country that has more than one nation living in it. The problem is that a solution will require the cooperation of all Canadians.

But any honest discussion of Quebec separatism and empathy for Quebecers must raise the issue of the native nations that have lived here for over 10 centuries. The Cree of Northern Quebec recently held their own referendum and overwhelmingly voted to remain a part of Canada if Quebecers voted "yes" to separation in the next referendum, which will probably take place in a year or two.

Because they are not wealthy and powerful, the natives and their genuine grievances are too often swept to the margins. Yet, here we see real dispossession, urgency and great disparity compared to the rest of the population.

The situation in Quebec is not simple; three groups are essentially claiming the same territory: the natives, the separatists and the federalists. Separation from Canada may invite the partition of Quebec. It will be hard not to give sympathy to the aboriginal nations of Northern Quebec, and to give it only to the Quebecois.

It is a pity that the Canadian ideals of bilingualism and multiculturalism and tolerance for minorities have been so steadily assaulted by some narrow-minded Canadians who have no patience for French, who see bilingualism as a waste of money, and who want English only in their part of Canada, and separatists on the other side, whose goal is to create a unilingual French state that does not really accord much place to a multicultural dimension. Don't we all get so much less in this scenario?

Roy Romanow, the premier of Saskatchewan, summarized it best in a talk with Bernard Landry of the Parti Quebecois on October 30, 1995, when he said: "I'm a good Saskatchewanian, a good Canadian and a good Ukrainian. All at the same time. And there is no conflict."

It is precisely the possibility for this kind of cosmopolitan identity and multilingual daily experience that makes me so proud to be a Quebecer, a Canadian and a Ukrainian. It would be a great disappointment if the Canadian experiment should fail. We would all lose. Surely, it should be possible for a diverse Canada to continue existing and flourishing.

Ukrainians should not remain neutral. They should actively debate this issue amongst themselves in forums and seminars. This issue needs the input of all Canadians. And Ukrainians should take their rightful place in Canada and contribute at a very crucial historical moment.

**Fran Ponomarenko**  
Montreal

**The Ukrainian Weekly welcomes letters to the editor. Letters should be typed (double-spaced) and signed; they must be originals, not photocopies.**

**The daytime phone number and address of the letter-writer must be given for verification purposes.**



## Summer Institute at Harvard offers new politics course

CAMBRIDGE, Mass. – The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute will welcome a new teacher for its politics course. Dr. James Ivan Clem will teach a course titled "Ukrainian Politics in Transition."

Dr. Clem recently received his Ph.D. in political science from the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor and currently holds a post-doctoral fellowship at the Harvard University Russian Research Center. His doctoral dissertation was on the development of Ukrainian political parties since independence.

In his dissertation, titled "The Life of the Parties: Party Activism in Lviv and Donetsk, Ukraine," Dr. Clem examined the growth of local party organizations in Lviv and Donetsk and conducted a survey of party activists in those two cities. He spent 10 months in Lviv during the 1993-1994 academic year and traveled extensively throughout Ukraine, as well as Eastern Europe.

Dr. Clem, 28, was raised in Miami. His mother, Zweneslava Zapor Clem, is Ukrainian, and his grandmother, Daria Zapor Baron, lives down the street from the Ukrainian National Association resort, Soyuzivka, in Kerhonkson, N.Y. Dr. Clem's father, Ralph Scott Clem, is a professor of international relations at Florida International University in Miami and is well known for his publications on demographic problems of the former Soviet Union, including Ukraine.

On his most recent trip to Ukraine, Dr. Clem, along with his grandmother and uncle, had the opportunity to go to his grandmother's village near Ternopil and meet his relatives for the first time.

Growing up in South Florida, Dr. Clem was a member of the Ukrainian Dancers of Miami for eight years. He graduated as valedictorian of his class at Miami Killian Senior High School. In 1989 he graduated from Swarthmore College with a degree in political science, receiving high honors and being inducted into the Phi Beta Kappa national honor society.

Dr. Clem plans to pursue a university teaching career and to continue to study Ukrainian political issues such as party development, the growth of interest groups, public opinion and foreign policy.

"We are very pleased to have Dr. Clem on our faculty this year," said the director of the Ukrainian Research Institute, Prof. George G. Grabowicz. "It is fitting to mark 25 years of the Summer Institute's work by appointing a member of the latest generation of American scholars to focus on Ukraine, its history and its culture."

Dr. Clem joins a highly qualified team at this year's summer school: Dr. Solomea Pavlychko, senior research fellow at the Academy of Sciences of Ukraine, will teach a course on Ukrainian literature; and Dr. Borys Gudziak, director of the Institute of Church History at the Lviv Theological Academy, will teach a course on modern Ukrainian history. Also included in the program are three Ukrainian language teachers: Halyna Hryn, Harvard University; Natalia Shostak, University of Alberta; and Taras Koznarsky, Harvard University.

For more information about the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute's summer program call (617) 495-7833, or send e-mail to: hryn @fas.harvard.edu.

## Chornobyl conference slated for Columbia and Yale

NEW YORK – On April 8-9, the Harriman Institute at Columbia University and the Center for Russian and East European Studies at Yale will co-host a two-day conference to examine the long-term impact of the Chornobyl nuclear accident and to address the broad spectrum of environmental and medical crises that continue to plague Ukraine, Belarus and neighboring countries.

The conference will bring together some of the leading international experts on Chornobyl's aftermath. Among these will be Prof. David Marples of the University of Alberta, Dr. Alexander Sich of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), and Dr. Murray Feshbach, author of the groundbreaking treatise titled "Ecocide in the USSR."

The opening panel will also include Alla Yaroshinska, the award-winning journalist who uncovered secret internal memos from the Soviet Politburo which proved that the government covered up the widespread incidence of acute radiation sickness among thousands of Chornobyl victims. The "secret protocols" were published in *Izvestiya* and provided conclusive evidence that then President Mikhail Gorbachev was fully informed of the scope of the accident and that he deliberately tried to mislead the public and the Western news media about the severity of the threat to public health and safety.

The first day of the conference, from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., will be held at the Luce Center for International Studies at 32 Hillhouse Ave., on the Yale Campus in New Haven, Conn.

On April 9 the conference will reconvene at 9 a.m. at Altschul Auditorium at

the School for International and Public Affairs, 420 W. 118th St. (ground floor) at Columbia University.

"We hope that this will be much more than a retrospective on the events of 1986," said Prof. Mark Von Hagen, director of the Harriman Institute and a leading scholar on Ukrainian affairs. "The legacy of Chornobyl continues, and this conference is planned as a constructive step in the quest for solutions to the many problems still affecting the contaminated regions."

Titled "Chornobyl Challenge '96" the conference is part of the nationwide campaign being mobilized under the same name to commemorate the 10th anniversary of the Chornobyl accident.

"Chornobyl is one of the most daunting challenges confronting the scientific community and global policy-makers," said Alex Kuzma, coordinator of the Chornobyl Challenge '96 coalition and director of development for the Children of Chornobyl Foundation.

"Beyond the immediate need for medical relief, the nations of Ukraine and Belarus are facing the massive task of cleaning up thousands of acres of contaminated land and irradiated equipment left over from the 1986 emergency. They also need to reduce their dependency on Soviet-built reactors, which everyone agrees are dangerously substandard, and to develop benign energy alternatives," he added.

A special workshop on Ukraine's energy policy will explore the potential for greater energy efficiency in the industrial sector, biomass and other promising technologies.

"We hope to offer useful insights and

perspectives based on the successes of Western environmental programs, and the initiatives of other developing nations," said Susan Holmes, program director for the conference at Columbia University. "We also need to remain sensitive to the unique circumstances surrounding Chornobyl and the unprecedented nature of this accident."

Numerous government officials from Ukraine and the United States are also scheduled to address the conference. These include U.S. Sen. Joseph I. Lieberman (D-Conn.) and Rep. Benjamin Gilman (R-N.Y.), chairman of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. Both have been outspoken advocates of greater U.S. assistance to the Chornobyl region.

Also featured will be Deputy Volodymyr Yavorivsky, a prominent member of the Ukrainian Parliament and a former commissioner for Chornobyl relief efforts, and Vice-Prime Minister Vasyl Durdynets, chairman of humanitarian affairs in the Ukrainian government's Cabinet of Ministers.

Principal funding for the conference has been provided by Columbia University with a supporting grant from the Shevchenko Scientific Society. The cost of admission to the conference will be \$35 per person for both days, or \$20 per day. Admission will be free for students and faculty with valid Columbia or Yale University identification.

For more information, contact Susan Holmes at the Harriman Institute, (212) 854-8487; Ellis Mishulovich at the Yale Center for East European Studies, (203) 432-3423, or the Children of Chornobyl Foundation, (201) 376-5140.

