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# KYIV POST

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FEBRUARY 8TH, 2001

VOL. 6, ISSUE 6

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selloffs, as tenders delayed two months - allegedly at the request of foreign investors.

**Down and out?**  
Merchants who used to line Kyiv's pedestrian underpasses and metro stations have largely disappeared.

## HINTS DROP THAT TAPES ARE REAL



Protesters burn President Leonid Kuchma in effigy Feb. 6. About 8,000 people marched on Kyiv's main street to demand resignations of the president and other top officials. (See story, page 4). (Post photo by Viktor Suvorov)

### General Prosecutor admits tapes were made in president's office

By PETER BYRNE  
Post Staff Writer

Parliament deputy Serhy Holovaty said Feb. 5 that President Leonid Kuchma admitted to him on Jan. 30 that a former guard in his service surreptitiously taped conversations from under a couch in the president's office. "I acknowledge that (Mykola) Melnychenko's recordings are true. It is true that I have been recorded. I admit it," Holovaty quoted Kuchma as telling him

during their 50-minute meeting.

Presidential spokesman Oleksandr Martynenko on Feb. 6 neither refuted the claim, nor acknowledged Kuchma actually made the admission.

"It's not the job of the Presidential Administration to affirm what Holovaty said," Martynenko said on Feb. 6, declining comment on when or whether Kuchma would publicly acknowledge that the recordings were authentic.

Four days earlier, the office of Prosecutor General Mykhailo Potebenko

issued a statement admitting the recordings contained words uttered by Kuchma during conversations with top law enforcement officials in the presidential office.

"Recorded conversations were indeed compiled from the texts of conversations of the president of Ukraine, including and by means of eavesdropping on reports delivered by the heads of law enforcement agencies on the

See TAPES, page 4

## Monument makes mess on Maidan

By OLGA KRYZHANOVSKA  
Post Staff Writer

With less than seven months remaining until Ukraine's 10th birthday, Maidan Nezalezhnosti was fenced off and closed last month for construction of a monument and shopping center to commemorate the anniversary.

But even as workers began cutting through concrete and removing fountains, city officials and architects were still haggling over the design of the future monument.

Some want a classic Greek motif, others want anything but that. And some think the large screen TV that now stands on the square should remain.

Until the squabbling is resolved, construction is focused on a huge ambitious underground mall.

"There will be multi-level space with its squares, fountains, shops, restaurants and a parking lot for 400 cars. Maidan's underground also will host a museum of Ukrainian history," said Iryna Yarmoluik, spokeswoman of the Architecture and Construction Department of the Kyiv City Administration.

But the controversy centers on the other side of Khreshchatyk, where a giant TV screen now stands.

In 1995 President Leonid Kuchma decided that Kyiv should erect a grand symbol dedicated to Ukrainian independence. Naturally, the colossus would be unveiled on the 10th Independence Day amid much fanfare. A competition was held that year, but in the end, no entry was deemed worthy of the honor, and the whole thing was shelved.

With time running out, however, another contest was held last fall.

See MONUMENT, page 2

## Ukraine's chemical time bombs ticking away

*Village has too much toxic waste on its hands, and nothing to do with it*

By KATYA CENGEL  
Post Staff Writer

ZHUROVKA - The people of this small village, 100 kilometers east of Kyiv, first started complaining about an acrid smell in the 1980s. Twenty years later, the town still stinks.

The reason: This village of 8,500 residents is home to approximately 349 tons of toxic waste.

A few feet from one of the village's main roads, about 50 concrete containers of toxic waste the size of large bookcases are haphazardly stacked. Painted on their sides are fluorescent yellow-and-black skull-and-crossbone markings.

They have been repacked and mixed up so many

times, the unlabeled crates contain mixtures of mysterious chemicals.

No one knows the exact contents of the containers. No one knows what would happen if they leaked. And no one knows what to do with them.

The situation is far from unique.

There are 5,000 toxic waste storage sites throughout Ukraine, about 200 in each of Ukraine's 25 regions. All are dangerous or in bad condition, said Vasyl Kolisnichenko, head of State Inspection for Plant Protection. The sites contain three types of pesticides: prohibited, expired and unknown mixtures. In all of Ukraine, there are 3,428 tons of prohibited pesticides, 1,509 tons of expired materials and 10,132 tons of unknown substances, said former Greenpeace worker Ihor Kyrlychuk.

In September 2000, parliament passed legislation authorizing the Ecology and Natural Resources Ministry to inventory and dispose of the waste, but a lack



Huge concrete drums of unknown hazardous chemicals are haphazardly piled in the village of Zhurovka. (Post photo by Katya Cengel)

See TOXIC, page 2

KYIV POST

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WEATHER FORECAST FRIDAY: Sunny; high 10, low 1. SATURDAY: Party cloudy; high 7 low 5. SUNDAY: Rain; high 5, low 3.

Monument mired in controversy

See MONUMENT, page 1 Architectural experts and cultural and public figures gathered to choose among 30 works by Ukraine's leading sculptors and architects. They reluctantly chose "Glory to Ukraine," a Hr 52 million project by architect Ruslan Kukharenko, featuring a 38-meter-high column and a six-meter-high bronze statue of a woman holding a tree branch.



The fountains of Maidan will be removed to make way for a shopping mall. (Viktor Suvarov)

But after the results were published, some participants and jury members appealed to Kuchma, complaining about violations during the contest and the fact that the winner's project was too similar to the Heroes Square monument in Budapest. On the pedestal of the winning entry are statues of Kyiv's founders, and a colonnade with the 12 most important personalities in Ukrainian history in the background. The concept is strikingly similar to the Budapest monument. The second-place project, titled "2001," by Oleksandr Komarovskyy, is a Hr 42 million underground history and entertainment center covered by a big glass dome.

idea of independence or any ideology," said Vadym Zhezherin, head of the Kyiv City Architects' Union. "It's a professional work but it's not modern enough for the 21st century. There should have been an open contest for the best idea for such a monument." He claims the contest held by the Kyiv City Administration was not fair and open

to the public. Glory to Ukraine has not been approved by the City Construction Council, the body with final say. But despite the opposition, head architect Zhezherin predicts the project will get final approval soon because the government is desperate to get something up by August. "Public opinion and all those critical

publications are not the main factors here," Zhezherin said. "People can write letters or do whatever they want, but I think this decision will be adopted anyway." That's discouraging news for those who want something different. But many residents actually prefer the large-screen TV to any monument. Kyiv mayor Oleksandr Omelchenko wants to abide by their wishes. He said on Jan. 24 that the screen would be re-located rather than removed because people love it. A different fate awaits another Maidan favorite. Architects have ordered the fountains around the square by the main post office removed. The statue of Archangel Mykhail, the patron saint of Kyiv, known to local youth as "Batman," will remain in its old place but will be made bigger. Workers have already begun excavation of Lyadski Vorota, one of the original gates to Kyiv dating back to the 11th century, which is buried under concrete. Architect Oleksandr Komarovskyy, who designed the reconstruction of Maidan 25 years ago, wanted to unearth the monument, but a lack of money and modern equipment prevented excavation, said Yarmolyuk of the Architecture and Construction Department.

Toxic sites remain unknown throughout nation

See TOXIC, page 1 In Zhurovka a new influx of residents, evacuated to the area after the 1986 Chernobyl disaster, is living in the same region as the waste site. A two-story office building is just across the street from the site. The collapse of the communist system left the sites unmonitored. While many former Soviet republics are faced with this issue, Koslisenchenko thinks that Ukraine's agricultural history and the absence of factories to reprocess waste make it a bigger deal here. When collective farms were privatized in 1999, no owners could be found for the waste sites. There are no maps of where the storage areas are located or inventories of what they contain. When Krainov started working with the government's new legislation last year, one of his first tasks was to find the sites. "We often had to go to agriculture regions and question the older residents, hoping they might provide a clue as to where the sites could be," Krainov said. Now that most of the sites have been located, their stocks must be inventoried and then either repackaged, buried or

reprocessed. There is only one problem: There is no money to implement the program, Kolisnichenko said. Lack of money has also kept regional authorities from dealing with the issue. Of Ukraine's 25 oblasts, Krainov said only about five have confronted the problem. Ivan Ostapets, who was head of the Zhurovka region environment protection organization from 1987 to 1999, has been trying to improve things for almost 15 years. In 1989 after persistent complaints from village residents about the noxious smell, Ostapets considered repackaging the pesticides, but the collapse of the Soviet system waylaid his plans. Only in December 2000 were the pesticides finally repacked. Now environmental organizations and the region authorities must decide what to do with them. "One of the biggest problems is where to take these containers after they are repacked," Kolisnichenko said. Pavlo Hontzovskiy, head of the department for control of land resources in Cherkasy oblast, is waiting for money to repack containers at the oblast's worst

site, Yerka. The site contains 132 tons of pesticides in rusting, cracking containers that date back to the 1960s. The containers are stowed away in a building that has been deemed so dangerous it has been bolted, locked and declared off limits. No one knows what the result of a leak would be. Volodymyr Unrod, a Cherkasy chemistry professor, thinks the highly toxic pesticides could cause birth defects and liver and kidney damage. Seepage into the ground could contaminate crops, livestock and water. Koslisenchenko thinks there probably have been leaks at some of the sites. "It's probably going to happen soon that some of the containers at Yerka will break," said Volodymyr Pykavets, head of the Cherkasy branch of a state department of ecological experts. In Zhurovka, residents continue to complain about the smell, but life goes on. At the village waste site recently, a dog was sniffing at two half-buried gas masks while two children pedaled past.

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## Tymoshenko accused of stealing \$1 billion

(Wire reports) Tax authorities said on Feb. 3 they had proof that former deputy prime minister for the energy sector, Yulia Tymoshenko, stole around \$1 billion intended to pay for Russian gas using Slaviansky Bank accounts, Ukrainian News reported.

According to Sviatoslav Pyskun, head of the State Tax Administration's investigative department, the STA has determined that a major energy supplier, United Energy Systems of Ukraine, transferred an estimated \$1 billion into a foreign bank using a Slaviansky Bank account during the 1996-97 period when Tymoshenko headed the company.

In a press release, the STA said that the company's Slaviansky account had a correspondent multi-currency account in Latvia's Aizkraukles bank, which funneled the funds to the First Trading Bank on the Pacific island state of Nauru, the Interfax news agency said.

Tax authorities said in the release that Latvia has supplied Ukraine with documents confirming "Tymoshenko's involvement in the activity of Slaviansky Bank that was aimed at money laundering."

"The involvement of the director general of Unified Energy Systems of Ukraine (Tymoshenko) in the criminal operations of Slaviansky Bank has been established for the first time," Pyskun said, according to the Ukrainian News report.

According to Pyskun, the money was later distributed into the accounts of various companies.

Pyskun said that Slaviansky Bank transferred a total of \$1.21 billion into its account with the First Trading Bank on Nauru.

"We know who in Ukraine organized the economic diversion by tying the knot of debt," Pyskun said, recalling the names of former Prime Minister Pavlo Lazarenko, with whom Tymoshenko is said to have had close business dealings, and Slaviansky's vice president Borys Feldman.

Pyskun declined to say when Tymoshenko would be officially charged with the alleged crime, but added that he was confident that the case would go to court.

The accusations against Tymoshenko

come in the wake of an investigation begun in March 1999 into charges of tax evasion by five top Slaviansky Bank managers.

Pyskun said on Feb. 3 that the investigation has ended with 13 of the bank's managers accused of abuse of office, theft and tax evasion.

But the embattled former deputy premier told reporters on Feb. 3 that the charges made against her by tax authorities were a continuation by criminal business forces to drive her out of politics as a reprisal for her reforms in the energy sector, Interfax said in its report.

Calling the accusations a new provocation by the criminal world to shut her up and caution her against joining stiff opposition forces, Tymoshenko said that the authorities made the move to mete out revenge "for the millions of shadow dollars that have been lost irretrievably."

"I'm ready for everything and will fight," Tymoshenko said.

Oleksandr Turchynov, a close Tymoshenko ally and head of the Batkivshchyna Party faction in parliament, harshly criticized the STA's allegations, saying that authorities made the move because they are afraid of Tymoshenko, Ukrainian News reported.

"Since the very start, this statement is a farce, a lie and a deliberate provocation against an opposition leader, which can be explained only by the authorities' fear," Turchynov said.

According to Turchynov, United Energy Systems of Ukraine actually had accounts with Slaviansky Bank, but none of the numerous investigations into the company's operations uncovered any evidence that \$1 billion was laundered through its accounts.

On Jan. 19, President Leonid Kuchma dismissed Tymoshenko as deputy prime minister in charge of the energy sector on the advice of the General Prosecutor's Office, which said that her position in the government would interfere with the investigation into the charges against her.

Prosecutors have accused Tymoshenko of forgery and large-scale gas smuggling, charges that the former cabinet member has vehemently denied.

## Pickets hit Polish Embassy



Protesters picket the Polish Embassy to demand justice for a Ukrainian who was shot and killed by police in Poland last month. (Reuters)

(Wire reports) Representatives from several of Ukraine's political parties demonstrated outside the Polish embassy in Kyiv on Feb. 5 demanding that the Polish police officer who shot and killed a Ukrainian citizen be tried on Ukrainian territory.

The victim, Serhy Kudrya, 25, was shot on Jan. 28 by a police officer after being stopped for speeding on his way to Ukraine. According to earlier reports from Polish authorities, the

shooting was accidental, and occurred after Kudrya struggled with police.

Kudrya's wife, however, said her husband was shot at point blank range, although he complied with all of the Polish authorities' requests.

In addition, protesters said that the relatives of the shooting victim should be materially compensated. Protesters said they would approach the Council of Europe with an appeal to look into the shooting.

## Guard to give original tape recordings to CE

(Wire reports) Maj. Mykola Melnychenko, the former guard who said he secretly recorded the president ordering top aides to silence an opposition journalist, is prepared to give the original recordings to the Council of Europe for examination, UNIAN reported on Feb. 2.

The Council of Europe should name the institutions it will deliver the tapes to for analysis before Melnychenko releases the tapes, the report said.

The report said that the Council should also obtain from Melnychenko the device he said he used to record the president in his office.

The Council of Europe voted earlier this week to conduct an independent analysis of the recordings to determine

their authenticity.

In late November, Socialist Party leader Oleksandr Moroz went public with an audiotape that he said linked President Leonid Kuchma to the disappearance of Georgy Gongadze, a journalist who went missing in September.

Prior to their release, foreign specialists analyzing the tapes said that they were authentic, although Ukraine's top prosecutor said that they were fake, supposedly basing his claims on conclusions drawn by Kyiv-based experts.

Two people's deputies have already identified what they said were their voices recorded on the tapes during conversations they had with the president.

## Ukraine dismantles two strategic bombers

(AP) Ukraine dismantled its last Tu-160 Blackjack strategic bomber and a Tu-22M Backfire bomber on Feb. 2, under the U.S.-Ukrainian Cooperative Threat Reduction Program.

As the official dismantling ceremony began, the Tu-160 stood with its tail already cut off and its hull gutted at a military airfield near Pryluky in northern Ukraine.

Huge scissors operated by an excavator cut the bombers' noses along the lines specified by Ukrainian and U.S. experts so that the bombers could never be reconstructed. The cutting, conducted by the Raytheon Technical Services Company, went on for about 25 minutes.

The Tu-160, the last and most expensive warplane constructed in the Soviet Union, is a copycat version of the American B-1 bomber, capable of flying at more than twice the speed of sound.

A delegation of U.S. defense officials, headed by Deputy Assistant to the Secretary of Defense Brigadier Gen. Thomas E. Kuenning, attended the dismantling.

Ukraine inherited the world's third-largest nuclear arsenal with the 1991 Soviet collapse, including 130 SS-19 missiles, 46 SS-24 missiles and 44 strategic bombers.

Ukraine has since handed over to Moscow three Tu-95s and eight Tu-160s, as well as 581 missiles, in partial payment of a debt for Russian natural gas supplies.

Ukraine's Defense Ministry asked the United States for assistance in dismantling 38 Tu-160s and Tu-95s and 487 Kh-55 air-launched cruise missiles, signing a corresponding treaty in 1997. Last October, it asked



This Tu-160 Blackjack strategic bomber is snipped off at the nose under a plan to eliminate such bombers. (AP)

for more funding to dismantle the country's Tu-22M bombers and Kh-22 missiles.

By Feb. 2, 10 Tu-160 and 20 Tu-95 Ukrainian bombers have been eliminated, and one Tu-160 and two Tu-95 aircraft were turned into static displays or converted for laboratory use. Four remaining Tu-95s are to be dismantled by May, and all work under the

disarmament program is scheduled to be completed by Dec. 4.

Nonferrous metals from the dismantled bombers have been sold to fund social programs for military officers and their families and to improve military units participating in the disarmament program, the Ukrainian Defense Ministry said.

### RUSSIAN PRESIDENT TO VISIT UKRAINE TO TOUR AEROSPACE FACTORY

(AP) Russian President Vladimir Putin will pay an official visit to Ukraine next week, the presidential press service said in a statement on Feb. 6.

Putin will meet Ukrainian President Leonid Kuchma in Dnipropetrovsk on Feb. 11-12, the statement said.

The two leaders will visit Ukraine's Yuzhmash aerospace factory, a former missile plant that now produces civilian rocket boosters, Ukrainian officials said. Kuchma was director of the factory in Soviet times.

Russia and Ukraine cooperate in the Sea Launch program with America's Boeing Co. to launch satellites from a converted oil drilling platform at sea, using Yuzhmash boosters.

Putin last visited Ukraine soon after his election last spring.

### TARAS CHORNOVIL, SON OF DEAD LAWMAKER, TO LEAVE RUKH FACTION

(Wire reports) Taras Chornovil announced Feb. 3 his intention to quit the Rukh (People's Movement of Ukraine) faction of parliament previously headed by his father Vyacheslav Chornovil, Ukrainska Pravda reported.

According to the online newspaper, Chornovil explained his decision by the party's plans to form a broad right-center coalition of majority parties.

Chornovil also pointed to the lack of a unified political position regarding a scandal triggered by audio recordings allegedly linking President Leonid Kuchma to the disappearance of opposition journalist Georgy Gongadze, but did not name the scandal as the main reason for leaving the faction.

On Feb. 1, Chornovil said that a voice heard on a taped conversation purported to be with the president was his voice, adding that he was ready to publicly declare the authenticity of the recording from the parliament podium on the opening day of its seventh session.

According to the Rukh party statute, quitting the party's parliament faction meant automatic expulsion from the party, and party leaders said they were not prepared to make an exception for the son of the party's former leader, the 1+1 TV channel reported.

### 3 PRISONERS KILLED WHEN POLICE RESCUE 2 GUARDS TAKEN HOSTAGE

(AP) Three prisoners were killed as Ukrainian police on Feb. 2 raided a prison and freed two guards whom inmates had taken hostage, ending a three-day standoff, Ukrainian television reported.

The police stormed a building on the prison grounds near the village of Daryivka in southern Ukraine before dawn on Feb. 2, said a prison official on condition of anonymity.

Ukraine's main television station reported that two inmates were killed in the storm, and the hostage-takers' leader Ruslumbek Kalayev shot himself. The prison official could not confirm the report.

The two hostages were taken to a local hospital suffering from stress, exhaustion and hunger, he said. One of them was stabbed in the stomach, but his condition was satisfactory, the television report said.

### RUSSIA RETURNS 4 12TH-CENTURY FRESCOES TO UKRAINIAN OFFICIALS

(AP) Russian officials on Feb. 6 returned to Ukrainian authorities four ancient frescoes that have long been an issue of debate between the two neighboring states.

President Leonid Kuchma said the frescoes' return was "a step that illustrates Russia's goodwill, its will to live in friendship and agreement," according to the Interfax news agency.

# Protesters demand Kuchma resignation

By PETER BYRNE  
Post Staff Writer

Thousands of anti-Kuchma activists braved slush and mayhem in Kyiv on Feb. 6, calling for the ouster of President Leonid Kuchma, who is facing pressure to resign following the release of additional recordings implicating him and top aides in a scheme to kidnap a journalist.

Carrying flags and portraits of Kuchma with his face crossed out, up to 8,000 marchers wound up what for some out-of-town protesters had been a weeklong trek. On the way to Kyiv's main street, Khreshchatyk, they picketed the parliament and sparred for an hour with platoons of heavy-set militiamen guarding the Presidential Administration building.

"We would have swept them aside, but it wasn't part of the plan," said protester Mykhail Mosylko, adding that organizers had a tough time dissuading some of the more rambunctious marchers from practicing barrier-breaking techniques.

Those skills would have come in handy back at tent city, which reappeared on the corner of Horodetskoho and Khreshchatyk five weeks after it was dismantled for the New Year.

On Feb. 6 up to 200 muscle-bound young men dressed in civilian clothes and ski masks struck down all but two of the 15 or so tents erected by the organizers of Ukraine Without Kuchma. While no life-threatening injuries were reported, attempts by defenders of the camp to ward off the assault resulted in frayed nerves and painful-looking facial injuries.

Serhy Rozyskul's nose bore testament to the carnage.

"Even though they wore civilian

clothes, we recognized some of them as students from the Interior Ministry Academy. They approached us together with a group of young men carrying black flags, which they used to demolish our tents," Rozyskul said, pressing a handful of snow against his swollen and bloody face.

State-controlled media reported that the masked men were "anarchists" playing a prank. Police at the scene did not intervene, even when the goons doused the camp with packets containing an unknown chemical substance.

The next confrontation occurred at 3 p.m. between the members of a radical right-wing fringe group and crowds of Communist supporters assembled near McDonalds in front of the Khreshchatyk metro entrance.

About 70 adolescent girls and boys covering their faces with green bandanas formed a human shield to block Communists from joining the general protest.

Fisticuffs were avoided only after tense negotiations between police, Communist leaders, and Shield of the Fatherland boss Dmitry Korchinsky, who eventually ordered his disciples to retreat.

Earlier in the day, Korchinsky's followers scuffled with police, who had to use tear gas to stop the protesters from attempting to tear down a large fence built around Maidan Nezalezhnosti in preparation for the construction of a memorial commemorating 10 years of Ukrainian independence.

Protesters blocked all traffic along Khreshchatyk at 4 p.m. for the symbolic incineration of thousands of leaflets portraying Kuchma in prison garb smoking a cigarette.

Five tall young men wearing white

robes over their clothes and white cone-shaped caps hiding their faces appeared at Maidan at about 4:30 p.m., but they didn't seem to be linked with other protesters. UNA-UNSO (Ukrainian National Assembly - Ukrainian National Self-Defense League) activists guarding the protest appeared confused, wondering aloud among themselves what their intentions might be.

Although admitting they supported the Ku Klux Klan, the men in white caps refused to identify themselves or say what Ukrainian organization they supported. After several rounds along Khreshchatyk, they mixed in with the motley collection of protesters, police and leather-jacket-clad men carrying two-way radios and vanished from the protest.

On the eve of planned demonstrations, Ukraine's defense minister, Oleksandr Kuzmuk, issued a warning.

"The state is ruled by the firm and sure hand of the Ukrainian president and the armed forces will continue to demonstrate in practice their dedication to the Ukrainian president, the Ukrainian state and the Ukrainian people," he said in a Feb. 5 address on the evening television news.

Equally bizarre was the mass distribution of a one page flyer titled, "WE DO NOT WANT TO BE BOMBED!" distributed by the little known, or non-existent, Congress of Ukrainian Citizens. They warned millions of Kyivans that foreign agents were underwriting the anti-Kuchma protests, according to the well-developed Yugoslavian scenario.

"As soon as our country started to recover, as soon as our people started to feel at least some improvement in their lives, foreign bosses, who do not want to



A police officer grabs a protester during a demonstration in Kyiv on Feb. 6. About 8,000 people marched on Khreshchatyk. (Post photo by Viktor Suvorov)

see this country strong and prosperous, started this large-scale provocation," read the flyer, which did not appear to faze protest organizers.

They adopted a resolution demanding the resignation of President Kuchma, Internal Affairs Ministry head Yury Kravchenko and State Security Service chief Leonid Derkach. The resolution, which demonstration organizer Yury Lutsenko read publicly, urges Ukrainian lawmakers to "urgently" initiate impeachment procedures against Kuchma.

Protesters also demanded that Prosecutor General Mykhailo Potebenko present a report in parliament about the investiga-

tion into the case of missing journalist Georgy Gongadze and that lawmakers consider dismissing Potebenko.

The demonstration ended, and the crowds slowly dispersed after Kuchma's effigy (replete with guitar) and portrait went up in flames.

Lutsenko said Ukraine Without Kuchma activists would erect a line of tents in the coming days stretching from the corner of Horodetskoho along Khreshchatyk to Besarabsky market. Organizers of the action met with opposition political leaders after the meeting to discuss plans to stage additional demonstrations if their demands were not met.

# Holovaty: Kuchma admitted tapes made in his office

TAPES, continued from page 1

crime situation in the country," reads the literal translation of a special statement distributed via Interfax-Ukraine on Feb. 2.

The first of several controversial recordings was released by Socialist Party leader Oleksandr Moroz on Nov. 28. The initial recording contains excerpts of voices purported to be Kuchma's and some of his top aides speaking about a scheme to get rid of opposition journalist Georgy Gongadze by having him kidnapped by Chechens.

Gongadze disappeared from Kyiv on Sept. 16 and a headless corpse later identified as Gongadze's was discovered in a wooded area south of Kyiv in November.

Kuchma previously denied any involvement in the disappearance of Gongadze, saying he was being framed by his political enemies.

Potebenko's office had previously maintained that the recordings were "fakes," citing the expertise of independent Ukrainian voice analysts and State Security Service agents, who demonstrated twice in December that it was impossible "technically, organizationally or physically" to record conversations in buildings occupied by Kuchma.

The announcement coincided with the decision of Potebenko to undergo massage and water therapy at a spa in Truskovets in western Ukraine, leading political pundits to predict he would be

sacked or asked to retire.

"Eleven episodes recorded on audio-cassettes and presented by [Socialist Party leader Oleksandr] Moroz were pasted into one tape after being copied from other sources, but inside every episode, as was stated by experts, there is no editing or falsification," said deputy Hryhory Omelchenko, attributing Potebenko's illness to the "perpetuation of such a cynical lie."

Omelchenko was quoted by Interfax-Ukraine on Feb. 2 as saying Potebenko's unscheduled vacation would deprive lawmakers of hearing his follow-up report on the Gongadze case and prevent holding a no-confidence vote regarding the prosecutor prior to his dismissal.

In November, TNO, a leading Dutch research group in the area of voice-recognition technology, found that all the conversations on the tape were real and unedited; that is, they were not computer-generated forgeries or montages of several conversations.

Although making such a montage is theoretically possible, Tammo Houtgast of TNO confirmed to the Financial Times on Feb. 6 that his institute had examined the tapes and concluded they were not computer generated.

At least two Ukrainian lawmakers, Taras Chornovil, the son of the late parliament deputy Vyacheslav Chornovil, and Oleksandr Turchynov, the leader of the Batkivshchyna faction in parliament,

agree. Both say they recognize their own voices on the tapes, which European and American envoys say should be thoroughly examined.

"The European Union supports the call by the Council of Europe Parliamentary Assembly for the Council of Europe to arrange for an independent analysis of the so-called Gongadze tapes," the EU said in a statement on Feb. 5.

The EU's high commissioner for security issues, Javier Solana, and the European Commission's Christopher Patten are scheduled to arrive in Kyiv for talks on Feb. 13, the same day the Vienna-based Institute for International Press plans to release details of its plans for an independent examination of the tapes.

## Bulgarian journalists protest new director

**SOFIA (AP)** – Emulating their colleagues in the Czech republic, Bulgaria's state radio journalists on Feb. 6 staged protests against their newly elected chief, voicing concern that his nomination was politically biased.

In a declaration, read on state radio, the journalists voiced doubts in the professional skills of Ivan Borislavov, elected earlier in the day by the National Council on Radio and TV.

The nine-member council voted 7-2 to choose Borislavov among eight contenders.

Borislavov, 54, a poet and translator, is to replace Alexander Velev,

whose three-year term expired last month.

The body controls broadcasters' compliance with laws on radio and TV. Its members are nominated by the president and Parliament. The council has been repeatedly accused of yielding to government pressure.

The protesters called for a staff meeting Feb. 7 and announced they would bar Borislavov from entering the state radio building.

They also urged council members to resign.

A similar dispute has rocked Czech state television since late last year.

## Poland to press EU on membership criteria

**WARSAW (AP)** – Polish Prime Minister Jerzy Buzek will press for faster action on admitting new European Union members during a visit Feb. 7 to Sweden, which now holds the EU presidency, a top adviser said.

"Poland has high expectations regarding the Swedish presidency," said Jacek Saryusz-Wolski, the official in charge of Poland's membership bid.

"It's about whether it will lead to a breakthrough in negotiations, whether it will be able to give a new dynamic to the entry process."

Buzek is expected to meet with Swedish Prime Minister Goeran Persson in Stockholm. He is scheduled to travel to Rome on Feb. 8 for more talks with Italian officials.

Sweden, which took over EU's six-month rotating presidency from

France on Jan. 1, has said it wants to focus on the EU's complex enlargement plans.

Poland and other would-be members, mostly fellow ex-communist states of Eastern Europe, have expressed frustration with what they see as foot-dragging on expansion by some EU countries.

EU officials have countered that much depends on the ability of candidates to bring their economies and laws up to the economic bloc's standards.

Poland, with 39 million people, is by far the biggest of a dozen applicants now in membership talks. Environmental reforms and how to restructure the country's large and inefficient farm sector have been among the biggest obstacles.

# Milosevic arrest looms, but trial details unclear

**BELGRADE (AP)** – Increasingly, it seems less a case of whether Slobodan Milosevic will stand trial and more a case of when, where and for what.

The net is tightening around the former Yugoslav president, less than four months after a popular revolt forced him to acknowledge electoral defeat and step down from office.

Over the past week, he has been put under 24-hour police surveillance. And faced with the possible loss of more than \$100 million in financial aid from the United States, the new pro-democracy leadership of impoverished Yugoslavia is looking hard at extraditing Milosevic to stand trial at the U.N. war crimes tribunal at The Hague, Netherlands.

The United States has told Belgrade it must start cooperating with The Hague court by the end of March, or risk losing the vital financial aid.

But most new Yugoslav leaders remain opposed to the idea of extradition, with some arguing that the law does not foresee delivering a citizen to a foreign court. An overwhelming fear is that extradition would make a martyr out of Milosevic in the eyes of many Serbs who consider the court an anti-Serb instrument of the West, and who still fault the West for the 1999 NATO bombing of Yugoslavia that forced Milosevic to give up Kosovo.

Still, with the former leader accused of a wide range of wrongdoing beyond his alleged involvement in Kosovo atrocities, the dilemma is not whether he should stand trial. The question is should he be tried at home or in The Hague, and should the charges be cor-



Former Yugoslav president Slobodan Milosevic in Belgrade Feb. 2. (AP)

ruption, complicity in political assassinations and abductions during his 13-year tenure, alleged atrocities in Kosovo, or all.

One solution being pushed in Belgrade is a trial within the country on all charges, including those raised by the U.N. tribunal and with tribunal input.

"Milosevic's place is in jail," says Interior Minister Zoran Zivkovic. "It would be just for him to stand trial here because he committed all those crimes here."

"Our prosecutor should accept The Hague's indictment, add the local charges, and trigger the proceedings in front of our courts," Zivkovic told The Associated Press. "The war crimes def-

initely existed ... and there is no dilemma who is responsible: Milosevic as the former supreme commander."

During her visit to Belgrade last month, chief U.N. prosecutor Carla Del Ponte insisted that The Hague tribunal has priority over local Yugoslav courts and that Milosevic must be extradited. New Yugoslav leaders insisted that the country's constitution bans extradition of its citizens.

But Prime Minister Zoran Djindjic of Serbia, the dominant Yugoslav republic, suggests that Washington, previously a vehement supporter of Milosevic's extradition, is now amenable to compromise.

On return from Washington on the weekend, Djindjic suggested that U.S. Secretary of State Colin Powell was sympathetic to arguments that Milosevic be tried in Serbia.

"We want all those who committed crimes to be held responsible, we want them to answer before our institutions," Djindjic said.

Still, The Hague option remains. The Serbian parliament next week is expected to appoint new prosecutors and judges, replacing those picked by Milosevic. A new law allowing cooperation with The Hague tribunal will be put in place.

