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\$1/\$2 in Ukraine

Toronto program on Famine-Genocide focuses on educating students

by Lesia Korobaylo

TORONTO – In order to promote public awareness about the unprecedented and tragic Famine-Genocide in Soviet-occupied Ukraine during 1932-1933, the Toronto Branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress organized and sponsored a commemorative week whose focus was educational programs for students.

Over 370 elementary and high school students actively participated in these educational programs, which took place at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation (UCAF) during the week of November 17-25.

Displayed throughout the foundation's gallery was a children's art exhibit titled "Famine-Genocide Through the Eyes of a Child." This exhibit comprised 210 paintings produced last year by Toronto area students during art workshops created and conducted by art educator Halia Dmytryshyn. The broad spectrum of these dramatic and colorful paintings depicted life in Ukraine from the prosperous years before the Famine-Genocide to the paintings representing the brutal Soviet campaign of food confiscations, destruction of property, terror and murder.

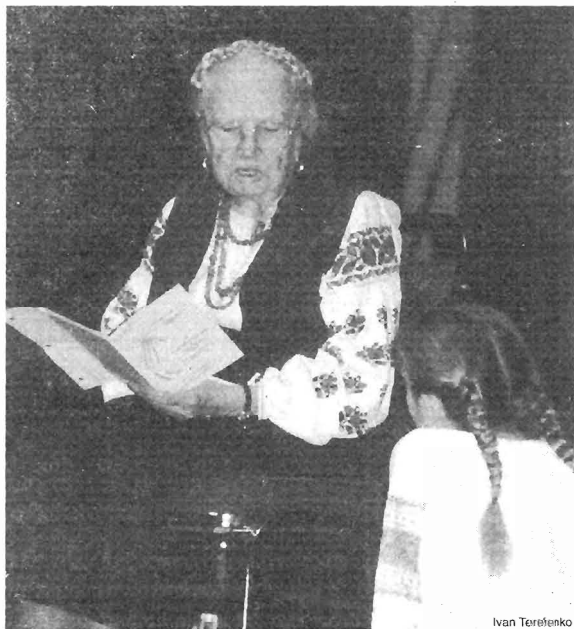
Famine-Genocide survivor and

teacher Nicholas Latyshko retold his desperate survival story to the spell-bound students. Mr. Latyshko emphasized that the Famine was not the result of climatic conditions or poor harvest, but was deliberately perpetrated on the Ukrainian people by the Soviet regime.

Education consultant Valentina Kuryliw and educator Marika Szkambara provided historical lessons; Ms. Dmytryshyn covered the elements of art related to the children's art exhibit. Information kits included a Famine-Genocide booklet featuring an extensive bibliography, current articles, quotes, facts, as well as questionnaires for students.

Of paramount importance were the presentations by students Oleksa Rewa and Mykhaylo Reay, both very active members in various Ukrainian youth organizations. Mr. Rewa is a University of Toronto student majoring in Life Sciences with a minor in Ukrainian Studies. Two years ago while simultaneously completing his International Baccalaureate and his OAC (grade 13) at the Toronto French School he wrote a major essay, entitled "The Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933" for which he earned an A+. Mr. Reay, who is currently an OAC student at St. Michael's

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Ivan Terstenko

Survivor Kateryna Scherban recounts the terror of the Famine.

Use of government resources emerges as an issue as Rada elections approach

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – As lawmakers from Ukraine's Verkhovna Rada gear up for the March 2002 elections and as the first strategies are implemented, the issue of government administrative resources and how they will affect the races has become an increasingly important issue here.

There is widespread belief among the population and acknowledgment among political experts that those who hold power or have direct access to it – and that means some ability to control government finances as well – will have a direct bearing on how the political campaigns play out and who the winners will be.

What is not yet certain, and probably will only become apparent after the results are in sometime after March 31, is how the use of government power in the form of media access, public relations strategies, influences over cadres and just plain old money will affect the outcome of the vote.

During a roundtable held on December 18, sponsored by the Razumkov Center for Economic and Political Studies, the consensus reached by an array of experts was that the degree of influence would vary. However, most agreed that of Ukraine's 127 political parties, those positioned politically closest to the presidential structures would benefit the most.

That same day the Razumkov Center issued a report on expectations and political scenarios in the run-up to the March

31 parliamentary elections in which it noted that: "the use of administrative resources in the upcoming parliamentary elections of 2002 will be sufficiently high." The center also reported that in a recently conducted survey about half of Ukrainians agreed with that assertion.

The same report claimed that only about 3 percent of the population actually would succumb to pressure from government structures to vote a certain way. However, those who represent political interests that will have no access to the political benefits the government can supply say the influence will be much stronger.

"Even today, everywhere we look as we prepare for the elections, we see administrative resources at work. All the major parties will be utilizing them. The structures opposed to the president have no chance," explained National Deputy Natalia Vitrenko, an influential presidential candidate in 1999, who leads the small, radical Progressive Socialist Party.

During a speech in a hall adjoining the Razumkov Center roundtable, President Leonid Kuchma, whose office would have the most influence over how administrative resources are allocated to political organizations, rejected any such possibility.

"It simply will not be possible. There will be more [election] observers in Ukraine for this election than anywhere else ever," explained the president. "Merely from the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe there

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Ukrainian and Russian representatives meet at business summit in Kharkiv

by Roman Woronowycz

Kyiv Press Bureau

KYIV – Russia's chief economic envoy to Kyiv on December 19 rejected an assertion by the leader of his country's main businessmen's association that Kyiv and Moscow would emulate the European Union countries and join in a single currency.

Arkadii Volskyi, president of the Russian League of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, added controversy to a rather mundane Russian-Ukrainian business forum held in Kharkiv on December 13-14 when he called on the two countries to adopt a single currency to simplify economic ties and trade between them.

He told fellow businessmen during a forum session that such a move would help avoid losses in trade that occur during currency exchanges and cited the European Union, which will introduce a

single currency, the euro, in a few weeks, for having a realistic currency policy, according to Interfax-Ukraine.

Viktor Chernomyrdin, Russia's ambassador and chief economic envoy to Ukraine, rejected the possibility at least for the near term on December 19 when he told Kyiv journalists that he doubted the two countries are ready socially, economically or politically for such a move.

The comments by Mr. Volskyi were the most controversial in the first-ever officially sponsored summit of Russian and Ukrainian business-types. The presidents of both countries, Leonid Kuchma of Ukraine and Vladimir Putin of Russia, visited the proceedings on December 14 after touring several local manufacturing centers in the Kharkiv area.

Speaking before the business representatives, President Kuchma emphasized

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ANALYSIS

Oligarchic Social Democrats suffer setback

by **Taras Kuzio**
RFE/RL Newsline

On December 13, 234 members of the Ukrainian Parliament voted to dismiss Vice-Chairman Viktor Medvedchuk from his position. Mr. Medvedchuk is also the chairman of one of Ukraine's most important, but least liked, oligarchic political parties – the Social Democratic Party (United).

Mr. Medvedchuk achieved notoriety during the Soviet era when he helped send well-known Ukrainian dissident poet Vasyly Stus to the Gulag, where he died in 1986. In the 1990s, Mr. Medvedchuk's rise to fame was meteoric, and he recently set his sights on the post-Kuchma presidency.

The factions that gathered the 150 signatures to place the motion of dismissal to a vote came from the two Rukh parties (36 members), Reforms-Congress (14), Yulia Tymoshenko's Fatherland (25), Solidarity (21), and the newly created Unity (15) led by popular Kyiv Mayor Oleksander Omelchenko. The remaining votes came from the Socialists and Communists, who together command 130 members. Those two factions blame Mr. Medvedchuk for the adoption by the Verkhovna Rada last month of the land reform bill.

It has been increasingly evident that both the SDPU and Oleksander Volkov's Democratic Union have been out of favor with President Leonid Kuchma. Mr.

Volkov, a businessman who is reputed to have ties to organized crime and is wanted by Belgian police on money-laundering charges, received a medal from President Kuchma in February in honor of his "selfless work and personal merits in promoting Ukraine's socioeconomic development." But since then his star has also waned.

A new party of power, Regions of Ukraine, was created by the head of the State Tax Administration, Mykola Azarov, earlier this year in the Donbas, and many deputies from Mr. Volkov's Parliament faction joined it. The final indication that Mr. Volkov had fallen out of favor with President Kuchma and was no longer needed as an "adviser" was his replacement as head of the Democratic Union by Mr. Kuchma's long-time personal friend, Volodymyr Horbulin, who was Yevhen Marchuk's predecessor as secretary of the National Security and Defense Council.

Four factors have led to Mr. Medvedchuk's decline.

First, Mr. Omelchenko's Unity faction dislikes the SDPU-O because of its control of many of Kyiv's prize assets, including the Dynamo Kyiv soccer team. Mr. Azarov's rival Regions of Ukraine has supported recent draft legislation to tax payments made on the transfers of soccer players from which the SDPU inordinately gained. Mr. Omelchenko also dislikes Hryhorii Surkis, Mr. Medvedchuk's ally and president of Kyiv Dynamo and the Football Federation of Ukraine, who was his rival in the bitterly

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Taras Kuzio is a research associate at the Center for Russian and East European Studies, University of Toronto.

Poland 20 years after martial law

by **Jan Maksymiuk**
RFE/RL Newsline

Twenty years ago, on the morning of December 13, 1981, all of Poland was shocked by the sight of tanks, armored personnel carriers, and police and military units armed with Kalashnikov machine guns patrolling the streets. And quite suddenly, there were no radio or television programs on the air. Instead, TV every half hour broadcast images of Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski, who, sporting his now famous junta-style black glasses, told the country that "our fatherland has found itself on the edge of an abyss" and announced the introduction of martial law.

The highest authority body in the country turned out to be the Jaruzelski-led Military Council of National Salvation (WRON), which was set up shortly after midnight on December 13. The WRON ordered some 10,000 Solidarity activists interned until the council was dissolved in July 1983; more than 3,000 were arrested in the wee hours of the first day of martial law.

The acronym WRON – which was only one letter short of "wrona" (crow in Polish) – immediately inspired a popular anti-Communist slogan of that period: "orla wrona nie pokona" ("the crow won't beat the eagle" – the eagle stood for both Poland's national emblem and, figuratively, Poland's strivings for independence).

The WRON introduced the censorship

of correspondence and telephone calls, as well as curfews. Major Polish plants and factories received new managers – military commissars. All the Polish periodicals – apart from the party's two country-wide dailies (Trybuna Ludu and Zolnierz Wolnosci) and 16 regional dailies – were suspended. All the universities were closed and all the students, including this author, were told to go home and watch television for an official announcement on when to return to their studies.

The general atmosphere in the first days of martial law was surreal and absurd. Whom did the Commies want to fight? But then came terse official reports – read by television news presenters in military uniforms – about the bloody pacification of strikes in the Wujek and Manifest Lipcowy mines, and it was suddenly chillingly clear for everyone that the communist regime would do anything imaginable to remain true to former Polish Communist leader Wladyslaw Gomułka's pledge that "We won't give up the power we once won."

Martial law was called off in mid-1983, but the general perception is that it lasted until 1989, when Solidarity took over in a peaceful transition from totalitarianism to democracy. Gen. Jaruzelski's rule in the 1980s was a bleak period in Poland, both because of economic hardships and the general feeling of hopelessness among younger generations: three-quarters of a million Poles emigrated during that time, most of them young, which led to a brain drain from which the country has yet to recover.

Twenty years later, Poles remain bit-

(Continued on page 13)

Jan Maksymiuk is the Belarus, Ukraine and Poland specialist on the staff of RFE/RL Newsline.

NEWSBRIEFS**Minsk tough on Kyiv's Soviet-era debt**

CHERNIHIV – Ukrainian Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh and his Belarusian counterpart, Henadz Navitski, met in Chernihiv, northern Ukraine, on December 18 to discuss trade and economic issues, Belarusian and Ukrainian media reported. The prime ministers endorsed a plan of bilateral economic cooperation for 2002 calling for an increase in annual trade turnover to \$1 billion from the current level of some \$700 million. However, the sides did not address the contentious issue of Ukraine's Soviet-era debt to Belarus because an intergovernmental commission has failed to produce a relevant joint resolution. Mr. Navitski told Belapan that Minsk will not ratify the border agreement with Ukraine as long as Kyiv fails to repay its Soviet-era debt to Belarus. In 1997 Belarusian President Alyaksandr Lukashenka said that debt amounted to \$217 million. In a recent intergovernmental agreement, the figure shrank to \$113 million, and Ukraine offered some property in Crimea to cover some of the debt. Mr. Navitski told Belapan that Ukraine is seeking to get rid of the clause for turning over the property and wants the debt figure to be reduced to \$51 million. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma hopes for workable new Rada

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma on December 18 expressed hope that a new Parliament elected in the March 31 ballot will be more efficient in contrast to the current one, Interfax reported. He criticized the current legislature for inefficiency and political rows. "It's impossible to advance in economy and politics if the government has no support in the Parliament," Mr. Kuchma noted. "I extremely dislike when ultra-leftists unite with ultra-rightists [in the parliament]," he added, referring to the recent ouster of First Vice Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Viktor Medvedchuk. (RFE/RL Newsline)

... insists on implementing referendum

KYIV – President Leonid Kuchma said he is still hopeful that the results of the referendum held on April 16, 2000, will be implemented, reported the UNIAN news agency. The referendum approved proposals to grant the president the right to dissolve the Verkhovna Rada if lawmakers fail to create a stable parliamentary majority; cut the number of lawmakers from 450 to 300; abolish the lawmakers' immunity from prosecution; and introduce a second legislative chamber.

"I will never sign another decree on holding a referendum, even if one is urgently needed, because I have no right to do so until the results of the previous referendum have been implemented," the president said. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Kuchma opposes joint border checkpoints

KYIV – "We are ready to consider joint border checkpoints with Moldova. But we cannot accept this on the border with the Transnistrian region," President Leonid Kuchma told journalists on December 18. Mr. Kuchma recalled that Moldova wants "to place Moldovan customs officers on Ukraine's territory" and added that such a possible move should be approved by the Ukrainian Parliament. However, he noted that "we don't want to fight with the Transnistrian region or impose an economic blockade on it." In a bid to tighten control over what Chisinau calls smuggling from and to the Transnistrier, the Moldovan government asked Kyiv earlier this year to allow its customs officers access to checkpoints located on the Ukrainian side of the border. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Prez predicts rise in electricity tariffs

KYIV – The president said Ukraine will have to increase tariffs for electricity consumption. Leonid Kuchma added, however, that the increase will not be implemented as "spontaneously" as envisaged in the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development's loan offer for completing two nuclear reactors in Ukraine to compensate for the closure of Chernobyl. President Kuchma also said the tariffs will not be raised this winter. He revealed that the recently signed accord on Russia's assistance in completing the two Ukrainian reactors provides for a Russian credit of \$150 million in 2002. (RFE/RL Newsline)

Rada seeks probe of presidential staff chief

KYIV – The Verkhovna Rada on December 18 supported a motion that the Procurator-General's Office launch a criminal case against presidential administration chief Volodymyr Lytvyn, deputy Ihor Bakai, and others, UNIAN reported. The motion is called "On investigating the circumstances of illegal appropriation by Lytvyn, Bakai, and other officials of state intellectual property worth hundreds of millions of hryvni and gross tax evasion, bringing the guilty individuals to book, and taking action to recover the losses incurred by the state." (RFE/RL Newsline)

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Ukrainian Catholics get land in Kharkiv for new church

Religious Information Service of Ukraine

LVIV — The city and regional administrations of Kharkiv have decided to give the local Ukrainian Greek-Catholic community a plot of land on which they can build a church. After years of requesting permission, on November 16 the Rev. Mykola Semenovych, the priest of the parish, received a letter from the regional authorities ordering the local government to give the Greek-Catholics a long-disputed lot.

As previously reported by RISU, the Greek-Catholics of eastern Ukrainian Kharkiv have been trying to get land on which to build a church since 1997. One major obstacle has been Metropolitan Nykodym (Rusnak) of Kharkiv, Ukrainian Orthodox Church — Moscow Patriarchate (UOC-MP), who has consistently opposed the Ukrainian Catholics' efforts. He was joined by the governing board of the Institute for the Protection of the Health of Children and Teenagers, a hospital whose territory borders the lot, and some left-wing political groups.

The Rev. Semenovych said that it is the regional authorities, interested in cooperating with the UOC-MP and Metropolitan Nykodym, who created the obstacles. Other lots were suggested, but they were either totally unsuitable for building a church or likely to cause further "conflict."

A number of national deputies in Ukraine's Parliament, the Kharkiv eparchy of the Ukrainian Autocephalous Orthodox Church, the intelligentsia and dozens of lay organizations and human-rights groups stepped in to support the Greek-Catholics. Both the Ukrainian and the foreign mass

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Odesa-Brody oil pipeline remains dry

by Irina Sandt

ODESA — Four months after Ukraine's President Leonid Kuchma ceremonially welded together a final link of the Odesa-Brody pipeline and days before the construction of the Pivdennyi terminal ends, there is not a drop of oil in the pipe. There's not a drop of ink on paper either — officials still haven't signed any contracts for oil transportation.

