

МАЙЖЕ СТУДЕНТ

Інформаційний Листок Союзу Українського Студентства Канади (СУСК)
A Publication of the Ukrainian Canadian Students' Union (SUSK)

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Volume 43, Issue 4

Monday Morning Muses

*Taras Hetmanczuk
Toronto, ON*

The year (in terms of SUSK) is slowly winding down and I woke up this morning with a different understanding of what SUSK really means.

After a year of interacting and working together with other members of this organization, it has been a uniquely interesting opportunity to look at the complexity and breadth involved in the successful operation of a student organization such as ours.

I attended the Brock Ukrainian Students Club volleyball tournament this past weekend, and again, had a great time. It was heart warming to see that many Ukrainian students in one place for one reason and one reason only. No, it wasn't the new Casino in Niagara Falls (although a few members of a certain YCK

did make a sizable donation to the government of Ontario...), or the proximity of the border and the wonders of the great U.S. of A - acting as the last bastion of the 'outlet-mall', or the high calibre of volleyball being played there.

We also didn't sit around and pat ourselves on the back on what a wonderful job we'd done at our respective YCKs this year - neither did we take cheap shots and low blows at other members of SUSK some 1500km away. We came together as Ukrainian students to have a good time with other Ukrainian students! Imagine that; no political crap, no in-fighting, no bickering, no backstabbing - just Ukrainians socializing with other Ukrainians. Now granted, SUSK (as every member YCK should) plays a much more vital role in the lives of Ukrainian students than just organiz-

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Above, Banff's Sunshine Village resort served as a warm up to the SUSK Western Conference where all levels of participation were accommodated. Marko Stech and Lisa McDonald are seen here evaluating their level of need for hot chocolate in the chalet.

Below, Striking a pose at SUSK Western conference 1996. Attended by executive of Ukrainian Student Organizations at the University of Manitoba, the University of Saskatchewan and the University of Alberta and SUSK executive based in Edmonton.



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Executive 1996/97

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Final Address

Ось і прийшов до закінчення ще один рік Крайової Управи СУСК. Ми можемо з гордістю сказати, що це був ще один успішний рік для нашої студентської організації. Ті хто хочуть детально ознайомитися зі зробленою нами роботою, читайте мій Річний Звіт та звіти інших членів Управи на електронній мережі SUSKGEN.

Але мене тривожить сьогоднішнє питання про те, чи все що було зроблене нами буде втримано під час наступного року Крайової Управи. Багато членів нашої теперішньої Управи служили на ній вже декілька років і тому відходять. Все

зводиться до того, що нам потрібно приплив нових молодих сил, студентів які хочуть і можуть багато чому навчитися перебуваючи на Крайової Управі СУСК.

Тому, я закликаю всіх бажаючих переглянути список позицій на Управі і вибрати для себе те, що вам до душі. Я гарантую, що ваша праця на Крайової Управі буде великим вкладом у ваше особисте майбутнє та в теперішнє життя української громади в Канаді.

З найкращими
побажаннями,

One more year of SUSK's life is gone by and now, as they say, it's history. The outgoing SUSK Executive can proudly say that it was a very successful year for our national student organization. Those of you who would like to know in details what was done during the past year please read my Year-End Executive Report and other Executive member's reports posted on SUSKGEN electronic network.

These days I often wonder whether everything that was built by SUSK during the past few years will be kept in tact during the next year. Many members of the present day SUSK Executive has been serving on it for several years and it's time for them to move on. What it boils down to

is that SUSK needs "new blood," we need those students who are willing to learn many new things while serving on the SUSK National Executive.

Therefore, I invite all of you to take a look at the list of SUSK Executive positions and choose for yourselves something that you like. I guarantee that you will have a lot of fun serving on this Executive and this time will be a great investment not only into your personal lives, but also into life of the Ukrainian community in Canada.

With Best Wishes,

Vlodko Boychuk,
1996-97 SUSK President

The SUSK Executive of 1996/97 extend their best wishes and aspirations to the soon to be elected National Executive of 1997/1998.



A Better Place To Be.

Jon Tomas
Toronto, ON

In the wake of last weekend's NBA All Star game I find myself duly inspired to procure yet another round of musings on my favourite Ukrainian Canadian students' union. I suppose I should also be up-front and confess that I didn't actually find the time to witness last Sunday's spectacle for myself. Nevertheless I did read all about it in the sports pages and I have seen more than my share of past contests; both facts rendering me more-than-qualified to comment on Michael Jordan's triple-double or Glen Rice's 24 second-half points.