"The law will eliminate the obstacles for Yugoslavia's cooperation with The Hague tribunal," said Momcilo Grubac, the new justice minister. He did not specify whether the law would allow extradition.

In any case, many expect Milosevic to be arraigned and arrested soon – perhaps by the end of this month.

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## EDITORIAL

## Ukraine Without Democracy

The first sentence of a recent entry on the forum of a Web site popular with Ukrainian diaspora went something like this: "Dear Leonid Kuchma: Thank you for showing us what a fool you really are. ... The harder you try to extricate yourself [from the scandal] the deeper you bury yourself."

Kuchma's shovel was indeed hard at work last week. In the Kuchma machine's latest stumble, Prosecutor General Mykola Potybenko's office stated that tests showed that the infamous Melnychenko tapes contain the president's voice. But they were fabricated by splicing together fragments of the president's conversations.

Our advice to the prosecutor general: If you're going to lie, at least be consistent. Potybenko's claim is essentially a blanket admission that the president's office was bugged. This goes directly against what the General Prosecutor's Office has been saying all along - that wiretapping the president's office is impossible.

Beyond that, the claim contradicts tests already done on the tapes by an organization that - unlike the General Prosecutor's Office - is competent and capable. Way back in November, Dutch group TNO found that copies of the original tapes contain unedited, continuous conversation. If the General Prosecutor's Office admits that it's Kuchma's voice on the tape, we can conclude that, based on the TNO findings, Kuchma is guilty as charged of plotting Georgy Gongadze's disappearance, among other grave crimes.

The United States and the European Union might chew on that as they continue to dole out platitudes about their concerns over Kuchma's handling of the Gongadze affair. While they're at it, they might look at how perfectly peaceful protests have been suppressed in several oblasts. And at how students and factory workers were earlier forced to march in "pro-presidential" rallies. They might look at why local media is burying the biggest scandal of the decade and at why the general prosecutor is on a 40-day vacation instead of investigating the murder of Gongadze.

They might wonder if they really want to go on being friends with and giving money to such a country. The EU issued a stern warning on Feb. 5 that it is concerned about freedom of press and said it is not convinced that the Gongadze's disappearance has been investigated with "sufficient transparency and thoroughness." Tough language is a promising start, but it will mean little until it is backed up by tough actions. An appropriate follow up would be an aid cut.

Some nationalists argue against the foreign community meddling too much in Ukraine's affairs, as it could lead to the end of Ukrainian independence if Kuchma and company respond by deciding they don't need the West after all. That is a dangerous argument. If a little Western discipline is all it takes for Ukraine to turn its back on the West, the country is already on a slippery slope to nowhere. The West should discipline Ukraine and take its chances that the people will demand that the government respond positively to that discipline. The alternative is sitting back and doing nothing while Ukraine drifts east anyway.

The people of Ukraine might also do some soul-searching as they sit back and watch Kuchma's spies and police beating up protesters on TV. The 8,000 protesters on the streets in Kyiv this week represent a whopping .02 percent of the population. While some Ukrainians undoubtedly accept the news that the country is being "destabilized" by "provocateurs," the majority of Ukrainians grasp the abuses committed by their president. But they cynically reason that Kuchma's grave crimes are the norm for politicians and that nothing can be done about it.

World experience tells us otherwise. In the last couple months alone, the leaders of Peru and the Philippines were linked to corruption by leaked tapes and subsequently brought down by popular uprisings. The charges against Kuchma are no less grave and no less substantiated than the charges that those leaders faced.

Our favorite forum writer's entry concluded with a rhetorical question for the president: "Do you really think a fence will stop the criticism?"

The fence he was alluding to is behemoth that has sealed off both sides of Maidan Nezalezhnosti in downtown Kyiv. Whether the Kuchma apparatus indeed ordered the fence put up to seal off protesters is open to debate. But there's no question the authorities have erected several metaphorical fences around society in their attempt to bottle up the truth behind the scandal.

The sad truth is that Kuchma's "fences" can and most likely will stop the criticism. Unless, that is, both the people of Ukraine and the world community take dramatic action to put an end to the authorities' continued abuse of the law.



## For this big kid, it's time for a spanking

The appearance of Ukraine in a premier international news publication is always a welcome sight, even though it is often the nation's ills that are featured. This has certainly been the case recently, as the Gongadze affair has broken out of the domain of the national consciousness and onto the world stage (see *The Economist*, Jan. 20 and *The New York Times*, Jan. 30 and Feb. 7.)

My first reaction to seeing the articles? Great!

There is nothing like the scrutiny of the global eye to put the heat on wayward leaders, and it is a joy to watch them squirm. What else but a demanding press could have caused Russian President Vladimir Putin to leap from his beach chair in Sochi last summer to find himself in front of the cameras, humbly accepting responsibility for the Kursk disaster? It wouldn't have happened just a few years ago in Russia, and it is a telling demonstration for Ukraine of the importance of the free press as a counterbalance to excessive government power.

Despite being heartened by the mere publication of the articles, upon reading them I was shocked. Not because the issues were new to me, but because it was the first time I saw the events as the rest of the world does. It is one thing to read about these events in the local paper and see them in every day life. It is quite another to step outside your own shoes and see them from a newcomer's perspective.

Alongside the other issues of the world, such as the economic slowdown in the United States or a passport scandal in Britain, Kuchma-gate looks like some horrific, Hollywood-conceived gangster tale. A missing journalist. A headless corpse. A botched investigation. Secret tapes revealed by an exiled agent of the ex-KGB implicating no less than the president and his cronies. Actually, this plot line may be too outrageous even for Hollywood.

The heading in the contents of *The Economist* reads "Scandalous, Wretched Ukraine." In 10 years of reading this magazine, I have rarely read an article with such a derisive tone of its subject, and have never witnessed the editors so freely quote profanity as they do in paraphrasing Kuchma's taped dialogue. The message to the world is that Ukraine's affairs are hopelessly jumbled and

mismanaged; the current administration is boldly and defiantly corrupt; and the power elite, aside from a select few, are people of the lowest kind.

*The New York Times* and the Associated Press take a more dry, non-committal tack. But the facts they lay before the reader lead to the same plain conclusion: This government is not just defunct, but like some ghastly experiment gone awry for lack of experienced, prudent supervision. But supervision by whom?

Well, I'd say that any government administration in the world may be compared to a child. The child behaves only as well as the institutions (ideally a dutiful, scolding mother) and the electorate (ideally, an understanding though strict father) impose discipline and accountability. Mother sets the rules of the house and makes sure that they are followed (through laws, enforcement and the justice system), while father looms in the background, stepping in if things get out of hand (with press coverage, public opinion, elections, and occasionally revolt). In the end, the child's conduct dictates to a great extent the joy and pride that the parents enjoy.

Do joy and pride characterize the prevailing sentiment in Ukraine? Not for the time being, because Ukraine's current administration is the classic spoiled child, who reigns supreme over his parents. The mother is overly doting and permissive (Prosecutor General, and Interior Minister), while the father is self-occupied, disappointed, yet indifferent (the muffled media and distraught, hapless public). Meanwhile, the child reigns free to pursue its various whims, havoc ensues and everybody suffers, even the child.

Not only has this child's hand been repeatedly caught in the proverbial cookie jar, it has continued to reach in with reckless indulgence, knowing that punishment is not forthcoming. The neighbors (other countries) watch from a distance in horror (e.g. see aforementioned articles) while the child runs amok, its diaper full and its face smeared with chocolate and crumbs. Mother looks on quietly with a sad, loving smile and the father sits motionless and dejected. There is little that the neighbors can do to intervene but extend modest assistance and suggestions. After all, the child's development and conduct

are ultimately the sole responsibility of the parents.

Kuchma's tactics have been childish down to the handling of this affair. First, protesters were conveniently thwarted with Christmas decorations, and then with a fence constructed around Maidan Nezalezhnosti. Blaming Prosecutor General Mykhailo Potybenko for fumbling the DNA tests and the criminal investigation won't fool anyone. We all know who pulls Potybenko's strings. And the hiring of students and state company employees to do pro-Kuchma marches is a tired, old scheme that is just downright pathetic. All the while the president stands earnestly in front of the cameras and promises to get to the bottom of the matter in mock righteousness.

Longstanding, monopolistic power has apparently left Kuchma's gang as short on ideas as they are on charisma and integrity. So much so that the administration may actually be vulnerable to a perseverant and vocal activist movement, particularly with the attention of the international press. Scoring a victory will probably hinge on the level of participation of an idealistic student faction, which is a prerequisite source of enthusiasm in any activist movement. So far, however, turnout has been rather weak for anything but Kuchma's paid marches. A glance at the crowd surrounding the Khreshchatyk tent village reveals a decidedly elderly crowd (God bless 'em). The younger generation will have to do better because it is their future at stake. Ironically, it will be the irreverent youth that will corral the problem child of government in the end.

Fortunately for Ukraine, the "child" analogy only goes so far. Parents cannot switch children, but a motivated public can change an administration. That may seem far-fetched at this point, but a concerted effort could yield a shakeup of some sort, score points for free speech, and set a precedent for future activism. And, indeed, it looks like father is finally stirring. Far from being demoralized by Kuchma's sophomoric tactics, the protesters are back and now have been joined by others from around the country. Let's hope they arrive with belt in hand, because this kid is way past due for some discipline.

California native Chris Brown has lived in Kyiv for two-and-a-half years.

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Quotes of the fortnight

"ALL THE DETAILS OF THE CONVERSATION, ITS CONTENTS AND INTONATIONS ARE PERFECT ... I WILL TESTIFY UNDER OATH THAT THE CONVERSATION IS AUTHENTIC."

Taras Chornovil confirming that the Melnychenko tapes contain a conversation that he had with President Kuchma in the presidential office, *Ukrainska Pravda*, Feb. 1.

"THE EUROPEAN UNION REITERATES PACE'S CALL TO RELEVANT UKRAINIAN AUTHORITIES TO UNDERTAKE ACTIONS TO IMPROVE THE GENERAL ENVIRONMENT IN WHICH MEDIA OPERATE."

Declaration on behalf of the EU, Feb. 5.

"THE AUTHORS OF THE STATEMENT, TO PUT IT MILDLY, DO NOT HAVE A CLUE ABOUT FREEDOM OF SPEECH IN UKRAINE."

Ministry of Foreign Affairs Spokesman Ihor Hrushko commenting on the above EU statement, *UNIAN*, Feb. 6.

"I HAVE NO PRIVATE INTERESTS APART FROM THE INTERESTS OF MY VOTERS, MY COUNTRY AND THE UKRAINIAN PEOPLE."

Oleksandr Volkov, leader of the Regional Revival parliament faction, answering whether he's satisfied with the level of payback he's received for supporting Kuchma in the 1999 election, *Vysokyy Zamok* newspaper, Jan. 30.

"I WILL APPEAL TO THE COURT. BUT UNFORTUNATELY, WHILE THERE IS WHAT THERE IS IN UKRAINE, ONE CAN APPEAL ONLY TO GOD."

Yulia Tymoshenko offering a blunt assessment of Ukraine's judicial system in describing what she will do to fight the criminal charges against her, *Novy Kanal*, Jan. 22.

"THE FIERCE AND UNREASONABLE HATRED WITH WHICH MY 'ENEMIES' ARE ATTACKING ME PROVES ONCE MORE THAT I AM DOING THE RIGHT THING; MY ACTIVITY HITS ITS TARGET AND MY STRUGGLE IS JUSTIFIED."

The eminently quotable Tymoshenko, still chirping two weeks after her dismissal, *UNIAN*, Feb. 5.

"I HAVE MY OWN COURSE. I HAVE MY OWN POLICY."

New Deputy Prime Minister Oleh Dubyna, commenting on his most likely dubious plans for energy reform, *Ukrainian News*, Jan. 31.

"WHEN I THINK BACK TO WHAT I HAVE DONE, I BELIEVE THAT I HAVE CONTRIBUTED TO THE HISTORY OF ATHLETICS."

Ukrainian pole vault legend Sergei Bubka, upon retiring Feb. 4 in Donetsk.

VOX POPULI

Is an independence monument necessary?

Maidan Nezalezhnosti is undergoing reconstruction for a three-level underground shopping mall and a monument commemorating the 10th anniversary of Ukraine's independence – a 38-meter column with a six-meter bronze statue of a woman with wings symbolizing Ukraine. As Maidan is hidden behind a big green fence, public discussion of the issue is still underway.

Do you support the idea to reconstruct Maidan Nezalezhnosti and erect a monument to mark 10 years of independence?

We asked Kyivans

INTERVIEWS BY OLGA KRYZHANOVSKA  
PHOTOS BY VIKTOR SUVOROV



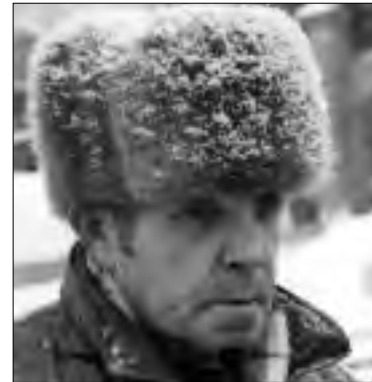
VOLODYMYR YERMAKOV, 30, STREET CLEANER.

The reconstruction of Maidan has its positive and negative sides. First of all, the capital should be developed and beautified. On the other hand, half of the money for the reconstruction will likely be stolen. The monument to independence could wait for 10 more years. There are other priorities now.



OSTAP REPETA, 70, MACHINIST.

Of course we need this monument. Our country was oppressed for over 300 years. There have been wars, massacres and the genocide. Finally we became independent and we need to mark it. This monument will remain for our children and grandchildren so that they don't forget when their motherland regained its independence.



FEDIR HRYHOR, 55, MECHANIC.

I don't like the idea of this monument. Yet, if there should be a monument at Maidan, let it be a monument to Georgy Gongadze.



VOLODYMYR KUDYAKOV, 27, UNEMPLOYED.

There should be a monument on the main square, although I don't think that so much money should be spent on it. They have to reduce the cost. But the monument is good; it must be beautiful.



KLAVDIA SHYGAYEVA, 70, VETERAN OF WWII.

I'm against this monument. They should better give us our deposits that they've stolen from us. I put my entire life savings into state Sberbank and never got it back. Pensions are miserable. Let them all burn in hell!



SASHA BYCHKOV, 18, MEDICAL ATTENDANT.

If they got money for it let them put up this monument. Maidan Nezalezhnosti will benefit from it. At least it wouldn't hurt anyone. The main thing is that this monument should be pretty and match the landscape and the atmosphere of Maidan.



LIDIA MOROZOVA, 60, TECHNOLOGIST.

There are already too many of these women-monuments around the city. Take Rodina Mat at Pechersk, and this other one with wings. First they erect a monument and then start a discussion around it, and it turns out that nobody likes it. There are more important things to do. The industry is not working, there are no jobs for our children and for us.



OLHA MARCHUK, 23, MANAGER.

I think that the monument is a waste of money; however, I support the idea of construction under Maidan Nezalezhnosti if they build it properly and it doesn't collapse. Underground malls are convenient and useful. It's a common thing in the West and Japan because it doesn't damage the landscape and doesn't require much space. I think such underground centers have big prospects here.



VIKTOR LYLYK, 25, COOK.

I support this idea in general but 90 million hryvna - that's a lot of money! It is enough to build a church. I think a church would make more sense. People have forgotten how to pray. Ask any passerby to say the "Our Father" - nobody would remember it.



MIKHAIL FILATOV, 22, JOURNALIST.

I think 10 years is not a significant date. It could wait for 10 more years. Besides, the project is rather controversial. First, they couldn't decide what was the best project, then they decided to unite three (projects). That's just too confusing. I also heard it really resembles a monument in Budapest.

We do not want to be bombed!

What follows is a translation of a flyer being handed out at the Feb. 6 street protests by a group calling itself The Congress of Ukrainian Citizens. The group appeared to be related to the dozen or so individuals who had been picketing the U.S. Embassy the day before, calling on the United States to avoid a repeat of the so-called "Yugoslav Scenario."

It remains unclear what would qualify Ukraine for a bombing similar to that endured by Yugoslavia in 1999, since there have been no reports of ethnic cleansing in the country. The radi-

cals were apparently willing to look beyond that in their effort to instill fear in the people that the Gongadze scandal is a "provocation" being carried out by foreigners worried about Ukraine becoming prosperous. That, of course, is exactly how President Leonid Kuchma and Prosecutor General Mykhailo Potebenko have been describing the scandal. Coincidence or not?

Fellow Kyivans!

On foreign money and according to a well-developed scenario, they try to

implement the "Yugoslavian variant" here. Storm troops recruited all over the country are moving to our capital. Their purpose is simple and clear. As soon as our country started to recover, as soon as our people started to feel at least some improvement in their lives, foreign bosses, who do not want to see this country strong and prosperous, started this large-scale provocation.

The scenario is simple and well known - to force the president to sack the reformist cabinet, then to remove the president and hand all the power over the Verkhovna Rada, where the con-

structive majority is already destroyed. In case the people of Ukraine do not agree with such a scenario and say no to everlasting poverty and misery, another violent scenario is to be implemented. With slogans of "establishing the constitutional order," NATO aircraft will bomb Kyiv until our capital is burned to the ground.

LET US DEFEND OUR FAMILIES AND OURSELVES.

The Congress of Ukrainian Citizens

# Sharon faces challenges after landslide victory

JERUSALEM (AP) – Veteran hawk Ariel Sharon will have precious little time to savor his lopsided election victory as prime minister: He must quickly forge a government from the unruly factions in parliament, and faces hostile Palestinians deeply suspicious of his intentions.

Sharon routed incumbent Ehud Barak on Feb. 6 in one of the most one-sided elections in Israel's history, winning 62.6 percent to 37.2 percent as the final few votes were tabulated Feb. 7.

The election triumph capped a remarkable political comeback for Sharon, 72, who until recently had been written off by some as too old and controversial to ever lead an Israeli government.

But the day after the balloting, attention was already focused on whether Sharon would be able to stitch together a stable coalition government and how Palestinians would respond to a man they regard as an arch-villain.

Sharon's first act Feb. 7 was to travel to his large ranch in Israel's southern Negev Desert to visit the grave of his late wife Lily, who died last March of cancer.

During the campaign, Sharon never missed an opportunity to express his strong opposition to the wide-ranging concessions Barak offered the Palestinians in his quest for a peace treaty. To date, Sharon has given no sign he would give the Palestinians land beyond what they control at present, which includes about two-thirds of the Gaza Strip and 42 percent of the

West Bank.

But a leading member of Sharon's Likud Party acknowledged that no peace deal would be possible unless the Israelis offer more to the Palestinians.

"Everyone knows we have to make concessions," said Meir Shetreet, a Likud member of parliament. "No one imagined we could make a comprehensive peace with the Palestinians with the same land that they have today. Of course not."

Palestinians have said they would work with whomever Israel elected. But they have deep misgivings toward Sharon, a former general who has been at the center of Israeli-Palestinian conflicts for the past half-century.

"We respect the Israeli people's choice and we hope the peace process will continue," Nabil Abourdeneh, a top aide to Yasser Arafat, quoted the Palestinian leader as saying. However, Palestinian negotiator Saeb Erekat warned that Sharon's hardline views were a "recipe for war."

In his victory speech early Feb. 7, Sharon immediately staked out a hard line on Jerusalem, one of the most bitterly contested issues between Israel and the Palestinians.

"My government will concentrate on the strengthening of Jerusalem, eternal capital of Israel," he declared. "I call on our Palestinian neighbors to abandon the path of violence and return to the path of talks and resolving the differences between us."

Addressing cheering, chanting supporters at his party headquarters, the



Likud Party leader Ariel Sharon applauds during a rally Feb. 7. (AP)

white-haired Sharon urged Barak's Labor Party to join in a broad-based national government.

Once official election results are announced, within eight days, Sharon will have 45 days to form a coalition government and get it approved by Israel's parliament, or Knesset.

Because no lawmakers' seats were at stake, Sharon inherits the same sharply divided Knesset that Barak faced. Barak could remain caretaker prime minister while Sharon works to form a government.

Many analysts say it could be just as difficult for Sharon to form a stable government as it was for Barak.

# Cuba releases Czechs following apologies

HAVANA (AP) – Two prominent Czechs jailed for more than three weeks in communist Cuba headed home Feb. 6 after they admitted breaking the law in a case that strained relations between two former Cold War allies.

Czech lawmaker Ivan Pilip and Jan Bubenik were arrested Jan. 12 after meeting with Cuban dissidents. They were released Feb. 5 after crafting an admission signed before diplomats from several nations.

"They understand they offended the Cuban people and that was not their intention," said Anders Johnson, secretary-general of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which helped mediate the men's release.

"I guess they finally found an elegant way for us to be released," Pilip told an impromptu airport news conference Feb. 6 after landing in Madrid on a stopover en route to Prague.

Havana had accused Pilip, 37, a former finance minister, and Bubenik, 32, a former student leader, of traveling to Cuba on behalf of American interests, accusations that U.S. authorities called "ludicrous."

The pair met with dissidents after flying in from a meeting with representatives from Freedom House, a pro-democracy group that receives money from both the U.S. government and private sources. Freedom House has declined comment on whether it was involved in the Czechs' trip to Cuba.

Tension between the two countries ran high in recent weeks, with Cuban President Fidel Castro calling the Czech embassy in Havana "a cave of

spies," which had "spent 10 years spying." The Czechs could have faced up to 20 years in prison if convicted of acting against Cuba's security and inciting a rebellion.

Pilip and Bubenik's admission, which they drafted Feb. 4, said they came to Cuba of their own accord and that they didn't know their activities on the island would be considered subversive and illegal, Johnson said.

They acknowledged "that they violated national law and if that violation had offended the Cuban people then they ask for forgiveness," said Juan Pablo Letelier, a Chilean congressman and president of the Inter-Parliamentary Union's human rights committee, at an airport news conference. The statement was not made available.

"I think we were viewed as somebody who is bringing attention to the state of human rights in Cuba," Pilip said, noting also that they were arrested not long before the inauguration of the new Bush administration.

"We were used as messengers, as somebody who is supposed to send a message to the United States that this kind of support for human rights activists will not be tolerated," Pilip said.

In Prague, Czech Foreign Minister Jan Kavan expressed relief at their release. He stressed that they were freed without the official Czech apology Castro demanded. "We have no reason to apologize," Kavan said.

In Cuba, the Communist Party daily *Granma* did not mention the Czechs' release.

# Bosnians mulling diplomatic expulsions

**SARAJEVO (AP)** – Two members of Bosnia's multiethnic presidency accused U.S. and other diplomats on Feb. 6 of interfering in the country's affairs and threatened to expel them. The third said he was opposed.

"The presidency will consider withdrawing credentials to those diplomats who overstepped their mandates. They are not here to choose (local) officials, to declare who is modern and who is not, to influence the voters, to influence the media," said Zivko Radisic, the Serb member of the collective presidency.

Speaking to reporters in Banja Luka, a Bosnian Serb stronghold in the north of the country, he said he had already

warned U.S. Ambassador Thomas Miller, and fellow-American Robert Barry, who heads the Bosnian mission of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe.

Veso Vegar, adviser to Bosnian Croat presidency member Ante Jelavic, confirmed that, "the presidency discussed the possibility of withdrawing credentials to Ambassador Miller and Ambassador Barry."

Jelavic "fully supports Mr. Radisic's statement," he said.

The adviser to the Muslim member, Halid Genjac, said Genjac does not support the other two, because any move to kick out American diplomats "would

have unforeseen consequences on the relations between the United States and Bosnia-Herzegovina."

In most cases, only two of the three presidents have to agree on an issue to make it binding, meaning Genjac would be overruled if the other two decided to expel Miller. Barry, however, is unlikely to be affected – the OSCE and its members are protected by the Dayton agreement that ended the Bosnian war in 1995 and established the international organizations to administer the country.

Bosnian High Representative Wolfgang Petritsch normally has the right to overrule political decisions he deems to be harmful to the cause of ethnic recon-

ciliation and other issues deemed important to postwar Bosnia by the international community. It was unclear, however, whether he had – or would want to exercise – his authority on such an issue.

In a terse statement, the U.S. Embassy rejected the accusations, saying the ambassador's "activities are completely compatible with the responsibilities of every U.S. ambassador."

Luke Zahner, Barry's spokesman, said Barry was not warned of possible expulsion and said that would not be possible in any case since his mandate is linked to the Dayton agree-

ment. "If politicians could replace the implementers of the Dayton agreement, the agreement would not be implementable," he said, "The presidency should be engaged in the real issues concerning Bosnians and not play games like this."

Top international diplomats in Bosnia have been pushing for more moderate, multiethnic and democratic political leaders to succeed the three national parties that led the country into and through the Bosnian war. This is seen by nationalists that still hold many levels of power as interference with internal matters.

## Ecuador in talks to stem deadly protests

**QUITO (AP)** – President Gustavo Noboa's government restarted negotiations Feb. 6 with Indian leaders following deadly protests against recent government-mandated bus fare hikes and fuel subsidy cuts.

Radio and television reports said Vice President Pedro Pinto was hammering out an agreement with Indian leaders and mediators from the Catholic Church for a deal to be approved later by Noboa.

The closed-door negotiations came one day after four civilians were killed in the jungle town of Tena, 120 kilometers southeast of the capital, Quito, during clashes between Indians and soldiers.

The Red Cross confirmed the deaths, saying 16 civilians and nine soldiers were injured.

Antonio Vargas, president of the

Confederation of Indigenous Nationalities, Ecuador's largest Indian movement, said earlier Feb. 6 that his organization was still demanding a repeal of austerity measures as a starting point for negotiations.

"We cannot turn back," Vargas said.

Last month, Noboa doubled the price of home cooking gas, increased gasoline prices 25 percent and hiked public bus fares by as much as 75 percent. The measures are part of an austerity package demanded by the International Monetary Fund as a condition for a \$2 billion assistance loan.

For more than a week, hundreds of Indians have blockaded highways throughout the nation, preventing produce and meat from reaching the capital.

## Indonesian demonstrations bloom



Indonesian Muslim girls hold flowers during a protest calling on President Abdurrahman Wahid to resign in Surabaya, East Java, Indonesia, Feb. 6. Supporters of the embattled head of state warned of a bloody uprising if the president's political opponents try to oust him for alleged corruption. (AP)

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*I'm the MVP!*

North America All-Star Bill Guerin of the Boston Bruins is all smiles as he holds his MVP trophy after the NHL All-Star game in Denver on Feb. 4. Guerin notched a hat trick in North America's 14-12 win. (AP)

## SOCCER ROUNDUP

*Man U cruising to title in England*

**LONDON, Feb 3 (Reuters)** – Manchester United rested several players but were still good enough to beat Everton 1-0 on Feb. 3 and maintain their 15 point lead in the premier league.

Everton defender Steve Watson deflected an Andy Cole shot into his own net in the 52nd minute to give the champions three points with Roy Keane watching from the sidelines and David Beckham taken off in the second half.

United had 62 points and Arsenal stayed second on 47 after scraping a somewhat fortunate 1-0 win at Coventry City, Dennis Bergkamp's 78th minute winner proving decisive.

Liverpool moved up to third on 44 with an impressive 3-0 home win over West Ham United, Robbie Fowler capping a great performance with two goals.

Sunderland slipped down to fourth on 43 after a 1-0 defeat at Derby County while Ipswich Town ended a miserable week with a 2-1 defeat at Leeds United and Chelsea's woeful away form continued with a 2-1 loss at Leicester City. Bradford City remain five adrift at the bottom on 16 points after a 3-0 home defeat by Aston Villa, Middlesbrough and Manchester City drew 1-1 at the Riverside while Tottenham Hotspur chalked up their fourth successive goalless draw, this

time at home to Charlton Athletic.

**Italy**  
Gabriel Batistuta rescued AS Roma with two goals in the last 20 minutes to earn a 2-1 win at Parma that re-established Roma's six-point lead in the Italian first division on Feb. 4.

He joined AC Milan's Andriy Shevchenko at the top of the Serie A goal-scoring chart.

In Rome, Batistuta's Argentina striking partner Hernan Crespo also scored twice as Lazio beat Lecce 3-2 to move level on points with second-placed Juventus, beaten 2-1 at Atalanta Bergamo on Feb. 3.

AC Milan moved up to fifth on 27 points after labouring to a 1-0 win over struggling Reggina at the San Siro.

Fiorentina slipped to sixth on 25 points after conceding a 90th minute goal from Fabio Pecchia in a 1-0 defeat at Napoli. Inter Milan produced their most impressive performance of a poor season to win 3-0 at Bologna.

Bari's Belgian goalkeeper Jean-Francois Gillet saved two penalties but still ended up on the losing side as Brescia beat them 3-1 to move out of the relegation zone.

**Germany**  
Two goals by Brazilian striker Elber helped champions Bayern Munich to win 3-1 at VfL Wolfsburg

on Feb. 3 and recapture Bundesliga leadership.

The Bavarians were clearly the better side in a game played in freezing temperatures and moved two points clear of previous pacesetters Schalke 04.

Bayer Leverkusen gained a measure of revenge over SpVgg Unterhaching by winning a German first division match 2-1 on Feb. 4.

Leverkusen striker Oliver Neuville hit the winner by heading home from a Ze Roberto free kick in the 53rd minute as his side returned to the stadium where they suffered the most embarrassing defeat in their history.

Leverkusen needed just a draw at the modest club from a Munich suburb in the final game of last season to clinch their first German crown. But they lost 2-0 and were beaten into second place by Bayern Munich on goal difference.

All started well for the visitors this time, former Germany striker Ulf Kirsten exploiting a blunder from Unterhaching's Hendrik Herzog to put them ahead in the 26th minute.

But Unterhaching equalized through Oliver Straube in the 32nd minute after Leverkusen goalkeeper Pascal Zuberbuehler had failed to block an effort from Abdelaziz Ahanfouf.

On Feb. 4, troubled Eintracht Frankfurt restored some pride as first half goals from Pawel Kryszalowicz and Marco Gebhardt earned them a 2-0 win at Hansa Rostock in an eventful match featuring three red cards.

**Spain**

Barcelona's 7-0 rout of Athletic Bilbao on Feb. 3 has given the team renewed confidence in their ability to overhaul league leaders Real Madrid.

Hat-trick hero Luis Enrique said the win, which took the Catalans' unbeaten run to 17 matches, was the best way of putting pressure on Real who lead the league by five points heading into Feb. 4 match against Malaga.

Barcelona hit six goals in the first 45 minutes, with midfielder Luis Enrique completing his hat-trick within the first 32 minutes.

Former Arsenal player Marc Overmars capped a superb individual performance with a 67th-minute strike that completed the 7-0 rout.



AC Milan Ukrainian forward Andriy Shevchenko, center, is caught between Reggina defenders Simoes Caneira, left, of Portugal, and Jorge Vargas, of Chile, in an Italian first division soccer match in Milan Feb. 4. Milan edged Reggina 1-0. (AP)

**Sergei Bubka, pole vault legend, retires**

By BERT ROSENTHAL  
The Associated Press

At the 2000 Olympics, Sergei Bubka passed in the pole vault competition until the bar reached 5.70 meters (18 feet, 4 and one-quarter inches). When he was at his best, that would have been an easy height for him.

But in Sydney, it was too much. Bubka missed his starting height three times – running under the bar, not getting close to the height, then knocking the bar off.

It was a sad end to a brilliant career. On Feb. 4, Bubka officially retired at his own pole-vault meet in his hometown of Donetsk, where he set the world indoor record.

The 37-year-old star made a token appearance. Much more memorable will be his record six consecutive world championships, his Olympic gold medal and the 35 times he broke the world record.

There has been no greater vaulter than Bubka, who might have added to his marvelous accomplishments if not for a series of leg and tendon injuries that required surgery in his latter years.

Bubka's indoor world record of 6.15 meters (20 feet, 2 inches) and outdoor record of 6.14 (20 feet 1 and three-quarters inches) set the bar high, and no one has come close.

"I saw him only in his later years, but he still was 'The Man,'" said Stacy Dragila, the first Olympic women's pole vault gold medalist. "Everyone was looking to him. He was full of surprises. It's sad to see him go. He left his mark in history, and they're still chasing his marks."

At 1.84 meters (6 feet and one-half inches) and 80 kilograms (176 pounds), Bubka had enormous strength, speed and gymnastic ability. He gripped the pole higher than most vaulters, giving him extra leverage.