Experts say the Pivdennyi oil terminal and the 673-kilometer Odesa-Brody pipeline could resolve Ukraine's nearly 100 percent dependency on Russian oil — a problem other nearby East European countries sorted out long ago. Poland built an oil terminal in Gdansk in the 1980s. The Czech Republic built the state oil terminal MERO, which connected a Czech oil refinery in Litvinov with Germany, early in the 1990s.

Completion of the construction of the Pivdennyi terminal, at a cost of 400 million hryv, is scheduled for December 15. The Odesa-Brody pipeline, the second chief component of Ukraine's power independence, could become an efficient and relatively inexpensive way to transport Caspian oil to the West. Ukraine would earn transit fees as well, which would help decrease Kyiv's economic and political vulnerability vis-à-vis Moscow.

"If the route of Caspian oil through the Black Sea, Bosphorus and Dardanelles to Europe is 9,000 kilometers," said Boris Biriukov, the Pivdennyi oil terminal manager, "the way [through Odesa-Brody] is almost half that."

Shipping oil through the new pipeline would allow transporters to bypass the crowded Bosphorus Straits, already overloaded by tankers. Through Odesa-Brody Ukraine could send oil to European markets via Slovakia, Hungary and the existing pipelines in Austria and southern Germany. By extending the Odesa-Brody pipeline to Plotsk, Ukraine's neighbor Poland could

establish a link to the northern branch of the already existing Druzhba (Friendship) line, with a capacity of 1.2 million barrels per day.

The Druzhba pipeline and the Prydniprovka Pipeline enterprises largely financed the four-year-long cash-strapped construction of the Pivdennyi terminal. Volodymyr Omelychenko, Ukrtransnafta official in charge of the Odesa-Brody project's strategic development and realization, refused to divulge the pipeline's cost, saying it didn't correspond to the real market value they wished to present to potential foreign partners.

Currently the Odesa-Brody pipeline, with a diameter of 1.02 meters, transfers only about 9 million tons of oil per year. The line will start working in its full capacity of 35-40 million tons after an additional mooring line for tankers with up to 100,000 tons deadweight is built, along with six more oil reservoirs capable of holding 50,000 to 75,000 cubic meters each and two additional oil stations in the Odesa and Vinnytsia oblasts, according to Mr. Biriukov.

And, of course, it also depends on whether there is oil.

President Leonid Kuchma said in August that Ukraine must find partners to provide the needed oil.

"One shouldn't hope that Ukraine, having built this pipeline on its own, will be able to provide its filling in on its own. We must invite those who have oil, and we must not wait. The constructors have built the pipeline, now it's the politicians' role to provide oil, although this should have been done simultaneously," said Mr. Kuchma, who has proposed the creation of an international consortium to exploit the pipeline.

Mr. Omelychenko, however, said "the time hasn't come yet" to start exploiting the pipeline. "We can't jump from one thing to another," he said in a phone interview with The Ukrainian Weekly when asked whether Ukraine has signed any oil transportation agreements. "First, we need to finish the construction of the terminal," he explained.

Mr. Omelychenko noted that "there are lots of those who so desire [to use the pipeline], all around the world." However, he refused to name names, explaining that the information is confidential. "No documents have been signed yet," he said.

A Ukrainian-American-Polish working group has been created to provide effective functioning of the Eurasian transport corridor, and it has launched the process of presenting the Odesa-Brody pipeline to potential overseas partners, according to Mr. Omelychenko.

Money is slowly beginning to trickle in,

if only in small amounts and not directly for the purpose intended. In Brussels on November 22, the head of Ukrtransnafta, Oleksander Todychuk, announced that the Odesa-Brody project had found its first investor. The U.S. Agency for International Development had given Ukraine two grants of \$150,000 each to conduct testing of the pipeline's reliability, Radio Liberty reported.

But not everybody thinks Ukraine will have difficulty finding oil providers. "I am not a supporter of the creation of the consortium," said Mr. Biriukov. "After we have suffered alone through the construction process, why should we create a consortium simply to fill the pipe? If we were strong enough to build it, we should be able to buy the oil. There is plenty of oil in Kazakhstan and Russia. Where there is money, there is oil. That way all the revenue will stay in Ukraine."

In the meantime, Ukraine has taken some steps in the privatization sector that may lure U.S. and European investors. And while Ukraine continues to search for Western partners with Caspian Sea interests, President Kuchma has shown favor towards the Russian oil company Lukoil. But Lukoil, which already has a controlling share of the Odesa refinery, would like to use the pipeline to bring in oil from Eastern Europe for refining at the Odesa plant, which would help reduce mooring fees for its ships in port.

"The Druzhba pipeline's potential is sufficient not just to satisfy the needs of Eastern Europe but also for transportation of the Russian oil through the new pipeline, but in reverse order, from Brody to Odesa," said Vagit Alekperov, Lukoil's president at a press conference in Odesa in August.

Mr. Biriukov argued that the pipeline was built for Caspian oil, which is of a much higher quality than Russian oil.

"No-one needs the mix of Caspian and Russian oil," he added.

Mr. Omelychenko doesn't see a problem, however. "It doesn't matter whether it's Caspian or Russian oil," he said. "We can accept oil for pumping gradually."

Having aroused a controversy, Lukoil's readiness to use the pipeline has seemingly faded away. According to Mr. Omelychenko, Lukoil's interest remains "indistinct." Lukoil and Ukrainian government officials were not available for comment.

Mr. Omelychenko named the first half of 2002 as the possible start of the pipeline's exploitation. At that time Ukraine still hopes to turn the oil odyssey into a profitable reality. Until then, the pipeline remains dry.

U.S. government announces \$200,000 Internet competition for regional newspapers

KYIV — U.S. Ambassador to Ukraine Carlos Pascual and the U.S. Assistance coordinator for Europe and Eurasia, Ambassador William Taylor, announced today a new \$200,000 grant competition to expand Internet capacity for regional newspapers.

The nationwide competition seeks to fund up to 25 grants for independent, non-governmental newspapers throughout Ukraine to establish new Internet connections or to upgrade existing news and information websites. The grants will cover the cost of computer equipment and software, an Internet connection, training and online charges.

The Internet competition is being conducted within the framework of the U.S. Embassy's Media Development Fund in

cooperation with the International Research and Exchanges Board's (IREX) ProMedia program. The Media Development Fund, which was established earlier this year, is designed to address a number of pressing concerns in Ukraine's current media environment, including the expansion of the Internet as a news and information tool.

Information about the competition, including eligibility guidelines, instructions and an application, is available on the website of the U.S. Embassy, www.usinfo.usemb.kiev.ua, and on the IREX ProMedia website, www.ipc.kiev.ua. Applications can be submitted to the e-mail address inet@usinfo.usemb.kiev.ua. The application deadline is January 31, 2002.

Quotable notes

"The Internet has become a killer. People can write whatever they like without signing their names, and then it appears in the mass media... You won't see fifth the likes of which we often get in Ukraine (on the Internet) in any other European country."

— Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma, as quoted by Reuters on November 14, when he said the Internet had become a tool for political warfare and muck-raking.

Terrorist attacks on U.S.: the international reaction

Special from RFE/RL Newsline

Afghan vet praises U.S. military strategy

MOSCOW — Moscow Oblast Chairman Boris Gromov, a former Soviet army commander in Afghanistan, has praised the U.S.-led anti-Taliban campaign in Tora Bora, Interfax reported on December 14. According to Mr. Gromov, the Americans "are doing everything right — first, the area was sealed off and then strikes were delivered at it forcing the Taliban fighters to surrender." Mr. Gromov added that the entire anti-Taliban operation in Afghanistan was professionally planned and implemented.

U.S. transport planes land in Kyrgyzstan

BISHKEK — Four U.S. transport planes

landed at Bishkek's Manas airport late on December 18, bringing equipment, Interfax reported. Some 150 troops are stationed at the Kyrgyz airport ready for the arrival of a 2,000-troop contingent.

Russia does not object to Kyrgyz offer

BISHKEK — Speaking in the capital of Kyrgyzstan on December 14 on the sidelines of the anti-terrorism conference, Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Anatoli Safonov said Moscow has no objections to Kyrgyzstan offering the use of its airfields to the international anti-terrorism coalition, ITAR-TASS reported. Mr. Safonov said he is convinced the U.S. is not seeking to maintain a long-term military presence in Central Asia.

INTERVIEW: UCCA president reflects on his goals after first year in office

Last year, at the 28th Congress of Ukrainians in America, the quadrennial convention of the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America, Michael Sawkiw Jr. was elected as president of the UCCA.

Born in the Albany, N.Y., region, Mr. Sawkiw was active in the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM) and began working in the Ukrainian community at the age of 18. He obtained a B.S. in mathematics from Union College (Schenectady, N.Y.) and an M.B.A. in corporate finance and international business from the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute in May 1992.

Mr. Sawkiw served as a consultant to the Ukrainian Incubator Center, a program established by RPI in the beginning years of Ukraine's independence to stimulate business development. From there, Mr. Sawkiw entered the corporate world as a financial analyst at AIG Financial Products Inc. in Connecticut.

Since 1996 Mr. Sawkiw has been the director of the Ukrainian National Information Service (UNIS), a position he continues to hold.

The interview below was conducted by Roma Hadzewycz. The conclusion will appear in next week's issue

PART I

As the newly elected president of the UCCA, what did you see as your immediate priorities? Have these changed at all, now that you've been on the job for the past year?

Having been elected as UCCA president last October, one of my first priorities was to expand on the UCCA's outreach to the entire Ukrainian American community. I must consider many avenues to begin this first challenge of my new presidency and have already begun the process.

First, as with many ideas of the 21st century, one must go with the flow, with the technology of the day. In this manner, several months ago, the UCCA began its series of monthly Internet chats with the president which are devoted to a new topic every month. In this modern format, I get to hear directly from the community on their various thoughts and ideas, as well as have the chance to answer questions regarding their concerns. So far, we have held four chats dealing with the larger looming question of the Ukrainian community in the U.S. and its future; the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide and how we as a community should properly observe it; reactions to the Third World Forum of Ukrainians and celebrations of Ukraine's 10th anniversary of renewed independence; and the Ukrainian American community's role in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks on our country.

Other possibilities of interaction with the community are annual or biannual, regional conferences with UCCA branches to receive input on their daily functions, as well as for the branches and their members to hear directly from the Executive Board what they plan in the future for the UCCA. Such regional conferences will be held in the autumn of 2001 and will conclude in winter/spring 2002. Overall, nine to 10 regional conferences have been planned, and where possible, the executive vice-president, the treasurer, and other executive board members also will participate. Following the conferences, I will present a talk about the role of the Ukrainian American community in the 21st century. This talk is open to all community members and will conclude with a ques-

tion and answer session.

As information and access to the information are key to any future projects and development of the UCCA, the UCCA team of advisers has spent much effort working to enhance its website (<http://www.ucca.org>). The website currently features information about our organization, its various councils and publications, its New York and Washington offices, news stories from Ukraine, as well as international and national news. All this is meant to inform the community about the role of the UCCA in the 21st century, to expand the level of information to all levels of the Ukrainian American community, and to enhance the effectiveness of our organization and its role as a representative organization.

What are your long-term goals as UCCA chief?

No matter what institution, organization or country someone leads, one must have a vision to help guide and lead the entity. This holds true also for me as UCCA president. Indeed, my long-term goals center on the goodwill and hard work of the Ukrainian American community. It is through our community that we have been a functioning diaspora for over a century, and in this new century my goals are to continue fulfilling the needs of the community as new problems and ideas warrant.

Above all, my long-term goal is the overall promotion of a strong, vibrant and politically active community — one that doesn't merely react to issues being thrown its way, but one that makes issues happen. I know all too well the energy needed to make our collective voice heard in Washington or throughout various state capitals. With the ever-growing Ukrainian community's diversity and geographic placement in numerous areas throughout the country, we have the potential for a truly resounding voice that must be reckoned with.

I am proud to say that the UCCA has two main offices in the United States — in New York and in Washington — however, if it weren't for the local Ukrainian communities, these offices would be useless in their daily functions and duties. Maintaining, if not building upon, an active community is another future objective of mine. It is interesting to notice how our community is thriving, growing and expanding. This expansion must be harnessed for positive results, such as the development of new UCCA branches where communities did not exist before, as well as the strengthening of existing community organizations, whose roots go back decades and whose work continues.

A subset of this relates to the continued revitalization of the Ukrainian American community, especially its youth and student organizations. These individuals will be the future leaders of our Ukrainian organizations in the decades to come. I would like to strive to make them an integral component of our community's continuing evolution.

One key element that I would like to concentrate on as UCCA president is strengthening and furthering awareness of the Ukrainian Famine-Genocide of 1932-1933. Unlike other genocides throughout the world, the Ukrainian Famine at times goes unnoticed; at best, it is characterized as Stalin's act of forced collectivization to increase production of agricultural foodstuffs, when in reality, it was genocide.

Such awareness needs to be brought to the attention of world governments

(including the Ukrainian government, whose pathetic monument in Kyiv in front of St. Michael's Cathedral is a disgrace to the millions of victims) and the United Nations. But crucial aspects of familiarity with the Famine start at the lowest of levels, with the children in school. In seven years, Ukrainians throughout the world will be commemorating the 75th anniversary of the Famine-Genocide and my goal will be to mark the occasion with proper vigor and fortitude.

It is inspiring to say that the UCCA has been involved in the educational film business for the past several years. Our first film co-produced with Oles Film Studios, in cooperation with the Ukrainian Ministry of Culture, was called "Atentat"; it was the story of the assassination of Ukrainian nationalist leader Stepan Bandera. Our second film, released several months ago, is "The Undeclared," the dramatic story of Gen. Roman Shukhevych, whose courageous efforts and leadership of the Ukrainian Insurgent Army (UPA) kept the hope for Ukraine's independence alive for years after the final outcome of World War II. It is in this tradition that I would like to continue making movies — placing emphasis on the lives and situations of people who affected today's renewed independent Ukrainian.

And lastly, one could not envision a strong and vibrant community without a re-unified centralized body to lead and coordinate the community's activities. My goal will be to unify the community into one centralized organization whose organizations will be integral players in the decision-making process, as well as instrumental in an organized, centralized community representative organization.

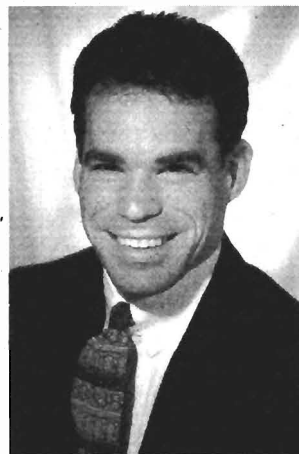
How does the UCCA today serve and represent the Ukrainian American community, how does this differ from the UCCA's role in the past?

Today, as in the past, the Ukrainian Congress Committee of America is a representative umbrella organization of organizations. The main function of the UCCA has always been as a coordinating body of organizations, whose common goals and desires are achieved through concerted efforts to represent the community's best interests, whether in Washington, state capitals or individual cities.

The UCCA also takes into account varied interests within its composition of organizations and must respond in kind to their needs. The UCCA represents a wide realm of social, humanitarian, political, women's, youth, student, veterans, and fraternal organizations whose common goal and purpose are to further the influence, good name and prestige of the Ukrainian American community.

There has been a large influx of immigrants from Ukraine in recent years. What type of outreach has the UCCA done to reach this growing segment of our community? And, by the way, can you tell us how many of these new arrivals there are in the U.S. and where they are concentrated?

For nearly a decade, the issue of the so-called "Fourth Wave" of Ukrainian immigrants to the United States has perplexed our Ukrainian organizations. How do we entice, intrigue or respectfully request their participation in Ukrainian community affairs? There are no easy answers to any of these ques-



Michael Sawkiw Jr.

tions, but solutions do exist, upon which the UCCA is currently working. During the first executive board meeting following my election as president, board members suggested that the UCCA must concentrate its efforts on tackling the "problem" of the newest immigration, and subsequently formed a "Fourth Wave" Committee. Members of the committee are exclusively from this immigration group, and they are proposing projects they see as reasonable for the eventual interaction of Fourth Wave members with existing Ukrainian organizations.

Plans have called for a "New Immigration Room," which was re-modeled on the first floor of the UCCA headquarters building on New York's Second Avenue. The room would function as a centralized location for social service programs dealing with the newest wave of immigrants, such as courses in English as a Second Language (ESL); the room is also equipped with donated computers for instruction on their basic usage. We have also formed a Fourth Wave branch of the UCCA for the metropolitan New York City area. The branch will coordinate the work and functions of the UCCA's other citywide or regional branches but with one caveat: they will be composed primarily of new immigrants and will propose ideas to involve this newest and growing segment of the Ukrainian American community.

