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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Journalists take a stand: Kuchma once again a target of public demonstrations no more censorship

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Responding to perceptions of increased government censorship and intimidation of the press, some 400 Ukrainian journalists have signed a manifesto criticizing state leaders and spurring the creation of a union of independent journalists and the formation of a strike committee to coordinate its actions.

They are insisting that government and state officials stop overtly and illegally attempting to influence and control information flowing from the mass media to the public, and demanding legislation to ban specific forms of censorship.

In a meeting with Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn on October 15, the strike committee, consisting of 11 leading Ukrainian journalists, received a promise from the legislative leader that a vote will be set for a special parliamentary hearing on censorship and freedom of the press in Ukraine to be held in December.

A week earlier President Leonid Kuchma had said he was ready to meet with the journalists, but the meeting never occurred.

"The pressure from the government has increased significantly since about June, after the parliamentary elections," explained Oleksander Kryvenko, a member of the strike committee, who originally published one of Ukraine's first democratic newspapers, Post-Postup, and today runs the first public radio station in the country.

He explained that attempts to control the media and censorship are nothing new even in independent Ukraine, with many tried and true methods continuing — including denial of accreditation to political events and press conferences for journalists who criticize government and state officials.

He also noted a more subtle and widespread form of censorship practiced for several years: the purchase of major broadcast and print media outlets by pro-presidential business and political elites, referred to as "oligarchs," who then control the editorial content of the newspapers and news programs they own. This has included directing what reporters and camera crews can cover, or simply allowing coverage of events but not airing the news packages afterwards. It also includes creative editing to exclude information that could be considered critical of certain state leaders.

Mr. Kryvenko said that since June, however, a new, more direct type of media control by the state not felt earlier finally had provoked journalists to act. He explained that after major changes within the presidential administration, including the appointment of Viktor Medvedchuk as President Kuchma's chief of staff, news directors began receiving anonymous directives on how to plan the weekly news cycle.

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by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — Three days after nearly 25,000 demonstrators gathered in central Kyiv for a third round of anti-presidential demonstrations in what was dubbed a "national tribunal," a Ukrainian appellate court judge announced on October 15 that he had ordered an inquiry into corruption charges against President Leonid Kuchma.

The unexpected declaration, if heeded by the Procurator General's Office, which is unlikely because it is controlled by the president, would be the first step in a process to remove Mr. Kuchma from office.

Yurii Vasylenko, longtime judge of the Kyiv District Appellate Court, told a packed room of reporters during an unexpected appearance at a press conference organized by leading opposition members, that it is time for law enforcement bodies to investigate the criminal allegations that for some time now have been leveled at Mr. Kuchma.

He explained that he has authority as a sitting appellate judge to order a criminal investigation and that there is sufficient evidence contained in the materials opposition members had presented him to do so.

"An investigation must take place and the evidence examined to determine whether Mr. Kuchma, first as prime minister and then as president, systematically violated laws and abused his powers of office," explained Judge Vasylenko.

The judge cited 11 charges against Mr. Kuchma, including accusations that he was involved in the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze and the alleged sale of Kolchuha anti-aircraft radar systems to Iraq; accepted bribes from former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko; and ordered other criminal acts,

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AP/Victor Pobedinsky

Protesters wave a banner with inscription "Freedom is our right" during October 12 protests calling for President Leonid Kuchma's ouster.

D.C. conference examines Ukraine's readiness for inclusion in Euro-Atlantic community

by Andrew Nynka

WASHINGTON — The Ukrainian Congress Committee of America and a number of sponsors and organizers on October 8-9 held the third annual roundtable focusing on "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood" to assess Ukraine's qualifications for a place in the Euro-Atlantic community and to explore attitudes towards embracing Ukraine as a member of Euro-Atlantic organizations.

Organizers said the two-day conference, held in the heart of Washington at the JW Marriot Hotel on Pennsylvania Avenue, brought academics and foreign policy experts together to discuss Ukraine's stated

aspiration to join European structures.

More than 300 people listened as officials reaffirmed Ukraine's course toward Europe. Continued allegations of presidential-level corruption and recent news of illegal military hardware sales, however, have left the country's future in an expanding union of European countries uncertain, many of the experts present said.

Panelists added that positive international steps, such as support for the fight against global terrorism and a formal request on May 24 to be considered a candidate for NATO membership, have demonstrated Ukraine's desire to join Euro-Atlantic structures.

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U.S. and British arms experts begin study of Kolchuha case

by Roman Woronowycz
Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV — A delegation of 13 arms experts from the United States and Britain arrived in Ukraine on October 14 on a fact-finding mission to determine whether illegal arms sales took place between Kyiv and Baghdad.

Under a veil of secrecy, they spent six days moving to various sites throughout the country to gather documents, and interview officials and experts. Perhaps most importantly, they got a first-hand look at the Kolchuha anti-aircraft radar system, which the U.S. has accused Ukraine of transferring to Iraq, to determine its performance characteristics and capabilities.

The group made no public statements
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ANALYSIS

Beyond the EU's enlargementby **Kasia Wolczuk and Roman Wolczuk***RFE/RL Poland, Belarus and Ukraine Report*

The imminence of eastern enlargement is compelling the European Union to address the issue of relations with its future "direct neighbors" to the east, that is, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova. While the EU has a clear-cut strategy on the Balkans, embodied by the Stabilization and Association Process, which offers the prospect of EU membership, the EU has up until recently given the distinct impression of not knowing how to deal with Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova. The long-overdue process of devising a set of appropriate long-term policies and instruments was finally embarked upon by the union in spring 2002. However, this is proving to be a troublesome task.

While the EU is keen to promote stability and prosperity in its direct neighborhood, Belarus, Ukraine and Moldova have expressed diverse aspirations vis-à-vis the EU. Relations with Belarus have all but broken down; Moldova, while expressing an interest in EU membership, is continuing to undergo internal turmoil; and Ukraine, despite being far

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from eligible for membership, is uncomfortably insistent on being offered the mere prospect of membership at some unspecified time in the future.

This insistence finds its roots in 1994, when Ukraine enthusiastically signed a Partnership and Cooperation Agreement (PCA) with the European Union becoming the first among the post-Soviet states to do so. In some respects, the agreement, which is valid for 10 years, resembled the association agreements signed between Central and Eastern European states and the EU, which provided the legal framework and instruments for cooperation in a number of areas, including energy, trade, the environment, and transportation. However, in contrast to the association agreements, the PCA did not offer the prospect of EU membership.

Yet, in 1996, President Leonid Kuchma made explicit Ukraine's intention to join the EU, and in June 1998 a strategy on Ukraine's integration with the European Union was adopted by presidential decree, formally establishing Ukraine's membership in the EU as a long-term strategic goal. A more detailed program for Ukraine's integration with the EU was adopted in June 2000.

Ukraine's declarations did not go down well either in Brussels or in the capitals of EU member-states. While the EU had embarked on protracted negotiations with candidate states, it persistently refused to offer any prospect of membership for Ukraine and Moldova. This is because the EU believes that rapprochement with, rather than membership for, these eastern states is sufficient for managing the "soft" security issues emanating

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Romania attempts to alleviate border problems with Ukraineby **Taras Kuzio***RFE/RL Newsline*

The timing of Romanian President Ion Iliescu's visit to Ukraine on September 17-19 was not unexpected. Ukraine's Zerkalo Nedeli/Dzerkalo Tyzhnia newspaper predicted as far back as its June 8-14 edition that Romania would be pushed into patching up its border dispute with Ukraine by the impending November NATO summit in Prague.

It was, therefore, somewhat disingenuous of Romanian Foreign Minister Mircea Geoana to say in August that "Romania is not under any time pressure from the point of view of European and Euro-Atlantic integration." In June Romania reported to NATO on its progress in implementing its Membership Action Plan as the basis for NATO membership.

Romania's actions followed a similar pattern in 1997, when Bucharest sought to resolve outstanding border problems on the eve of the Madrid NATO summit. On April 28, 1997, Ukraine and Romania resolved their border dispute only a day before reformist President Emile Constantinescu applied for Romania to join NATO. The treaty was formally signed in June 1997, a month before the NATO summit, and went into effect in October of that year. The Romanian Foreign Ministry complained in

1997 that post-Communists and nationalists who opposed the border treaty with Ukraine were "circles alien to Romania's interests that wanted the country to stay outside European and Euro-Atlantic structures."

After the signing ceremony, President Constantinescu said "Romania now fulfils all of the conditions to be accepted in the first wave." But, even French and Italian lobbying failed to secure Romania as a candidate for NATO membership in 1997.

President Iliescu's visit to Ukraine last week came after thirteen rounds of negotiations had failed to reach a breakthrough in the final obstacle in Romania's border dispute with Ukraine. In 1997 the existing border was confirmed in the treaty, but the delimitation of the maritime border was deferred for two years. However, this has yet to be achieved.

Of Ukraine's seven neighbors, Romania has ranked alongside Russia as the most intransigent over border issues. Both the former Communists led by Mr. Iliescu and extreme nationalists, such as the Greater Romania Party, opposed the 1997 treaty. Only because of a reformist president and his allies in parliament did the treaty muster support. The treaty was narrowly ratified by the Romanian Senate by a vote of 65 to 50, with three abstentions, and in the lower Chamber of Deputies by a vote of 165 to 92. Three opposition left and nationalist parties boycotted the signing ceremony (including Mr. Iliescu's party).

The Romanians were the only one of Ukraine's many national minorities who

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NEWSBRIEFS**Judge opens case against Kuchma**

KYIV – Kyiv Court of Appeals Judge Yuriy Vasylenko has opened a criminal case against President Leonid Kuchma in connection with charges by opposition lawmakers that he violated 11 articles of the Criminal Code of Ukraine, including his alleged involvement in the illegal sale of military technology to Iraq and the murder of journalist Heorhii Gongadze, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported on October 15. Judge Vasylenko said he made his decision on the basis of an appeal by national deputies, documents from the ad hoc parliamentary commission set up to investigate the Gongadze case and evidence included on the secret audio recordings made by former presidential security officer Mykola Melnychenko. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Is case against Kuchma legal?

KYIV – The administration of Ukrainian President Kuchma said it believes the criminal case instigated against Mr. Kuchma by Judge Yuriy Vasylenko is illegal and unconstitutional, the UNIAN news agency reported on October 15, quoting presidential spokeswoman Olena Hromnyska. Presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk called the case an example of "legal nihilism." According to the Constitution of Ukraine, the president of Ukraine enjoys immunity from prosecution while in office and may be held accountable before a court of law only after a procedure of impeachment has been initiated against the president. However, there are no laws in Ukraine defining the procedure for impeachment. Justice Minister Oleksander Lavrynovych also said the case against President Kuchma is "beneath all criticism from a legal point of view." Mr. Lavrynovych admitted, however, that bringing to court persons shielded by immunity from prosecution has not been clearly regulated in Ukraine. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Iranian president in Ukraine

KYIV – Iranian President Mohammad Khatami arrived in Kyiv on October 15 for a two-day official visit, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. Mr. Khatami and his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, agreed on the creation of a joint aircraft-construction consortium and discussed the possibility for constructing a gas pipeline from Iran to Europe transiting Ukraine, the UNIAN news service reported. The two sides signed accords on bilateral trade and cooperation in health care, as well as an anti-drug trafficking memorandum. President Khatami told journalists that Iraq poses a threat to other countries if it possesses weapons of mass destruction, but

called for a peaceful solution to the conflict between Baghdad and Washington. "We are against unilateral action by the United States," Mr. Khatami added. President Kuchma said Ukraine, too, supports a peaceful solution to the Iraq problem. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Estonian president visits Ukraine

KYIV – Estonian President Arnold Ruutel said in Kyiv on October 14 that Estonia supports Ukraine's efforts to integrate with Europe and NATO, Ukrainian and international news agencies reported. Following his meeting with President Leonid Kuchma, President Ruutel pledged to develop closer ties with Ukraine after Estonia, as widely expected, becomes a NATO member in November and a European Union member in 2004. UNIAN quoted Mr. Kuchma as saying that all that is taking place in Ukraine today "confirms the opinion of the European Union that it is still too early for us to [join the EU]." During Mr. Ruutel's visit Estonia and Ukraine signed a cooperation accord on environmental protection. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S., British experts probe Kolchuha issue

KYIV – U.S. and British non-proliferation experts met with Ukrainian officials on October 14 at the start of a 10-day mission to investigate whether Ukraine sold a sophisticated Kolchuha radar system to Iraq in violation of United Nations sanctions, the Associated Press reported. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual said the main task of the team of 13 investigators is "to determine, in conjunction with the Ukrainian side, whether there's any information on whether there has been a transfer and whether there's information we can get that would help us protect both British and American pilots who are protecting the no-fly zone in Iraq." The same day, Ukrainian Foreign Affairs Minister Anatolii Zlenko denied allegations made by opposition lawmaker Yulia Tymoshenko that Ukraine secretly imported a Kolchuha system from Belarus last week in an effort to prove that none of Ukraine's systems were shipped to Iraq. (RFE/RL Newsline)

U.S. official: no doubt Kuchma gave OK

WASHINGTON – Assistant Secretary of State Elizabeth Jones told the U.S. Helsinki Commission in Washington on October 10 that there is no doubt Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma approved the sale of the Kolchuha radar system to Iraq in violation of United Nations sanctions. But, Ms. Jones said, it is not clear that the system is in Iraq. President Kuchma and other Ukrainian offi-

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Germany's ambassador to Canada comments on Ukraine's integration into Europe

by Roman Zakaluzny

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

OTTAWA – German Ambassador to Canada Christian Pauls set the tone for his lecture early, with an analogy. According to Mr. Pauls, North Americans tend to pressure the European Union to admit new members as speedily as possible. For them, Ambassador Pauls had the following reply: "Yeah, once Mexico becomes the 51st state."

Such was the nature of Mr. Paul's speech, titled "Ukraine and European Integration," held at the University of Ottawa on September 25. This was the fourth in the Ambassador Lecture Series, organized by the Chair of Ukrainian Studies. Ambassador Pauls, a career diplomat, was the featured speaker for the approximately 50 people who came.

Mr. Pauls spent the evening clarifying Germany's position on EU expansion, and telling Ukrainian Canadians that their country still has a long way to go before the EU would beckon.

"We are tied through the wars which Germany waged on Ukraine in the last century," began Ambassador Pauls. "Ukraine, as such, holds a special part in German foreign policy."

The question on most attendees' minds, however, was whether that special place included a spot at the next EU enlargement talks. They learned that Ukraine still has many sacrifices to make, and that it must change how it handles domestic politics in the corrup-

tion-ridden land.

"We are going to assist Eastern Europe more this decade than we did in the last decade," said Mr. Pauls. "With Ukraine, [democratization] has not come easily, especially domestically. We have told Kyiv this numerous times."

"Where is Poland after 10 years?" continued the envoy. "They have turned the corner. It wasn't easy for them, and they have paid a price."

Poland, most experts agree, will join the EU in 2004. Ukraine, according to Ambassador Pauls, is "years away."

"[Ukraine] has no working market economy." ... "But something will happen," Mr. Pauls said. "And it will be in stages."

He sees Ukraine first joining a European "free trade area." Only afterwards will full membership, with all its guarantees of economic and political equality with the other member-states, be considered.

"We will not drop Ukraine," said Ambassador Pauls, "but there will remain a certain distance between us if we do not see progress."

He added that Ukraine suffers from uncontrolled emigration and organized crime flowing across its western borders into Europe. Steps need to be taken to combat these problems, the envoy said. He also wants to see cooperation with the EU in transportation, communication, science, the arts, the environment and the legal system.

One questioner asked if Ukraine's chances for membership were hurt when it was accused the previous day by the United States of selling Kolchuha radar



Germany's ambassador to Canada, Christian Pauls (left), with Prof. Theofil Kis (center) of the Chair of Ukrainian Studies at the University of Ottawa and Dr. Yuri Shcherbak, Ukraine's ambassador to Canada.

systems to Iraq.

"These [scandals] are flashpoints," replied the ambassador. "Although these aren't reasons [in and of themselves that] Ukraine cannot join the EU, they do contribute."

Another attendee speculated that if Ukraine were allowed to sell its wheat to the EU without incurring stiff import tariffs, it wouldn't be tempted to sell products to Iraq to increase foreign currency Mr. Pauls agreed.

"You are completely right. The EU has

not been fair with its neighbors on world markets. A number of us are upset with the agrarian policies of some of our members," he replied.