"Technically, he is not that much different from the rest of us. It's the amount of force he's able to generate," said Kory Tarpenning, once the leading men's vaulter in the United States. "He puts 10 or 15 percent more energy into the pole, and that's the reason he goes higher than anyone else."

Even Bubka's older brother, Vasily, was afraid to compete against him.

"When we compete against each other, it is pure torture for me," the elder Bubka said. "The thing is that I worry so much about Sergei that it interferes with my concentration. I'd rather be in the stands when Sergei competes."

Sergei Bubka broke into prominence at the 1983 World Championships at Helsinki, Finland, at only 19 and the No. 3 vaulter on the Soviet team.

Torrential rain forced postponement of the qualifying competition, and heavy rain again hit Olympic Stadium when the 27 vaulters gathered for the final the following day.

In the seven-hour final, under appalling conditions, Bubka was the only vaulter to improve his best, soaring 5.70 (18 feet, 8 one-quarter inches).

He went on to win the next five world titles, the only athlete to accumulate six golds. His defense of the title at the 1997 championships at Athens, where his chances were dismissed, was one of the greatest moments in track and field history.

"The World Championships are special to me just for being the World Championships," Bubka said. "It is a very high-level competition, maybe the toughest competition for any athlete."

His performances at the Olympics were not as dominant. He won gold in 1988, with an Olympic-record of 5.90 meters (19 feet, 4 and one-quarter inches), but that was his sole medal in four Summer Games.

Everywhere else, though, Bubka was the best.

"Sometimes," he said, "when I think back to what I have done, I believe that I have contributed to the history of athletics."

Bubka has left vaulting, but not sports. At Sydney, he was the first athlete elected to the International Olympic Committee's Executive Board, and will attend his second meeting at Dakar, Senegal, next week. He also is a member of the Evaluation Commission for the 2008 Olympics, and will shortly visit five of the bid cities – Beijing, Osaka, Toronto, Istanbul and Paris.



Sergei Bubka, seen in this undated file photo undoing his shoe-strings during a competition, retired on Feb. 4. (AP)

SPORTS HIGHLIGHTS

*(All times local)*

**SOCCER**

*Feb 10*  
Dynamo Kyiv vs. Yugoslavian Legion  
Novy Kanal, 4:30 p.m.

**British Premier League**

*Feb 10*  
Matchup TBA  
UT-1, 5 p.m.

Matchup TBA  
Novy Kanal, 5 p.m.

Matchup TBA  
REN TV, 11:30 p.m.

*Feb 11*  
Charlton vs. Newcastle  
Sky Sports, 5 p.m.

Charlton vs. Newcastle  
Novy Kanal, 11:20 p.m.

*Feb 12*  
West Ham vs. Coventry  
Sky Sports, 9 p.m.

**Italian Serie A**

*Feb 11*  
Lazio vs. Atalanta  
STB, 4 p.m.

Bologna vs. Roma  
STB, 9:30 p.m.

**Spanish First Division**

*Feb 11*  
Espanol vs. Celta Vigo  
TET, 6:40 p.m.

**BASKETBALL**

**NEBL**

*Feb 2-4*  
1860 Munich 1, Borussia 0  
VfL Wolfsburg 1, Bayern 3  
FC Cologne 0, SC Freiburg 1  
Energie 4, Schalke 0  
VfL Bochum 1, Hertha 3  
Werder Bremen 3, Hamburger 1  
VfB Stuttgart 6, FC Klautern 1  
Unterhaching vs. Bayer

*Feb 13*  
Kyiv - Kalev  
Sports Palace, 6 p.m.

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Opera Cafe, 51/53 Volodymyrska. Tel: 228-2836.  
Saigon, Olimpiysky Stadium.  
Split Sports Bar, 6 Prorizna, 4th Floor. Tel: 229-4732.  
Uncle Sam's, 37 Zhlylyanska. Tel: 227-2000.  
The Wall, 2 Besarabska. Tel: 235-8045.  
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EUROPEAN SOCCER

BRITISH PREMIER										
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Man. United	26	19	5	2	58	16	62			
Arsenal	26	13	8	5	42	23	47			
Liverpool	25	13	5	7	46	27	44			
Sunderland	26	12	7	7	31	24	43			
Ipswich	25	12	4	9	37	32	40			
Leicester	25	11	6	8	26	27	39			
Leeds	25	11	5	9	37	33	38			
Chelsea	25	10	7	8	47	32	37			
Newcastle	25	11	4	10	32	35	37			
Charlton	26	10	7	9	34	38	37			
Tottenham	26	8	9	9	30	34	33			
Aston Villa	24	8	8	8	27	26	32			
Southampton	25	8	8	9	29	34	32			
West Ham	25	7	10	8	32	30	31			
Everton	25	7	6	12	26	37	27			
Derby	26	6	9	11	27	43	27			
Mid'trough	26	5	11	10	30	33	26			
Man. City	26	5	8	13	30	45	23			
Coventry	26	5	6	15	23	45	21			
Bradford	25	3	7	15	16	46	16			

*Feb. 3*  
AC Milan 1, Reggina 0  
Perugia 1, Verona 0  
Atalanta 2, Juventus 1  
Bari 1, Brescia 3  
Bologna 0, Inter Milan 3  
Lazio 3, Lecce 2

*Feb. 3*  
Man. United 1, Everton 0  
Middlesbrough 1, Man. City 1  
Tottenham 0, Charlton 0

*British FA Cup, Fourth Round Feb. 6*  
Middlesbrough 0, Wimbledon 0

GERMAN BUNDESLIGA										
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
Bayern	20	12	3	5	43	23	39			
Schalke	20	11	4	5	40	23	37			
Borussia	20	11	3	6	31	26	36			
Bayer	19	10	4	5	32	21	34			
Hertha	20	11	1	8	42	36	34			
K'lautern	20	9	4	7	27	29	31			
SC Freiburg	20	8	6	6	28	21	30			
FC Cologne	20	8	5	7	38	31	29			
VfL Wolfsburg	20	7	7	6	37	27	28			
Werder	20	7	6	7	28	30	27			
1860	20	7	6	7	25	33	27			
Energie	20	7	2	11	26	35	23			
Hamburger	20	6	3	11	37	39	21			
VfB Stuttgart	20	5	6	9	31	35	21			
Unterhaching	19	5	6	8	19	29	21			
Hansa	19	6	3	10	19	31	21			
Eintracht	19	6	2	11	23	36	20			
VfL Bochum 20	5	3	12	19	40	18				

*Feb. 2-4*  
Hansa Rostock vs. Eintracht

*1860 Munich 1, Borussia 0*  
VfL Wolfsburg 1, Bayern 3  
FC Cologne 0, SC Freiburg 1  
Energie 4, Schalke 0  
VfL Bochum 1, Hertha 3  
Werder Bremen 3, Hamburger 1  
VfB Stuttgart 6, FC Klautern 1  
Unterhaching vs. Bayer

*German Cup, Semifinals Feb. 6*  
FC Union Berlin 2, Borussia Muenchengladbach 2 (Berlin advances 4-2 on penalty shootout).

ITALIAN SERIE A										
Team	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts			
AS Roma	16	11	3	2	31	12	36			
Juventus	17	9	6	2	29	15	33			
Lazio	16	9	3	4	30	18	30			
Atalanta	17	8	5	4	22	15	29			
Florentina	16	6	7	3	30	23	25			
Perugia	17	7	4	6	23	20	25			
Bologna	16	7	3	6	19	17	24			
AC Milan	16	6	6	4	26	24	24			
Parma	16	6	5	5	19	16	23			

NATIONAL HOCKEY LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE											WESTERN CONFERENCE										
Atlantic Division											Central Division										
W	L	T	OL	Pts	GF	GA	W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	
New Jersey	28	17	9	2	67	181	124	St. Louis	34	11	6	2	76	176	115						
Philadelphia	27	17	9	1	64	159	145	Detroit	31	16	4	4	70	159	141						
Pittsburgh	25	19	6	2	58	166	159	Nashville	23	24	7	2	55	135	145						
N.Y. Rangers	21	29	3	1	46	168	194	Chicago	21	25	5	2	49	145	152						
N.Y. Islanders	14	31	5	2	35	118	164	Columbus	17	26	6	4	44	118	156						

Northeast Division											Northwest Division										
W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	
Ottawa	29	15	7	1	66	169	131	Colorado	35	9	8	1	79	173	117						
Toronto	25	18	7	4	61	159	133	Vancouver	28	18	4	4	64	175	159						
Buffalo	26	20	5	1	58	135	122	Edmonton	25	21	8	1	59	146	149						
Boston	23	20	6	5	57	137	156	Calgary	18	21	10	4	50	130	152						
Montreal	18	29	5	3	44	135	155	Minnesota	19	22	8	3	49	116	125						

Southeast Division											Pacific Division										
W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	W	L	T	OL	Pts	F	A	
Washington	24	19	9	1	58	143	135	San Jose	29	15	9	0	67	149	121						
Carolina	23	20	6	2	54	135	140	Dallas	29	18	4	1	63	142	125						
Atlanta	16	26	9	2	43	145	180	Phoenix	23	16	12	1	59	133	125						
Florida	12	27	8	7	39	119	163	Los Angeles	23	21	8	1	55	178	163						
Tampa Bay	15	31	5	3	38	133	188	Anaheim	16	29	6	4	42	127	170						

*Feb. 1-2*  
Detroit 3, Columbus 2, OT  
N.Y. Rangers 4, Montreal 2  
Toronto 4, Carolina 3  
Philadelphia 5, Pittsburgh 1  
Florida 5, Buffalo 2  
N.Y. Islanders 3, New Jersey 2  
Edmonton 3, Chicago 2  
Nashville 3, Anaheim 0  
Montreal 3, Boston 0

Washington 5, Toronto 4  
Philadelphia 2, N.Y. Islanders 0  
Tampa Bay 4, Buffalo 2  
Carolina 3, Atlanta 1  
Columbus 2, St. Louis 2, tie  
Anaheim 4, Phoenix 2  
Calgary 5, Chicago 3  
Dallas 4, San Jose 2  
Vancouver 5, Colorado 3  
Nashville 6, Los Angeles 4

*Feb. 6*  
Boston 4, Philadelphia 3  
St. Louis 2, Columbus 2, tie  
Buffalo 6, N.Y. Rangers 3  
Detroit 4, Ottawa 2  
Minnesota 4, Tampa Bay 2  
New Jersey 4, Montreal 0  
San Jose 1, Calgary 1, tie  
Chicago 3, Los Angeles 3, tie

*Two points for a win, one point for a tie and overtime loss.*

NATIONAL BASKETBALL LEAGUE

EASTERN CONFERENCE											WESTERN CONFERENCE										
Atlantic Division											Midwest Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB						
Philadelphia	36	13	.735	-	Utah	31	15	.674	-												
New York	28	18	.609	61-2	Dallas	30	15	.667	-1-2												
Miami	30	20	.600	6-1-2	San Antonio	31	18	.633	1-1-2												
Orlando	24	23	.511	11	Minnesota	31	18	.633	1-1-2												
Boston	21	27	.438	14 1-2	Denver	27	23	.540	6												
N.Y. Islanders	16	34	.320	20 1-2	Houston	23	25	.479	9												
Washington	12	36	.250	23 1-2	Vancouver	13	35	.271	19												

Central Division											Pacific Division										
W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L	Pct	GB						
Milwaukee	29	17	.630	-	Portland	34	15	.694	-												
Toronto	25	23	.521	5	Sacramento	31	14	.689	1												
Charlotte	25	25	.500	6	L.A. Lakers	30	16	.652	2-1-2												
Indiana	21	27	.438	9	Phoenix	28	19	.596	5												
Cleveland	20	26	.435	9	Seattle	28	23	.549	7												
Detroit	19	30	.388	11 1-2	L.A. Clippers	16	33	.327	18												
Atlanta	16	32	.333	14	Golden State	14	33	.298	19												
Chicago	6	42	.125	24																	

*Feb. 2*  
Orlando 82, Atlanta 83  
Indiana 103, Denver 94  
Orlando 123, Philadelphia 117, 2OT  
Miami 91, Atlanta 80  
New York 95, New Jersey 71  
Boston 102, Detroit 95  
Sacramento 105, Vancouver 82  
L.A. Lakers 93, Charlotte 87  
Feb. 3  
Dallas 103, Washington 85  
Philadelphia 107, Cleveland 103  
Golden State 92, New Jersey 97  
Detroit 101, San Antonio 108

Orlando 82, Atlanta 83  
Boston 86, Miami 112  
Utah 99, Houston 97  
Feb. 4  
Seattle 92, Toronto 94  
Washington 87, New York 103  
Charlotte 87, Denver 94  
Milwaukee 117, Vancouver 120  
Minnesota 108, Phoenix 88  
L.A. Clippers 118, L.A. Lakers 95  
Feb. 5  
Toronto 110, Boston 98  
Dallas 91, Atlanta 81

Philadelphia 99, Denver 80  
Houston 100, New York 86  
San Antonio 109, Golden State 85  
Seattle 95, Vancouver 82  
L.A. Clippers 102, Chicago 82  
Feb. 6  
Orlando 109, Charlotte 83  
Detroit 94, Denver 83  
New Jersey 100, Atlanta 84  
Miami 102, Indiana 89  
Milwaukee 112, Sacramento 109  
Phoenix 97, Chicago 80

SOCCER LEADERS

**Leading scorers in European soccer leagues**  
*(Through Feb. 4)*

**English Premier League**

15 - Marcus Stewart (Ipswich Town)  
14 - Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink (Chelsea)  
13 - Thierry Henry (Arsenal), Teddy Sheringham (Man. United)  
12 - Mark Viduka (Leeds United),  
11 - Emile Heskey (Liverpool)  
10 - James Beattie (Southampton), Jonatan Johansson (Charlton Athletic), Kevin Phillips (Sunderland)  
9 - Alen Boksic (Middlesbrough), Paolo Di Canio (West Ham United)  
8 - Michael Owen (Liverpool), David Beckham (Man. United), Paulo Wanchope (Man. City), Ole Gunnar Solskjaer (Manchester United), Frederic Kanoute (West Ham United)  
7 - Serhiy Rebrov (Tottenham Hotspur), Les Ferdinand (Tottenham Hotspur), Gianfranco Zola (Chelsea), Gustavo Poyet (Chelsea), Andy Cole (Man. United), Robbie Keane (Leeds United)

**Italian Serie A**

13 - Andriy Shevchenko (AC Milan), Gabriel Batistuta (AS Roma)  
11 - Hernan Crespo (Lazio)  
10 - Dario Hubner (Brescia), Francesco Totti (AS Roma)  
9 - Enrico Chiesa (Fiorentina), Cristiano Lucarelli (Lecce)  
8 - Roberto Carlos Sosa (Udinese)  
7 - Filippo Inzaghi, David Trezeguet (Juventus)  
6 - Nuno Gomes (Fiorentina), Marcelo Santos (Lazio), Davor Vugrinec (Lecce), Marco Materazzi (Perugia), Emiliano Bonazzoli (Verona), Luca Toni (Vicenza)

**Spanish First Division**

16 - Javi Moreno (Alaves)  
12 - Raul (Real Madrid), Rivaldo (Barcelona)  
10 - Roy Makaay (Deportivo Coruna), Dely Valdes (Malaga)  
Patrick Klivert (Barcelona)  
9 - Guti (Real Madrid), Catanha (Celta Vigo)  
8 - Dario Silva (Malaga), Edgaras Jankauskas (Real Sociedad), John Carew (Valencia)  
7 - Gaizka Mendietza (Valencia), Victor (Villarreal), Oli (Real Oviedo), Michel (Rayo Vallecano), Juan Sanchez (Valencia), Ariel Ibagaza (Real Mallorca)

**German Bundesliga**

14 - Ebbe Sand (Schalke 04)  
12 - Sergej Barbarez (Hamburg SV), Elber (Bayern Munich),

## How to place an Employment Ad in the Post

<p><b>In Person</b> Bring your ad to our office at 34 Lesya Ukrainka Blvd., 5th floor, Room 501 from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Ask for Tetyana Purik.</p>	<p><b>By Fax or Phone</b> Send a fax including number of boxes, number of issues and form of payment to <b>254-3113</b> or call <b>573-8353</b>. e-mail: purik@kppublications.com</p>	<p><b>Deadline</b> The deadline for Thursday Employment ads in the Post is one week before publication.</p> <p><b>Payment</b> Pre-payment is required in all cases.</p>	<p><b>Mini Resume</b> Send us a brief CV (it should be no more than 20 words) and we'll run it in 2 issues of the Post for only Hr 50. Please stop by at "Vash Dom" agency, Triokhsviatitelska St. 3 to drop off your CV. Tel: 228-4010</p> <p><b>And don't forget to post your resume on www.ukrjob.net - FOR FREE!</b></p>
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# THE POST



**ukrjob.net**  
шаг вперед

**www.ukrjob.net**  
шаг вперед!

Сайт, где работа находит профессионалов

A leading international FMCG company is looking for

### GROUP BRAND MANAGER

**RESPONSIBILITIES:**

- development of the promotion plan, trade plan and new products;
- coordination of product and Brand projects;
- management of the market research plan;
- planning of Brand strategy within budget.

**REQUIREMENTS:**

- aged under 35
- University degree
- 2+years relevant experience in international FMCG company
- good knowledge of English

Attractive compensation with opportunity to grow.

**STAFF STANDARD** | For confidential consideration please send your resume to STAFF STANDARD by fax 517-0859, 517-1463, by e-mail: stafstan@adamant.net or to Kyiv 02002, PO BOX 326

Company is looking for the

### HEAD OF MARKETING DEPARTMENT

**Requirements:**

- Higher education
- knowledge of English and/or German
- aged under 35

The position is open to the 23rd of February

Please send your CV by fax 463-89-51 or by e-mail: Kyiv@dimtshuk.relc.com

**ExecuSearch International**

### JOB OPPORTUNITIES

Sales Representative (Dnepropetrovsk, FMCG, higher education, driving licence, computer skills, good English); **Forwarder** (not less than 5 year experience working with the railway freight); **Sales Representative** (technical education, experience in sales of industrial equipment, fluent English, up to 30); **Assistant to a Lawyer** (legal education or relevant experience in patent law, fluent English); **Brand Manager** (FMCG, relevant experience, good English); **Sales Manager** (home appliances, more than 3 years of experience in the same field within a multinational company, fluent English); **Marketing Specialist** (experience in product promotion and advertising in the field of electronics, fluent English); **Logistic Specialist** (3 years of experience within a multinational company, skills in working with Ukrainian partners, fluent English); **Client Service Manager at a shop** (jewellery, higher education, relevant experience, some English, up to 35); **Financial Manager** (strong managerial experience and substantial knowledge in local and western accounting; previous background in advertising business will be an asset); **Regional Representative in Donetsk and Mariupol areas** (profound background in sales of sophisticated industrial equipment; technical education preferably in electrical or heat power engineering)

Phone: 228-7444, 228-1997 (Mon - Fri, 9 am - 6 pm) Fax: 228-2059 (24 hrs)  
Web site: www.ruscon.ru E-mail: esearch@esearch.kiev.ua



**ITP**  
A Human Solution to Your IT Problems

Business Center «Trade Lines», 4th floor, Steirenska str., 36, Kiev. Our phone numbers are: (380-44) 490-74-38, 490-74-39, 458-58-80

On behalf of our client we are looking for:

- Programmer-analyst:** SQL, VB, HTML, ERP-systems, fluent English — 2+ y. e.
- Sales Director:** experience in sales of telecommunication equipment — 3+ y. e.
- Administrator of Platinum ERP system:** SQL, MS SQL Server, Win NT — 2+ y. e.
- Problem Analyst:** experience in target setting for developing of ERP and CRM systems — 2+ y. e.

www.itp-intl.com  
mail@itp-intl.com

WESTERN COMPANY IS LOOKING FOR

### CONTROL SYSTEMS SALES ENGINEER

**Successful candidates must have:**

- Education in Automation with at least 3 years of experience selling Control Systems and Industrial Automation products and services.
- Working knowledge and understanding of Industrial Automation of Gas, Oil and Power production and operational (e.g. train operation, planning and scheduling aspects).
- Flexible to working hours and extensive travelling.
- Energetic, aggressive and self-motivated.
- English, PC.

Please send your CV to: Larissahr@hotmail.com or by fax: 446-7211



### PERSONNEL

SEARCH & SELECTION, CONSULTING & ANALYSIS

Financial Manager	Large foreign company seeking Financial Controller Assistant, experienced in National Standard Accounting, GAAP (IAS), financial analysis, transformation of NSA into GAAP/IAS, English or German - fluent, ready to business trips around Ukraine
Finance and Accounting Trainer	Experience as a Finance manager or a Chief Accountant in foreign company 3+years, higher economic education, experience in conducting trainings for accounting and finance specialists, good knowledge of GAAP (IAS), English fluent
General Director	Foreign production company seeking male, 35-50 years old, experienced in production management, English - good working knowledge
Personal Assistant for General Manager	Famous foreign company seeking female, 25-37 years old, 1+ years experience as Personal Assistant in foreign company, English - fluent, French or German - intermediate, strong PC skills (Word, Excel, Outlook, PowerPoint)

All customers offer interesting work and competitive salary  
All applications will be handled in strict confidence  
Contact: 464-05-16 (serial), Kyiv, 01001, box #264, E-mail: personnel@personnel.kiev.ua



**FORCE YOUR BORING JOB TO QUIT?**

Press buttons 461 7917 on your fax machine.  
Start up your ad career in BATES Ukraine.  
DTP and Art Director can save any changes.

hr@bates.kiev.ua

# ATTENTION!

**We are looking for girls from 18 till 22 years old to work as barmen or waiters in a new Eric's Bar.**

Please send your CV by fax 235-9472 or bring it to our address:  
str. 20 krasnoarmejskaya,  
Eric's Bierstube.

The Kyiv Post newspaper is currently looking for the following excellent candidates to join its sales team:

## Sales Managers

**Requirements:**

- Excellent communication, negotiation and presentation skills;
- 3+ years of experience in sales, work experience in advertising agency is a plus;
- Aggressive and goal oriented;
- Team-player with strong leadership skills;
- Fluent English;
- PC literate;

We offer a competitive salary and an excellent opportunity for carrier growth

Please send your CV with the code KPS to len@kppublications.com

Western Consulting Company has the following openings:

### SALES CONSULTANT

**Requirements:**

- Business to business sales or consulting background
- Excellent sales skills
- At least 2 years' experience in sales of complex solutions/projects
- Substantial understanding of business processes at enterprises
- Basic accounting
- Advanced computer skills
- Fluent English

### CHANNELS MANAGER

**Requirements:**

- 2+ years experience in developing and supporting channels programs in hi-end software or hardware market
- Software or hardware complex sales experience
- Fluent English
- Ability to travel

Please E-mail your detailed CV to mailbox@RobertsonBlums.com.ua  
Home Page: www.RobertsonBlums.com

**AMERICAN ACADEMY OF FOREIGN LANGUAGES**

Position Announcement for Native English-speaking

### DIRECTOR OF STUDIES

Relevant education and sound experience in teaching English as the second language are required. Knowledge of Ukrainian or Russian will be a plus.

Please contact us for detailed job description tel. 227 07 82  
E-mail address: academy@carrier.kiev.ua

**ONLY PEOPLE OF GREAT INTELLECT**



**PLACE THEIR RESUME IN OUR NEWSPAPER. THE CHOICE IS YOURS.**

## Exchange Financial Services

### Representative Office in Kyiv



**NEW DEALING CENTER REQUIRES**

**Teams and individuals experienced in FOREX, FUTURES and LONDON METALS**

**Opportunities for English speaking, well-connected and highly motivated trainees**

**Best terms, conditions and opportunities in the region.**

Exchange Financial Services Inc.  
is a Council Member  
of the Association of Physical Currency Dealers,  
London, England

**Telephone: 490 3900 and ask for James  
or fax your resume in English to 490 3909**




## We are looking for a highly motivated Merchandising Manager

The position is located in Kyiv (Ukraine)

**The role:**  
To provide merchandising support to the UMC Corporate and Dealer shops

**Requirements:**

- Proven success in sales and/or marketing with a top performing company
- Profound knowledge of distribution networks building and management
- Creative, self-motivated and enthusiastic personality
- Willingness to travel a lot around the country, valid driver license
- English, Ukrainian and Russian language skills

**If you meet our requirements and want to be a part of a growing and dynamic company we would be pleased to hear from you.**

**Please, send your CV in strict confidence  
By fax +38 (044) 516 50 83  
By e-mail: recruitment@umc.com.ua**

**Finance**

**RESUME** MINI Need a specialist in reporting, taxation and financial management? A Big five firm expert, certified auditor with extensive business experience will take care of your company financial and tax matters. Please, direct request for detailed resume to finance\_manager@gmail.com.ua

**Office Manager/Administrator**

**RESUME** MINI Lady, 30, University degree. 4 years experience with Ukrainian company-IBM-business partner. PC-skills, Russian, Ukrainian, English (average), PR-essential, business ethics. Hard working, responsible, initiative, team worker. CV and Letter of introduction upon request. Tel.: (044) 552-54-53 Galina. e-mail: gala@mci.kiev.ua

**RESUME** MINI UF, 30, higher economics education. Excellent English spoken and written, possible Greek, excellent PC and typing skills, business correspondence. Successful experience with Western companies during last 4 years (Greece); experience with multinational companies in Ukraine since 1990. Driver's license. Good translation and communication skills, hardworking, self-motivated, able to learn fast. I will consider position of office-manager, personal assistant. Tel.: 235-75-97 (h), e-mail: iramich\_ua@yahoo.com Irina

**RESUME** MINI UF, 25, university degree in linguistics, fluent Spanish, good English, PC skills, experience of work. Looking for a position of PA/Secretary, office-manager, interpreter/translator. Please call: 8-050-313-6391, 516-6779, Nadiya, e-mail: esperanza@gmail.com.ua

**Office Manager/Administrator**

**RESUME** MINI Young lady 27 y.o. University degree, English skills, PC skills, pleasant appearance, is looking for position of a manager, administrator, office-manager. 518-1434 Elena

**RESUME** MINI Nataliya, 28, higher economic education, fluent English, French, PC skills, driver's license. Hardworking, communicative, self-motivated, responsible. Looking for a position of PA, office-manager, interpreter. Resume and references upon request. Tel.: 565-8015

**QA/Engineering**

**RESUME** MINI UF, 26, master in chemistry (fats), 5 years experience with Western & local companies, good knowledge of laboratory equipment, food and laundry additives, good English, basic Polish. Hardworking. Irina (0572) 526719, e-mail: apg50@hotmail.com

**PA/Office Manager**

**RESUME** MINI UF, 23, University degree in linguistics (honour graduate), 1,5 years experience as office-manager within Western companies. Relevant experience as marketing assistant. Fluent English, spoken German and French (Ukrainian and Russian are native). Excellent PC skills. Strong organizational and communication skills, self-motivated, responsible. Looking for the position of a marketing assistant, office-manager, personal assistant, secretary. 219 48 84 Valentina e-mail: nikiforova@gala.net

**Personal Assistant**

**RESUME** MINI Educated lady is looking for interesting job. Analytical, responsible, creative. Knowledge of English, Greek, PR, etiquette, PC skills, driver's license. Call Vita: 413-0476, pager 069-6332.

**RESUME** MINI UF, 25, university degree in Linguistics. Perfect English, fair French, proficient PC user, 6 years of relevant experience with Western companies. Reference Letters available. Objectives: PA, translator/interpreter, office manager. Nataliya. Tel: 202-6966 (mob) 443-3562 (evening), e-mail: evgen@eltiks.kiev.ua

**Personal Assistant/Driver**

**RESUME** MINI Luchita, 30, with education and talent, could help find out a well-balanced way to solve your different problems. Experience in business and team problem solving. Possibility to work part or full time. English. Own car. 268-34-50 (h)

**Business/Management**

**RESUME** MINI UM, 32, higher education (humanitarian and economical), Higher School of advertisement and PR. 7 years of managerial experience of advertising campaign, HR, PR technologies, mass media market. Knowledge of accounting, law, ability to work independently. 519-2993 Yuri.

**RESUME** MINI UM 24, University degree (International Economic Relations), Studied in the US, internship in Germany. Fluent English, good German. Managerial experience (investment banking, shipping, agriculture) with western and local companies. Mobile: 8-067-7051140. Denis

**RESUME** MINI UM, proven experience in project implementation and development, both commercial and donor sponsored. Fluent English, computer literate, driver's license. Tel.: 220-88-75 (h), 561-8555- (cell). E-mail: to63@mail.ru

**RESUME** MINI Male, 30. National University degree. Working in Western companies as a project manager. Experience in development of different projects with outstanding trade marks in Kiev and region more than 5 years. English, Ukrainian, Russian, analytical and hardworking. Driving license, own car. Tel/fax : 565-9440 Vitaliy

**Driver**

**RESUME** MINI Reliable, trustworthy and experienced driver with his own Ford Scorpio is looking for a permanent position with the Western company. Conversational English. Experience with Western companies. References. 201-9631.

**RESUME** MINI Professional driver, 31, with KIA Potentia luxury car, provides all kinds of transportation services. 11 years experience as driver for VIP in foreign companies, intermediate English, references available. Mob. (067) 707-4633, home (044) 550-2997 Roman.

**Economics/finance**

**RESUME** MINI UF, 25, university degree in economics. Fluent English, PC skills. 3 years of working experience as a treasurer. Looking for a serious job. Call Maria 472-7225

**RESUME** MINI UM, business education, solid experience in finance, fluent English, computer skills. Looking for a job of financial manager, investment analyst. Tel.: (067) 247-7689

**Engineering**

**RESUME** MINI UM, 27, PhD Mechanical Engineering, 5 years experience with multinationals, hands on experience with Western and local production equipment, Fluent English, basic German, good Polish. Managerial experience (project leader, manager). Peter 216-8455, (0572) 520844, e-mail: apg2002@yahoo.com

**Expatriate**

**RESUME** MINI Seeking expatriate / semi-expatriate position (independent or working with staff) in Kharkiv; English, Russian, Ukrainian; Canadian government and project experience. ailb@euroseek.com

**Interpreter/Translator**

**RESUME** MINI Nataliya, 27, university degree in English and German languages and foreign literature, looking for the position of a PA, interpreter/translator, administrative assistant. Relative work experience with Western company. 3 years experience as an English language professor. Communicative team worker, excellent motivation, willingness and responsibility for hard work, creative and open to new ideas. Professional English, good German, basic French, PC skills. Contact 418-9063 (h), e-mail: balandina@hotmail.com

**RESUME** MINI Lady, 24. University degree in foreign philology; 2 years experience in JV, PC skills, responsible, hard-working, reliable, is looking for a position of a personal assistant, interpreter/translator, office-manager. Please call 566-4489 Natasha.

**RESUME** MINI UF, 28, Interpreter (English, basic German), embassy experience, knowledge of military terminology, independent, capable to work under pressure, travels are welcome, professional typist. E-mail: eclaircie\_j@hotmail.com

**Lawyer**

**RESUME** MINI Ukrainian lady, 26, high legal/economical education, 3 years experience as a lawyer with foreign companies, business planning (2 years), accounting, auditing, management, fluent English, basic French, high motivation, responsible, initiative. 476-0055.

**RESUME** MINI UF, 27, university degree in Corporate Law and International Finance. 5 years experience with Western company. Fluent English, good Spanish, PC skills, driver's license. Mob: 067- 247-5901

## DEPUTY EDITOR

Position involves editing and running various aspects of the Kyiv Post.

A minimum of three years experience in journalism and at least one year in editing an English-language paper required.

Native English-speaking candidates with experience in the CIS strongly preferred. Knowledge of AP style a must. Non-native speaking candidates must have at least three years editing experience at a Western news service.

Preference will be given to candidates with experience editing English-language newspapers in foreign countries.

Send your CV by e-mail to viki@kppublications.com or fax it to 254-3113.