## Program brings 12 Ukrainian deputies to U.S.

by Olenka Dobczanska

WASHINGTON – A 12-member delegation from the Supreme Council of Ukraine arrived on January 21 in the U.S. to participate in a 10-day study program on legislative rules and procedures coordinated by Indiana University and the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation as part of the Parliamentary Development Program (PDP).

This is the first trip organized for Ukrainian parliamentarians to the United States under the auspices of PDP, a three-year project funded by the United States Agency for International Development.

The delegation was led by Petro Sheiko, chairman of the Committee on Rules, Parliamentary Ethics and Council Administration in the Ukrainian Parliament. Oleksander Steshenko, chairman of the Committee on State Development, Local Representative Councils and Self-Governance, was the other member of the Supreme Council's Presidium.

Other deputies included Volodymyr Nemyrovskij, Mykola Chumak, Mykola Karnaukh, Volodymyr Tkachenko, Yevhen Zhrebetsky and Yuri Sherenin. Parliament staff participants were Yuri Skalyha, Anatoly Selivanov, Ivan Shaporenko and Leonid Yakovyshyn.

Bohdan Radejko, program manager of the PDP in Kyiv, and Pavlo Kyslyj and Oleksander Barabash, former deputies themselves and PDP staff members who work actively with deputies on developing rules and procedures for legislation in the Supreme Council, accompanied the deputies on their trip to Washington. The PDP had prepared the deputies for discussion of a number of issues regarding legislative rules and procedures.

The group met with various U.S. government leaders, among whom were Rep. Gerald Solomon (R-N.Y.), chairman of the Committee on Rules; Rep. Charles Stenholm (D-Texas), member of the

Budget Committee; Rep. Steve Horn (R-Calif.) from the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight; as well as Rep. Frank Wolf (R-Va.), Rep. Robert Walker (R-Pa.), and Rep. Fred Upton (R-Mich.).

They also met with Charles Johnson, parliamentarian of the U.S. House of Representatives (Mr. Sheiko's counterpart), Ron Moe from the Congressional Research Service, and Barbara Brasher from the House Investigative Council on Oversight.

At several sessions at the General Accounting Office (GAO), they met Director Peter Aliferis, Comptroller General Charles Bowsher and Director of Congressional Relations Helen Hsing. From the Executive Branch they met with Philip Lader, administrator of the Small Business Administration, and Richard Morningstar, chief coordinator of U.S. assistance programs at Department of State.

A highlight of the trip was attendance at President Bill Clinton's State of the Union Address on January 23. Afterwards the group had the opportunity to observe both senators and representatives interact with the press. They also happened to see several notable individuals by chance in Statutory Hall, among whom were Hillary and Chelsea Clinton, and Sens. Richard Gephardt and Ted Kennedy.

On January 26, the deputies spent a day in Annapolis, Md., where they were formally greeted by Mike Miller, president of the Maryland State Senate, and witnessed the opening session of the Maryland State Legislature. They also had a fruitful meeting with William Ratchford, the head of financial services for the Maryland State Legislature.

The agenda in the United States was prepared by William Brown, retired parliamentarian of the U.S. House of Representatives and lead advisor for the PDP's Working Group for Legislative Processes, and Motrya Mac Hunia, PDP

program manager in Washington. Mr. Brown made use of his extensive contacts to arrange what the deputies called a very informative, non-repetitive series of meetings specifically tailored to their needs.

Nadia McConnell, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, welcomed the group, accompanied and guided them throughout their trip.

Between meetings and working sessions, the group visited several national monuments, and got a sample of American culture at a performance of the National Symphony at the Kennedy Center and a Washington Bullets basketball game. En route to discussion sessions at the home of Mr. Brown, they visited several historic homes such as James Monroe's house and the home of the old Virginian aristocratic Carter family. Mr. and Mrs. McConnell hosted a reception at their home, giving guests an opportunity for more informal interaction with the Ukrainians.

In their comments and written evaluations the deputies and their staff members expressed satisfaction with their study visit. Sessions that dealt with rules, legislative procedures, financial management and executive oversight scored high marks.

Prof. Selivanov reported that it was "the most effective program" he had attended, which was very beneficial for him as the chief consultant of the secretariat of the Committee on Finance and Banking, and noted that he was "completely satisfied with the content and organization" of the visit.

For more information about the PDP or the U.S.-Ukraine Foundation, a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) organization promoting democratic and economic reforms in Ukraine, contact the foundation's headquarters at 1511 K St. NW, Suite 1100, Washington, DC 20005; telephone (202) 347-4264; fax (202) 347-4267; e-mail ukraine@access.digex.net.



## THE ART SCENE: Soros-funded gallery promotes visual culture

by Marta Kuzma

KYIV — The Soros Center for Contemporary Art Gallery is the first gallery in Ukraine devoted to a comprehensive and continuing program of contemporary visual art. And, it is the only physical gallery structure that philanthropist George Soros has funded in the region, marking a substantial financial commitment on his part devoted to promoting contemporary visual culture in the country.

The commitment to fund such a gallery came out of a personal discussion with Mr. Soros at the Venice Biennale in 1993 that related to the lack of a logical infrastructure for the development of contemporary art in Ukraine. Following a two-year search for an appropriate location, and a series of conversations with Viacheslav Brukhovetsky of the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy on the benefits of housing a contemporary art institution on the grounds of a university, the decision was made to create the future SCCA Gallery within the original academic corpus of the Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, a building dating from the 17th century.

Following a seven-month period of renovation and restoration, the gallery opened to the public on October 29, 1995. Formally referred to as the Soros Center

*Marta Kuzma is director of the Soros Center for Contemporary Art in Kyiv.*



Students of the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy hear a lecture by Peter Doroshenko and Marta Kuzma.

for Contemporary Art at the University of Kyiv-Mohyla Academy, the center will serve as a forum for experimentation for a younger generation of Ukrainian artists.

As well, it will serve as a site for comprehensive exhibitions that survey major movements in the development of contemporary art in Ukraine. Such proposals include an exhibition examining the movement related to non-conformist paintings from the 1960s and 1970s in

Ukraine; and an exhibition titled "Southern Cool," which will examine the Conceptualist Movement in Odessa dating from the late 1970s through the 1980s.

Within the first three months of its gallery activity, the SCCA held three exhibitions. The fall exhibition, titled "Bred in the Bone," opened in November 1995 and explored the role of memory and nostalgia in forming perception. Participating artists presented works that

integrated adapting cultural forms, several drawing out of a painterly tradition and others from a technical one (i.e. from photography and film).

Work exhibited included that of artists Oleh Tistol (participant in the 1994 Sao Paulo Biennale), Mykola Matsenko, Iliya Chichkan (participant of the major international art exhibition "Manifesta,"

(Continued on page 16)

## Collection of works celebrates "100 years" of the Bu-Ba-Bu

by Mark Andryczyk

*Special to The Ukrainian Weekly*

LVIV — Bu-Ba-Bu. To many this may sound like the cry of a wounded child. To those familiar with contemporary Ukrainian culture, however, these three syllables conjure up a world of fantasy, humor and reflection. Bu-Ba-Bu stands for "burlesque, balagan, buffonada," and is the name chosen by of a group of western Ukrainian poets.

The Bu-Ba-Bu was formed in Lviv in April 1985. It consists of Yuri Andrukhovych from Ivano-Frankivske,

Viktor Neborak from Lviv and Oleksander Irvanets from Rivne. The group was formed as a means of existence in the waning days of the Soviet Union with a goal of presenting a carnivalized interpretation of life's events and emotions.

Since then, its members have been instrumental in escorting contemporary, avant-garde Ukrainian culture to its public debut. They have organized numerous evenings of poetry and helped stage various music and art festivals, including Vvykh and Reberytatsia.

Each of the three members of the Bu-Ba-Bu has previously been published individually, and their works have appeared together in several literary journals including Suchasnist, Chetver and Zustrichi.

Until now, however, no publication has included the works of all three Bu-Ba-Bu members exclusively in one book. "Tvory" (Works) was released in the fall of 1995 to commemorate the celebration of 100 years of the Bu-Ba-Bu (their ages, when added together, equal 100).

The 255-page "Tvory" is broken up, by author, into three sections. It was published in Lviv by Kameniar Publishers with a circulation of 2,000 and is illustrated by Lviv artist and long-time Bu-Ba-Bu collaborator Vlodko Kaufman.

Mr. Andrukhovych, the "patriarch" of the Bu-Ba-Bu, fills his section with new works as well as old. Many of the old works first appeared in his individual collection, "Exotic Birds and Plants." What Mr. Andrukhovych does in his section, as do the other Bu-Ba-Bu's, is reorganize previously published poems and combine them under new themes.