Although the diplomat would not name the states he was referring to, Ambassador Pauls did say that he hoped to get rid of such policies, supported by France and others, by 2006.

"These are domestic inconsistencies which have to be addressed," explained Mr. Pauls. "But, as you know, domestic policy is very difficult to have changed."

Soviet-era taboos help bring Ukraine to edge of AIDS epidemic

by Conor Humphries

Special to The Ukrainian Weekly

KYIV – Former nurse Anna Maksimova wasn't worried when the results of her HIV test came back positive. It was simply impossible: she wasn't a drug user, she wasn't a prostitute. Three years later, after losing her job and having her baby threatened with acid because of her infection, she has finally come to terms with the scale of the taboos and misinformation that have helped carry Ukraine to the edge of a crippling AIDS epidemic.

Lack of information on HIV/AIDS, crystallized by Soviet-era attitudes regarding sex and drugs, have contributed to the explosive growth in rates that have seen reported cases triple in the last five years, according to the United Nations AIDS Program. Meanwhile, the same mixture of negative attitudes and ignorance among those infected has led to a situation where it is estimated that somewhere between 240,000 and 350,000 cases lie undetected by the state. And, according to research by the Ukrainian Institute of Social Research and the British Council, this figure could reach 1 million by 2006 if nothing is done to improve the situation.

People diagnosed anonymously as HIV positive don't return to register themselves as infected because of fear or shame, thus excluding themselves from official statistics, explains Laima Geidar of the All-Ukrainian Network of People Living with HIV/AIDS. Drug users fear vilification and jail sentences of up to eight years and don't come back to clinics. And the vast majority of Anna's generation 25- to 35-year-olds – simply don't see themselves as at risk despite openly shunning safe sex.

Anna, like many of her age group, failed to associate the risks of unsafe sex with HIV infection. "I thought that only people who were in the high-risk groups

could get HIV. Drug users, homosexuals, people working in the sex business," she recalled. She blames the Soviet mentality for the attitudes, expressed by the ironic claim by a woman from the USSR who told American television in the 1980s that there was no sex in the Soviet Union. "For our generation it was shameful to talk about sex," said Anna, "And now it's too late, they are used to not using condoms. They know that there is HIV, that there is Syphilis, but they don't use them anyway."

Thus, when she received a positive result in a routine test in the seventh month of her pregnancy she simply didn't believe it. "I wasn't afraid," she insisted, "I was convinced that it wasn't my result." When she found out that her husband also was HIV positive, Anna resigned herself to the reality of her situation and told her husband of the news. Out of a mixture of shame and despair neither mentioned it for a month afterwards.

When she came out of her cocoon and decided to search for information about her HIV/AIDS, she quickly realized that much of the society around her was equally sheltered from the problem. It took her a month of contacting clinics and non-governmental organizations to discover that there was actually hope for her baby to be born without the virus.

At one center she was advised to have an abortion. "The doctor simply didn't know it was possible that I could give birth to a healthy child," recalled Anna. Even now, three years later, she has heard the head doctor of Kyiv's No. 4 Maternity Hospital (for Mothers with Infections) say that he had never seen a healthy baby born to an HIV-positive mother.

A month after giving birth to a healthy baby, thanks to free medicine provided by the Glaxo Smith Klein Pharmaceutical Co., Anna came out of the hospital to again face intimidation and discrimination from those around her. First she was



Anna Maksimova

fired without cause from her job in the office of the Yabluko political party the almost inevitable consequence of a Ukrainian employer finding out one of its workers is HIV positive, according to Anna. Then a neighbor, another nurse, tried to intimidate her out of her building after finding out about her infection from a friend in the maternity hospital. She spent a month disinfecting the buttons in the building's elevator, before threatening her child. "She said that if I didn't leave the building that she would get acid and throw it on my child," recalled Anna calmly.

Anna claims to be able to understand something of the fear that others feel against AIDS. She remembers her fear when she socialized with HIV-positive friends of a homosexual acquaintance during her college days. "I was a medical professional and I know that you couldn't

get [HIV] from drinking from the same cup as someone," she insists, "but I used to look to see what bottle he was drinking from the whole time. I was afraid all the same."

Although Anna still doesn't know whether she contracted AIDS from her husband or from her work in hospitals, she sees the lack of communication between couples as another major cause of the spread of the disease from the high-risk groups to the wider population. According to the Ukrainian AIDS center, 70 percent of women currently suffering from AIDS in Ukraine become infected through heterosexual contact with their husband or partners.

Laima Geidar sees such infections as becoming more and more common as a result of the economic situation in Ukraine, which forces men to travel abroad to find work. "Their husbands go away, have sex without contraceptives and when they come home they bring their wives a 'present,'" she explained. Similarly she claimed that sailors bring the infection to the wider population in port towns like Sevastopol and Odesa – which have some of the highest rates in the country.

Today, Anna claims to have finally overcome her deep-seated idea that she was somehow "dirty" and, as the first AIDS information bill boards go up in the capital, Anna is determined to show others the truth about HIV/AIDS. She believes that the first step is to teach the government about the realities of the virus, before dealing with the medical profession and finally the public.

In particular she thinks it is vital to end the shame attached to infection for the sake of society at large. "If a person is ashamed then he won't be open with people," she said. "If he is afraid of other people finding out about his infection, he will avoid changing his habits for fear of discovery, and the situation will get worse."

Ukrainian American Veterans gather at 55th national convention

by Stephen M. Wichar Sr.

INDEPENDENCE, Ohio – With a call for brotherhood and unity, Ukrainian American Veterans who served and fought in World War II, Korea, Vietnam, and the Persian Gulf, convened in Independence, Ohio, on September 12-15, to mark their 55th year of existence. Under the leadership of UAV Post 24 based in Parma, the four-day agenda was discharged efficiently and productively.

With military standards raised, the UAV began its 55th convention by registering delegates and guests on Thursday evening and Friday morning. Probably the most disappointing aspect of the assembly was the declining attendance of delegates from key states and cities on the Eastern Seaboard and the Midwest. Only 41 delegates participated (a 20 percent decline from 2001).

During Friday's deliberations, delegates voiced their concerns and expectations about problems with veterans' benefits. Veterans especially focused on continuing efforts to get a national charter, and the ongoing of the UAV Registration Project that will document the contributions of Ukrainian Americans to America's military history. Another concern was the Veterans' History Project initiated by the United States Library of Congress and the American Folklife Center where UAV is an official sponsor.

After the general business was completed (minutes, review of credentials, reports by retiring officers, etc.), delegates were assigned to traditional designated committees: Auditing, Constitution and By-Laws, Research and Documentation, Future Convention Sites, Ways and Means, Membership, Welfare, Scholarship, Resolutions, Military Rites and Rituals, and the Nominations Committee.

A traditional hospitality night was held for delegates and guests, courtesy of the Convention Committee under the leadership of Mike Demchuk.

On Saturday morning, committee chairmen presented their reports, findings, and recommendations. Questions and topical discussions were encouraged. The Nominations Committee then presented a list of candidates for 2002-2003.



Participants of the Ukrainian American Veterans' 55th convention held in Independence, Ohio.

The following were named and unanimously elected to office: Commander Mathew Koziak, Post 27, Brooklyn, N.Y.; Vice-Commander Anna Krawczuk, Post 31, Freehold, N.J.; Finance Officer Wasyl Liscynsky, Post 24, Cleveland; Judge Advocate, Stephen M. Wichar Sr., Post 101, Warren, Mich.; Quartermaster, Stephen Kostecki, Post 30, Boston; Chaplain, Dorothy Budacki, Post 28, Akron, Ohio; Welfare Officer Myroslaw Pryjma, Post 101, Warren, Mich.; Scholarship Officer Nicholas Skirka, Post 301, Yonkers, N.Y.; Historian Wasyl Luchkiw, Post 19, Spring Valley, N.Y.; Webmaster Walter Demetro, Post 15, New Britain, Conn.; National Adjutant (non-elective), Peter Polny, Post 27, Brooklyn, N.Y.

Held concurrent with the UAV's deliberations, were the business sessions of National Ladies Auxiliary. The following were elected to the Auxiliary Executive Board: President Helen Drabak; Vice-President Natalie Chuma; Secretary Irene Pryjma; Treasurer Jean Elnick; Chaplain Olga Wengryn; Judge Advocate Ann Bezkorowajny; Public Relations Officer

Judith Malaniak; Welfare Officer, Alberta Cieply; Service Officer Kay Brega; and Historians Mmes. Cieply and Jean Elnick.

UAV sessions were interrupted by a Ladies Auxiliary Committee that presented the veterans with \$500 for the Scholarship Fund and another \$500 for the Welfare Fund.

Approximately 200 delegates and guests attended the 55th annual UAV Banquet at St. Josaphat Astrodome in Parma. The festivities for the evening began with welcoming remarks by Mayor Fred P. Ramos of Independence.

Andrew Fedynsky, a prominent activist in the Cleveland area and well-known columnist for The Ukrainian Weekly, was the master of ceremonies. He stated that, "the 55th observance is a fitting session for the veterans to pause and reflect on the causes of justice and liberty and to uphold the associated values."

He called on Eugene Sagacz, past national commanders to come to the podium as the Installation officer for the day. A presentation of colors was execut-

ed by a Marine Corps detail, and the American and Ukrainian anthems were sung by the audience. PNC Sagacz called on PNC Edward Zettig from Philadelphia to assist as the aide-de-camp, who then marched in the UAV and Ladies Auxiliary for installation.

Acceptance speeches were delivered by Commander-Elect Koziak and President-elect Drabak later in the program. Mr. Fedynsky called on Mr. Liscynsky, general convention chairman, to extend his personal welcome and greetings.

After acknowledging the symbolic Missing in Action (MIA), table, Mr. Fedynsky called on Bishop Robert M. Moskal of St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy in Parma, to offer the invocation.

The famous Kashtan dance ensemble under the choreographic direction of Mr. Komichak, presented a breathtaking "greeting" dance for the audience.

The keynote speaker for the 55th Convention was Judge Bohdan Futey, (U.S. Court of Claims), who focused his remarks on military rights and the developmental process of the Constitution of Ukraine. Judge Futey spoke also about current problems in Ukraine, the lack of political discipline, problems in the Verkhovna Rada, military reforms, strengths and weaknesses of the Ukrainian Republic. Judge Futey's closing remarks said it best: "Nobody will help Ukrainians unless they help themselves."

The second speaker for the evening was Maj. Bohdan Pyskir, a 1983 graduate of West Point, who spoke philosophically about what defines a Ukrainian American. He addressed the historic influences and the subsequent forces that influenced Ukrainian Americans.

A female ensemble performed songs and bandura music charming the audience with favorite Ukrainian melodies. The ensemble is directed by Mark Komichak.

Although the hour was late, the Sound Trax Orchestra began the military ball with Ukrainian tunes. During the ball, a plaque of commendation was presented to Mr. Demchuk by the convention director, Mr. Liscynsky. Mr. Demchuk was not only acclaimed for his key role in the convention structure but also for his hosting of the event. Irene Demchuk, the force behind the man, also was applauded for her work on the convention journal.

The 56th UAV Convention will convene in Palatine, Ill., in 2003.

CCRF board reviews its strategy for coming year

SHORT HILLS, N.J. – Members of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund's board of directors met on September 14 for a working meeting to review the fund's hospital partnerships and to plan its humanitarian strategy for the coming year. Present were: Chairman of the Board Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, Orest Fedash, Nadia Matkiwsky, Joseph Vena, Myron Holubiak and Leonard Mazur, and CCRF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma.

This fall, CCRF welcomed three new members to its board: Mr. Holubiak is the chief operating officer at Physician Health Net and the former president of Roche Pharmaceuticals. Mr. Mazur is the president of Genesis Pharmaceuticals and the president of the Ukrainian American Professional and Businesspersons' Association of New York /New Jersey.

The most recent member to join the Board of Directors as of October 1 is Melanne Verveer, the chairman of the Vital Voices Partnership for Women and the former chief of staff to First Lady Hillary Rodham Clinton.

Since 1990, CCRF has completed 30 medical airlifts and 12 sea shipments to Ukraine. The fund has established long-term partnerships with hospitals in 12 oblasts of Ukraine. For the 2002-2003



Members of the CCRF board of directors, Dr. Zenon Matkiwsky, Orest Fedash, Nadia Matkiwsky, Joseph Vena, Myron Holubiak and Leonard Mazur, and CCRF Executive Director Alexander Kuzma.

year, CCRF is planning a series of training conferences on infant cardiac surgery to help save more of the thousands of Ukrainian children born each year with congenital heart defects. The fund is also opening its ninth neonatal intensive care unit at the Ivano-Frankivsk Regional Children's Hospital with state-of-the-art

technology provided by the Austrian-based firm NZ Techno.

Tax-deductible donations to CCRF may be forwarded to: CCRF, 272 Old Short Hills Road, Short Hills, NJ 07078. For further information, please call (973) 376-5140 or consult the fund's website at www.childrenofchernobyl.org.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Honorary member of General Assembly Anna Chopek surprised on 90th birthday



Anna Chopek (standing) with her sister, Stephanie Sydoriak, during a surprise party on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

LOS ALAMOS, N.M. – The family and friends of Anna Chopek, and the Ukrainian Club of Los Alamos, celebrated her 90th birthday, on Sunday afternoon, September 8 – one week early – with a surprise party at historic Fuller Lodge in Los Alamos.

The Rev. John F. Carney, pastor of the Immaculate Heart of Mary Catholic Church, presented Ms. Chopek with a rendering of the bell tower of the church, and bestowed a blessing on her with wishes for a healthy and happy life. In his talk, he said he had served with a Ukrainian in Vietnam, and got to know a lot about Ukrainians.

Eugene Kovalenko sang the beautiful Ukrainian song “Dyvlusia na Nebo” (I’m Looking at the Heavens”) in Ukrainian and in English. “Happy Birthday” and “Mnohaya Lita” were sung in English and Ukrainian, respectively.

Greetings from Stefan Kaczaraj, president of the Ukrainian National Association, were read by Ulana Kebalo George.

Ms. Chopek has lived in Los Alamos, N.M., for 25 years, and has been very active in the community. She was elected to serve three terms as probate judge, and one term as director of the Los Alamos Credit Union.

She and her sister, Stephanie Sydoriak, have had exhibits of Ukrainian artifacts, and each year conduct classes on Ukrainian Easter Eggs. She has been invited to speak before various groups in Los Alamos, on legal matters, presidential anecdotes, lives of first ladies as well as on her trips to Ukraine.

Ms. Chopek is well-known to the Ukrainian community, having served as vice-president of the Ukrainian Youth League of North America, as supreme advisor of the Ukrainian National Association for 24 years, as an honorary member of the UNA General Assembly for many years, and as president of the UNA Seniors.

She was born in Kozowa, Ukraine, on September 16, 1912, and came to Boston with her mother on Easter Sunday in April 1914 (her father arrived earlier). She graduated from Portia Law School in 1935, and passed the Massachusetts Bar Exam in 1936, having written the best paper. She worked for an insurance company as an attorney at a starting salary of 50 percent of what a male attorney would receive.

Seeking adventure during the war, Ms. Chopek worked for one year as an investigator for the U.S. Civil Service Commission in New York City, and then as an attorney for the U.S. Civil Service Commission and as an adjutor for the General Accounting Office in Washington.

While in New York, Ms. Chopek sang in Stephen Marusevich’s choir.

After the war, she returned to Boston, applied to various large legal firms, only to be told that it was their policy not to hire women lawyers. She established her own practice, and during that time served as assistant attorney general for the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and as assistant district attorney for Suffolk

(Continued on page 13)

IN MEMORIAM

John Babyn

February 10, 1920 – October 2, 2002

The Executive Committee of the Ukrainian National Association regrets to announce to the members of the General Assembly, members of Branch 168 and to the UNA membership at large that John Babyn, secretary of Branch 168 for over 30 years, died on October 2, 2002.

The Executive Committee and the entire UNA membership wish to express their sincerest sympathy to his sister, Pauline Medwick, nieces and nephews, as well as great nieces and grand-grandnephews. Funeral services were held on October 7 at the Ukrainian Catholic Church of the Assumption in Perth Amboy.

Mr. Babyn will be remembered for his long years of service and dedication to the UNA.

Vichna Yomu Pamiat!

Why do you need to buy life insurance?

One of the most important purchases you can make for your family is that of life insurance on your life and/or that of your spouse. With the advent of September 11, many families became aware of the vital need to have life insurance. Unfortunately, too many people don’t think about life insurance until it is too late.

