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UFA votes against merger with UNA *Eight weeks later, Verkhovna Rada still has not elected a chairman*

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — The Ukrainian Fraternal Association concluded its 24th Convention on June 18, voting against merger with the Ukrainian National Association and re-electing John Oleksyn as president.

According to the June 25 issue of *Narodna Volya*, the weekly newspaper published by the UFA, the proposed merger between the two Ukrainian fraternal organizations was one of the most important matters before the four-day convention, which was held at the fraternal's Verkhovyna Resort Center in Glen Spey, N.Y.

Narodna Volya reported: "Because the 34th Convention of the UNA, which took place earlier in Toronto, rejected the proposed and agreed-upon addition of the word 'fraternal' to the name Ukrainian National Association, which was the most important prerequisite for the merger of the two fraternal, the 24th Convention of the Ukrainian Fraternal Association did not approve the merger with the UNA by a vote of 22 for and 53 against; however, the convention did not preclude the possibility that our fraternal organizations could merge in the future."

The Ukrainian National Association's convention, which was held in Toronto on May 15-19, had approved the merger with the UFA by a vote of 196-22. However, the proposal that the name of the entity be Ukrainian National

Fraternal Association fell short of the votes required to approve the name change. Although a majority of the UNA delegates voted to accept the new name, the vote at 137 for (61.2 percent) and 87 against (38.8 percent) did not meet the two-thirds majority needed to effect a change to the UNA By-Laws.

In addition to Mr. Oleksyn, the UFA's newly elected five-member Executive Committee includes: Stephen M. Wichar Sr., vice-president; Peter Rodak, vice-president for Canada; Audrey Thomas, financial secretary/treasurer; and Christina Salak Shablowsky, secretary. The convention eliminated the post of second vice-president.

Elected to the Supreme Council were: Jaroslaw Gawur, Mykola Iwaszkiw, the Rev. Nestor Kowal, Claudia Korbutiak, Maria Maik, Stephen Nazarek, Alexander Napora, Alexander Skocen and Anton Filimonchuk. Delegates voted to reduce the size of the Supreme Council from 12 to nine members.

Elected to serve on the Auditing Committee, the size of which was reduced from five to three members, were: Mykola Bojczuk, Michael Mochnacz and Alex Poszewanyk.

The fate of Verkhovyna also was on the convention agenda as delegates examined the organization's commitment to the resort. They discussed working with the

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Eight weeks later, Verkhovna Rada still has not elected a chairman

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Eight weeks after it began what should have been a routine process, Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada still has not found a chairman to lead it.

In the last week, with no end in sight and after three more failed attempts to elect a chairman, the national deputies have turned to expressing their frustration and cynicism through the nominating process.

On June 30, besides the nominations of legitimate contenders, the names of several leading Russian and American political figures were put into nomination.

Leonid Yakovenko of the Communist faction, in the course of the nominating procedure, proposed the candidacy of Zbigniew Brzezinski, the former U.S. national security advisor who had recently visited Ukraine.

In reply Vyacheslav Chornovil, leader of the Rukh faction, nominated Russians Vladimir Zhirinovskiy of the extremist Liberal Democratic Party and Gennadii Zhuganov of the Communist Party of Russia.

The Parliament has been paralyzed by a membership that is so evenly divided into the political left and right that neither side has sufficient votes for a majority nor is

willing to look for compromise.

Volodymyr Cherniak, a member of the Rukh faction, expressed a sentiment that has appeared more and more often in Kyiv's newspapers when he stated after the 17th failed attempt to elect a chairman: "I have sat here for two months now, and I can only say that this is a phenomenon of collective insanity."

From the political left, Progressive Socialist Party leader Natalia Vitrenko said the proceedings of the Verkhovna Rada are becoming "an increasingly disgraceful spectacle."

President Leonid Kuchma, who addressed the nation on June 25 regarding the Verkhovna Rada's paralysis, met with leaders of factions to express his concern over the stalemate on June 29, but after the meeting stated that he does not believe that a move to dismiss the Parliament would be in Ukraine's interest, a move that many political pundits believe is becoming a possibility.

Because it is clear to all the national deputies that no one candidate will be able to receive the 226 votes needed to take the leadership of the Parliament under the current voting procedures, in the last week several proposals to change the rules have been made during meetings of the council.

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Baseball on Independence Day: could this be Kyiv?

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — On a well-worn vacant lot, the coach instructs his young recruits to put the bases out and start warming up. While the catcher dons his gear, some players begin tossing a baseball about. Others grab bats and swing them around, imitating the stances of their favorite major league players.

The scene could be repeated in Scott City, Neb., or Tacoma, Wash., or Greenwood, S.C. — basically anywhere in the United States where youngsters gather to play organized baseball — and it would be a familiar one.

But this is not the home of apple pie and Chevrolet. This is Kyiv, Ukraine.

And when the coach calls his players in to begin their practice session, he does it in Russian (it's that language problem again), not in English.

At first glance, however, you could not tell the difference between these 13- and 14-year-old sandlot players practicing on the banks of the Dnipro River and their U.S. counterparts: they swing the bat and throw the ball like any American kid growing up with Mark McGwire or Ken Griffey Jr. as their heroes. For the Ukrainian kids, too, these are the heroes.

"Ken Griffey is my favorite," said Zhenia Tkachenko, a 14-year-old pitcher for the Atma Sports Club of Kyiv, whose team practices on a field that faces the winding Dnipro River. "I like him because at a crucial time in a game he comes up with the game-winning home run."

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Roman Woronowycz

Coach Dmytro Matsulevych watches baseball practice with his players from the Atma Sports Club of Kyiv.

ANALYSIS

Environmental disasters in post-Soviet states: a renewed source of nationalist sentiment

by Paul Goble
RFE/RL Globe

Environmental disasters – some left over from Soviet times, others the product of the actions of weak new governments and still others the result of the activities of foreign firms – may reignite nationalist passions in many post-Soviet states.

There are three reasons behind this somewhat surprising conclusion.

First, as a recently released poll shows, citizens in the post-Soviet states appear even more concerned about the environment than residents of other countries around the world.

Second, the leaders of many of the national movements in these countries started as environmental activists in Soviet times and thus are now simply returning to their roots as a result of new ecological disasters.

And third, the media have increasingly focused attention on such disasters, especially when corrupt local officials or foreign firms appear to be to blame.

The United States Information Agency last month released the results of two surveys its researchers conducted in late 1997 in Russia, Ukraine and Kazakhstan on popular attitudes toward environmental issues. Those polls found that majorities in all three countries – including more than 65 percent in Russia – said they favor protecting the environment even if doing so meant they would have to put up with slower economic growth. Such support for environmental activism

Paul Goble is publisher of RFE/RL Newsline.

Flooding hits western Ukraine

IVANO-FRANKIVSK – After several days of rainfall, rivers in the Carpathian Mountains in western Ukraine overflowed their banks and sent a torrent of water into the Dnister River. Severe flooding hit 92 settlements and 2,000 people were evacuated from their homes, reported the Respublika news service on June 21.

Some 50,000 hectares of farmland and 5,000 buildings were affected by the flooding. Thirty-three power substations were inoperative and, as a result, the residents of 44 villages were without electricity.

According to the chief of civil defense of the Ivano-Frankivsk Oblast, Mykola Palamarchuk, the region has not experienced such flooding for 30 years.

Respublika reported that flooding occurred also in the Lviv region, affecting 20 settlements, while in Poltava Oblast 230 residential buildings were damaged by flood waters. Six villages in the Ternopil Oblast also were hit by flooding, according to the UNIAN news service.

A task force of the Ministry of Emergency Situations has been delegated to assist regional civil defense authorities.

would be impressive anywhere; it is especially striking in countries whose economic situation is anything but good.

In addition, the survey showed that the citizens of these three countries are extremely critical of what their respective governments are doing to clean up environmental pollution. Some 70 percent of Kazaks, 85 percent of Russians and a similar percentage of Ukrainians felt their national governments were doing a poor job in this respect.

Not surprisingly, politicians both in power and in opposition are sensitive to such attitudes, seeing them either as a threat or an opportunity. And that is particularly the case with those political figures who began their careers as spokesmen for ecological causes in Soviet times.

In the 1960s and 1970s, environmental concerns were among the few issues that opposition groups, especially in the non-Russian regions, could raise without running afoul of the Soviet state. Many of these environmental activists subsequently became active in the preservation of historical monuments when that became possible. And, later still, they adopted an openly nationalist agenda as the Soviet state crumbled around them.

Now, in the post-Soviet environment, these same people are drawing strength from others appalled by the environmental degradation visited upon them by past Soviet practices, by the failure of their own governments to prevent new disasters, and by the poor ecological record of many Western firms now operating in these countries. And, just as in Soviet times, they are focusing attention not so much on the environment in general, but on conditions in their own country or even in one part of it. According to the USIA poll, only one person in 50 is concerned about global climate change, but virtually everyone is worried about more immediate environmental degradation.

The media in these countries are playing up these issues, frequently with an increasingly nationalist gloss directed either at the Soviet past, an uncaring and corrupt local regime or foreign firms. Recently, for example, the press in Kyrgyzstan has called attention to the environmental disaster visited on that country's Lake Issyk-Kul by a Kyrgyz-Canadian gold-mining concern. Ukrainian media have continued to discuss the fallout from the Chernobyl nuclear accident – a disaster made all the worse by Soviet policies and the West's unwillingness to help. And the Georgian media have raised questions about the consequences for that country if Turkey builds a dam on the border between the two countries.

Many both in the West and in these countries may be inclined to dismiss such concerns as relatively unimportant to the political life of this region. But the experience of these countries in the past and the intense feelings that environmental issues can still arouse point to a different conclusion.

They suggest that future environmental disasters in this region may quickly lead to a nationalist response, particularly if those responsible are individuals and groups from abroad. That conclusion, in turn, indicates that anyone seeking to do business with those countries must be especially environmentally responsible to avoid unleashing a popular movement that no one will be able to control.