For example, "Tvory" includes a chapter titled "Samilo Nemyrych and Other Bandits." It is the story of a 17th century bandit who, in pied-piper fashion, holds the city of Lviv hostage by releasing into the city a group of exotic animals from a traveling zoo and demanding a ransom for their return. In the framework of this story, Mr. Andrukhovych re-introduces his writings about exotic animals ("Yekhydna," "Hryphon," "Yedynorih"), infusing them with a series of prose works including "Richka," "Dukh" and "Kolo."

Mr. Andrukhovych's writings often describe a medieval fantasy world, and "Tvory" also includes an excerpt from his second novella, "Recreation," titled "Vechirka z Monstramy."

Mr. Irvanets, on the other hand, deals with more contemporary topics. Of all the members of the Bu-Ba-Bu, his works are the most political. His politics, however, are usually presented in a humorous light.

In his poems Mr. Irvanets often borrows words from other languages, including English, to comical effect. His "Lubit" (Love) is a parody on Sosiura's "Lubit Ukrainu" (Love Ukraine), where he commands the readers to love the state of Oklahoma and other states.

In "Tvory," Mr. Irvanets also includes "A Small Play About Betrayal for One Actress," whose first staging he designates to Kyiv theatrical director Serhiy Proskurnia and his theater-group Budmo.

Mr. Neborak's section, at 100 pages, is the most extensive of the three. His section distinguishes itself from the others by including essays on language and poetry as well as a short, nostalgic look back at the 1980s Lviv cafe society.

Under the subtitle "Shlagery," he groups poems that have been popularized as texts in well-known Ukrainian pop/rock songs. Lviv musicians often use Mr. Neborak's poems as texts for their songs (e.g. Viktor Morozov, Plach Yermiyi, Mertviy Piven).

"Shlagery" is an attempt to present these works once again as poems, as they were originally written. Mr. Neborak himself fronts an avant-garde rock band, Neborock. Through this project, he strives to unite text and sound in the traditions of the ultimate independent artist — the Ukrainian bard.

Mr. Neborak's section borrows somewhat from his individual publication "Litayucha Holova," "Alter Ego" and "Rozmova Zi Sluhoyo," but contains mostly new writings, including a series of letters and collection of sonnets. At the end of his section, Mr. Neborak previews a chapter from his upcoming novel "Mr. Bazio and the Others."

In all, "Tvory" is a comprehensive, cleverly organized masterpiece from the creative genius of the Bu-Ba-Bu. It provides for a highly entertaining read and serves as an almanac chronicling the Ukrainian literary movement in the decade before the country's independence. As one of the last books published that covers the Ukrainian colonial era, "Tvory" is certain to become as legendary as the Bu-Ba-Bu already are.

Limited copies of "Tvory" are available through the Yeezhak Group. Call (610) 530-8946 for information.



An autographed ticket stub from an evening celebrating Bu-Ba-Bu's "100 years."



## INTERVIEW: Zoloti Vorota director on theater

by Irena Koval

KYIV — There is no doubt which theater caught the critics' attention during the summer of 1995 at Edinburgh's International Theater Festival. Kyiv's Zoloti Vorota Theater earned the highest rating of five stars for its adaptation of Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment, The Murderer."

The excerpts from critical reviews speak for themselves:

"This phantasmagoria is a privilege to see. It reminds us of what drama is or ought to be about." — The Scotsman.

"It is the very physical images and tight ensemble which gives the play its tremendous power...This is a highly disciplined and focused group of actors, who urge you to feel the pain as they do." — Edinburgh Evening News.

"A terrifying atmospheric piece of choric ensemble theater that taps into the post-Soviet sense of what it means to live in a moral and economic jungle, where 'power is granted only to him who dares to stoop to pick it up.'" — Scotland on Sunday.

This is the second year that theater in Kyiv is gaining recognition. Last summer two theaters were singled out at the Edinburgh festival. Theater on Podol drew plaudits and crowds with "Midsummer Night's Dream" and "Iago"; Kyiv's actress Liudmilla Limar introduced Shevchenko to Edinburgh and electrified audiences with her adaptation of "Vidma."

This writer interviewed the Zoloti Vorota Theater's artistic director, Valery Patsunov, in Kyiv.

**What is your reaction to the critic's ovations at the festival?**

If I were a critic I wouldn't have been so generous with the stars. I know that our theater has room for improvement.

**"The Murderer" has been running in Kyiv for four years. Why did you decide to dramatize Dostoyevsky?**

First of all, he's a genius and it's always interesting to work with a genius. Secondly, he gave me the impulse to create drama in a metaphorical direction.

**How did you prepare to stage your play in Edinburgh, bearing in mind that the majority of your audience would not be able to understand the words?**

The stylistic aspect of our theater is classic and evokes the essence of the play; the emphasis is on metaphor rather

than story line. Secondly, a third of the play was acted in English.

**One critic commented that "The Murderer" is "acted in the style of Greek theater and that intensity of passion characteristic of Russian theater. This company is Ukrainian and that identity only adds to the unbridled power of this production." Do you agree with that?**

I don't agree with the first part. The chorus which the Greek theater introduced has undergone complex changes. In this play, for example, the chorus has taken on the function of dramatizing the environment in which Raskolnikov develops. The chorus re-enacts the inner workings of Raskolnikov's mind; his motivation is recreated by living actors.

**How does the phantasmagorical world of Raskolnikov mirror the current upheaval in values in Ukraine today?**

I adapted "Crime and Punishment" five years ago, before the fall of the Soviet empire. However, there are similarities between the crisis in tsarist Russia and today's social upheaval, which in Dostoyevsky constitutes a moral crisis. The vision in "The Murderer" is apocalyptic, it speaks universally and it begins in the soul. Dostoyevsky's vision was on a different plane from an analysis of a particular social or political situation.

**But doesn't your play still reflect the current moral dilemma in Ukraine today?**

Yes, the theme and conflicts certainly do run parallel with the present situation.

**Did you have a chance to see any other productions while you were in Edinburgh?**

We had very little time outside of working on our own production. I did see a few American theaters, which I found lacking a spiritual dimension. However, I was impressed with the technical aspects of their production. I hope to have more free time next summer to get a fuller sense of what other theaters are offering.

**What are you planning to take to Edinburgh in 1996?**

We have been invited back to stage "The Murderer." The festival organizers have heard about our staging of Albert Camus' "Caligula." So we may bring that to Edinburgh, although we still have a

year to make a decision.

**In your estimation what is the state of theater in Kyiv today?**

I respect the work of my colleagues in the theater because they are working under impossible conditions. In order to be an artistic director of a theater in Ukraine today one needs to tap a superhuman fund of energy. As far as traditional theaters in Kyiv go, they have already fired the remains of their arsenal; as for the new experimental theaters, they are in the throes of self-discovery and haven't found themselves yet.

**Directors, actors in Ukraine have very limited contact with Western theater. How does this isolation influence their work, positively and negatively?**

I see nothing positive about the isolation. It has a very negative influence. In the Slavic world, the psychological level of theater is the highest in the world, and the West has something to learn from us. We need to learn the technical virtuosity available in the West. We have a long way to go in learning about the technical aspects of staging a play. So theater in Ukraine and theater in the West have a great many aspects with which to enrich one another.

**I have noticed that the theater-going public in Kyiv is, on the whole, much younger than in the West.**

I can't make that comparison because I've been in the West so seldom. Yes, our theater public is young. You're right. There are a great many social problems facing older people here today. The last thing on their mind is theater.

**When American dramatist Arthur Miller was asked what the role of theater was he answered, "Life is so chaotic that there is hardly time to look closely at human nature. Theater gives the viewer a chance to look under the superficial layer of existence and understand himself and thus improve his own life." To conclude our talk, would you comment on Miller's statement?**

I can't agree with Miller more. Theater is the only place today where a person can sit down and think about himself, his existence. Theater is the only place where a person gathers with hundreds of others; it is a refuge from solitude, from death, because a person is enriched by his sharing the experience of drama with others.

## DRAMA REVIEW: Kurbas Theater's 'Games for Faust'

by Julie-Anne Franko

NEW YORK — In both Dostoyevsky's "Crime and Punishment" and Goethe's "Faust," the theme of transgression — of crossing over the boundaries of traditional mores — tests the limits and limitations of a man's route to finding happiness and satisfaction.

In the Lviv-based Les Kurbas Theater's production of "Games for Faust" on February 23 at Columbia University's



Yuriy Tarnawsky

Oleh Drach as Svidrigaylov.

Katherine Bache Miller Theater, director Volodymyr Kuchynsky insightfully fused the two works' themes. Accordingly, his production crossed over a number of theatrical and international boundaries, and struck upon a multitude of universal chords.