Life insurance is for the living. After all, once we die, our families go on with their daily lives, paying the mortgage or rent, making car payments, (food and clothing expenses are just the very basics). If your family is financially dependent on you, they rely on you for your paycheck. Life insurance in its most elementary form will replace the income your family can lose through your premature death.

Consider what would happen to your family if they could not pay the rent or mortgage because you are no longer alive to support them? Will they be able to afford to pay the funeral expenses? Who will pay the medical bills? All your financial obligations must be met from the assets you leave behind. Life insurance can help protect your family from unnecessary financial hardships. If you haven’t considered life insurance, maybe it’s time to consider buying life insurance – not for your sake, but for your family’s!

The most important factor in assessing your needs for life insurance is the number of dependents you have or will have – your immediate family, or maybe even your parents, who eventually might depend on you for their income either partially or fully supporting them. Here are a few considerations:

- If you should die, do you want your family to continue living in the same lifestyle?
- Will your spouse be able to support the entire family on his or her income?
- Will your spouse have to quit his/her job to raise the children or have to hire someone to help during working hours?
- If your spouse does not work outside the home, will finding a job be difficult and how long will it take? Will it pay enough to support the family? Who will provide the income in the meantime?
- Would you like to have the mortgage and/or car loan paid off, or pay off your credit card debts if you die?
- Does your family have any special needs, such as a handicapped child who will never be self-supporting?
- Who will pay for your children’s college education?

Purchasing the right life insurance can help protect your family’s future. The Ukrainian National Association is here to help by providing you and your family with a variety of insurance products. As long as your policy remains in force, your family will be protected. For information on all of the UNA’s life insurance products and annuities, contact the Ukrainian National Association Home Office. We want to secure your future by securing your family’s future! Call 800-253-9862.

Christine E. Kozak
UNA National Secretary



УКРАЇНСЬКИЙ НАРОДНИЙ СОЮЗ, ІНК.
UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION, INC.

UNA PAYING 80% COMMISSION

ALL UNA SECRETARIES AND ORGANIZERS

The Ukrainian National Association will pay 80% commission on first-year premiums for new business sold between November 1, 2002, and December 31, 2002. Applications MUST be postmarked by December 31, 2002, to qualify. Whole life, 20 Pay Life, LP-65, Endowment, T-23, T5, and T-10 are qualifying plans. Universal Life minimum face amount of \$25,000 applies and will pay 80% up to target premium.

EXCLUDED are all Annuities, WSP (Whole Life Single Premium) and all pre-paid policies.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Visit our archive on the Internet at: <http://www.ukrweekly.com/>

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Ukraine gets left back

Readers of this newspaper know well that Ukraine has proclaimed its intention of becoming a full member of both the European Union and NATO. We now know that Ukraine will not be among the dozen states slated for EU membership, much less the seven that are next in line to join NATO. Reuters reported on October 16 that "European Union leaders told Ukraine ... it stands no chance of becoming a member until it respects common values of democracy, press freedom and arms control." And, prior to that, NATO officials said that plans for a summit with Ukraine next month have been dropped, indicating a serious lack of progress in Ukraine-NATO relations.

The result will be that, though the geographical center of Europe is actually located in Ukraine, Europe's political border will stop at Ukraine's western border. The reason in a nutshell: despite all the words emanating from Ukraine about its European choice, though Ukraine has learned to talk the talk, it has yet to walk the walk.

Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski, perhaps Ukraine's staunchest ally at this point (true friends tell you the truth – whether it's good or bad), has expressed grave concerns about Ukraine turning away from Europe, and he convened a meeting of EU leaders, allies of President Leonid Kuchma and Ukrainian opposition leaders in an effort to help his neighbor. Speaking in Warsaw, EU foreign-policy chief Javier Solana said, "The course that Ukraine is taking now is not bringing it closer to European institutions – it's bringing them further apart. A change of course is necessary."

Another good friend of Ukraine, the United States, also is concerned. During an October 10 hearing held by the Helsinki Commission, Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell commented: "... the gravity of President Kuchma's personal approval of the sale of sophisticated radars to Iraq requires a decisive and unequivocal response ... Priority should be given to investigating any financial links between the Ukrainian leader and his associates and sales to rogue states, including Iraq. Devoid of credibility, Mr. Kuchma deserves to be treated as the pariah he has become."

And it's not only the Kolchuha case that is at issue. Also in Warsaw this week, Swedish Premier Goran Persson criticized arms sales by Ukraine to Macedonia in 2001, at the same time that the EU was negotiating to defuse ethnic tensions in that country. "We would never expect, never accept that our friends would sell arms to that kind of country," he said. As U.S. News and World Report indicated, Ukraine has become a transit point for shipments of parts for military hardware, and missile and nuclear technology. "So wide open is that nation that Iraqis are smuggling parts from other nations for assembly there before shipment to Baghdad," U.S. News reported, adding that Kharkiv has become a mecca for arms traffickers from around the world.

And then there is the issue of money laundering. Ukraine remains on the watch list of the Financial Action Task Force on Money Laundering, comprising 31 member-states. Yep, Ukraine is right up there on the list of 11 "non-cooperative countries" along with Nigeria, Egypt, Indonesia, Guatemala ... well, you get the picture.

And so, it appears that it is not Europe that is not ready for Ukraine, but Ukraine that is not ready for Europe.

Ukraine under the Kuchma administration has not proved it deserves entry into Euro-Atlantic structures, and no spinmeister can disguise what is happening, or not, in Ukraine today. Issues of rule of law, transparency in the economic sphere, arms control and freedom of the press must be addressed if Ukraine is to make the grade.

Otherwise, Mr. Kuchma should listen to the diverse voices who say he should step aside and let Ukraine move on. Recent polls conducted in Ukraine show that more than 70 percent think it's time for Mr. Kuchma to go; more than half believe he should be impeached. Clearly, Mr. Kuchma does not represent the people of Ukraine. Perhaps it's time for regime change.

Oct.
24
1986

Turning the pages back...

Sixteen years ago, 144 persons and organizations, including five senators, leaders of ethnic institutions and prominent journalists, endorsed a full-page ad recalling the failed attempted defection of a Ukrainian seaman who a year earlier had sought political

asylum in the U.S. The advertisement appeared in the October 24, edition of The New York City Tribune and marked the first anniversary of Myroslav Medvid's bid for freedom.

Mr. Medvid jumped from a Soviet freighter, the Marshal Koniev, near New Orleans on October 24, 1985, and asked U.S. authorities for political asylum. Instead, he was taken back to the ship and subsequently returned to the Soviet Union. These actions were later the subject of an investigation by the U.S. Helsinki Commission. The five senators who expressed their concern over the treatment of Mr. Medvid by the U.S. government were Jeremiah A. Denton (R-Ala.); Jesse A. Helms (R-N.C.); Gordon J. Humphrey (R-N.H.); James A. McClure (R-Idaho); Steven D. Symms, (R-Idaho).

Among the other signatories to the 1986 advertisement, provided as a public service by The Tribune, were several Ukrainian organizations, including the Ukrainian National Association, Ukrainian American Coordinating Council, Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Ukrainian American Bar Association, Ukrainian Medical Association of North America, as well as scholarly, youth, women's, political and professional organizations. Other signatories were Nadia Svitlychna of the External Representation of the Ukrainian Helsinki Group, former Soviet political prisoner Petro Grigorenko and Walter Polovchak, known as the youngest defector from the USSR.

In related news Chicago attorney Julian E. Kulas, a public member of the U.S. delegation to the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, said he planned to bring up the Medvid case at the Helsinki Accords review conference that was to begin November 4, 1986, in Vienna. "I don't know how much we can help Medvid at this point," Mr. Kulas told The Tribune. "But even if we can't help him, perhaps we can prevent other occurrences of that nature (mishandled defections) from happening in the future."

Source: "Full-page advertisement recalls Myroslav Medvid's jump for freedom," *The Ukrainian Weekly*, November 9, 1986, Vol. LIV, No. 45.

FOR THE RECORD

Rep. Schaffer on Ukraine's Kolchuha problem

Following is the text of a letter to Rep. Jim Kolbe, chairman of the House Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs, which was sent on October 4 by Rep. Bob Schaffer (R-Colo.), a co-chairman of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. Copies of the letter were sent also to: members of the subcommittee, members of the Senate Appropriations Subcommittee on Foreign Operations, U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual, Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, and Reps. Curt Weldon and Marcy Kaptur, co-chairs of the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus.

Dear Mr. Chairman:

The recently authenticated voice recordings of Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, approving the sale of Kolchuha passive radar systems to Iraq through a Jordanian intermediary is of extreme concern to the Congressional Ukrainian Caucus. In my capacity as co-chairman of the caucus, I have been one of Congress' strongest supporters of Ukraine and its integration with the West. However, it has become abundantly clear, Ukraine may not integrate successfully as long as its leaders express intentions to undermine America's non-proliferation goals, especially in Iraq.

Choosing Ukraine's leaders is the decision of the Ukrainian people. However, the Ukrainian people still need America's support to develop democratic principles. Our response must be unambiguous. I respectfully make the following requests:

- Expand the certification requirements for re-establishing funding to Ukraine's central government.

As reported to the House on September 19, 2002, the Foreign Operations, Export Financing and Related Programs Appropriations Act for FY [Fiscal Year] 2003 suspends funding to Ukraine's central government pending certification by the U.S. secretary of state that Ukraine has not facilitated nor engaged in arms sales or arms transfers to Iraq since September 11, 2001. The certifying language in the conference report should reflect the fact that the Ukrainian president's consent to the transfer of Kolchuha radar systems occurred before September 11, 2001, and the fact President Kuchma approved the sale on July 10, 2000. Whether the sale actually took place, the president's

expectations and intentions on this matter are extremely serious, and constitute a betrayal warranting suspension of funding to the central government.

- Continue withholding funding to Ukraine's central government.

Indeed, withholding foreign aid funding from Ukraine's central government is prudent, as it effectively conveys to the Ukrainian government that the United States will not tolerate nor support leaders who illegally subvert democracy and the interests of their citizenry.

- Redirect unused funding to other democracy-building initiatives in Ukraine.

Additional efforts, promoting democracy, human rights and free-market economics in Ukraine are necessary to continue Ukraine's development into a free-market democracy. Programs promoting Ukrainian NGOs, combating the spread of infectious diseases, eliminating trafficking in human beings, stopping weapons proliferation, as well as developmental programs for building Ukraine's agricultural sector, supporting human rights, freedom of speech, the rule of law, market reforms and political party formation are all vital to Ukraine's further development.

- Hold out incentives for responsible behavior.

Specific language in the report should convey America's clear desire for a durable partnership with Ukraine based upon trust. Reformers in Ukraine must be reassured that a good-faith effort to restore a bilateral relationship based on mutual respect will be greeted enthusiastically by the Congress, and that authorization of future U.S. financial assistance is contingent upon the restoration of transparency and complete cooperation.

My personal extensive interaction with the Ukrainian people and Ukrainian leaders, and witnessing Ukraine's impressive progress has convinced me continued foreign assistance funding to Ukraine is a worthy investment. The Subcommittee's distinction between the governmental authorities of Ukraine and the people is clear and commendable and correctly demonstrates its understanding that Ukraine's real potential is outside of its government. If implemented properly, focusing efforts on democracy-building, private enterprise and social and infrastructural programs, U.S. foreign assistance will yield more successful and quicker reforms than ever before.

ARE YOU A WEEKLY BOOSTER?

Become one by enrolling a new subscriber during The Ukrainian Weekly's special subscription drive in October-November. (Please mark any new subscriptions sent in with the notation "Weekly Booster.")

All readers who enroll new subscribers during the campaign will have their names published on a special thank-you list of Weekly Boosters.

IN THE PRESS

“Ukraine’s rogue president”

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Just one week before President George W. Bush’s speech spelled out the threat posed to the entire world by Iraq and the need for regime change in that country, the Bush administration confirmed that President Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine had approved the sale of an anti-aircraft radar system to Iraq.

That was the topic addressed by Adrian Karatnycky, president of Freedom House, writing in the October 9 issue of the Wall Street Journal.

“... while the idea that any nation would willingly aid the murderous intentions of Saddam Hussein has long seem far-fetched, the possibility hit close to home in recent days,” wrote Mr. Karatnycky. “President Kuchma’s decision, in clear violation of United Nations sanctions, may be the first sign of complications with loose technology in the states of the former Soviet Union.”

Mr. Karatnycky’s commentary was published under the headline “Ukraine’s Rogue President.”

The revelation that Mr. Kuchma approved the sale of a Kolchuha system to Iraq “could fundamentally alter the U.S.’s relationship with Ukraine, and particularly with its president,” noted the analyst. He reports that although President Kuchma has denied his involvement, the FBI has determined that a tape of him and his cronies discussing the sale is authentic.

Furthermore, as noted in the op-ed article, “Ukraine has emerged as a leading supply source for illicit traffic in global arms”, and there are indications that arms were sent from Ukraine to such destina-

tions as Angola, the former Yugoslavia, Taliban-controlled Afghanistan and Macedonia, among others.

Mr. Karatnycky went on to note that Mr. Kuchma’s credibility has been destroyed and that “the authenticated Kuchma tape suggests that while Ukraine is not a rogue state, it has a rogue president.” Meanwhile, the United States is pressing for an investigation into the alleged deal with Iraq.

He also mentions that there have been rumors for some time now of allowing President Kuchma to leave office with an amnesty for his misdeeds.

“With the next presidential election coming in two years, the best hope for Ukraine – and for the U.S. – is in pressuring Mr. Kuchma to step aside quietly in favor of early elections,” wrote Mr. Karatnycky.

Mr. Karatnycky concludes that there are two possible outcomes to Iraqgate. “If Mr. Kuchma resigns, Ukraine’s Iraqgate will have borne positive fruit. If he does not, the U.S. will confront two problems: Ukraine’s president will demonstrate to other leaders that you can conspire with Iraq and get away with it. And Mr. Kuchma’s inevitable isolation will drive Ukraine, a strategically important country of 50 million that sits on NATO’s eastern frontier, into Russia’s cynical embrace.”

“Both outcomes,” he underscored, “would cause headaches for Europe and the U.S. But the worst would be if Ukraine’s movement toward Europe, democracy and the rule of law is hijacked by Mr. Kuchma’s insistence on remaining in office.”

LETTER TO THE EDITOR**Of complicity and evidence**

Dear Editor:

On Sunday, September 22, Dr. Kuropas wrote an article about the book “Koba the Dread – Laughter and the Twenty Million” by British writer Martin Amis (Miramax Books, New York, 2002). The book, written with exceptional lucidity, knowledge, and objection presents to the reader a short overview of the entire communist regime. I quote: “There has never been a regime quite like it, not anywhere in the history of the universe.” It also presents true portraits of its leaders: “The cruelty of Lenin and Stalin, which was not medieval so much as ancient in its severity” ... “with unchanging black abyss of oppression and terror.”

Mr. Amis in his book writes frequently about Stalin’s anti-Ukrainism, but especially about the genocidal Terror-Famine with deep understanding and sincere sympathy for Ukrainian peasants.

Dr. Kuropas’ column is well-written with his usual flair and thorough knowledge of the topic in the book. I would like however, to take issue with one of Dr. Kuropas’s statements.

In one of his paragraphs he writes: “Even after collapse of the Soviet Union there is a palpable reticence a kind of ‘let sleeping dogs lie’ mentality to revisit the Soviet Unions both here and in Ukraine. Why? The decision to bury the past in Ukraine is based on the increasingly apparent, albeit disconcerting reality that practically every

Ukrainian family had someone, somewhere, somehow, who was complicit in the debasement of other Ukrainians.”

In other words Dr. Kuropas accuses the entire Ukrainian population of the former Soviet Union of clandestine complicity with Soviet Communist government. There is no doubt that great numbers of Ukrainians did conspire and “cooperate” with the Soviet secret police and other Soviet government agencies, just like many did in East Germany and other satellite countries. However, the statement “that practically every Ukrainian family was complicit in debasement...” may be perceived by millions of Ukrainian families, who lost their loved ones and suffered during the Communist regime, for example the UPA, as irresponsible and insulting. Can Dr. Kuropas prove his allegation with facts, documents, statistical data, etc.?

The “let sleeping dogs lie” mentality, which Dr. Kuropas thinks exists both here and in Ukraine, is professed primarily by the higher echelon in the present-day Ukrainian government, who make it difficult for inquiring historians and journalists to get to the source, because they may be exposed and accused of crimes against their fellow men. Also, the younger generation of Ukrainians is truly unaware and not cognizant of the horrific crimes of the former Soviet government and all the facts being suppressed. That’s why books like the one mentioned above should be translated and made available to Ukrainian readers.