NEWSBRIEFS

Kuchma: Communist can be chairman

KYIV – At a meeting with leaders of parliamentary parties on June 29, President Leonid Kuchma said that Petro Symonenko, head of the Communist Party caucus, would be acceptable as chairman if the Verkhovna Rada voted for him and if the right-of-center caucuses were allowed to control at least 10 of the 20 parliamentary committees, according to ITAR-TASS. The Parliament has been seeking to elect a chairman since May 12. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Ukraine complains about rights abuses

KYIV – Ukraine's Embassy in Moscow on June 30 asked the Russian authorities to investigate what it called human rights abuses in the Russian capital, the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington told RFE/RL. Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Ministry spokesman Viktor Nahaichuk said in Kyiv that Ukrainians working in Moscow have been mistreated or even beaten by local police because they lost or were unable to obtain residence permits from the city administration. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Find misuse of funds at Chernobyl

KYIV – Finance Ministry inspectors have identified massive misuse of clean-up funds at the Chernobyl nuclear plant, ITAR-TASS reported on July 1. The government press service said that approximately 10 million hryv (\$5 million U.S.) have been embezzled, misappropriated or misused. After levying fines on officials involved, the auditing service has taken control over all monies in the fund. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Leftists charge bribery in election

KYIV – Leftist deputies have accused their political opponents in the Verkhovna Rada of attempted bribery during the voting on a parliamentary chairman, ITAR-TASS reported on June 24. They assert that some deputies have been offered \$10,000 for casting blank ballots during the vote for speaker. The Parliament has set up a deputies' group to investigate the allegation. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Editor-in-chief steps down at paper

KYIV – The editor-in-chief of the Vseukrainskiye Viedomosti newspaper, Volodymyr Ruban, announced his voluntary resignation on June 29. The newspaper was shut down prior to the March parliamentary elections after a decision by the Chernivtsi Court of Arbitration to confiscate 3.5 million hryv from Vseukrainskiye Viedomosti when Dynamo soccer club President Hryhorii

Surkis won a court case against the newspaper. Mr. Ruban said the court's decision is purely political. He said he plans to set up a new firm that would unite several different kinds of mass media. Mr. Ruban's newspaper has permanently ceased publication. (Eastern Economist)

White slavery seminar held in Kyiv

KYIV – The International Organization for Migration and the NIS-U.S. Women's Consortium held a seminar on June 29 on the prevention of trafficking in Ukrainian women. White slavery rings have thrived on the exploitation of women from developing countries for years; rising unemployment, poverty and weakened social structures have caused the NIS countries – and Ukraine in particular – to become the latest target countries for recruitment of women into sexual slavery. IOM research indicates that in Ukraine alone between 800,000 and 1.4 million women risk becoming victims of trafficking. The NIS-U.S. Consortium is attempting to reduce this trafficking by providing women with alternatives to working in the sex industry and the means to solve their financial problems. (Eastern Economist)

Ukrainian farmers demand land reform

KYIV – Approximately 400 Ukrainian farmers demonstrated in Kyiv on June 30 to call for the passage of reform legislation that would allow them to buy and sell land freely, give them expanded assistance and create a single tax on agricultural production, Interfax reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Argentina to help encase Chernobyl

KYIV – During an official visit to Kyiv on June 29, Argentina's President Carlos Saul Menem said his country will provide financial assistance to help build a more environmentally safe container for the Chernobyl nuclear power station, ITAR-TASS reported. Meanwhile, Ukrainian officials have shut down reactor No. 2 for repairs at the country's South Ukraine atomic energy station. Seven of Ukraine's 14 nuclear power reactors are now undergoing repairs. (RFE/RL Newsline)

NATO may open military mission

KYIV – A senior official of NATO said in Kyiv on June 26 that the Western alliance may open a liaison mission in the Ukrainian capital later this year, Interfax reported. Klaus Kleiber, an aide to NATO Secretary-General Javier Solana, said his boss will

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Despite hardships, credit unions are making progress in Ukraine

by **Marharyta Lukecha**
Intelnews

KYIV – The hardest period of development for Ukrainian credit unions came at about the time of their creation five years ago, when drastic hyperinflation had turned Ukrainian money into nothing more than “sheets of paper,” according to Dmytro Hryhorczuk, the president of the World Council of Ukrainian Cooperatives. However, Mr. Hryhorczuk added, the credit unions have done a lot of developing since then.

Mr. Hryhorczuk spoke on June 20 at the All-Ukrainian Conference of Credit Unions, held in Kyiv.

Currently, Ukrainian credit unions boast a total of 20,000 members, and the number of credit unions in Ukraine has grown from 57 to 69 within the last year. Credit unions now have 5.4 million hrv in deposits – five times as much as in 1993.

The money earned by credit unions has benefited their shareholders in a variety of ways. It has enabled some to start a business; for others, it has simply enabled them to survive.

Credit unions, like most financial institutions in Ukraine, have their share

of problems. The president of the Ukrainian National Association of Credit Unions, Petro Kozynets, said that perhaps the largest problem is the lack of legal support. Ukraine still lacks a separate law on credit unions, which means credit unions are governed by a decree issued years ago by Ukraine's first president, Leonid Kravchuk.

Another problem, according to Mr. Kozynets, is that a network of insurers does not exist for credit unions, thereby discouraging thousands of people from joining credit unions, afraid that their money might simply disappear.

A third problem is that Ukraine lacks an adequate coordination mechanism for its entire fiscal system, one that is not adequately backed by legislation.

Mr. Hryhorczuk said these problems mean that credit unions have developed primarily as an urban phenomenon in Ukraine, whereas credit unions could be particularly useful in rural areas, where they could be a tool to help stimulate the ailing agricultural sector.

Ukraine's credit unions are supported by similar organizations in Australia, Canada and the U.S., all of which provide both financial assistance and consultation. The U.S. Agency for International Development has supported Ukrainian credit unions with a \$2 million credit to develop the sector and the Canadian Cooperative Association has provided \$5 million.

International donor conference helps formerly deported peoples

Permanent Mission of Ukraine to the U.N.

UNITED NATIONS – The second international donor conference to help formerly deported peoples now returning to Crimea, at its one day meeting in Ukraine's capital on June 26, managed to collect \$5 million (U.S.) in hard-currency contributions from more than half of the participating countries, while the remaining participants made pledges.

Representatives of 26 countries attended the conference. The meeting was originally scheduled to take place on May 26 in The Hague, the Netherlands, but was postponed at the request of Ukraine's government to give more time for the potential donors to make decisions regarding their participation and possible contributions.

The conference was chaired by Max van der Stoep, the high commissioner for national minorities of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), who said that Ukraine alone is unable to carry the burden of resettlement of the formerly deported peoples and for that reason the international community should offer coordinated assistance.

There is a need, he noted, to elaborate a general consolidated program of assistance to the Crimean Tatars and other formerly deported peoples. He also expressed the hope that this conference would mark the beginning of a long-term process.

Valeriy Smolii, vice prime minister of Ukraine, expressed his satisfaction with the results of the conference, saying it demonstrated the psychological, moral and material readiness of the world to respond to Ukraine's problem in accommodating those formerly deported. He expressed his confidence that, via joint efforts of the international community, it would be possible to substantially ease and speed up the return of thousands of peoples to their historical homeland.

Mr. Smolii told the participants of the Kyiv conference that an aid package for \$13 million (U.S.) is needed to solve the problems of the formerly deported peoples who returned to Crimea.

In recent years, some 200,000 Crimean Tatars and some 12,000 other formerly deported peoples or their descendants have returned to their original home in Ukraine.

Since 1992 the government of Ukraine has allocated some \$300 million (U.S.) from the state budget to support the formerly deported peoples in their resettlement. International aid for 1996-1997 constituted 3.8 million hrv (about \$1.9 million U.S.).

The money collected at the conference and the pledged contributions will go toward the creation of an infrastructure, new jobs, the construction of houses, and for the social and cultural needs of the formerly deported peoples.

Constitutional Court to rule on rights of foreign investors

Eastern Economist

KYIV – Ukraine's Constitutional Court took up the issue of tax privileges for foreign investors on June 23. The court is hearing the case after 80 national deputies, the Cabinet of Ministers and a number of enterprises joined in demanding a clarification of state guarantees allowed foreign investors under Ukrainian law.

The petitioners – including such firms as Mazda Motors Ukraine and the JV Pravex-Brok – request an interpretation of Article 58 of the Constitution; Article 7 of the law on enterprise profit tax; Articles 7,8 and 31 of the Cabinet decree on the regime of foreign investment; and Articles 8 and 9 of the law on foreign investments.

Judge Mykola Selivon contended during the session that Ukrainian laws governing investments contradict each other. The September 10, 1991, law on protection of foreign investments in Ukraine granted some guarantees to foreign investors, including the right to reinvest and transfer income abroad in both domestic and foreign currencies. The law on foreign investments of March 13, 1992, also stipulates a number of tax privileges, including exemption from income tax payments over the first five years of operation.

Yet, these privileges exist alongside the law on regime of foreign investing of March 19, 1996, which requires enterprises with foreign capital to pay taxes according to Ukrainian law.

A letter sent by President Kuchma to the court, and read by Judge Selivon, contends that abolishing tax benefits granted in 1991 and 1992 violates state guarantees as it creates unequal conditions for domestic and foreign investors. Furthermore, the letter noted, this hinders the creation of a favorable investment climate, effectively redirecting investment away from Ukraine to countries with stable, consistent investment laws.

Ukrainian American had role in creating “Titanic’s” illusions

by **Olena Welhasch**

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Behind the Blue Sky-VIFX (FOX) special effects studio doors, Marian Rudnyk spent a year and a half creating convincing illusions of a world – famous shipwreck. In James Cameron's “Titanic,” simulated breathing, depiction of the ship's immense engine room, and the creation of an astronomically correct sky were among the special effects that utilized Mr. Rudnyk's expertise. Visual effects and digital animation aided in the authentic portrayal of the fateful night of the ship's sinking.

In order to successfully recreate historic events, meticulous attention to detail is required. For example, unlike the actors in the film, the unfortunate victims of the historic wreck were subject to the unmerciful freezing temperatures of the North Atlantic. Because the scene with the drowning passengers was filmed at Santa Rosarita Beach in Mexico, digital technical teams were left with the task of inserting “breaths” into the motion picture to convey an accurate depiction of passengers' breathing in the cold waters.

Mr. Cameron, director/producer of “Titanic,” wanted “breaths that act.” Consequently, the special effects team spent hours filming crew members clad in black masks exhaling in a dark room to provide them with frosty breathing material. Then the crew undertook the complex task of digitally inserting breaths to precisely match the dialogue and actions of the characters.

Mr. Rudnyk also worked on a scene in the engine room. The actors who appear to be laboring among the huge pistons of the Titanic were really nowhere near ship – they were simply acting before a blue or green screen. Mr. Rudnyk was responsible for combining the footage of a ship's engines with their actions and, in effect, bringing people

into the engine room.

Perhaps the most appropriate project aboard the “Titanic” for Mr. Rudnyk was the research and precise recreation of the sky that appeared on April 14, 1912. He was well-equipped to perform the historical research of the stars due to his varied past career experiences.

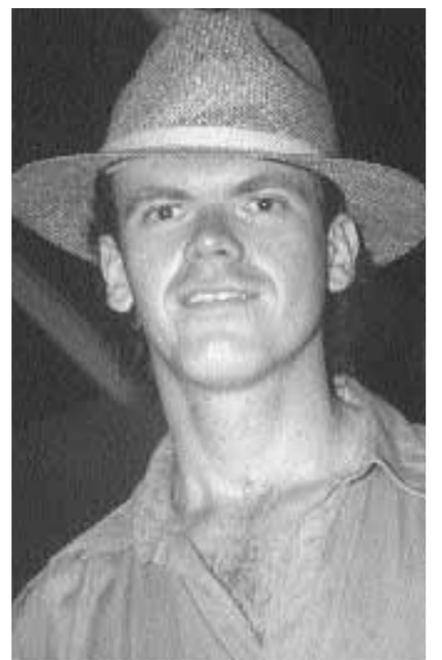
Prior to his work in special effects animation, Mr. Rudnyk worked as an astronomer and planetary photogeologist at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena. During his 10 years at NASA, Mr. Rudnyk charted and named over 200 asteroids. He named the first asteroid he discovered “4601 Ludkewycz,” in honor of his mother, whose maiden name is Ludkewycz.