**Marketing/Sales**

**RESUME** MINI UM 25 University degree, Marketing. Actual business experience in the area of brand development (FMCG and medical products) with western companies. Deep knowledge of marketing research and media-planning routine. Proven managerial skills. Ability to work hard, meet deadlines and desire to grow along with a company. Cell: 205-2745 e-mail: u\_237v@hotmail.com

**RESUME** MINI Male, 31. University degree. 5 + years of experience of work as a sales and product manager in a Western company and in JV. Highly experienced in selling industrial goods. PC literate, driver's license, fluent German and English. Excellent communication skills, reliable and responsible. Hermann tel.: 252-66-31 (pr); e-mail: hh2002@gmail.com.ua

**RESUME** MINI Ein zielbewusster junger Fachmann (25 J.a.) im Bereich Vertrieb und Marketing. 5 jährige Erfahrung in Marketing Forschungen und Distribution (FMCG): Wirtschaftsuniabsolvent (Schwerpunkt Marketing): deutsch, englisch, russisch, ukrainisch: EDV-fortgeschritten. Igor 242-50-91(abend), bewerbung@gmail.com.ua

**RESUME** MINI UF, 35. Solid sales experience. Experience in marketing (promotion). Contacts in about 300 companies. Listening, analytical, decision making skills. Higher education, English, PC. Position in sales, marketing (advertising), customer service. Call manager Irina 531-9559 (w), 476-8412 (h)

## A GREAT CHANCE to work on Malta in a RESTAURANT

We are looking for ladies 20- 30 years of age. Fluent English is required. We pay for your flight.

Please fax your CV by fax 8-10-356-45 0638 or by e-mail: d.vella@global.net.mt

**Miscellaneous**

**RESUME** MINI Male, 19, national university, law faculty. Experience of work with normative base. Ukrainian, Russian, English (Fluent), German, French (basic). Looking for a part-time job as an assistant to a lawyer. Good PC skills. Vitaly, tel.: 562-3983

**RESUME** MINI UF, 27, university degree. 7 years of managerial experience with Western companies. Strong communication, negotiating and analytical skills. Fluent English, good French. Driver's license. Looking for a serious job. Tel.: 531-6797

**RESUME** MINI UF, master degree in international management, 5+ years work experience in foreign company (customer service & logistic), PC skills, English. Detailed CV upon request. Tel/fax: 443-4371

**RESUME** MINI UM, 25. MBA. Degree in linguistics. English (incl. Technical, military), Spanish. Excellent PC skills. Work experience as PA, interpreter/translator, logistics assistant in NGOs (TACIS, OSCE/ODIHR, OECD) and Western companies. Good networking. Looking for appropriate position. Tel/fax: 484-7414 (home). E-mail: vish@gu.kiev.ua, mobile: 8-068-322-0633. Valery V. Shirokov.

**RESUME** MINI UF, 33, HE (Linguistics, Management). Russian, Ukrainian, English, basic Italian. Excellent PC. Driving license. 6-years experience in USAID and TACIS projects. Responsible, hard-working, eager to learn, goal-oriented. Looking for a serious job in Odessa. Tel/fax: (0482)678665 Vera. E-mail: cosmarukr@paco.net

**RESUME** MINI UF, 34, university degree in English philology. PC skills. Responsible, hardworking, reliable. 5 years experience in sales. Looking for the position of PA, office-manager, sales manager. Tel.: 518-2148 (after 9 p.m.)

## HOW TO PLACE A CLASSIFIED AD IN THE POST

### IN PERSON

Bring your ad & payment in cash to: "Vash Dom" agency, Triohsviatitska St., 3 (opposite the Ukrainian House right off Khreschatyk.) tel. 228-4010

### BY PHONE

Now you can place your classified ad over the phone by calling 543-3844 or 543-9938. All ads will be credited directly to your monthly telephone bill.

### PLACEMENT ADS OR LONG-TERM ADS

Call Vladimir Kharitonenko at 573-8353 or send a fax to 254-3113. E-mail: volodya@kppublications.com

### DEADLINE:

The deadline for Thursday Classified ads in the Post is Friday at 6 p.m

### CLASSIFIED AD COSTS ARE:

Normal word 6 Hr  
Bold or CAPITAL word 7 Hr  
BOLD and CAPITAL word 8 Hr  
In frame 20 Hr  
A boxed ad costs \$80 per issue.

## THE POST




**KeyRealty**

**FLATS, OFFICES, RESIDENTIAL HOUSES**  
For lease & sale  
**HOTEL APARTMENTS**  
Western management

Call: 228-2776; 229-0690 Nadia or David Green  
krealty@zeos.net

**Contemporary Office Space**

- Modern Building Systems
- Large Open Floorplates
- The Best Value in Kyiv




**ARTYOM BUSINESS CENTER**

**238 64 46**

### USAID VEHICLE SALE

USAID will be conducting a vehicle sale. Viewing of the vehicle and an opportunity to bid will take place on 24 and 25 of February 2001 at USAID Motor pool, located at 1/3 Yaroslavskaya Street.

### ATTICS AND PENTHOUSES FOR SALE

- Panasa Myrnoho St. — 220 sqm or 450 sqm
- Basseina St. — 220 sqm or 450 sqm
- Kostelna St. — 230 sqm or 430 sqm
- Turhenivska St. — 750 sqm

**490-2010** E-mail: citycon@citycon.kiev.ua  
**491-4949** http://www.citycon.com.ua

**INTERNATIONAL OFFICE AND HOTEL CENTER**



**Only 1 unit left on the ground floor**

- 114 sqm.
- Unique environment
- Great visibility
- Direct entrance

**238 6446**

**VEHICLE LOT#1 1995 FORD EXPLORER.**  
Five doors. 4.0 liter engine, 6 cylinders. 5 speed manual transmission, 4wheel drive. Color navy. 106,700 km. A/C.

**VEHICLE LOT#2: 1994 FORD EXPLORER-XLT.**  
Five doors. 4.0 liter engine, 6 cylinders. 5 speed manual transmission, 4wheel drive. Color black. 115,500 km. A/C.

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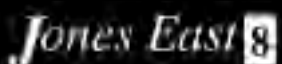
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## MESSAGE

LYLIA  
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## GREETINGS

**DEAR IRENE LEVADNA, HAPPY VALENTINE DAY!!!**  
 We appreciate your immense love and worth to the family.  
 We whole heartedly wish you our nine letters, three words and one meaning "We love you"  
**Dr. Uche and Chima Dike**

LILIA, MY D ARLING!  
 Just one year of love is better than a lifetime alone,  
 One sentimental moment in your arms  
 Is like a shooting star right through my heart,  
 It's always rainy day without you,  
 I'm a prisoner of love inside you -  
 I'm falling apart all around you - yeah.  
 Yours Mike

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Business Reports	10.02.01 Saturday	Aleksander Moskalenko Damian O'Keefe	\$50	Mind Mapping and Brainstorming for Managing Change	21.02.01 Wednesday	GUEST TUTOR Dr Tony Collins (Wycliffe College)	\$150
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## THE LUCKY ONES!

**PRIMAVERA**

Here's my heart  
 And it's all yours.  
 Let's dance tonight  
 Beneath the stars  
 I'll paint the sun  
 To warm your heart.  
 You'll kiss my lips  
 And we'll never part.  
 (Svetlana Killmalk)

**Восток**

Sometimes I feel  
 That a piece of my heart  
 Lies lost at the bottom of a lake of tears.  
 A dam must break,  
 A waterfall must fall.  
 If I am to recover  
 The peace of my heart.  
 (Natalia)

On Valentine's Day we walked down the aisle,  
 Each day since, I feel paradise when I see you smile.  
 Our love has witnessed more sunshine than rain,  
 A marriage made in haven, and made in Ukraine.  
 (Andriy Hunder)

Today all kisses are for you  
 And in the name of our love  
 My words will always be so true  
 And fly the world like dove.  
 (Bogdan Choopryna)

**TOKIO**

Avoiding empty talks and miles,  
 I dial St.Valentine's mobiles  
 And ask him to persuade you soon-  
 I shout to the sky and moon-  
 That truth is not in piles of bucks  
 Look! The truth is in my eyes!  
 (Zhenia Shmygol)

You're not my wife  
 However  
 You're in my life  
 Forever.  
 My sweet,  
 I am at your feet.  
 Be mine,  
 My Valentine!  
 (Sergey Sidorenko)

Who is the one you want to kiss in dance?  
 Who is the one among that jealous crowd?  
 Who has inspired me to play my lyre so loud?  
 My real love, my paradise...  
 My goddess be my Valentine!  
 (Ira Kotvitskaya)

**Le Grand Café**

To my honey,  
 I'm not trying to be funny  
 But you're a cute little bunny.  
 I don't have much money  
 But together we'll make life sunny.  
 (Ivan Filpovych)

**AZTECA**

It is the Valentine's Day today  
 All problems, troubles went away.  
 Let's love each other all life's way.  
 The sun will send us lucky ray.  
 (Tanya Zheglova)

Вдвоём мы, вечер, две свечи,  
 Меж нами нежности река;  
 Малыш, любовью освети  
 Мои глаза,  
 как солнце-моря берега;  
 И чувства наш карнавал-  
 Он будет вечен.  
 Любовь-как сердце Валентина велика.  
 (Arkady Vershebenguk)

On a day so lovely when roses are in bloom  
 And love walks blindly like a fool  
 When birds sing sweetly chants of care  
 When squirrels run home and find great love there  
 When gigantic mountains appear to kiss  
 And clouds roll and reminisce  
 Waters rush by and quietly caress  
 And then from your lips a long enchanting kiss  
 (Victoria Tetyora)

I like the way you smile,  
 Enjoy the way you talk,  
 I need the way you touch,  
 And love your heart unlocked  
 (Irina Kuznetsova)

Let me be one of your tears...  
 ...to be born in your eyes.  
 ...to live on your cheeks  
 ...to die on your lips  
 (Frank Mehlhose)

KYIV POST  
**BUSINESS**

FEBRUARY 8TH, 2001

*IMF mum on tranche disposition*

(Wire reports) It remains too early to decide whether Ukraine will receive the next \$180 million tranche of the International Monetary Fund's recently unfrozen \$2.6 billion Extended Fund Facility loan, a top IMF official said Feb. 5.

John Odling-Smee, director of the International Monetary Fund's Second European Department, was in Kyiv through Feb. 7 to hold meetings with Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko and other government officials.

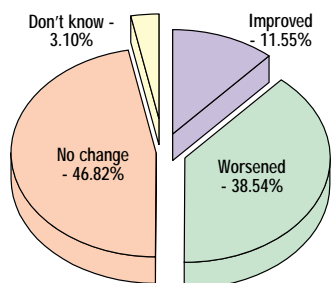
During a speech at Kyiv-Mohyla Academy on Feb. 5, Odling-Smee said Ukraine should seize the chance of its current broad-based economic recovery to speed up vital structural reforms to sustain long-term growth.

Odling-Smee praised the government's economic policies over the last year, which led to the IMF resuming the Extended Fund Facility program in December after a 15-month freeze. It disbursed \$246 million and extended the duration of the program until September 2002.

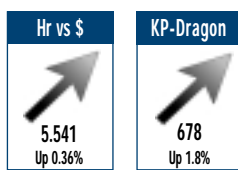
"A broad-based economic recovery is underway, policy improvements of recent years have now started to pay off," Odling-Smee said.

See IMF, page 5B

**BUSINESS SURVEY**  
**Has your family's standard of living improved or worsened for the last six months?**



Source: GfK-USM Ukrainian Surveys & Market Research (Poll conducted among 1,000 people ages 15-59, nationwide)



**Street Currency Exchange Rates**  
 FEB. 6

	BUY	SELL
U.S. Dollar	5.541	5.639
Deutsche Mark	2.571	2.709
Rus. Ruble (10)	1.84	1.99

Source: Ukrainian News

**CITY CURBS UNDERPASS SALES**



Despite a recent crackdown on itinerant merchants by the Kyiv City Administration, it was a typical day of unlicensed business activity at Kyiv's Druzhby Narodiv metro station on Feb. 6. The city's crackdown has, however, cleared the practice from Kyiv's some of Kyiv's metro stations and many of the city's pedestrian underpasses. (Post photo by Viktor Suvorov)

By ROMAN OLEARCHYK  
 Post StaffWriter

Kyiv's metro and street underpasses have long served as havens for itinerant merchants, who line the drab tiled walls selling everything from raw meat to cigarettes. These bustling makeshift trading centers also have been home to licensed booths that sell batteries, newspapers, CDs and a plethora of odd household items.

But many of these hawkers have disappeared in the last two months,

the result of a city crackdown.

The most abrupt change occurred last month when the Kyiv City Administration on Jan. 1 temporarily banned merchant operations in Kyiv's metro underpasses. These subterranean places, which had previously been a flurry of free enterprise, became merely dull and dreary underpasses.

According to City Administration officials, the merchants will be allowed to return after the city issues new permits. The catch is that the new permits will cost more, and

fewer will be handed out.

"This was done for safety and basic civil organization purposes, not to clear out unsanctioned retail activity in the city's public places," said Ihor Shcherbak, deputy director of the City Administration's department for municipal improvements.

Sound familiar? A similar reason was given last fall when Podil District Administration decided to oust all the artists from Andriyivsky uzviz, claiming that tourists and merchants

See METRO, page 6B

*NBU mints special coins for collectors*

By VITALY SYCH  
 Post StaffWriter

Ukrainians have never had much faith in their central bank. Millions of Ukrainians saw their life savings wiped out in 1991 after an overnight devaluation of the kupon, Ukraine's temporary currency that predated the hryvnya. Later, Ukraine's central bank was shattered by an international corruption scandal.

The National Bank of Ukraine is trying to put a shine on its tarnished image, at least among the world's coin collectors.

NBU spokeswoman Larysa Demydova says commemorative coins issued by the bank are gaining popularity among collectors, or numismatists. Demydova said the coins' original designs, good engraving work and high-quality metal are features that generate sales for the bank.

The coins are legal tender, but are not intended for general circulation. The coins are designed, minted and sold for collectors.

Buyers scooped up all 50,000 copies of the NBU's latest commemorative, a Hr 5 coin dubbed, "At the Border of Millenniums" within days of its release.

"It was just swept away," Demydova said.

This year, the bank plans to offer 24 versions of 17 different coins. The coins range from 100,000 copies of a Hr 2 coin promoting kindness to children to 1,000 copies of a Hr 20 proof-quality coin celebrating Ukraine's 10th anniversary of independence.

The NBU started producing commemorative coins in 1996 as Ukraine introduced the hryvna as the national

See COIN, page 6B

**Oblenergo sales postponed; bidders drop out**

By ROMAN OLEARCHYK  
 Post StaffWriter

It's been billed as the first-ever attempt to get real foreign companies to invest in strategic Ukrainian enterprises.

But already the plan to privatize six regional electricity distributors (oblenergos) is running into transparency problems.

One week after telling journalists that there is no reason to postpone the oblenergo tenders, First Deputy Prime Minister Yuri Yekhanurov announced Feb. 2 that the sell-off of all six distributors has been pushed back two months at the request of investors.

According to Yekhanurov, the tender for the first three oblenergos – Kyivoblenergo, Rivneoblenergo and Zhytomyroblenergo – originally scheduled for Feb. 22, will begin on April 17 and the sale of the next three – Sevastopoloblenergo, Khersonoblenergo, and Kirovohradoblenergo – will move from March 1 to April 24.

The delay comes despite the fact that the government on Jan. 2 fulfilled two of the three measures that foreign investors have been demanding as conditions for participating in the tender.

The government passed a resolution restructuring the debts of the six oblenergos slated for sale in this year's

tender and increased the list of enterprises that can be cut off from the electricity supplies for nonpayment.

A five-fold increase in electricity rates from 0.4 cents per kilowatt-hour to about 2.5 cents per kilowatt-hour, another key investor demand, has not been met yet.

"It is understandable that the investors need four to six weeks to appraise what has been changed in order to make better decisions in the tender," tender consultant and Credit Suisse First Boston Ukraine President Oleksandr Bazarov told journalists after the announcement.

What the government has yet to admit – and what Bazarov has

declined to comment on – is that two potential investors have canceled plans to participate in the tenders.

Germany's Bewag and United States-based Cinergy have both stated publicly and confirmed privately that they have formally dropped out of the tender.

On Jan. 26 deputy SPF chief Leonid Kalnichenko told journalists that the two are "less active" and "appear less interested," but have not officially dropped out of the tender. On Feb. 2, the SPF's press service maintained that both investors were still in the tender.

See OBLENERGO, page 5B

**ECONOMY**

**Consumer price inflation** in Ukraine was 25.8 percent during 2000, including 28.4 percent for foodstuffs, 8.9 percent for nonfood goods and 31.2 percent for services, the State Statistics Committee said. Inflation rate was 1.5 percent during January, slowing from 1.6 percent in December. Producer price inflation slowed to 0.8 percent in January from 2.1 percent in December. The National Bank of Ukraine has pledged a tighter monetary policy this year to control inflation.

The NBU's gross **hard currency reserves** rose to a three-year high of \$1.718 billion on Jan. 31, from \$1.617 billion on Dec. 22. The central bank reported that its liquid hard currency reserves were up to \$1.605 billion, from \$1.526 billion over the same period.

**Salary arrears to state employees** declined 11.3 percent in December, to stand at Hr 262.1 million, the State Statistics Committee reported. Most of the arrears are owed to education sector employees (42 percent) and healthcare workers (30 percent). Salary arrears to state employees comprised 5.3 percent of the total salary arrears in Ukraine, which stood at Hr 4.947 million on Jan. 10.

**AGRICULTURE**

The Agricultural Policy Ministry asked the Antimonopoly Committee to investigate whether increases in the **prices of mineral fertilizer** are justified. Ministry officials also asked Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko to persuade chemical enterprises to lower prices.

**BANKING**

Ukraine's central bank has agreed to defer troubled **Bank Ukraina's**

**payments** on its debt, according to Natalia Hrebenyk, director of the NBU's Monetary Policy Department. She said the bank's Hr 325 million worth of debt has been restructured. Bank Ukraina ran into trouble making bad, state-mandated loans to deadbeat collective farms in the late 1990s. It owes the NBU millions of hryvna for bailing it out.

**METALLURGY**

The **Mykolayiv Alumina Plant** announced it will assume management of the Balandugu bauxite field in Guinea. The field is one of the plant's primary suppliers of raw materials, MAP Director Mykhailo Stoliar said. MAP plans to obtain around 2 million tons of bauxite from the field annually.

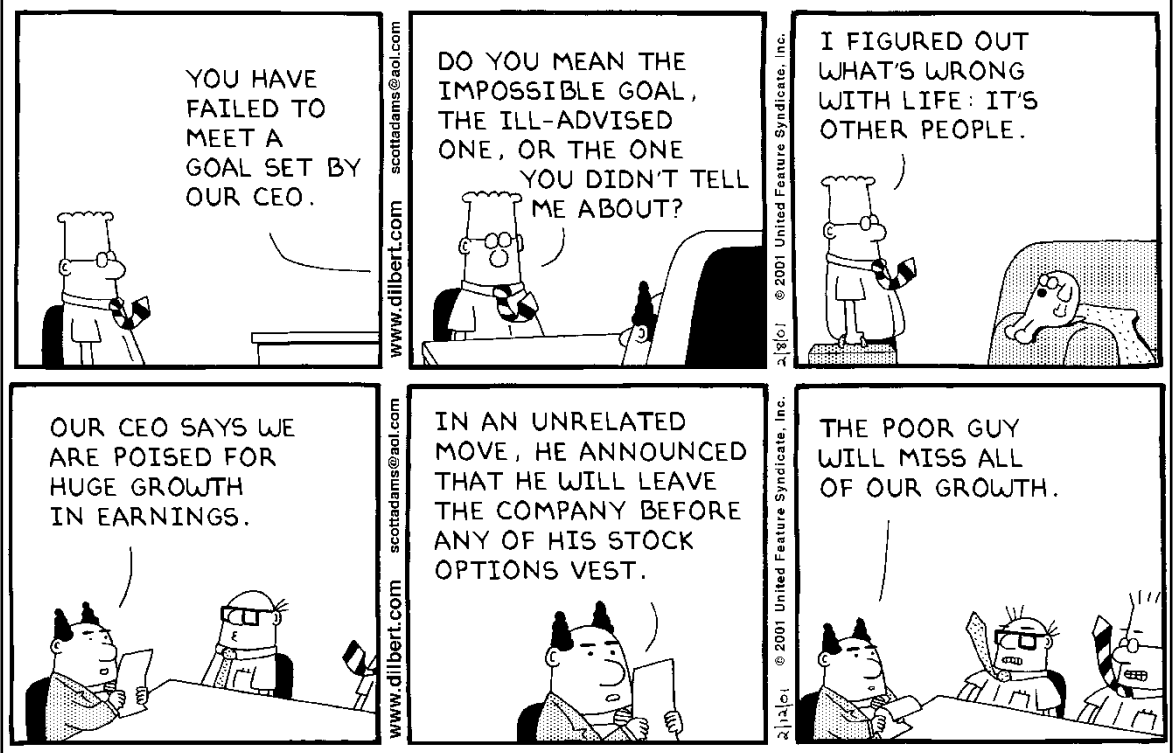
The Dniprovsk-based Dzerzhynskiy Metallurgical Plant has changed direction, **reporting profits** of Hr 70 million last year as opposed to losses of Hr 38.6 million in 1999. Leonid Mykhailov, the plant's planning and economics department head, attributed the turnaround to an increase in production, a reduction in expenditures, and tax breaks secured under a government experiment in the ore mining and metallurgical sector.

Ukraine's leading pipe producer, **Nyzhnyedniprovsky Truboprovkatny Zavod**, announced it will raise Hr 45 million (\$8.29 million) through a stock offering. The company will use proceeds from the sale to upgrade production facilities. The company said it will issue 32,331,000 ordinary shares at Hr 1.40 per share during a subscription period beginning March 5. Current shareholders have the pre-emptive right to purchase the shares.

Steel maker **Dniprospeystal**

## DILBERT

by Scott Adams



**increased profits** 260 percent in 2000 compared to 1999. The company said profits stemmed from a return to the production of special steels, allowing it to double sales compared with 1999. Dniprospeystal produces high-temperature steel and precision alloys. It also produces stainless, bearing, instrument, alloyed, construction and drill steel.

Canadian customs officials imposed a 36 percent **provisional antidumping tariff** on Ukrainian rebar after an investigation found that the Kryvorizhstal had exported 70,300 tons of concrete reinforcing bars at submarket prices.

**OIL AND GAS**

Ukrtranshaz invested Hr 871 million to **modernize Ukraine's primary gas pipelines** last year, according to Ukrtranshaz General Director Andry Rudnyk. Much of the investment focused on the construction or renovation of several gas compressor stations. The company also replaced damaged sections and built new sections of pipelines. This year, Ukrtranshaz plans to double its investment in the modernization of the pipelines to Hr 1.8 billion.

**ADVERTISING**

Two big advertising holding companies, AGE Com and Video Interna-

**tional, merged their Ukrainian operations.**

Video International is the biggest Russian marketing communications operator and has exclusive rights to the sale of advertising time on Russian TV channels ORT, RTR, Ren-TV and others. It has been in Ukraine since July 2000. AGE Com started its operations in Ukraine in 1996. Owning more than 30 enterprises and agencies in Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Belarus and Ukraine, it has more divisions than any other advertising holding company in the former Soviet Union. The merged company will be called Video International Kiev.

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# Hotel Yalta pins hope on privatization cash

By EVGENIA MUSSURI  
Post Staff Writer

Managers of the massive Hotel Yalta are hoping that the upcoming sale of a 63 percent stake in the property will enable it to make needed upgrades to its workforce and its facilities.

The hotel, located in Ukraine's Crimean resort city of Yalta, is currently a three-star property. With improvements, hotel managers say it could be a solid four-star hotel.

The stake is being sold by the Committee for State Property of the Crimean Autonomous Republic. A special tender committee will select candidates to participate in the tender on March 6. The starting price for the stake is set at Hr 15.614 million. One contender reportedly will be SAM, a Ukrainian tourism firm.

The remaining stake in the hotel belongs to the Yalta-Intourist open joint stock company.

The hotel needs an infusion of up to \$8 million for upgrades on the hotel. That figure doesn't include funds needed to make repairs, according to Mykola Tereshchenko, deputy chairman of the hotel's managing board.

In addition to buying the controlling stake, the successful bidder will be required to pay the hotel's existing Hr 2.26 million debt and add 100 workers to the hotel's payroll, Tereshchenko said. The hotel presently has a workforce of 740.

The newly created jobs will allow the hotel to add to its marketing and business development departments, Tereshchenko said. "These will be jobs for highly professional personnel," he said.

The 16-story beachfront hotel is located on the edge of the historic Black Sea resort city of Yalta. The hotel, at the base of the picturesque Massandra Park, was constructed in 1975 and has been mercilessly exploited since, with little money earmarked for repairs.

To generate funds to make improvements, the hotel's management rented space to various businesses willing to operate the hotel's bars, hair salons, restaurants, saunas and health club. In addition to rent, firms had to commit to make repairs and improvements. Consequently, despite a lack of cash, improvements have gradually been

made.

Two years ago, only a third of the hotel's 2,500 rooms were air-conditioned. Today, 75 percent of the rooms have air conditioning, and management hopes that the entire property will have cooling units by the end of the year.

Tourists flock to the resort in summertime, but Yalta often makes news for its ability to attract politicians and businessmen holding conferences and summit meetings. Hotel Yalta figures prominently in many of those events.

"In 1999, President Leonid Kuchma called Yalta the summer political capital of Ukraine," Tereshchenko said. "There is not a single political or large-scale business event in Yalta that goes on without our participation."

While visiting heads of state and top Ukrainian government officials usually stay at the dachas of former Soviet rulers, lesser luminaries stay at the Hotel Yalta. The hotel has the convention and banquet facilities necessary to host summits and business events.

The hotel can't survive by hosting international summit meetings alone, though. Its bread-and-butter still comes from vacationing citizens with average incomes and from foreign tourists, Tereshchenko said.

Lebanese, German and Chinese tourists account for much of the hotel's trade, Tereshchenko said. "There are tourists from European countries as well, and there are many Russian citizens," he said.

Tereshchenko said complaints that Crimean resorts have poorly developed infrastructures cannot be leveled at his hotel. The Hotel Yalta has a post office, Internet and e-mail services, a shopping center, restaurants, swimming pools, saunas, and sports activities. It also offers excursion services.

Yalta's tourist season is relatively short, running from June 20 through Aug. 25. Wintertime, following the Christmas and New Year's holidays, is the resort's low season.

A recent day found only about 100 guests staying at the hotel, occupying only a fraction of the hotel's 2,500 rooms. The hotel's marketing staff is working on boosting winter occupancy. An international break dancing competition and the world ballroom dancing championships are among the events that have been booked so far.

# Kyiv cigar shop survives smokey tax, customs laws

By PETER BYRNE  
Post Staff Writer

During the T-bill boom, when well-connected Ukrainians were still puffing on Cupido's Rubustos and gulping single-malt Aberlour whiskey like a bunch of smug, self-satisfied infants, some enterprising individuals foresaw the death of the craze.

**COMPANY SPOTLIGHT** *Second of a two-part series on the challenges faced by Ukraine's smallest businesses.*

Not, mind you, the demise of cigars and pure single malts, which always have been – and always will be – a pleasure in their proper milieu, but of the once-novel trend of imbibing expensive delicacies indiscriminately.

Those who enjoy the finer things in life without being part of Kyiv's fabricated fraternity of materialistic moguls simply pocketed the proceeds, gritted their teeth, and waited for the thing to play itself out.

This it did, of course. While many stores that had been satisfying the insatiable appetites of Ukraine's *nouveau riche* went bust in 1998, at least one specialty shop continues to do a lively and civilized trade.

Strategically located next to Dragon Capital and the offices of Credit Suisse First Boston, near the junction of Lva Tolstoho ploshcha and Chervonoarmiyiska, Vyno-Tyutyun is one such store.

While well-heeled foreign contractors are frequent patrons, they don't drive the business.

"Most of our customers are locals," said Galina Volkova, the store's manager, who since 1997 has catered to the discriminating tastes of an educated and dedicated clientele.

Sharing in the enjoyment of those who appreciate the finer things in life is the key to the shop's success, which – like any successful business venture – takes hard work, attention to detail and buckets of perseverance.

Both Ukraine's State Tax Administration and State Customs Service



A customer mulls a potential purchase at Vyno-Tyutyun, a wine and tobacco shop that has survived despite confusing taxes and import duties. (Post photo by Viktor Suvorov)

continue to levy and collect excise taxes on imports of alcohol and tobacco products.

The Tax Administration insists on payment of excise collection to tax bodies based on a law titled: "On the 2000 State Budget and the Laws On Excise Tax Rates for Alcohol and on Excise Tax Rates for Tobacco Products." At the same time, the State Customs Service requires importers to pay excise duties, citing "The Instruction on the Procedure for Levying Excise Tax for Importing Goods onto the Customs Territory of Ukraine," issued on Jan. 21, 2000.

The overlapping levies are one reason why, according to the State Statistics Committee, imports of alcohol and tobacco products plummeted last year.

Sorting out the confusion occupies much of Volkova's time and patience.

"We've gotten to the point where government inspectors are just as weary of the tax checks as we are," said Volkova, gently steering the conversation back to leafier issues.

For those looking for fancy things to smoke, Vyno-Tyutyun has an impressive tobacco selection on the first floor that includes dozens of varieties of expensive cigars and cigarettes, as well as pipe tobacco to snuff. Other smoking paraphernalia abounds,

including bags and pouches, knives and tamperers and T-handle reamers. Gold-plated accouterments are also on sale.

If you haven't noticed many cigar-smoking Ukrainians, that doesn't mean they don't exist, said Volkova, adding this pleasure is usually experienced in private and at home.

If you don't smoke, don't worry, for there are plenty more treats upstairs.

Vyno-Tyutyun offers a wide selection of good Moldovan, Georgian and Ukrainian wines. Moldovan reds from Cricova, plus Georgian Saperavi, Alasani, Mukizani, Alasani and Tamada wines are well represented. There is a wide range of decent Burgundies available, as well as Beaujolais.

An exquisite interior and a knowledgeable staff only enhance the allure of the merchandise, which is arranged to please the eye and whet the appetite.

Copycat shops have yet to cut into Vyno-Tyutyun's business, said Volkova, attributing success to the rapport she and staff have developed over the years with customers.

"When regulars are low on money, they may not buy anything for a while, but they always come back later," she added.

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## Artemyshyn to lead Pro W



Ukrainian Lina Artemyshyn has been appointed executive director of **Pro-W (Ukraine)**, a diversified real estate, consulting and Internet services firm.

In her new role, Artemyshyn will be involved in Pro-W real estate development and construction projects, including the Golden Gate Golf Club, Internet projects like Ukraine-Today.com and a virtual gallery for Ukrainian artists.

Artemyshyn formerly headed her own business consulting company, International Financial Consulting Group, and lectured at International Management Institute, a business academy.

Artemyshyn is a graduate of the Ukrainian Polygraphic Institute in Lviv and the Kyiv State Trade-Economy University.

Last October, Artemyshyn was instrumental in the celebration of the 100th anniversary productions of the Lviv Opera in Kyiv and Lviv.

Ukrainian Maksym Onoprienko, 20, has joined **Music Radio** as an advertising consultant. In his new job, Onoprienko will work with some of the radio station's advertising clients to develop effective radio advertisements.



Onoprienko previously was deputy editor of *Zustrich*, a nationally distributed youth magazine based in Lviv, where he was responsible for selecting articles, working with advertisers and for cor-

responding with the magazine's readers.

Onoprienko is a graduate of the Institute of Higher Spiritual Studies, where he received a bachelor's degree in philosophy.

Onoprienko is very interested in music news. While working as a deputy editor at *Zustrich*, he was producer of its youth musical group.

Ukrainian Yury Yariomenko, 40, has been appointed a general director at the **Press-Kit Information Agency**.

Yariomenko will run all Press-Kit projects, negotiate with clients and provide consulting services for customers to help them create a positive company image.

Prior to joining Press-Kit, Yariomenko served as deputy head of the Defense Ministry's press service.

Yariomenko is a graduate of the John Marshall College of International Defense in Germany and has completed his dissertation for a degree in sociology.

He also has a degree from the Lviv military-political school. Yariomenko is a retired colonel in Ukraine's military reserves.

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**ON THE MOVE**

### MICROFINANCE BANK OPENS

Ukraine's MicroFinance Bank opened for business on Jan. 30. The Kyiv-based bank will provide loans to the smallest of the nation's small businesses.

MicroFinance Bank was established by the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development and International Finance Corporation.

IFC is the World Bank's private sector lending arm. The National Bank of Ukraine issued a license to the bank last month.

EBRD officials said the bank will focus on providing loans of between \$100 and \$125,000 to small businesses and private entrepreneurs.