G. Myroslaw Burelo, M.D.
Westerly, R.I.

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas

**Reviving a stagnant UNA**

There is a new climate emerging at UNA central. People are more perky, telephone calls are being answered by UNA executives, and a positive attitude is being projected. Number 1 is answering his phone as follows: “Stefan Kaczaraj, how may I serve you?”

Some of us detect a growing transparency in the UNA as well. Secrecy and closed-door maneuvering is no longer the modus operandi. For the first time in years, a UNA president has written a candid message about Soyuzivka for publication in The Ukrainian Weekly and Svoboda, quashing, thereby, a number of false rumors. Some people said Soyuzivka was already sold. Others believed that the first order of business for the new execs was the sale of Soyuzivka. One individual was sure that negotiations were under way to sell the UNA resort to a business consortium of oligarchs headed by Leonid Kuchma’s wife.

Fortunately, our Soyuzivka problem is being addressed. A proposal has been developed by UNA Treasurer Roma Lisovich. Still in its infancy, the plan will probably be unveiled at the first post-convention meeting of the General Assembly, scheduled for the week before Thanksgiving. Let’s hope the plan can be approved and implemented soon.

The October 6 issue of The Ukrainian Weekly included a rather large photo of the new execs along with an article explaining what each hoped to accomplish during his or her tenure. First Vice-President Martha Lysko emphasized that her “main focus in the next four years will be to build a base from which the UNA can expand its membership, increase its membership in the community and draw new members.”

Al Kachkowski, director for Canada, spoke of “the myriad challenges” he is facing, but stressed his “commitment to act in whatever capacity is necessary to bring Canadian citizens into the UNA’s membership ranks.”

Although these sentiments are laudatory, they are not inspiring. Review any set of UNA executive board minutes from the past 30 years and you’ll discover similar commentaries.

Having served as a UNA first vice-president for 12 years myself, I am no stranger to new proposals, new directions and new hope – especially after a new executive board takes over. While researching the history of the UNA, moreover, I came across hundreds of promises, resolutions and recommendations that were never acted upon. Gallons of ink were wasted, entire forests were cut down, just to put all of them to paper. Nothing happened. What good are conventions, for example, when few of the many resolutions delegates approve are ever discussed, let alone implemented by the General Assembly?

Far more serious is the tendency of past executives to ignore or by-pass UNA By-Laws, thereby further eroding confidence in their leadership.

The question that needs to be addressed immediately by UNA execs is the stagnation that has immobilized our fraternal. The perception on the street is that the previous two administrations were simply going through the motions, biding their time. The new energy that is emerging today needs to be felt in all corners of our organization – not just in the Home Office. And it needs to be ongoing. I have some easy-to-implement suggestions that can make this happen.

For openers, the execs need to publish

the convention resolutions in Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly as soon as possible. Not the minutes of the entire convention, mind you, just the resolutions. Publishing resolutions two years after the convention is an insult to the delegates. Resolutions should be a guide to future action, not something to be ignored. Once the resolutions are published, the UNA board should implement them; if they can’t do that, they are obligated to explain why.

Our national executives should open the pages of Svoboda and The Ukrainian Weekly to honest dialogue and debate. Let’s stop pretending that all is well and that only the executives know what is good for the UNA. No one has a monopoly on creative ideas. Let those who still care about the UNA be heard. Executives should develop thick skins. It’s part of the job. Libelous statements, obviously, should not be printed, but there should be no censorship of new ideas or constructive critiques. Anyone familiar with UNA history knows that our publications once offered a forum for recommendations and complaints. Many years ago UNA executives were not afraid of reproach and the UNA prospered. If leadership can’t be challenged, or even questioned, it can’t be held accountable. “Open criticism weakens the UNA,” I’ve been told in the past. Nonsense. We haven’t allowed open criticism, and where has it gotten us?

Another practical suggestion is to eliminate our scholarship program. The monies we ladle out (from \$125 to \$200 per student) are barely enough to pay for college textbooks, let alone tuition. The money would be better spent paying dividends to our senior citizens, many of whom are barely surviving on fixed incomes.

The UNA also needs to exit the Ukrainian American Coordinating Council. During the last 20 years the UACC has accomplished little of note, despite the fact that the first two presidents were also presidents of the UNA at the same time.

UNA executives should spend more time in the field, less time behind their desks. They must become more visible in our communities, to show the flag, as it were. Flying in and out of a city on the same day to meet with UNA secretaries exclusively is a waste of resources. Spend an extra day and visit with community members. Introduce yourself to the local clergy. This, too, once was accepted practice.

One last, simple suggestion: reduce the number of insurance policies we offer to a basic few. We need to get back to simple insurance, the kind that has been our bread and butter from the beginning, the kind that doesn’t require a special license, the kind our secretaries can handle. The UNA has an abysmal record when it comes to hiring insurance sales people that “know the business.” Most of these people ended up giving us the business.

Four months have passed since the UNA convention. Our new executives are entitled to a brief honeymoon, but those days are quickly coming to an end. What decisions are reached in the next four months may well determine the entire future of the UNA.

If you’re still reading this, it means that one of my suggestions has already borne fruit. Censorship is over. Let the debate begin!

Myron Kuropas’ e-mail address is: mbkuropas@compuserve.com.



10-10-719

dial and go

Велика телефонна компанія сказала мені, що я зробила помилку.

Мій син користувався телефоном для свого комп'ютера. Я телефонувала до мого брата в Новгород і друзям до Львова з мого іншого телефону. Я була вражена, коли отримала телефонний рахунок. Згідно з рахунком, я повинна заплатити приблизно 2 дол. за кожну хвилину розмови.

Я потелефонувала до телефонної компанії і попросила підтвердження ціни, які мені були обіцяні на самому початку. Вони навіть включили місячну оплату. Але чому їх рахунок був зроблений на підставі таких високих цін?

Ця телефонна компанія пояснила мені, що тільки перша телефонна лінія була на спеціальному телефонному плані. Вони сказали, що я зробила помилку.

З кодом 10-10-719 ніхто не говорить мені, що я зробила помилку.

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Ukrainian National Information Service celebrates 25th anniversary

by Roman Woronowycz

WASHINGTON – Ukrainian and U.S. politicians and diplomats, as well as a smattering of journalists from Ukraine, helped the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS) mark its milestone 25th anniversary on October 8.

The jubilee celebrations at the Ronald Reagan International Trade Center was held in conjunction with an international conference organized by the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America (UCCA) titled "Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood – Roundtable III: Ukraine and the Euro-Atlantic Community."

During a reception in the Reagan Center, Ukrainian government officials, lawmakers and diplomats – including State Secretary for European Integraton at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs Oleksander Chalii, Ukraine's Ambassador to the U.S. Kostyantyn Gryshchenko, along with former Minister of Foreign Affairs Borys Tarasyuk and former Ambassador to the U.S. Oleh Bilorus, both of whom today are national deputies in Kyiv – mingled with U.S. politicians and Ukrainian community representatives and listened to speaker after speaker herald the accomplishments of UNIS.

While U.S. Reps. Marcy Kaptur of Ohio and Danny Davis of Illinois both praised the office for giving voice to the demands and desires of the Ukrainian community, others said its achievements went even further.

"UNIS has not only been the voice of the Ukrainian community, it has been the voice of justice and freedom," explained Askold Lozynskyj, the president of the Ukrainian World Congress and a former longtime president of the UCCA, the Ukrainian community umbrella organization under which UNIS operates.

Mr. Lozynskyj recalled how former U.S. President Richard Nixon, upon visiting Kyiv after Ukraine had declared independence, noted in public statements how "very strong and very vocal" the Ukrainian community in the U.S. had been in supporting the drive for an independent Ukraine. Mr. Lozynskyj ascribed much of that voice to the effectiveness of UNIS's work in Washington.

Indeed, UNIS can list a litany of accomplishments in its 25 years of service in Washington, where it has worked as a public relations and lobbying organization for various Ukrainian American causes.

UNIS began to accumulate achievements almost from the first days after the service was formed in 1977. It was given a two-pronged mandate by the UCCA: first, it was tasked with disseminating information about Ukraine and Ukrainian Americans and voicing the opinions of the UCCA on issues of concern to the Ukrainian community, while channeling that information to Congress, the administration and the news media; second, it was charged with gathering information on the activities of Congress and the administration in areas of interest to the Ukrainian American community and tracking federally funded programs of possible benefit to Ukrainian Americans.

For the last 25 years UNIS has helped Congress and seven presidential administrations receive information on Ukraine and hear the demands of the Ukrainian American community, including the plight of Ukrainian dissidents in the 1970s-1980s; the need to maintain the services of Voice of America and Radio Free Europe/Radio Liberty; the facts about the artificially created Great Famine in Ukraine in 1932-1933; and the need to create a Famine memorial in Washington in connection with com-



Guests at the reception celebrating UNIS's 25th anniversary include Rep. Danny Davis (far left), and leaders of Ukrainian community institutions, such as credit unions and the Ukrainian National Association.

memorations of the 75th anniversary of the genocide scheduled for 2008.

Julian Kulas, chairman of Chicago's 1st Security Federal Savings Bank – who later that evening would receive the Friend of UNIS Award for 25 years of dedicated financial support – in his introductory remarks listed UNIS's most recent successes, which include providing stimulus for the formation of the Ukrainian caucus in the U.S. Congress; taking part in a successful lobbying effort to have the first visit to Washington by President Leonid Kuchma upgraded from a working visit to a state visit; and lobbying the U.S. Congress on maintaining a certain level of foreign aid for Ukraine.

Michael Sawkiw Jr., president of the UCCA and director of UNIS, acknowledged several individuals who played key roles in keeping the fledgling infor-

mation service on its feet during the first few years of its existence, including Bohdan Denysyk, George Nesterchuk, Andriy Bilyk, Vitaliy Garber, Eugene Iwanciw and George Woloshyn. The six individuals received UNIS Co-Founder Awards.

Mr. Sawkiw also announced that the Selfreliance (New York) Federal Credit Union had donated \$15,000 in commemoration of the UNIS jubilee, while the Self Reliance (New Jersey) Federal Credit Union had pledged \$7,500.

Summarizing the role of the UNIS, Mr. Sawkiw said: "In a word, UNIS is about dedication. In celebrating 25 years of the Ukrainian National Information Service, we are acknowledging the hard work, dedication, professionalism and accomplishments that UNIS has given to the Ukrainian community in its years of service."

D.C. conference...

(Continued from page 1)

Oleksander Chalii, state secretary for European integration at Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said during his address on Tuesday morning that Ukraine's foreign policy is on an "irreversible course toward integration with Euro-Atlantic structures."

However, many officials from European organizations made it quite clear that, although Ukraine has plotted a course toward European integration, that goal remains only a distant reality. Along with necessary improvements in human rights conditions and the elimination of corruption, they highlighted the need to reform Soviet-era programs, improve economic conditions, strengthen civil society and develop a freer, uncensored press.

In order to join Euro-Atlantic institutions, one ambassador from the European Union said, Ukraine must not be a burden to the organization.

"The EU is not a club with quick membership. It is the most serious attempt in history to organize the political landscape, and it cannot be organized by decree," said Ambassador Guenter Berghart, head of the EU delegation in Washington. Although the alliance pledged, through the Maastricht Treaty signed in 1991, to provide aid to poorer countries, he said member-countries must also have something to contribute to the union in order to create a stronger alliance.

Below is the first of a two-part series covering the third annual roundtable,

"Ukraine's Quest for Mature Nation Statehood." Coverage of the first day's topics, in this week's article, includes: the progress Ukraine has made in moving toward Euro-Atlantic structures by examining the country's market economy, military structures and democratic polity; the investment and business climate in Ukraine; and an assessment of European Union-Ukraine relations.

Part 2 will deal with: Ukraine's relations with the United States, specifically, the development of a strategic partnership, U.S. assistance for Ukraine's effort to join the World Trade Organization (WTO), and the contributions Ukraine has made to the global war on terrorism; media freedoms from the vantage point of Ukrainian journalists; and NATO's relationship with Ukraine in terms of expansion and NATO-Ukraine cooperation.

In Tuesday morning's keynote address, Rep. Maurice Hinchey began by congratulating the UCCA's Ukrainian National Information Service for 25 years of work. The New York congressman also said Ukraine's most recent parliamentary elections in March were not as democratic as he had hoped for, calling them "marred and chaotic." He said Ukraine's political situation could lead to a fallback to semi-authoritarian rule and called that possibility "a great tragedy for Ukraine and the world."

In order to ensure that Ukraine continues on a democratic path, Rep. Hinchey said, "The U.S. must continue to mold a political, social and economic foundation."

Oleksandr Chalii, state secretary for European integration in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, said Ukraine

is beginning to do just that. He said it is critical and vital for the Verkhovna Rada to create in the Constitution of Ukraine the avenues to deal with Euro-Atlantic integration. For the first time, Mr. Chalii said, the Parliament will take up this issue in harmony with the executive. He also cited the creation of a parliamentary committee to deal specifically with Ukraine's integration into Euro-Atlantic structures.

Mr. Chalii said Ukraine could achieve its goal of integration through deeper relationships with European institutions. As an essential element in steps toward NATO, he said, Ukraine must eliminate "the current crisis of trust in the U.S.-Ukraine relationship." In acknowledging that problem, he added that Ukraine "is ready to play by the rules of the game." He added that a reaction from the EU was not yet clear, but he hoped it might come in future EU summits.

Because of the country's geography, Mr. Chalii noted, Ukraine cannot escape the fact that it links East and West. He acknowledged that Ukraine's stated direction toward Euro-Atlantic structures does not exclude work with Eurasian countries.

Toward Euro-Atlantic standards

A significant factor in Ukraine's accession to Euro-Atlantic structures, panelists agreed, is the extent to which the country has established democratic principles and institutions. Mark Kaplan, director of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus affairs at the U.S. State Department, said that, although the current state of democracy in Ukraine is imperfect, the country is moving in the right direction.

Mr. Kaplan added that, while pronounced economic growth is a positive factor for the country, the need for a strong, free-functioning press in Ukraine needs to be further developed.

Experts have also regarded Ukraine's judiciary as an obstacle to democracy. Hryhorii Nemyria, director of the Center for European and International Studies at the Institute of International Relations of Taras Shevchenko National University in Kyiv, said strengthening the country's weak judiciary is a must and called that point "indisputable."

Mr. Nemyria said it is not enough to judge democratic reform in Ukraine on the basis of elections. "Democracy must be thought of as a process – not an event. What matters more is the behavior and culture of democracy."

He also noted the importance of moral standards and the need for non-violent conflict between civil society and political institutions, on one hand, and cooperation and synergy between them, on the other.

Mr. Nemyria added that, among the post-Soviet states, Ukraine is unique in certain regards. It is the only case where the effort to increase the control of a presidential authoritarian role by a referendum failed and the only case where, as a result of the parliamentary elections, the opposition is emerging as an institution.

The push for further democratic reform in Ukraine will depend largely on institutions within Ukraine, said Mr. Nemyria, who is also chair at the Department for European Integration at the Ukrainian Academy of Public Administration. He added that Ukraine's

(Continued on page 15)

News from Harvard: fellows, research, seminars, conferences

by Yuri Shevchuk

• The second group of Eugene and Daymel Shklar Fellows in Ukrainian Studies (2002-2003) began its tenure at the institute in June with the arrival of Dr. Henry Abramson, from Florida Atlantic University, who spent two months concluding research on a bibliography of Jews in Ukraine.

Throughout the course of the academic year a total of 10 scholars will be in residence at the Institute conducting research in Ukrainian and related areas of study. They are: Henry Abramson (citizen of Canada), Guido Hausmann and Alexander Kratochvil (Germany), Victoria Khiterer (Israel), Oksana Ostapchuk (Russia), Igor Torbakov and Pavlo Mykhed (Ukraine), Maria Rewakowicz (United States), Andrew Savchenko (Belarus) and Roman Wysocki (Poland).

By their professional profile and areas of interest the group mostly reflects the specializations of HURI's own faculty: history, literature and language. There are five historians, and four philologists, including specialists in both literature and language. There is also an economist-cum-sociologist.

In addition to working on their separate research projects the fellows are expected to participate in HURI's Seminar in Ukrainian Studies and its Ukraine Studies Group which meet weekly at the institute during the academic year, as well as to present papers at and attend the annual conferences of the American Association for the Advancement of Slavic Studies, the Association for the Study of Nationalities and other professional organizations.