Following federal budget cuts in 1994, Mr. Rudnyk's days at NASA ended and he began cultivating his artistic talents by taking classes at the American Animation Institute. This additional education provided him with skills that led to a job animating part of a Levi's women's jeans commercial that is currently showing. In January of 1997, Mr. Rudnyk enrolled in a federal program to retrain displaced aerospace workers to enter the entertainment field; the next thing he knew, his career had moved from asteroid hunting to special effects animation in what was to become the blockbuster hit, “Titanic.”

A free-lance writer as well, Mr. Rudnyk has published various science and technology articles including an account of the Chernobyl nuclear disaster in The People's Almanac of the 20th Century.

Right now Mr. Rudnyk hopes that his career in character animation will prevail. He explained that he has some demos that he will be pitching to Nickelodeon and MTV soon.

How did Mr. Rudnyk acquire such a diverse compilation of interests and abil-



Marian Rudnyk

ities? He said he believes that his career choices are reflective of his parents' influence. Marian's father, Augustin Rudnyk, worked as an aerospace engineer and was instrumental in the Apollo missions. His mother, an artist, can take credit for inspiring her son to pursue animation.

Mr. Rudnyk was born and raised in Monrovia, Calif., where he attended Ukrainian school and was a member of Plast. Marian's grandfather, Evhen Ludkewycz, was the founder of Plast in California.

From discoveries in the Milky Way to special effects in Hollywood, 32-year-old Marian Rudnyk's career has offered him more variety than most people will experience in a lifetime. Mr. Rudnyk's business card inevitably baffles all beholders when they read “Marian Rudnyk – writer, cartoonist, astronomer, geologist.”

Baseball on Independence Day...

(Continued from page 1)

His teammate, 12-year-old Ihor Kuzhnevsky, named George Bell as his favorite, even though the former Toronto Blue Jay has been retired for several years.

The kids have discovered the sport through word of mouth and through television, especially on the Eurosport Channel, which is shown on Ukraine's fledgling cable television system.

Anton Gidynych, 14, catcher for the Atma team, said any American sport excites him. "This is an exotic sport. I simply like American sports like football and baseball. I watch baseball all the time when they show it on television."

Another Atma player, 15-year-old Artem Voloshyn, said a friend brought him out to the practice field. "I like this game - especially when the bases are loaded and I'm up to bat," said Artem Voloshyn. "and I hit the home run that wins the game."

Ukraine, and especially Kyiv, has seen a steady if not spectacular rise in the popularity of America's national pastime since independence.

Olympics were impetus

Baseball was introduced to Ukraine and the rest of what was then the Soviet Union in 1986, after the International Olympic Committee decided that baseball would be a demonstration sport beginning with the 1988 Olympics.

Dmytro Matsulevych, baseball director of the Atma Sports Club and coach of its youth teams, said he was recruited to take up the sport in 1986 by the newly created baseball federation. "The Soviet Union at the time made a decision to develop base-

ball, but they didn't know how to do it," explained Mr. Matsulevych, "so they asked handball, volleyball and track and field athletes to volunteer."

Mr. Matsulevych, who was a 24-year-old run-of-the-mill 400-meter hurdler at the time, decided to attempt the crossover.

"Coaches who did not know a thing about baseball taught us from books they had received in the West," said Mr. Matsulevych. "They didn't have any idea how to play baseball, much less teach it, and were so inept that they taught us how to do basic things in different ways on different days."

He said that things got straightened out after Cubans who were studying in the Soviet Union were asked to train the teams. Baseball's popularity in Cuba is at least on a par with the U.S.

In the end, the Soviet Union never did become a baseball powerhouse, but the sport did take hold in the republics.

Today, dozens of teams and several leagues exist in Ukraine in several age brackets, which compete nationally and internationally. Ukraine has competed well with the rest of Europe. In 1997 in Hull, England, Ukraine's squad of 16- to 18-year-old took the class B championships for the second time. Previously, it had won in Slovenia in 1994.

According to Coach Matsulevych, 13 youth leagues currently operate in Ukraine, from Rivne in the west to Sumy in the east. The sport is most widespread in Kyiv, which has four leagues, followed by Kirovohrad and Symferopol with two each. The Kyiv league, to which Atma belongs,



Roman Woronowycz

A team scrimmage with the coach calling balls and strikes.

last year became the first Ukrainian league registered with Little League Baseball headquartered in Williamsport, Pa.

Ukraine's youth leagues are broken down into three age brackets: 10-12 - little league; 13-15 - junior league; 16-18 - senior league. The teams play for a national championship after their interleague play concludes. They travel to neighboring countries, such as Moldova and Russia, for tournaments, and a Ukrainian all-star team participates in the yearly European Championships.

New York connection

Mr. Matsulevych has built up the Kyiv league that Atma competes in with his wife, Marina, and with much help from Basil Tarasko, a Ukrainian American from New York who has helped with everything from financing equipment to training and organizational work.

In 1994, Mr. Tarasko helped establish the first Kyiv league with the help of a \$2,000 grant from Rawlings, the sports equipment manufacturer.

Today the teams that participate in the league find their own financing for equipment and facilities. The Atma Sports Club that supports Mr. Matsulevych's teams was once solely concerned with boxing. But that changed after Coach Matsulevych took Atma's president, Dmytro Mantulin, to watch the kids practice.

"I did not understand the sport at first," said Mr. Mantulin. "They hit the ball and run, what's the point?"

"But after Marina explained the rules, I really began to enjoy it," he added.

He said he feels that children need organized sports and that since the dissolution of the Soviet Union kids have few places to turn for organized competition.

Mr. Mantulin hopes to turn the rut-covered plot of land that the Obolon District council of Kyiv has given the team into a

baseball complex, with stands for 400 to 500 fans, a café and a picnic area.

That fits nicely into Coach Matsulevych's concept of what his teams are all about. He believes that baseball should be a family affair. Marina, his wife, calls the program "Mommy, Daddy and Me."

"It's not only to get the kids off the street, but to get the family doing things together," said Mrs. Matsulevych, who is the administrative director of baseball for the Atma Sports Club. She said the parents are not only encouraged to attend games, but to help build the fields on which the children play and to participate in fund-raising.

The families are also encouraged to travel together for inter-city competitions, and if possible to tournaments in other countries.

The Matsulevychs are currently organizing a fan club as well. "It is important. It will give people the ability to come out and have a good time and to support us as well," said Mrs. Matsulevych.

Many of the ideas that Mrs. Matsulevych is incorporating are a result of a cooperative effort between the Kyiv league and the U.S.-based Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA). The YMCA-Ukraine has been involved with the Kyiv league since 1994 and has offered financial and consultative support. They helped send some of the young Kyiv ballplayers on a two-week cultural exchange and baseball camp called the YMCA Youth Baseball Exchange, which was held in April in Sarasota, Fla.

Mr. Matsulevych said that a visit from Sarasota-area little leaguers is now in the works, which the YMCA-Ukraine is hoping to organize during the Independence Day celebrations in Ukraine in August.

Baseball on Independence Day - now that's starting to really look like baseball American-style.



Dmytro Mantulin (left), president of the Atma Sports Club, with (from left) Dmytro Matsulevych, head coach; Marina Matsulevych, head administrator; and Oleksander Prozor, the club's vice-president.



SUMMER PROGRAMS 1998

Friday, July 3	10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by LUNA
Saturday, July 4	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - Ukrainian Dance Ensemble DUNAI Bandurist JULIAN KYTASTY 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by TEMPO, BURLAKY
Saturday, July 11	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - DUMKA CHOIR, New York VASYL HRECHYNSKY, conductor 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by KRYSHAL
Saturday, July 18	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - Ensemble UKRAINIAN FAMILY 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by VODOHRAI
Saturday, July 25	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - Songs of Ukraine 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by ZOREPAD
Saturday, August 1	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - UKRAINIAN CLASSICAL MUSIC 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by FATA MORGANA
Saturday, August 8	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - Ensemble KAZKA 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by LUNA
Saturday, August 15	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - Soprano LUBA SCHYBCHYK 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by ZOLOTA BULAVA 11:45 p.m. Crowning of "MISS SOYUZIVKA 1999"
Sunday, August 16	UNWLA DAY
Saturday, August 22	UKRAINIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATIONS 8:30 p.m. CONCERT - SOYUZIVKA DANCE WORKSHOP RECITAL Director: ROMA PRYMA BOHACHEVSKY 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by BURYA
Saturday, August 29	8:30 p.m. CONCERT - Violist HALYNA KOLESSA 10:00 p.m. DANCE - music provided by VIDLUNNIA

LABOR DAY WEEKEND CELEBRATIONS
CONCERTS, DANCES, EXHIBITS, TENNIS TOURNAMENT, SWIMMING COMPETITION
(Details TBA)

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Young UNA'ers



Nicholas I. Kopcyk (left), 10, and Alex E. Kopcyk, 8, sons of Natalia Kopcyk, were enrolled by their mother into UNA Branch 277 in Hartford, Conn.



Zackary Sean Cannata, son of Michelle and Kenneth Cannata, is a new member of UNA Branch 259 in Chicago. He was enrolled by his grandparents Edwin and Patricia Sullivan.



Megan Kailey Sullivan, seen above at Christmastime at the age of 11 months, is the daughter of Agnes and Edwin Sullivan. She was enrolled into UNA Branch 259 in Chicago by her grandparents Edwin and Patricia Sullivan.



Timothy Robert Mayo, a new member of UNA Branch 259 in Chicago, is the son of Timothy and Denise Mayo. He was enrolled by his grandparents Robert and Corrinne Pitula.



Joseph Gregory Kuchta, son of Irene Majnich-Kuchta and Eugene Kuchta of Houston, is a new member of UNA Branch 368. He was enrolled by his grandmother Maria Majnich.

Andrew Jula receives Hrushka award



Former UNA Supreme Advisor Andrew Jula was presented with the Rev. Gregory Hrushka award at the UNA Convention in Toronto. The award was presented in acknowledgment of his many years of service to his branch, district and the General Assembly. Mr. Jula was secretary of UNA Branch 161 for over 40 years and served as supreme advisor in 1966-1994. At the convention, accepting on behalf of Mr. Jula was Nicholas Diakiwsky, current secretary of Branch 161 and UNA advisor. Above Mr. Diakiwsky presents the award to Mr. Jula shortly after the convention. Mr. Jula was very pleased to accept the award and gratified that his many years of service to the UNA were recognized at this recent conclave. He said he was touched by the thoughts and expressions of the many convention delegates who sent their greetings and best wishes.