It is neither fast breaks nor baseline jumpers, however, that prompt me to reference professional basketball's shining hour in this piece. My motivation, instead, comes from wondering how the heck those 24 gentlemen earned the privilege to take to the hardwood in Cleveland. The odds of making it into the NBA, let alone playing in an all-star game, are so intimidating that only the wisest (or most foolish?) of athletes dare to even consider the prospect.

To be chosen as an all-star, no matter what the activity, is certainly a great distinction. One cannot help but to marvel at the nomination when one also considers how greatly talented the field always is. To wit, in order to become a member of this elite group one must consistently perform at a level superior to that of his or her colleagues. It is also essential that the accomplishments of said colleagues are enhanced by the all-star's presence.

On the eve of Calgary's SUSKFEST, I

would like to submit my "starting-five" selections for the 1996-1997 SUSK all-star roster. Unlike the NBA's measures of success (mostly meaningless statistics), I have based my entire lineup on only one criterion: that the recommended individuals have each demonstrated a strong sense of class. For my purposes I have simply defined class as that quality which combines skilfulness with benevolence. My superstars are neither the most vocal nor the most publicized members of SUSK. In fact, many of their achievements go largely unsung. It is for this reason, among many, that I am now delighted to introduce you to:

The 1996-1997 SUSK All-Star Starting Lineup

Point Guard:
Pavlo Oleskevych

In all my years of involvement with Ukrainian Students' Organizations I have yet to encounter a more dedicated or harder-working person. What would take me weeks of puttering around to accomplish, Pavlo Oleskevych achieves on a daily basis. As the SUSK Director of Publications & Communications Mr. Oleskevych has habitually gone above and beyond his call of duty to contribute to the growth of our organization. Whether it be driving to Ottawa for a conference or producing membership cards for YCK, he is always giving 110%.

The activities of producing "Майже Студент" and maintaining the SUSK web site are just two of the many projects within Mr. Oleskevych's already over-stuffed portfolio. This portfolio, however, is not my reason for his selec-

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Monday Muses

(Continued from page 1)

ing zabavas and tournaments. Clearly, events such as lectures and museum tours aren't going to bring in crowds like they had at Brock. The previously mentioned immature behaviour has been all too prevalent in the numerous exchanges between members of various clubs.

It was really discouraging to find that members of the SUSK executive aren't able to handle situations in an adult and professional manner - name calling and finger pointing are usually passe by the time one reaches highschool - none of us are perfect and some people still don't understand that.

Why should member YCKs bust their tails for the good of 'SUSK' when the perceived response to the event is always negative? Is a prospective club going to be really interested in hosting a SUSK event next year if they talk to someone who organized an event this year and was dumped upon after the fact? If I were one to point fingers, I'd have to ask if the problems with finding candidates for the

1996/97 SUSK President Vlodko Boychuk demonstrates sustainable timber harvesting techniques — take out only what's already dead or has little or no chance of survival. Chair lift hint #3: when you reach the top of the hill, it's time to get off.

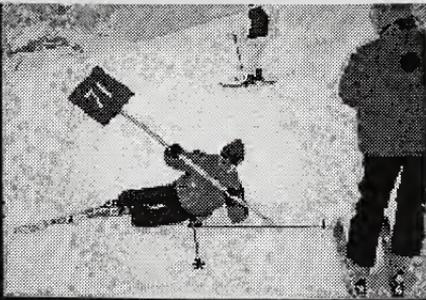


photo: SUSK staffer

executive next year has anything to do with the 'great' job (as we were so eloquently told by a recent posting on SUSKGEN) done by some members of this year's executive? Now, there's no correlation with pissing people off and the lack of interest in next year's executive positions.

Here is a thought left to me by my late-grandfather, a man famous for his fist sized tomatoes and his fits

of wisdom - it went something like 'if manure is spread on too heavily, it's just like you shit on the plant - spread it on just right and you'll have the best tomatoes in the neighborhood' (it sounds better in Ukrainian).

To next years exec, good luck, have fun and learn how to spell one word before you take office, Tact T-A-C-T!

See you in Calgary!



SUSKGEN Mailing List

Participating in SUSK's email list SUSKGEN, is a great way to share ideas, announce events, look for resources, and catch up with friends from across the country.

To join the list, send the following as the body of an email message to: Listserv@sa.utoronto.ca.