Dr. Abramson is the first to complete his tenure as a 2002-2003 Shklar Fellow. His two and a half months of work at HURI (June-August) resulted in the first-of-its-kind comprehensive online biography "The Jews of Ukraine."

Four of the Fellows will be in residence at HURI during the fall semester of 2002 and five more in the spring of 2003. (Learn more about the professional profile of this year's Shklar fellows at http://www.huri.harvard.edu/shklarfellows_02_03.html)

• Dr. Wsevolod Isajiw, professor emeritus of sociology and Robert F. Harney Professor Emeritus of Ethnic, Immigration and Pluralism Studies at the University of Toronto, was named the Distinguished Petro Jacyk Fellow for the year 2002-2003.

In addition to teaching at the University of Toronto since 1970, Prof. Isajiw also taught at the University of Windsor and St. John's University in New York and was a visiting professor at Wayne State University (Detroit), the University of Alberta, University of Manitoba, Macquarie University (Australia), Freie Universität



The four Shklar Fellows currently at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute: (from right) Guido Hausmann, Oksana Ostapchuk, Ihor Torbakov and Victoria Khiterer.

Berlin, Ukrainian Catholic University (Rome), Ukrainian Free University (Munich).

He is a member of many professional and scientific associations. He has authored and edited 10 books and many scholarly articles. One of his recent publications is the book "Understanding Diversity: Ethnicity and Race in the Canadian Context" (1999).

In his recent research Prof. Isajiw has focused on comparative aspects of ethnic relations and on different patterns of adjustment and social incorporation of ethnic groups. At the same time he has been researching theories of pluralistic cultural foundations of civil social order, with special reference to the changes taking place in Ukraine.

As part of his research project at HURI, Prof. Isajiw will work on a systematic sociology of the diaspora, focusing on the Ukrainian community in North America. In particular, he will study the differences between the community structure and the processes of change that affected the four waves of Ukrainian immigration to North America, with a special emphasis on the two most recent waves.

His research will focus on immigrants' assimilation in the broader host society and especially on generational and identity changes, particularly since the time of Ukraine's independence. The end result of his research will be a monograph both in English and Ukrainian.

Prof. Isajiw will be with HURI through March 2003. In his capacity as the Distinguished Petro Jacyk Fellow Prof. Isajiw will organize and lead a symposium on a topic of his choosing which will take place later in the academic year.

• The traditional HURI Seminar in Ukrainian Studies resumed with the presentation of a paper on "surzhyk" (a variously proportioned mixture of Ukrainian and Russian, widely spoken in today's Ukraine), titled "The Smoking Tapes: What Melnychenko Recordings Reveal about Nonliterary 'Surzhyk,' which was delivered on September 30 by Michael Flier, Oleksandr Potemba Professor of Ukrainian Philology, department of Slavic languages and literatures, Harvard University.

The weekly interdisciplinary series of seminars for the fall semester-2002 includes presentations both by scholars who currently work at or are affiliated with HURI and guest-speakers from other universities and other countries (For the HURI Seminar schedule visit <http://www.huri.harvard.edu/calendar.html>)

• The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute was a major contributor to the fifth congress of the International Association of Ukrainian Studies that took place in Chernivtsi, Ukraine on August 26-29. Two panels were organized and moderated by George G. Grabowicz, the Dmytro Cyzevskyj Professor of Ukrainian Literature at Harvard. The panel

"Mystifications and the National Canon" and the roundtable "The Present State of the Humanities in Ukraine" each dealt with major issues of post-Soviet Ukraine which influence its evolution as an independent polity.

The participants of the first panel, among them the literary scholars Taras Koznarsky, the University of Toronto, Tamara Hundorova, the Institute of Literature of the National Academy of Sciences of Ukraine (NASU), Prof. Grabowicz and the historian Oleksii Tolochko, Institute of History, NASU, discussed how the Ukrainian literary canon and various simulacra (forged monuments) both old (like the 18th century "Tale of Ihor's Host," or "Slovo o polku Ihorevim", and new (the Book of Vles or "Vlesova Knyha," which was "discovered," i.e. written, in the 1950s) are created and appropriated by collective opinion.

According to Prof. Grabowicz, "Many people still find it hard to accept that the 'Ihor Tale' is, by all indications, such a mystification written at the end of the eighteenth century, and not coming from the 12th century, as has long been argued by the establishment. These issues cut to the heart of what scholarship is about, i.e., the need to look at things in a new and, if necessary, revisionist way, and not just accept received knowledge."

The roundtable on the present state of the humanities in Ukraine was one of the

(Continued on page 17)



Prof. Wsevolod Isajiw, Distinguished Petro Jacyk Fellow for 2002-2003



New HURI Research Fellow Halyna Hryn.



Three presidents of the International Association of Ukrainian Studies: (from left) George Grabowicz (1990-1993), Mark von Hagen (2002), and Yaroslav Isaievych (1993-1999), at the association's congress in Chernivtsi in August.

DATELINE NEW YORK: Through the air with the greatest of ease

by Helen Smindak

Ukrainian artists and performers are flying high in the Big Apple this season, metaphorically speaking. One who's flying high these days both metaphorically and physically is acrobatic aerialist Tatyana Petruk, a member of New York's Team AntiGravity, who wowed hundreds of spectators at the outdoor extravaganza that opened Macy's 100th birthday celebration.

Performing 40 feet above the ground from a metal truss built specially for the occasion, the Kyiv-born World Cup and European acrobatics champion thrilled the crowd as she and two other aerialists – seemingly attached to long strands of white tricot fabric – spiralled flexible bodies through amazing gyrations. In abbreviated white costumes, poised in mid-air with fabric twisted around arms, legs or midribs, Ms. Petruk and her partners performed straddles, splits and moves akin to ballet and figure-skating maneuvers, complete with pirouettes and en pointe positions. At ground level, male members of the team assisted the aerialists by twisting and turning the tricot strands.

The crowd gasped when Ms. Petruk plunged headlong to the ground, her dive halted just short of the stage floor by the fabric coiled around her ankles like a bungee jumping rope. It was the finale to a remarkable performance of athletic prowess, grace and endurance acquired through years of practice and experience.

In a later AntiGravity appearance, Ukrainian-born Tatyana Brikulskaia, an acrobat whose specialty is a spectacular ribbon-twisting routine, capered across the stage like a lithe gazelle as she circled the AntiGravity performers.

The evening show, held outside the spotlighted Herald Square entrance of Macy's – billed as the world's largest department store – also featured performers from the hit musical "Chicago" and a host of Broadway stars, among them Adam Pascal, Liz Callaway, Jonathan Freeman, Jamie-Lynn Sigler, Alix Corey and Judy Kaye. Also appearing were the cartoon character Big Bird, music legends Darlene Love and Fred Payne, and Oscar winner F. Murray Abraham, a former Macy's employee, who extended greetings to everyone present. The program, which included recorded narration provided by famed TV commentator Walter Cronkite and a three-foot-high birthday cake, ended in a burst of pyrotechnics and confetti.

At 28, Ms. Petruk has an international performance history that includes France, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, London, Japan and Malaysia. During 2000-2001, she performed in the United States in shows for Microsoft in Atlanta, George Lucas in San Francisco and Chrysler in Detroit. Here in New York, she has been seen in the Broadway show "Crash Test Dummies" and in other AntiGravity programs involving acro-duet, aerial gymnast, hammock, tissue and bungee jump work.

Speaking with this reporter after the Macy's show, Ms. Petruk said she has been involved in sports activities from age 6 and trained in sport acrobatics for 10 years. She started her career with gymnastics activities on the USSR National Acrobatics Team, becoming the USSR national champion in sport acrobatics in 1989 and again in 1991. She was a member of the women's trio that won the 1989 World Cup championship in sport acrobatics in Riga, Latvia, and the USSR championship in sport acrobatics in both 1989 and in 1990, the year in which she also travelled to Tokyo as a member of the Sport Acrobatics World team.

Transferring to aerial sports after the dissolution of the Soviet Union, Ms. Petruk turned to show business – the circus became her prime medium for seven years as she traveled with various circus companies to a number of countries. Now based in Brooklyn, Ms. Petruk said she has just completed a three-month stint with AntiGravity in Atlantic City. Looking forward to performing at a convention the next day at the Marriott Hotel in Manhattan and to upcoming AntiGravity engagements, she also plans to begin teaching her art to aspiring acrobatic aerialists.

You may have seen the aerialist pictured in a characteristic spread-eagle pose on the front page of The New York Sun (September 24). If not, think back to the TV coverage of the star-studded closing ceremonies of the 2002 Olympic Winter Games in Salt Lake City; Ms. Petruk was right there in the midst of the AntiGravity troupe and its high-flying maneuvers.

Author! Author!

"The Art of Profitability" is the intriguing title of Adrian Slywotzky's latest book, published last month by Time Warner. It reveals the invisible but important governing principles that can mean the difference between business failure and success. The book's 23 chapters, each presenting a lesson and a profit paradigm that will open minds to the many ways to make profit happen, follow the fictional account of strategy teacher David Zhao and his young student with wit and insight. Mr. Slywotzky, a graduate of the



Acrobatic aerialist Tatyana Petruk during a recent performance of the AntiGravity troupe.

Harvard Business and Law Schools and a vice-president of Mercer Management Consulting, is the co-author of the bestseller "The Profit Zone" (1998) and author of "Value Migration" (1996). He is the son of Manhattan residents Mr. and Mrs. Stepan Slywotzky.

Following up on four previous novels, Oregon-based Chuck Palahniuk, who inherited his Ukrainian surname from his father, has completed his new novel "Lullaby," described by Doubleday Publishing as "a chillingly pertinent parable about the dangers of psychic infection and control in an era of wildly overproliferated information." The plot centers around 40-ish newspaper reporter Carl Streator, who is assigned to do a series of articles on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome. Mr. Palahniuk's previous works are the bestselling "Fight Club," which was made into a film starring Brad Pitt and Helena Bonham Carter, "Survivor," "Invisible Monsters" and "Choke."

A book that will keep you laughing out loud is Jonathan Safran Foer's first novel, "Everything is Illuminated," told in narrative form by a fictional young Ukrainian named Alex who is enchanted with everything American and loves to use the English language – but, according to The New York Times review, speaks English like someone who has taught himself by painstakingly translating a really abysmal novel with the help of a badly outdated dictionary. As a translator for Heritage Touring, the travel agency at which his father arranges trips for American Jews who wish to explore their roots in Poland and Ukraine, Alex sets out across Ukraine with Mr. Foer, accompanied by an overly amorous dog named Sammy Davis Jr. and Alex's grandfa-

ther as their driver. Published by Houghton Mifflin, the book was on the New York best-seller list for several months.

A new and noteworthy paperback is Claire Messud's "The Hunters: Two Novellas," a Harvest/Harcourt publication. For Ukrainian readers, interest will focus on the first novel "A Simple Tale." An aging Ukrainian woman who has led an unrelentingly bleak life of exile and endurance (she and her husband moved to Canada after surviving German work camps) comes to wonder at what point she can abandon the past. Reviewer Miranda Seymour called the tale "a marvelously subtle and poignant work" of "near miraculous perfection."

Seeing stars

These days, TV viewers are seeing Ukrainian stars before their eyes almost every day of the week.

On Sunday, fans of the highly popular HBO series "The Sopranos" can look for Oksana Babi, (whose new stage name is Oksana Lada; she appears in two episodes this season as the Russian mistress of crime boss Tony Soprano (10 p.m. ET). The long-running "Jeopardy" show appears every weekday on ABC with Canadian-born host Alex Trebek belting out answers to questions which must be provided by panelists, while viewers can play along by testing their knowledge at home (7 p.m.). On Tuesday, Kyiv-born Mila Kunis joins a teenage group in the hilarious Fox comedy "That '70s Show" (8 p.m. ET). Wednesday night is de rigeur for NBC's "The West Wing," the award-winning series that stars Emmy winner John Spencer as the president's chief of staff (9 p.m. ET). And Friday there's the new NBC drama series "Hack," with character actor George Dzundza as Tom "Grizz" Grzelak, a priest and close buddy of ex-police officer Mike Olshansky played by David Morse (9 p.m. ET).

In the news

The media was agog last month about two Miss Universe 2002 winners – Miss Russia Oksana Fedorova, 24, who was awarded the title at the Miss Universe pageant, and first runner-up Miss Panama Justine Pasek, 23, who became Miss Universe 2002 when pageant organizers NBC Inc. and New York real estate mogul Donald Trump terminated Ms. Fedorova because they said she failed to fulfill her duties. Ms. Fedorova, the first Russian woman to hold the title in the pageant's 52-year history and the first winner to lose her crown, declared that she gave up the title because her career as a police lieutenant and studies for a law degree were her priorities.

But the big news for Ukrainians is that both women have a Ukrainian connection – Ms. Fedorova has a Ukrainian father, according to Katie Couric of NBC's "Today" show, while Ms. Pasek was born in Kharkiv, eastern Ukraine, the daughter of a Panamanian chemistry student and a Polish engineering student. Ms. Pasek lived in Kharkiv for a year, until the family moved to Poland and eventually to Panama.

The New York Post recently carried a story about Louis Nigro, the proprietor of the Peter Jarema Funeral Home in



George Dzundza as a priest in the TV series "Hack."

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U.S. and British...

(Continued from page 1)

during its stay, which was to conclude on October 19, and both the Ukrainian government and the U.S. Embassy in Kyiv refused to identify either the group's agenda or its itinerary.

A photo opportunity prior to a meeting of a subgroup of the delegation with Verkhovna Rada Chairman Volodymyr Lytvyn, scheduled for October 16, was canceled after the delegation arrived in Kyiv. Journalists who waited for comments on the meeting at its conclusion were frustrated when the group left the Parliament Building through a back door.

Ukrainian government officials acknowledged that the delegation, which consists of representatives of the U.S. Department of State, the U.S. Department of Defense and the British Defense Ministry, traveled in smaller groups to the Topaz Factory in Donetsk where the Kolchuha is manufactured, and to a Kolchuha radar site – one of seven in the country – which the Ukrainian press identified as a military installation in the Chernihiv region of Ukraine. A third group stayed in Kyiv to meet with political leaders and experts. Little is known about where else they may have traveled.

Serhii Borodenkov, a spokesman for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, said the delegation gathered manufacturing, finance and sales documents, including the serial numbers and parts numbers of those defense systems that have been produced, for later analysis. He stressed that the experts were in the country at Ukraine's invitation.

"This group of experts is neither an international delegation nor a U.N. delegation, they are experts from the U.S. and Great Britain who have come here because Ukraine has asked them to come," explained Mr. Borodenkov.

The arms experts initially met with a 14-member ad hoc state commission appointed by President Leonid Kuchma and headed by his chief of staff, Viktor Medvedchuk. Mr. Medvedchuk underscored the "unprecedented openness" of Ukrainian state officials in allowing foreign arms experts access to state military and technology secrets, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Immediately after Washington announced on September 24 that it would suspend \$54 million in foreign aid to Ukraine's central government because it believed the Ukrainian state leadership was complicit in illegal arms sales to Baghdad in violation of a United Nations sanctions regime, Kyiv declared its innocence and its willingness for full and transparent cooperation. Since then it has staunchly maintained its non-complicity at all levels – including the personal involvement of President Kuchma – and has held meetings with U.S. and U.N. officials at various levels.

Kyiv has repeatedly said that Washington had no basis to accuse Ukraine of illegal arms sales. It has staunchly disputed the veracity of an alleged conversation between President Kuchma and Ukraine's chief arms control export official, Valerii Malev, in which a person is heard giving the okay for the sale of a Kolchuha to Baghdad

through a Jordanian middleman. Mr. Malev died in a car collision in the spring of this year.

The recordings are part of a series made by Maj. Mykola Melnychenko, a former security officer for President Kuchma who received political asylum in the U.S. not long after they became public.

The United States has maintained that the digital recordings are authentic, proven by an independent analysis of the originals. That determination, combined with "some indication" that a Kolchuha system is operating in Iraq, is a sufficient basis for making the allegations and proceeding with an investigation. U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual has underscored that the suspension of aid should be only temporary until the situation is assessed and relations between Kyiv and Washington reviewed.

The Kolchuha is of particular concern to both Washington and London because it is one of very few anti-aircraft detection systems that offer a real threat to U.S. and British pilots maintaining a no-fly zone over Iraq. American and British fighter jets do not have the ability to pick up the signal it emits to warn pilots they are in danger. There are rumors, as well, that the Kolchuha can detect stealth technology.