Ukrainian National Association



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THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Summertime

Summertime is a special time of year for just about everyone. But no one would deny that it is especially special for youths. School's out, the days are long, and there's plenty of time for all sorts of extraordinary pursuits.

For youths of Ukrainian descent there is an abundance of activity geared to diverse interests. Just one look at our summer issue (published a month ago) is proof. There are camps, workshops and courses of all varieties for youths of all ages.

Recreational camps for children are offered by several organizations at venues throughout North America. The number of preschoolers' camps is growing to meet the needs of today's families. In addition to its regular camps for children and youths, Plast offers specialized camps ranging from rock climbing and mountain biking to water sports and hiking in locations like West Virginia, the Rockies and the Thousand Islands region of upper New York State. Plus there is the quinquennial International Plast Jamboree, which this year takes place in Manitoba. SUM, too, offers myriad activities: camps focusing on survival skills, culture, sports and recreation, to give just a sampling, take place at sites in New York state, Wisconsin and Ohio.

To be sure, there are other organizations and individuals who get into the act: the Sitch Sports Association runs a sports camp at the Verkhovyna resort, St. Vladimir's Institute offers a "camp in the city" in downtown Toronto, the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute has a Ukrainian studies program, members of the Ukrainian Bandurist Chorus organize bandura camps and workshops, and the doyenne of Ukrainian dance, Roma Pryma Bohachevsky, runs dance camps and dance workshops at both Verkhovyna and Soyuzivka. Soyuzivka, of course, offers its own camps, beginning with the tennis camp, and continuing with the girls', boys' and preschoolers' camps.

Truly, our community offers so many opportunities for our children.

But, do we appreciate what we have? Do we use our facilities? Do we support the organizations that run summer activities for our children and youths? Do we pitch in and help when help is needed (and it always is...)? Do we donate generously to make these activities possible? Honest answers only, please – and no excuses. Without our support, as surely as tomorrow will come, these wonderful offerings will wither away.

These questions arise as we report that two of our fraternal organizations are taking a long, hard look at their resorts. Yes, both Soyuzivka and Verkhovyna currently face an uncertain future: the first because its season will be curtailed next year; the second because it may be sold. Both are near and dear to so many Ukrainians and Ukrainian families. Do we want to lose one or both of these beautiful centers of our community life? And with them a huge portion of our community activities?

Surely the answer is an emphatic "NO!"

What then will you, dear readers, do to prevent this from happening? That's something to ponder as you're packing your kids off to camp, or lounging by the pool this summer.

July
7
1852

Turning the pages back...

The scholar and civic leader Volodymyr Naumenko was born in Novhorod Siverskyi on July 7, 1852. He graduated from Kyiv University in 1873 and taught in the Ukrainian capital's secondary

schools until 1903. In 1905, he founded a gymnasium and served as its director in 1914.

A member of the relatively conservative and cautious Old Hromada in Kyiv, he was elected its treasurer in 1875. In the 1880s, following the issuance of the repressive Ems Ukase directed by the Russian imperial government at all Ukrainian publishing and organized life, the Old Hromada, intending to minimize damage to itself, cut ties to one of its founders, Mykola Drahomanov; Naumenko was among those who persisted in staying in contact with the exile in Geneva.

Naumenko contributed regularly to the journal *Kievskaya Starina*, in which he published over 90 articles on Ukrainian history, literature, education and ethnography. He served as the *Starina's* last editor, from 1893 to 1906. He wrote a survey of the phonetic traits of "Little Russian," and discovered a collection of Ukrainian folk songs gathered by the Polish ethnographer Zorian Dolega-Chodakowski that was thought to have been lost.

In 1907, Naumenko acted on the easing of anti-Ukrainian tsarist restrictions by prompting the establishment of the Ukrainian Scientific Society (UNT), the first Ukrainian-language and openly Ukrainophilic learned society in Russian-ruled Ukraine. It was modeled on the Lviv-based Shevchenko Scientific Society, and its first president was historian Mykhailo Hrushevsky, who was exiled to Russia in 1914. Naumenko himself was elected UNT president in 1914 and served until 1917.

Following the February 1917 Revolution that toppled the Romanovs, the Society of Ukrainian Progressives established the Central Rada in Kyiv as the body that united all of Ukraine's political, community, cultural and professional organizations, and chose Naumenko to serve as its interim leader until the president elected in absentia, Hrushevsky, arrived in March 1917.

In December 1917, Naumenko became a founding member of the conservative Ukrainian Federative Democratic Party and later served as the last minister of education (November-December 1918) under the Hetman government.

After that administration's removal by the UNR Directory headed by Symon Petliura, Naumenko worked at the newly established Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, where he collected materials on the history of 19th century Ukrainian literature.

In the course of their seizures of Kyiv in 1919, the Bolsheviks routinely executed those whom they considered "bourgeois intellectuals" and other enemies of their revolution. On July 8, 1919, it was Naumenko's turn. He went unmentioned in Soviet publications dealing with the work of scholars.

Sources: "Naumenko, Volodymyr," *Encyclopedia of Ukraine*, Vol. 3 (University of Toronto Press, 1993).

A message from the manager of Soyuzivka

Our jewel in the Catskills

Dear UNA Members and Readers:

Allow me to tell you a story ... Once upon a time, there was a nation of people who suffered and endured great tragedies from famine, to war, to oppression. Many of these people left their homes and loved ones to begin new lives in a great and bountiful land. It was said that this new country offered many opportunities, freedom and justice for all. When the people arrived in this land of new promise, they discovered that things would be difficult, that they had to earn their place in this new society.

Being of strong faith and molded by hardships, they learned a difficult language, observed new customs, found work, built homes, prayed in churches, paid taxes, voted for government leaders and raised their children.

All was well in this new life, but it didn't take long for these new citizens to realize that something was missing from all they had achieved. They were sad that they could not see the relatives or the land they had left behind because of the evil empire that controlled their beloved old country.

One day, these new pioneers had a vision. They would go out and seek lands and mountains that would remind them of their lost homeland. They built upon this precious soil a place where they would find new love and friendships. They would spend their vacations, laugh, dance and sing late into the evenings here.

They brought their children to this magical place; many games were played, customs and traditions passed along, language and heritage preserved. Their children and their grandchildren fell in love and married other children and grandchildren in this splendid place. Their hopes and dreams had come true and everyone was very happy.

Then, some of the people stopped appreciating the magical land that their forefathers had given them. They began to stay away and soon a dark cloud came and threatened to shroud the place of love, music, light and laughter with darkness. We do not know this story's ending, but we do know that Soyuzivka is extremely important to a great many people.

By now, many of you have seen copies of Soyuzivka's newsletter and the color brochure. We also have a 20-minute promotional video (we'll be happy to send you a copy). I am convinced that once you review these materials, you will be very proud of the UNA's premier resort, which you helped to create and preserve.

Many of you haven't visited Soyuzivka in quite some time. The improvements over the last 10 years have been exciting. Ask your friends, associates or relatives. I guarantee you will hear glowing reviews about our weddings, services, facilities, camps and food. One-half of Soyuzivka's rooms are now deluxe with a phone, cable TV, air conditioning, new furniture and carpeting. However, as you know, there is



Soyuzivka: a magical place.

always room for improvement.

Ideally, we would like to upgrade all of Soyuzivka's rooms, perform preventive maintenance, continue capital improvements and expand our recreational facilities so that we may become even more attractive as a year-round resort. It really does take money to make money. This is only common sense.

I will not burden you with accounting facts and figures, but I must tell you that the first six months of 1997 saw the lowest income in a long time, but that the summer and fall of 1997 at Soyuzivka saw a dramatic increase when we grossed an additional \$200,000 compared to the year-end figures for 1996. Our total 1997 year-end gross income was \$1,311,000, which became the highest figure in the resort's history. This year looks even more promising.

This is the type of result we must build on. Our cost-cutting methods have become more efficient, we now have a good management team and our foundation is solid. However, the fact is, our disbursements are higher than our profits. This is no great mystery ...we need to draw more people to Soyuzivka.

We are in a unique situation in that Soyuzivka is open to the public on a limited basis only. We do not have the marketing support that a national hotel chain offers its members. Our marketing consists of *The Ukrainian Weekly*, *Svoboda*, the *Suzy-Q Newsletter*, several Hudson Valley tourist publications and the ever-faithful word of mouth.

The 34th Convention of the UNA voted to curtail Soyuzivka's operation strictly to summer seasons. There are those who would shut it down altogether. Frankly, I

(Continued on page 12)

Correction

Due to a typesetting error in the June 14 column by Dr. Myron B. Kuropas, the name of the degree earned by Ostroh Academy professors studying at Northern Illinois University was mistakenly listed as M. Ed. It should have been cited as the M.S.Ed. (Master of Science in Education).

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Thanks for reports on UNA convention

Dear Editor:

It was with great pleasure and interest that I read issues No. 22 and 23 (May 24 and 31) of The Ukrainian Weekly containing detailed reports on the 34th Convention of the Ukrainian National Association. These reports give readers who were not at the convention a complete picture of the proceedings.

The articles by Andrij Wynnyckyj not only provide information about everything that occurred during those very significant days for the UNA, but also provide analysis and convey the flavor of the discussions during the convention.

Thank you for this excellent journalistic work – the only such report published anywhere because, unfortunately, the Ukrainian-language press did not provide any details other than the names of the newly elected UNA leadership.

Olha Kuzmowycz
Babylon, N.Y.

A thank you to supporters

Dear Editor:

I would like all members of the Ukrainian National Association, convention delegates and officers to know that I had no intention of running for office at the 34th Convention in Toronto.

Thank you to all those who have written and telephoned me to express their sorrow that I am no longer a UNA advisor. I appreciate your comments.

In the meantime I would also like to thank my friend who gave me the one vote I received for advisor during the primary.

Anne Remick
Boston

Our organizations must do planning

Dear Editor:

Judging from the number of solicitations I continue to receive from various diaspora organizations, it appears that the concept of operating with knowledge of demographic and financial planning has been essentially ignored. The service of demographics provides basic information on human population: size, growth (if any), density, distribution and vital statistics. These statistics with regard to Ukrainian Americans have not been studied by the UNA or other diaspora organizations and therefore we continue to contribute to the support of museums, culture clubs and various civic and political organizations without regard to demographic realities.

This obviously includes the UNA, where membership is declining at an exponential rate. The UNA and other diaspora organizations have difficulty in admitting that it is time to downsize or shut down their respective operations because the operating funds are simply drying up. Will we ever face up to the reality?