Subscribe SUSKGEN Filip Konowal
Now we all know your name isn't Filip Konowal - unless of course it really is. So, let's say Murchyk wants to join the list. After bumping Vlodko off his chair and taking control of the mouse, all Murchyk has to do is type in:

Subscribe SUSKGEN Murchyk
in an email message to:

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Once you or Murchyk has joined the list, you can send messages to everyone else that's subscribed simply by addressing your message to:

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If your request for subscription or your messages don't produce any results, or Murchyk's milk's gone sour, send a message to:

Listserv@sa.utoronto.ca

with the word "HELP" in the body of your email message. You can also get help by sending a message to: listmaster@sa.utoronto.ca or by calling (416) 978-0376.



Oksana Baiul

After her arrest, the irreverent Cool Moose Cafe ran a print ad for "Oksana's Driving School" where you can learn to "Drive like an Olympic Champion"



A Better Place to Be. (cont'd)

(Continued from page 3)

tion. Rather, it is his character that has earned him the right to be counted among our very best. It is always to the greater good of the organization, never to himself, that Pavlo Oleskevych directs his efforts.

Shooting Guard: Natalka Nowiski

It is with great pleasure that I present this award to Natalka Nowiski. Having attended the same university as Ms Nowiski, I have witnessed for myself her tremendous progress through the ranks of the Ukrainian student community. Seemingly only yesterday did she first join MUSA and now she is SUSK's VP Laurentian region. How time flies when you're having fun!

The deciding factor in Ms Nowiski's nomination was her participation in the planning of the 1996 SUSK Congress held in Montreal. As president of one of Canada's most influential USOs, she was responsible for a full year's calendar of events, yet still managed to find the time and enthusiasm to make that congress a smashing success. Her spirited leadership, tempered with an always-accessible personality, makes her an ideal candidate for any all-star team.

Swing Forward: Gena Slawuta

It is not easy being secretary, particularly for a volunteer organization, and especially for SUSK. Nor is it easy to follow in the footsteps of the ever-reliable Adrianna Tataraka and the always-charismatic Borys Diakonov. Gena Slawuta has not only matched the high standards set by her predecessors,

she has indeed surpassed them. Ever capitalizing on the best in her co-workers, she wastes neither the time nor the effort it would take to chastise others for failing to meet so-called "Executive expectations."

Although I have not known Ms Slawuta for very long, I am struck by her exquisite ability to maintain the administrative integrity of SUSK even when confronted by various contentious issues that arise from time to time. She can always be counted on to refrain from littering the minutes with personal anecdotes. Her meeting summations are done promptly and sans superfluous discussion. Personal motivations are forever set aside for the greater good of the organization.

Power Forward: Taras Hetmanczuk

Many wonderful characteristics can be attributed to Taras Hetmanczuk, but none finer than that he is always a gentleman first and foremost. Class? Damn straight.

Saddled with the responsibilities of being head of Canada's largest (now second largest. Ed.) and most sophisticated USO, Mr. Hetmanczuk has nevertheless accepted more than his share of commitment to the growth of SUSK. His countless efforts have resulted in many people working with him and not because they have to. Rather, because they want to. He leads by the power of example, not by pointing fingers. Recruiting efforts for YCK are thus based on attraction, not promotion.

No matter how frustrating the crisis he may find himself confronted by, Taras Hetmanczuk never falls victim into

taking himself too seriously. His keen sense of satire coupled with a brilliant talent for writing, paint even SUSK's darkest skies blue. "Майже Студент" and "Обіжник" articles written by this humble member of SUSK consistently penetrate straight to the heart of issues and remind us not to lose perspective. Referring to an earlier piece of this writer [ed: vol 43. iss. 3], not only do Mr. Hetmanczuk's operations succeed - his patients live. Correction. They thrive.

Centre:

Lubko Belej & Taras Zajac

The undisputed winner of the MVP Award for SUSK this year goes to the Brock University USO and its co-presidents: Lubko Belej and Taras Zajac. A classier act has yet to be seen. Mr. Belej and Mr. Zajac are part of that rare breed who refuse to focus on what they can get out of SUSK. Instead, they direct their actions to how they help make SUSK better.

Some of our older members will recall that it was not so long ago that BUSC was not the flagship club of SUSK it is today. Since the 1995 SUSK Eastern Conference, however,

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This publication has been funded in part by the Ukrainian Canadian Foundation of Taras Shevchenko.