A leader of Ukraine's opposition movement, Yulia Tymoshenko, announced on September 11, three days before the delegation of arms experts arrived in Kyiv, that Belarus had cooperated with Ukraine to provide a temporary replacement Kolchuha for the one sold by Ukraine, and that is the only reason the arms experts would find all seven Ukrainian systems in their proper locations.

Ms. Tymoshenko said she had received information from contacts within Customs and several military units that a Belarusian Kolchuha had been moved into Ukraine via three railway cars. Ms. Tymoshenko has long been a vehement critic of President Kuchma and leads the opposition calling for his resignation or impeachment on charges of widespread corruption.

Ukraine's Ministry of Defense immediately disavowed the claim. In a statement sent to Interfax-Ukraine the same day it asserted: "True, three Kolchuha complexes have been kept in long-term storage in Chernihiv military unit A-2022 since 1992. No other complexes of this type were ever received, including from Belarus."

Among those coming to the defense of Ukraine and its embattled president, was Russia's Vladimir Putin. On October 7, during a plenary meeting of the Council of Presidents of the Commonwealth of Independent States, President Putin proposed the candidacy of President Kuchma for the post of chairman of the council. Ironically, Ukraine is only an associate member of the CIS and takes part in a limited number of its activities.

Various Ukrainian experts explained the action by Mr. Putin as a move to prop up the Kuchma administration and express trust in the Ukrainian president, while warning the United States to be careful in how it decides to resolve the Kolchuha dispute.

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Romania attempts...

(Continued from page 2)

called for a boycott of the December 1, 1991, referendum on Ukrainian independence. In the early 1990s, Romania challenged Ukraine's right to northern Bukovyna, which has a Ukrainian majority; northern and southern Bessarabia; and Hertza and Serpents islands, which are located 30 kilometers from the Danube River and 120 kilometers from Odesa.

Soviet forces occupied northern Bukovyna (now Chernivtsi Oblast), Bessarabia and Hertza in 1940 as a result of the Nazi-Soviet Molotov-Ribbentrop Pact. These regions were confirmed as part of the USSR by the 1947 Paris Peace Treaty. After 1945 the central Bessarabian region was added to the interwar Moldavian ASSR, which had been part of the Ukrainian SSR, to create the Moldavian SSR. The former Moldavian ASSR, lying to the east of the Dnister River, has been de facto independent as the diplomatically unrecognized Transnistria Republic since seceding from Moldova in 1990-1992.

Although Romania and the USSR successfully demarcated their land border, they did not do the same for the maritime border in the Serpents Island region. By 1995 the Romanian-Ukrainian dispute over this maritime region flared up anew as Romania sought to appeal to the International Court of Justice. In a December 1995 statement Ukraine's Foreign Affairs Ministry claimed that Romania's actions "qualify as an effort to raise territorial claims against Ukraine."

In response to Romania's territorial claims, Ukraine built up military installations on Serpents Island, although the 1997 treaty forbade Ukraine from placing "offensive weapons" there. Ukraine built a modern wharf, seismic station, wind-and-diesel power station, modernized military barracks and a telephone communications network. The military installations are to be closed down this year.

In May the Ukrainian government earmarked 161 million hryv (\$32 million) to expand infrastructure, communications and economic activities on Serpents Island, as well as to demilitarize it. These government plans cover improving border protection of Serpents Island's continental shelf and territorial waters.

The dispute between Ukraine and Romania over Serpents Island resembles recent disputes over similar small uninhabited rocky islands between Greece and

Turkey (Imia in Greek/Kardak in Turkish) and Morocco and Spain (Leila in Moroccan/Perejil in Spanish). The major difference is that in the mid-1990s, 17 major oil and gas deposits were discovered in the Serpents Islands region.

Besides Serpents Island, two other problems have bedeviled Romanian-Ukrainian relations. First, the status of the 325,000 ethnic Moldovans and 35,000 ethnic Romanians in Ukraine. Foreign Minister Geoana accused the Ukrainians of continuing to implement "Stalin's theory about the existence of a Moldovan language and a Moldovan nation," which he believes is "fiction." Romania's post-Communists, therefore, hold similar views as the country's nationalists that Ukraine in reality has 460,000 "Romanians" (not 135,000, as per the 1989 Soviet census). Within Moldova, only nationalists back this viewpoint while post-Communist centrists support a policy of "one people, two states" and the left sees Moldovans as a completely separate people, as in the former USSR.

The second issue is the reciprocity of rights for Romanian and Ukrainian minorities in Ukraine and Romania, respectively. The 1997 treaty included – on Romania's insistence – the Council of Europe's Recommendation 1201 allowing for territorial autonomy, following opposition by Bucharest to the inclusion of that recommendation in the treaty it signed with Hungary relating to the rights of ethnic Hungarians in Romania. Romania has demanded the establishment of a "multicultural" university in Chernivtsi (in Romanian Cernauti), while refusing to open a Hungarian equivalent in Transylvania.

In Ukraine, the Romanian minority has 20 newspapers, journals, television and radio programs. Romanian-language schools exist in every region where Romanians and Moldovans reside. In Romania, on the other hand, there is only one Ukrainian-language school, which was reopened in 1997, that caters to 10,000 Ukrainian pupils. Ukrainian-language textbooks encounter publishing difficulties, and Ukrainian television and radio programs are rare.

During President Iliescu's visit to Ukraine last month the two sides agreed to settle the final section of their border dispute by June 2003. It remains to be seen if they will in fact manage to do so, after the failure of the two-year period of 1997-1999 set for this same purpose.

Beyond the EU's...

(Continued from page 2)

ing from the region.

Instead, the EU set about providing a framework for relations with Ukraine by adopting a common strategy on Ukraine at the Helsinki summit in December 1999, which cautiously "acknowledges Ukraine's European aspirations and welcomes Ukraine's pro-European choice," but went no further than that – much to Kyiv's chagrin. The common strategy signaled that while Ukraine was important enough to the EU to merit a purpose-made document, it was not important enough to justify the introduction of potentially binding commitments.

In light of the regression that has taken place in Ukrainian politics since the late 1990s, not only has the EU's stance on Ukraine been vindicated, but many in the EU have also begun to view Ukraine as a hopeless case. Yet, ironically, at the same time, Kyiv has flooded EU capitals with a series of initiatives for tightening cooperation, the only effect of which has been a sense of "Ukraine fatigue" in the EU. The failure of Ukrainian officials to get the attention of their Western counterparts is beginning to elicit a sense that Ukraine is being excluded from "EU-Europe."

To counter this problem, the EU is currently in the process of devising a more comprehensive strategy and a set of more clearly articulated goals. A joint paper titled "Wider Europe," written by Christopher Patten of the European Commission and Javier Solana, the EU's foreign-policy and security chief, outlines ideas for the EU's relations with its future neighbors. While relations are to be based on a shared set of political and economic values, the "one-size-fits-all" approach is deemed inappropriate. At the same time, however, clear limits are to be put on relations with eastern neighbors, limits that will "stop short of full membership or creating shared institutions" (other than for the Balkans).

Ukraine is singled out as meriting "a more concrete recognition of [its]

European aspiration," yet, significantly, "without closing any options for the more distant future." The paper proposes that Ukraine and Moldova be offered a new form of "proximity agreements" accompanied by a new kind of "proximity instrument," which would overcome the limitations of the TACIS program.

In sum, the recognition of Ukraine's and Moldova's European aspirations are finally beginning to take on a tangible format. But it remains to be seen, first, how far the EU will take this initiative and, second, how satisfied Moldova and Ukraine will be with it.

The EU has to strike a balance between responding to the challenges arising from enlargement and the "needs arising from the newly created borders of the union." The latter has resulted in efforts on securing and hardening EU borders in order to make them impermeable to soft security threats emanating from the east. This stance has dominated the justice and home affairs agenda of the EU, irrespective of the implications for countries on the other side of the new border. This is amply exemplified by the EU's insistence on the introduction of a visa regime for Belarus, Ukraine, Moldova and Russia, despite the hardship it will invariably cause.

The chances are that Ukraine, in particular, will be disappointed by "Wider Europe." Despite the positive stance of the document, anything short of acknowledging Ukraine's prospect for EU membership tends to be seen by Kyiv as a distinctly second-best option serving only to intensify Ukraine's suspicion that the European Union takes a real interest only in countries that it sees as future members. Underlying the above is Ukraine's primary fear, namely that any window of opportunity for membership will close upon the 2004 enlargement.

Despite efforts to put relations on a new footing and promote stability on its eastern border, the EU may still fail to nurture Moldova's and Ukraine's "European choice." It is, therefore, in danger of contributing to instability on its new eastern border, despite all its growing concerns.

Honorary members...

(Continued from page 5)

County, Boston, Mass.

She was a member of the Displaced Persons Commission and, as such, greeted in Ukrainian, in the name of the governor, the displaced persons on the ships as they came into the Commonwealth

Pier in Boston. The late Walter Sochan, former UNA supreme secretary, reminded her very often that her voice was the first he heard on arriving in the United States. She did a great deal of work in helping the newly arrived in Boston.

There was much prejudice against women in Ms. Chopek's years of practice. After all, she was a lady lawyer in a man's world.

Dateline...

(Continued from page 11)

the East Village, who adopted a reclusive Ukrainian man from the neighborhood, John, and cared for him until he died earlier this year at the age of 82. Mr. Nigro, who is of Italian-American heritage and became co-owner of the funeral home founded by Ukrainian Peter Jarema, gave John a top-of-the-line funeral and acted as a relative. The funeral director was recently named a "Citizen of the Year" by the Polish World newspaper for his work in the Polish-Ukrainian neighborhood.

An article in the September/October issue of AARP magazine, "Lasting Impressions," which points out that the legacy one leaves doesn't have to be monu-

mental, quoted Archbishop Antony (John Scharba) of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.

Archbishop Antony became a monk, then one of Eastern Orthodoxy's most charismatic prelates because of his aunt. "From my earliest memory I was enthralled by the faith exhibited by my Aunt Mary, who raised a family of 10 of her own children in the faith, along with 20 or 30 nieces and nephews. In spite of the enormous difficulties she endured, the joy on her face as she led us all in weekly worship and the peace that flowed from her inner being throughout the week drew me into an ever deeper spirituality."

Helen Smindak's e-mail address is haliasmindak@aol.com.

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NEWSBRIEFS

(Continued from page 2)

cials have denied any wrongdoing. U.S. officials say the radar equipment in question could be a threat to allied aircraft patrolling Iraq's no-fly zones. The co-chairman of the Helsinki Commission, Sen. Ben Nighthorse Campbell, said the matter is extremely serious. The senator said priority should be given to investigating any financial links between Mr. Kuchma and his associates, and sales to rogue states such as Iraq. (RFE/RL News and Current Affairs)

Kuchma appoints investigative team

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma has set up a commission intended to assist international experts in Ukraine in investigating the allegations that Kyiv may have illegally sold Kolchuha radar systems to Baghdad, UNIAN reported on October 9. The commission is headed by presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk and includes presidential-administration officials responsible for military, security and trade issues. Meanwhile, U.S. officials have decided not to place Ukraine under scrutiny of a U.N. Security Council committee pending a U.S. investigation into the Kolchuha allegations. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yulia: Ukraine has imported a Kolchuha

KYIV – Yulia Tymoshenko, the leader of the eponymous opposition bloc, told journalists on October 11 that “opposition representatives have been informed by six sources, including customs officers and employees of a military unit, that a Kolchuha radar system was shipped from Belarus through the customs checkpoint at Slavutych to a military unit in the town of Liubych (Chernihiv Oblast),” UNIAN reported. According to Ms. Tymoshenko, the radar unit was shipped in three railroad cars and repainted in Ukraine. Ms. Tymoshenko predicted that Kyiv will now inform Washington that no Kolchuha radar is missing in Ukraine, thus countering the U.S. allegations that Ukraine might have sold a Kolchuha unit to Iraq. Ms. Tymoshenko pledged to provide, “in the near future,” more information about the alleged shipment of the radar unit from Belarus to Ukraine. The Defense Ministry said Ms. Tymoshenko’s allegations are absolutely untrue. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Our Ukraine leader hopes for coalition

KYIV – Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko told journalists on October 14

that he hopes a democratic majority in the Verkhovna Rada can be created around three caucuses – Our Ukraine, Labor Ukraine and Ukraine’s regions, UNIAN reported. “These [three] democratic forces are able to propose the idea of a democratic coalition as an open [proposal] around which other forces could group,” Mr. Yushchenko said. Answering a question whether Our Ukraine is in opposition to the current government, Mr. Yushchenko said, “The force that is not in power can only be in opposition, there is no third option.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Yeliashkevych granted asylum in U.S.

WASHINGTON – Former Ukrainian National Deputy Oleksander Yeliashkevych told Reuters on October 9 that he has obtained political asylum in the United States. Mr. Yeliashkevych was a member of the previous Verkhovna Rada and participated in the work of a special parliamentary commission investigating the death of journalist Heorhii Gongadze. “I was granted political asylum because of a serious threat to my life that existed and still exists from Kuchma and his entourage,” Mr. Yeliashkevych told Reuters. In February 2000, Mr. Yeliashkevych was attacked by unknown assailants and suffered a concussion. He later maintained that the attack was ordered by President Leonid Kuchma. Earlier this year, the Ukrainian Pravda website published a transcript of Mykola Melnychenko’s secret audio recording on which voices similar to those of Mr. Kuchma and Leonid Derkach, then chief of the Security Service of Ukraine, discuss organizing an attack on Mr. Yeliashkevych. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada continues to haggle over majority

KYIV – The parliamentary caucuses of Our Ukraine, the Yulia Tymoshenko Bloc, the Socialist Party and the Communist Party have announced that they will continue boycotting parliamentary debates during the upcoming session week, October 15-18, UNIAN reported on October 10. The announcement followed a futile meeting of parliamentary-caucus leaders devoted to discussing the impasse in the Verkhovna Rada, where a nominal, fragile majority is unable to vote effectively and pass laws. In a move aimed at persuading some deputies to join the pro-government majority, its leaders threatened to reappoint parliamentary committee heads to the detriment of the three opposition caucuses and Our Ukraine. Our Ukraine leader Viktor Yushchenko,

who appears to be the primary target of this threat, said his bloc is not interested in “trade” over Rada committees and is not going to “lose its political forces” for opposing a possible redistribution of the posts of committee heads. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma on visit to Armenia

YEREVAN – Armenian President Robert Kocharian and his visiting Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, pledged during talks in Yerevan on October 10 to strengthen bilateral political, military and economic relations, and trade, Noyan Tapan and RFE/RL’s Yerevan bureau reported. Trade turnover doubled last year to reach \$38.5 million and is expected to expand a further 30 percent this year, according to President Kocharian. The two sides signed four bilateral agreements, including one between their respective defense ministries that provides for the training of Armenian personnel at Ukrainian military academies. President Kuchma also met with the leaders of Armenian parliamentary factions. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma ready to discuss censorship

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma pledged at an October 8 news conference that he is ready to negotiate with representatives of the recently launched independent union of journalists in order to “sort out what they claim to be political censorship” in Ukraine, UNIAN reported. “[I do not rule out that] there is some pressure somewhere. However, according to the Constitution, censorship is not permitted. Someone is exaggerating somewhat here,” the president said. Mr. Kuchma stressed that “anti-presidential publications” in Ukraine are distributed freely. He recalled that the State Tax Administration has agreed that the international media watchdog Reporters Without Borders can be present at regular audits of Ukrainian media. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kwasniewski mollifies Kuchma

WARSAW – President Aleksander Kwasniewski on October 8 spoke by telephone with his Ukrainian counterpart, Leonid Kuchma, Polish media reported. The conversation took place after a news conference at which President Kuchma accused Poland of interfering in Ukraine’s internal affairs. UNIAN quoted Mr. Kuchma as saying, “We will sort out [our problems] by ourselves. Let them not stand in our way. I don’t think that this [proposal] means assistance, pardon my saying.” Mr. Kuchma’s reaction was provoked by Poland’s proposal to gather representatives of the Ukrainian government and the opposition for roundtable talks during a conference in Warsaw on October 15-16 on Ukraine’s role following expected NATO and EU enlargement. According to a statement issued by the Polish president’s office, Mr. Kuchma “accepted with interest” the initiative to hold such a conference in Warsaw and promised to send his representative. The statement also said that Mr. Kuchma will be unable to attend due to the upcoming visit by the Iranian president to Kyiv. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Warsaw backs down on proposal