The recently concluded Toronto convention of the UNA was surrealistic and bombastic at the same time. Delegates were brought to Toronto by air, housed and fed over five days, at an estimated cost of \$500,000, and yet we are told that the only Ukrainian daily news publication in the Western world will have to be reduced to make ends meet. The reduction of the

UNA estate's (Soyuzivka) operation to three months per year is a financial disaster, and it would be better to shut it down permanently and sell it, even at a loss, like the Jersey City building only last year.

The UNA was founded on a very patriotic and straightforward basis: get as many Ukrainian immigrants as possible in the United States to join this fraternal organization and keep them informed about each other and the problems facing them by means of the venerable newspaper Svoboda.

This was accomplished with a tremendous amount of work and sacrifice on the part of the UNA leadership. Yet the UNA never developed a plan for financial management for second- and third-generation members, who were searching for growth, like that offered by other money-managing organizations. The UNA has not developed a plan, and as the post-World War II generation started to withdraw from the active community life, the UNA management kept collecting premiums on miniscule policies and buying into ventures that were obvious losers like the Jersey City "skyscraper" and Soyuzivka.

It appears likely that by the year 2003 or sooner the number of Ukrainian-speaking readers of Svoboda will no longer be able to support this paper, even on a weekly basis, and perhaps, also, the now much more important Ukrainian Weekly.

The newest ploy to effect a fusion of three very sick Ukrainian fraternal organizations into one does not bode well. Putting three terminally sick patients in the same bed does not offer more hope for their recovery. In the mean time, the high-splurging ritual in Toronto provides a fitting setting for the last hurrah!

Michael O. Holowaty, D.Sc.
Crown Point, Ind.

Why do we dwell on tragedies?

Dear Editor:

The Weekly recently announced a new film documentary about Stalinist terror in the 1930s and 1940s in Ukraine. The film is expected to attract international attention. While any Ukraine-oriented production ought to meet Western standards and such mass-media entries are needed, aren't our film projects focused much too often on national disasters?

Has anyone counted the films about the assassinations, the Famine of 1933, world wars, Chernobyl, etc. lingering on screen for the last 15 years? We seem to dwell on tragedy and on observances of death anniversaries. Why not celebrate more birthdays as recently suggested by Svoboda's columnist O-KA? And we drag our clanging chains so professionally on film that such productions actually get more recognition worldwide than mainstream dramatic feature films.

The old adage still holds: good news is no news, so filmmakers seem to have come up with the Ukrainian version of Hollywood disaster movies. Won't someone do a quiet love story to balance things out a bit and return some warmth and brightness to our not-so-silvery screens?

Roman Sawycky
Cranford, N.J.

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.

CANADA COURIER

by Christopher Guly



Recalling a brutal chapter in history

Tears rolled down Halyna Zelem's cheeks on a rainy June 14 afternoon in Ottawa as she stood with some 100 members of the local Ukrainian Canadian community recalling a brutal chapter in their homeland's history. Sixty-five years ago, Soviet dictator Joseph Stalin's artificially created famine had ended in Ukraine, leaving as many as 7 million Ukrainians dead.

Ms. Zelem was 7 years old at the time, living with her family in the Poltava region of eastern Ukraine.

"We were always hungry," recalled Ms. Zelem, who came to Canada in 1951 and worked as a seamstress.

She said that in order to feed their family, her father, whose farm was confiscated by the Soviets, took her mother's gold earrings and cross to a store, hoping to exchange the items for food. "They gave him millet, but half of it was chaff," Ms. Zelem said.

In 1933, the late British writer and broadcaster Malcolm Muggeridge reported on a visit that he made to Ukraine, where he saw "millions of starving peasants, their bodies often swollen from lack of food." Under Stalin's orders, "everything edible" had been taken away and some of the world's most fertile land had been reduced to a "melancholy desert." Between 1932 and 1933, Stalin's campaign of agricultural collectivization and attempt to keep the independent-minded farmers in line with Kremlin authority claimed millions of lives.

As Member of Parliament Inky Mark of the Manitoba Reform Party recalled in the House of Commons on June 2, the number of victims represented "approximately the total populations of Manitoba, Newfoundland, British Columbia, New Brunswick, Saskatchewan, Nova Scotia

and Prince Edward Island."

Witnessing the wrath of the famine left the late Russian poet Boris Pasternak, most famous for his 1957 novel "Doctor Zhivago," so shaken he could not write for a year. He later wrote "There was such inhuman, unimaginable misery, such a terrible disaster, that it began to seem almost abstract; it would not fit within the bounds of consciousness."

Other stories, which estimated that Stalin's war against the people claimed 14.5 million lives, painted pictures of babies looking like "embryos out of alcohol bottles" and of people making soup out of boiled rats, nettles, tree bark and the skin of old furs.

The situation for food became so desperate some people resorted to cannibalism, said Ms. Zelem. "My mother would never eat sausage because people said it was made from people's flesh." Instead, they ate mostly beets, said Ms. Zelem, now married with two grown children.

It wasn't much better for Diana Lawruk, who was 13 years old and living in the Kyiv region in 1933. "I was eating leaves from cherry trees," said Ms. Lawruk, a widow who worked in the Ottawa Civic Hospital's housekeeping department for 27 years. Once, when she was scouring the neighborhood in search of food, Ms. Lawruk was invited to one home thinking she might get a meal, not realizing she was the meal. "The man's wife said, 'Run away, because chances are he's calling you to eat you.'"

She said she heard horror stories of husbands killing wives and serving them as meals to guests who thought they were consuming horse meat. Today, Ms. Lawruk who attended the Ottawa commemoration ceremony, says she's happy, "I have everything I need."

NEWS AND VIEWS: Saga of a visa experience in Kyiv

by Mary L. Walkiewicz

I would like Ukrainian Americans to know about the recent experience my cousin had in trying to obtain a visa from the American Embassy in Kyiv. First of all, my cousin, Oleh, traveled 10 hours from Lviv to Kyiv in order to be interviewed at the American Embassy. Oleh arrived at the Embassy on a Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. and found approximately 80 people already in line. At 11 a.m. he reached the Embassy gate where a guard asked him if he had any food. Of course, he had his lunch in a sack and was told to leave it anywhere outside the gates. Needless to say, his lunch was not there when he returned.

When he was able to enter the Embassy territory, he was searched and asked to open up his briefcase. There they removed his electric razor and shaving cream. He was then allowed to go to the building, where the visa department is housed. There he waited with others for the interview. He paid the required \$45 – but those applicants who had not thought to exchange their hryvni for dollars in

advance (and no such instruction was provided) had to leave the Embassy to exchange them outside. His thoughts were, "would the Ukrainian Embassy in Washington make Americans exchange their dollars for hryvni?"

Oleh thinks he was interviewed by a young Ukrainian American man. He stood in front of a big glass window with a little hole for passing his application. His interview consisted of five questions:

Where and why do you want to go?

I'd like to visit my cousin. A year and a half ago, she visited here in Lviv and now she has invited me to visit in the U.S.A.

Is your cousin married?

Yes, and she has a son and daughter.

Are you married; and, if yes, why doesn't your wife go with you?

Yes, I'm married and I have a daughter. My wife can't go with me because she is working as a chief accountant in

(Continued on page 14)

NEW RELEASE: Collection of art songs by composer Wadym Kipa

ALLENTOWN, Pa. – A collection of art songs by the late Ukrainian pianist-composer Wadym Kipa has been published by Muzychna Ukraina. The 112-page volume contains nine settings of texts by Lesia Ukrainka, six of texts by Wadym Lesych, and one each to the words of Petro Kizko and Andrij Malyshko. Prof. Vitali Kyreiko of the Kyiv Conservatory of Music served as musical editor of the volume, which also includes facsimiles of the composer's original manuscripts and a biographical essay by Dr. Tamara Bulat.

Prof. Kipa died 30 years ago in New York City at the age of 56. A graduate of the Kyiv State Music

Conservatory, he became a laureate of the Soviet Union and taught piano at his alma mater just prior to the outbreak of World War II. After the war he lived briefly in the British Zone of Germany before coming to the United States and settling in New York City where he conducted his own school of music.

Although primarily a performing artist, Prof. Kipa soon realized that his chances of launching a new stage career were slim. Although he continued to concertize in the United States and Canada, he derived most of his support from his teaching and turned to composing for professional satisfaction.

The current volume represents the first publication of Prof. Kipa's works. Ten compositions for piano solo, an "Album for Youth," a work for violin and piano, several piano arrangements, an unfinished piano concerto, and four art songs to the texts of the German poet Wilhelm Chojnacky remain unpublished.

A presentation of the present volume and a performance of the published works is planned for this fall in Kyiv. Copies of the publication may be obtained from Dr. Albert Kipa, Muhlenberg College, Allentown, PA 18104. The cost, including postage, is \$20. Checks should be made payable to the "W. Kipa Publishing Fund."



Facsimile of Wadym Kipa's original manuscript of art songs set to the texts of Ukrainian poets; reproduced here is the score to Lesia Ukrainka's "Ne Spivayte Meni Toyi Pisni," with a dedication to the composer's wife.



At the signing of the contract for the publication of "Romansy," a collection of art songs by the late Ukrainian pianist-composer Wadym Kipa, (from left) are: Dr. Mykola Lynnyk, director, Muzychna Ukraina publishing house, Kyiv; Dr. Albert Kipa, the composer's son and professor and chairman of the department of foreign languages and literatures at Muhlenberg College; Prof. Vitalii Kyreiko, composer and professor emeritus, Kyiv Conservatory; and Dr. Borys Vereschahyn, acting director, Muzychna Ukraina.

Memorial service for singer Kvitka Cisyk held in Winnipeg

by Orysia Paszczak Tracz

WINNIPEG – As the mournful and melodic "Vichnaia Pamiat" wafted to the dome along with the incense, the bells of St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral rang out. No one attending the panakhyda knew Kvitka Cisyk personally, and yet on a warm Sunday evening, May 31, around 30 Winnipeggers gathered to honor the singer's memory.

When Oksana Bondarchuk, Donna Babick, and other members of the Boyan SUMK Musical Theatre heard of Kvitka's death on March 29, they wanted to show their respect and admiration for this Ukrainian American singer in a special way. Boyan was created in 1994 and consists of SUMK members of all ages, their parents, and others who love Ukrainian culture. The theatre is based at St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian National Orthodox Cathedral in Winnipeg.

A panakhyda and memorial service were organized by members of Boyan at the cathedral. The Rev. Michael Skrumeda conducted the service, with Rev. Deacon Oleksander Harkavyi in assistance. All present stood holding large candles and singing the responses. The traditional funeral bowl of fruit and three kolachi on the tetrapod symbolized the journey from this life to the next.

After the panakhyda, a memorial was held in the church hall. A table decorated with a rushnyk – a Ukrainian ritual cloth – flowers, candles, and a portrait of Kvitka was at the front of the hall, and the fruit and kolachi from the panakhyda were served to those present. The Rev. Skrumeda spoke about how even in rural Manitoba Kvitka's voice sang over the radio waves, from the Ukrainian radio program on CKJS in Winnipeg. He introduced Bohdana Bashuk, director of the Ukrainian radio program, former producer of the mainstage shows at the National Canadian Ukrainian Festival in Dauphin, and moderator of "Open for Discussion," a program on WTN (Women's Television



Scene of the memorial service for Kvitka Cisyk held at St. Mary the Protectress Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral in Winnipeg.