Sadly, we have found out more about our newest immigrant community through recent news, such as that of murders in Sacramento, California, where the press consistently referred to the accused as "the Ukrainian immigrant." Such instances of bias must be stopped since the majority of those living in the United States have some immigrant connection to faraway lands.

We have noticed that many Fourth Wave immigrants have settled in the Northwest regions (Seattle, Portland), while newer communities are constantly forming themselves in areas not previously inhabited by many Ukrainians — California, the Carolinas, the deep South and also Florida.

There are no exact figures as to the number of newest immigrants (though that may be possible to determine from the latest U.S. Census recordings), but many experts believe that in the past 10 to 12 years, as many, or even more, Ukrainians have entered the United States as immediately following the second world war.

THE UKRAINIAN NATIONAL ASSOCIATION FORUM

Five districts hold joint meeting at Soyuzivka

by Gloria P. Horbaty

KERHONKSON, N.Y. – A joint meeting of the Ukrainian National Association's district committees in Boston, Connecticut, Syracuse and Rochester, N.Y., and Woonsocket, R.I., was held at Soyuzivka on November 3. The meeting was opened by UNA President Ulana Diachuk, who introduced the district chairpersons and UNA officers present.

A moment of silence was held for those who lost their lives on September 11 and for recently deceased UNA members. There were 16 branch representatives, three guests and three national officers in attendance.

National Secretary Martha Lysko spoke about organizing achievements, reminding branch secretaries that delegates to the UNA convention are determined by the number of a branch's dues-paying members as of December 31.

Currently there are 27 districts with 238 branches. This year 326 new members were enrolled in the first three quarters of 2001. The increase in membership is lower than expected, but the face amounts of insurance are larger, Mrs. Lysko commented. Just over 26 percent of the annual quota was attained.

Mrs. Lysko suggested that secretaries review each member's insurance policies and analyze if it is sufficient for their family. Every branch should enroll at least two members before the year's end.

Dr. Ivan Hvozda, chairman of the Syracuse District Committee, commented that some secretaries feel that they are not needed now that direct billing has been instituted. Myron Kuzio of Branch 277 said he believes that since direct billing began in January members are dealing directly with the Home Office, especially in the case of matured endowments.

President Diachuk offered information on the convention, scheduled for May 24-28, 2002 (Memorial Day Weekend), in Chicago. Mrs. Lysko added that if the branch secretary is unable to attend the

convention, then the alternate should be someone who is involved in the branch, is interested in the UNA, and is active in his/her community. Delegates are required to remain for the entire convention. Branch meetings at which delegates and alternates are elected must be held by the middle of March.

UNA Treasurer Stefan Kaczaraj presented a financial report, which he explained in detail. The UNA Corporate Headquarters building is almost fully rented; in 2002 the rental is expected to show a profit of \$350,000-\$400,000. The 2001 profit is anticipated to be \$40,000 after payment of commission to the real estate broker. The UNA surplus increased by \$1,024,704.

Soyuzivka continues to post large deficits (over \$450,000), while the UNA's newspapers have decreased their deficits significantly to a "manageable level."

Mrs. Diachuk also spoke about proposed changes to the UNA By-Laws that would provide for 14 officers instead of 25: four executives – president, vice-president, treasurer and secretary; three auditors; and seven advisors. She pointed out that Canada currently has four representatives on the General Assembly although it accounts for only 6 percent of the UNA membership.

Gloria Horbaty of Branch 414 said she would like to see candidates declare their candidacy early enough so delegates have time to judge the candidates, and that candidates should state their backgrounds, their education and skills, and what they have done or will do for the organization. This information should be announced in the UNA's official publications.

The future of the UNA in Canada also was a topic of discussion. The value of the Canadian dollar is down once again, and the UNA has only 3,200 members – a large percent of them not dues-paying members. Furthermore, only 21 new members were enrolled in 2000. The Canadian Insurance Department wants to

know where our society is going, Mrs. Diachuk stated, and the government is hard on us because they do not see how we can grow in Canada and they consider us a foreign company.

She explained that the UNA's options are to get out of the business or join another insurance company in Canada. Many American insurance companies are leaving Canada and selling their companies (for example John Hancock, Sons of Norway, Prudential and others, who are merging or selling). The UNA is looking at the possibility of converting existing Canadian policies to U.S. currency and keeping Canadian branches for fraternal activities only, the UNA president explained.

Turning to Soyuzivka, Mrs. Diachuk noted that the resort continues to operate with a deficit. Room occupancy is low, with primary use for meetings, UNA meetings and weddings. National advertising did not help remedy the situation. In addition, brochures were sent to all members.

The General Assembly's Standing Committee on Soyuzivka has come forward with several plans, one of which is to transfer Soyuzivka from the UNA into a non-profit corporation, which could raise funds for the resort. To be successful, Soyuzivka needs full occupancy of its 83 rooms on five plus days a week.

If an investment of \$4.2 million could be made to upgrade the existing 83 units, Soyuzivka would need 60 percent occupancy with \$1.8 million in revenue to support itself. That equates to 2,070 couples using the resort for one week per year at a room rate of \$100 per day.

During the miscellaneous discussion portion of the meeting Walter Majkut began a discussion on new Ukrainian immigrants in America and how to improve relations with them and promote their membership in the UNA.

After the meeting was adjourned by President Diachuk all were invited to dinner in the Soyuzivka dining room.

Credit unions, individuals support The Weekly's "Copies for Congress"

PARSIPPANY, N.J. – Two credit unions thus far have responded to The Ukrainian Weekly's November 16 letter soliciting donations for its "Copies for Congress" project, which provides free subscriptions to all members of the U.S. Congress and thus tells "the Ukrainian story" – whether that story is about Ukraine or the Ukrainian American community.

The Weekly's editor-in-chief had written to the Ukrainian American community's strongest financial institutions, its credit unions, as well as leading Ukrainian community institutions and organizations to solicit donations for the "Copies for Congress" project, whose annual cost is approximately \$30,000.

The first to respond was the board of directors of the Cleveland Selfreliance Federal Credit Union, whose home office is in Parma, with branches located in Lorain and Canton, Ohio. Along with a donation of \$1,000, the credit union sent a letter signed by Bohdan Czapak, chairman of the board of directors, and Orest Liscynsky, manager-treasurer, who wrote: "We congratulate you upon the informative and quality contents of your newspaper and your endeavor to keep our legislators informed about history and events in Ukraine."

The SUMA (Yonkers) Federal Credit Union, based in Yonkers, N.Y., with branches in Spring Valley, N.Y., and Stamford, Conn., sent a donation of \$500 toward The Weekly project. A letter of best wishes for success in the newspaper's work was signed by Lev Futala, chairman of the board, and Ihor Makarenko, treasurer/manager.

(Continued on page 12)

Young UNA'ers



Lilia Pleskun, 7, daughter of Elisa and Yure Pleskun is a new member of UNA Branch 155 in Perth Amboy, N.J.. She was enrolled by her grandmother Anna Pleskun.



Yuri Pleskun, 11, son of Natalia and Ihor Pleskun, is a new member of UNA Branch 155 in Perth Amboy, N.J. He was enrolled by his grandmother Anna Pleskun.



Rostyslav Koziy, son of Wolodymyr and Halyna Koziy, is a new member of UNA Branch 94 in Hamtramck, Mich. He was enrolled by his father.



Megan La'niel Marycz, daughter of Kenneth and Shane Marycz, is a new member of UNA Branch 96 in Pittsburgh. She was enrolled by her grandmother Maria Kupchak.

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

Christmastime thoughts

As our thoughts turn to Christmas this year, we can't help but focus on the tremendous religious rebirth that has taken place in Ukraine since 1988, when restrictions on religious organizations were first eased and, even more significantly, since 1991, when Ukraine regained its independence. According to the Religious Information Service of Ukraine, in 1988-2000, "the number of religious organizations in Ukraine increased almost four times and exceeded more than 25,000."

One of the reasons for our focus certainly is this year's epochal papal visit to Ukraine. Nearly 3 million people saw Pope John Paul II during a youth rally and at four divine liturgies in Kyiv and Lviv.

We think of the rebirth of Ukraine's Churches also because of an August trip to Ukraine that took us through the countryside, via bus, from Lviv to Sevastopol and on to Kyiv. Traveling in this fashion we were able to personally witness many manifestations of spiritual renewal. The signs were all around us.

Churches were being built everywhere. Not only was there construction in areas where there previously were no churches, but there was construction of new churches in close proximity to existing ones. The reason is simple: congregations had far outgrown their churches, so more and larger churches are needed.

We saw fledgling parishes in areas where one would not expect to find them. A case in point: in the Balaklava area of the highly Russified (and very Soviet) city of Sevastopol we attended liturgy at the recently established Ukrainian Greek-Catholic Church of St. Andrew the First-Called Apostle. The church is located in a converted commercial building of concrete with a metal roof, atop which a simple cross has been erected. (We were all the more fortunate to be there on the feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, when parishioners of all ages came to bless baskets of fruit as is traditional.)

In Kyiv we saw the Golden-Domed Cathedral of St. Michael - magnificent beyond words - which had been rebuilt and officially reopened last year in May with a ceremony of blessing led by Patriarch Filaret of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church - Kyiv Patriarchate. The 12th century church was ordered destroyed by Stalin in 1934; all that had remained of the religious complex was a small outbuilding.

But what was most notable from our perspective was the countless roadside chapels we saw during our journey. Seeking more information on these miniature shrines, we turned to Bishop Basil Losten of Stamford, Conn., who explained that the roadside chapels are an ancient tradition that dates back to the beginnings of Christianity. These beautiful and unique structures erected by private individuals near their homes are signs of deep devotion to specific saints and the Blessed Mother. Scores of them have reappeared since the fall of communism.

Perhaps it was this phenomenon more than any single event that touched us profoundly and made us feel the deep spirituality of the Ukrainian nation. After decades of religious repression and persecution, the people are free to worship as they wish. And Christmas is once again a joyous holy day to be celebrated openly.

Thus, as we sit down to our traditional Ukrainian Christmas Eve supper, or Sviata Vecheeria, let us thank God for all that has been given our nation and pray for His continued blessings.

Христос Родився! Славім Його!

Dec.
28
1997

Turning the pages back...

Writing four years ago, The Ukrainian Weekly reported that Ukraine's 1998 elections to the Verkhovna Rada would feature a very crowded field of political parties, with so many centrist parties registered that a fragmentation of the vote was inevitable.

Thirty political parties and blocs met the December 18, 1997, registration deadline for the March 29, 1998, elections by presenting petitions of 200,000 voters, with at least 10,000 signatures from each of 14 regions of Ukraine, to the Central Election Commission.

Among the 30 were more than 20 parties considered democratically inclined, from the right-leaning National Front bloc to the Social Democrats on the other side of center. However, they failed to form any substantial political blocs, which left the center fragmented against a tightly organized group of Communists and Socialists. Many political pundits and politicians said at the time that voters would scatter their votes, leaving few of the centrist parties able to reach the 4 percent threshold of the vote required in the new mixed system election law to seat candidates in the next Parliament.

Vyacheslav Chornovil, head of the Rukh Party, said the 30 political choices would "pull the vote apart." He said he believed that most of the registered parties were not true parties but merely groups organized to protect political and individual interests. "Thirty parties is a fiction," said Mr. Chornovil. "There is no such thing as a Liberal Democratic Party or a Christian Democratic Party. There are three parties or political interests: the Communists, Rukh and the party of power, or the nomenklatura. The rest is political clutter."

The Hromada Party, under the guidance of its leader, Pavlo Lazarenko, considered a master organizer, was the first to register its petitions with the CEC. On December 1, 1997, its representatives submitted signatures of 360,000 voters. Rukh and the Communist Party came second, both submitting their documents on December 8, 1997. Rukh delivered 560,000 voters' signatures, while the Communists presented more than 620,000.

Other major political parties and the number of signatures they had gathered on the eve of the 1998 elections were as follows: the Peasant and Socialist parties political bloc - 980,000; National Democratic Party - 350,000; the National Front - 400,000; the SLOn (Social-Liberal Union) political bloc - 475,000; the Together (Razom) political bloc of the Labor Party and the Liberal Party; the Christian Democratic Party - 500,000; Ukrainian National Assembly - 230,000.

Source: "Thirty parties are registered for '98 elections" by Roman Woronowycz, Kyiv Press Bureau, The Ukrainian Weekly, December 28, 1997, Vol. LXV, No. 52.

CHRISTMAS MESSAGE

"God is with us," we joyfully proclaim

To Our Very Reverend Clergy, the Venerable Monastic Orders, Seminarians and Brothers and Sisters in Christ:

God is with us!

Ukrainian Catholics throughout the world celebrate a special prayer service following the traditional Christmas Eve supper of 12 meatless dishes in which we joyfully and repeatedly proclaim that "God is with us! We celebrate the birth of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ and reaffirm God's presence amidst us!"

God is with us! God's presence was gloriously revealed to us in the visit of the holy father, Pope John Paul II, to Ukraine; 1.5 million people in Ukraine and many thousands throughout the world via television, gathered to pray the divine liturgy. Hope and renewal of faith was felt by Ukrainian Catholics throughout the world. The importance and beauty of our Ukrainian Catholic Church and its liturgical traditions was reaffirmed for us all, calling us to renew our love and commitment in our faith communities.

God is with us! The holy father's beatification of three servants of God and solemn proclamation of 25 martyrs of the faith revealed another divine manifestation of our people. The universal Catholic Church raised up these new martyrs and blessed servants of God as examples of holiness for us to emulate in our own daily lives. We are invited to come to know more about them so that their lives might inspire us to greater virtue.

God is with us! God's divine presence was dramatically and lovingly revealed in the heartfelt and charitable response of Americans to the victims of the September 11 acts of terrorism. Acts of heroism, compassionate care and concern, and a tremendous outpouring of generosity revealed God's presence in our hearts and in our genuine and active care for one another. We turned to God in prayer in our churches and with people of different faiths in ecumenical services. The words, "In God We Trust" took on even greater meaning for all of us. We looked for God's presence amidst us.

God's divine presence amidst us has been generously revealed to us during this past year in significant ways. God's presence amidst us is also especially revealed to us in so many ordinary events of daily life. God uses both extraordinary and the ordinary events of life to reveal His presence amidst us. Yet, we can easily miss realizing His presence amidst us by being preoccupied, or unaware of the importance of the event in God's plan.

The Christmas story of Jesus' birth in the manger is prophetic for us today. Jesus was born in a stable because there was no room for Him in the inn. Jesus began His life on earth by being crowded out. Much of ourselves could be reflected in that inn. Are not our lives sometimes so busy and preoccupied with so many things, albeit good, that Jesus Christ gets crowded out? There is just so much room in any person's life. Sometimes our busyness and much good activity crowds out time for Jesus Himself.

Being preoccupied with life's demands, we are less able to discern the importance of significant events in our lives. The innkeeper was so busy with accommodating the crowd that he could not be aware of the significance of the occasion. That innkeeper was unaware and, sometimes, so are we. The great moments of life do not come with trumpets blaring. It is in the commonplace events of life that God often speaks to us in our hearts and minds. Almost every

day we leave Jesus Christ out by forgetting how much He identified with the lowly things in life. Recall Jesus' own words: "Inasmuch as you did it not for one of my brothers, you did it not for Me." (Mt. 25:45)

God is with us! Our realization of God's presence amidst us requires some rearrangement of our lives. Our Joyful celebration of Jesus' birth, God among us, invites us to make more room for Jesus Christ in our daily lives. God's special presence in our own Ukrainian Catholic Church challenges us to greater appreciation of our Church and to enhanced involvement in its life of prayer, ministry and service to one another. Our response to the victims of the tragic acts of terrorism reveals the depth of our love and compassion for those in distress, and our call to be Christ-like in response to people in need. We cannot allow our preoccupation with life's demands and our unawareness of the significance of life's events to dull our ability to realize God's presence amidst us in such extraordinary, as well as ordinary, events of life.

As you gather to proclaim the birth of Jesus by singing our beautiful traditional carols, realize God's loving presence amidst you and your loved ones. Reaffirm your love for God and your desire to devote more room in your daily life to celebrate His divine presence amidst you. And, avow to celebrate your faith regularly and faithfully in God's holy Church, your parish family community.

On this feast of Christ's birth, your bishops of the Metropolitan Province of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the United States of America humbly confer our apostolic blessings upon all the clergy, religious, seminarians and faithful. You have a special place in our hearts and in our prayers.

Christ is born!
Glorify Him!

† Stefan
Metropolitan-Archbishop

† Basil
Eparch of Stamford

† Michael
Apostolic Administrator of
St. Nicholas Eparchy

† Robert
Eparch of St. Josaphat Eparchy



Icon by Lidia Piaseckyj (from the collection of Renata and Damian Handzy) on a Christmas card published in 1996 by the Ukrainian National Association.

NATIVITY EPISTLE

Christmas 2001 calls for new maturity

To the Venerable Presbyters, Deacons, Monastic and Esteemed Faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A.:

May the peace of Christ, born for the life and salvation of the entire world, be with all of you!