"The new bank will nurture the growth of Ukrainian small- and medium-sized enterprises by helping them to gain access to loans that would otherwise be unavailable," an EBRD news release said.

EBRD and IFC each hold a 20 percent stake in the bank. The



Volker Renner, MicroFinance Bank's general manager, left, shows the license issued to the bank by the NBU, to Werner Frank, a representative of the German-Ukrainian Fund during a Jan. 30 press conference (Post photo by Viktor Suvorov)

remaining shares are held by foreign investment funds.

Microfinance Bank has charter capital of 10 million euros, making it one of Ukraine's major commer-

### Company happenings

cial banks. EBRD said the bank plans to expand its network to include branches in Kharkiv, Lviv and Donetsk next year.

## World Bank mulls loan to help poor

(Reuters) The World Bank is set to lend Ukraine \$50 million this year to improve living conditions for poor people in rural districts, the World Bank and government officials said on Feb. 1.

Labor Minister Ivan Sakhn told a news conference the government and the World Bank had set up a joint social investment fund aimed at facilitating access to social services for poor people in small cities and villages.

"The total budget of the fund will

be \$75 million. ... We expect the World Bank will lend us \$50 million," Sakhn said.

Galina Sotirova, head of the World Bank program, said it would submit the project to its board of directors in July. The Rada, which has to approve all loans, would discuss it in September or October.

The World Bank approved a new three-year assistance strategy to Ukraine last year focusing on social issues and poverty reduction. Sotirova said the social investment

fund would be a cornerstone of the strategy.

Ukrainian officials said the money would help to modernize schools and hospitals, improve health care for disabled people, repair roads, improve quality of drinking water and create new jobs for people in small towns and villages.

"We will be able to resolve the most burning problems in our regions," Sakhn said. "It will become the first step ... to resolve problems faced by our society."



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**JOSS**  
CLUB

Nightclub "JOSS", 2, R. Okipna St.

On January 25, the Club Joss casino hosted the second round of its JOSS 2000 competition. The quality and quantity of the prizes distributed was truly amazing.

The Joss casino is one of the oldest in Kyiv and has already developed its own set of traditions including Thursday night lotteries, Tuesday night poker with "nonplaying" straights, and Sunday blackjack tournaments.

But it is not only the variety of gambling entertainment that draws people to Joss. It is the only place in town where one can enjoy a glass of beer in our real English pub, have a candlelit dinner at Riviera, sample Japanese cuisine at Kyoto, and dance the night away in the night club. And all of the above is located under one roof.

On New Year's Eve, Joss hosted the premiere of "Jungle", a new variety show. Kyiv had never before witnessed such a show featuring stunning costumes, special effects and professional performances. "Jungle" is part of a grand tradition of professional entertainment. "Jungle" will be performed every Thursday and Friday.

Every Saturday features Joss's famous "Vamp" show and half-price Sushi from Kyoto.

The English Pub hosted the first beer party of the millenium with permanent host Anatolij Diyachenko announcing the new XXI st century menu. Throughout February, Joss will offer its special of the month for half-price - tasty fried chicken wings. Plus, Joss features live music on a regular basis.

So if you are ready to take a break from your problems, come on down to Joss. Joss will be an ideal date spot for Valentine's Day on February 14. And remember: Joss in American slang means "success".

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Valentine's  
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## Two bidders bid farewell, others confer

BOLENERGO, continued from page 1B

Rainer Thiel, Bewag's corporate planning and acquisitions director, said plainly that SPF claims that Bewag has not formally dropped out of the tender are false.

"We formally notified the appropriate authorities that we are no longer interested in the oblenegos currently undergoing privatization in mid-December of last year," Thiel said.

Cinergy's development manager, Charles Norman, said that he sent proper notification in January that Cinergy will no longer participate in the tender. He would not provide an exact date.

Both parties said they sent their notification to tender consultants CSFB.

Kalnichenko could not be reached for comment. CSFB's Bazarov declined to speak to the Post.

The new deputy prime minister in charge of the industrial sector, Oleh Dubina, will assume responsibility for the oblenego tender process.

Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko put Yekhanurov in charge of coordinating the oblenego privatization process on Jan. 19. The State Property Fund (SPF) has maintained more of a procedural role since.

During this period, Yekhanurov has headed a series of closed-door meetings with representatives of the five remaining tender participants: Electricite De France, Japan's Kansai Power, U.S.-based AES, Spain's Union Fenosa ACEX, and Slovakia's Vychodoslovenske Energeticne Zavody.

## Yushchenko heads trade mission to Tehran

(AP) - Ukrainian Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko left Feb. 6 for a two-day visit to Iran, where he was expected to sign trade agreements, a government spokeswoman said.

Yushchenko's trip comes on the heels of a two-day visit to Kyiv by Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi on Jan. 31.

Yushchenko was scheduled to meet with Iranian President Mohammad Khatami and take part in a forum of businessmen from the two countries, according to the spokeswoman.

He will also watch the first test flight of a Ukrainian-designed An-140 airplane produced under license in Iran's HESA factory.

The trip will mark the latest visit by high-level officials from former Soviet republics to Iran, a major customer for industrial goods, aircraft and military hardware.



President Leonid Kuchma, right, shakes hands with Iranian Foreign Minister Kamal Kharrazi before their talks at the president's office in Kyiv on Jan. 31. Ukraine's Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko left for a two-day trip to Iran on Feb. 6. (AP)

## Accelerate reforms, expand tax base, IMF urges

IMF, continued from page 1

"It will not be sustained if structural reforms are not accelerated. Ukraine has lagged behind with structural reforms, many years have been lost and the reform agenda ahead remains very long," he added.

Ukraine recorded its first economic growth last year after almost a decade of recession. Gross domestic product rose 6 percent after a 0.4 percent decline in 1999 and was fuelled by stronger exports and a growth in the whole region.

Odling-Smee and his IMF delegation held meetings with the govern-

ment to address fiscal and monetary policies, privatization and other structural issues on Feb. 6-7.

Odling-Smee said that Yushchenko told him during a Feb. 5 meeting that the Rada will debate a draft law aimed at lowering the export duty on sunflower from 23 percent to 10 percent during its seventh session, which convened Feb. 6. Odling-Smee said that lowering the sunseed tariff may enable Ukraine to obtain the loan tranche.

Odling-Smee hailed government steps on banning barter deals, improving payment discipline, reforms in

agriculture and better transparency in its policies.

He also said a successful debt restructuring last year, when Ukraine escaped a default by swapping \$2.37 billion into short-term commercial debt into new seven-year Eurobonds provided a better debt servicing profile.

"The challenge now is that the window of opportunity provided by a growing economy and a better external environment is well utilized," Odling-Smee said.

He said bringing down inflation, which accelerated to 25.8 percent in

2000 from 19.2 percent in 1999, was one of the key tasks for the government this year.

He also called on the government to expand its tax base by continuing its struggle against fiscal privileges and ineffective free economic zones.

Yushchenko said he hoped that IMF's executive board would decide to disburse the next loan tranche to Ukraine as scheduled.

"We achieved the budget indicators for the year and overachieved in January," Yushchenko said. He said he believed IMF approval of the \$180 million would be a mere formality.

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# Itera set to cut Turkmen gas line

(Wire, staff reports) Russian gas trading company Itera threatened on Feb. 1 to stop transporting natural gas from Turkmenistan to Ukraine due to mounting debts.

The company, which supplied about 40 percent of Ukraine's gas needs last year, last month cut off natural gas supplies to Ukraine's four fossil fuel electricity generating companies in a row over growing debts worth \$64 million.

Itera spokesman Mykola Semenenko, said the company's management had sent a letter to President Leonid Kuchma saying Itera would be unable to pay for transit services due to the debts of the Ukrainian companies.

"Itera is transporting Turkmen gas through Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan and Russia and we have to pay money for transit services along the entire way,"

said Semenenko.

Analysts in Kyiv said that the threats by Itera – a company based in Florida but closely linked to Russian gas giant Gazprom – amounted to attempts by the Russian government and Gazprom to assert control over Ukrainian strategic industries.

"I was anticipating this [threat]," said Viktor Skarshevsky, an economist at the Razumkov Ukrainian Center for Economic and Political Research. "Russia is simply doing everything possible to increase Ukraine's debt to Russia so as to later on force Ukraine into privatizing its strategic enterprises, and on better terms."

Skarshevsky added that cutting the flow of Turkmen gas deliveries would be an unprecedented, if hardly surprising, move on Russia's part.

Kuchma has signed a deal for Turkmenistan to supply Ukraine around 30 billion cubic meters (bcm) of natural gas this year, about a half of Ukraine's annual consumption of 70 bcm.

Natalya Zarudna, spokeswoman of Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko, said the government had paid Hr 100 million (\$18.4 million) to Itera for debts.

Semenenko denied that, saying that Ukraine had repaid only \$5 million out of the total debt so far.

"Less than \$5 million was repaid in a fortnight, this is not a proper development of the situation," Semenenko said.

"Moreover, we have not received a schedule for debt repayment which we should have received on Jan. 25 according to our agreements."

As its fight with Itera continued,

Ukraine was reportedly preparing to extend its gas deal with Turkmenistan.

Vadim Kopylov, deputy head of Ukraine's national oil and gas company Naftogaz Ukrainy, told Turkmen television in an interview that the two ex-Soviet states planned to sign a 10-year agreement on supplies of Turkmen natural gas.

He said the document was expected to be signed during Turkmen President Saparmurat Niyazov's visit to the Kyiv in May this year.

Under the deal Ukraine could import annually up to 60 billion cubic meters (bcm) of Turkmen natural gas.

A Turkmen government official told Reuters, however, that future gas deliveries to cash-short Ukraine would depend on the latter's ability to make timely payments for current supplies.

## NBU vows tighter grip on supply

By NATALYA ZINETS  
REUTERS

Ukraine's central bank pledged on Feb. 2 to tighten its monetary and credit policy this year, saying it plans to bring down money supply and monetary base growth.

Natalya Hrebennyk, head of the central bank's monetary policy department, told bankers M3 broad money supply would grow by 17 to 19 percent this year compared to a 45 percent growth in 2000.

The monetary base is expected to grow by 10 to 12 percent in 2001 after a 40 percent growth in the previous year, she said.

"This year will not be easy for us in terms of monetary and credit policy compared to 2000," Hrebennyk said. "The policy will be tighter, aimed at stabilizing the money market and the banking system."

The central bank has said M3 money supply grew to 32.1 billion hryvnias (\$5.9 billion) on January 1, 2001 from 22.1 billion hryvna a year ago. Monetary base figures are not available.

Hrebennyk said the money supply and the monetary base grew quicker than planned in 2000. The government initially expected M3 to grow by 25 percent and the monetary base to rise by 20 percent in 2000.

But the central bank had to print more money last year as the finance ministry failed to repay 3.7 billion hryvna on overdue treasury bills held by the central bank, Hrebennyk said.

She said quicker than expected economic growth in the country was also behind faster money supply growth last year.

Ukraine recorded its first economic growth after almost a decade of recession with gross domestic product rising by six percent in 2000 after a 0.4 percent decline in 1999.

Consumer price inflation was also quicker than expected and accelerated to 25.8 percent in 2000 from 19.2 percent in 1999.

### NO MORE LOANS FOR THE GOVERNMENT

Hrebennyk said the central bank had to support the government in previous years with direct budget loans or via government securities purchases.

"But our position was that the central bank should work only with commercial banks and not to cover budget needs," said Hrebennyk.

The finance ministry restructured treasury bills held by the central bank last year and issued new domestic bonds worth about 9.5 billion hryvna.

Hrebennyk said the new bonds had a monthly coupon and the finance ministry had serviced the first coupon on time by paying around 100 million hryvna in January.

The central bank's certainty in the finance ministry's ability to service the debt allows the bank to maintain a more transparent and adequate policy this year, Hrebennyk said.

She said the central bank would refinance commercial banks more actively this year and aims to revive the dormant domestic debt market introducing daily auctions of government securities.

## NBU coins sold overseas

COIN, continued from page 1B

The bank has since then produced 127 commemorative coins classified by either metal value or a common theme. Most of the coins are made of non-precious metals, such as a blend of copper, iron and nickel, priced from Hr 2 to Hr 15. The bank mints silver, gold and bimetal coins as well, with prices reaching Hr 2,070.

Demydova said the mint helps protect the value of each coin by destroying the dies used to strike the coins after production. She said all coins are designed by Ukrainian artists and produced at the bank's Kyiv mint.

"It's a good sign the people are interested in these coins," Demydova said. "It means the people don't only think about things that are vital to their lives."

Demydova said the coins aren't a moneymaker for the bank, though.

NBU doesn't sell the coins directly to the public. The coins are marketed through affiliates and some large commercial banks. The NBU Web site lists distributors in the United States, Japan, Germany and Norway.

In fact, it may be easier to buy the coins in Chicago than in Kyiv. Local commercial banks appear unenthusiastic about selling the specialty items.

Oleksandr Avazashvili, spokesman for Aval bank, said his bank doesn't market NBU's commemorative coins. Avazashvili said Aval never orders new coins from the central bank because of low public demand.

"Our bank is not interested," he said. "There are really few buyers for these coins."

## Government requires holographic CD seals

METRO, continued from page 1B

on the historic cobbled hill were at risk from falling icicles.

The artists formed a union and protested the decision, which was later rescinded.

The crackdown on underground merchants actually began last fall. During a series of raids orchestrated by the city administration, many of these vendors were cleared from Kyiv's underpasses when they failed to produce city-issued permits. According to Ukrainian law, small-time merchants operating in underpasses are required to be licensed.

"The city's underground public places have been flooded by too many merchants – both licensed and unlicensed – in recent years. Simply walking through the metro passages or in pedestrian underpasses became too hazardous and unruly," Shcherbak said. "Something had to be done," he added.

And so it was. The pedestrian underpasses at Lva Tolstoho ploshcha and at Besarabsky used to host a profusion of on-the-fly stands. Most sold newspapers, household items and CDs.

Today these underpasses are barren, void of tabletop retailers.

Permits to operate retail booths in Kyiv's pedestrian underpasses and metro stations can cost between Hr 200 and Hr 500 a month per square meter.

Not all of underground Kyiv has been affected, however.

Unlicensed business activity at the Druzhby Narodiv metro station has been booming.

When a Post reporter visited it on

Jan. 5, four police officers were walking around chatting with vendors. Several of the vendors told the Post that police kick them out occasionally, but that bribes can buy time.

"Of course I give them bribes," a female food vendor told the Post. "I couldn't do business here if I didn't."

The raids and bans on sales activities in metro stations are keeping many of Kyiv's pirate CD retailers off the streets for the time being.

They will probably be back, however.

A law that took effect Jan. 1 requires that only compact discs bearing a special hologram can be sold.

The holographic seal is meant to protect copyright and intellectual property rights, and won't be available to unauthorized, or pirate CDs sellers. The law requires local CD manufacturers to present documents proving that they have obtained authority from copyright holders to duplicate the product. According to the law, only by presenting such documents to the Ukrainian Agency for Authors Rights can a CD manufacturer or distributor obtain the new seals.

The law was passed by parliament in March of last year.

Yevhen Kornichuk, director of the Ukrainian Union of Intellectual Property Rights, said that both the documents and holograms can easily be forged.

Supplied with forged seals, the only other thing pirate CD retailers will need to resume their profitable trade in Kyiv's underground will be city-issued permits.

"OF COURSE I  
GIVE THEM BRIBES.  
I COULDN'T DO  
BUSINESS HERE IF I  
DIDN'T."

- Vendor in the Druzhby  
Narodiv metro station



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## Kuchma cancels decree on coded bank accounts

(Ukrainian News) President Leonid Kuchma has rescinded a 1998 decree authorizing the use of coded accounts by commercial banks.

A representative of the National Bank of Ukraine declined to comment pending review of the official text of the president's action. The representative did say that if the accounts were banned, the bank would require time to draft the procedures under which commercial banks would close existing accounts.

Coded accounts were introduced in 1998 to replace anonymous hard currency accounts. A recent NBU announcement that it was investigating how the accounts have been used was followed by a State Tax Administration recommendation that the accounts be discontinued.

The accounts, which may be opened by individuals and be either hryvna or dollar denominated, have been suspected of facilitating operations involving capital flight and tax evasion.

PRIVATIZATION

# Shareholder suit stalls ZAP sale

(Wire reports) The fight over who will win the right to buy the Zaporizhya Aluminum Plant (ZAP) remained stuck in Ukrainian courts as the Feb. 6 deadline for finalizing the sale came and went without a formal winner being declared.

In the latest development, the State Property Fund will challenge a Feb. 1 court ruling suspending the sale of the 68 percent stake in ZAP, according to SPF First Deputy Chairman Mykhailo Chechetov.

Kyiv's Shevchenko District Court on Feb. 1 banned the SPF from continuing the ZAP tender until a suit by a shareholder in AvtoKrAZ, the parent company of original tender winner KrAZ Foreign Trading Group, was considered.

KrAZ shareholder Yulia Skychko sued the Antimonopoly Committee for refusing to authorize KrAZ Foreign Trading Group's winning bid on the ZAP shares. The Committee had originally banned KrAZ from the tender, but the company was allowed back into the tender after Prime Minister Viktor Yushchenko intervened. A court later stripped KrAZ of its victory based on the fact that they had originally been excluded by the Antimonopoly Committee.

Skychko owns a whopping 0.32 percent of the shares in AvtoKrAZ, a large Kremenchuk-based truck maker.

The SPF was prepared to award the stake in ZAP to tender runner-up AvtoVAZ-Invest, which bid Hr 170 million less than the KrAZ unit. The SPF's Chechetov claimed the court lacked sufficient grounds to suspend the tender. The court will meet to hear the SPF's appeal within days, he said.

Chechetov said that the SPF has

received a favorable opinion from Ukrximbank on a bank guarantee provided by AvtoVAZ-Invest, and is waiting for the opinion of the National Bank of Ukraine before it moves ahead with the sale.

Meanwhile, the Ukrainian Association of Aluminum Producers and Consumers has urged President Leonid Kuchma to cancel the December ZAP tender results outright and start all over again.

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Ukraine's privatization efforts stumbled in January, bringing in less than half of planned revenues, Finance Minister Ihor Mityukov said.

Privatization brought in just Hr 102 million during January, Mityukov said, far short of the Hr 229 million forecast by the government.

Mityukov expressed concern, noting that decreased privatization revenues will affect spending. He said the Ministry of Finance would propose harsh measures to increase privatization incomes, including sanctions against the State Property Fund and other agencies responsible for privatization.

The finance minister said he favored "a faster resolution of the problem" of the Zaporizhya Aluminum Plant tender, "preferably in favor of the highest bid."

Last year, the government's privatization efforts yielded Hr 2.073 billion, or 82.9 percent of the budgeted income.

\*\*\*

Privatization efforts at the state railroad, Ukrzaliznytsya, have been sidetracked, if not derailed. Transport Ministry officials say privatization of the entire railroad system may take up to eight years.

On Feb. 2, the Ministry asked President Kuchma to delay plans to incorporate six of Ukrzaliznytsya's rail lines into separate joint stock companies. Incorporating parts of a state-owned enterprise is a preliminary step toward privatization. Transport Minister Leonid Kostiuchenko said incorporating the Donetsk, Lviv, Odessa, Transdnieper, Yugozapadny, and Yuzhny lines can't be completed on schedule.

Kostiuchenko said the railroad would convert 14 Ukrzaliznytsya-owned factories into corporations by May 1, 2001. Under the terms of a decree published by the ministry last December, all rail transport enterprises were to meet the May 1 deadline.

The country's railroads can be successfully privatized only after the supporting infrastructure has been incorporated and privatized. Kostiuchenko said the process could take between six and eight years to complete.

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Ukraine may drop plans to sell a 10 percent stake in the Mykolayiv Alumina Plant if a new attempt set for Feb. 7 fails to draw bids, the State Property Fund said on Feb. 2.

The fund has been trying to sell the remaining state stake in the country's leading aluminum maker for the last three months. The starting price for the stake at the auctions was set at around \$15 million, but bidders said the price was too high.

If the new auction due fails, the fund will transfer the 10 percent stake in the company to a special fund set up by the government to support small and medium-sized business, the spokeswoman said.

# Sunseed tariff on Cabinet's hit list

(Ukrainian News) Having failed to persuade parliament to abolish the 23 percent export duty on sunflower last year, the Cabinet of Ministers now wants to propose a compromise that would lower the export duty to 10 percent.

"We will talk to [parliamentary deputies]. Not in terms of abolition but in terms of lowering the duty to 10 percent," said Mykhailo Hlady, deputy prime minister in charge of the agro-industrial sector.

Last year the government proposed that parliament consider lowering the export duty to 10 percent. However, deputies categorically declined to discuss the issue of export of sunflower seed oil.

Hlady said that the Cabinet ministers responsible for the agricultural sector have managed to persuade the remaining members of the Cabinet to lobby for lowering the duty instead of abolishing it.

Meanwhile, Hlady stressed that he

hoped that parliament would soon adopt a decision lowering the export duty.

The deputy prime minister also expressed the hope that the issue of the 23 percent export duty on sunflower will not be an obstacle during negotiations with the International Monetary Fund on new loans.

The International Monetary Fund has insisted on abolition of the export duty as a condition for giving Ukraine new loans.

# Ukraine, Iran start tests of new Antonov turboprop

(Reuters) Ukraine said that test flights of its Iranian-built Antonov-140 passenger planes would take place Feb. 11.

Ukraine sold a production license for its 52-seat An-140 aircraft last year to Iran, the only foreign market its cash-strapped aircraft producers have yet managed to enter.

With a range of 2,100 kilometers and a cruising speed of up to 575 kilometers per hour, the Ukrainian-designed turboprop is one of the world's least expensive medium-range aircraft.

Zlenko said Ukraine was also looking at a possible Iranian and Russian project to produce Tupolev-334 jets.

He also said he and Kharazzi discussed transporting Iranian oil and gas via Ukraine to Europe. He did not say how they would achieve that and whether, as likely, Russia would be involved.

"The idea is very attractive as we are trying to diversify sources for energy supplies," Zlenko said.

Ukraine imports up to 80 percent of its energy, mostly from Russia.

Kharazzi said the talks focused largely on transporting Iranian gas by extending pipes to Azerbaijan and Georgia and further to Ukraine. The countries plan to set a joint working group for further studies, the ministers said.

In related news, the Antonov design bureau announced that it plans to participate in a tender to supply its AN-32 light military cargo aircraft to Poland's air force.

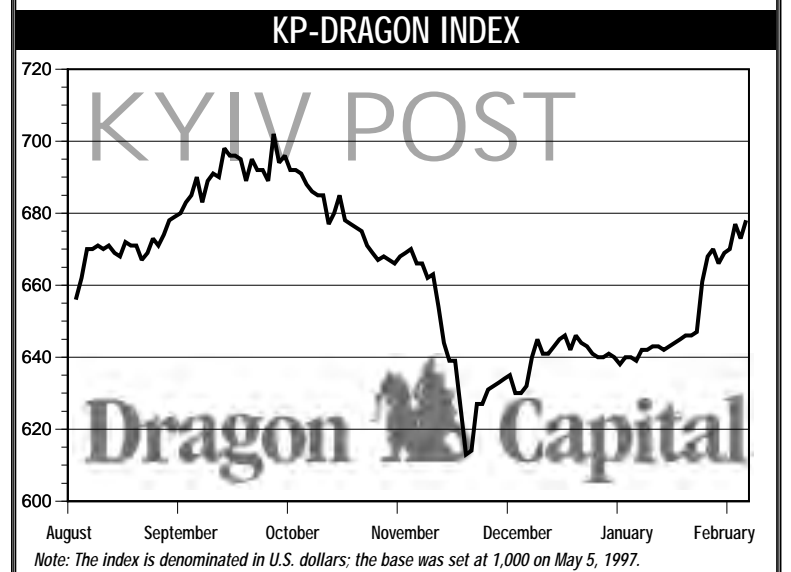
Poland announced the tender in 2000. The winner will supply up to 10 aircraft by 2005.

The An-32 can carry 7.5 tonnes of cargo over 800 kilometers at a cruising speed of up to 550 kilometers per hour.

Antonov had offered the joint Ukrainian-Russian AN-70 military transport in a tender to supply aircraft to European armed forces but lost out last year to Airbus Industrie's A400, which is still being designed.

Index	Country	Last Value	1w Chg.	YTD Chg.	YTD High	YTD Low
KP-Dragon	Ukraine	678	1.8%	6.1%	678	639
RTS-Interfax	Russia	169	-2.8%	17.8%	179	131
Dow Jones	USA (traditional)	10 966	0.8%	1.7%	10 984	10 525
NASDAQ	USA (tech stocks)	2 643	-6.9%	7.0%	2 859	2 292

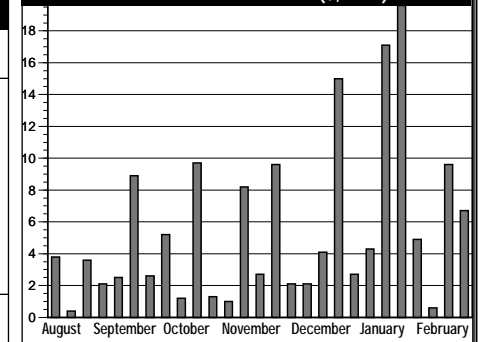
Note: Ukraine and Russia values are as of February 6, the U.S. indices are as of February 5



Note: The index is denominated in U.S. dollars; the base was set at 1,000 on May 5, 1997.

Company	Weekly PFTS Volume (\$, ths.)
Kyivenergo	2 966
Stirol	1 392
Centrenergo	739
Donbasenergo	409
Zaporizhtransformator	366
Ukrmafta	283
Zakhidenergo	187
Dniproenergo	112
Motor Sich	32
Kharkivenergoremont	27

Note: Volumes are for the week starting January 29 and ending February 4



Company	Bid Price (\$)	1w Chg.	Ask Price (\$)	1w Chg.	Mcap (\$, mln)	YTD Chg.
Centrenergo	0,141	-0.6%	0,149	0.6%	53,1	5%
Dniproenergo	18,966	3.0%	20,071	2.3%	75,7	10%
Dniiproblenergo	4,603	0.0%	10,496	0.0%	50,2	0%
Donbasenergo	2,946	-2.4%	3,130	-1.2%	71,4	7%
Kharkivoblenergo	0,175	0.0%	0,276	0.0%	56,7	0%
Khartsyzsk Pipe Rolling	0,138	0.0%	0,276	0.0%	6,7	0%
Kyivenergo	0,952	6.4%	1,031	6.7%	104,8	9%
Kyivoblenergo	0,018	0.0%	0,051	0.0%	31,3	0%
NPR	0,497	0.0%	0,681	2.8%	13,1	2%
Stirol	2,154	0.0%	2,449	-3.6%	61,9	2%
Sumy Frunze	0,074	0.0%	0,221	0.0%	9,3	0%
Ukrichflot	1,657	-10.0%	2,302	-10.7%	16,9	0%
Ukrmafta	4,364	1.7%	4,567	1.6%	241,7	6%
Zakhidenergo	5,432	3.1%	5,708	1.6%	70,9	10%
Zaporizhyaoblenergo	0,396	0.0%	0,644	0.0%	94,1	0%

Note: Data in this table are valid as of February 6

THIS SECTION WAS COMPILED BY DRAGON CAPITAL



British Airways' calendar received an award for the "best representation" of company business.



**EBA**  
European Business Association



The Office Solutions company presented its modern office design at the exhibition.

The official opening of the 2001 Corporate Calendar Exhibition, organized by the European Business Association, was held on Jan. 30 at the Art Center on 8 Kostiolna street. The exhibition presents corporate calendars of EBA members.



Representatives of Aventis received an award for the "most original" calendar.



The "best print quality" award went to Philip Morris's corporate calendar.

The Exhibition is open from February 1 till February 28 (12 noon - 6 p.m.) at the Art Center on 8 Kostiolna Street (admission is free)

# Lukoil descends on U.S. market

**MOSCOW (AP)** – For Lukoil, it's not enough to be the largest oil company in a colossal country with vast crude reserves, to employ 120,000 people, to support towns across Russia and to dominate the national stock market.

Lukoil wants a piece of America, too. Buoyed by a year of soaring oil prices, Lukoil bought Getty Petroleum Marketing Inc. and its network of 1,300 U.S. gas stations for \$71 million – the first Russian purchase of a publicly held American company.

The buyout, launched in November, was approved by Getty shareholders last week.

The deal could provide a welcome boost for Russia's woeful business reputation, but some analysts wonder whether Lukoil, or any company that came of age in Russia's chaotic, often corrupt 1990s, is ready to face Western markets.

Leonid Fedun, Lukoil's vice president, answers that suggestion with a reliable old saw: "If you don't jump in the water, you can never learn to swim."

Fedun's polished-wood-and-chrome office in Lukoil's Moscow headquarters sits behind several security doors; his gold-tinted windows look down from one of the capital's sleekest buildings onto the snow-heaped newspaper stands of Turgenev Square.

Few question whether Lukoil – with assets in 2000 of \$14.5 billion, according to U.S. accounting standards – has the money needed to run Getty. But some ask why the Russian company isn't routing the cash to the shabby, investment-hungry domestic market.

In Russia, many companies flout shareholder rights, keep questionable books and build empires through dubious privatization deals and top-level political ties – practices that would cripple most Western counterparts. Oil concerns are also known to shrug off oil spills, even when they're huge in magnitude.

Critics say Lukoil is no exception, but some analysts say the company is reforming as it reaches outside Russia's borders. Fedun insists Lukoil is cleaner financially and environmentally than its Russian counterparts.

Lukoil has a number of foreign deals in the works – in Iraq and the Persian Gulf, and high-stakes Caspian Sea projects in Azerbaijan and Kazakhstan. But it considers the United States the crucial market, and it plans to eventually to buy U.S. refineries. Foreign profits, Lukoil reasons, can buffer it should Russia's economy take another plunge.

Fedun doesn't deny that Lukoil is saddled with problems familiar to all



Lukoil Vice President Leonid Fedun gives an interview in his office at Lukoil headquarters in Moscow on Dec. 7. Lukoil, rated among Russia's top-five largest companies, bid in November to take over Getty Petroleum Marketing and its 1,300 U.S. gas stations, the first Russian purchase of a publicly held American company. (AP)

Russian oil companies: disintegrating Soviet-era equipment, punitive taxes, hard-to-reach reserves and limited pipeline capacity.

The company has barely increased production in recent years, and its stunning jump in profits from \$92 million in the first half of 1999 to \$1.45 billion in the same period in 2000 stemmed almost entirely from high world energy prices.

Lukoil is also still smarting from its first, failed foray into the United States. With champagne and balloons, it opened a gas station at a Virginia supermarket in 1997 that was supposed to be the first of 2,000 such outlets. But plans fell apart the next year when world oil prices plummeted.

"We weren't ready, not legally or organizationally," Fedun said. "The one useful lesson we learned is that you can't build a business from scratch. You have to buy a ready-made business."

Getty's red, white and gold signs are familiar sights to motorists in 13 East Coast states. Based in Jericho, New York, it is also a regional wholesaler of gasoline, diesel fuel, fuel oil and other petroleum products. For the nine months ending Oct. 31, Getty posted a

net loss of nearly \$6 million on sales of about \$903 million.

The company is a remnant of the sprawling financial empire built by oil billionaire and philanthropist J. Paul Getty, believed to be the world's richest person when he died a quarter-century ago.

Lukoil's \$5-per-share bid for Getty didn't sit well with U.S. competitors. In December, United Refining Co., based in Warren, Pennsylvania, submitted a \$6-per-share counteroffer that Getty's board rejected as unrealistic. United Refining later lost a court bid to block the Lukoil transaction.

Lukoil plans to call its U.S. stations "Getty-Lukoil" until its own name is more familiar to American consumers.

Analysts said the Getty purchase – while symbolically important for Russian corporate confidence – doesn't portend a trend.

"Not a lot of Russian companies have experience working internationally," said Steven Dashevsky, an oil analyst with the Aton brokerage in Moscow.

Fedun admits that it's too early to compare Lukoil, which emerged in 1991 from the collapsing state-run Soviet oil sector, to the Shells and

Chevrons of the world.

Lukoil still has Soviet-style directors with little grasp of what global markets demand, but it also has more pragmatic managers like Fedun, who consult Western advisers and appear to recognize the international challenges.