(Continued on page 14)

DATELINE NEW YORK: Making it in the big city

by Helen Smindak

A potent "Pulsar"

Being in the right place at the right time – that is the experience of Dmitry Polischuk, a freelance composer of chamber, orchestral and electronic music who came to this country from Vinnytsia, Ukraine, in 1991. Although he has worked as an accompanist at American Ballet Theatre, New Ballet School and the Elliot Feld Ballet Company, among others, his composing talents were not recognized until he met Robert Hill at an ABT class.

Mr. Hill, a principal dancer at the American Ballet Theatre, was overwhelmed by Mr. Polischuk's 1993 work for synthesizer, "Pulsar," previously submitted without success to choreographers Donald Byrd, Eliot Feld and David Parsons. He used the music to choreograph a new work for the ABT Studio Company, a small classical company created to prepare outstanding young dancers to enter the American Ballet Theatre ranks.

"Pulsar" received its world premiere this spring when the ABT Studio Company presented seven new works at the Sylvia and Danny Kaye Playhouse. It also drew a marvelous critique from Backstage magazine's dance editor, Jennie Schulman.

"There was a pulsating, animated interlude [in the ballet] which in itself would make this the most original work on the program," Ms. Schulman wrote. She felt that the sound effects and music by Mr. Polischuk, in addition to lighting by Brad Fields, aided the choreographer immensely in achieving his "potent dramatic effects."

Mr. Hill employed the image of a very slow dance set to fast music for five dancers in leotards. There was slow, graceful dancing to a staccato beat, then another slow dance to whirlwind music: they overlapped dynamically as the volume and intensity of the music and the drum beats grew greater and louder, then faded out.

"Pulsar" was originally composed for chamber orchestra and synthesizer, Mr. Polischuk says. For Mr. Hill's ballet, he recorded the music on a synthesizer, using a Yamaha SY 99.

The young composer who began his music studies in Vinnytsia at age 7, received a master's degree in music as a composer from the Gorki State Conservatory of Music in Russia. His compositions include a symphony for full orchestra, two string quartets, and piano and violin sonatas.

Mr. Polischuk has written scores for the drama theater, too, including music for Dostoyevsky's "Dreams of a Funny Man," Andrey Orlenko's "11 Doors," Chekhov's "The Lady with a Dog" and Benji Olfsson's "When Cuba Opens Up." The Olfsson drama is scheduled to be staged in the fall by director Bill Hurt.

Mr. Polischuk's works for synthesizer, in addition to "Pulsar," include "Baroque Game" for full orchestra and synthesizer, and music for the first act of the ballet "Giselle" (also known as "Life Situations") for the New York dance company Donald Byrd, The Group.

Recently married, Mr. Polischuk divides his time between his home in Queens and his work in Manhattan. He has written music for another Robert Hill ballet – a pas de deux that will be performed this summer at a Fire Island festival – and is working with Mr. Hill to prepare "Baroque Game" for presentation by a full ballet company in Tokyo in the fall. And, he is completing a 40-minute work which he describes as "very modern and radical," one that will require 13 musicians and two conductors.

"We will be looking for a performance space soon," he predicts happily.

"Woman Through the Ages"

Laryssa Kosach, known to Ukrainians everywhere as the renowned and lyrically creative poetess Lesia Ukrainka (1871 to 1913), achieved her greatest literary triumphs in historical, allegorical and exotic dramas whose themes she based on foreign subjects – Babylonian, Hebrew, Greek, Roman, Spanish and French. She used these subjects to define the problems of Ukrainian life, to express her hostility to Russian imperialism, and to prod her people to heroic deeds.

Although Lesia Ukrainka's poetic dramas were not intended for the stage, several of them were vividly recreated last month at the Fashion Institute of Technology by New York's Ukrainian Stage Ensemble.

Thirteen female members of the ensemble transformed the stage of FIT's Haft Auditorium into a series of dynamic tableaux that blended recitation, music, wordless singing and graceful, gliding choreography.



MIRA

The ABT Studio Company's performance of "Pulsar," choreographed to music by Dmitry Polischuk.

The compelling drama-montage "Zhinka Kriz Viky" (Woman Through the Ages), presented in Ukrainian, was directed by the well-known first lady of Ukrainian theater in New York, Lydia Krushelnytsky.

Accompanied by dramatic shading of light and darkness, the women appeared on three stage levels, changing their formations into lines or semi-circles, at times kneeling, crouched together or lying prostrate on the floor in a huge circle. Emotion-laden recitations of Ukrainka's searing, forceful lines of iambic pentameter were declaimed in unison and in dialogue and solo performances.

Fusing individual works were musical segments that made effective use of piano and flute music and the sound of drums and castanets.

The opening poem "Contra spem spero" (Latin for "I hope against hope") was performed by the entire company, ghostly figures in prayerful attitudes, chanting in unison to the insistent beat of a drum. The work reflected the poet's struggle with an incurable disease and her resolve to "bear my rocky burden all day long" and "sing my songs amid my dark distress."

In her dramatic poem "Kassandra," Ukrainka illustrated the fate of Ukraine through the tragic history of long-lost Troy. Using Cassandra as her spokesperson, the poet challenged the Ukrainian people to shake off their apathy and inertia. Here, Cassandra was touchingly portrayed by a tearful Melanie Sonevsky.

For an excerpt from the poem "Na Ruinakh" (Upon the Ruins), Nadia Tatchyn, Lavrentia Turkewicz,

Laryssa Huryn and Motria Chaban depicted prisoners in Babylon, serving as symbols of the imprisonment of Ukrainians within the Russian Empire.

Sophia Zielyk played important roles with deep feeling in several montages, among them "Hrishnytsia" (The Sinner) and the choral finale "Zoria Poeziyi" (The Star of Poetry). The poem "Prokliattia Rakhili" (The Curse of Rachel) received eloquent treatment from Nadia Dyba-Podoliak.

Others in the excellent cast of this premiere performance included Ivanka Zajac, Olenka Lysetsky, Ksenia Piasecky, Ruslana Roscishewsky, Ksenia Salewych and Liza Szony.

The original score, composed by Ihor Sonevsky, was recorded by an ensemble directed by pianist Volodymyr Vynnytsky. The striking choreography was created by Roma Pryma Bohachevsky. Set design was by Maria Shust, costumes by Irka Lishman and lighting by Andriy Hankevych. The sound engineer was Alexander Kytasty.

The Ukrainian Stage Ensemble made its debut in 1965 at the Ukrainian National Home in Manhattan with a performance of "Letuichyi Korabel" (The Flying Ship). Over the years, its numerous productions have featured predominantly of male actors, promoting Mrs. Krushelnytsky to turn the spotlight on the ensemble's female members by staging a work based on Lesia Ukrainka's poetry. An actress and opera singer in

(Continued on page 13)



Yaroslav Kulynych

A scene from "Woman Through the Ages" performed by Lydia Krushelnytsky's Ukrainian Stage Ensemble.

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Newsbriefs

(Continued from page 2)

discuss that possibility during a July 8-9 visit to Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Miners demonstrate in capital

KYIV - Some 250 striking miners blocked streets in Kyiv on June 26 to protest wage arrears, Ukrainian and Western agencies reported. The leaders of the action said it was "a gesture of despair." In response to the mounting wave of job actions in the mining sector, President Leonid Kuchma dismissed four deputy coal industry ministers and named former union leader Viktor Derzhak as head of the state coal concern, Interfax reported. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yeltsin's visit to Ukraine postponed

KYIV - Boris Yeltsin's press spokesman Sergei Yastrzhembskii said on June 26 that the Russian president will not meet with his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, in Crimea in July, Interfax reported. The informal meeting had originally been scheduled for June. It was postponed until July during the recent Russian economic crisis. But Mr. Yastrzhembskii did not give a reason for this delay or announce a new date. On June 25 the Kremlin announced that President Yeltsin will delay a planned trip to Kazakhstan in July to an unspecified date in September in order not to be away from Russia for several days during the continuing economic difficulties. Nezavisimaya Gazeta argued on June 27 that the postponement of Mr. Yeltsin's visits to Ukraine and Kazakhstan, where he was to have met with the leaders of that country, China, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan, "will further weaken Russia's influence in the CIS." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma praises relations with Poland

KYIV - President Leonid Kuchma said on June 25 that ties between Kyiv and

Warsaw are "very good" and that his regular meetings with Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski relieve any tension in the relations, ITAR-TASS reported. Mr. Kuchma was speaking in Kyiv on the eve of a two-day visit by Mr. Kwasniewski to Ukraine. The presidents are to hold talks in Kharkiv. Polish business leaders are accompanying their president. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Good news and bad on the economy

KYIV - President Leonid Kuchma said on June 25 that although Ukraine's GDP and industrial production have increased, the economy is in a "very difficult" situation, ITAR-TASS reported. Mr. Kuchma said the dismal performance of the stock market also is worrisome. He added that Ukraine must continue to borrow money from foreign lenders, saying that without loans from the IMF "Ukraine will be financially blockaded." (RFE/RL Newsline)

Bomb threat during Rada session

KYIV - A bomb threat on June 25 disrupted the Ukrainian Verkhovna Rada shortly after it failed for the 15th time to elect a speaker, the Eastern Economist reported. The Parliament was searched, but no bomb was found and the session was continued behind closed doors. (RFE/RL Newsline)

First lady supports rights in Belarus

MIENSK - Hillary Rodham Clinton, wife of the U.S. president, sent a letter of support to the wives and mothers of men in detention in Belarus allegedly for their opposition to the Belarusian government, Belapan reported on June 25. Mrs. Clinton said she is concerned by "the worsening human rights situation in Belarus." She added that the women are not alone and that Washington supports their cause of defending human rights. (RFE/RL Newsline)

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NOTES ON PEOPLE

Students present their fashion designs

by Natalie Kosonocky

WHIPPANY, N.J. – Metamorphosis – the process of turning used clothes into designer fashions is the new meaning that the word evoked in the minds of the audience at a recent fashion show called “Metamorphosis Fashions” presented here at Whippany Park High School.

Adriana Iwashko and Rowena Madla would like to design clothes someday for a living. If their show “Metamorphosis” is any indication, the young women will have no difficulty expressing their creative vision.

The culmination of a year’s worth of planning, creating and sewing was demonstrated as Ms. Iwashko and Ms. Madla displayed their designs. The show on May 21 was the final portion of a senior year independent study course completed by the two young fashion designers.

More than 200 people crowded the high school cafeteria for a glimpse of the up-and-coming designers. Expertly choreographed and with appropriately upbeat music, the show kicked off to an auspicious start.