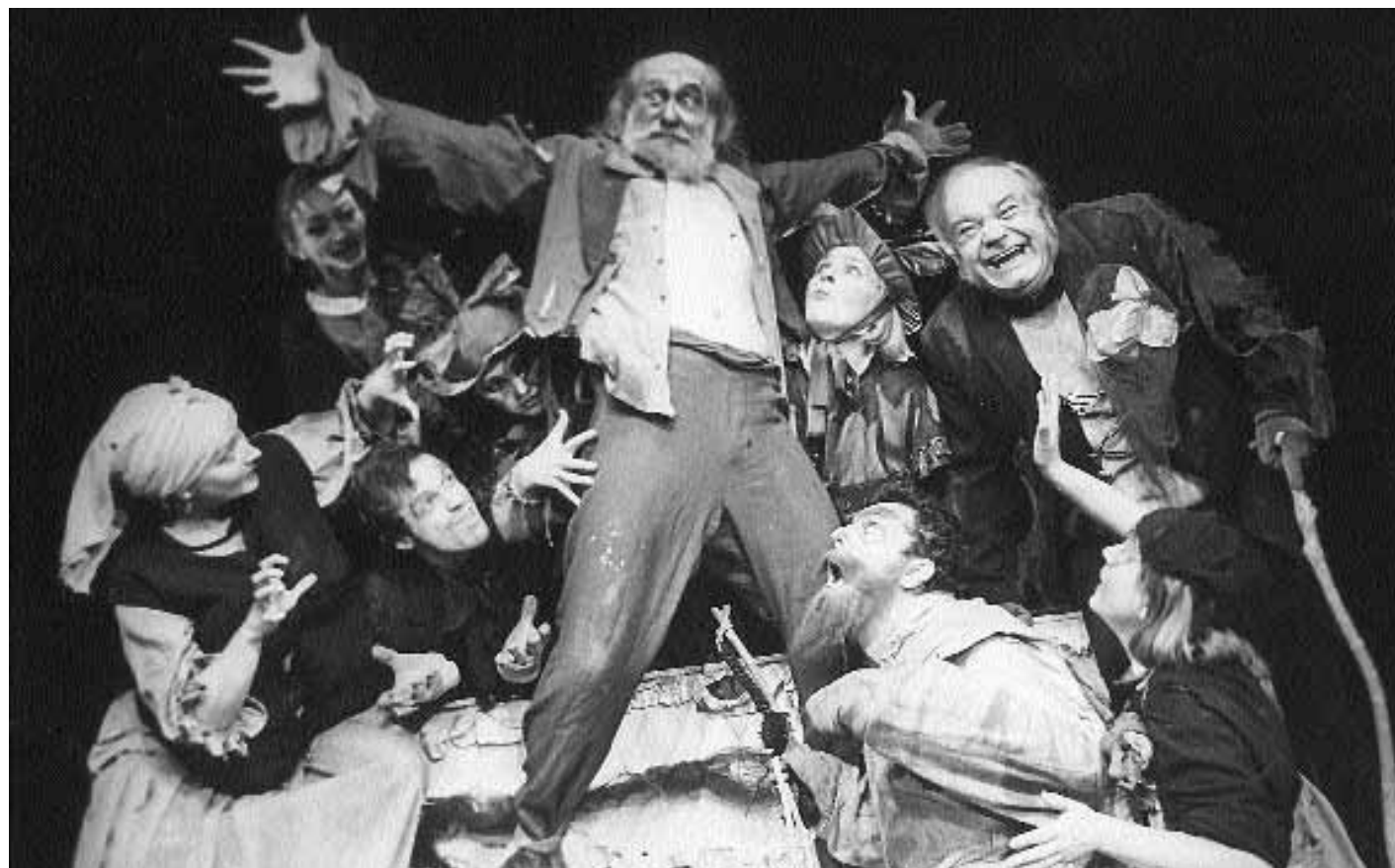
The text for "Games for Faust," which was presented in Ukrainian with an English synopsis and ran for two uninterrupted hours to a diverse audience, was directly taken from scenes of a Ukrainian translation of "Crime and Punishment." This production mostly hinged upon the meeting between the student Raskolnikov (Andriy Vodychev), who is living with the murders of his landlady and her sister on his conscience, and Svidrigaylov (Oleh Drach), who knows of and plays upon Raskolnikov's guilt.

Through a series of games and dream-like fantasies, the dynamic of Raskolnikov's struggle between good and evil established Mr. Vodychev's Raskolnikov as both an intellectual land-loper and a truth-seeker against Mr. Drach's Svidrigaylov, who took on the qualities of Goethe's devil Mephistopheles.

In his portrayal of the parallels between Svidrigaylov and Mephistopheles, Mr. Drach's performance was impeccable. In the context of the latter's whimsical personal, Mr. Drach beguiled his captive audience with a variety of flamboyant traits that ranged from a devil-may-care donning of a live mouse, to his pushing characters over the boundaries of the stage and into the nether-world of the audience, or to conjuring up Hellenic-type women. Through all these escapades, Mr.

(Continued on page 18)

Julie-Anne Franko is an M.F.A. candidate at Yale University's department of dramaturgy and dramatic criticism.



The Zoloti Vorota Theater's production of "The Murderer," performed at the Edinburgh International Theater Festival.







## Performers join forces in concert to benefit The Ukrainian Museum

NEW YORK — A concert to benefit The Ukrainian Museum in New York City will be held on Sunday, March 31, at 3 p.m. at the Merkin Concert Hall, 129 W. 67th St.

The concert will feature baritone Oleh Chmyr, soprano Ludmyla Djoï, cellist Natalia Khoma, the New American Trio, pianists Mykola Suk and Volodymyr Vynnytsky, bass Stefan Szkafarowsky and actress Svitlana Vatamaniuk. Oksana Protenic and Mr. Vynnytsky will provide piano accompaniment.

The program will consist of the works of composers Gaspar Cassado, Frederic Chopin, Franz Joseph Haydn, Mykola Kolessa, Hryhorij Kytastyj, Franz Liszt, Mykola Lysenko, Yuriy Orlov, Gioacchino Antonio Rossini and Ihor Sonevsky.

Mr. Chmyr, baritone, a graduate of the Moscow Conservatory, has appeared in leading roles at the Kyiv Opera, the Lviv Opera, the Bolshoi Opera and at the Wrocław Opera in Poland. Mr. Chmyr specializes in German lieder and was awarded a special prize in the Glinka International Competition.

Ms. Djoï, soprano, is a graduate of the State Conservatory of Music in Odessa. Since 1992 she has made numerous operatic appearances with the State Philharmonic Society, the Theater of Musical Comedy and the State Conservatory of Music in Odessa.

Ms. Khoma, cellist, studied at the Lviv and Moscow conservatories. She is the winner of top prizes in many international competitions and has appeared extensively as recitalist and soloist with major orchestras throughout Europe, the United States and Canada.

The New American Trio: Vyacheslav Bakis studied piano at the Kyiv State Conservatory, and appeared as soloist and chamber pianist on major stages in Europe. Peter Krysa, son of renowned violinist Oleh Krysa, studied violin at the Royal Conservatory of Music in Toronto and at the Manhattan School of Music in New York City, and has performed at a number of music festivals. Cellist Rachel Lewis Krysa studied at the New England Conservatory, the Juilliard School and at the Guildhall School in London, and has appeared as soloist and chamber player with major orchestras. She and her husband are co-founders and artistic directors of the Lake Winnepesaukee Music Festival.

Ms. Protenic, pianist, studied at the Juilliard School of Music, the Catholic University of America in Washington, abroad in Austria and Italy. She has an

extensive repertoire and is equally at home in an opera house and on a concert stage.

Mr. Suk, pianist, studied at the Kyiv Music School and at the Moscow Conservatory. Winning the Liszt-Bartok International Competition in 1971 gained him international recognition. Mr. Suk has appeared as soloist and chamber musician throughout Europe and made his American debut at Weill Recital Hall in 1991. A brilliant interpreter of traditional and contemporary music, Mr. Suk premiered a number of works written expressly for him.

Mr. Szkafarowsky, bass, studied at the American Opera Center at the Juilliard School of Music and was a regional winner of the Metropolitan Opera Auditions. He quickly made his mark as one of America's promising young artists. He has appeared in important roles on numerous prestigious opera stages such as the Lyric Opera of Chicago, the Dallas Opera, Opera de Montreal, as well as in opera houses in South America. As a concert artist, Mr. Szkafarowsky has performed with such renowned orchestras and conductors as the Pittsburgh Symphony, with Michael Tilson Thomas, the National Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Mstislav Rostropovich, and many others. He is the recipient of the Tito Gobbi Award from the Rosa Ponselle Foundation.

Ms. Vatamaniuk, theater and film actress, studied at the Karpenko-Karyj Institute in Kyiv. Ms. Vatamaniuk has performed throughout Eastern Europe and in the United States. She teaches drama at the Karpenko-Karyj Institute.