For example, despite Lukoil's 13.5 billion barrels of crude oil reserves, Russian service stations often run out of gas, take only cash and have few of the conveniences taken for granted in the United States. Lukoil's production – 1.5 million barrels a day in 2000 – could be much higher if it weren't burdened by aging drilling and refinery equipment. And the thousands of miles of petroleum pipelines that cross Russia are ancient and spill-prone, the result being despoiled rivers, forests and tundra and deep cuts into Lukoil's potential revenue stream.

Russian tax collectors accused Lukoil – whose diverse holdings include newspapers, television and a sugar business – of evasion last summer, one of several recent cases against huge Russian businesses that capitalized on their political influence in the 1990s.

The Lukoil charges were quietly dropped, but neither Fedun nor the Tax Ministry would say why. Some observers suggested that Lukoil's billionaire president Vagit Alekperov had won the favor of President Vladimir Putin, who has promised to distance the Kremlin from powerful tycoons.

Fedun strongly denied any favoritism from the government, which owns 17 percent of Lukoil common stock but has announced plans to sell a third of it this year. BP Amoco Group said this week that it would sell its 7 percent stake in Lukoil, but that several BP-Lukoil ventures would continue in Russia and former Soviet republics.

Environmental activists are protesting Lukoil's expansion into Western markets.

"They bought expensive offices and cars for their ecological department, but they still don't clean up spills and don't do anything to prevent them," said Oganeg Targulian, who follows Russia's oil industry for Greenpeace.

Fedun admitted spills are common because of poor pipelines, but he says Lukoil is cleaning up faster than other Russian oil companies.

The Russian parliament's ecology committee reported that oil companies in Russia spill up to 5.8 billion gallons of oil a year. As a comparison to the high-end figure, the 11 million gallons of crude dumped into Alaska waters in the 1989 Exxon Valdez grounding would be less than a day's spillage.

## UES CHIEF SAYS HE'S PREPARING TO MAKE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS

**MOSCOW (Reuters)** – The chairman of Russia's Unified Energy System on Feb. 5 responded to President Vladimir Putin's order to improve management at the power giant by promising his own staff changes at the utility.

Anatoly Chubais told journalists at a news conference that UES was "already preparing organizational and staffing decisions to be taken independently of the annual shareholders' meeting."

But he said that the agenda for the April 28 AGM set by the UES board Feb. 2 was unlikely to be changed.

Putin met energy officials earlier on Feb. 5 to discuss the fuel shortages, poor distribution and industrial mishaps in Russia's provinces.

He sacked Energy Minister Alexander Gavrin for "chronic inability to solve the sector's problems" and said Alexander Nazdratenko, the governor of the Maritime Region, where the outages have gone on longest, would resign.

Putin also ordered Kremlin chief of staff Alexander Voloshin, who represents the government's 53 percent stake in UES as chairman of the board, to take measures to "reinforce the staff" at UES at April's shareholder meeting.

Chubais said that the president's response was "appropriate to the situation," and accepted that UES shared the blame for the blackouts.

## GAZPROM DEFENDS ONE AUDIT, BLASTS RIVAL CHECKS AS ILLEGAL

**MOSCOW (Reuters)** – Russian gas giant Gazprom on Feb. 2 described as illegal attempts by minority shareholders to conduct a rival audit to one awarded by the company's board to PricewaterhouseCoopers.

A Gazprom news release made clear that the company firmly opposed an initiative by the minority shareholders to hire Deloitte & Touche to carry out an independent audit of the company's relations with fellow gas firm Itera.

"The invention of other control mechanisms contradicts existing legislation, and the principles of business ethics," the release said.

Gazprom's links with Itera have raised questions among some analysts about corporate governance and transparency at the company. An investors' rights group has said PricewaterhouseCoopers, Gazprom's regular auditor, should turn down the audit of links with Itera because there could be a conflict of interests. But Gazprom defended its position, saying it had always been open and law-abiding, providing financial results to international accounting standards since 1995.

## CZECH SKODA, RUSSIAN IZHMAH SAY JOINT VENTURE PLANS UNCERTAIN

**MOSCOW (Reuters)** – Skoda Auto, the Czech unit of German car maker Volkswagen, and Russian car maker Izhmash said the future of their planned joint venture was uncertain due to unresolved property issues and sales prospects.

Skoda and Izhmash signed a letter of intent in 1998 to set up a joint venture to assemble Skoda cars in Russia. Under an original plan worth \$250 million, the joint venture, registered in 1999, was to produce 80,000-170,000 cars by 2005.

"Now the joint venture's future is up in the air," said a spokeswoman for Izhmash Auto on Jan. 31. "There is no precise timeframe now, no production targets."

The joint venture project might be scrapped altogether and the companies might consider alternative cooperation plans, she added, noting that no formal decision to break the joint venture agreement had been made.

# Russian government tightens noose on ORT

**MOSCOW (AP)** – Russian tycoon Boris Berezovsky has sold his 49 percent stake in Russia's biggest television company ORT and the government has quickly moved to establish control over it, an ORT board member said Feb. 5.

The government previously controlled 51 percent of ORT, or Channel One, the only Russian television station that broadcasts throughout Russia and the former Soviet republics. Berezovsky controlled the remaining stock through several companies affiliated with him.

Igor Shabdurasulov, formerly ORT's director, said Feb. 5 that the government had already named replacements for five members of the board including himself. Shabdurasulov had represented Berezovsky's interests at the station.

The move gives all 11 seats on the board to state representatives, Shabdurasulov said, according to the Interfax news agency.

"The government has established de facto control over ORT," he said.

Shabdurasulov said that another politically connected Russian business-

man, Roman Abramovich, had purchased Berezovsky's stake in ORT but wasn't going to manage it.

"Abramovich doesn't need this stock for himself," he said, according to Interfax.

The business dailies *Kommersant* and *Vedomosti* said that Abramovich acted as the Kremlin's middleman, buying the stock in order to let the government control it. The government hasn't commented on the reports.

Abramovich owns one of Russia's biggest oil companies, Sibneft, and a large chunk of the nation's aluminum industry. He was a member of former President Boris Yeltsin's inner circle, and he has reportedly retained close ties with the administration of President Vladimir Putin. In contrast, Berezovsky has fallen out of favor with the Kremlin.

Meanwhile, another media mogul, Vladimir Gusinsky said in an interview published Feb. 5 that he still hopes to sell his stake in Russia's largest private television station, NTV, to a foreign investor in order to prevent the state



Roman Abramovich, left, and Boris Berezovsky. (Reuters file photos)

from taking control.

Gusinsky is under house arrest in Spain on Russian fraud charges. He has accused Putin of manipulating creditors and prosecutors in a move to take control of NTV, ending its independent, critical coverage.

In the interview with *Kommersant*,



Gusinsky accused the West of failing to protect media freedom in Russia.

"Putin thinks he's deceiving everyone, talking about democracy but in reality installing a regime of the secret services. But it's not so much that he's deceiving, as it is that the West is pretending to believe it," Gusinsky said.

# SKIING UKRAINE'S

*Quest to find snow in dry winter takes Post reporter to Ukraine's highest – and hardest-to-reach ski resort*

By STEVEN SHAKLAN  
Post Staff Writer

When planning my article on Drahobrat, a "resort" ski area in the Transcarpathia region, I didn't have anything unusual in mind. I'd planned a simple travel piece – a narrative planted with bits of pieces of practical information on travel, accommodations and the ski mountain itself.

My plans went awry almost as soon as I got off the train and took my first step on Transcarpathian soil. A lot of words describe a trip to Drahobrat. "Simple" isn't one of them.

Located on the slopes of 1,776-meter Mt. Styg, Drahobrat is Ukraine's highest ski resort. Like any high-altitude hill, it can be bitterly cold, windy and unbearable. But at the end of the day, it gets more snow, and while Slavske closes in mid-April, Drahobrat has been known to stay open until early June.

I had the misfortune of launching my ski mission on the weekend before a blizzard dumped six feet of powder on mountainous regions of Western Ukraine in the last week of January. At the time, the slopes at Slavske and the other Carpathian resorts were bare. So I set my sights on Drahobrat, which reportedly had some snow.

I boarded the Prykarpattia on a Thursday evening and arrived in Ivano-Frankivsk the following morning without incident.

That is the last sentence I will qualify with the phrase, "without incident."

I got off the train and hoped to catch a minibus to Yasinya, the jumping off point to the Drahobrat. But the minibuses won't take less than four people, so I was stuck seeking out a seat on a full-sized bus at the bus station (conveniently located next to the train station).



## OUTER LIMITS

Drahobrat's slope barren in this late January photo, are reportedly looking a lot whiter after heavy snowfalls in early February. (Post photo by Steven Shaklan)

Yasinya is a dot on the route between Ivano-Frankivsk and Mukachevo. I found this out by canvassing several passengers on the bus, two out of three saying the bus did indeed stop at Yasinya. Banking on that 66 percent chance, I hunkered down in the back, huddled in my seat and choked back the gas fumes that roiled up from the wet floorboards.

The bus traveled through the flatlands beyond Ivano-Frankivsk and

slowly climbed the Carpathian foothills, crawling through small towns that were no more than clusters of wooden houses with corrugated roofs and the occasional bulbous, tin-roofed church. There is little that distinguishes Yasinya from its neighboring towns. There is certainly no sign posted at its perpetually closed bus station. Perhaps it was the presence of several minibuses, or the novel addition of a non-operative movie theater, but something prompted me to ask my neighbor when we would arrive in Yasinya.

"This is it," he said, slightly confused as to how anyone could confuse this megalopolis from the myriad other villages that we had passed.

I vaulted over the seat and out the door, and the bus pulled away. It was noon and aside from a few local taxis that trawled for customers, there were no other signs of transport. There was one minibus driver perched in his 12-seater vehicle, munching on sunflower seeds and spitting the mash out the window. Between buckshot blasts of husks, I asked him where I could find a ride to Drahobrat.

"You alone?" he said. "You'll never get a ride alone. You should have been here in the morning. There is plenty of them then. Now there aren't any." For good measure he added, "How come your Ukrainian is so terrible?"

After some idle chatter in which he impugned other aspects of my life, he claimed he knew which drivers would go to Drahobrat and said he would let me know if he saw one. Then he returned to his seeds. I stood on the sidewalk for three hours, occasionally venturing forth to make equally fruitless inquiries around town.

After a bus headed back to Ivano-Frankivsk passed by, I decided it was now or never. I rapped on the seedearer's window and told him I

needed to find a ride soon.

"In this?" he asked, gesturing at his minibus and cackling. "It's 10 kilometers straight up. You need a jeep. Something with big wheels."

"Like that?" I said, pointing down the street at a navy blue hatchback with serious suspension.

"Yup," he said, spewing more husks. I walked over to the driver and asked him if he would drive the route to Drahobrat. I offered him Hr 30. He demanded Hr 60. I hopped in.

"It'd be less if you were traveling in a group," he added.

My driver proceeded down a back road and a muddy lane flanked by wooden shacks. He then stopped the car with a lurch, turned around and headed back toward town, stopping to pick up a friend. He then turned down another side street where another man stood waiting.

"So this is how it ends," I thought. I would say this to myself a number of times before my time at Drahobrat came to an end.

It turns out my driver was simply adding air to the tires and picking up a set of chains for the journey, both of which were sorely needed.

The Drahobrat resort area is only 10 km from Yasinya, but the grade is steep and the road is a road in name only. The path to Drahobrat is a rutted, muddy, icy, sinkhole-laden deer path that loops through decrepit farm country and then climbs tortuously up the side of Mt. Styg, often skirting embankments beyond which is a sheer drop. It is a one-lane affair, which means drivers must make way for oncoming vehicles. During one such detour, our jeep became wedged onto an embankment and was only freed when a local offered the services of his horse and wagon.

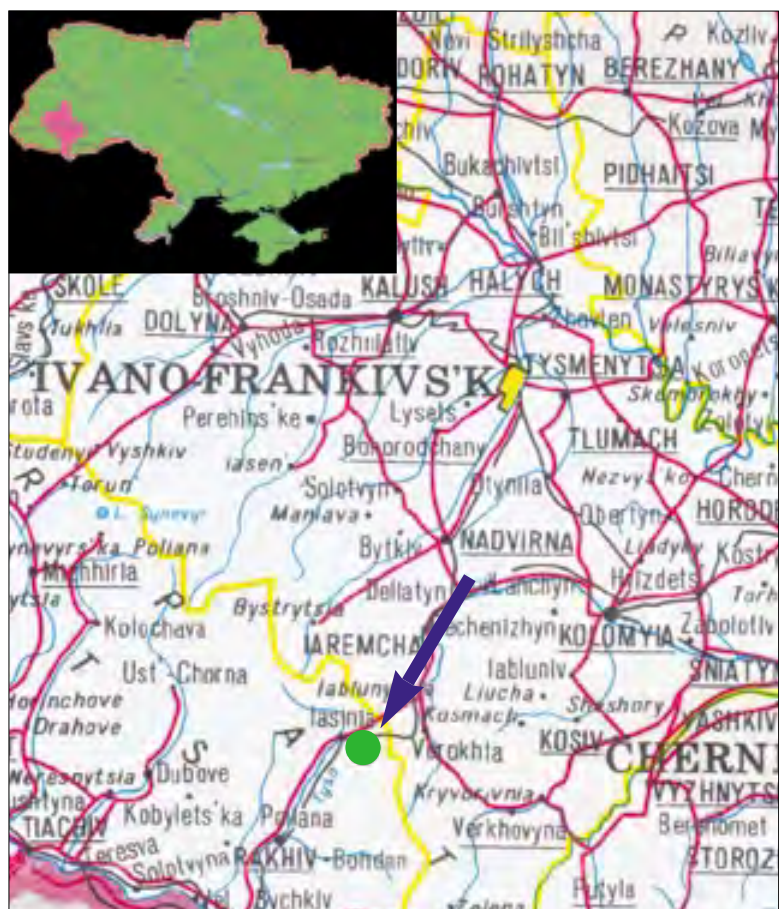
The jeep pitched and bucked so hard

that at one point I was thrown to the ceiling and into the lap of my driver. That same incident threw off the jeep's alignment, which we soon discovered as we skidded across the ice, stopping roughly six inches before a sheer drop of about 500 feet. My driver disembarked and rounded the vehicle, looking at it critically. After calibrating the tire situation, he then removed an axe from the back seat and proceeded to chop down a small tree. With this tree, he attempted to wedge the chassis back into form.

We arrived at a small clearing where an ancient, two-story wooden building stood along the road. The driver stopped the car and said that he could go no further. I paid him and entered the building, which turned out to be the Turbaza Drahobrat, referred to by locals as the Poor Drahobrat to distinguish it from the newly constructed luxury turbaza of the same name that lays roughly a half-mile ahead.

There are seven turbazy that line the road to the ski lifts. They vary in amenities, but most offer small, carpeted rooms, communal eating facilities, indoor plumbing and sauna. They are Spartan, but cozy in the mold of Swiss chalets. None of them had a room for me. Apparently, the lack of snow at lower-altitude resorts had shifted most of the ski traffic to Transcarpathian peaks like Drahobrat.

Three quarters of the way up the road I saw my driver and another young man dressed in ragged fatigues and a ski cap. They stopped when they saw me and waited for me to approach. My driver, whose name was Tommy (short for Tomash), and his friend Volodya took matters into their own hands. This was both a welcome and an unwelcome service.



Drahobrat is located 10 km. from Yasinya, about 100 km. south of Ivano Frankivsk.

## ENTERTAINMENT GUIDE

## FRIDAY 9

**SPORTS EXHIBITION/Ice skating show.** Russia's famous Theater of Ice Ballet Miniatures will perform at Sports Palace from Friday, Feb. 9, through Sunday, Feb. 11. The actors are all former figure skating champions, most notably five-time world champions Natalia Bestemyanova and Andrei Bukin. The theater will be performing a variety of classical pieces, including a medley of Tchaikovsky, Prokofiev, Ravel and Paganini. "Great Divertissement." *Ice ballet show performed by the Theater of Ice Ballet Miniatures (Russia). Figure skaters Natalia Bestemyanova, Andrei Bukin, Igor Bobrin star. Sports Palace. 7 p.m. Tickets Hr 25 to Hr 60.*

**CLUBS/Gala Radio party.** Gala Radio will be hosting "Love Galaxy," a Valentine's Day party at Hollywood on Friday, Feb. 9. Pop singers Oleksandr Ponomaryov, Andrey Kravchuk and Leri Vinn will perform. Gala's DJ Pasha will spin and be the party's emcee. The party will feature numerous contests, with prizes going to the winners. "Love Galaxy," a Gala Radio party. *Hollywood. 10 p.m. Tickets Hr 50.*

**CLUBS/Break dancing show.** Break dancing troupe Ruffneck Attack will be performing at Desperados from Friday, Feb. 9, through Sunday, Feb. 11. This break dancing troupe won first place at Kyiv's competition "Battle for Kyiv" on Feb. 4. Last year was a busy time for the group, which took part in many competitions, shot a video, and went on tour throughout Ukraine. *Ruffneck Attack dance troupe. Desperados. Midnight. Tickets Hr 50 on Feb. 9-10 and Hr 20 on Feb. 11.*

**SHOW/French cabarets.** Three top Paris cabaret troupes will perform at Ukraina Palace from Friday, Feb. 9, through Sunday, Feb. 11. Moulin Rouge, Crazy Horse and Lido de Paris are perhaps the world's best-known cabarets,



**Winners of the break dancing competition "Battle for Kyiv," Ruffneck Attack will be performing at Desperados from Feb. 9 - 11**



**Three world-renowned cabaret troupes with be kicking up their heels during in their three-day performance, titled Night Paris Fantasies at Ukraina Palace from Feb. 9 - 11.**

boasting some of the richest and most spectacular shows and some of the most talented dancers. Founded in 1889, Moulin Rouge is one of the world's oldest cabarets. "Night Paris Fantasies" show by French cabaret troupes. *Ukraina Palace. 7 p.m. Tickets Hr 100 to Hr 1,000.*

**CLUBS/Miss River Palace show.** *River Palace. 11 p.m.*

**CLUBS/Candy Men.** Male strip show. *Dynamo Lux. Midnight.*

**CLUBS/Ultra's St. Valentine's Weekend.** *Ultra. 11 p.m.*

**CLUBS/Red Snapper at Lavra Gallery.** Red Snapper plays electronic music with largely non-electronic instruments. A British-American trio, Red Snapper blends electronics, double bass, guitars and drums into a spicy cocktail of sleazy bass lines and break beats on a very cinematic tip. Tension characterizes Red Snapper's music. The band was founded in 1993, when the three musicians started playing together to create music for themselves, not for the public. Soon, the band became part of Phat Vibes, a musical project sponsored by Lucky Strike cigarettes aimed to popularize the newest American urban music among youth. *Red Snapper. Lavra Gallery. 9 p.m. For tickets*

prices, call 461-7914.

## SATURDAY 10

**SPORTS EXHIBITION/"Great Divertissement."** Ice ballet performed by the Theater of Ice Ballet Miniatures (Russia). Figure skaters Natalia Bestemyanova, Andrei Bukin, Igor Bobrin star. *Sports Palace. 7 p.m. Tickets Hr 25 to Hr 60. (See Fri. 9 listing for further details.)*

**SHOWS/"Night Paris Fantasies" show by French cabaret troupes.** *Ukraina Palace. 7 p.m. Tickets Hr 100 to Hr 1,000. (See Fri. 9 listing for further details.)*

**CLUBS/Ultra's St. Valentine's Weekend.** DJs Gans and Sardina, dance troupes Konvulsii Lu-Lu, Jam. *Ultra. 11 p.m.*

**CLUBS/Ruffneck Attack dance troupe.** *Desperados. Midnight. Tickets Hr 50. (See Fri. 9 listing for further details.)*

**CLUBS/Candy Men.** Male erotic show. *Dynamo Lux. Midnight.*

**CONCERT/Ivanushki International.** *Saigon. Midnight.*

## SUNDAY 11

**SPORTS EXHIBITION/"Great Divertissement."** Ice ballet performed by the Theater of Ice Ballet Miniatures (Russia). Figure skaters Natalia Bestemyanova, Andrei Bukin, Igor Bobrin star. *Sports Palace. 7 p.m. Tickets Hr 25 to Hr 60. (See Fri. 9 listing for further details.)*

**CLUBS/Ruffneck Attack dance troupe.** *Desperados. Midnight. Tickets Hr 20. (See Fri. 9*



**Russia's Theater of Ice Ballet Miniatures, with skating champions Natalia Bestemyanova and Igor Bobrin, will be performing Feb. 9-11 at Sports Palace.**

listing for further details.)

**CLUBS/Ultra's St. Valentine's Weekend.** *Boomerang Disco. 5 p.m.*

**SHOW/"Night Paris Fantasies," show by French cabaret troupes.** *Ukraina Palace. 7 p.m. Tickets Hr 100 to Hr 1,000. (See Fri. 9 listing for further details.)*

**CLUBS/Fashion show by many Ukrainian designers.** *Pop concert. Hollywood. 9 p.m.*

**CLUBS/Bomfunk and MC's band and DJ Willie.** *Desperados. 10 p.m.*

## TUESDAY 13

**SPORTS/Basketball.** BC Kyiv vs. Kalev (Tallinn). *Sports Palace. 6 p.m. Tickets Hr 5 and Hr 10.*

## WEDNESDAY 14

**CONCERT/"20th Century Hits," concert of love songs.** Singers Dmytro Hnatyuk, Taras Petrynenko, Pavlo Zibrov, Nina Matviyenko, Lilia Sandulesa, Andrey Kravchuk perform. *Ukraina Palace. 7 p.m.*

**CONCERT/"Fallen Angel," concert.** Vladimir Kuzmin and Dinamik band (Russia). *International Culture and Arts Center. 7 p.m.*

**CLUBS/St. Valentine's Day party.** *Bingo. 11 p.m.*

**CLUBS/Art Obstel clown group and pop band Cappuccino.** *River Palace. 11 p.m.*

## THURSDAY 15

**CLUBS/Old Hobo.** Caribbean Club is launching a new show for men only. Titled "Old Hobo," the show will run every Thursday starting Feb. 15 and will feature an erotic show, live bands performing 1960s and 1970s hits, and a retro disco starting at 11:30 p.m. Men get a free glass of rum and a cigar at the door. *Old Hobo show. Caribbean Club. 9 p.m. Free admission. Women are allowed entrance after 11:30 p.m.*

**OUTSIDE KYIV/Red Snapper band.** Feb. 14, Dnipropetrovsk; Feb. 16, Kharkiv; Feb. 18, Donetsk. *(See Fri. 9 listing for further details.)*

## UPCOMING EVENTS

The FSA FLEX Alumni would like to invite you to the First Annual Charity Ball in support of Orphanage #14. The Charity Ball will take place at the Hotel



**British-American trio, Red Snapper, will be performing at Lavra Gallery on Feb. 9. The performance kicks off a music project aimed to popularize American urban music.**

Moskva on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. *To order tickets, call 224-7356 (Monday through Friday, 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.) Tickets cost Hr 150. The number of tickets is limited.*

## JAZZ AND BLUES CALENDAR

**Buddy Guy**  
Fri 9 Serhy Shulika. 7 p.m. Foxtrot. 9 p.m.  
Sat 10 Serhy Shulika. 7 p.m. Second Breath. 9 p.m.  
Sun 11 Night Groove band. 9 p.m.

**Cowboy Club**  
Fri 9 Alex Dixieland. 10:30 p.m.  
Sat 10 Mary W Hunter. 10:30 p.m.  
Sun 11 Jankoi Brothers. 10:30 p.m.  
Mon 12 Second Branch. 10:30 p.m.  
Tue 13 Mary W Hunter. 10:30 p.m.  
Wed 14 Southern Hot Guys. 10 p.m.  
Thu 15 Foxtrot. 10:30 p.m.

**River Palace (Bar)**  
Fri 9 Jankoi Brothers. Midnight-4 a.m.  
Sat 10 Rock and roll. CD Band. Midnight-4 a.m.  
Sun 11 Double Density. 10 p.m.-4 a.m.  
Mon 12 Rendez-vous. 10 p.m.-4 a.m.  
Tue 13 Alex Dixieland. Midnight-4 a.m.  
Wed 14 Double Density. 10 p.m.-4 a.m.  
Thu 15 Rendez-vous. 10 p.m.-4 a.m.

## CLUBS

(R=Restaurant on premises)

Al Capone. 26 Kostyantynivska. 417-6658.  
Barry. 5 Kovalsky. Dorm 14.  
Big Boy Club. 26/2 Harmatna. 441-4432.  
Bingo. 112 Peremohy. 444-2555.  
Budapest (R). 3 Leontovycha. 234-0347.  
Cabaret. 12 Hospitalna. 294-3006.  
Caribbean Club (R). 4 Kominterny. 244-4290.  
Chicago. 3 Okipnoyi. 517-4148.  
Cinema Club. 1 Entuziastiv. 555-0641.  
Club Resttown. 3 Zheleznyaka. 444-8150, 444-7370.  
Cesky Lev 3 Lysenka. 234-4637.  
Dynamo Lux. 3 Hrushevs'koho. 229-2884.  
Evrika (R). 30A Lesi Ukrayinky. 295-9081.  
Fiesta. 115 Gorkoho. 269-4029.  
Harley Club (R). 12 Hospitalna. 247-8651.  
Hollywood. 134 Frunze. 435-4068.  
Joss (R). 2 Okipnoyi. 516-8674.  
Kino Club. Kino Kyivska Rus, 93 Artema. 219-4903.  
Mirage (R). 37/41 Artema. 246-9529.  
Nayada (R). 105 Saksahanskoho. 227-5387.  
Night Fly. Sholudenko Vysygorod. 296-56-343.  
Night Mask (R). 19 Shota Rustaveli. 246-7829.  
New York. 2 Perova. 558-2545.  
Orki. 29/2 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho. 228-1187.  
Park Center. 12 Rusanivska Naberezhna. 555-9847.  
Promzona (R). 18 Metallistov. 446-1248.  
Red and Black. 24 Peremohy. 274-0953.  
River Palace (R). Dnipro metro. 416-8204.  
Saigon (R). Inside Olympic Stadium. 244-2237.  
Split (R). 6 Prorizna. 228-5877.  
Strike Bowling Club (R). 84 Peremohy. 442-6464.  
Ultra. 36A Shchorsa. 269-2775.  
Vernisazh (R). 17 Sichnevoho Povstannya. 290-5289.  
Veronica. 31 Nikol'sko-Botanichna. 244-2900.  
Zair. 15 Hryboyedova. Irpin. (297) 62-248

## BARS/PUBS

Amigo Disco Bar. 14 Chervonoarmiyska. 235-9469.  
Baskerville. 33 Peremohy. 243-4802.  
Buddy Guy Blues Club. Passazh. 228-5577.  
Blindazh. 15A Mala Zhytomyrska. 228-1511.  
Cowboy Club. Passazh. 228-1717.  
Desperados. 20 Artema. 216-3198.  
Eric's Bierstube. 20 Chervonoarmiyska. 235-9472.  
Jazz Club. 3 Druzhby Narodiv. 252-8881.

Jerome's Tavern. 76 Chervonoarmiyska. 248-7366.  
John Bull Pub. 36 Saksahanskoho. 220-1369.  
Korona. 4 Rohnedynska. 220-0216.  
Manhattan. 12 Hospitalna. 220-1978.  
Massandra. 19/21 Borysohlibska. 416-0440.  
Miami Blues. 114 Chervonoarmiyska. 252-8721.  
Non-Stop. 6 Peremohy. 216-4073.  
O'Brien's Irish Pub. 17a Mykhailivska. 229-1584.  
Olexandria. 6 Sahaydachnoho. 416-0109.  
Olzhen Dvir. 7 Desyatynnyi. 212-3962.  
Opera Cafe. 51/53 Volodymyrska. 228-2836.  
Planeta Sport. 3 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho. 229-7929.  
Pilsner Bar. 20 Pushkinska. 225-2101.  
Stara Fortetsia. 4 Hospitalna. 294-3991.  
Stray Dog. 10 Nesterovskiy. 466-1274.  
Superbowl. 4 Chekhovskiy. 234-5656.  
Vechirny Kyiv. Passazh. 228-7922.  
The Wall. 2 Besarabska. 224-1259.

## CAFES/COFFEE SHOPS

Kaffa. 3 Shevchenko prov. 464-0505.  
Passazh Coffee House. 15 Khreshchatyk. 229-1209.  
Bon Bon. 3 Leontovycha. Passazh. 228-2782.  
Internet Cafes  
Adler. 7A Serafymovycha. 553-5597.  
Arkada. 35 Heroiv Dnipra. 412-2077.  
Battle.da. 36A Schorsa. 269-2775.  
Cash. 1 Drayzera. 547-5583.  
Colliseum. 27A Maksyma Kryvonosa. 277-8043.  
Cyber Cafe. 21 Prorizna. 228-0548.  
DieVer. 23 Yerevanska. 242-6195.  
Gama. 1 Mitskevycha. 242-0346.  
Internet Cafe. 7 Popudrenko. 559-7172, 559-7016.  
Internet Cafe. 111/113 Chervonoarmiyska. 261-1908.  
Internet Cafe. 139/141 Borschahivska. 457-3151.  
LAN. 36 Bazhana apt. 161. 574-5357.  
Lion. 83a Melnikova. 213-5283.  
Matrix. 5/1 Sotsialistychna. 276-8136.  
Orki. 29/2 Khmelnytskoho. 228-1187.  
Oven. 73 Artema. 2nd fl. 244-6365.  
OverGame. 2 Maidan Nezalezhnosti. 2nd fl. 229-0253, 229-0323.  
Portal. 1/3 Mykhailivska, 2nd fl. 464-0553.  
Samtel Group. 9 Tolstoho. 235-9595.  
Ukrainian International Computer Club. 57/3 Chervonoarmiyska. 227-1275.  
Virtual Tower. 12 Hospitalna. 294-2695.  
Zeppelin. 7/2 Stelmakha. 250-9562.

## RESTAURANTS

**Asian**  
Aist. 174a Gorkhova. 268-1742.  
Hanoi. 6 Sichnevoho Povst. 290-3228.  
Hokkaido. 36b Saksahanskoho. 246-6610.  
Korea Hills. 129 Saksahanskoho. 235-9796.  
Kyoto. Turyst Hotel (Left Bank). 516-2145.  
Kytaisky Smak. 54 Chkalova.  
Nobu Sushi Bar. 12 Shota Rustaveli. 246-7734.  
Pekin. 57 Chygorina. 269-6145.  
San Tori. 41 Sahaydachnoho. 462-4994.  
Seoul. 160 Gorkoho. 268-5529.  
Tienli. 48a Taras Shevchenka. 225-7350.  
Tokyo. 10 Zoolohichna. 490-0604.  
Vostok. 11 Naberezhno-Khr. 416-5375.

## American

Alkatraz. 67 Saksahanskoho. 227-1278.  
Arizona BBQ. 25 Nab.-Khresh. 416-2438.  
Boston Burger. 114 Chervonoarmiyska 252-8851.  
El Toro. 14 Gorkoho. 227-2327.  
Time Out. 50 Gorkoho. 248-7396  
Uncle Sam. 37 Zhylyanska. 227-2000.

## European

011. 18 Illinska. 416-0001.  
Concord. Donbass Bus. Center. 229-5512.  
Deja vu. 30 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho. 235-9802.  
Europeysky. 57 Volodymyrska. 244-1880.  
Niagra. 129a Saksahanskoho. 224-6521.  
Premier. 10 Shelokivhna. 253-3008, 253-7691.  
Renaissance. 26 Shevchenko. 235-6153.  
Steak House. 10 Chokolivsky. 241-0597.

## French

Chateau de Fleur. 24 Khreshchatyk. 228-7800.  
Chicot. 27 Ivano Franko. 246-5283.  
Dixieland. 14/2 Kyrylo-Mefodiyivska. 274-1137.  
Gavroche. 3/7 Mezhygirska. 416-5524.  
Le Grand Cafe. 4 Museyny Provolok. 228-7208.  
Provence. 165 Gorkoho. 261-1620.  
Richelieu. 23 Chervonoarmiyska. 235-8862.  
Surpryz. 3 Pyrohova. 235-7234.  
Svitlytsya. 13b Andriyivskiy uzviz. 416-3186.  
Zaporizhya. 27 Sahaydachnoho. 416-2309.