The Metamorphosis line immediately proved it is more than just fashion. Within moments of the show’s beginning, it was evident that the clothing line was about a youthful attitude and a confident approach to life. Basing many of

their profiles on vintage looks, the young designers then incorporated their own touches. Many of the garments were form fitting and body-conscious, showing clever appliqué techniques to emphasize a youthful and energetic look.

The line began with women’s clothing, featuring dresses as well as mini-skirts. Especially striking was a long black dress with an Asian-inspired dragon applique. Beach wear took the tropical look to heart, showing an eye-catching olive bandeau top and mini-skirt with a fish-net overlay.

The men’s fashions displayed a bit of whimsy with the first outfit, a gun metal gray vinyl suit, with a fur trimmed collar, but soon turned to fashions that a progressive man could wear in a casual office environment. Evening fashions for men and women were also featured. Small details, such as kickpleats or front bodice shirring on various garments lent a unique air to that portion of the collection.

Ms. Iwashko and Ms. Madla’s production was accompanied by a catalogue of their clothing designs, further displaying their professionalism and versatility as designers. The high school seniors were clearly very enthusiastic about the entire project – which showed through every aspect of the event. They plan to follow up their interest in clothing through their college careers. Ms. Iwashko will attend Parson’s School of Design in the fall, while Ms. Madla will attend Rutgers University. Ms. Iwashko is a member of UNA Branch 172.

Notes on People is a feature geared toward reporting on the achievements of members of the Ukrainian National Association. All submissions should be concise due to space limitations and must include the person’s UNA branch number. Items will be published as soon as possible after their receipt, when space permits.



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Exceptions to the above are notices of death, which will be accepted until 9 a.m. of the Wednesday the paper is printed.

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Eight weeks later...

(Continued from page 1)

atory commission, a temporary committee of representatives of the eight factions and independent national deputies in the Verkhovna Rada.

On June 29, the commission had agreed that the Parliament would nominate one candidate at a time, alternately a representative from the centrist coalition, and then from the left block. With this agreement came a pledge from the coalition of four centrist factions that they would no longer boycott the vote when they thought it politically expedient.

The agreement lasted for two rounds. In the 16th round centrist candidate Yurii Kostenko, a member of the Rukh faction, came 14 votes shy of being elected, the second highest vote total since the election process began on May 12.

The next day, the leftist nominee, Petro Symonenko, chairman of the Communist Party, who has tried and failed to get elected six times, couldn't muster the needed majority again, receiving only 207 nods.

The agreement had been teetering because the centrist candidates had nominated their own nominees in the 17th round, although all had withdrawn their candidacy. It fell apart in the 18th round when the name of Oleksander Moroz, leader of the Socialist Party, was put into nomination, a round that should have featured a representative of the political right.

Ivan Chyzh, of the Leftist Center faction to which Mr. Moroz belongs, defended the decision to put the former chairman's name in nomination. "When there is an agreement to vote, but nobody takes ballots, then the agreement is broken," said Mr. Chyzh.

In the end, Mr. Moroz could garner the support of no more than 211 national deputies.

That vote, however, was voided and a re-vote was called by the tallying committee, after the committee received numerous official complaints about procedural irregularities that did not allow many national deputies to properly vote.

After changing a procedural rule that will move the location of voting from a

side room into the main session hall, the national deputies were to vote on July 2 on whether to implement a rule that would force all deputies present during a vote to cast ballots.

With the new Verkhovna Rada still in disarray and not looking like it will soon be able or be willing to elect a chairman, a proposal by one national deputy before the 18th round on June 30 was greeted by a hearty round of applause, at least from one side of the session hall:

"I propose that we bless the Verkhovna Rada. We should invite the bishops of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Kyiv Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Moscow Patriarchate, the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church and the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church. When God's blessing finally is upon us, we will be able to make a decision."

UFA votes against merger...

(Continued from page 1)

Ukrainian American Cultural Foundation, headed by Eugene Tataryn, which has already collected \$300,000 toward the purchase of the resort from the UFA. Delegates approved further negotiations with the group, whose aim is to keep Verkhovyna in Ukrainian hands.

UFA President Oleksyn told The Ukrainian Weekly that the Executive Committee will continue talks with Mr. Tataryn's initiative group and will present additional information to the Supreme Council, which must approve any subsequent actions.

In addition, convention delegates debated whether Narodna Volya should continue to be published as a weekly, or should become a biweekly. In a telephone interview with The Ukrainian Weekly, Editor Nicholas Duplak said delegates voted to allow the newspaper to be published as a weekly for one year, noting, however, that it should become self-supporting within that time. The UFA will then review the newspaper's finances and make a determination on its future.

Mr. Duplak emphasized that he will conduct an intensive campaign to recruit new subscribers.

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(Continued from page 6)

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Basilian sister celebrates 50th anniversary



During a celebration of Sister Paula Jacynyk's 50th anniversary are: (back row, from left) the Revs. Eugene Hutter, Basil Sivinsky and Paul Repela; (front row) Sister Dorothy Ann Busowski, provincial; Sister Paula; Sister Laura Palka and Sister Marie Francis Walchonsky, provincial councillors.

FOX CHASE MANOR, Pa. – The Sisters of St. Basil the Great recently held a golden jubilee celebration, honoring Sister Paula Jacynyk OSBM for 50 years of service and commitment to the order.

The divine liturgy was celebrated by the Revs. Eugene Hutter, Basil Sivinsky and Paul Repela. A dinner celebration followed in the convent dining room.

Born in Clifton, N.J., in 1930, Sister Paula was a member of St. Nicholas Parish in Passaic, N.J. A graduate of St. Basil Academy, she entered the order in 1948 and pronounced her final vows in 1953.

After receiving a degree from Villanova

University, Sister Paula served as principal and superior in parish schools in Cohoes, N.Y., Chicago and Philadelphia. She served as superior of the Basilian Sisters' Motherhouse in Fox Chase and dean of admissions at Manor Junior College. Sister Paula has served as provincial secretary and provincial councillor since 1990, and continues in those positions today.

In 1997-1998 she has been an integral part of the sisters' Ukraine Outreach program, serving as mentor to six young women who are visiting from Ukraine as candidates to join the Order of the Sisters of St. Basil the Great.

Making it in the big city

(Continued from page 9)

Ukraine earlier in her career, Mrs. Krushelnytsky has been training elementary, high school and college students and young professionals in theater art for over 36 years.

A coming attraction

"We have some of the finest artists in the world – they've all been professional musicians, they're great artists, they have wonderful technique, and they've endured a lot of suffering."

So spoke Roger G. McMurrin, the American conductor and founder of the Kiev Symphonic Choir and Orchestra, who was in town a few weeks ago to finalize arrangements for his group's appearance at Carnegie Hall on September 15.

Interviewed by phone, Mr. McMurrin said his choir and orchestra – 160 souls in all, with 90 singers and five soloists in the choir – will begin a concert tour in the U.S. on August 30. The tour will take in church and university appearances and performances at such prestigious concert venues as New York's Carnegie Hall, Severance Hall in Cleveland and the Music Hall in Cincinnati.

"We're bringing mezzo-soprano Luba Kaniuka, soprano Iryna Vanienets, a tenor who has the potential to be one of the greatest tenors in the world, and a great bass who's only 25," Mr. McMurrin enthused. "We have an awesome fiddler, and we may bring a bandura quartet, too."

Mr. McMurrin said the symphony program will include excerpts from Tchaikovsky's "Swan Lake," Brahms' "Requiem" (both No. 5 and No. 6) and Rachmaninoff's "Vespers." He pointed

out excitedly "We're doing a recording of Vespers, and we plan to enter it in the Grammy Awards competition."

Choral works by Bortniansky, Vedel, Berezovsky and Stepanenko will be performed in the program along with Russian operatic literature by vocal soloists ("our people like to sing from world-known operas," he said). A Ukrainian folk-music section and some American music, possibly Gershwin, will round things out, he added.

The choir and orchestra toured in the U.S. two years ago, appearing in New York at Riverside Church. This time around the troupe will use three buses, a van and a car to transport members, costumes and musical instruments.

Mr. McMurrin and his wife, Diane, have made Kyiv their home since 1993, when they felt called to move to Ukraine and establish the Kiev Symphonic Choir and Orchestra, as well as a new church (the McMurrins are affiliated with the Presbyterian Church). They visited Kyiv in 1992 to premiere Handel's "Messiah" with Ukrainian musicians and were greatly impressed by the high level of Kyiv's musical artistry.

The McMurrins have found the people to be intelligent and resourceful. But, "someone is stealing the store," Mr. McMurrin commented, because the populace is destitute. "My musicians make an average of \$50 a month, and they all work for the state for \$60 a month, but people need four or five times that amount to be able to live," he said.

The conductor said that he and his wife are trying to help by using a small subsidy from the government to feed 150 people, among them widows, former artists and professional people. Mr. McMurrin said they recently formed a company in Kyiv

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Established 1933

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To subscribe: Send \$50 (\$40 if you are a member of the UNA) to The Ukrainian Weekly, Subscription Department, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054

The Cantilena Trio

Clarinet - Cello - Piano

BUILDING A STAIRWAY TO THE STARS

Dedicated to my friend George Cybriwsky



Together, we formed what is known as the Cantilena Trio and the Cantilena Duo. It was your enthusiasm and love of music and nature that enabled us to build our Stairway to the Stars.

Our Monday morning rehearsals as a duo and our Wednesday rehearsals as a trio was a labor of love. Your kind words of musical wisdom mixed with laughter will always be remembered.

Our similar thoughts and feelings of expression about the music we played resulted in a unique and beautiful relationship.

Who but we, understood the joy of sharing music at 17 Salem Road on those quiet seasonal mornings. It was ours, George, never to be forgotten.

We shared moments of excitement at the Yale Music Library sales. It was there that we continued to build our library of music by such as, Baumgartner, the Georgian composers, Widor, and others. What a delight it was thinking of performing our repertoire, no restrictions, only dreams.

Those fleeting moments performing together at Martha's Vineyard, Newport's Museum, Connecticut's Retirement Villages, the Duo gigs in New Jersey and so many others all were part of our Stairway.

You have taken a Leave of Absence to perform elsewhere in eternity. You are missed greatly, only to be remembered.

Sir Richard

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Memorial service...

(Continued from page 8)

Network).

Ms. Bashuk also had never met Kvitka, but during the Ukrainian North American Contemporary Music Awards in Edmonton in 1988 (the centenary of Ukrainian settlement in Canada) where the radio host was one of the producers, Kvitka received four awards for her first album: favorite non-dance arrangement of a folk song ("Ivanku"), outstanding production, outstanding album recorded in 1980-1983, and favorite female performer. Kvitka could not attend to receive the awards because of her illness.