Mr. Vynnytsky, pianist, studied at the Lviv Music Institute and the Moscow Conservatory. In 1983 he was a laureate of the Marguerite Long-Jacques Thibaud International Competition in Paris. Mr. Vynnytsky has appeared as a soloist with symphony orchestras in Ukraine, Poland and in the United States, as well as with chamber ensembles.

Tickets for the concert, priced at \$25, may be purchased at The Ukrainian Museum, 203 Second Ave., New York, NY 10003, (212) 228-0110; Surma Book and Music Co., 11 E. Seventh St., New York, NY 10003, (212) 477-0729; and before the concert at the box office.

A reception will be held following the concert at the Conservatory Cafe, in the Mayflower Hotel at 15 Central Park West (between 61st and 62nd streets). Tickets, at \$50, may also be obtained at the museum and at Surma.



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SATURDAY, MARCH 23, 1996 at 1:00 PM

at St. Michael's Ukrainian Orthodox Church Parish Hall,  
74 Harris Avenue, Woonsocket, R.I.

Obligated to attend the annual meeting as voting members are District Committee Officers, Convention Delegates and two delegates from the following Branches:

73, 93, 122, 177, 206, 241

All UNA members are welcome as guests at the meeting.

MEETING WILL BE ATTENDED BY:

Alexander G. Blahitka, UNA Treasurer

DISTRICT COMMITTEE

Leon Hardink, Chairman

Teodor Klowan, Secretary (English)

Yuriy Kalita, Secretary (Ukrainian)

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### To The Weekly Contributors:

We greatly appreciate the materials – feature articles, news stories, press clippings, letters to the editor, and the like – we receive from our readers.

In order to facilitate preparation of The Ukrainian Weekly, we ask that the guidelines listed below be followed.

- News stories should be sent in not later than 10 days after the occurrence of a given event.
- Information about upcoming events must be received one week before the date of The Weekly edition in which the information is to be published.
- All materials must be typed and double-spaced.
- Newspaper and magazine clippings must be accompanied by the name of the publication and the date of the edition.
- Photographs submitted for publication must be black and white (or color with good contrast). Captions must be provided. Photos will be returned only when so requested and accompanied by a stamped, addressed envelope.
- Full names and their correct English spellings must be provided.
- Persons who submit any materials must provide a phone number where they may be reached during the work day if any additional information is required.



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Адреса.....

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## Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

### East Coast GM copes with MS

A lot of guys in the East Coast Hockey League live with the constant fear that their next demotion will be right out of professional hockey. Those are pretty insignificant compared to the fears Pat Pylypuik must reconcile on a daily basis.

Pylypuik, formerly a rugged defenseman for the Lethbridge Hurricanes of the Western League (juniors) and Toledo Storm of the ECHL, and currently the Toledo general manager, was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis in 1993. The Ukrainian managed to play the rest of the 1993-1994 season, helping Toledo to a league championship, before retiring last season to concentrate on a career in management.

Doctors discovered Pylypuik had been afflicted with the disease since 1987. "I woke up one morning and it felt like I had a terrible hangover," said the 25-year-old native of Pinoka, Alberta. "My balance was off, and I would walk down the street and see things moving around. It was actually a relief to find out what it was."

MS is a disease that strikes most people in the prime of life. For reasons unknown, it attacks the nervous system and blocks messages from the brain to other parts of the body. It takes an incredible emotional toll on its victims because, while many can live a full life without major incidents, the victim never knows whether or when the disease will effectively paralyze him. There is no cure.

"If you talked to me two years ago about this, you would have been talking to a complete basket case," Pylypuik said. "But I've accepted it, and I don't see it as a handicap. I have it, I've accepted it, and it's time to move on."

Contrary to what people might think, the disease did not force Pylypuik into retirement or halt his development. On his retirement: "I stopped because the writing was on the wall, and I didn't want to be one of these guys just hanging on." On never being drafted by the NHL: "I just wasn't good enough. I had lots of chances, but I just wasn't good enough."

### Youngest GM in pro hockey

Pat Pylypuik has many words in his

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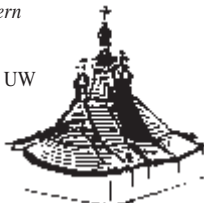
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vocabulary, and none of them are "quit." That is one thing Toledo Storm owner Barry Soskin noticed about Pylypuik on the ice. And that idea has stayed with Pylypuik in the front office.

On January 5, Soskin named Pylypuik the new Storm general manager. He became the youngest GM in professional hockey history.

"The transition was easy," said Soskin. "Last year, Pat excelled at his community relations position. He completely went over and above the responsibilities of that position, which showed me something. He proved to me that he could take on a position with fervor and not quit until the job gets done. He is a class act, he cares, he's responsible, funny, kind and demanding of himself."

Pylypuik was the first Storm player signed by the organization in 1991. As a player, he was part of two ECHL Riley Cup championship teams and one Brabham Cup team during his playing career in Toledo (he played for the Storm from the 1991-1992 inaugural season through the 1993-1994 Riley Cup season). He was selected to represent the Storm in February 1993 in the ECHL's first All-Star game.

Following the 1993-1994 season he retired from professional hockey. He served as community relations director for the 1994-1995 season. He was promoted before the start of this season to assistant to the president, and then became the third general manager in Toledo Storm history.

"As of right now I have set three types of goals for myself," Pylypuik said. "The first one is to work closely with my staff to stay focused in selling out the Sports Arena every night through aggressive group sales and to cut back operating expenses. My second is to continue on learning the business side and at the same time observe Greg Puhalski's running of the hockey operations. My long-term goal is to someday become a coach and general manager in the National Hockey League."

Pat and hockey are a perfect match, just like the Toledo hockey fans and the Storm.

"I was a rink rat growing up and could honestly never see myself outside the game of hockey," Pylypuik said. "I think the curiosity became more prevalent once I started setting up both the business and hockey operations of my summer hockey schools. I see myself as one of the luckiest people around. It's not very often a former player has the opportunity to move into the front office and at the same time continue to be part of the winning tradition here in Toledo."

With this new responsibility in the Storm front office, marriage (Pat married Ukrainian Laura Strezelewicz in September of 1995) and taking over the coaching reins for the Toledo Junior Storm hockey team, how does he manage everything?

"The key to the hectic day-to-day operations is time management," Pylypuik added. "At the end of every day I try and plan the next day ahead of me. For my wife, she has come a long way since her first hockey game when she left after the first period thinking the game was over since all the people were heading down the aisle. As for the Junior Storm, this has to be the most gratifying time away from my job. The kids I coach have come a long way. I honestly believe

(Continued on page 15)



# Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 14)

that one and possibly two will become pros. Kids today are begging for both discipline and direction. Add hard work, and we, as a team, feel that we can reach our goal of going to the nationals.”

If Pylypuik the player needed someone to impress in the Storm organization, he definitely got the right person’s attention in team owner Soskin.

“Pat’s got a huge heart, a lot of grit and character and the penchant for making the most of his abilities,” Soskin said. “He was always sticking up for his teammates, always playing hurt, getting a puck in his face and not missing a shift. This desire exemplifies Pat Pylypuik.”

Soskin has been sort of a mentor for Pylypuik since he moved into the front office. And Soskin’s vision, which brought hockey back to Toledo five years ago, proved he could beat the odds against it. That is something Pylypuik really admires in Soskin.

“Definitely so, Barry has tremendous vision for the future,” Pylypuik said. “You have to admire a person who believed hockey would work in Toledo, five years ago when 99.9 percent said that he was crazy to even think of putting a team here. I don’t think our relationship has changed. Barry expects commitment, hard work and loyalty. Once he sees this in an employee, he allows the individual to take on more responsibility.”

The new general manager of the Storm

has many fond memories of Toledo and will forever love it for what it means to the sport of hockey and the Toledo Storm.

“Toledo has to be the best place to play anywhere and to win two Riley Cups – words cannot describe the excitement and memories,” Pylypuik said. “During my time as a player I was fortunate to play for a colorful coach in Chris McSorley, and with a great bunch of players. The support the fans give is second to none. Toledo is a hockey town from the old school, which is good considering I could count my career goals over three years on one hand.”

Like many young Canadian kids growing up in western Canada, Pylypuik’s goal was to make it in the NHL, and he loved the sport of hockey.

“Hockey has always been my life, from skating at a young age to turning pro,” Pylypuik said. “You know it is great to see guys make it out of our league and get a shot in the NHL.”

Whatever Pylypuik has accomplished in his life has been done with a lot of hard work, and it’s something he thinks is part of every great success story.

“To me hard work is the single most important ingredient in becoming successful,” he said. “Hard work is being able to stay focused, to get the job done even through the days in which you might feel like the captain of the Edmund Fitzgerald.”

Wherever Pylypuik goes in the professional hockey circle, it seems his hard work will continue to provide him many years of success.