WARSAW – President Aleksander Kwasniewski on October 9 said the conference in Warsaw that is to be devoted to Ukraine’s relations with NATO and the European Union cannot play the role of “roundtable” talks for the Ukrainian authorities and the opposition, PAP reported. Mr. Kwasniewski added that calling the conference a “roundtable” is a “misunderstanding.” He noted that such talks on Ukrainian affairs “may take place in Kyiv or another place in Ukraine, but not abroad.” Many news agencies reported that Polish Prime Minister Leszek Miller had proposed during his visit to Lviv the previous week that rep-

resentatives of the Ukrainian government and the opposition meet in Warsaw to discuss the current political standoff in Ukraine. In response to this proposal, Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma accused Warsaw of interfering in Ukrainian domestic affairs. The same day, Foreign Minister Cimoszewicz also stressed that Mr. Miller did not propose to hold “roundtable” talks on the situation on Ukraine in Warsaw, and called the affair a “misunderstanding.” (RFE/RL Newsline)

Poland hosts talks about Ukraine

WARSAW – Poland on October 15 launched a bid to stop neighboring Ukraine, shaken by opposition protests and U.S. allegations it sold arms to Iraq, from losing contact with the West and sliding into instability, reported Reuters news agency. Polish President Aleksander Kwasniewski hosted aides to Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma and opposition leaders at two-day talks in which the European Union’s foreign policy chief, Javier Solana, and Swedish Prime Minister Goran Persson also will participate. The conference was organized under the patronage of Messrs. Kwasniewski and Solana and gathered representatives of the Kuchma administration (including presidential administration chief Viktor Medvedchuk and National Defense and Security Council Secretary Yevhen Marchuk) and the opposition (including Oleksander Moroz and Viktor Yushchenko), as well as participants from Romania, Slovakia and Hungary. Warsaw originally intended to use the conference to initiate dialogue between the Ukrainian authorities and the opposition, but backed down after President Kuchma charged that this could constitute “interference” in Ukraine’s domestic affairs. Reuters quoted President Kwasniewski as stating, “We must do all we can to help Ukraine find its rightful place in Europe.” President Kuchma did not attend the meeting but was due to arrive after it ends on October 16 for meetings with Messrs. Solana and Kwasniewski. Meanwhile, NATO officials said in Brussels that plans for a summit with Ukraine in Prague next month – where the alliance is expected to invite seven eastern European countries to join – had been dropped. (Reuters, RFE/RL Newsline)

NGO says leader killed for political activity

KYIV – The Public Control organization on October 3 claimed that its head, Ruslan Syniavskiy, was killed because of his political activity, the Associated Press reported. Police reported that an unidentified gunman shot and killed Mr. Syniavskiy, 44, late on September 30 near the entrance to his apartment building in downtown Kyiv. Interfax reported that the assailant shot several times in an attempt to rob Syniavskiy. “It’s very doubtful that an ordinary thief carries a gun. We [think] this was linked to his activity in the organization,” Oleh Sadanets from Public Control told the AP. Public Control helps citizens defend their rights against abuse by state officials. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Expert predicts Ukraine in NATO in 2006

KYIV – Bruce Jackson, the head of the Washington-based think-tank U.S. Committee on NATO, predicted at a meeting with Ukrainian lawmakers in Kyiv on September 30 that Ukraine will be accepted as a member of NATO within four years, the Associated Press reported. “The final definition of Europe’s security system is going to happen in the next five years. Ukraine is [NATO’s] most important ‘new relationship,’” the AP quoted Jackson as saying. “I’m very optimistic about what we can achieve in Ukraine in the next 42 months.” A NATO summit in November is expected to determine whether Ukraine will be invited to start the accession process or remain in the Partnership for Peace program. (RFE/RL Newsline)



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D.C. conference...

(Continued from page 9)

civil society could act as the agent of change within the country.

Because of Ukraine's negative image in the international arena, Mr. Nemyria said, it is becoming more and more difficult for change to come from outside the country.

Calling this one of the country's most historically important periods Mr. Nemyria seemed to place a large degree of hope on Ukraine's civil society. He said that, because civil society is playing many of the government's roles, it has the potential and is capable of reversing the current political stalemate. "It can become the foundation of an informed and engaged citizenry and become a source of an alternative political elite," he underscored.

Going one step further, Nadia Diuk,

senior program officer for Central and Eastern Europe and the New Independent States at the National Endowment for Democracy, said Ukrainian civil society is showing a level of sophistication it had not previously shown.

Dr. Diuk noted that the March parliamentary elections were a setback for democratic reform and gave the country a negative review when talking about Ukraine's achievement of a democratic polity.

According to Dr. Diuk, the pro-presidential parliamentary bloc turned what was about an 11 percent share of the vote into control of almost 40 percent of the seats in Parliament. "Although the public came out to vote, there was no regime change," she said.

Dr. Diuk cited the decision of the Community of Democracy (an association of democratic states created in 2000 to support fledgling democracies) to downgrade Ukraine from member status

to observer. "The qualification for participant status was that the country should meet the standards of an electoral democracy – Ukraine fell short," she said.

A market economy

While democratic reforms seemed to be lacking in Ukraine, many panelists emphasized Ukraine's economic progress over the last three years.

Panelists cited legislation on money laundering, intellectual property rights and Ukrainian tariffs on foreign poultry, what some called "the chicken war," as impediments to further improvement of Ukraine's market economy. Kempton Jenkins, president of the U.S.-Ukraine Business Council, said resolving those issues will enable other concerns between Ukraine and the United States to move ahead.

But Mr. Jenkins also stressed that the U.S. administration can do more to help business in Ukraine; namely, eliminating "a very unjust tragedy" – the Jackson-Vanik amendment, and using its influence to help Ukraine achieve World Trade Organization membership.

Anders Aslund, a pre-eminent economist who advised the Russian government on economic matters in 1991-1994, said of Jackson-Vanik, "It's just a shame such an absurdity can be on the books." But Dr. Aslund gave a very positive assessment of Ukraine's economic situation. Ukraine is in a market economy with free prices and free domestic and foreign trade – "it's more than the EU can brag about," Dr. Aslund added.

Ukraine must correct its problem with the rule of law and gain entrance to the WTO, Dr. Aslund continued. "Without it, Ukraine has no protection and will not reach its potential."

Yuri Yekhanurov, chair of the Verkhovna Rada Committee on Industry and Enterprise, said tax reform and property rights are priority issues. "Ukraine has moved to the market economy but has not yet learned how to use the tools of a market economy," the former vice prime minister of Ukraine said.

Richard Shriver, executive vice-president of the International Executive Service Corps, said Ukraine will know it has achieved a strong market economy when graduates of Ukrainian universities go into business rather than government, when anti-market laws are abandoned and when land truly becomes a commodity.

Military reform

In its efforts to integrate into Euro-Atlantic structures, Ukraine has done much in the military sphere. Joint international exercises and participation in NATO's KFOR peacekeeping unit in Kosovo are just a few of the areas where the Ukrainian military has begun to work with the European community.

But some panelists argued that Ukraine still had not done enough.

Maj. Oleh Sivushchenko of the armed forces of Ukraine said the country is creating a modern military force, doing so by balancing the size of military formations with the country's ability to finance them.

Maj. Sivushchenko added that the rapid reactionary forces of Ukraine will be the skeleton of an all-volunteer Ukrainian army capable of full military integration into all Euro-Atlantic structures.

According to Gen. Nicholas Krawciw (U.S. Army, retired), three things need to be done by military leaders in order to ensure professional forces in Ukraine: reforming of military education, creating an all-volunteer force with a solid non-commissioned officer corps, and redesigning the military personnel management system.

Investment and business in Ukraine

Ukraine's image as a corrupt and dangerous hinterland has done more than create political and diplomatic problems, it has also scared away foreign investment. Panelists like SUN Interbrew country manager for Ukraine Joe Strella said they understand the problem, but all panelists seemed to agree that productive and profitable business does exist in Ukraine.

Mr. Strella questioned why investment in Ukraine is so low. He called the investment climate in Ukraine very receptive and said the country harbors a potential for profit. Opportunities to attract investment through established Ukrainian banks, he said, are very good compared to similar countries. He added that the workforce is far superior to that of similar countries. Mr. Strella stressed that business in Ukraine can be done within the system, without bribes, by creating friendships and familiarity with local government officials.

Many of the lunchtime panelists said there is a misconception on investing in Ukraine. Business and investment in Ukraine comes down to a case-by-case basis when talking about investment – a matter of finding the right business partners, panelists said.

The issue of bribes is over, stated one panelist. David Sweere of Kyiv Atlantic Farms said that while conducting business in Ukraine he had never accepted a bribe or, for that matter, ever been offered a bribe.

EU-Ukraine relations

Ukraine, according to Leonid Kozhara of the Foreign Affairs Section of the Presidential Administration of Ukraine, has no other choice but Europe. Mr. Kozhara said the country has no Asian alternative and "Russia would be a return to union."

However, in response to a question on his view of the EU, Mr. Kozhara replied, "What we see in the EU now is an oligarchy, it is becoming exclusive." He added that, "the EU's main goal should be democracy and well-being for all, not for the few."

Ambassador Burghart said Ukraine's integration into the EU is a matter of time and political decisions. "Maybe by 2011," he said, "I don't know." Integration into the EU is somewhat more complicated than integration into other European structures, the ambassador added.

"It is the most profound transformation of the political landscape in Europe ever in our history" because, the ambassador said, membership in the EU is "a pooling of sovereignty." EU member-countries are currently writing a constitution, to be ratified by all members, that would resemble something between a union as tightly knit as the United States and the current EU. Maintaining EU standards when looking at the possibility of admitting countries like Ukraine makes entrance for former Soviet states significantly more difficult, the ambassador added.

"If we lose the momentum and the dynamism of our integration process, then the question of membership of other countries doesn't even exist anymore," the ambassador added.

Ambassador Burghart, whose mother was born in Kolomyia and his father in Ivano-Frankivsk, said "it is not a question of whether Ukraine is a European country."

"All of this is not the problem – these are non-problems – the problem is to continue the unification of Europe," which he reminded everyone has as its geographical center the town of Riakhiv in the Zakarpattia region of Ukraine.

Roman Woronowycz of The Ukrainian Weekly's Kyiv Press Bureau contributed to this article.

Kuchma once again...

(Continued from page 1)

including intimidation and persecution of politicians and members of the press, and the slander of lawmakers.

Judge Vasylenko, who did not hide his pro-opposition leanings, appeared at the press conference at the behest of National Deputy Yulia Tymoshenko of the eponymous parliamentary faction and Petro Symonenko of the Communist Party. Also present were leading representatives of the Socialist Party. The three political organizations, with limited participation by National Deputy Viktor Yushchenko's Our Ukraine Bloc, comprise the political opposition to the Kuchma administration.

Communist Party Chairman Symonenko, who called the leveling of charges "a democratic breakthrough," said that President Kuchma should refrain from carrying out his duties until the charges are reviewed.

"We demand that he leave office until the inquiry is complete," stated Mr. Symonenko.

In Warsaw, where he was attending a special conference on Ukraine and NATO/European Union relations, President Kuchma's chief of staff, Viktor Medvedchuk, quickly rebuffed the charges brought by Judge Vasylenko. Mr. Medvedchuk explained that it was an inappropriate juridical response because the president can only be removed through an impeachment process initiated and controlled by the Ukrainian Parliament, reported Holos Ukrainy.

In Kyiv, Minister of Justice Oleksander Lavrynovych agreed that because the president holds immunity from criminal prosecution, like that enjoyed by lawmakers, the judicial avenue pursued by the judge is problematic.

"In this case the manner by which the charges were brought is highly debatable and from a legal point of view do not hold up to scrutiny," explained Mr. Lavrynovych. "The fact that the process for bringing charges (against people who carry criminal immunity) has not been clarified is not a basis for an individual decision on how to proceed in this matter."

The Procurator General's Office filed a brief with the Supreme Court of Ukraine on October 16 in which it appealed the action by Judge Vasylenko. Ukraine's highest court remanded the matter to the Kyiv Court of Appeal, on whose bench Judge Vasylenko sits.

The series of events came after a reinvigorated opposition movement managed to draw nearly 25,000 demonstrators to a rally on European Square in Kyiv on October 12. The movement, which had not been gaining steam as leaders had hoped, was re-energized by allegations by the United States

that Ukrainian state leaders may have illegally transferred an air defense system to Iraq in contravention of a United Nations sanctions regime.

About 10,000 Communists and 7,000 each from the Tymoshenko Bloc and Socialist Party camps, along with a smattering of Our Ukraine supporters, converged on a square in the heart of Kyiv after marching on different streets to get there. They waved the protest banners that have become common at their demonstrations and again chanted, "Kuchma Out."

Our Ukraine did not take part in the latest demonstrations, although some of its supporters were present. National Deputy Borys Tarasyuk, a leading member of the center-right political bloc, said that while Our Ukraine remains an alternative political force, it continues to assert that street protests will not provide the desired change.

"We have said all along that our tactics will be different," explained Mr. Tarasyuk. "We do not believe the street will resolve our nation's problems. We need to sit down and negotiate."

The rally and marches occurred despite another court ban on the holding of such actions in Kyiv's city center. As in previous demonstrations, law enforcement officials did little to help the protesters or to clear and redirect traffic. Yet, unlike earlier actions, they did not confront the marchers either.

Similar demonstrations took place in Lviv, Symferopol, Odesa and Dnipropetrovsk, with turnouts not exceeding more than 1,000 people in any city.

A new twist to this third demonstration in a month was to make the rally in European Square a "national tribunal," during which some leaders read out the various crimes the opposition charges President Kuchma has committed, while others performed roles as prosecutors and witnesses.

Afterwards the protesters marched to the Procurator General's Office, where First Assistant Procurator General Serhii Vinokurov accepted various documents and proclamations from the national deputies demanding that charges be brought against Mr. Kuchma. Procurator General Sviatoslav Piskun was in Washington discussing the case of former Prime Minister Lazarenko with U.S. Justice Department officials.

The demonstrations may be having some effect on softening the presidential administration's hard stance towards the opposition. Presidential Chief of Staff Medvedchuk said in Warsaw that he believes negotiations with the opposition force are possible "if the other side is capable and willing."

Meanwhile, President Kuchma, also in Warsaw, said he could take part in such negotiations if they were a dialogue. "I am for dialogue, but will not listen to ultimatums," explained Mr. Kuchma.

Journalists...

(Continued from page 1)

The unsigned proposals, dubbed "temnyky," suggest specific events and topics the television stations should accent in their news coverage. Generally, they have included events that put President Kuchma and his administration in a positive light. The temnyky provide talking points and schedules for the upcoming week. They also suggest what events may not need media coverage.

"Earlier, certain influential figures simply telephoned and directed what should or should not be shown, but that required a lot of personal phone calls," explained Mr. Kryvenko. "They decided to make a standard document, which would allow a single secretary to fax the directives."

Mr. Kryvenko, who left his post as news director of Studio 1+1, one of the top three Ukrainian television networks, when the political pressure became unpalatable, underscored that direct threats for non-compliance are not made. But with beatings and deaths of journalists in Ukraine far from uncommon, it is understandable that news directors do not ignore the possi-

ble implications.

As this new form of state media control began amid timid whines of protest, several leading Ukrainian journalists, including Andrii Shevchenko, news anchor of Novyi Kanal – then still considered the most independent of the major television networks – decided they wanted no part of the process and resigned.

But the problem surfaced only after journalists from the UNIAN news agency threatened a walkout if their newly appointed news director, who they charged was censoring their material, was not removed. The news agency, founded with United States foreign aid and considered a bastion of journalistic independence until Viktor Pinchuk, President Kuchma's son-in-law, purchased it, quickly agreed to guarantee freedom of journalistic expression.

However, the ensuing storm of grievances from various other media sources – amplified during demonstrations and declarations by opponents of the Kuchma administration – was not easily calmed.

The journalists' manifesto was developed on October 3 after a roundtable with National Deputy Mykola Tomenko, recently elected from the Our Ukraine faction, who

now chairs the Committee on Freedom of the Press. It declares that political censorship indeed exists in Ukraine, underscores that it is illegal and announces that Ukrainian journalists will fight the denial of their right of expression while supporting all who exercise that right.

The initial 50 or so signatories then banded together to begin work on developing a Union of Independent Ukrainian Journalists. In the interim, they have formed the strike committee, which will support Ukrainian journalists and develop ties with international human rights organizations, including the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and Reporters Without Borders.