Це видання частинно фінансово підтримане Українською Канадською Фундацією імені Тараса Шевченка.

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this small but powerful club has literally jettisoned itself into the forefront of Canada's Ukrainian student community. BUSC's active participation has caused students everywhere to stand up and take notice. For instance, it would be very difficult to find a USO today more supportive of SUSK's regional and

national meetings.

Prior to the development of SUSK's national communications infrastructure, BUSC was paving the way towards a national Ukrainian student community by means of its annual volleyball tournament. This event has earned its organizers a stellar reputation and is talked about from coast-to-

coast. Apart from the SUSK Congress itself, who can think of a better forum where more students from different USOs come to congregate than the Brock Volleyball Tournament?

Many of our members may not be aware that this year the BUSC Volleyball Tournament and SUSK Congress were origi-

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WORD SEARCH PUZZLE



Apres Ski
Back Scratcher
Bail
Banff
Bogey
Bonfire
Brock
C Train
Calgary
Canmore
Carve
Cocktails
Congress
Daffy
Election
Fernie
Flames
Gondola
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Room Service
Saddle Dome
Skating
Slalom
Slice
Stampede
Sunshine Village
Tobogganing
Toronto
Victoria
Volleyball
Windsor
Yard Sale

*One word in this list was inadvertently duplicated. The first person to find it and send an email to: susk@campuslife.utoronto.ca with "Word Search Prize" in the subject line will win a

Prize Draw: SUSK Congress T-shirt

G O D S B A C K S C R A T C H E R I D W
O L U O U Y H R I A J P A C K T B R C O
N H C U A N E M O Z D E L R Z O S E A O
D U Y V W M S R E S F D Z P O R S T N X
O Q H O Z A Q H I C D E L G B O L P M T
L A E L A N E P I F I N R E E N I O O O
A P L L C I D O V N N V I N D T C C R B
I R E E O T E A N I E O R W I O E I E O
R E C Y C O P J F G C V B E I E M L B G
O S T B K B M N E H C T I K S L L E H A
N S I A T A A A U R M Y R O L D M X H V N
C K O L A F T H O A G K T R L A O A D N
R I N L I H S G R B Q W S L I A F O V I
O D F Z L E U D C A R V E C L A G F R N
S B F L S L S I L A K E L O U I S E Y G
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B G A F L A M E S L U T O H H Q C T N
A E B E M O L A L S K A T I N G Y F M Y
I Y B T V S S E R G N O C A X A T E M K
L N I A R T C M C M A S T E R K C O R B

McMaster Launches New Web Site

Hamilton, ON - (SUSKWire)

McMaster University's Ukrainian Students' Association (MUSA) is proud to announce its presence on the World Wide Web.

Through the concerted efforts of Orest Essep, Mac's Treasurer and resident webmeister. What was once a

fledgling club trying to make a name for itself has conquered the shadows of larger more prominent clubs in the region.

This move furthers MUSA's goals; the least of which include reaching out to new members already on campus and to those considering attending Mac in the upcoming year. Too, it serves as a conduit through which former

members can maintain contact and develop closer relationships through a mentorship program with the local P's & B's.

Although still in its developmental stages, the MUSA page promises to offer much enlightenment. MUSA's page can be found at:

<http://www.internauts.ca/susk/musa/>



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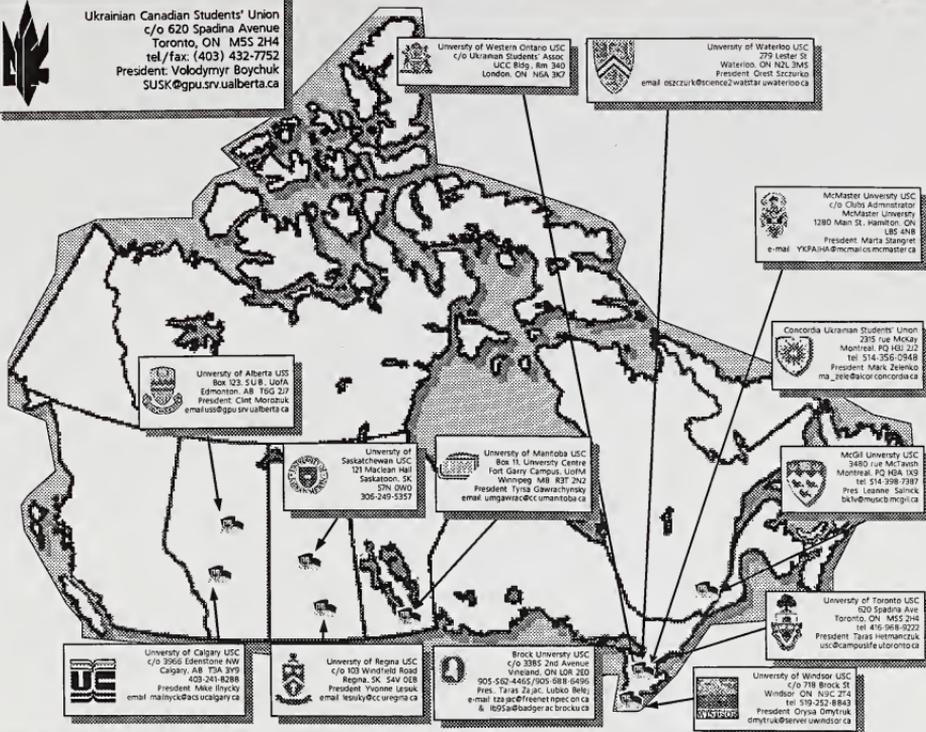
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nally slated to take place during the same weekend (21-23 February 1996). To avoid people having to choose between which event to go to, Lubko Belej and Taras Zajac expediently resolved the dispute by rescheduling the tournament to the weekend of February 14-16th. As a 3-year president of a USO I know intimately what it is like to be caught between SUSK and local USO interests. Given the same scenario I am not sure I would have demonstrated the same calibre of character as Mr. Belej and Mr. Zajac. To the two of them, I tip my hat. In "failing" to

be selfish they have succeeded in earning the highest respect of all.

To the above-named six individuals, I thank you sincerely for all your efforts towards the development of a vibrant and dynamic Ukrainian student community. Although sometimes unrecognized and often unrewarded, it is your commitment in itself that has made SUSK, quite simply, a better place to be.

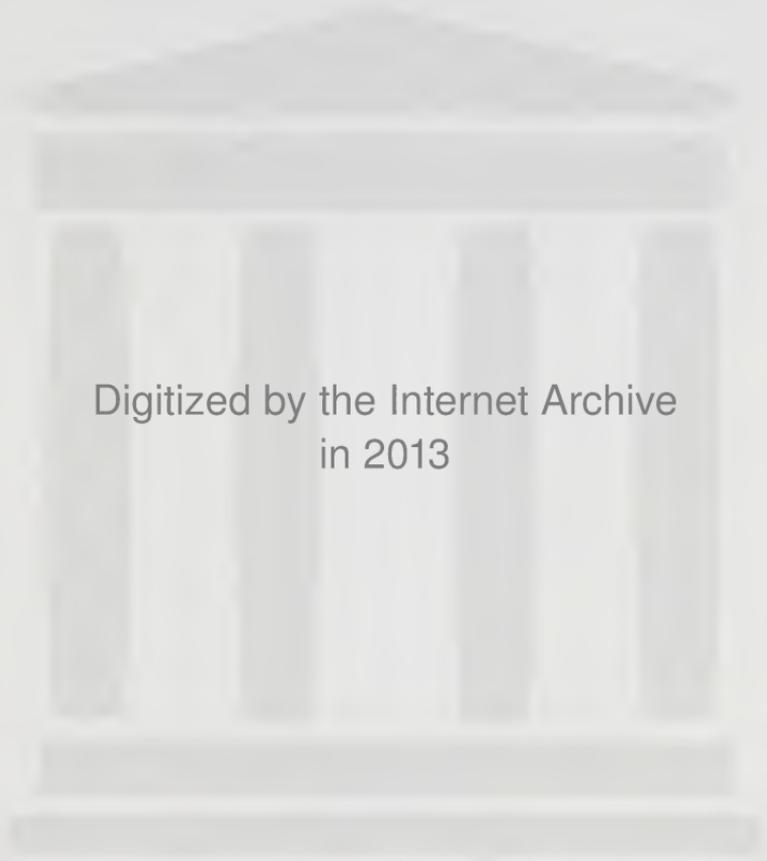
(Thanks Jon. Ed.)



SUSK is very pleased to announce the (re)incarnation of the

Ukrainian Students' Association at Queen's University in Kingston Ontario. They can be reached c/o Bohdan Tomuk, President of the QUSA at 613-544-5462 or tomukb@eleceng.ee.queensu.ca

Welcome back Queen's!



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