## PAT PYLYPUIK

Born: October 16, 1970, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan  
Married: September 1995 to Laura Strezelewicz  
Residence: Toledo, Ohio

Year	Team	Notes
1987	Western Canada	Captain of underage juniors team playing in Czecho-Slovakia
1988-1989	Lethbridge (WHL)	Captain
1990-1991	Minnesota North Stars (NHL) Kalamazoo (IHL) Lethbridge (WHL)	Attended camp Pre-season
1991-1992	Calgary Flames (NHL)  Salt Lake Golden Eagles (IHL) Toledo Storm (ECHL)	Attended camp Pre-season games vs. Edmonton Pre-season games with Team Canada, and Vancouver  First player signed by Storm Brabham Cup Championship
1992-1993	Toledo Storm (ECHL)	ECHL All-Star Riley Cup Championship
1993-1994	Toledo Storm (ECHL)	Riley Cup Championship

# Vitaliy Keis...

(Continued from page 3)

On the other hand, I even had a situation develop in the opposite, e.g., anti-Russian, direction. I had never understood what the expression prevalent during Soviet times “speak a human language” meant. What it means is that Ukrainian was considered an animal language. In any case the administration made a mistake once and misscheduled my and another [Russian] professor’s lecture halls to meet in the same room at the same time. I started teaching a bit early and upon being suddenly disturbed by an angry old professor frantically screaming at me in Russian to leave the room, I told him to “speak like a human being, as I cannot understand you.” Well, the class took that politically; some guys started clapping; it took 15 minutes for the commotion to cease. The class was quite pleased at this, admittedly inadvertent, but significant nonetheless, turning of the tables on “the human language.” Now this professor complained to the rector of the institute, but nothing came of his grumbling.

And to what extent has the institute been Ukrainianized, other than the

philology department and the Novyi Korpus, which according to you are essentially Ukrainianized?

In the early Kravchuk days (i.e., during the presidency of Leonid Kravchuk), the rector ordered that all teaching be done in Ukrainian and many of the departments, though far from all, went over to Ukrainian as the language of instruction. Philosophy, history, physics and math are all taught in Ukrainian now. But other departments continue teaching in Russian. The moment [President Leonid] Kuchma started talking about two official languages, the rector sat on the fence and has since vacillated over the promotion or preservation of Ukrainianization.

Note, however, that no Ukrainianized department has switched back. All school holidays are conducted in Ukrainian. In the institute as such, hard-line Ukrainophobia is, if it at all exists, confined to underground status. But that refers only to the Institute. Outside, on the streets, no one speaks Ukrainian (the result of unrelenting Russification). But the students who are to become teachers of the Ukrainian language or who will teach in Ukrainian, well, they are patriotically inclined people who are using Ukrainian more and more, even in public.



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## Soros-funded gallery...

(Continued from page 10)

which will open in the Netherlands in June), Boris Mikhailov (participant in the upcoming Sydney Biennale in July), Serhiy Bratkov, Oleksandr Hnilitski and Julia Kissina. Film work by the French filmmaker Patrick Bokanowski dating from the 1970s was shown during the exhibition.

The SCCA program in Kyiv received a separate grant from the Open Society Institute in January 1995 for the purpose of organizing the first international workshop for young curators from the former Soviet bloc. In tandem with the fall exhibition, the SCCA Gallery hosted the program, which included 23 curators from such countries as Ukraine, Russia, Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovakia, Yugoslavia, Croatia, Slovenia, Bulgaria, Romania, Albania.

Lecturers for the program included Peter Osbourne, lecturer of philosophy at Middlesex University in London, who spoke on the topic "Beyond Traditional Aesthetics: From Art History to Visual Culture"; Peter Doroshenko, an American of Ukrainian descent and former curator at the Museum of Contemporary Art in Houston; Lynne Cooke, curator at DIA Center for Visual Arts in New York; Vasif Kortun, director of the museum at the Center for Curatorial Studies at Bard College in Annandale on Hudson, N.Y.; Jonathan Watkins, curator at the Serpentine Gallery in London; Bart de Baere, former curator for Dokumenta in Kassel, and curator of the Dutch Representation at the 1995 Venice Biennale; Geert Lovink, media theoretician and former editor of Media Matic in Amsterdam; Martine Mounot, video curator at the Center Georges Pompidou in Paris; and Matthias Flugge, editor of Neue Bildene Kunst in Berlin.

The results of the workshop were positive in many ways, specifically in securing several Ukrainian artists the opportunity to participate in premiere international art exhibitions in the future year.

The second, more light hearted, gallery event was titled "The Hermetic Forest." This event provided artists the opportunity to creatively manifest the traditional decoration of the Christmas Tree. The public was requested to celebrate outdoors in the snow, while the art objects, the "trees," were placed throughout the gallery interi-

or. Over 10 artists were invited to realize their creativity, the results of which included a whirling tree titled "The Frantic Christmas Tree," which spun continuously in full revolution; "The Red-Hot Christmas Tree," decorated by eight video monitors, each conveying a rose-toned, fire accompanied by full visual effects; "The Tree of Lost Memory," surrounded by a prism of neon tubes; and many others. A large Christmas tree stood in the main gallery, and the entire artistic community from Kyiv, Odessa, Kharkiv and Lviv was invited to hang ornaments. Visitors were greeted by mulled wine and candles on the grounds of the gallery.

The most recent exhibition, titled "The Colonization of the Object," included work by Tamara Babak from Kyiv and Oleksandr Lisovsky from Odessa. Ms. Babak is an artist who creates large-scale objects from willow branches by traditional methods applied to Gobelin weaving. Mr. Lisovsky utilizes antique and found objects, integrating them into assemblages illuminated by artificial light sources. "Colonization" refers not only to the aura of the exhibition, which hints of a time at the turn of the last century, but also focuses on the art process applied by each artist.

Further plans for the SCCA Gallery include an exhibition of video art to be held in June of this year, and a full retrospective of the work of Boris Mikhailov from Kharkiv, a photo-artist who recently had personal exhibitions at the Portikus Gallery in Frankfurt, the Kunsthalle in Zurich, and the Institute of Contemporary Art in Philadelphia (November 1995). This exhibition will mark the artist's first full retrospective.

The SCCA Board continues to include such notable figures as Konstantin Akinsha, contributing journalist to ARTnews, and recent author of "Stolen Treasures: The Hunt for the World's Lost Masterpieces," a book much publicized in America, England and Germany, dedicated to the topic of "trophy art" — the vast number of priceless paintings, sculptures and other artifacts that had been systematically gathered by Stalin's officials in Germany at the end of the World War II and shipped back to Russia as compensation for treasures looted and destroyed by Hitler.

For further information on the gallery and its programs, phone or fax 380-44-416-0093.

## Ps/Bs inaugurate...

(Continued from page 4)

existence of the AAG, distanced themselves from its message, and speculated that it was probably a hoax or a French-inspired provocation."

Prof. Kelebay also gave a thumbnail sketch of the debate now raging among federalists over a proposed partition of the province in the event that separatists won a referendum.

Prof. Kelebay was not at a loss about what Quebec's English hard right had to say about the present climate. In fact, his description of the federalist side were informed by their perspective.

He said the federalist side can be divided into three groups: "1) The collaborators and sympathizers of the PQ...; 2) the appeasers/Liberal Party/Alliance Quebec ... and 3) the federalist partitionists: the Equality Party and community

committees."

Prof. Kelebay further said there are two sorts of partitionists: "a) those who want to use partition as a club to prevent the break-up of Canada, and b) true believers who have given up on Quebec, want to bring to closure, and think partition is a neat idea."

Prof. Kelebay concentrated on the writings of Montreal Gazette columnist William Johnson in proposing a tougher line in dealing with Quebec separatists, forcing them to adopt a less ambiguous position. Prof. Kelebay was confident that the majority of the province's populace would then not support the PQ project.

In conclusion, Prof. Kelebay revisited the themes of his talk, and enjoined Ukrainian Canadians to join the intellectual battle. He reminded the audience that, in the words of McGill University Chancellor Greta Chambers, "The existence of a nation is a daily plebiscite."

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## Constitutional Committee...

(Continued from page 1)

feisty, as members of the left-wing political forces often clashed with centrist and democratic leaders.

Mr. Stretovych pointed out that this is the first time since October 1993 that the Parliament will be presented with a single draft of the constitution to review.

Now, it seems the real battle has just begun.

In an interview with Interfax-Ukraine, Ukrainian Communist Party leader Petro Symonenko said that although the draft constitution will make it to Parliament, "there will be no true parliamentary consideration of the draft constitution."

"The president's administration will do its utmost to push through its own version of the draft. They will resort to the kind of methods they used to pass the Constitutional Accord," he added, stating that he thought the mass media would be enlisted to pressure deputies to adopt the new constitution.