Christ is born! Glorify Him!

Many would like to think that the birth of Christ occurred amidst the calm and cleanliness depicted on icons or religious greeting cards. In fact, the contrary is probably true. Into a small town, overcrowded with those who came in fulfillment of an edict issued by an occupying power, a town lacking proper facilities to meet the needs of the crowd, a noisy and dimly lit town, which in all probability had a foreign military presence, came a husband, a simple carpenter, and his wife, bearing in her sacred womb the One Who is the author of life.

The journey was long and laborious – especially for an expectant mother, Joseph's only concern was to find appropriate shelter for his beloved Miriam [Mary] and to make her comfortable. Shelter was found. In fact, it is not unlikely that a kind and sensitive innkeeper provided, given the circumstances, the best that he could offer – a warm and secluded cave for a couple in need.

So it was that in the small town of Bethlehem a mystery unfolded and all of creation renewed. For the observant believer, the cave becomes Heaven; the Virgin Mary, the throne of the Cherubim; and the manger, a place of repose for God who cannot be contained. The darkness of the cave was dispelled by light, not the light of an oil lamp, but the Tranquil Light of Life – Christ, the Only-Begotten Son and Savior, the Holy Glory of the Father. As we proclaim in the Vesper Hymn, this is the Father Who delivered the Law to Moses, and Grace and Truth through His Son, Jesus the Christ.

Twenty centuries ago, in the fullness of time, the Father, as we profess in the Vesper Prayer of Inclination, through His Son, came to earth for the salvation of the human race. This is what Christmas – the Nativity of Christ – is precisely about. It is about love which cannot be measured, it is about a human being saying 'yes' to God the Father, it is about the Son of God entering into a troubled and confused world as Healer, Savior, Redeemer, the Way, the Truth and the Life. It is about our response to Christ with whom we identify in Baptism and Chrismation.

All of the past and contemporary external trappings associated with this Feast of Feasts, ancient hymns of praise and pious secular songs, the lights, the food and fragrant odors, even the gifts and greetings are of little or no consequence if Christ is driven from the scene or reduced to nothing more than a liturgical or secular decoration.

The fathers of the Church knew and spoke of the reality of the birth of Christ. The Venerable Archbishop of Constantinople, John Chrysostom, a courageous shepherd and teacher of the Church, promoter of righteous moral living, reminded the flock of his time of the centrality of Christ, the Eucharistic Christ in the Christmas/Theophany celebration.

It is Chrysostom who reminds all observant Orthodox Christians today that the consecrated parish edifice, the Temple in which they gather, is the spiri-

tual Bethlehem – city of Bread, which we enter and that Christ – the Bread of Life, the Bread of Angels, wrapped now, not in swaddling cloths, but in Eucharistic coverings, reposes on the manger-discos from which He invites us to be one with Him and He with us.

Like the shepherds of ages past we accept the glad tidings of the Gospel message and approach with reverential fear, faith and love. We chant the festive Communion Hymn, "The Lord has sent deliverance to His people" (Psalm 110:9) and become one with Christ in a union, which only we can and, unfortunately do, sunder.

This year's commemoration of Christ's Nativity is marred by the horrific events of September 11, which severely wounded not only America, but also the entire world. The spirit of hatred which caused a second day of infamy in the life of America, was overcome by the spirit of love and courage, which marked the actions of police, firefighters and rescue squad members, those on Flight 93 and now military personnel all of blessed memory, who sacrificed their lives in an attempt to save others. We believe that Christ was with and embraced those who perished.

We also are convinced that Christ, the Healer and Comforter, reached out through so many others, among them faithful of the Ukrainian Orthodox communities, to bestow healing and give comfort.

It is the Christ, Healer and Comforter, the Eucharistic Christ Who, from the manger-discos on the Holy Table of Orthodox Ukrainian parishes throughout the world, invites us to be His instruments of healing, consolation, righteousness and love, offering us security and faithfulness at a time of insecurity and confusion.

Christmas 2001 calls us to a new maturity, a deeper relationship with the Son of God, Who, came into this world so that life in abundance might prevail. That deeper relationship can only be achieved if we give Christ leave to make his abode in us. It is the Eucharistic Christ Who through the Gospel and Liturgy, proclaims the sanctity, dignity and worth of every human being and reminds us that we are, indeed, our brothers' keepers and that we are to be perfect as our Heavenly Father is perfect. May we regardless of where we reside, join with our brethren in Ukraine and with observant Orthodox Christians throughout the world in witness, by deeds of faith and love, to the reality of God with us.

It is only in this manner that we, despite the horrific events of a few months ago, can meet the challenges of an age that will surely put our faith and civilization to the test. May we and our brethren in Ukraine not be found wanting in fulfilling our pre-Baptismal renunciation of Satan, his service and his pride. May this year's Christmas observance inspire us as never before to a renewal of our baptismal commitment so that the presence of Christ might be felt in and through us in whom He lives and acts.

Having reflected on Christmas – a decisive and transforming event in the life of all mankind – we pray that Grace and Truth, which come to us through Christ Jesus might abound in your lives and in the lives of our brethren in a progressively maturing Ukraine. May He, Who is compassionate and merciful, impart to all of us maturity needed to put

(Continued on page 12)

Faces and Places

by Myron B. Kuropas

**Christmas year 'round?**

Christmas is a festival of feeling, a morality play that touches the heart and soul. It is a time when life triumphs over death; it is a joy-filled celebration that brings out the best in people. Christmas reminds us that light will always trump darkness if only we believe and respond to Christ's calling. How often have we wished that the thoughts and emotions people experience at Christmas could last all year around.

In the wake of September 11, Christmas has an extra-special meaning for all of us. Families are strengthening their bonds this holiday season; we have a greater appreciation for the important people in our life and the events that make our time on earth meaningful. We hunger for closeness, belonging and love.

This Christmas also has special meaning for the people of Ukraine. Long forbidden to celebrate the blessed birth of the Christ child, Ukrainian Christians currently endow this observance with a level of spirituality that seems to be fading in the United States.

Pentecostals have captured the Christian high ground in Ukraine. Their simple message of salvation through Christ's redeeming grace resonates among those who seek spiritual sustenance. For them, the squabbles between Catholics and Orthodox, and within the Orthodox community itself, are largely irrelevant.

Ever since the collapse of the Soviet Union, I have been intrigued by what appears to be a moral paradox, ie, the enormous and unceasing emphasis of the Soviet educational system on principled behavior, and the actual product that emerged.

Soviet education stressed high moral standards, especially truthfulness, hard work, self-sacrifice, respect for self and others, helpfulness, courage and patriotism. An early Soviet educational decree was emphatic: communistic re-education of society "is closely tied to the upbringing of the 'new man', who will harmoniously combine spiritual richness, morality and physical fitness."

The Soviets had youth organizations – the Pioneers for younger children, Komsomol for older – which reinforced the character education program of the schools. "Rules for Pioneers" included such directives as: "The Pioneer studies diligently and is disciplined and courteous." "The Pioneer loves to work and to conserve the national wealth." "The Pioneer tells the truth and guards the honor of his detachment." "The Pioneer is a good comrade, who is solicitous of younger children and who helps older people."

As I have observed the behavior of some people in Ukraine, particularly the ruling elite, as well as the actions of some Fourth Wave immigrants in the United States, I am perplexed. Given the intensive program of moral training, why do so many Ukrainians over there still lie, cheat and steal so effortlessly? Why does it take so long for Fourth wave immigrants to adjust to our moral system, to trust us, to tell us the truth? What led to their debasement, their apparent lack of conscience, and their craven and brutal exploitation of each other? Why in a supposedly classless society was individual status so pronounced? As evil as the Soviet system was, evil was not part of the school curriculum. Nor was it encouraged by Soviet youth organiza-

tions. On the contrary, Soviet character was associated with such words as "honor," "duty," "citizenship," "manhood," all those "producer values" that sociologist Max Weber identified as the "Protestant Ethic."

So what went wrong? Why is it that the same virtues that are an integral component of the "American Way" can at the same time produce a bountiful, democratic, trustworthy, caring society in the United States, and a hollow, totalitarian, and indifferent society in Ukraine?

In his book "The Death of Character: Moral Education in an Age Without Good or Evil," Dr. James Davison Hunter supplies part of the answer. "A person's moral development does not occur in a cultural vacuum," he writes. "Character is very much social in its constitution. It is inseparable from the culture within which it is found and formed ... Character is at least as much a function of the social order as it is a manifestation of the individual person. For this reason, it is impossible to speak of character ... without also speaking of the larger moral culture in which it is found ... To talk about character is inevitably to talk about the cultural and institutional conditions that allow for its cultivation in children and its maintenance in adults ... A person's moral development does not occur in a cultural vacuum."

The Soviet character education program failed because it was not maintained by the Soviet culture, which survived on repression, exploitation, injustice, lies, murder and famine. One didn't have to be a rocket scientist to understand early in life that to survive in Soviet society one needed to think one thing, say something else and do a third thing. Having been thoroughly disillusioned in Ukraine, it is difficult for Fourth Wavers to trust us, to truly believe that we are sincere, honest and caring.

We should remember, however, that many Communists accepted, even relished, the evil. As Paul Hollander points out in his book "Political Will and Personal Belief: The Decline and Fall of Soviet Communism," countless die-hard Bolsheviks went to their deaths knowing full well that they were innocent but praising Stalin with their last breath. George Lukacs described this mind-set as follows: "the highest duty for the Communist ethic is to accept the necessity of acting immorally ... The conviction of the true Communist is that evil transforms itself into bliss through the dialectics of historical evolution."

Want Christmas year 'round? Heed the recent words of Pope John Paul II to the Ukrainian hierarchy: "... for contemporary men and women, immersed in the noise and confusion of daily life, words are no longer enough. They do not only want to hear someone talk about Christ, they want to see Him in some way. Give the Ukrainian people the possibility to see their Savior ... Give witness with your life and works to the presence of the Risen One among you. It is the most eloquent and effective message that you can give to your fellow citizens."

The point? Christmas year 'round begins with us.

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Use of government...

(Continued from page 1)

will be some 3,000.

Illegal but prevalent

While the use of government administrative resources is illegal according to Article 71 of the Constitution of Ukraine, which states that elections to both central and local government bodies should be free, held on the basis of even and equal possibilities for all, and conducted via secret ballot, this has not stopped illegal practices in the past. In the 1999 presidential elections there were various allegations of election improprieties, including students being forced by their rectors and deans to come to class on Election Day, during which they were instructed for whom to vote.

The OSCE, which has monitored the last three Ukrainian elections, including the presidential vote of 1999 and the two previous parliamentary elections, held in 1994 and 1998, said of the most recent elections to the Parliament: "Violations were extensive, coordinated and planned."

During the Razumkov Center seminar, citations abounded of examples of how administrative resources could be utilized to give political parties an advantage in the upcoming election campaign.

The most obvious way described would be to convince department heads within the various government ministries to let their cadres know in no uncertain yet subtle ways for whom to vote. The Razumkov Center underscored in its report that the Ministry of Defense, for example, has 300,000 military personnel

who are accustomed to carrying out orders. The Ministry of Education and Science and the Ministry of Culture have a combined 2.2 million individuals they can influence, either workers directly employed by the ministries or people such as teachers and professors whom they can shower with propaganda and literature.

Factory workers and agricultural workers also could be easily influenced by factory managers, especially since unemployment is high and workers understand they are replaceable by others just as eager to work.

Even straightforward and seemingly benign actions that government officials could take during the campaign season could affect the vote. Anatolii Hrytsenko, director of the Razumkov Center, said that, for example, whether the govern-

ment schedules the Days of Russia festivities — which could affect the attitude towards Russian culture held by a person who attends the event — just prior to the elections or sometime in April could influence how individuals vote, especially since past history has shown that at least a quarter of the voting public in Ukraine remains undecided until the last days before an election.

Mass media a crucial factor

The Razumkov Center study and the participants of the conference concluded that the mass media will again be a central factor in the campaign process and that there is no reason not to believe that those who control media outlets could again manipulate both printed and elec-

(Continued on page 14)

Toronto program...

(Continued from page 1)

College, wrote a major independent study essay this year about the Famine-Genocide for his Modern Western Civilization course and for which he also received an A+. His premise was to prove that this was not just a famine but that in fact it was genocide.

In their presentations to the students, Messrs. Rewa and Reay outlined their research methods, referred to the wealth of information available on the Internet, recommended obtaining key information from the Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center, read excerpts from their essays and encouraged the students to also write about this genocidal famine.

It is worth noting that in this fourth year of educational programs presented by the Toronto Ukrainian Canadian Congress, an increasing number of students are not only learning but are writing about the Famine-Genocide for their school assignments. The hope is that this will provide additional impetus for educators striving to incorporate study of this genocide into the school curriculum.

A Vision TV production team documented the entire educational program, which resulted in a 10-minute segment that effectively and movingly reflected the Famine-Genocide story. This segment was recently televised four times on Vision TV

channels across Canada.

Memorial program

A memorial program on Sunday, November 18 at the Ukrainian Cultural Center began with a dramatic presentation by Famine survivor Kateryna Scherban, followed by an ecumenical service celebrated by members of the Ukrainian Catholic and Ukrainian Orthodox clergy, which was accompanied by the Lysenko Opera Ensemble. Representing the youth of the community, Meelena and Yvan Oleksiuk-Baker presented heart-wrenching quotes about the Famine; Oresta Babiuk recited "Famine 1933"; and the Polyphonia Children's Choir and the Golden Strings Bandura Ensemble performed solemn musical pieces.

Toronto City Councillor Gloria Lindsay Luby presented statements to the audience.

The guest speaker, Prof. Roman Serbyn from the University of Quebec at Montreal, who was introduced by Prof. Edward Burstynskyj, spoke on the topic "Famine 1932-1933: Problems of Historical Memory." Prof. Serbyn indicated that the 1933 Famine was part of a wider campaign against the Ukrainian nation, destroying its national elite and repopulating emptied Ukrainian villages with Russian colonists. Thus, the demographic composition of the Ukrainian countryside was changed by this artificially engineered Famine-Genocide.

Harvard University professor Dr. Terry

Martin, who was introduced by Prof. Olga Andriewsky of Trent University, delivered a significant lecture titled "Stalin and the Ukrainian Famine of 1932-1933: New Findings" to a capacity audience at the University of Toronto.

Based on recently declassified documents, Prof. Martin's lecture outlined various political and economic parameters that resulted in this tragedy. The Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies, the Center for Russian and East European Studies, and the Toronto UCC co-sponsored the Annual Ukrainian Famine Lecture. (See story on page 9.)

A roundtable discussion titled "Ukraine's Famines: Why and How to Foster their Memory?" took place on Wednesday, November 21 at the Ukrainian Canadian Art Foundation. This discussion provided new perspectives on the historical value of remembering and commemorating the "holodomor." Moderated by Prof. Ivan Wynnycykj, its participants included: Prof. Wasyl Janischewskyj, president of Ukrainian Canadian Research and Documentation Center; Valentina Kuryliw, education consultant and author of a teachers' guide about the Famine; Vasyl Kolomatski, member of UWC Commission on Human and Civil Rights; Ivan Franko, architect; and Marko Shumelda, University of Toronto student.

On Thursday, November 22, leading off the afternoon session of the Ontario



Prof. Roman Serbyn

Provincial Parliament at Queen's Park, Gerard Kennedy, member of the Provincial Parliament, read a commemorative proclamation which is now part of the official record. Mr. Kennedy underscored that all need to remember this unprecedented loss of 7 million to 10 million Ukrainians who were starved to death by the Soviet regime.

The Toronto UCC's Famine-Genocide Commemorative Committee comprises: Ms. Dmytryshyn, Lesya Jones, Lesya Korobaylo, Ms. Szkambara and Eugene Yakovitch, chair.



The Famine as depicted by Christina Cholkon.



Mykhaylo Reay addresses fellow students. In the background are art works by local students.

Scholar presents news findings on Stalin and the Great Famine of 1932-1933

by **Larysa Iarovenko**

TORONTO – On November 20, Harvard University professor Dr. Terry Martin addressed an attentive audience at the University of Toronto's Centre for Russian and East European Studies (CREES) on the topic "Stalin and the Ukrainian Famine." The presentation was part of this year's annual commemoration of victims of the Soviet-engineered Great Famine of 1932-1933 in Ukraine.

The lecture was co-sponsored by the Petro Jacyk Program for the Study of Ukraine administered by CREES, the Toronto Branch of the Ukrainian Canadian Congress, and the Toronto office of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies. Financial assistance was generously provided by the Ukrainian Studies Fund at Harvard University.

The scholarly study of the events of 1932-1933 in Ukraine has not been an easy task. For more than 50 years the Soviet regime blatantly denied the very existence of the Famine. With the onset of perestroika and the opening of Soviet archives, however, it became possible to study the crimes of the Stalinist era in a new and concerted way, and recent studies of the Great Famine have been enriched with many new facts and points of view. Some historians have argued that the Famine constituted a blunt assault against Ukrainization and the Ukrainian elite; others have regarded it as class-based state terror against the peasantry for its opposition to collectivization.