Ms. Bashuk spoke of Kvitka's amazing voice and career, and her influence on Ukrainian music both abroad and in Ukraine. Artists from Ukraine, including the organizers of the first Chervona Ruta Festival, said they strove to reach her level of artistic achievement. Her singing and interpretation of folk and art songs became an example. In a radio interview with Ms. Bashuk, the late Nazarii Yaremchuk, in Winnipeg for his own cancer treatment before his death, said no

one else anywhere performed the songs of his friend Volodymyr Ivasiuk the way Kvitka did.

When first diagnosed, Kvitka had been given a few months to live, but this turned into seven years. A few years ago, her husband Ed Rakowicz sent out a request via the Ukes group on the Internet for people to write to Kvitka to inspire her and raise her spirits. The Ukrainian Radio Program on CKJS in Winnipeg sent out this message, and listeners either wrote to Kvitka directly or sent cards and letters to the station, which were then passed on. When the news of her death came, Ms. Bashuk devoted her whole program to Kvitka (in between announcing the results of the Ukrainian parliamentary elections). The songs relieved the sorrow, but not her "Zhuravli." How many times had Kvitka's recording of "Zhuravli" been played after an announcement of someone's death? How ironic, that the last song on that program was "Zhuravli" for the singer herself.

The mourners gathered in Winnipeg, stood for a moment of silence, then broken by Kvitka's "Zhuravli."

Saga of a visa...

(Continued from page 7)

a private firm and she is very busy. I am invited because I have holidays from the university during the summer.

Where do you work?

At the Polytechnical Institute of Lviv. [He presented a document that states he is under contract until the year 2000. Oleh has a Ph.D. in computer engineering and is a professor.]

Who will pay for your trip and your stay in the U.S.?

My cousin will help me pay for these expenses.

The man noted something on his application and told Oleh to wait 30 minutes. A woman returned who spoke poor Russian and called him to another window. She told him that he was denied a visa. She said, "Your cousin only left Ukraine one and a half years ago. That is a very little period of time that has passed to visit her." Oleh objected, stating that I hadn't left

Ukraine, and that I was born in the U.S. This information is clearly stated in my invitation letter to Oleh. The woman was surprised, but restated that he had been refused. She told him that he could write a special application to the consul, pay another \$45 and in a week he would receive a reply. No more words were spoken, and no further explanation was given for their decision.

Others waiting in line told Oleh that they were going to say in their interviews that they were directors of private companies and have enough money to visit the U.S. and to spend it there. But Oleh didn't want to lie and feels that the old ways of the Soviet Union are still alive, even at the American Embassy! My question is: What does it take to get a visa?

I read the interview that your publication conducted with the U.S. ambassador to Ukraine after his return. I read about the percentage of people who are granted visas and the types of people the Embassy staff were trying to prevent from obtaining a visa. I did not think for one moment that Oleh would be turned down.

Field & Olesnycky

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(By prior appointment, on selected Fridays, between the hours of 5:00 P.M. and 7 P.M., Mr. Olesnycky will hold office hours at Self-Reliance Ukrainian Federal Credit Union, 558 Summit Ave., Jersey City, NJ.
Please call (201) 386-1115 to make such appointments in advance)

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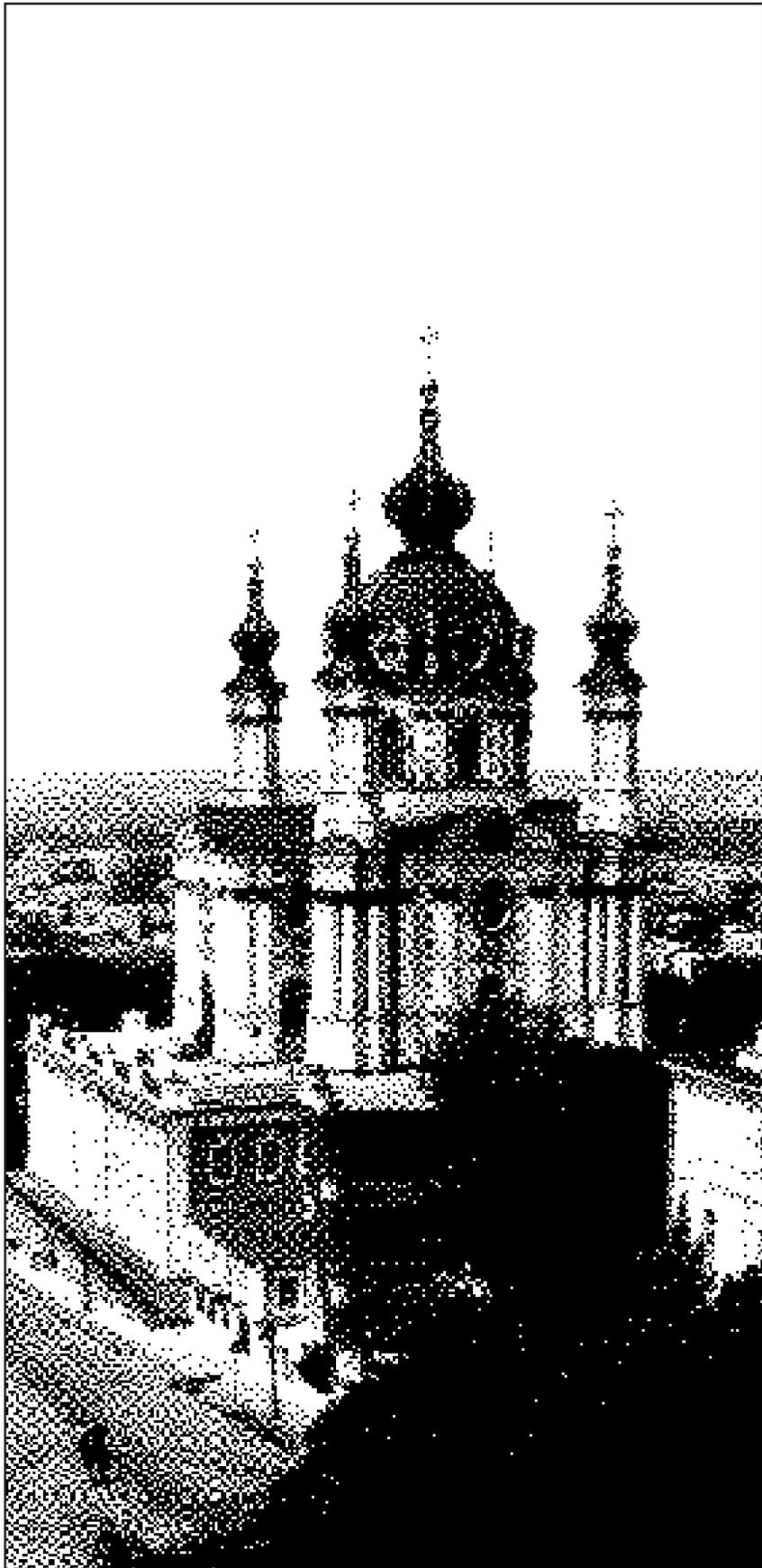
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WELCOME TO UKRAINE

PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday-Sunday, July 11-12

CASTLE CREEK, N.Y.: Sacred Heart Ukrainian Catholic Church will hold its Ukrainian Festival on Saturday, noon-10 p.m., and Sunday, noon-9 p.m., at Sacred Heart Ukrainian Picnic Grounds on Brooks Road. All are welcome to come and enjoy Ukrainian food, games, arts and crafts, and live music by the Perceptions Band from Binghamton. The Sunday program will also feature the Sacred Heart Dancers at 2:30-3:30 p.m. For further information please contact Maria Zobniw, (607) 798-9148.

Monday, July 20

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute, as part of its special events program, is holding a talk titled "Post-Carnival as the Post-Modern Situation in Ukrainian Literature," by Dr. Tamara Hundorova, visiting Fulbright scholar in Ukrainian literature at Columbia University. The presentation will be held on campus in Emerson Hall, Room 101, at 7:30 p.m.

ADVANCE NOTICE
Sunday-Saturday, August 2-8

EMLENTON, Pa.: The Ukrainian Orthodox League of the U.S.A. is holding its 41st annual Western Pennsylvania Regional UOL Teenage Conference. The theme is "1998: The Year of the Ukrainian Orthodox Youth." The conference is being offered to teenagers between the ages of 12 and 18. Counselors must be at least 20 years old. For further information, or to register for the conference, please contact: Charissa Sheptak, 314 Court St., Apt. 1, Brooklyn, NY 11231; telephone, (718) 858-7545.

Senior Advisor

The International Renaissance Foundation (IRF) is seeking a Senior Advisor to assist in the restructuring of the Foundation's operations. The Senior Advisor will provide full-time consulting to the Executive Director and Board in the following areas:

- the establishment of effective and equitable personnel policies, including the formulation of job descriptions, evaluation mechanisms, and professional development policies;
- the implementation of streamlined reporting and information - sharing procedures between branch office and the head office;
- the development of effective and transparent grant application procedures;
- the establishment of an effective external and internal communications policy.

The successful candidate will be an experienced manager, either with substantial experience and demonstrated skills in the areas outlined above. Minimum qualifications include an advanced degree in management or a related field and at least 3 years experience in a senior managerial position. Experience in Ukraine or neighboring countries and in the NGO sector is highly desirable, as is fluency in Ukrainian or Russian, and in English.

The Senior Advisor will report to the Executive Director, with a rank comparable to a Deputy Director for Administration or a Chief Operating Officer. The term of the contract is a one year, with the possibility of renewal. IRF offers a competitive compensation package.

The IRF promotes the development of open society in Ukraine through a variety of grant making and operating programs that focus on educational reform, human rights, the independent media, and economic reform. Established in 1990 by financier George Soros, the IRF is today the largest philanthropic organization in Ukraine, with an annual budget of U.S. \$16 million. The IRF is headquartered in Kyiv and operates branch offices in six provincial cities.

Canadians should send a cover letter and resume by July 15, 1998 to:

Hryhoriy Nemyria, Chair,
 International Renaissance Foundation 46, Artema St., Kyiv 254053, Ukraine
 Tel: (380-44) 216-2596 Fax: (380-44) 216-7629

At Soyuzivka: the summer season opens

KERHONKSON, N.Y. - The Ukrainian National Association's Soyuzivka resort opens its 44th summer season with the traditional array of dances, concerts and sports programs during the long Independence Day weekend, July 3-5.

The premiere weekend spotlights the Dunai Ukrainian Dance Ensemble of Ontario and bandurist Julian Kytasty of New York. Dances on Friday and Saturday evenings feature the music of Luna, Tempo and Burlaky.

Also during the July 4 weekend, Soyuzivka is host to the first tennis competition of the season, the USCAK-East tournament.

The summer season at the UNA estate will continue next weekend, July 11-12, with a concert featuring the well-known Dumka Choir of New York, performing under the baton of Vasyl Hrechynsky. The concert commences at 8:30 on Saturday evening. It will be followed by a dance to music provided by Kryshal, beginning at approximately 10 p.m.

For information about Soyuzivka accommodations, programs, etc., call (914) 626-5641.



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