## Georgian

Gorets. 9 Vorovskoho. 212-1549.

Mimino. 10 Spaska. 417-3545.  
**German/Austrian**  
Avgustin. 12/7 Hrushevs'koho. 290-4114.  
Edelweis. 7 Sahaydachnoho. 416-0213.  
Mylii Avgustyn. 18 Chervonoarmiyska. 224-9129.  
Vienna. 11 Pushkinska. 229-2401.  
Winstub. 9 Andriyivska. 416-8277.

## Greek

Acropol. 4 Hrushevs'koho. 229-0437.  
Maksimal. 116 Gorkoho. 268-3768.

## Indian

Himalaya. 23 Khreshchatyk. 462-0437.  
Ishan Rashoi. 13 Druzhby Narodov. 261-1788.  
Taj. 25 Litnya. 268-7200.

## Italian

Arlechino Pizza. 2 Shevchenko. 225-8343.  
Celentano. 41 Sahaydachnoho. 416-0046.  
Columbus 15 Prorizna. 228-9370.  
Da Mario. 52 Saksahanskoho. 220-8062.  
Da Vinci. Yevropeyska ploscha. 229-0059.  
Il Capo. 68 Saksahanskoho. 220-7332.  
La Bella. 7 Pushkinska. 229-2701.  
Lola Pizza. 5 Lva Tolstoho. 234-7423.  
Pantagruel. 1 Lysenka. 228-8142.  
Papa Carlo. 26 Dehtyaryivska. 213-0832.  
Portofino. 5 Sofiyivska. 229-8771.  
Primavera. 6 Melnikova. 213-3283.  
Vezuvio. 25 Reitarska. 228-3028.  
Vito. 29a Velyka Zhytomyrska. 212-0641.

## Jewish

Haifa. 57 Kostyantynivska. 417-2512.

## Mexican

Azteka. 31A Vorovskoho. 216-8656.  
Chico's. 112a Saksahanskoho. 235-4097.  
Tequila House. 8 Spaska. 417-0358.

## Middle Eastern

Express Pizza. 1 Fizkultury. 227-5550.  
Layaly Odessa. 114 Chervonoarmiyska. 269-7707.

## Seafood

Pelikan. 3 Poshtova ploscha. 463-7360.  
Poseidon. Nabarezhnaya shose. 254-2137.  
Venezia. 3a Rusanovska Naberezhnaya. 555-1730.

Vydubychi. 5 Pecherskaya Naberezhnaya. 294-7148.  
**Spanish**  
Barcelona. 23 Kopernyka. 213-7063.  
Gold Cup. 22 Moskovska. 254-2204.

## Turkish

Bosphorus. 97 Gorkoho. 269-0551.

## Ukrainian

Akara. 95 Chervonoarmiyska. 268-3428.  
Apollo. Passazh. 229-0437.  
Arkada. 37 Chokolovskiy. 242-0128.  
Art Restaurant Gallery. 15 Prorizna. 228-9370.  
Atlanta. 56 Chervonoarmiyska. 227-1073.  
Attika. 4 Zankovetskoyi. 229-4642.  
Cafe Butterfly. 5b Baseyna. 244-9138.  
Camelot. 10 Klovs'ky uzviz. 254-4888.  
Caravella. Dniprovka Naberezhna. 553-9919.  
Cave (Pechera). 10A Tarasovska. 244-3372.  
Ermitazh. 6 Velyka Zhytomyrska. 229-2812.  
Hostyniy Dvir. 4 Kontraktova ploscha. 416-6876.  
Iveria. 43 Pushkinska. No tel.  
Jeppen. 8 Lvivska ploscha. 212-5106.  
Khutorok. Naberezhno-Khreshchatytska. 416-80-39.  
Knyazhiy Grad. 2 V. Zhytomyrska. 229-8611.  
Korchma Bila Krynystya. 32 Gorkoho. 220-8186.  
Korifey 6 Horodetskoho. 228-5628.  
Kozchok. 118 Kirovohradska. 250-9352, 250-9348.  
Kozak Mamai. 4 Prorizna. 228-4273.  
Kruhla Bashta. 44 Schorsa. 294-6537.  
Limpopo. 16 V. Heroiv Stalinhradu. 412-0010.  
Lion. Passazh. 228-7883.  
Mak Smak. 2 Besarabska. 234-8484.  
Maxym. 21 B. Khmelnytskoho. 224-7021.  
Mlin. Hydropark waterfront. 516-5728.  
Nayada. 105 Saksahanskoho. 227-5387.  
Olymp. 40 Saksahanskoho. 220-5475.  
Pokhmelie. 18/24 Dmitrevska. 246-9996.  
Rusya. 17 Mezhyhirska. 416 8467.  
Shchekavitsya. 46/52 Kostyantynivska. 417-1472.  
Shynok U Seni I Gogy. 4 Shota Rustaveli. 234-0692.  
Sprut. 11 Artema. 212-1079.  
Tirol. 10 Prorizna. 228-0262.  
Tsarske Selo. 42/1 Sichn. Povs. 573-9775.  
U Pani Aneli. 44 Moskovska. 254-2214.  
Ukraina. 5/7 Shevchenka. 229-8614.  
White Scorpion. 19 Baseyna. 246-4125.  
Za Dvoma Zaytsyami. 34 Andriyivskiy uzviz. 416-3516

# The Mariinsky shines with 'Jewels'

By ANNA KOZMINA  
Post Staff Writer

On Tuesday, Feb. 20, Ukraina Palace will play host to St. Petersburg's Mariinsky Ballet Theater performs "Jewels," a ballet originally staged by contemporary choreographer George Balanchine (1904-1983).

"Jewels" consists of a trio of ballets that use lighting, motion and costume to metaphorically represent three types of precious stones: emeralds, rubies and diamonds. Each stone alludes to, respectively, French romanticism, American neo-classicism and the Russian imperial ballet.

The set of "Jewels" resembles a jewelry casket, with imaginative lighting that changes in each act to reflect the colors of the three gemstones - green, red and white.

The first act - Emeralds - is set to the music of Gabriel Faure's two dramatic scores, Pelleas et Melisande and Shylock. In Emeralds, 10 ballerinas dance on point throughout the act. Moving their hands and torso fluidly, the dancers resemble water nymphs on a moonlit meadow.

The second act is the playful and sarcastic Rubies, set to Igor Stravinsky's Capriccio. World famous ballerina Diana Vishneva brings additional passion to Rubies, which has the feel of a French cabaret circa 1900. Ballet critics who are more exposed to classical ballet traditions have called the piece a bit too "athletic," but most contemporary dance lovers appreciate the jazzy themes of this act.

Regal and elegant, Diamonds is performed to excerpts from Tchaikovsky's Symphony #3 in D Major. Here dancers Uliana Lopatkina and Igor Zelenskiy put on the most captivating duet of the ballet.

Balanchine, a Russian-born American, first staged "Jewels" in 1967 for the New York City Ballet.

After the play came out, American newspapers wrote that Balanchine had conceived his idea during a visit to the



Dancers Uliana Lopatkina and Igor Zelenskiy perform Diamonds. (Photo courtesy of Alliance Shatro production company)

jewel vaults of New York City's Van Cleef and Arpels.

Balanchine was born in St. Petersburg in 1904. His father was Georgian composer Meliton Balanchivadze. Early in life, Balanchine's knowledge of music far exceeded that of his fellow choreographers. He began studying the piano at the age of 5, and at 9 he entered the Imperial Ballet School.

Balanchine made his dancing debut at the age of 10 as a cupid in the Mariinsky Theater Ballet Company's production of "The Sleeping Beauty." He joined the company as a member of the theater's ballet corps at 17 and staged one work for them, titled "Enigmas."

In 1924, Balanchine was one of four dancers who left the newly formed Soviet Union for a tour of Western Europe. They were invited by impresario Serge Diaghilev to audition for his Ballets Russes in Paris and were all

accepted into the company. Never to return to the former Soviet Union, all four became distinguished in Europe and the United States.

Later, Balanchine formed his own company, Les Ballets, collaborating with such leading theatrical figures as Bertold Brecht and Kurt Weill and composers Darius Milhaud and Henri Sauguet.

It was during this period that Balanchine met Lincoln Kirstein, the Boston-born dance connoisseur whose dream was to establish an American school of ballet equivalent to the European schools, as well as an American ballet company. Balanchine accepted the invitation. The first outcome of the Balanchine-Kirstein collaboration was the School of American Ballet, which still exists today. They also set up a touring company of dancers from the school and called it the American Ballet. The troupe

was sponsored by Nelson Rockefeller.

In 1948, the troupe joined the New York City Center municipal complex as the New York City Ballet. Balanchine served as artistic director and chief choreographer to the company's more than 175 productions.

During its Soviet Union tour in 1972, the New York City Ballet performed "Jewels." Today, Balanchine's alma mater, the Mariinsky, has six ballets by Balanchine in its repertoire. It is the only ballet company outside the United States to stage "Jewels" in its entirety. Wanting to perform the ballet as close as possible to the original, the Mariinsky invited American choreographers who once worked closely with Balanchine to work with them.

Materials from Web sites on George Balanchine and the Mariinsky Theater was used in this story.

## MUSIC

House of Organ and Chamber Music  
Fri 9 Bach, Handel, Bizet. Ukraina Brass Quintet.  
Sat 10 "Pushkin and Music," concert. (mezzo soprano, piano).  
Sun 11 Albinoni, Vivaldi, Handel. (soprano, organ, violin)  
Tue 13 Vivaldi, Bach, Schumann. (violin, cello, clarinet, organ, piano, harpsichord).  
Wed 14 Bach. Valeria Balakhovska (organ).  
Thu 15 Bach, Handel, Bizet. Ukraina Brass Quintet.

National Philharmonic  
Hall of Columns  
Fri 9 Lysenko, Hulak-Artemovsky, Fomin. Vocal Music concert. (baritone, soprano, piano).  
Sat 10 Bandurists Ensemble. Ukrainian folk songs. (soprano).  
Sun 11 La Traviata, opera.  
Tue 13 Shostakovich, Ravel. National Philharmonic Symphony Orchestra.  
Wed 14 Waltz evening. National Variety and Symphony Orchestra.

National Opera  
Fri 9 Natalka Poltavka, opera.  
Sat 10 Silfida, ballet.  
Sun 11 Snow White and Seven Dwarfs, ballet. Noon.  
Sun 11 La Traviata, opera.  
Wed 14 Barber of Seville, opera.

Operetta  
Fri 9 Cloclo.  
Sat 10 Marica.  
Sun 11 Strange Story. Noon.  
Sun 11 Little Dutch Girl.  
Wed 14 National actor Heorhiy Horyushko commemoration.  
Thu 15 Orpheus in Hades.

## THEATERS

(All plays begin at 7 p.m. unless otherwise noted)

Lesya Ukrainka Theater  
Fri 9 Tolbebe and Her Demon.  
Sat 10 Russian-style Divorce.  
Sun 11 School for Scandal.  
Tue 13 Masquerade Fun.  
Thu 15 I Want to Buy Your Husband. Okay Theater (Moscow) guest performance. Lyudmila Kasatkina, Valentin Smirnitky, Irina Zhorzh star.

Ivan Franko Theater  
Fri 9 Pygmalion.  
Sat 10 Three Sisters.  
Sun 11 Bremen Musicians. Noon.  
Sun 11 Kean IV.  
Tue 13 Master and Margarita.  
Wed 14 Chasing Two Hares.  
Thu 15 Marquise de Sade.

Drama and Comedy Theater  
Fri 9 That's How the Summer Ended.  
Sat 10 Magic Stone. Noon.  
Sat 10 Little Devil.  
Sun 11 A Little Wine or 70 Revolutions. 3 p.m.  
Sun 11 Anna Karenina.  
Tue 13 Let's Kill a Man.  
Wed 14 An ideal Husband.  
Thu 15 Deceived.

## GALLERIES

National Art Museum  
Paintings by Oleksandr Murashko. Through March 1.

Center for Contemporary Art  
"Malarstwo," painting project by Leon Tarasewicz and Tiberi Silvasi. Through Feb. 17. 5 p.m.

Sovi Art Gallery  
"Secret Archive," exhibit of paintings by Oleksandr Dubovyk. Through Feb. 10.  
Installations by Hleb Vsheslavsky. Through Feb. 24.

Taras Shevchenko State Museum  
"Himalayas," exhibit of paintings by Nikolai Rerich. Through Feb. 20.

Nef Gallery. 21 Mazepi (Pecherska Lavra)  
Paintings by Yury Nikitin. Through Feb. 18.

ARTEast  
Paintings by Maryna Skuhareva. Through Feb. 26.

Irena  
"Apocrypha," exhibit of batik and textile installation by Natalia Hronska. Open 10:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. Through Feb. 14.

L Art Gallery  
Paintings by Petro Stolyarenko. Through Feb. 13.  
"Long Live Labor!" exhibit of paintings by Ukrainian artists. Through Feb. 13.

Ukrainian Decorative and Applied Arts Museum, (21 Ivana Mazepi)  
Permanent exhibit of folk and naive paintings. Exhibit of glass, porcelain, ceramics, folk costume collection, kylims, pysankas (Easter eggs), embroidered cloths, towels of the 19 - 20th centuries.

Folk Artists' Union Exhibition Hall, (7A Borysohlybska)  
Folk decorative paintings by Paraska Homa. Through Feb. 20.

Triptych Gallery  
"Ksenia's Day," exhibit of graphics by Oksana Berbeka-Stratychuk, Oksana Kyrypenko, Oksana Milovzorova and Ksenia Hodakovskaya. Through Feb. 17.

Maysternya Gallery, Artist's House  
Graphics by Yury Lutskevych. Through Feb. 20.

Salon Chef d'Oeuvre, (37 Chervonoarmiyka)  
Permanent exhibit of icons of the 17 - 19th centuries.

Hetman Museum, (16B Spasska)  
Permanent exhibit "Hetman Pavlo Skoropatsky and the Ukrainian State of 1918."

Ivan Kavalieridze Gallery, (21 Andriyivsky uzviz)  
Paintings by Viktor Deisun. Through Feb. 14.

Persona Gallery, (57/3 Chervonoarmiyka)  
"Royal Games" and "Evangelical Motives," exhibits of graphics by Kateryna Hutnikova and Yulia Maistrenko. Opening Feb. 3. Through Feb. 28.

## MOVIE LISTINGS

### UKRAINA CINEMA

**THE SIXTH DAY (USA)** English with Russian subtitles. A helicopter pilot survives a near-fatal accident and returns to his home - to find that he's been replaced by an exact duplicate of himself, a clone. When the clone's creators find out the pilot didn't die in the crash, the hunt is on. Through Feb. 28, 10:30 a.m., 1 p.m., 3:30 p.m., 6 p.m. 8:30 p.m., 11 p.m.

### ZHOVTEN

**THE SIXTH DAY (USA)** Russian dubbing. A helicopter pilot survives a near-fatal accident and returns to his home - to find that he's been replaced by an exact duplicate of himself, a clone. When the clone's creators find out the pilot didn't die in the crash, the hunt is on. Feb. 8-15, 10 a.m., 12 p.m., 4:20 p.m., 8:40 p.m. Feb. 16-21, 1:20 p.m., 3:40 p.m., 6 p.m.

**MISSION IMPOSSIBLE 2 (USA)** Russian dubbing. IMF agent Ethan Hunt has been sent on a mission to retrieve and destroy the supply of a genetically created disease called "Chimera." His mission is made impossible due to the fact that he is not the only person after samples of the disease. He must also contend with a gang of international terrorists headed by a turned bad former IMF agent who has already managed to steal the cure. Feb. 16, 11 a.m., 8:20 p.m.

### KINO PALACE

**The Dancer. (USA)** Russian dubbing. The story of a mute dance teacher who is a huge success in her Brooklyn neighborhood, but whose dreams of dancing professionally in a Broadway production are a big reach. Since Feb. 2. Small Hall

**Bedazzled. (USA)** Russian dubbing. A romantic comedy starring Brendan Fraser as Elliot Richards, a dull computer programmer who is in love with Alison Gardner, a gorgeous coworker who doesn't even know he exists. In a desperate attempt to gain Alison's affections, Brendan naively strikes up a deal with the devil, a seductive woman who promises Elliot seven wishes in exchange for his soul. Since Feb. 1. Small Hall

**Cast Away. (USA)** Russian dubbing. Chuck, a top international manager for FedEx, and Kelly, a Ph.D.

Kyiv cinemas often change show times or substitute films without notice. Readers are advised to confirm listed times by telephone.

student, are in love and heading towards marriage. Then Chuck's plane to Malaysia ditches at sea during a terrible storm. He's the only survivor, and he washes up on a tiny island with nothing but some flotsam and jetsam from the aircraft's cargo. Starts Feb 9. Big Hall

Call Kino Palace at 228-7223 for exact times.

### KINOPANORAMA

**Nutty Professor II (USA)** Russian dubbing. Professor Sherman Klump is getting married. And the Klump family could not be more delighted for him. But Buddy Love, his Mr. Hyde alter-ego from the first film, is back and trying to make it on his own. Buddy keeps resurfacing in untimely outbursts, and threatening the portly professor's plans to marry colleague Denise Gaines. Feb. 9-22, 2 p.m., 4 p.m.

**Dancer in the Dark (Denmark)** Russian dubbing. Selma has emigrated with her son from Eastern Europe to America. The year is 1964. Selma works day and night to save her son from the same disease she suffers from, a disease that inevitably will make her blind. But Selma has the energy to live because of her secret! She loves musicals. When life feels tough she can pretend that she is in the wonderful world of musicals...just for a short moment. Feb. 9-22, 11:30 a.m., 6 p.m., 8:30 p.m.

### ENGLISH CLUB

**Shadowlands (USA)** "Jack" Lewis is living a monk-like existence at Oxford University, circa 1952, along with his fellow bachelor brother. Into Jack's quiet life breezes the passionate flury of American poet Joy Gresham with whom he has been corresponding for several years, and the two become friends. Unexpectedly, Jack agrees to marry Joy so she can attain British citizenship. At first, it is simply a marriage of convenience, but as the film progresses, the two gradually fall in love. Feb. 10, 5:30 p.m.

**African Queen (USA)** Opposites attract aboard steamer as boozing boatman and sober do-gooder survive African river journey and attack German warship. Forester's story, Humphrey Bogart's Oscar winning performance, chemistry, exotic locale combine for classic adventure/romance. Feb. 17, 5:30 p.m.

## VENUES

### CINEMA

Dom Kino. 6 Saksahanskoho, 227-4663.  
English Club. 11A Panas Myrnoho, 291-2109.  
Kino Palace. 1 Instytutka, 228-7223.  
Kinopanorama. 19 Shota Rustaveli, 227-3041.  
Zhovten. 26 Kostyantynivska. 417-6658.  
Ukraina Cinema. 5 Horodetskoho. 229-6301.

### CONCERT VENUES

Bolshevik Plant Concert Hall. 38 Prospekt Perehomy, 446-0416.  
House of Organ. 77 Chervonoarmiyka, 269-5678.  
International Culture and Arts Center. 1 Instytutka.  
Kyiv Aviation Institute Concert Hall. 1 Komarova prospekt, 488-3300.  
Kyiv Polytechnic Institute Concert Hall. 37 Perehomy prospekt, 441-1818.  
National Music Academy. 1/3 Horodetskoho, 229-0792  
National Philharmonic. 2 Volodymyrska, 229-6251.  
National Opera Theater. 50 Volodymyrska, 224-7165.  
National Radio Company concert hall. 5A Leonida Pervomaiskoho.  
Officers House. 30/1 Hrushevskoho, 224-2578.  
Operetta Theater. 53/3 Chervonoarmiyka, 227-2630.  
Reunion Arch. 2 Volodymyrsky uzviz 2, behind National Philharmonic.  
Rostok Center. 26/2 Harmatna.  
Scientists House. 45 Volodymyrska, 224-3190.  
Spivoche Pole. Near WWII Museum (end stop of trolley 20.)  
Sports Palace. 1 Sportyvna. 246-7406.  
St. Oleksandr's Catholic Church. 18 Kostyolna.  
Teachers House. 57 Volodymyrska, 224-0291.  
Ukraina Palace Concert Hall. 103 Chervonoarmiyka, 268-9250.  
Ukrainian Armed Forces Concert Hall. 6 Irynynska, 212-7211.  
Ukrainian House. 2 Khreshchatyk, 290-3590.

### GALLERIES AND EXHIBIT HALLS

36. 36 Andriyivsky uzviz, 228-2985.  
Aquarel. 6 Kostyolna, 229-1438.  
Architects House. 7 Hrinchenka.  
ARTEast. 13 Reitarska, 229-6552.  
Artists' House. 1/5 Artema, 212-0535.  
Artists' Union Exhibit Hall. 12 Chervonoarmiyka, 224-4006.  
Contemporary Art Center. 2 Skovorody, 416-2262.  
French Cultural Center. 194 Gorkoho, 269-2759.  
Grifon. 6 Kostyolna.  
Irena. 35 Artema, 244-7493.  
Kyiv University Gallery. 60 Volodymyrska, (red building).  
L Art. 2 Andriyivsky uzviz, 416-0320.  
Lavra. 17 Sichnevoho Povstannya.  
M Gallery. 2 Sofiyska, 228-1241.  
National Art Museum. 6 Hrushevskoho, 228-1357.  
One Street Museum. 2B Andriyivsky uzviz.  
Post Office Museum. 2 Poshтова ploshcha.  
Russian Art Museum. 9 Tereshchenkivska, 224-6218.  
SoviArt Gallery. 11 Kostyolna, 229-6240.  
Studio Karas. 22A Andriyivsky uzviz, 2nd fl., 416-0247.  
Tadzio. 10A Andriyivsky uzviz, 2nd fl., 416-1297.  
Triptych. 34 Andriyivsky uzviz, 229-0759.

### THEATERS

Actors House. 7 Yaroslaviv Val.  
Bravo. 79 Honchara.  
Dakh Theater Center. 136 Chervonoarmiyka, 269-4062.  
Drama and Comedy Theater. 25 Brovarsky prosp., 517-5906.  
Ivan Franko Theater. 13 Franka ploshcha, 229-5991.  
Koleso Theater. 8A Andriyivsky uzviz, 416-0422.  
Lesya Ukrainka Theater. 5 Khmelnytskoho, 224-4223.  
Metrobud Theater. 8 Prorizna.  
Molodoi Theater. 17 Prorizna, 224-6251.  
Pantomime Theater. 7A Shovkovychna.  
Suziria Theater. 14 Yaroslaviv Val, 212-4188.

## CONCERT REVIEW

## Duran Duran greets the 'ordinary world'

By STEVEN SHAKLAN  
Post Staff Writer

The story of the Duran Duran concert was not to be found onstage or even off-stage, but in the region between the seats and stage. Duran Duran played to a full house at Kyiv's Ukraina Palace on Jan. 30, but in the aisles and rows, where there should have been dancing, there was only silence.

When their popularity wanes, rock stars don't go gently into that good night — they hop a flight to Eastern Europe. So, too, with Duran Duran, which seems to emerge every 10 years from pop slumber to churn out another series of catchy riffs that become less and less popular over time.

Duran Duran first hit it big in the early 1980s with songs like "Girls on Film," "Hungry Like the Wolf," "The Reflex," and "A View to a Kill." Filled with questionable lyrical craft and a mainstream sound, their music was nevertheless infectious, with its toe-tapping melodic hooks and synthesized effects.

In the late 1980s, the band fell into obscurity, but on the strength of the early 1990s nostalgic wave, they again found themselves in the public eye, albeit for work done 10 years prior.

The band's 1993 release, "The Wedding Album," featuring the two hit singles "Ordinary World" and "Come Undone," received relative transatlantic success, as the band appropriated acoustic and new wave guitar styling.

Their current tour is an attempt to promote their latest offering, "Pop

Trash," which was released in June 2000. However, if their set list for the Jan. 30 concert was any indication, Duran Duran knows where its crummet is buttered.

They played largely from their popular 1980s albums and the "Wedding Album," with just a brief gloss on their new material, which has a strangely bass-heavy feel reminiscent of the Red Hot Chili Peppers.

Despite some personnel changes, the band has held up well. Lead singer Simon Le Bon's vocals were strong and he can still affect that appealing, Brit-pop croon that made him a teen idol years ago. The band's performance was tight and they gave a strong rendition of their studio hits, despite some assistance from pre-recorded, synthesized backup singing. There's no reason that bad poetry and feigned social commentary can't be fun, and Duran Duran is still reveling in it two decades later.

The band spent most of the concert straining to inspire the sedate crowd to get out of their snug chairs.

"If you feel like dancing, you can always stand up," said Le Bon, after dancing and prancing his way through two numbers to no effect.

To say that this was a cultural misunderstanding is not entirely accurate, as young Ukrainians love to dance. They dance at discos, on the street and yes, at rock concerts as well. The problem was that young Ukrainians, for the most part, didn't attend the Jan. 30 concert. With ticket prices ranging from Hr 100 to an absurd Hr 1,000, the audience consisted of older, wealthy,



Duran Duran was met by a less than enthused crowd on Jan. 30. (www.rocknworld.com)

coat-and-tie-clad Ukrainians who were content to sit quietly, maybe tap a toe or clap a bit, but hardly giving the response the band expected or even deserved.

The crowd responded in its own quiet way, cheering and clapping between numbers amid occasional shouts of "SUPER!" There was even a special swell of excitement during the performance of "Ordinary World" and the rather sultry "Come Undone." Yet, there was consistent tension between band and crowd, the former thinking, "Why aren't they standing up?" and the latter responding, "Should we stand up?"

There were some attempts at dancing by the end of the concert, which ran just a little more than an hour and a half.

## THE BEAT

Ukrainian rock band **Skryabin** has received an offer from the Russian record company Utekai Zvukozapic to record a Ukrainian version of the song "Moya Pevitsa" (My Singer). The song was originally performed by alternative group Mumiy Troll. The group expects the project to be completed late next week.

Russian honored singer, **Alexander Malinin** comes to Ukraine on Feb. 27-28 to give two concerts titled, "The Ninth Angel" at Palace Ukraina at 7 p.m. Malinin concerts are known for being lavish and accompanied by a symphony orchestra and ballet troupe.

Malinin has recorded 11 albums, some of which were nominated for awards at prestigious shows, including the World Music Awards held in Monte Carlo.

Malinin, whose musical influences include Sting, Ray Charles and Peter Gabriel, is also widely known and respected for being a family man.

Russian pop star and husband of singer Alla Pugachova, **Philip Kirkorov** will be performing three concerts on March 19, 20 and 21.

Considered by Madonna to be one of the most handsome male singers, Kirkorov has been blasted in the Russian press lately for not being able to create original work. He mostly performs cover songs, such as last year's hit, "Shyku Dam" (I'll Show Off), which was originally sung by Turkish singer Tarkan.

— Anna Kozmina

## MINI REVIEWS

## BARS

## Blindazh

Once upon a time, Blindazh was the best bar in Kyiv. Those days are over. Apparently the management wanted to clean up its image and it transformed into a sterile space with bad music and a security guard. 15a Mala Zhytomyrska. Open 5 p.m. to 2 a.m. Tel: 228-1511.

## Jazz Club

Not such a bad place to hear not-so-good jazz, especially after a good workout at the Kyiv Sport Club, which is right next door. Also serves food. 3 Druzhby Narodiv. Open 10 a.m. until last customer. Tel: 252-8881.

## Miami Blues

Be a beautiful person, go to Miami Blues. Or at least see one at one of Kyiv's best devushka-watching locales. Since they're usually escorted, making friends is trickier; but the bar puts out decent, albeit expensive, cocktails. Music runs from the not particularly noteworthy to the distracting. 114

Chervonoarmiyiska. Open 24 hours. Tel: 252-8721.

## O'Brien's Irish Pub

Good spot for a jolt of Irish whiskey. The TVs get every channel on the planet, and the management takes requests for showing sporting events. 17a Mykhailivska. Open 8 a.m. to 2 a.m. Tel: 229-1584.

## Olzhin Dvir

One of those holes in the wall that are the staple of any good bar scene. But since Kyiv doesn't have a good bar scene, this place seems exceptional. Unfortunately, they only have Yantar on tap, but for Hr 3, you really can't complain. 7 Desyatynnyi. Open until late. Tel: 212-3962.

## Opera Cafe

A year of renovations and attitude change have done much to improve this casino bar, which draws an eclectic mix of ex-pats, New Ukrainians and locals. A couple of good TVs with satellite connections make this place a decent sports bar, plus it has a sports book, a brand-new foosball table and three pool tables. Also boasts one of Kyiv's friendliest

gambling areas. 51/53 Volodymyrska. Open noon to 5 a.m. Tel: 228-2836.

## CLUBS

## The Cage

This was the hottest gay club in Kyiv when it opened last summer with an absolutely fabulous Marilyn Monroe impersonator. Then the club closed. Now it's open again, but it's having a hard time regaining its following. Great place to dance if you're in the mood for Alla Pugachyova or Abba. 3 Kutuzova. Open Tue. through Sun. 10 p.m. to 6 a.m. Tel: 573-8848.

## Caribbean Club

This hot ex-pat Latino night spots is always packed on weekends. Dancing is reasonably dirty and the crowd stays pretty sauced. The absence of striptease and "show-programa" earn this club extra points as does the small cozy patio. 4 Komintern. Open noon till the last customer. Tel: 244-4290.

## Desperados

This cozy place has all the makings of a spicy Latin club: Latin dancers, Southern music and, best of all, tequila shooters. Prices steep, but the club provides a nice change for those weary of dancing techno with teens. 24 Artema. Open noon until 5 a.m. Tel: 216-3198.

## Joss

The point at Joss is variety. Where else can you find a Japanese restaurant, a British pub and a place to dance, all under the same roof? And because this Left Bank establishment is seldom crowded, you'll have no problem checking out each of them. Don't worry about hassling with taxis for the trip over the river - the Livoberezhna metro is right there. 2 Okipnoyi. Open noon to 6 a.m. Tel: 516-8674.

## Strike Bowling Club

Bowling? A lower class sport played by fat auto workers in dumb leagues and silly shirts, right? Not in Kyiv, where only the rich and wealthy bowl in this state-of-the-art center: biznesmeny, ex-pats, and their slick girlfriends. Also features bartenders doing bar tricks, a fake garden and

about 100 pool tables. 84 Peremohy. Open Mon. to Thurs. 5 p.m. to 3 a.m., Fri. 2 p.m. to 4 a.m., Sat. 11 a.m. to 4 a.m., Sun. 11 a.m. to 3 a.m. Tel: 442-6464.

## New York

The sign on the entrance says that teen-agers under 18 are not allowed, but it's hard to imagine any rule anywhere being so blatantly ignored. The design is rather poor, music is techno and Russian pop. Yet there is no better place in Kyiv to meet a bunch of school girls (except for a school, of course). 2 Perova (metro Darnytsya). Open 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Tel: 558-2545.

## Promzona

Kyiv's newest club started out doing everything right. The design is a hip interpretation of Soviet kitsch, the music was good - in the beginning - and the crowd down. But it lost some cool points when the DJs started playing Enrique Inglesias. At least foreigners get free entry, as if the Hr 20 cover would be prohibitive for Kyiv's richest residents. 18 Metallistov. Open 9 p.m. till last customer. Tel: 446-1248.

# Feeling beat? Hit the Drum.

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Andreevskaya st. 9 Tel: 416-8277

# Seafood practically free at the all-new Odessa

By DANIEL MACISSAC  
Special to the Post

Here in the landlocked city of Kyiv, another seafood restaurant should be a welcome addition to our dining scene, especially if the restaurant is named after a port city off the Black Sea.

Odessa, located on Chervonoarmiyska, features a seafood-laden menu that unfortunately falls below the level of fine dining.

According to our waitress, Odessa was recently converted from an Arabic restaurant into a Russian seafood eatery. That in mind, Odessa surprisingly doesn't have that new-fashioned look and feel to it. Lived-in and comfortable is a more fitting description. Yet, there is still a hint of Soviet-era elegance to the place with its lush, red carpeting, textured cream-colored walls, glaring bright lights and faux-floral centerpieces. There's also a post-Soviet touch in the form of a selection of Ukrainian-Russian pop playing on a bar-side television, though happily at a reasonably mild level.

As one friend said, "It's a good, cheerful place to come to after work because you can watch TV, read a newspaper and order a lot of inexpensive food." Indeed, the words "inexpensive" and "cheerful" go a long way to describing the menu and atmosphere at Odessa.