Throughout the last 10 years Dr. Martin has studied the role of the nationalities factor in the tragic events of 1932-1933 on an ongoing basis. In his prefatory remarks he noted that his most recent archival revelations – correspondence between Stalin, vacationing at the Black Sea resort of Sochi in the summer of 1932, and Viacheslav Molotov and Lazar Kaganovich, who were subsequently dispatched to the Caucasus and Ukraine – had compelled him to look more closely at the personal role that Stalin played in the tragic events.

Dr. Martin has found unequivocal evi-

dence that Stalin was aware of existing famine conditions. He was also able to establish a clear linkage between the Great Famine and Stalin's personal view of Soviet nationalities policy.

Dr. Martin outlined four aspects of the Stalinist Terror of the early 1930s: the Famine; the mass deportations and executions of peasants; the criticism and curtailment of Ukrainization; and the widespread repression in Soviet Ukraine of Galician emigrés and the rural and urban intelligentsia, including members of the Polish and German minorities.

Dr. Martin noted that he had sought to establish the precise moment when the nationalities factor came to play a leading role in these events and who or what brought about such an abrupt change in state policy. His research has led him to conclude that Stalin and his paranoid fear of "losing" Ukraine were the catalyst for the evolution of these tragic events.

In discussing the constellation of power bases in the Soviet state, the speaker suggested that the tensions between the Ukrainian SSR and Moscow are too simplistic an explanation for the state of affairs. Instead, he proposed that it would be more appropriate to view the situation as a struggle between the Ukrainian SSR and the Russian SFSR for the attentions and support of the central apparat in Moscow.

One of the most disputed issues of the late 1920s was the delineation of borders between the various Soviet republics. Dr. Martin noted that at that time some 8 million ethnic Ukrainians lived within the territories of the Russian SFSR, and in certain places they formed clearly Ukrainian national districts and towns. As a result of pressure from Soviet Ukrainian leaders, in 1926 the Ukrainian language was granted official status in those areas of the Russian Federation with predominantly Ukrainian settlement. Throughout the latter 1920s the central party leadership acted as an intermediary in disputes between the Ukrainian SSR and the Russian SFSR. Even as late as early 1932 Pravda published positive reports regarding the Ukrainization policy.

In Dr. Martin's opinion, this situation

changed fundamentally in 1932, when the Soviet central government – personified by Stalin – no longer took a neutral stance in these matters and began siding with the interests of the Russian SFSR. One of the reasons was a shift in Moscow's policies regarding the western borders of the USSR. The anticipation that Ukrainians on both sides of the Soviet border would be "reunited" proved to be unfounded.

In fact, the implementation of collectivization policies resulted in large-scale attempts at emigration and protest marches along the border against the Soviet clampdown on people wanting to emigrate. Moreover, after Joseph Pilsudski's assumption of power in Poland the Soviet Union feared (albeit groundlessly) military intervention from the West. At this point, noted the speaker, the nationalities factor began playing a decisive role.

Dr. Martin has recently found documents that clearly show that Moscow interpreted the Ukrainian Communist Party elite's opposition to its perilously high grain-requisition quotas as a negative consequence of Ukrainization. The tone of Stalin's letters in the summer of

1932 became increasingly extreme. He wrote: "I think that we are giving Ukraine much more than is necessary"; that "the state of affairs in Ukraine is terrible"; that the CP(B)U "is not a party, but a parliament"; and that "we should do something, otherwise we might lose Ukraine."

Kaganovich wrote to Stalin that the disruption of the grain requisitions was caused by "agents of counter-revolutionary Ukrainian organizations and Petliurites" who were secret collaborators of Pilsudski and world imperialism.

As a consequence, in the latter part of 1932 the policy of Ukrainization was rescinded, the Ukrainian Communist Party elite was purged, and secret directives increasing the peasants' already onerous grain deliveries to the state were issued. These punitive acts led millions of deaths and left deep scars on the future development of the Ukrainian nation.

Dr. Martin indicated that the new information regarding the role of Stalin and his closest collaborators provides the underpinnings for his forthcoming study regarding the causes of the Great Famine in Ukraine, which will be based on a greater level of detail and conceptualization about this tragedy.

Deadline nears for Nazi victims' registration for compensation

by **Serhiy Zhykharev**

Ukrainian National Information Service

WASHINGTON – The final deadline for filing claims to receive compensation for Nazi victims expires on December 31, 2001. Those eligible for compensation under the German Forced Labor and Compensation Program (GFLCP) should contact the International Organization for Migration (IOM) in writing (via letter, postcard, e-mail or fax) before December 31.

Claimants will then receive the official forms and will have three months from the date of the request to complete them.

Heirs of the victims of the Nazi regime who died on or after February 6, 1999, also are entitled to compensation. If the victim of the Nazi regime dies after having completed the claim, his/her heirs are entitled to compensation. However, they must assert their rights with the IOM within six months of the victim's death.

The International Organization for Migration is conducting several simultaneous programs. Under the German Forced Labor Compensation Program (GFLCP), the IOM is responsible for making available compensation to former forced laborers and other victims of the Nazi regime, who are not Jewish and who do not reside in the Czech Republic, Poland or the former republics of the Soviet Union. Under this program, those held in a concentration camp, deported from their native countries to Germany or German-occupied territory, or subjected to forced labor and held under extremely harsh, prison-like conditions are entitled to file a claim.

Prisoners of war (POWs), unless they were detained in a concentration camp, are excluded from this program under the German Foundation Act.

Funds are also available to compensate victims of medical experiments, parents of children who died in the homes for the children of slave laborers, or persons who themselves suffered severe health problems while lodged in such quarters. Persons who lost property during the Nazi era due to the direct participation of German businesses, and not as a result of military activity, also should apply for compensation with IOM.

Within the framework of Swiss Bank Settlement, the IOM is searching for non-Jewish persons who were persecuted by the Nazi regime. Jehovah's Witnesses, homosexuals, the physically or mentally handicapped, and those who were refused refugee status in Switzerland or were mistreated as refugees are urged to file a claim. Jewish and non-Jewish victims who performed slave labor for certain Swiss companies also are entitled to receive compensation through the IOM.

Forms, guidelines and information on all IOM compensation programs are available through a number of IOM offices or on the Internet at <http://www.compensation-forced-labor.org> or <http://www.swiss-bankclaims.iom.int>.

Potential claimants need to immediately contact the International Organization for Migration. The North American/Caribbean office address is: GFLCP/HVAP Washington, 1752 N St. NW – Suite 700, Washington, DC 20036.

The GFLCP hotline number is; (866) 443-5187; HVAP hotline, (877) 691-2862; fax, (202) 862-1879; e-mail, gflcp-de@iom.int

Next world chess champion is sure to be a Ukrainian

by **Dr. Orest Popovych**

NEWARK, N.J. – Vasyli Ivanchuk of Lviv and Ruslan Ponomaryov of Kramatorsk have defeated their respective opponents in the semifinal matches of the World Chess Championship conducted by the International Chess Federation FIDE in Moscow.

This means that no matter who wins the eight-game final match between them, scheduled for January 2002, the next world chess champion – for the first time in history – will be a Ukrainian.

In the semifinals, Mr. Ivanchuk beat the reigning FIDE world champion Viswanathan Anand of India, while Mr. Ponomaryov eliminated Peter Swidler of Russia, both by scores of 2 1/2:1 1/2. A total of 128 players competed in a series of short knockout matches.

The two finalists are the top players in Ukraine today, and earlier in 2001 they propelled their country to a gold medal in the World Team Chess

Championship. However, their impending duel for the world crown was not expected.

Although, Mr. Ivanchuk a grandmaster, has belonged to world's chess elite for at least a decade, his showing in several previous world championships was disappointing.

Mr. Ponomaryov, who recently turned 18, was a child prodigy whose chess career has skyrocketed in recent years. In 1997 he won the under-18 world championship and in 1998 the men's championship of Ukraine. In the same year, Mr. Ponomaryov became the youngest grandmaster in history. In 2001 he tied for 1-2 places in the European men's championship, losing the play-off to wind up with the silver medal.

The Ukrainian Sports Federation of the U.S.A. and Canada (USCAK) is especially gratified by the dazzling record of young Ruslan, as the organization had recognized his chess talent as well as devotion to Ukraine, and provided financial assistance to him and his trainer back in 1997.

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Borys Tarasyuk delivers inaugural Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Lecture

by Dr. Bohdan Klid

EDMONTON – In the 10 years since it proclaimed independence, Ukraine's successes in achieving foreign-policy goals have contrasted sharply with its difficulties in effecting internal transformations, such as building a civil society and a law-based state, or in adopting economic reforms resulting in sustained economic growth. Credit for this success is due in no small measure to the efforts of Borys Tarasyuk, who held senior posts in Ukraine's Ministry of Foreign

Affairs following independence and headed it from April 1998 to October 2000.

On Friday, November 2, at the invitation of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies (CIUS), Mr. Tarasyuk delivered a lecture on "Ukraine's Foreign Policy 10 Years after Independence," in which he recounted the major obstacles and challenges faced by Ukraine at independence, summarized its accomplishments to date and touched on unresolved foreign policy

issues facing Ukraine in the future.

Mr. Tarasyuk emphasized that in the period leading up to and immediately following independence, Ukraine's small foreign ministry faced several serious challenges and had to resolve potentially dangerous security-related issues almost simultaneously.

These included territorial claims from Russia and Romania; the non-acceptance of Ukraine's independence by Russia's political elite and disbelief on the part of the West; the fate of nuclear weapons and that of the million-man army and huge military arsenal inherited from the Soviet armed forces; the fate of the Black Sea Fleet, Crimean separatism; and choosing a model of national security.

Mr. Tarasyuk concluded that major foreign-policy challenges to Ukraine were met and resolved successfully. This conclusion is supported by public opinion polls in Ukraine, in which foreign policy successes were chosen as among the country's greatest achievements in the first decade of independence.

In considering Ukraine's relations with the West, Mr. Tarasyuk reminded the audience that the reemergence of an independent Ukraine at first "caused surprise and confusion, if not irritation" among Western governments.

However, if the West's diplomatic and scholarly communities were not prepared for this new geopolitical reality in 1991, fundamental changes in the perception of Ukraine and policies toward it have ensued in the interim. If in early August 1991 U.S. President George Bush warned Ukraine's political leaders not to seek independence, today Ukraine has achieved a special relationship or strategic partnership with the United States.

Despite the difficult challenges faced by Ukraine and the misconceptions it had to overcome, Mr. Tarasyuk stressed that his country is now seen as a "linchpin of stability in Europe" and a "contributor and producer, not only a consumer, of security in Europe."

Ukraine, he continued, has proved to the international community that it is "a reliable partner which is adhering to its international commitments." These have included following through on agreements on closing the Chernobyl nuclear power stations, ridding Ukraine of nuclear weapons, adhering to the nuclear non-proliferation treaty, signing the conventional weapons treaty, and articulating a clear and consistent policy on borders.

Mr. Tarasyuk pointed out that Ukraine's international standing and consistent policies have transformed it into a regional leader. Today Ukraine is a "natural leader" of the GUUAM grouping (Georgia, Ukraine, Uzbekistan, Azerbaijan and Moldova), he observed. It has forged "crystal clear" and "distinctive" policies toward the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Black Sea Economic Cooperation Organization, the Baltic and Black Sea countries, and its partners in GUUAM. It has also established special relations, or strategic partnerships, with five countries: the United States, Poland, Uzbekistan, Russia and Azerbaijan.

Mr. Tarasyuk also noted Ukraine's importance in international affairs. It is, for instance, a leading participant in peace-keeping operations, such as in Bosnia, Kosovo, Lebanon, Sierra Leone, and other countries. Ukraine is no longer a "messenger of someone's will" in the United Nations, the former foreign minister said, but a "leading member of this organization," as indicated by its current membership in the U.N. Security Council.

Despite these considerable accomplishments, Mr. Tarasyuk pointed out

that some major foreign policy directions and decisions remain to be taken. For instance, Ukraine still has not defined its model of national security. In this regard, he noted three options: acting as a buffer state between East and West, as a bridge between the two, or as a member of a security institution (NATO or a Russian-led grouping). Mr. Tarasyuk concluded that efforts to balance between East and West no longer are viable, and stated that he strongly supports Ukraine's European integration and accession to NATO.

In the last several years, Ukraine has been very active in NATO's Partnership for Peace Program, and relations between Ukraine and NATO became closer when the two sides signed a treaty on a "distinctive partnership" in July 1997. Despite the "decades-long hostile, anti-NATO brainwashing campaign from Soviet times," Mr. Tarasyuk noted that Ukrainian public opinion is shifting in favor of NATO membership, and that NATO itself is open to considering Ukraine's membership. Unfortunately, Ukraine's leadership is not yet ready to apply, he said.

In contrast to Ukraine's vagueness about NATO membership, there is a strong consensus in the country – both among political leaders as well as among the general populace – in favor of Ukraine's accession to the European Union (EU). Unfortunately, according to Mr. Tarasyuk, the EU has not developed a "coherent policy toward Ukraine." He also noted that Ukraine still has much to do to prepare the economy, society and legislation for EU membership.

In his presentation Mr. Tarasyuk also commented on how responses to terrorism could affect Russian-U.S. relations and, more broadly, spoke of relations between Russia and the West. In his view, while the rapprochement between Russia and the West could lead to generally positive developments, Ukraine's sovereignty might be compromised if Western governments agreed to Russian control or domination of the newly independent states in exchange for closer cooperation.

Mr. Tarasyuk's presentation was followed by a question-and-answer period. Afterwards, the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Library at CIUS was officially opened. Dr. Bociurkiw (1925-1998) was an outstanding political scientist and Church studies scholar at Carleton University in Ottawa. The generous donation of his library and archives laid the foundations for the CIUS Church Studies Program.

Mr. Tarasyuk's address, which inaugurated the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Lecture series at CIUS, was one of the special events organized and sponsored by CIUS to celebrate 10 years of Ukrainian independence and the 25th anniversary of the institute.

Mr. Tarasyuk became Ukraine's foreign minister in April 1998. Ukraine's president, Leonid Kuchma, dismissed him in late September 2000 at the urging of Russia, which had become furious about the independent foreign-policy course charted by Mr. Tarasyuk.

Today, he heads the Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation, a Kyiv-based research and policy-studies centre. He is also director of the Institute of Social Sciences and International Relations at the Interregional Academy of Personnel Management in Kyiv. Mr. Tarasyuk has been in the United States since October at the Harvard Ukrainian Research Institute as a Petro Jacyk Distinguished Fellow.



At the inaugural Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Lecture (from left) are: Zenon Kohut, director of the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies; Vera Bociurkiw, widow of Prof. Bociurkiw; Borys Tarasyuk, former foreign affairs minister of Ukraine; and Serhii Plokhyy, director of the Church Studies Program at CIUS.

Opening of memorial library and lecture honor Bociurkiw

by Serhii Plokhyy

Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies

EDMONTON – The Church Studies Program at the Canadian Institute of Ukrainian Studies on November 2 hosted two important events honoring the memory of Prof. Bohdan Bociurkiw: the official opening of the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Library, which houses his library and archive, and the inauguration of the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Lecture series. (See story above.)

Lectures in this series will be given once a year at CIUS and will feature presentations by prominent scholars and political activists in the area of Ukrainian politics, history and religion.

Prof. Bociurkiw (1925-1998) was a prominent political scientist and a world-renowned specialist in the area of human rights, Soviet religious policy and the history of Ukrainian Churches.

He began his academic career at the University of Alberta in Edmonton, where he taught at the department of political science from 1956 to 1969. He went on to teach at Carleton University, where he remained until his retirement in 1992.

A skilled organizer, Prof. Bociurkiw helped found many academic and professional projects and institutions, including CIUS. The generous donation of his library and archive laid the foundations for the Ukrainian Church Studies Program at the institute.

The program was opened by Dr. Zenon E. Kohut, director of CIUS. He

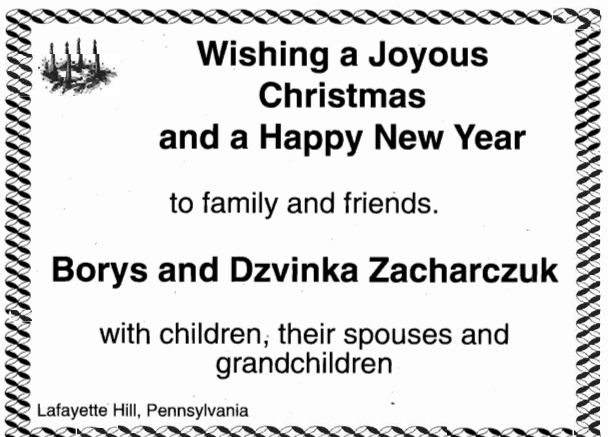
introduced Dr. Serhii Plokhyy, director of the Church Studies Program. Dr. Plokhyy commented on the life and accomplishments of Prof. Bociurkiw and thanked his wife, Vera Bociurkiw, and members of the family for their generous support of the program.