President Kuchma, who did not attend the press conference at the end of the day's work, later told members of the Reforms, Statehood, Agrarians for Reforms and Center factions that the decision to submit the draft document to the Parliament was a "landmark political event."

He condemned the attempts by left-wingers in Parliament to impede the constitutional process and recalled the long, drawn-out battle to draft the Constitutional Accord, which took more than eight months to conclude because of less than constructive work within the Supreme Council.

Indeed, the left forces in Parliament have said they want to examine the draft constitution in detail – going over each of its 162 articles individually. They have also threatened to submit their own version of a draft constitution, an unlawful move that would cause further bedlam in the legislature.

Furthermore, left-wingers, among them Mr. Moroz, have also tried to wrangle out of their commitment to this Constitutional Committee, stating that it does not have the legislative authority to draft such a document, implying that this should be done by the legislative branch.

Minister of Justice Serhiy Holovaty, also a member of the Constitutional Committee, noted that as co-chairman of the committee along with President Kuchma, Mr. Moroz has tried to play his own political game. "He wanted us to accept the draft as merely a foundation with which the Parliament could begin its work. In other words, he wanted to put an 'x' on the whole constitutional process," explained Mr. Holovaty.

"Those forces that want to drag out the constitutional process are causing Ukraine great harm," he added. "And at this point, I am not talking about the contents of the [draft] constitution – these are only details. Because, today, what concerns me is the problem of survival. And that very much depends on whether or not Ukraine will have its own constitution before the elections in Russia. Presidential elections in Russia are scheduled for June 17.

"You know the sovereignization of Ukraine began not in Kyiv, but in Moscow. And independence, let's say, fell upon us, and was used by the Communists of Soviet Ukraine only after the events in Moscow [the August 1991 coup]. To be sure, the presidential election results in Russia will have a direct influence on the situation in Ukraine," said Mr. Holovaty, who is also a deputy in the Supreme Council, a member of the Reforms faction.

Mr. Yemets underlined, "This seems absurd. For five years we tried to form a Constitutional Committee whose main goal would be to draft a constitution. And now that this has been done, we are being told that we don't have the authority to do this. I thought all along this was our mandate."

According to its mandate the

Constitutional Committee remains a working body until a new constitution is adopted.

It remains unclear how the new constitution will be adopted, for the procedure on adoption of the constitution has not yet been adopted by the Parliament.

A constitutional majority (two-thirds) of parliamentary votes are needed for adoption of the new constitution, but almost everyone, from the president's administration to the left-wingers and even independent legal experts, realize that for the current Parliament to achieve this would be nothing short of a miracle.

So, a second alternative has been presented by the national democrats. They would like to see the constitution adopted by a simple majority (50 percent plus one of the deputies), then returned to the president, who, in turn, will call a national referendum on the issue.

The Rukh Party has already issued an appeal to President Kuchma, asking him to set a stringent deadline by which the Parliament must adopt the constitution – no later than June 1996 as set by the Constitutional Accord signed between the two branches of power last June. In case this does not happen, Rukh has asked that President Kuchma hold a referendum on the draft constitution approved by the Constitutional Committee.

"The adoption of any draft constitution by two-thirds of this Supreme Council is impossible," said Mykola Koziubra, a member of the committee that drafted the document and an expert in constitutional law.

"I can't even be sure that the Parliament will be able to get enough votes for a simple majority," said Vyacheslav Chornovil, the leader of Rukh and its parliamentary faction. "But we need not worry, because the Constitutional Committee is a legitimate body, representing all factions in the Parliament, all the powers of the state. So, we have a legal document approved by the committee. A first step has been made."

"I predict that events will unfold in the following manner: the left forces will try to stretch out reviewing the document as long as possible – sometime in the summer or fall," he noted. "Or they will try to block the Parliament's work, which will give the president the opportunity to call a national referendum," said Mr. Chornovil.

"There is no need to fear a referendum," added Volodymyr Shapovalov, also a member of the Constitutional Committee and an authority on constitutional law. "A referendum is a classic form of popular rule, an example of direct democracy. 'Vox populi, vox Dei,'" he added.

### Crimea and the constitution

Although the draft constitution has quite a number of controversial points covering such issues as the responsibilities of the president and the structure of the legislature, among the points that have raised the most concern is the future status of the Crimean peninsula.

In the draft constitution – which may be available for distribution in the Parliament and perusal by March 20 – the Crimea has the status of autonomous republic. Members of the committee have agreed that there can be no republic within a republic, and have discussed the possibility that the Constitution of the Crimea be reduced to a charter of autonomy.

Indeed, the Crimean Parliament was so disturbed about rumors that its autonomy may be canceled that it called an emergency session on Sunday, May 10, and asked that the Ukrainian Parliament endorse the Constitution of the Crimea before the end of March. Otherwise, they noted that deputies of the Crimea reserve the right to endorse their own constitution via a referendum on the peninsula.

A Ukrainian parliamentary committee headed by Mr. Stretovych has been appointed to travel to Symferopol in the next few days to review the situation.



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CBC newsmagazine...

(Continued from page 1)

“liberal democratic.” Gen. Morris says that Mr. Zhirinovsky is “a nationalist — extremist — but I’d rather have a nationalist than a Communist.”

Mr. Steeler, a Toronto-area banker, a descendant of various European aristocratic families and a member of six chivalric orders, is now dying of AIDS and, as he told the CBC, is “looking for a fight.”

How it was that Mr. Steeler’s interest in the “Galicia” Division and Cardinal Lubachivsky was aroused was not explained during the program.

Ms. Pelletier related that Pope John

Paul II once accepted an insignia from the order, and gave the order and its companions his blessing.

Cardinal Lubachivsky’s blessing of the Galicia Division, a combat group formed in July 1943 as a formation under the Waffen SS, was part of the controversy generated by the CBS “60 Minutes” broadcast, “The Ugly Face of Freedom” shown in October 1993.

In December 1986, Canadian Justice Jules Deschenes issued a report in which it was stated, “If the only allegation against a resident of Canada is that he was a member of the Galician Division, that is not an individual which we consider should be made the subject of an investigation.”

Kurbas Theater’s...

(Continued from page 11)

Drach’s timing, precision, focus and physical dexterity created a cunning, crafty and biting devil whose evil was vested with a wickedly delightful sense of humor.

In complement to Mr. Drach’s largeness of presence, Mr. Vodychev’s Raskolnikov was an able target and penitent whose talents lay in externalizing the intricacies of his struggles: his range included the subtleties of a sideward glance to release a moment’s wit to the violent full-body contortions emblematic of Raskolnikov’s tormented soul.

Adding to the confluence of these performances were two other talented presences — those of Natalka Polovynka (Dunya), who shared the closing scene with Mr. Drach, and Tetyana Kaspruk (Mother). Both of these actors functioned on and off stage as characters and muse-like entities. In this latter capacity, they seemed to preside over the theater as their floating white gowns moved with them in song (their voices are quite

alluring), dance or observance of the action on stage.


In the program notes that accompanied this performance, it is stated that “since its inception in 1988, the Les Kurbas Theater has pursued the practice of ‘Theater of Playfulness,’ in which it is the actor and his acting that is the driving force behind each production.” Without reservation, the presence of this driving force clearly existed in “Games for Faust.” But behind this driving force is Mr. Kuchynsky’s unnoted steering force, which should be held up for its due acclaim.

In “Games for Faust,” Mr. Kuchynsky has taken two of the world’s densest pieces of literature — neither of which are native to Ukraine — and extracted from them a work that was admirably told through a Ukrainian voice to an audience in an American theater.

In going past all the boundaries that the orchestration of such a work demands, Mr. Kuchynsky, along with his theater, has successfully crossed over to a new world. Not an act of transgression, but, in the form of a fine piece of theater, an act of transcendence.

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AGENDA

1. Call to order
  - a. Affirm quorum
  - b. Minutes of the last Regular Annual Meeting
2. Board of Directors and Committee Reports:
  - a. President
  - b. TreasurerCredit Committee  
Supervisory Committee
3. Questions and Discussion
4. Elections:
  - a. Three members to the Board of Directors
  - b. One member to the Credit Committee
5. Budget for the year 1996
6. Current Events
7. Adjournment

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The key to reform...

(Continued from page 2)

find it difficult to accept Ukraine's boundaries or existence as an independent state. Nearly two years into the Kuchma presidency there still is no interstate treaty that would recognize in international law the current Ukrainian-Russian border. Russia describes its borders with CIS member-states as "internal" and purely "administrative" — a concept that harkens back to the Soviet era. Ukraine refuses to accept this Russian policy of "transparent borders," which would only spur the proliferation of banned materials into Europe through Russia and Ukraine.