Mr. Kryvenko said that, during a meeting they demanded and received with Verkhovna Rada Chairman Lytvyn, the strike committee was surprised and heartened to hear the parliamentary leader, a close confidante and prior chief of staff to President Kuchma, acknowledge that censorship exists in Ukraine.

"We were satisfied with the outcome," explained the veteran journalist.

President Kuchma had made overtures to the journalists to resolve the matter as early

as October 8, when he said that he was willing to examine specific issues of political censorship, while underscoring that most media was in private hands. That meeting never took place.

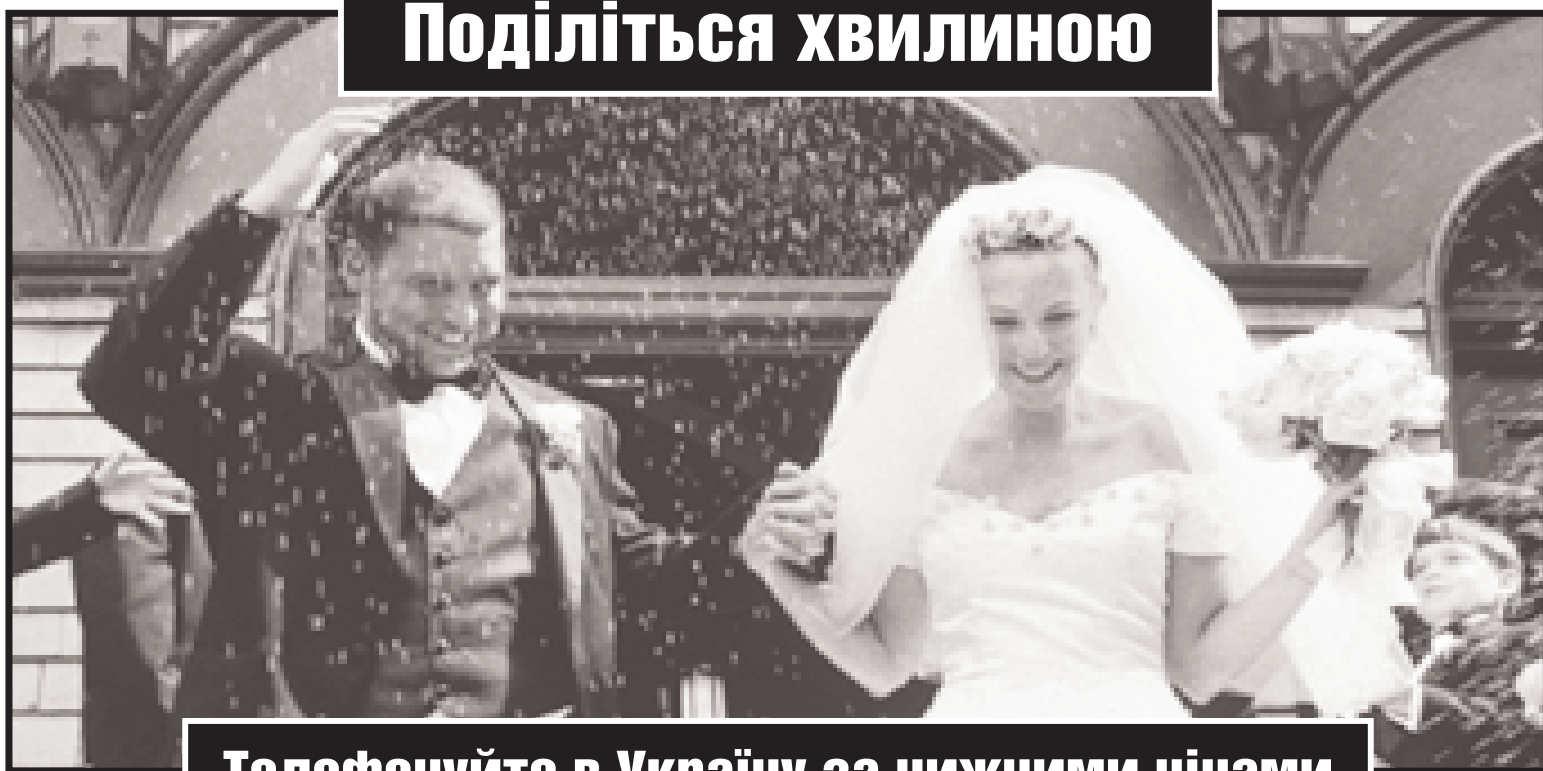
Mr. Kryvenko also emphasized that the strike committee wants to keep the fight for freedom of the press outside the current political mire in Ukraine.

"Our concern is that, regardless of the sort of political opposition that currently exists, if it should attain power, it, too, could turn to censorship," explained Mr. Kryvenko. "We want to develop a system in which, regardless of which political force comes to power, it has a minimal affect on editorial processes."

He observed that in the two weeks since the formation of the strike committee and the events at UNIAN raised the political temperature over freedom of the press, the government had already loosened the screws of control.

"We have noticed that changes are brewing at even the most orthodox of television networks. There are now editorial directives on bulletin boards that remind journalists that both sides of an issue must be presented," explained Mr. Kryvenko.

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Pobratymy fraternity's golf outing supports activities of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization

by Oleh Skubiak

CHICAGO – The Pobratymy Foundation hosted its fourth annual Plast Open at the Renwood Golf Club in Round Lake, Ill., on Saturday, September 7. The event included 62 men and women golfers for the tournament, and over 100 participants at the post-tourney festivities.

As in previous years, the proceeds from this very successful and enjoyable event will be dedicated to support the ongoing activities of Plast Ukrainian Scouting Organization. Proceeds from last year's event were donated to the Plast Conference Fund (an initiative of the chief scout, or "nachalnyi plastun") in support of Plast's developmental activities in Ukraine.

Using a scramble format, participants enjoyed 18 holes of golf on a beautiful fall day and afterward joined family and friends at Self-Reliance Resort down the street for awards, camaraderie, music, steaks and refreshments.

The following prizes were awarded:

- Best men's team score – Curtis Babченко and Taras Popowycz;
- Best women's team score – Bohdanna Domino, Christine Hryhorczuk, Roksolana

Tymiak-Lonchyna and Luba Skubiak

- Longest drive – Roman Marushka;
- Closest to the pin – Stephen Dykun.

The Pobratymy Foundation, a 501(c) (3) tax-exempt corporation, was established in 1992 by members of the Plast Pobratymy fraternity for the purpose of supporting the developmental activities of Plast. The Pobratymy Foundation is limited to making contributions to Plast and other 501 (c) (3) organizations that support the stated purposes of the fraternity: to renew and strengthen Plast; to encourage excellence and self-improvement; to encourage identification and cooperation among Ukrainian youth; and to inform others about Ukraine.

Plast Chicago and the Pobratymy Foundation expressed thanks to all volunteers and the individual and corporate sponsors for their generous contributions to the event.

The fifth annual Plast Open is scheduled for September 6, 2003, at the Renwood Golf Club. Readers may visit the Plast Golf Outing website at <http://us.geocities.com/plastchicagoopen-golf2002/index.html>. For more information please call Oleh Skubiak, (630) 574-1961, or e-mail Skubiak@DeVry.com.



The best-scoring women's team: (from left) Roksolana Tymiak-Lonchyna, Luba Skubiak, Chrystia Hryhorczuk and Bohdanna Domino.

News from Harvard...

(Continued from page 10)

best attended at the congress, with some 150 people coming to the discussion. Participants in the roundtable were: Marta Bohachevsky-Chomiak, director of the Fulbright Scholar Program in Ukraine; Heorhii Kasianov, Institute of History, NASU; the Rev. Dr. Borys Gudziak, rector of the recently accredited Ukrainian Catholic University in Lviv; Natalia Yakovenko and Oleksii Tolochko, both from the Institute of History, NASU; and the moderator, Prof. Grabowicz. The roundtable addressed such highly topical issues as the culture and ethics of scholarship in Ukraine, problems of corruption and plagiarism in the world of academe, funding of education and research, development of new curricula and the need for educational reforms in Ukraine. Both panels provoked much interest among the participants of the congress and were very well received.

- Halyna Hryn joined the institute in September as its new research fellow. Ms. Hryn received her M.A. from the University of Toronto. She has taught Ukrainian lan-

guage, literature and culture at Yale University (1996-2002), Harvard University (1995-1996); Ukrainian Summer Institutes 1992-1996 and 2001), University of Manitoba (1986-1992), and York University (1984-1986) in Canada.

In addition to her teaching experience in Ukrainian studies, Ms. Hryn has served as director of the Harvard Ukrainian Summer Institute (1996 and 2002), and as the executive director of the Yale-Ukraine Initiative (1997-2002).

Ms. Hryn is also a recognized translator of Ukrainian literary works into English, including Volodymyr Dibrova's novels "Peltse" and "Pentameron" (Northwestern University Press, 1996), Oksana Zabuzhko's "Field Work in Ukrainian Sex" (forthcoming; selections published in the literary journal AGNI, 2001), and V. Domontovych's novel "Bez Gruntu" (with George and Moira Luckyj, forthcoming).

Her research interests have concentrated on Ukrainian literature of the 1920s. While at HURI, she will be completing her doctoral dissertation on the Kharkiv journal Literaturnyi Yarmarok, 1928-1929. Ms. Hryn will be at HURI until June 2003.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

(Continued from page 20)

America Branch 4 will present a unique show of original wearable art, titled "Regal Fantasy," at 1 p.m. in the small reception hall adjacent to St. Andrew's Ukrainian Orthodox Church on Main Street. Featured will be original knitwear created by the Ukrainian designer Tamara, whose work draws on inspiration from Ukraine's ethno-cultural heritage. Her son Andrei, an accomplished artist in his own right, will be showing some of his original paintings. Included is a hot luncheon served with light beverages, as well as musical entertainment and a raffle of fine items. Price of admission: \$25 per person. For tickets and information contact Luba Stryj, (908) 534-3728. Please order your tickets early, as seating is limited and tickets will not be available at the door.

Saturday, November 9

JENKINTOWN, Pa.: The Voloshky Ukrainian Dance Ensemble is hosting its annual Autumn Ball at the Ukrainian Educational and Cultural Center, 700 Cedar Road. The dance will begin at 9 p.m. with music by Fata Morgana. The Voloshky Ensemble will perform during the early evening. Tickets: adults, \$30; students, \$25. Included in the ticket price is a light buffet. Proper evening attire is required. For table reservations call Katria Kowal, (215) 413-2504.

Sunday, November 10

BALTIMORE: The Telnyuk Sisters vocal duo presents its new program, "Firebirds," at the parish hall of St. Michael's Ukrainian Catholic Church, 2401 Eastern Ave., at 2 p.m., as part of the parish celebration of St. Michael Archangel Day. Divine liturgy will be celebrated at 10:15 a.m., followed by a parish sponsored lunch at noon. Concert tickets: \$10 in advance; \$15 at the door, seniors and students, \$12; free admission for children. The concert program combines vocals, poetry and classical music, as well as folk instruments, in a distinctive style that breaks the barriers between soft rock, jazz and folk music. For more information call (410) 747-7279.

Saturday, November 16

HARTFORD, Conn.: The Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM), Hartford Branch, invites you and your family to its 50th anniversary celebration to be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 961 Wethersfield Ave., starting at 6 p.m. The program includes a keynote address, cultural performances by SUM youth, dinner and a dance to the tunes of Zorepad. Donation: adults, \$40; youth up to age 21, \$20. (Dinner: choice of prime rib or chicken.) Tickets may be reserved by calling the SUM Cooperative Ukrainian Gift Shop, (860) 296-6955.

New Canadian docu-drama examines internment and other human rights abuses

VANCOUVER – In 1991, Vancouver-based filmmaker Marusya Bociurkiw met and interviewed Mary Manko-Haskett, an elderly Ukrainian woman with a surprising story to tell. She wanted to share her memories of being imprisoned with her family in a hard labor camp in northern Quebec. This was the start of "Unspoken Territory," a new Canadian docu-drama that documents how people have been unfairly targeted for subversive activities in the past century.

Examining human rights abuses in Canada's own backyard, the 60-minute film takes viewers to the beautiful but desolate setting of a Ukrainian internment camp in 1915, where Ms. Manko was interned; the story of a Quebecoise arrested under the War Measures Act in 1970; a Mohawk woman's memories of military presence in Kahnatesake in 1990.

With a mix of documentary, dramatic re-enactment and personal essay, this film questions "official" history and the seamless narratives of the archives. The film concludes by commenting upon current episodes of racism in the wake of recent changes to immigration law, asking the question: Could it happen again?

Shot on location in Toronto, Ottawa, Vancouver, the Abitibi region of Quebec, the pine forests of Kahnatesake and the Slovan Valley of British Columbia, "Unspoken Territory" juxtaposes lush

landscape images with starkly rendered stories. Accompanying the text are the polyphonic melodies of the Slavic vocal ensemble Zeelia, Vancouver street musician Roman Bociurkiw, Winnipeg's Paris to Kiev ensemble, and the complex synthesized arrangements of Toronto's Lee Pui Ming.

Vancouver film critic Mary Frances Hill had this to say about "Unspoken Territory:" "Through re-enactments and artistic flourishes, the filmmaker illustrates the legacy of fear and panic during national crisis ... no one will be able to resist the parallels today..."

The film will be screened at the Ottawa Public Library on October 23 at 8:30 p.m.



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Correction

A typographical error resulted in the reporting of an incorrect sum of money donated by the Rochester Chapter of the Children of Chernobyl Relief Fund toward a new neonatal intensive care unit in Ivano-Frankivsk (October 13). The amount donated was \$15,000, not \$157,000.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Saturday, October 26

NEW YORK: The Shevchenko Scientific Society is holding a lecture by Renata Rusnak, graduate student, Jagiellonian University, Krakow, and research fellow, Polish Academy of Sciences on Bohdan Lepkyj in the context of Polish-Ukrainian relations. The presentation will be held at the Shevchenko Scientific Society, 63 Fourth Ave. (between Ninth and 10th streets) at 5 p.m. For more information call (212) 254-5130.

Thursday, October 31

TORONTO: The Peter Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine at the University of Toronto is holding a seminar titled "Ukraine in Crisis," that will consider the following two topics: "Ukrainian Media: Censorship Exposed – Journalists Fight Back" and "Domestic and International Ramifications of Iraqgate." Taking part in the seminar are Marta Dyczok, department of political science and history, University of Western Ontario, and fellow, Center for Russian and East European Studies (CREES), University of Toronto, and Taras Kuzio, resident fellow, CREES. The seminar will be held in Room 108 North Building, Munk Center for International Studies, 1 Devonshire Place, University of Toronto, at 6-8 p.m.

YARDVILLE, N.J.: The sisterhood of the St. George Ukrainian Orthodox Church invites the public to its fall "zabava"/Halloween Party, which will be held in the church hall, 839 Yardville-Allentown Road, starting at 9 p.m. Music will be provided by Vidlunnya. Admission (price includes buffet): adults, \$30; students, \$20. Costumes welcome. For additional information call Natalia Posewa, (609) 259-2763.

ADVANCE NOTICE

Saturday, November 2

CLEVELAND: Ukrainian National Women's League of America Branch 33 will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a banquet and cultural program at St. Josaphat Ukrainian Catholic Cathedral Astrodome, 5720 State Road, Parma, Ohio. Tickets: \$25. For more information call Olena, (440) 884-6716.

Sunday, November 3

NEW YORK: The Ukrainian Institute of America invites everyone to the annual Halloween Costume Party for Children on the theme – "Halloween in a Haunted Castle," with Marta Sawycky, director of "Music and Me" as master of ceremonies. Festivities begin at 2 p.m. and include: costume parade, musical program, age-appropriate activities, fun and games for toddlers, pre-school and school-aged children, Magic Show featuring Ihor the Magician, snacks and refreshments. Admission: \$25 per family; space is limited and reservations are highly recommended. The UIA is located at 2 E. 79th St. (diagonally across from The Metropolitan Museum of Art.) For more information and reservations call the UIA, (212) 288-8600.

Monday, October 28

CAMBRIDGE, Mass.: The Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute will host a

SOUTH BOUND BROOK, N.J.:
Ukrainian National Women's League of

(Continued on page 19)

PREVIEW OF EVENTS GUIDELINES

Preview of Events is a listing of Ukrainian community events open to the public. It is a service provided at minimal cost (\$10 per listing) by The Ukrainian Weekly to the Ukrainian community. PLEASE NOTE: As of November 1, the charge for a listing in "Preview of Events" will be raised to \$20. (See our editorial of October 13 for a full explanation of this new rate.)

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

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