Taras Bociurkiw, son of the late professor, spoke at the event on behalf of the family. He shared his own and his mother's memories of Prof. Bociurkiw and thanked all those who involved in the transfer of the library and archive to CIUS, including Dr. Andrii Krawchuk, who helped organize the professor's materials in Ottawa.

The opening of the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Library took place immediately after the Bohdan Bociurkiw Memorial Lecture, "Ukraine's Foreign Policy: 10 Years after Independence," delivered by Borys Tarasyuk, foreign affairs minister of Ukraine in 1998-2000.

One of Ukraine's most respected diplomats, Mr. Tarasyuk has been responsible for many of Ukraine's foreign-policy achievements over the first decade of its independence. He is the founder and director of the Institute for Euro-Atlantic Cooperation, as well as director of the Institute of Social Sciences and International Relations at the Inter-Regional Academy of Personnel Management, both in Kyiv.

Both events were well attended. Among those present were University of Alberta Vice-President (Research) Dr. Gary Kachanoski, professors and students of the university, and numerous members of the Ukrainian community.





**З ПРАЗНИКАМИ РІЗДВА ХРИСТОВОГО,
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**Merry Christmas
and a Joyous and Happy
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to all of its members, their families
and all its friends.



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*May your holiday celebrations
be warm and wonderful,
and give you memories
that keep well into 2002!*

*And thank you, our dear readers,
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Roman Woronowycz
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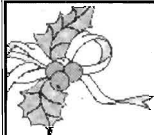
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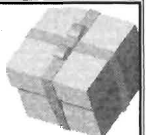
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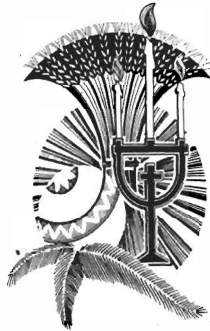
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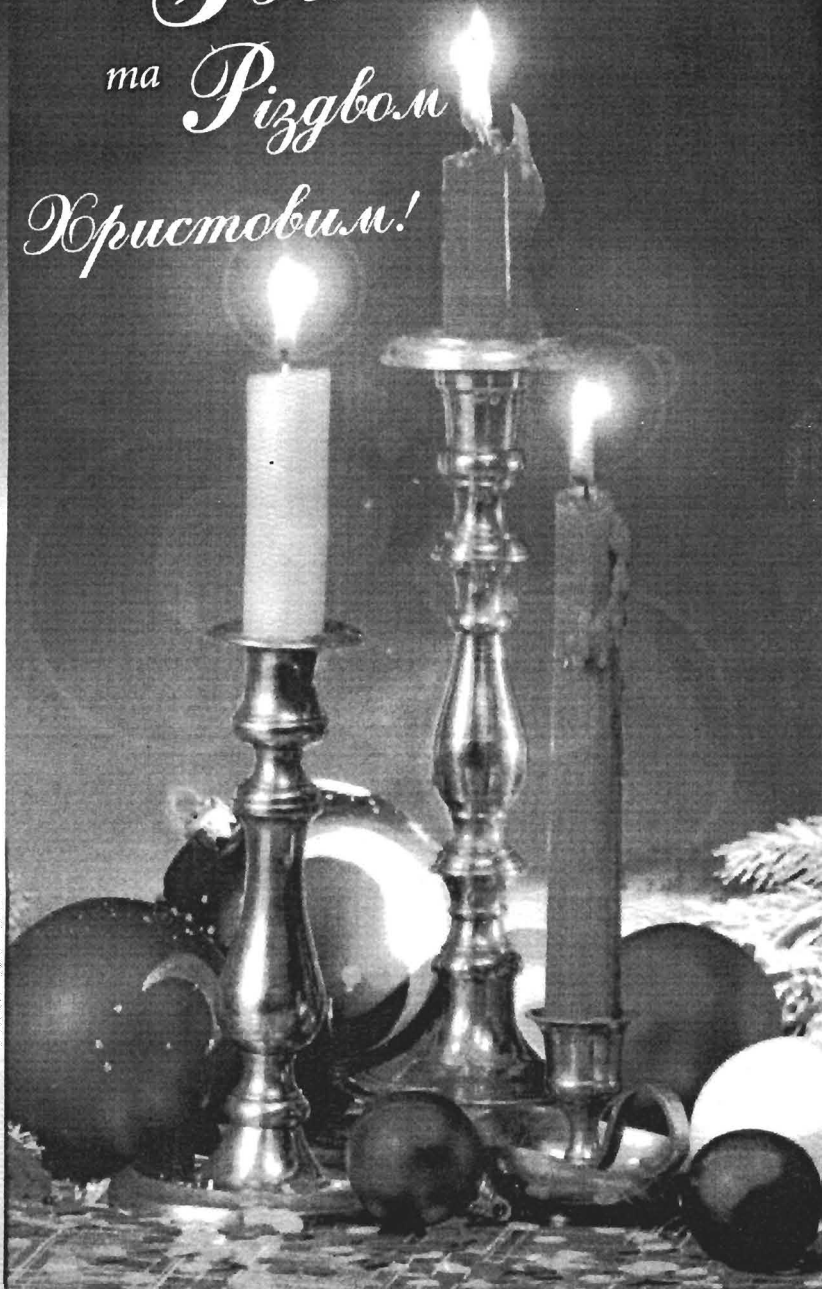
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New oratorio by Yevhen Stankovych based on 12th century epic poem

by Ika Koznarska Casanova

PARSIPPANY, N.J. — The oratorio "Slovo pro Pokhid Ihoriv, Syna Sviatoslava, Vnuka Oleha," by Yevhen Stankovych, is based on the 12th century epic poem "Slovo o Polku Ihorevi" (The Tale of Ihor's Campaign), a literary masterpiece of the Kyivan Rus' period.

The work had its world premiere at the Warsaw Philharmonic Concert Hall on June 6, with the Ukrainian National Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Volodymyr Sirenko, the Dumka Ukrainian National Choir, under the direction of Yevhen Savchuk, and soloists of the Ukrainian National Opera in Kyiv — Iryna Semenenko, soprano; Mykhailo Tyschenko, tenor; Mykola Koval, baritone; and Serhii Mahera, bass.

The premiere was held as part of the "Days of Ukrainian Music in Warsaw," organized by the Pro Musica Viva Foundation, headed by Roman Rewakowicz, jointly with the Polish Radio of Warsaw and the Association of Ukrainians in Poland.

The Ukrainian premiere was held on June 28 as the closing concert of the Kyiv symphony's 137th season.

The composition is dedicated to Dr. Taras Shegedin, executive director of the Ukrainian Institute of America in New York, who commissioned the work. The "Music at the Institute" program has, as one of its aims, the presentation and promotion of Ukrainian music in the United States. Dr. Shegedin was present at the premiere of the work in Ukraine.

"Slovo o Polku Ihorevi" tells the story of the campaign of Prince Ihor of Chernihiv undertaken in 1185 against the Polovtsians, and its unsuccessful outcome, in the general context of inter-princely warfare and the disintegration of Kyivan unity.

The poem, which begins with an invocation of the bard Boyan, who sang the praises of the princes and glories of the past, proceeds to relate the preparations for the upcoming campaign, the ensuing three-day battle, Ihor's bitter defeat and capture by Khan Konchak, and his subsequent escape.

In so far as the epic presents a hero upon whose actions depends to some degree the fate of his people, the narrator and, later Prince Yaroslav in Kyiv, consider the reasons for the defeat and the decline of Rus' lands, exhorting the princes to present a united front against a common enemy for the greater good of Rus'. This is followed by an evocation of the earlier feats and the wise rule of past princes. The poem concludes with a short paean to the princes and warriors of "Slovo."

As a literary work the epic attests to the high level that the culture of Kyivan Rus'



The Dumka Ukrainian National Choir, with director Yevhen Savchuk, and soloists of the Ukrainian National Opera in Kyiv — Iryna Semenenko, Mykhailo Tyschenko, Mykola Koval and Serhii Mahera — at the premiere of "Slovo" at the Kyiv Philharmonic Concert Hall on June 28.

had already attained in the medieval period. The work is particularly noteworthy for the expressiveness and lyrical beauty of its language, subtle psychological characterization (e.g., the lament of Yaroslava) and inherent drama.

From among various textual versions, Maestro Stankovych opted for the translation of the epic from Church Slavonic into Ukrainian by Leonid Makhnovets.

Almost an hour in duration, the work is divided into 12 parts based on motifs from the epic poem. The sections constitute an uninterrupted, linear construct, with individual parts flowing into one another almost imperceptibly.

"Slovo's" form lends itself to a wide scope of expression and incorporates different rhythms depending on the theme and mood. Both critics and listeners in Ukraine have commented on the exploration of moods and the characteristic detail of evocative tone painting which permeate Stankovych's vast score.

The work opens with the sound of menacing timpani which often return, cutting through the symphonic textures to intimate the inevitable fate. From beginning to end, the emotive coloration of the narrative depends on the tempo of particular episodes, whether it is the slowing down of Ihor's army, the tense atmosphere of the seemingly interminable waiting, or the nightmarish quality of fierce battle.

The rich imagery of the poem, the various voices, the sounds of battle — drum rolls, the blare of trumpets, the clash of sabres, the neighing of horses — and the dazzling colors are all conveyed in the orchestral score.

The large chorus has an unusually important and complex role because of Maestro Stankovych's striking use of individual vocal subgroups. Although the

composer lists four vocal soloists as portraying specific personages, they function more as voices from the choir, often emerging from the choral mass.

Asked to comment on the overall concept and structure of the work, Maestro Stankovych noted that "the style of music for 'Slovo' is polyphonic, with the soloists, chorus and orchestra forming distinct entities. They dramatize the text independently but they also combine to create the polyphony. For instance, the orchestra almost never accompanies nor does it merely double the chorus."

"Slovo" is built on a system of leitmotifs, harmonies, rhythms and timbres used in much the same way as in opera, structuring the development of musical dramaturgy. One could say 'Slovo' belongs to a synthetic genre, an opera-oratorio or an opera-symphony."

As to the historical sources for his

inspiration, the composer referred to the "znamenni rozspivny" of the 16-18th centuries, a musical form based on biblical texts and performed in churches and monasteries throughout Ukraine. Maestro Stankovych noted that in several passages of "Slovo" he uses the "znamenni rozspivny" in a stylized form to give a certain historical color to the musical fabric.

"Slovo" is in the tradition of grand-scale monumental compositions characteristic of the work of Maestro Stankovych, particularly works like "Chorna Elehiya" (Black Eulogy), "Ya Stverdzhuys" (I Attest), "Kaddish-Requiem for Babyn Yar" and "Panakhda za Pomerlymy z Holodu (Requiem for the Victims of the Famine)

"Slovo" is included in the "Anthology of Contemporary Music of Ukraine" prepared by the Kyiv Philharmonic.

Stankovych a central figure of contemporary music

Yevhen Stankovych is one of the central figures of contemporary Ukrainian music who, together with such composers as Valentin Silvestrov and Leonid Hrabovsky, introduced innovations in Ukrainian music.

A prolific composer, he has, since 1966, authored 10 symphonies, six chamber symphonies, an opera ("When the Fern Blooms"), four ballets, a large number of works in the oratorical, vocal chamber and instrumental chamber genres, as well as incidental music to six music theater plays and over 100 films.

Maestro Stankovych studied at the Kyiv Conservatory under Borys Liatoshynsky, and later under Myroslav Skoryk. Beginning with his first compositions, Stankovych declared himself as a

composer of dramatic temperament. While his technique is contemporary, folkloric themes of Ukraine's cultural groups are paramount in his works. Examples of these are his opera, "When the Fern Blooms" (1978), and "Kaddish-Requiem for Babyn Yar" (1991).

Maestro Stankovych's uniqueness lies in his pronounced affinity to the vernacular, his blending of folk motifs with orchestral colors, reproducing the unique aspects of the folk song and of multi-layered polyphony. A composer, he believes, cannot create music in isolation from his cultural lifeline and works to extend that lifeline to his audience.

The composer's elaborate polyphonic

(Continued on page 15)



Volodymyr Sirenko, principal director of the Ukrainian National Symphony, and members of the symphony acknowledge the audience's applause.



Maestro Yevhen Stankovych at the premiere of his work in Kyiv.

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Credit unions, individuals...

(Continued from page 5)

The Ukrainian Weekly hereby expresses sincere thanks for this very significant support of its work in keeping U.S. legislators informed.

Support for The Weekly's endeavors in this regard was expressed at the annual meeting of the Ukrainian National Association's General Assembly by Honorary Member Taras Szmagala Sr., who underlined that it is important to maintain these subscriptions for members of Congress. Mr. Szmagala suggested that individuals could sponsor subscriptions for their senators and representatives, and immediately declared that he will sponsor subscriptions for his senators and representative, in the hope that others would follow suit.

Soon thereafter Neonila Sochan, widow of Walter Sochan, longtime UNA supreme secretary and honorary member of the General Assembly, contributed \$100 to the "Copies for Congress" fund.

During the year 2000 the "Copies for Congress" project received \$7,250 in donations from Ukrainian American credit unions.

Ukrainian Catholics...

(Continued from page 3)

media reported on the story.

On November 8 the Rev. Semenovykh had a personal meeting with the assistant to Kharkiv's mayor, in which all the relevant issues were discussed. On November 13 the parish community received a letter that stated that the Kharkiv city administration constantly works to protect citizens' rights to freedom of conscience and religious expression. To this end "the necessary conditions for conducting religious services will be created."

According to the letter, the city authorities have never considered changing the decision they made in 1999 to give the Greek Catholic community a plot of land.

On November 16 the Rev. Semenovykh received a letter from the assistant to the head of the regional administration. The letter stated that the regional authorities had ordered the mayor of Kharkiv to ensure that the city authorities' decision of 1999 is carried out.

Christmas 2001 calls...

(Continued from page 7)

aside our own egos so that He, Christ, might be visible to all.

Christ is born!
Let us glorify Him (in all that we do and say)!

† **Wasyly, Metropolitan**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **Constantine, Metropolitan**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A. and in Diaspora

† **John, Archbishop**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **Antony, Archbishop**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A

† **Vsevolod, Archbishop**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of the U.S.A

† **Ioan, Archbishop**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in Diaspora

† **Yurij, Bishop**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church of Canada

† **Jeremiah, Bishop**
Ukrainian Orthodox Church in South America

Nativity of Our Lord - 2001

THE UKRAINIAN WEEKLY

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Oligarchic Social...

(Continued from page 2)

contested 2000 Kyiv mayoral elections. Mr. Omelchenko is the president of the Hockey Federation of Ukraine.

Second, the SDPU feared that as in the 1998 elections, they would again fail to garner the minimum 4 percent of the vote to secure seats for candidates on its party list. The SDPU, therefore needed, to gain votes in Russian-speaking regions of Ukraine because its main base of support in western and central Ukraine was less reliable. The party sought to capitalize on the language question by collecting 140,000 signatures demanding that a new law on languages be adopted to replace the 1989 law. The new law would elevate Russian to the status of an "official language" while keeping Ukrainian as the "state" language.

It is unclear to all concerned what the difference between "official" and "state" languages is – a distinction first introduced by President Kuchma during his 1994 election campaign but then shelved after his election. On November 30 the Rada began to debate the replacement of the 1989 law, which ensured that the national democrats would target Mr. Medvedchuk as the person behind this move to place it on the Rada agenda only three months before the elections. Rada Chairman Ivan Plushch has spoken out against discussing the language question on the eve of the elections.

Third, the SDPU is suspected of being one of the most likely culprits behind security service officer Mr. Melnychenko, whose bugging of President Kuchma's office led to the "Kuchmagate" scandal. There are rumors that in mid-2000 the SDPU made a proposal to Mr. Kuchma that he hand over power to Mr. Medvedchuk in a manner similar to the transfer by former Russian President Boris Yeltsin to Vladimir Putin.

But Mr. Kuchma refused to do so. The SDPU-O was angry also that President Kuchma tolerated Yulia Tymoshenko's presence in the Yushenko government. The SDPU argued that Ms. Tymoshenko and former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko made a lot of money from insider energy deals and therefore knew how to undercut this source of corrupt funds to the oligarchs.

Mr. Melnychenko has always spoken highly of Marchuk, his former boss as chairman of the Security Service of Ukraine, and the Melnychenko tapes include no conversations between President Kuchma and either Mr. Medvedchuk, Mr. Surkis, or Mr. Marchuk.