It's difficult to drop a lot of money here, even if you tried. A half-liter of Slavutych beer costs Hr 5, 100 grams

of Ukrainian vodka goes for Hr 6, and 100 grams of Johnny Walker Black for Hr 30. Ukrainian and Crimean wines, such as Kagor, are served only by the glass (Hr 3 for 100 grams). We were disappointed when we discovered that they did not have any of the Georgian or Moldovan wines listed on the menu.

Fearing that most of the appetizers and entrees listed would also be missing in action, the ordering process was an extremely anxiety-ridden experience.

I ordered the Odessa salad (Hr 10), which was an action-packed mixture of chicken, egg, vegetables and olives. Although its appearance looked like some high-class version of cafeteria food, I felt fortunate that it wasn't drowning in oil or mayonnaise. The other starters were similarly priced and while the calamari and mushroom salad [Hr 12] also lacked presentation, the taste made up for it.

For the most part entrees are priced below Hr 20. There are only a few selections per each entree group - poultry, meat and fish.

My companion, a native of Yalta, did have good things to say about her Odessa-fried sturgeon with creamy shrimp sauce (Hr 18). I passed over the traditional main course possibilities and opted for the garlic-cheese and mussels in shells combination (Hr 15) and the rich and zesty zharkoe, a beef stew (Hr 15). The mussels were the highlight of the entire meal, despite the fact that we ate them while



At Odessa a cold Hr 5 brew is the perfect complement to fried sturgeon and mussels. (Post photo by Viktor Suvorov)

they were cold because our overly eager waitress served them too early.

Our tranquil dining experience at Odessa ended with a cappuccino (Hr 4) and fruit salad parfait (Hr 7). Overall, Odessa is not a place of flashy cooking. It shows considerable reserve. However, its plainness can highlight the flaws.

Its affordability and convenient location make Odessa an attractive place to hold parties. Rarely have I've passed Odessa on a weekend night and not seen a wedding party with guests kicking up their heels, throwing back

shots of vodka and, presumably, enjoying the food.

## NIBBLES

Kyiv's latest addition to its starved bar scene also serves up some of the tastiest pub fare in town. **Baraban (The Drum)** at 4 Prorizna, opened its doors on Feb. 2. Its menu includes an assortment of bottled and draught beers (including some Belgian favorites), cheeseburgers, fried mushrooms and beef stroganoff. It also serves breakfast from 11 a.m.

This cozy, basement establishment is

tucked away in the interior courtyard between Kozak Mamai and the State Committee for Information Policy, just off Khreshchatyk.

Kyiv is quickly becoming the sushi Mecca of Eastern Europe - how's that for a relative judgment. Soon to join the ranks of Hokkaido, Tokyo, and Nobu is **Kam Pai** at 20 Saksahanskoho. While the remont there continues, an elaborate sign is up and the workmen are laboring over the interior. Look for this one to open in the next month.

## MINI REVIEWS

### CENTER - AROUND ZOLOTI VOROTA

#### Yaroslava \$\$

Medieval-theme restaurant with heavy fare and a novel variety of fruity sauces. The pace of life was slower in the 11th century and so is the service here, so plan to stay awhile. 13 Yaroslaviv Val. Cafe open 9 a.m.-10 p.m. Restaurant open noon to midnight. Tel: 212-4260.

#### Chicot \$\$\$

Cute little cafe straight out of Bogart's Parisian flashback in Casablanca. The hi-fi pipes jazz in the background, the candlelight is just right and the tables are the perfect size for intimate conversations. The menu is heavy on seafood, with daily soups and specials available. 27 Ivana Franka. Open noon to 11 p.m. Tel: 246-5283.

#### Gorets \$\$\$

Georgian chow in a dimly lit, medieval atmosphere. One of Kyiv's most romantic venues, if the atmosphere alone doesn't make him melt, the wide selection of Georgian wines will. The appetizers are unique and the entrees rich, if a bit overpriced. 9 Vorovskoho. Open noon until late. Tel: 212-1549.

#### Pantagrue \$\$\$

Stylish interior, great Italian food and good service. Outdoor patio overlooking Zoloti Vorota is a bonus if you can get a place. Cozy, warm interior is not a bad alternative when the sun goes down. 1 Lysenka. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Tel: 228-8142.

#### Jepsen \$

Rumor has it that Jepsen is the favorite hangout of Kyiv pilots. While that's dubious, the funky interior is covered in aviation maps and model planes. It's more of a cafe than a restaurant, but the menu offers a solid selection of

Ukrainian staples. The portions are big. 8 Lvivska ploshcha. Open 11 a.m. to 11 p.m. Tel: 212-5106.

#### Sprut \$\$

Cozy Ukrainian restaurant with a sea theme. Related accoutrements include an exotic fish tank, walls lined with fish nets, and a fine collection of hats - only some of which pay homage to the mariner. Of course the menu tends toward seafood, as well. Well-anchored in the category of good meal deal. 11 Artema. Open 11 a.m. to 2 a.m. Tel: 212-1079.

#### Deja vu \$\$\$

One of Kyiv's hippest new eateries would score a 6 on our Yuppie scale, if we had one. While you pick from a selection of Euro-Ukrainian and Chinese food amid old plane parts, street signs and motorcycles, you'll forget for a moment that you ever left Tribecca. 30 Bohdana Khmelnytskoho. Open 10:30 a.m. to 2 a.m. Tel: 235-9802.

#### La Bella \$\$\$\$

Calls itself a pizzeria, but a glance at the menu tells you it's more ambitious than that. Homemade pasta and pizza that make you think you're in Italy, but frozen vegetables just one of several strong hints that you're still pretty far away. 7 Pushkinska. Open 8 a.m. to 1 a.m. Tel: 229-2701.

#### Columbus \$

This little eatery sets sail for terra incognita and lands squarely in well-traveled territory: the land of mediocre Italian cuisine. 15 Prorizna. Open daily 10 a.m. to 11 p.m. Tel: 228-9370.

#### Ermitazh \$\$\$

Nice, if a bit stuffy. Quiet atmosphere and no-nonsense service make it a good place for a business lunch or a romantic tryst. The food is upscale Ukrainian-European; the fish dishes stand out. 6 Velka Zhytomyrska. Open noon until the last customer. Tel: 229-2812.

#### Vezuvio \$\$

Fast, efficient, cheap and good. Most people know Vezuvio only as Kyiv's first pizza deliverer. Those who live in the Zoloti Vorota area know it has a decent restaurant, too. 25 Reitarska. Open 11 a.m. to midnight. Tel: 228-3028.

#### Azteka \$\$\$

Swanky interior aspires to capture the Deja vu crowd. If you ignore the nachos are actually potato chips, the Mexican food is decent. 31A Vorovskoho. Open 11 a.m. to midnight. Tel: 216-8656.

#### Desperados \$\$\$

Good Mexican, even if it's a touch too formal. Besides, until hordes of Mexicans immigrate to Ukraine, Kyiv nachos will probably always come in an attractive, symmetrical display. Be sure to get a side of hot sauce. 20 Artema. Open noon until last customer. Tel: 216-3198.

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## READERS POLL

## What's the best love flick?

While Valentine's Day may be a uniquely American holiday, love claims no such national boundaries. And what's more universal than a good romantic movie?

Our readers have quite a unique perspective on what constitutes romantic. The films voted most romantic ranged from the Harrison Ford android butt-kicking cult hit "Blade Runner," to the most expensive movie ever made, the \$200 million drama "Titanic."

Yet when it came to the best of the best, most readers went for the classics. In the end, "Casablanca" won our Most Romantic Movie poll, edging out "Dr. Zhivago" by a single vote.

Casablanca has set the standard for romance in films for years. Exotic settings, drama, great acting, a strong script and great directing all contribute toward making this the romance movie buffs' premier choice. Humphrey Bogart plays mysterious bar owner Rick, whose heart has been broken by Ilsa, played by Ingrid Bergman. When she surprisingly shows up in his bar, sparks fly.

The movie won three academy awards – for Best Picture, Best Director, and Best Screenplay. As one Casablanca fan wrote, "Being a die-hard New York Giants fan, it is the only movie that I would switch away from Super Bowl XXXVV (where my beloved Giants were getting killed) to watch."

David Lean's "Dr. Zhivago," another wartime epic, put up a good fight but fell just short. Set during the Russian Revolution, "It is a story of love that has endured over many years," as one reader put it.

In third was the "It's a Wonderful Life" of Soviet cinema, "Ironiya Sudby, ili s Lyogkim Parom." A romance and satire of communist conformity, the film still glues millions of former Soviet citizens to their sets every New Year's eve. It tied with "Pretty Woman."

We must admit that we were a little surprised that films like "Gone With the Wind" and the 1970s weeper "Love Story" didn't fare better in the poll.

One last tidbit, Nora Ephron is responsible for writing and directing



Here's lookin' at you Ingrid.

three out of the 35 movies that readers voted for – "Sleepless in Seattle," "When Harry Met Sally" and "You've Got Mail," which all star that Meg – she's-so-sweet-she-makes-my-teeth-hurt – Ryan. (Dana Liss)

Next week's question: Where's the best place to eat in Kyiv for under \$5? Send answers to readers@kyivpost.com.

## RESULTS

1. Casablanca
2. Dr. Zhivago
3. Ironiya Sudby ili s Lyogkim Parom (The Irony of Fate) (tie) Pretty Woman
4. Love Story (tie) City of Angels (tie) Titanic (tie) You've Got Mail (tie) Once Upon a Time in America (tie) Sabrina

Others receiving votes: African Queen, Alien, Always, Basic Instinct, Beauty and the Beast, Blade Runner, Braveheart, Don Juan De Marco, English Patient, For Whom the Bell Tolls, Ghost, Gone with the Wind, Hot Shots, Iskateli Prikluheniy, L.A. Story, Last Tango in Paris, On Golden Blonde, Out of Africa, Overboard, Quiet Man, Roman Holiday, Rose Marie, Sabrina, Sleepless in Seattle, Something About Mary, When Harry Met Sally, Wuthering Heights.

## The joy of looking

I once entertained hopes of gastronomic greatness. I envisioned myself master of a great French kitchen, scores of sous chefs at my beck and call. And if I may be so bold, I am no slouch when it comes to the gustatory arts. I am nimble with the knife; dexterous with a dollop of this or that. I can grind. I can chop. I have an uncanny knack with canned goods, and with a firm flick of the wrist I can turn an ordinary potato into a creamy delight. I once hosted a dinner party featuring chicken curry that friends and relatives raved about long after they were released from Saint Vincent's Hospital.

But alas, like most childhood dreams, my hopes were dashed when I learned that my idol, a titan in the world of Italian cuisine, was a cartoon character. "Must we condemn Chef Boyardee for having only two dimensions?" I wrote on my application to the Cordon Bleu. "If it is madness to demand that pasta be entertaining as well as tasty, then I am guilty as charged!"

"You're an idiot," they replied. But at this point, I was tired of vague encouragement and decided to try my luck as a writer.

But my arrival to Kyiv rekindled that passion for creative cookery. Here was a whole new world of tastes and spices to make subservient to my culinary will. Standing in my first gastronomer, I surveyed its shelves, breathed deep the heady air – coughed a little – and asked myself the question so common to aficionados such as myself: "What the hell can I possibly make with this?"

At least the things with heads could be identified, unlike the lumps of unrecognizable meats that sat limply in nominally refrigerated cases. I asked the salesclerk about the identity of one particular fat-striped block and she responded, "It's bacon. You know, from a pig." Who knew that bacon came from pigs? I thought it came from Chicago.

But the main challenge in Ukrainian food preparation seems to involve determining what you should cook and what you should eat raw. I began by asking the obvious question, "Do you have to cook this?" After receiving a negative reply regarding a certain parcel, I ate it as it was and proceeded to get sick. On my next visit I decided to be more specific: "Will this make you sick if you eat it raw?" After another negative response and yet another bout in the porcelain palace, I hit on the appropriate diagnostic question, "Will this make ME sick if I eat it raw?" Looking appraisingly at me, my waitress nodded. "Probably," she said. BINGO! Ah, the subtleties of language, so comic in some circumstances, so tragic in others.

## MEAT

The meat case usually consists of 20 to 30 types of sausage arranged from left to right, from your hard-smoked sausage to your sosiski, or hot dogs. This is all fine, except

that at a certain point in this spectrum, you have to start cooking them and nobody seems to know where. Remembering a rather hirsute friend who shaved himself by picking an arbitrary spot between chin and chest and shaving upward, I decided to pick a spot somewhere to the left and move slowly to the right. From this brilliant strategy, I learned that there are a number of fine gastrointestinal pharmaceuticals being produced in Slovenia. Stick to the ends of the sausage spectrum and don't mess with mister in-between – especially if mister in-between is a gray area.

## FISH

Fish must be carefully prepared because excess exposure to iodine and other toxins can lead to lasting distress, the longest lasting of which being death. Carefully remove the head by bashing it three to five times against your kitchen radiator. Now, dispose of the tail in the same fashion. Remember, delicacy is always crucial to food preparation.

Then split the body lengthwise, exposing the internal organs and the vertebrae. Gut the fish, disposing the offal and bones. You should be left with a nice, fleshy white filet. Split the filet in two, then dispose of the right and left portions. If

you're left with absolutely nothing at this point, you've succeeded, as that stuff will kill you quicker than a late payment on a Mercedes XL. Clean all kitchen surfaces thoroughly.

## DAIRY

Just don't.

## LOCAL DELICACIES

Ah, the lovely dumplings of Eastern Europe – pelmeny and varenyky – so easy to prepare, so difficult to spell. This is a sure-fire road to safe eating. Simply place a handful into briskly boiling water and wait. If they remain on the bottom, there is something amiss. If they rise to the top, they're done to perfection. And if they jump out of the pot and start singing "We Are the World," you've sampled another local favorite.

## MUSHROOMS

A practice as old as Slavic culture itself, the art of collecting mushrooms poisons only a small percentage of the population each year. Local experts say its best to "ride the wave" and that a bad mushroom is only dangerous if you hemorrhage.

They say that in a court of law, the man who defends himself has a fool for a client. In cooking it is much the same. In a Ukrainian kitchen, the man who cooks for himself is catering an idiot brunch, whereas the man who eats out can always sue for damages.

## INNER SENSE ABROAD

Steven Shaklan



## S H E S A I D . . . S H E S A I D

IF YOU WANT TO BE IN FASHION, SHOW SOME COMPASSION



Fur has long ceased to be an acceptable fashion accessory. Each fur coat represents the cruel and unnecessary deaths of dozens of formerly living creatures. And Ukraine seems to be behind the times. You would think that we are living in the land of Cruella de Villes.

I want to think that people in Ukraine wear fur out of ignorance to what happens behind the scenes of the fur industry. These animals are trapped and killed in outrageously barbaric ways – snares, box traps, cage traps, and the leg-hold trap, the latter being most widely used. An animal, if not killed instantly, can lie for days in complete pain. In addition, dogs, cats, birds, and other animals, including endangered species, are killed or crippled by these traps and subse-

quently tossed away because they have no economic value to the trappers.

Many people wrongly assume that animals raised in captivity on fur ranches do not suffer. Wrong! Trapping and ranching consist of similar cruelties. Ranch animals, like minks and foxes, spend their entire lives in appalling conditions. They are kept in close confinement with up to 20 animals per cage only to be killed by painful methods, such as gassing, suffocation or electrocution. These methods are used so the fur product is not stained with blood, which would decrease its value.

Yes, historically, fur was one of this region's (especially Russia's) biggest cash crops due to the harsh climate. However, we are not living in Siberia, folks. If this native Californian can live through minus 30 C weather without wearing fur, so can you.

The argument that boycotting fur would cost jobs is like justifying abusive child labor because those children have no other source of livelihood other than from those exploitative businesses.

I am equally disturbed at the number of people, who as slaves to fashion, have no problem deriving pleasure from something that has caused so much pain and suffering. There are plenty of fur alternatives, such as synthetic garments that look, feel and keep you just as warm as fur.

– Dana Liss

If the touch and feel of real fur against your bare skin makes you feel and look beautiful, then who is to say you shouldn't wear it.

I have witnessed more offensive fashion than a simple fur coat, yet no one seems to be organizing protests over it.

What is wrong with enjoying the special treatment and jealous gawking that many women receive because of their gorgeous minks?

For many years, fur has been a symbol of wealth and prestige. The fact that some worthless vermin get killed for it is not going to change their fashion style.

Most men take pride in buying a luxurious real mink coat for their women. Buying anything less – like fake fur – is insulting.

A fur coat is one of the most desired possessions a woman will ever own.

It is in our nature. It starts with our mothers teaching us how to dress up, apply makeup, and what to say on that first date. Eventually we learn how to persuade our husbands to buy us a fur coat – something most women have wanted all of their lives.

I am amazed at the hypocrisy of anti-fur advocates. They yell and scream that killing animals is wrong, yet have no qualms about gulping down a double cheeseburger at McDonald's and buying the latest leather Doc Martens. What, are the lives of cows less meaningful than mink and foxes because they aren't as cute? They, too, live miserable lives in the slaughterhouses, but no one seems to be up in arms about it.

GIVE UP FUR? NEVER!



Be honest with yourself. Can you truly live without those nice Italian black leather pumps with the matching leather purse that your friends have been raving about? Are you really willing to give up forever those mouthwatering Butterball turkeys at Thanksgiving?

I wonder how many of you fierce enemies of fur are willing to make such sacrifices. My guess is none.

– Evgenia Mussuri

Got an opinion on the fur debate? Send your commentary to readers@kyivpost.com. Best response wins a meal for two a Primavera. Please keep answers less than 200 words.

# Reporter finds adventure on road to Drahobrat

DRAHOBRAT, *continued from page 9B*

"Come with us," said Volodya. "We'll get you a place." Leaving the main road, they guided me into the woods and to what I hoped were the remaining turbazy. But they fared no better.

It was dark now and I stood on the road with Volodya, Tommy having disappeared somewhere along the way. Volodya said he would find a place for me, but I would have to follow him and he started off into the woods. I stood on the road.

"Come on," he said.

I asked why we couldn't just take the main road. He said he knew a shortcut.

"Come with me," he said. "Don't you want a place to sleep?"

"So this is where it ends," went the constant refrain. Left for dead on a mountaintop with the banjo theme from "Deliverance" playing quietly in the background.

I followed Volodya through the woods, scrambling up snowy embankments in the dark. Occasionally he would grab my hand to pull me up this particularly steep slope.

He began to ask me questions about myself and I responded in kind. I said I was a journalist. He said he was a ski instructor. He asked me if I could ski. I told him I could ski well. I just didn't travel very well.

Then he asked me how much money I was paid.

"So this is where it ends," I thought.

I decided to halve the actual figure. Then, thinking better of it, I halved it again.

We returned to the first turbaza and while Volodya went inside to make inquiries, I watched Tommy create a makeshift car jack out of two tree limbs and a stump. The alignment still wasn't quite right.

In the end, Volodya secured a place for me in a converted train car that stood on rusted wheels behind the turbaza. I believe the instructors used it to store their equipment. But it had a bed and a heater and a lock on the door. We retired to the clapboard bar to celebrate. There I met Anton the barman, Dima the children's-lift operator, Kolya the postal administrator, and Petya the professional alpinist. We discussed whether Klitschko could beat Tyson and argued over how many prison terms the latter had served.

The following day I woke up early, assuming this brisk mountain culture rises with the dawn. Standing in front of my trailer, the only sound was that of Petya vomiting somewhere in the bushes.

"I don't feel so good," he said, clutching his stomach. "Come have a beer in my room."

Petya was more a professional alcoholic than alpinist and seemed to spend most of his time drinking either toward or away from a hangover.

I declined, opting to seek out Tommy to arrange a ride back. It was made clear to me that the trailer was mine for one night only and after that I would have to make other arrangements. I found Volodya, who said that Tommy would arrive at noon and if I liked, I could stay with Tommy in Yasenya that night. I accepted the offer and set my sights on finally doing some skiing.

The warm winter had taken its toll even on the lofty heights of Mt. Styg, where the base was down to nearly a foot. The snow quality was poor, ranging from icy at the peak to soft mush at the base, where the wet snow had been pushed into irregular moguls.

It's safe to say that the recent blizzard has changed things a bit. The larger base will have opened up more terrain and have varied the offerings. However, the mountain does not boast significant steeps and with the absence of grooming, the heavy powder is quickly pushed into moguls, making it a haven for hot dogs, but a hell for the casual cruiser.

There are three T-bar lifts, all of which lay dormant when I arrived at the base. Two of them would remain dormant. The third was being serviced as it had "frozen" the night before.

Back at the turbaza, I said goodbye to Anton the barman, who said he hoped I had enjoyed my stay and that I would return.

"Just call ahead next time," he said, shaking my hand. "And bring some friends."

Tommy drove me down the mountain with three other skiers from Odessa. That night I spent with Tommy's family in Yasenya. They fed me abundant amounts of stuffed cabbage. They made a bed for me in the warmest room in the house and arranged for a ride to Ivano-Frankivsk the following morning.



Ski bums at Drahobrat's main lift. Neither the journey nor the harsh conditions could keep them away. (Post photo by Steven Shaklan)

When I awoke, Tommy had already left to guide others up to Drahobrat. I thanked his mother Magdalena for her hospitality, but she just shook her head

as if to say, "You offend me by making an issue of it."

I then realized I hadn't paid Tommy for the ride down and offered Hr 60,

the amount I had paid for the ride up. She said it was far too much. Hr 20 would be fine. After all, I had been traveling in a group.

## GETTING THERE:

The train (Prykarpattia) to Ivano-Frankivsk (#203) departs at 5:08 p.m., and arrives at 8:47 a.m. Tickets Hr 45. There are transit trains that run through Kyiv to Ivano-Frankivsk (#229 from Kharkiv and #171 from Moscow), but they land you at your destination at absurdly early times in the morning. They also add two to eight hours to your travel time.

From the Ivano-Frankivsk train station, best bet is to take the minibus to Yasenya (Hr 20-30 per person; four-person minimum). A cheaper option is the Ivano-Frankivsk - Mukachevo bus to Yasenya. The bus departs daily at 9 a.m., and arrives approximately at 12:30 p.m. Ticket Hr 7.70.

From Yasenya, you can seek out a private jeep to Drahobrat (Hr 20-30 per person; four-person minimum), or arrange for transport in advance with your turbaza.

## WHERE TO STAY:

(Note: Make sure you call ahead and make reservations, as many of the hotels are booked through March.)

### HIGH-RANGE

Turbaza Drahobrat. Hr 78 per person/night. Meals not included. Private rooms. Amenities include sauna, European-style restaurant, disco/bar. Located at the base of the main lift. Cottages for larger groups available. Tel: (031) 32-42-009.

### MID-RANGE (RECOMMENDED)

Turbaza Dzhuravlik. Hr 28 per person/night. Hr 20 for breakfast and dinner. Private rooms. Sauna. Tel: (031) 32-42-067. Alexander Dzhuralov, Manager.

### LOW-RANGE

Turbaza Drahobrat ("Poor Drahobrat"). Hr 56 per person/night. All meals included. Private rooms upstairs with 3 - 4 beds. Dorm facilities available for large groups. Communal dining room. Bar. Tel: (031) 32-

42-105. Yaroslav Pavlyuk, manager.

## LIFT FEES:

Lifts are open. Days and times are subject to change. Lifts are Hr 3 per trip. For a full day pass Hr 33.

## RENTALS:

You can find complete ski, boot and poles packages for about Hr 28 per day at one of the rental places at Drahobrat. The equipment provided at the mountain is serviceable if a bit on the antique side. Skis and boots tend to be at least five years old and binding adjustment is not a finely calibrated craft at that altitude.

If you are finicky about your equipment and are willing to lug it by train, minibus and jeep, you may want to get your equipment in Kyiv, where the selection is better. Protoka at 5 Entusiastiv on the Left Bank is a great source for new or used equipment. They also rent reliable skis, boots and bindings for about \$4 per day.

## COMMUNITY LISTINGS

Send your community listings to Dana Liss by fax at 254-3113 or e-mail readers@kyivpost.com one week before publication.

### FSA FLEX ALUMNI CHARITY BALL

The FSA FLEX Alumni would like to invite you to the First Annual Charity Ball in support of Orphanage #14. The Charity Ball will take place at the Hotel Moskva on Saturday, Feb. 24, at 7 p.m. To order tickets call 224-7356 (Monday through Friday 4 p.m. - 6 p.m.) tickets cost Hr 150. The number of tickets is limited.

### BUSINESS CLUB

Business club "Kyiv - The Netherlands" meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7 p.m. For details call Irina at 216-29-22 or e-mail Alexey at Alexey\_Romanko@erc.kiev.ua.

### INTERCULTURAL CENTER

Our non-governmental organization's main goal is to promote cultural exchange between Ukraine and European countries. All youth (under 26) are invited to participate in Concurso de Poesia Castellana. For more information, visit our website: website www.paralelo28.kiev.ua, e-mail par28elo@carrier.kiev.ua or tel. 228-3513.

### ENGLISH CLUBS/LESSONS

The new temporary location for the Wisconsin International University free Saturday night film series is #60 Pr. Shevchenko, 12th floor auditorium. (Uphill a block from the Circus.) Movies, in English with English captions for language learning, start at 5:30 pm. On Feb 10 we will be showing Shadowlands, Feb. 17 African Queen, and Feb 24, Matrix, Feb 24, To Kill a Mocking Bird. See www.wiuu.kiev.ua for details.

### HASH HARRIERS

Kiev Hash Harriers will meet every other Sunday at Eric's Bierstube 20 Chervonoarmiytska at 1 p.m. If you need more information, please send an e-mail to kievhh@yahoo.com or call and leave a message at 269-7008.

### PHILOSOPHY AND PSYCHOLOGY CLUBS

White Crow Club invites those who are interested in psychology, philosophy, magic, religion, etc. Join us for lectures, discussions and parties. For more information, please call 457-8890.

### POST PSYCHOLOGY STUDIO

Welcomes all who are interested in avangard philosophy, self-learning, art, poetry and classical music. Contact Yuliana Sapozhnikova 274-0500 or Yuri Bessarab 417-1839 or visit our Web Site at: www.victorian.fortunecity.com/brutalist/278

### KYIV ROTARACT CLUB

Rotaract is an international organization of service clubs for men and women aged 18-30 that fosters leadership, responsible citizenship, and promotes international understanding and peace. For more info you can visit our website at www.rotaract.org/kyiv, or contact Leeka Parra at 296-6063, or e-mail kyiv@rotaract.org

### TOASTMASTERS

Toastmasters International helps men and women learn the arts of speaking, listening and thinking through effective oral communication - vital skills that promote self-actualization and enhance leadership potential. Kyiv Toastcrackers Club as a part of worldwide network invites English speakers to participate in club program every Wed. at 7 p.m. at 45a Volodymyrska St. For more information see http://come.to/toastcrackers or email Sergey Grebenyuk toastcrackers@mail.ru

### RELIGION

#### International Christian Assembly

All are invited for English-language services with Pastor Jerry Sturgeon on Sundays at 10:00 a.m. at 16

Khreshchatyk, 2nd floor, 244-3376.

#### "Word of God" Church

All are welcome to join worship services that are held every Sun. at 11 a.m. Free English lessons are available at 9:30 a.m. for those attending Sunday services, Thurs. 7:00 p.m., 5 Raisi Okipnoi, Apt. 7. For more information 516-82-05, English speakers call 517-51-93.

#### Religious Union for Progressive Jewish Congregations of Ukraine

All are welcomed to attend the services of Progressive Jewish congregation. 1B Shevchenko. Tel/Fax: 234-84-82, 234-22-15. Email: kcpj@hativka.kiev.ua

#### Christ Church (Anglican)

All are invited to Sunday services in English at 10 am at the British International School (through the arch at 70 Artema). Information: Jonathan Fraiss, Minister, 216-5369

#### The Presbyterian Church of the Holy Trinity

All are invited to our service held in Ukrainian and Russian with simultaneous English translation. We meet each Sunday at 50-52 Shevchenko in room 402. Phone/fax. 234-3571, 234-0794. E-mail: cht@ukrpack.net.

#### Kharkivska Church of Christ

All are invited to Bible studies every Tues., 7 p.m. and to Sunday worship services at 2 p.m. English classes by native English speakers. 11 Verbitskogo, Kb. 430). Meets every Sun. at 2 p.m.

#### St. Alexander's Catholic Parish

English Mass is held every Sunday 9 a.m. Other Christian activities during the week open to English and non-English speaking people: charity activities, Bible discussions, and Rosary group. 17 Kostolna (near Maidan Nezalezhnosti).

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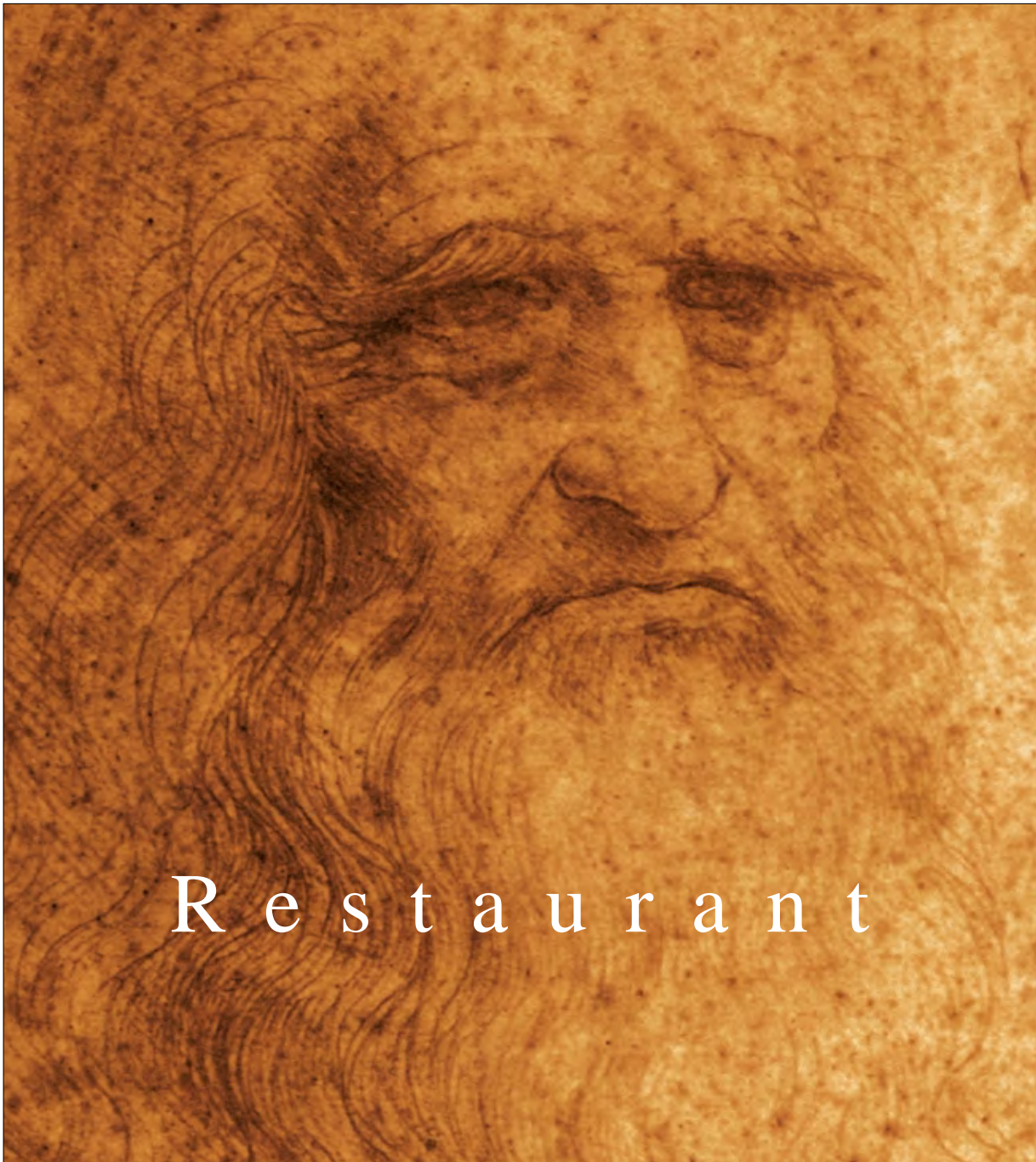
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