U.S. and Western policy toward Ukraine can no longer hide from these unpleasant facts; if Ukraine agrees to join a new Russian-led CIS military-political bloc now or after the June elections, Europe will be confronted with a new Cold War and higher expenditure on weapons. The West, therefore, should undertake four measures that could prevent this return to the past.

Agreeing to Russian demands that it be treated as a great power only serves to pander to its temptation to integrate the CIS into a new super-power bloc under its hegemony. Equal, bilateral relations respecting each country's sovereignty, a longtime demand of Ukraine's within the CIS, are forfeited every time Russia is given encouragement that it is a great power. Secondly, the U.S. should broker the completion of the Russian-Ukrainian interstate treaty as a matter of urgency that would serve to stabilize security in Central and Eastern Europe.

Russia should be put on the spot regarding the acceptance of Ukraine's borders which it, along with the other four nuclear powers, agreed to respect within the sphere of the security assurances they provided to Ukraine in December 1994 as a

signatory to the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty. Ukraine cannot be expected by the West to complete its de-nuclearization if Russia refuses to legally recognize their common border. If no Russian-Ukrainian treaty is signed before the June Russian presidential elections, it is doubtful whether one will ever be signed by Russian's new tsar or commissar.

Both Ukraine and Russia stand opposed to the deployment of nuclear weapons in new NATO member-states; this would be matched by Russian nuclear deployments in Belarus, Kaliningrad and even the Crimea, which would be highly destabilizing. NATO would be advised, therefore, to openly declare a policy of agreeing not to deploy nuclear weapons in the Visegrad quadrangle, the most likely new NATO members.


Finally, the question of Ukraine's future security and foreign orientation is a more urgent matter now than ever, squeezed as it is between two expanding blocks. Ukraine's strategic importance to the West should ensure it is either given assurances about the likelihood of its future membership in Western security structures or granted the status of "permanent neutrality" by the United Nations similar to Austria's after 1955 or, more recently, Turkmenistan's.

American combines...

(Continued from page 1)

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## PREVIEW OF EVENTS

**Tuesday, March 19**

**NEW YORK:** Virko Baley, the Ukrainian American composer, conductor and musicologist will give a lecture "Dreamtime, Postmodernism and Ukrainian Music" at Columbia University, 708 Dodge Hall, at 4-6 p.m. The event is sponsored by the Harriman Institute and the Columbia University Music Department. The lecture is open to the public. For further information call Prof. Yuriv Tarnawsky, (212) 854-4697.

## Friday, March 22

**NEW YORK:** The renowned Les Kurbas Theater from Lviv, under the direction of Volodymyr Kuchynsky, will give a performance of "Grateful Erodiy," a parable by the 18th century Ukrainian philosopher Hryhoriy Skovoroda, at Columbia University's Miller Theater, Broadway and 116th Street, at 8 p.m. Tickets \$15; \$5 for students and senior citizens. For more information, call the theater, (212) 854-1633, or the Harriman Institute, (212) 854-4623.

**Friday-Sunday, March 22-31**

**CLEVELAND:** The Ukrainian Museum Archives invites the public to an exhibit of artwork inspired by the pysanka (Ukrainian Easter egg). Oil paintings and sculpture by Aka Pereyma and pencil drawings by Irma Osadsa. The opening reception is on Friday, March 22, 7-9 p.m. Exhibit hours through March 31 are: Saturday, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.; Sunday, 1-4 p.m.; From April 1-20 by appointment. For more information call (216) 781-4329.

## Saturday, March 23

**PHILADELPHIA:** The Ukrainian Federation of Greater Philadelphia; the Ukrainian Medical Association, Pennsylvania Branch; and the Ukrainian Senior Citizens Association of Philadelphia, cordially invite the public to a lecture by Dr. Mikhail A. Rojavin, assistant professor of biomedical physics at the Temple University Medical School, at 4 p.m. in the gallery of the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road., Abington, Pa. Dr. Rojavin will speak about Martyn Terekhovskiy (1740-1796), a physician, scientist and medical researcher. An informal reception will follow the presentation. Donation: \$5. For more information call (610) 539-8946.

## Saturday, March 23

**NEW YORK:** The School of Bandura and the Literary-Cultural Club present an author's evening with outstanding bandurist, composer and author Mykola Lytwyn. Participating in the concert will be Mr. Lytwyn and Kateryna Nemyra. The program will include Ukrainian folk songs, original works and segments of literary interpretations. Coffee and sweets will follow the concert, at 136 Second Ave. This event is made possible by the New York State Council on the Arts.

**NEW YORK:** The Shevchenko Scientific Society is holding a lecture by Judge Bohdan Futey of the United States Court of Federal Claims. Judge Futey will speak on the constitutional process and acceptance of a new constitution in Ukraine. The lecture will be held at the society's building, 63 Fourth Ave., at 5 p.m.

## Sunday, March 24

**NEW YORK:** The 50th anniversary of the St. George Ukrainian Post 401, of the Catholic War Veterans, will be celebrated with a gala luncheon at the East Village Ukrainian Restaurant, 140 Second Ave., starting with cocktails at 1:30 p.m. This follows a corporate mass at noon at the St. George Ukrainian Catholic Church, 30 E. Seventh St. The public is invited. Donation: \$20 per person. For further information contact Cmdr. Harry Polche, (718) 446-8043.

**ATLANTA:** The Ukrainian Association of Georgia and the Ukrainian School of Atlanta invite the Ukrainian community to an afternoon honoring Taras Shevchenko at 1:30 p.m., Hampton Hall Club House. Please bring your favorite covered dish and a \$5 donation. The program will include

poetry, Ukrainian music and a special video. For more information or directions call (770) 973-7599.

**Thursday, March 28**

**NEW YORK:** The Ukrainian Institute of America invites the community to "Movie Night at the Institute," featuring the recently released and critically acclaimed Ukrainian film, "Obitnytsia (The Vow)." The screening starts at 8 p.m. and will be followed by a reception. The institute is located at 2 E. 79th St. Admission: members, \$10; non-members, \$12. For further information, contact Lydia, (212) 697-3064.

## Friday, March 29

**OCKLAWAHA, Fla.:** The inauguration of the “Chornobyl Memorial Forest” is scheduled for 2 p.m. This living memorial honors the victims and survivors of the world’s worst commercial nuclear accident. Similar plantings are occurring in Ukraine to recognize the 10th anniversary of the disaster. The reforestation partnership between American Forests and the St. Johns River Water Management District is supported by the Chornobyl Committee as part of the “Seeds of Hope” project. For more information please call St. Johns River WMD, (904) 329-4381.

## Saturday, March 30

**COATESVILLE, Pa.:** Holy Ghost Ukrainian Orthodox Church at 399 Charles St. will be holding its annual spring bazaar at 10 a.m.-2 p.m. Come enjoy the delicious varenyky, holubtsi, nut rolls, paska, kovbasa, baked goods and much more. A variety of craft tables will be open. For more information, call Irene Pashensnik, (610) 384-7285.

**JENKINTOWN, Pa:** Manor Junior College, in conjunction with the Ukrainian National Women's League of America, invites the community to a concert commemorating the 10th anniversary of the Chernobyl disaster. The concert is a benefit for the Chernobyl Challenge '96 campaign. The program starts at 6:30 p.m. in the college auditorium and will feature vocal performances by the MJC Chorus and soloists Dr. Yukiko Ishida and Bohdan Chaplynsky. Dr. Ishida, a faculty member at MJC, is a soprano and recipient of numerous vocal awards, while Mr. Chaplynsky, a native of Ukraine, has performed with numerous American and international companies. For ticket and other information, call the college, (215) 885-2360.

## Sunday, March 31

**SILVER SPRING, Md.:** The Chernobyl Committee of Washington invites the community to a moleben and commemorative concert at St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral at 2 p.m., as part of the 10th anniversary commemorations of the Chernobyl disaster. A silent auction of children's art from the series "What the Children Saw" will be part of the program. For more information, please call Danusia Wasyliwskyj, (301) 652-3938.

**LOS ANGELES:** The Ukrainian Art Center invites one and all to the 1996 Pysanka Festival and Easter Open House, to be held at 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at 4315 Melrose Ave. Numerous exhibits, workshops and a variety of entertainment await young and old. Admission: \$5 general admission (door prize ticket included); \$3 for seniors and preschool children. For further information call (213) 668-0172.

**CARNEGIE, Pa.:** The Ss. Peter and Paul Senior Chapter of the Ukrainian Orthodox League will hold its 29th annual pysanka sale and food bazaar at noon-4 p.m. The event will take place at the parish auditorium on Mansfield Boulevard. Pysanky, food and pastries will be available for purchase. Take-out orders will also be available. Included in the day's activities will be the sale of cultural items, an Easter basket drawing and a "Skrootsky sale" by the members of the Junior UOL Chapter. The parish museum will be open. Admission is free. For information call (412) 276-0342 or (412) 279-4131.