Finally, the other oligarchic parties could not have abstained in the vote of no confidence to dismiss Vice-Chairman Medvedchuk without a nod of approval from the presidential administration. Mr. Kuchma's blessing for Mr. Medvedchuk's fall from grace allows for a United Ukraine to become the main pro-Kuchma election bloc. Led by presidential administration head Volodymyr Lytvyn, a trusted friend and the only surviving member of Mr. Kuchma's 1994 election team, it includes five parties of power – Regions of Ukraine (Donbas), Labor Ukraine (Dnipropetrovsk), National Democrats (Kharkiv and southern Ukraine), Agrarians (Galicia and Volhynia), and Prime Minister Anatolii Kinakh's Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs. Each of these can draw upon "administrative resources" in the election campaign in the regions and institutions they control.

The rise and fall of the SDPU is characteristic of Ukrainian politics insofar as oligarchic parties lack any ideology and exist only at the whim of the executive. Although the oligarchs and the executive need each other, neither side trusts the other.

Poland 20 years ...

(Continued from page 2)

terly divided as regards political and moral assessments of the 1981 martial law. Solidarity's first leader, Lech Walesa, has recently commented that Jaruzelski's crackdown on Solidarity in 1981 "destroyed Poland's hope" and that it was "an unpardonable mistake." According to Mr. Walesa, if it were not for martial law, Poland would already be part of the European Union.

Gen. Jaruzelski's self-advocacy boils down to the tenet that his crackdown on Solidarity saved Poland from Soviet invasion and a much bloodier scenario, resembling that of Hungary's anti-Communist uprising in 1956.

Polish historians have yet to find documentary evidence that Poland was threatened in 1981 by an imminent intervention of Soviet forces. However, Gen. Jaruzelski seems to have won over the public in Poland to his reasons for imposing martial law. Poland's three polling centers have concurrently found that some 50 percent of respondents now believe that the imposition of martial law was justified, and only some 20 percent think otherwise.

It is also notable that some 30 percent of Poles have no clear opinion about December 13, 1981. Ironically, this group is made up primarily of a "martial-law baby boom" – young people who were born during the martial law years when annual births topped 700,000 – nearly double the current levels. One is almost compelled to say that Poles "made love not war" at that time in the literal sense. For these baby boomers, among whom unemployment currently

reaches 40 percent – the historical disputes of their parents about the Solidarity-Communist standoff in the 1980s seem to have no urgency or even seem to be completely irrelevant to their lives.

Adam Michnik, who was arrested and interned on December 13, 1981, wrote in his *Gazeta Wyborcza* on December 12 that "after 20 years, Poland deserves peace and reconciliation." Michnik appealed to President Aleksander Kwasniewski and the Parliament to find a "legal formula" in order to free Gen. Jaruzelski from all court trials he is currently undergoing. According to Michnik, Jaruzelski deserves the Poles' gratitude in no lesser degree than Walesa for "paving the way toward freedom without blood and barricades, without executions and scaffolds" in 1989.

While it is not ruled out that President Kwasniewski and the current leftist-dominated Parliament may lend an ear to Mr. Michnik's appeal, it is hardly conceivable that the postulated "peace and reconciliation" over Poland's contemporary history will reign supreme any time soon.

But Mr. Michnik's appeal, as well as the above-mentioned polls on martial law, reflect an evident shift in historical thinking of the Poles from traditionally romantic and emotional, to more temperate and detached assessments. This may also be a sign of Poland's ongoing transformation, in which collective myths of both the anti-Communist tradition and Communist historiography are gradually replaced by more individualist visions of history and life in general.



With deep sorrow, we announce to friends and family that our beloved husband, father, grandfather, brother, brother-in-law and uncle,

Jerome P. Pochtar

born June 15, 1917, in Philadelphia, PA,
passed away on Sunday, December 9, 2001.

The Panakhyda was held on Tuesday, December 11, 2001.
Funeral services were held on Wednesday, December 12, 2001, at St. Nicholas Ukrainian Catholic Church in Passaic, NJ.

In deepest sorrow he leaves:

- Wife - Millie
- Son - Paul with wife Beth
- Daughter - Elaine Sweeney with husband James
- Grandchildren - Daniel, Allison, Darby, Hayley
- Sister - Alice Grabowsky
- Sisters-in-Law - Alexandria Morawsky
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- Natalie Mudge and family
- Lessia Kruchow and family
- Nadine Simon and family
- Tamara Gnypp
- Paula Sesto and family
- Sophie Sparacino and family
- Romona Gnypp and family

Jerome P. Pochtar was predeceased by his son Daniel.

Eternal memory.



With deep sorrow, we announce that

Marie Wynnyczok née Sawczuk

born November 19, 1919, in Jazlovet, Ternopil Oblast,
passed away on Sunday, November 4, 2001.

Memorial services were held on November 7, 2001, at the Holy Trinity Ukrainian Catholic Church in Silver Spring, Md. She was laid to rest alongside her husband, Michael, in the Ukrainian Mausoleum at Cedar Hill Cemetery in Suitland, Md.

In sorrow:

- Son - Bohdan with wife Martha-Jean
- Brother - Frano Sawczuk
- Sister - Filia Lebed
- Nephews - Zenon Lebed
- Andre Lebed

Eternal Memory.

DEATH ANNOUNCEMENTS

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By Appointment

Use of government...

(Continued from page 8)

tronic media. It said that political and business entities owned by members of the major political parties or blocs that will dominate the election process control the major national channels. It provided the following list: Studio 1+1, Inter, TET are controlled by the Social Democratic Party (United); Ukrainian Television-1, ICTV and STV by the Labor Ukraine Party; and UTAR by the Batkivshchyna Party.

Not all the leading parties would be in line for the same piece of the pie if administrative resource handouts do indeed occur. A pecking order already seems to exist, but it is subject to change even without a moments notice.

The Social Democratic Party, which has the largest media holdings, including influence over some of the largest newspapers in Kyiv, is in a state of flux and disorganization after its chairman, the powerful First Vice-Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada Viktor Medvedchuk, was removed from his parliamentary post by an unexpected majority vote of lawmakers on December 13. The party, with a slew of the richest men in Ukraine, including Dynamo Kyiv soccer team owner Hryhorij Surkis and ex-president Leonid Kravchuk, will go to the elections independent of any bloc.

It had been expected to be among those most able to utilize what the government could offer. But in the last weeks it has become apparent that Social Democrats in leading central government and oblast leadership positions were being shuffled out of office and the party was becoming increasingly ostracized by government officials.

Administrative resources a key

On the other hand, experts believe that if any administrative resources are to be doled out, the For a United Ukraine bloc, chaired by President Kuchma's chief of staff and closest confidante, Volodymyr Lytvyn, should get first dibs.

The bloc includes the Labor Ukraine Party, chaired by the influential banker and National Deputy Serhii Tyhytko and boasting a powerful member, Mr. Kuchma's son-in-law, Viktor Pinchuk; as well as the Regional Party, led by the head of the Tax Administration Mykhailo Azarov; the National Democratic Party, with former Prime Minister Valeriy Pustovoitenko as its chairman; and the Agrarian Party of former First Vice Prime Minister Mykhailo Hladii.

Another powerful political bloc - to be led by the charismatic and popular Mr. Yushenko and called the Our Ukraine bloc - will consist of the more nationalistically inclined right-center parties, such as the Reform and Order Party, the National Rukh of Ukraine, the Ukrainian National Rukh, as well as the Liberal Party of Ukraine, recruited to strengthen the Donetsk vote. Political experts believe that former Prime Minister Yushenko, who has carefully worked to maintain close ties to the presidential administration, should be able to receive some of the government handouts if there are any.

The Democratic Union, led by the powerful business oligarch Oleksander Volkov, believes that like the Social Democrats (United), it can achieve success while going it alone. It should also be able to get a piece of the pie, because of Mr. Volkov's longtime support for the Kuchma Administration and his work as the head of the president's re-election campaign in 1999.

There is also the financially secure Tymoshenko bloc, led by millionaire businesswoman Yulia Tymoshenko, which is the chief opposition force and will undoubtedly have no access to any

administrative resources.

One of the central reasons for the problem of administrative influence in these elections lies with the party structure in Ukraine, especially with those political organizations with access to the presidential administration. Most mainstream parties in Ukraine today do not reflect a political ideology or support a specific bloc of voters (other than their own party members). They are organized to support and protect the interests of the very narrow segment of society to which they belong. In most cases the parties are simply lobby groups for business interests or business clans who are united by either their geographic location or type of commerce.

The Razumkov Center report succinctly described the purpose of political parties in Ukraine today, which is also the central problem with the current political system:

"A good portion of political parties are formed and act not in response to a social need or as an institution for forming and pushing the interests of a wider spectrum of society, but simply as an instrument for the political legalization of their clandestine activities and to support the battle between individual groups or individuals who are attempting to grab or to retain power."

The center's director, Mr. Hrytsenko, named the For a United Ukraine political bloc a particular concern because of "the offhand attitude that it holds in the utilization of administrative resources."

He explained that this bloc's need to use all the tools at its disposal, illegal or not, is greater than perhaps for another political structure because it does not have a charismatic leader to compare with ex-Prime Minister Yushenko of the Our Ukraine bloc who is capable of coalescing its effort and drawing voters. What for a United Ukraine does have is money, members within government and influence.

The way Mr. Medvedchuk was toppled also suggests that politicians and their organizations cannot count on stability and that what seems to be secure at a given moment could rapidly deteriorate. The leader of the Social Democrats (United) looked and sounded confident of his and his party's abilities and potential after he became the de facto spokesperson for the parliamentary leadership while Chairman Ivan Plushchay recuperating from surgery during the last weeks.

But as Mr. Medvedchuk flexed his authority, President Kuchma became disillusioned with the lack of political discipline of one of the politicians with whom he had worked closely, reported to Dzerkalo Tyzhnia, Kyiv's most influential newspaper. And, while the conventional wisdom was that the toppling of the influential first vice-chairman was retribution for political enemies from both sides of the political spectrum for specific political moves by Mr. Medvedchuk, there are those who indicate it could not have happened without the nod of Ukraine's top politician.

Ultimately that, too, was administrative resources at work in its most powerful form.

Ihor Popov, the leader of the Committee of Ukrainian Voters, a civic organization that has been monitoring the Ukrainian vote since 1998 said that in reality, given the current unstable and underdeveloped state of Ukrainian politics and civil society as a whole, there is no reason of any sort to expect that government administrative resources will not influence the March 2002 elections.

"But we can't simply condemn the election results beforehand," explained Mr. Popov. "While it will be difficult to say that they were not tainted, our goal is to try to make them as little tainted as possible."

Student from Ukraine wins PR scholarship

SAN FRANCISCO - The San Francisco Public Relations Roundtable awarded a \$1,000 scholarship to a local graduate student studying public relations, according to the Business Wire news service. The winner is Nataliya Popovych of San Jose State University.

Ms. Popovych expects to graduate from San Jose State in June of 2003 with a master's degree in public relations and plans to continue her career in public relations in her native Ukraine. She already has nearly three years of experience in the field, having worked as an account manager for the Ukrainian office of Romyr & Associates, a Canadian public relations firm, and also as a copywriter and public relations coordinator for the advertising firm Leo Burnett

Ukraine.

Ms. Popovych also is winner of the prestigious Muskie Fellowship and maintains a 4.0 grade point average at San Jose State.

She was chosen by a panel of San Francisco Public Relations Roundtable members through personal interviews. The scholarship program was established in 1990 in memory of Philip M. McCombs, the group's founder and late owner of Allen's Press Clipping Bureau. Since its inception, the scholarship program has awarded \$22,250 in scholarships to 28 students.

The San Francisco Public Relations Roundtable is the oldest professional organization for senior-level public relations practitioners in the United States.

Ukrainian and Russian...

(Continued from page 1)

that Ukraine-Russia relations are as good as ever and that while Ukrainian businesspeople are burrowing into Russia, and particularly Moscow, with investments, Russian businesses have remained tentative and restrained with regard to the Ukrainian market. He noted that Ukrainians have invested \$250 million in 31 joint ventures and other unilateral investments merely in Moscow. In Ukraine, on the other hand, he said there had been "no breakthrough" in Russian investment. As an example, he cited "a paltry \$6 million in investments in the month of October."

Nonetheless, Ukrainian-Russian trade turnover, after severely contracting in 1998 as a result of the Russian financial collapse, has recently picked up. Trade has increased as both countries have witnessed dramatic economic growth this year, with Russia's GDP pegged to end the year with about 6 percent growth, while Ukraine should attain about 9 percent.

Both sides expect that by the first quarter of 2002 trade turnover in goods and services will hit an annual rate of \$12 billion. The final 2001 figure is expected to be more than \$9 billion.

In Kharkiv the businessmen talked of increasing ties in heavy industry and machine building, fuel and energy, the military-industrial sector, the agricultural sector and chemical production.

During his presentation Mr. Kuchma noted successful joint ventures in automo-

bile production of the Russian GAZ sedan, which has resulted in 50,000 jobs for Ukrainian workers, and cooperation in the space industry, which has led to the release of six rockets into orbit and to the creation of 6,000 highly skilled jobs. He also pointed out successes in aircraft production, particularly the AN-74 and AN-140 joint projects.

Ukraine's president called on Russian businessmen to consider investment in Ukraine in airline production, the shipbuilding industry, radio and electronics, and the nuclear industry. He reminded them that both the Odesa-Brody oil line and the Odesa Oil Terminal are open for business, reported Interfax-Ukraine.

In private consultations with President Putin and the Russian governmental delegation, President Kuchma and the Ukrainian side agreed to borrow \$100 million in 2002 from Moscow to help complete reactors at the Khmelnytskyi and Rivne nuclear power complexes.

Mr. Kuchma also expressed a desire to coordinate activity with Moscow in relations with international organizations such as the World Trade Organization, the EU, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, and to push forward with a common viewpoint on matters of common interest.

President Putin expressed his belief that the two countries had just about established a common market, but said that certain "political prejudices and stereotypes" prevent the two sides from maximizing the full potential of such a relationship.

Stankovych...

(Continued from page 11)

textures and meditative lyricism are reminiscent of the strict instrumental style of Baroque music, while the full-bodied affected melodies with an obvious post-Romantic coloring give the music warmth and expressiveness. His music is remarkable in many respects, showing his emotional freedom, consummate technical mastery, and flexibility of form.

As the Soviet Union collapsed, Maestro Stankovych wrote several monumental works commemorating Ukraine's victims. His "Kaddish-Requiem for Babyn Yar" was the composer's gift to the memory of the Jews and other victims who perished at the hands of the Nazis in Kyiv in September 1941 (premiered September 1991 in Kyiv); "Requiem for the Victims of the Famine" commemorates the 6 million who perished of hunger in 1932-1933 in Ukraine (premiered in 1993 in Kyiv); and "Black Elegy" is a remembrance of the victims of the Chernobyl tragedy (premiered in 1991 in Winnipeg).

Maestro Stankovych is the recipient of

several major awards. His Chamber Symphony No. 3 was selected by UNESCO's World Tribune as one of the 10 best works of 1985. He has been recognized with several awards in Ukraine, including the country's highest award for artistic creativity, the Taras Shevchenko State Award.

The composer's works have been performed in Canada, the United States, Germany, France, Switzerland, Finland, Spain, China, the Philippines, and Yugoslavia, in addition to performances in the former Soviet Union.

Maestro Stankovych's work has been featured at contemporary music festivals in Germany and Poland, and he was invited to serve as senior juror in a contemporary music competition held in Winnipeg in January 1992.

In 1996, he was composer-in-residence in the Canton of Bern, Switzerland.

His works have been recorded on the Melodiya, Analekta, ASV, Naxos and Troppe Note/Cambria labels.

Maestro Stankovych is chair of the faculty of composition at the Kyiv Conservatory and former chairman of the Composers' Union of Ukraine.

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UMANA president confers with Illinois officers

CHICAGO - The president of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA), Ihor Voyevodka M.D., discussed planning strategy with the newly elected officers of the Illinois Branch of the UMANA on Sunday, November 11.

In an ongoing effort to visit with many of the UMANA's scattered branches, Dr. Voyevodka traveled, at his own expense, from his home city of Reno, Nev., to Chicago to meet individually with the administration of the Illinois Branch.

The group met at the UMANA office headquartered in the Ukrainian Cultural Center on Chicago Avenue. Dr. Voyevodka sought advice and input from the branch administration, represented by Chapter President Bohdan Charkewycz, MD, Co-President Bohdan Iwanetz, M.D., Treasurer George Charuk, D.O., Secretary Taisa Seneczko, D.D.S., and Membership Director Larissa Iwanetz.

Topics of the meeting ranged widely, but focused on a review of past performance with a critical examination of the strengths and weaknesses of the chapter's activities. One important conclusion reached was to formulate and distribute

to the Illinois Branch members a calendar of planned events for 2002-2003. This will allow members the luxury of planning one to two years ahead, in order to avoid scheduling difficulties well in advance of the dates in question.

Dr. Voyevodka sought input from the group concerning its recruitment efforts among younger physicians and dentists. Contact with students and residents was deemed key in developing an early interest in the association among young professionals. At the same time, efforts will continue to renew the activity of long-time members who may have become less active in UMANA over the years.

On behalf of the members of the UMANA Illinois Branch, the officers expressed thanks to Dr. Voyevodka for his personal visit to Chicago. They pledged to continue to work actively for UMANA locally and to cooperate with the national office in supporting its action on a national level. Both parties agreed to invest maximum effort in hosting the 37th Scientific Convention and the 30th Assembly of Delegates, which are scheduled to take place at the Allerton Crowne Plaza Hotel in Chicago on June 18-22, 2003.



During the UMANA national president's meeting with officers of the organization's Illinois chapter are: (seated from left) Taisa Seneczko, Bohdan Charkewycz, George Charuk; (standing) Larissa Iwanetz, Bohdan Iwanetz, Ihor Voyevodka and George Hryczek.

New York UMANA begins new term

by Ariadna Czartorysky

NEW YORK - The New York Metro Chapter of the Ukrainian Medical Association of North America (UMANA) held its first general meeting of the new term on Friday evening, November 9, at the prestigious Ukrainian Institute of America on Museum Row in Manhattan.

The meeting was opened by Metro Chapter President Dr. Lesia Kushnir, who led the meetings' proceedings, and then introduced Dr. Roman Goy as the evening's feature speaker. Dr. Goy recently completed his tenure as president of the national office of UMANA, and is currently the medical director of

(Continued on page 17)



Members of the UMANA and friends at the Ukrainian Institute of America: (from left to right) Roman Goy, M.D., Ariadna Czartorysky, M.D., George Kryzaniwsky, D.D.S., Mark Shmerekowsky (UESA), Arthur Hryhorowych, M.D., Alexandra Kushnir, M.D., Luba Kos (UIA), Andrew Wovk (UESA), Ihor Magun, M.D.

Ukrainian Engineers' Society approves new executive board



Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj (left), outgoing UESA president, poses with (from left) newly elected UESA President Andriy Wowk; UESA Vice-President Marco Shmerykowsky and executive board member Wasyl Kinach.

NEW YORK – Members of the Ukrainian Engineers' Society of America (UESA) installed 14 new executive officers during the organization's general meeting, held on October 27 at the Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA).

During the 2001-2003 term, the UESA national organization will be headed by Andriy Wowk, the newly elected UESA president, and Marco Shmerykowsky, P.E., national vice-president, who also heads the UESA New York City branch. The other members of the new executive board are: Bohdan Gerulak, AIA, Andrey Hankewycz, Tymish Hankewycz, Oleh Holynskij; Wasyl Kinach, P.E. and Jaroslav Olach.

Elected to the Supervisory Committee were: Dr. Lev Dobrjanskyj (the outgoing UESA president), Petro Hrycak and John Shmerykowsky, P.E. The Judiciary Committee will be composed of: Wolodymyr Hnatkowsky, Leonid

Pachaluk and Wolodymyr Magun.

Mr. Wowk, who is also head of the UESA's New Jersey branch, presented the organization's plan of action for 2001-2003 during the meeting. Major action items will include improving communication between UESA members, branches and the national board; increasing the number of social and technical events; creating UESA student affiliates at major universities; and continuing cooperation with students and technical professionals in Ukraine.

The UESA is a professional organization of some 650 engineers, architects and other technical professionals, with branches throughout major metropolitan areas of the United States. For more information on the UESA, or to receive a membership application, visit the UESA website (www.uesa.org), send e-mail to wowk@email.com, or write to: UESA, 2 E. 79th St., New York, NY 10021.

New York UMANA...

(Continued from page 16)

the Social Security Administration in Washington.

Over 40 new and experienced members gathered to hear Dr. Goy's address on the topic "UMANA For You – Role and Relevance," which provided inspiration and insight into UMANA's role at the local, national and international levels.

"First, we must exist on a local plane as active members of our Chapters. This fulfills our need for close interaction with our colleagues on a personal scale. By having a role at the national level, we have the critical mass of resources needed to meet the greater mission of our organization. Finally, by maintaining an international presence, we remain unique among all other medical organizations. Our ultimate goal should be to establish a liaison with Ukraine to help meet its full potential and its population's medical needs," Dr. Goy said.

Enthusiastic discussion led to a consensus arising on a protocol to help newly arrived medical professionals from Ukraine adapt to the American health care system. A buffet followed the meeting, with members lingering at an informal discussion until nearly midnight. UMANA members also viewed the Ukrainian Institute's ongoing exhibit of new Ukrainian artists.

The following evening, to the tunes of the New Jersey band Luna, the first annual "Fall Zabava in New York City" was inaugurated at the Institute. This cooperative venture was the result of hard work by UMANA-NY Metro, The Ukrainian Engineers Society (UESA) and the Ukrainian Institute of America (UIA). The evening drew guests from San Francisco to Montreal. Credit goes to the Organizing Committee: Andriy Wowk (UESA-NJ), Marko Shmerykowsky (UESA-NY), Arthur Hryhorowych (UMANA-NY Metro), Alexandra Kushnir (president, UMANA-NY Metro) and Luba Kos (UIA).



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- Lev and Halia Holubec

Proceeds from this event were designated for the ongoing activities of Plast through the Pobratymy Foundation, a 501 (c) (3) tax-exempt corporation.

Ukrainian pro hockey update

by Ihor Stelmach

Jagr's arrival thrills Bondra

It is very easy to tell when the Washington Capitals' Peter Bondra gets truly excited – his grasp of the English language starts to slip. This has happened quite often lately, especially when he discusses playing with the newest Cap in town, Jaromir Jagr.

"You stop to think about it – wow, the Washington Capitals are able to actually have such a player like Jagr," Bondra said. "It's amazing. He's the best player in the world. (Owner) Ted Leonsis said he was going to do it and he did."

Jagr is expected to help erase the team's annual playoff shortcoming: a severe lack of offense. The Caps hope he can make a major contribution with Bondra on the power play, which was solid for Washington last season.

"Jagr is the type of player who can make all the players around him better," Bondra said. "He can make a 20-goal scorer a 40-goal scorer; he can make a 40-point player into an 80-point player. His presence on the ice attracts the other team's defenders because of who he is, and that opens up a lot of ice for everybody else."

"And he is the type of player who is going to score a goal when the team most needs it. You don't have many players like that around the league, maybe two or three, and he's one of them," Bondra noted.

Bondra admitted he was mobbed by reporters when he returned to Slovakia for vacation, but he was acting only as a messenger.

"They didn't ask me questions about myself, they all wanted to know about Jagr and how I reacted," he said. "It was a major news story over there and I told them I was so excited for our team and Jagr, for the organization, for everybody."

Sabres' blueline all intact

The Buffalo Sabres might no longer have superstar goaltender Dominik Hasek, but their entire defense corps returned when Ukrainian Alexei Zhitnik signed a two-year contract just before training camp. The deal could be worth \$10.5 million, should the Sabres pick up an option for a third year. Zhitnik appeared to have been bracing himself for a lengthy dispute before the two sides reached the agreement.

"What's important is our defense is intact going into camp," said Sabre coach Lindy Ruff. "The fact (the deal) got done and he will be in camp looks good for us."

Zhitnik was Buffalo's best two-way defender last season. Hasek got much of the credit for the Sabres' allowing the fewest goals in the league (184), but much of his success resulted from the fortress Buffalo built around the crease. One of the main architects of that fortress was Alexei Zhitnik.

Zhitnik, who had eight goals and 37 points in 78 games last season, started the current campaign paired with veteran Richard Smehlik. Jay McKee and Rhett

Warrener stayed together, while Dmitri Kalinin had a solid rookie season and Brian Campbell continues to push Jason Woolley for playing time. The Sabres also have steady veteran James Patrick as a spare blueliner.

Best two-way defenseman in Buffalo last season? Perhaps the past several seasons? Through his club's first 28 games in 2001-2002, Zhitnik is among the team's top point getters with one goal and 15 assists. It's money well spent.

Hrudey dons pads for audience

Hockey fans in Canada got a rare inside look at what really happens during a National Hockey League team's training camp, courtesy of former NHL goalie Kelly Hrudey and CBC's "Hockey Night in Canada."

"Basic Training," part of the Labatt Saturday Night pre-game show, took viewers inside the inner sanctum of the Calgary Flames' September training camp, which was held in Banff, Alberta.

Hrudey, 40, strapped on the goalie pads and participated in the camp as if he was trying out for the team. He had not faced any shots since retiring in 1998, but didn't exclude himself from anything and was exposed to the same risks as other goalies in intra-squad games. He took the team bus to Banff and roomed with goalers Roman Turek and Brent Krahn. "Hockey Night in Canada" cameras were granted unlimited behind-the-scenes access.

Hrudey, who compiled a record of 271-265-88 with a 3.43 goals against average in his 15-year NHL career with the New York Islanders, Los Angeles Kings and San Jose Sharks, said he first met with Flames' strength coach Rick Hesketh in early June and underwent his first fitness test on June 11. In late August he attended an off-season conditioning camp for pros and junior players at Father David Bauer Arena in Calgary.

"I was in lousy shape when I started, but I ended up in decent shape through a lot of hard work with my personal trainer Dave Brown," Hrudey said. "You can't just do about a mile a day and about 20 pushups; it's just not enough."

"I took it seriously. I didn't want to look out of place when facing 100 mph slapshots," he added.

Hrudey said he saw the attitude towards off-season training change in the NHL about the mid-to-late 1980s. Then in the early 1990s proper physical preparation really caught on.

He approached the Canadian Broadcasting Company and Calgary Flames General Manager Craig Button with the idea following a discussion with his wife and a friend. GM Button said he welcomed the invitation for the Flames to participate.

"It is important to bring our fans closer to the game and provide them with a better understanding of the requirements necessary to compete in the NHL," Button said.

(Continued on page 19)

Sunday, January 6, 2002

Prior to the traditional Christmas Eve Supper
being served at Soyuzivka
enjoy an exhibit of embroidered icons
executed by

Father Dmytro Blazejovskyj

Pro hockey...

(Continued from page 18)

"Kelly's insight is an ideal window for fans to further enjoy the game."

The five sessions of the five-part series aired on October 6, 13, 20 and 27 and November 3.

Minor Ukrainian utterings

The Florida Everblades signed defenseman Alexander Godyniuk, who played 233 NHL games from 1991-1992 to 1996-1997, including 55 with the then Hartford Whalers in 1996-1997. The 31-year-old

from Ukraine played the last two seasons in Germany. His debut, however, was over before it began. Hours before the team's exhibition opener October 5 vs. Columbus, Godyniuk was released after he flunked a team physical. A bulging disc in his back, aggravated in training camp with the Carolina Hurricanes, denied him medical clearance. The Everblades said Godyniuk likely will retire. Walt Poddubny resigned after five years of coaching Anchorage in the West Coast League. ...

(Thanks to Dave Fay, Bucky Gleason and Denis Gibbons of The Hockey News for quotes from Washington, Buffalo and Calgary, respectively.)

NHL salaries at a glance

(2001 salaries based on data received from NHL Players' Association, including players on rosters as of October 26. Figures are in U.S. dollars.)

Keith Tkachuk	St. Louis Blues	\$8,300,000
Peter Bondra	Washington Caps	\$4,500,000
Alexei Zhitnik	Buffalo Sabres	\$3,250,000
Dmitri Khristich	Washington Caps	\$3,200,000
Oleg Tverdovsky	Anaheim Ducks	\$3,050,000
Richard Matvichuk	Dallas Stars	\$2,000,000
Ken Daneyko	New Jersey Devils	\$2,000,000
Curtis Leschyshyn	Ottawa Senators	\$2,000,000
Steve Konowalchuk	Washington Caps	\$1,525,000
Drake Berehowsky	Vancouver Canucks	\$1,450,000
Andrei Nikolishin	Washington Caps	\$1,240,250
Nikita Alexeev	Tampa Bay Lightning	\$1,075,000
Denis Shvidki	Florida Panthers	\$1,025,000
Vitaly Vishnevski	Anaheim Ducks	\$975,000
Dave Andreychuk	Tampa Bay Lightning	\$850,000
Tony Hrkac	Atlanta Thrashers	\$800,000
Brad Lukowich	Dallas Stars	\$750,000
Wade Belak	Toronto Maple Leafs	\$701,800
Steve Halko	Carolina Hurricanes	\$600,000
Todd Fedoruk	Philadelphia Flyers	\$550,000
Joey Tetarenko	Florida Panthers	\$471,900
Ruslan Fedotenko	Philadelphia Flyers	\$450,000
Darcy Hordichuk	Atlanta Thrashers	\$400,000
Sergei Varlamov	St. Louis Blues	\$165,000

Sitch booters in second place at mid-season

by Dr. Orest Popovych

NEWARK, N.J. - In the just completed first half of the 2001-2002 season, the men's soccer team of the Ukrainian American Sports and Educational Association Chornomorska Sitch of Newark, N.J., has earned the interim second place in the National Division of the Champions League, which operates in New Jersey, New York and Connecticut.

The Sitch team, playing under the name of "Union Ukrainians," has posted six victories: 5:1 vs. Costa Rica United, 7:1 vs. Mercer S.C., 6:3 vs. Waldrick Kickers, 1:0 vs. Hispano American S.C., 4:0 vs. Santa Croce S.C. and 4:2 vs. Makedonija S.C.; it suffered two defeats, 1:3 vs. Uruguay Cerro and 3:5 vs. Roma S.C.; and had one tie, 1:1 vs. Newark Benfica S.C.

At the end of fall, the standings of the National Division of the Champions League were as follows: 1. Roma (22 points); 2. Union Ukrainians (19); 3. Newark Benfica (15); 4. Uruguay (13); 5. Mercer (13); 6. Makedonija (13); 7. Hispano American (10); 8. Santa Croce (5); 9. Waldwick Kickers (3); 10. Costa Rica (1).

This success of the Sitch booters was a surprise, considering that it was the team's inaugural appearance in the Champions League, where the level of play is higher than in the Garden State Soccer League, in which Sitch had previously competed. The good showing was by no means accidental, as the home-grown Sitch talent is complemented by experienced soccer players newly arrived from Ukraine and other

Eastern European countries.

To date Sitch soccer has received financial support from its perennial benefactor Mykola Boychuk, owner of the Days Inn in Bridgewater, N.J., and from the Ukrainian American Federal Credit Union in Newark-Parsippany, N.J.

The spring half of the soccer season will resume in the middle of March 2002.



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PREVIEW OF EVENTS

Sunday, December 30

LINCROFT, NJ: A divine liturgy presided by Archbishop Stefan Soroka, metropolitan for Ukrainian Catholics in America, will be celebrated at the Monastery of the Basilian Fathers of Mariapoch, 360 Monastery Lane, Aberdeen Township, NJ., at 10:30 a.m. The liturgy will be followed by a forum at 11:30 a.m. on the future of the Ukrainian Catholic Church in Monmouth County. The event is sponsored by St. Wolodymyr the Great Ukrainian Catholic Church in Lincroft. We cordially invite all interested Monmouth County residents to this important event. For further information and/or directions call Valery Mischenko, (732) 671-1914.

NEW YORK: The Verkhovynsky Plast sorority invites the public to a Christmas Bazaar, to be held at Self-Reliance, 98 Second Ave., at 10 a.m.-3 p.m. There will be holiday baked goods, kutia, ground poppyseed, honey, gift items, Christmas ornaments, as well as a basket of cheer.

January 12, 2002

HARTFORD, Conn.: A Ukrainian New Year's Eve dance - Malanka - will be held at the Ukrainian National Home, 961

Wethersfield Ave., at 9 p.m.-2 a.m. Dance to the tunes of the Vodohray Orchestra. Donation: adults, \$20; students, \$15. For tickets and table reservations call the Ukrainian Gift Shop-Cooperative SUM, (860) 296-6955, on Monday, Wednesday, Friday, 6-8 p.m., or Saturday, 11 a.m.-1 p.m. The malanka is sponsored by the Hartford branches of the Organization for the Defense of Four Freedoms for Ukraine (ODFFU), the ODFFU Women's Association, and the Ukrainian American Youth Association (SUM).

ADVANCE NOTICE

February 16-23, 2002

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS: The Ukrainian American Nautical Association's annual regatta will be sailing the British Virgin Islands. Share the experience of sailing; savor the local culture and cuisine of the Caribbean; and enjoy the sun and surf away from the winter chill. No sailing experience necessary. Space is limited. Contact Natalia, (215) 517-7076 (tali- aukie@cs.com), or Wally, (763) 561-8965 (pawlukmpls@cs.com), for more information.

REMINDER REGARDING REQUIREMENTS:

There is a **\$10 charge per submission** for listings in Preview of Events. The listing plus payment must be received no later than one week before the desired date of publication. There is also the option of prepayment for a series of listings.

Listings of **no more than 100 words** (written in Preview format) plus payment should be sent to: Preview of Events, The Ukrainian Weekly, 2200 Route 10, P.O. Box 280, Parsippany, NJ 07054. Information sent by fax should include a copy of a check, in the amount of \$10 per listing, made out to The Ukrainian Weekly. The Weekly's fax number is (973) 644-9510.



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